

CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY

MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA gCRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH A THIONÓLADH AR AN 15 FEABHRA 2019. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON, 15TH FEBRUARY 2019.

Mayor, Councillor, Peter Cleere, Presiding.

Present/ I Láthair:-

Councillors/Comhairleoirí: Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. Malcolm Noonan, Cllr. Breda Gardner, Cllr. David Kennedy, Cllr. David Fitzgerald. Cllr. Michael Doyle, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Seán Tyrrell, Cllr. Matt Doran.

Apologies: Cllr. Patrick O'Neill

Also Present: Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Mr. Simon Walton, Senior Engineer, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. Emir Slattery, Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. Margaret Whelan, Staff Officer PPN, Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer.

Mayor's Summons of Meeting:

Notice dated 8th February, 2019, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

**1. A dhaingniú Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe.
Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting:**

Minutes of monthly Meeting held on 18th February 2019, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Breda Gardner
Seconded by: Cllr. David Kennedy
And Resolved

“That the minutes as presented to the meeting be and are hereby adopted”.

**2. Cúrsaí thabhairt ar aghaidh ordú ón Méara
Matters brought forward by direction of the Mayor.**

The Mayor acknowledged the following recent achievements and all those involved in the following Projects/Events which he attended/will attend:

- welcomed the allocation of over €2 million of funding for Thomastown under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Ireland 2040).

- Congratulations to Dunnamaggin and Ballyhale Shamrock's on recent victories.
- Yulefest cheque presentation to Amber Woman's Refuge.
- 183rd Passing out Parade for James Stephen's Barracks.
- Rotary Club - bikes for the Gambia.
- Apple Tree Farm – presentation of cheque to Good Shepherd Centre.
- Reception for Youth Reach Kilkenny in City Hall.
- PAWS Annual Dinner Dance.
- IFA Annual Dinner Dance.
- Reception for Joe Pyke in City Hall.
- St Patrick's Day launch after Municipal District Meeting.

Votes of Sympathy

The Members joined with the Mayor in offering a Vote of Sympathy to the families of the following recently deceased:

Br. Philip Connor, Friary Church, Friary Street, Kilkenny
 Mary Geoghegan, 45 Michael Street, Kilkenny
 Rose Millett, Grianan, Castlecomer Rd, Kilkenny
 Jordan Brett, Kavanagh, Bishops Hill, Kilkenny.
 Bridget Kelly, Melville Heights, Co. Kilkenny.
 Mikey Trait, Keatingstown, Co. Kilkenny
 Claire O'Neill, Connolly Street, Kilkenny
 Valentine (Val) Murray, Killamery, Nine Mile House, Co. Kilkenny

3. Cur i láthair Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí. Public Participation Network Presentation (PPN).

Ms. Margaret Whelan introduced herself to the Members as the new PPN officer and gave a brief presentation on her role and the Public Participation Network. She advised Members that she will meet then on a one to one basis over the coming weeks. Her aim is to further develop the PPN and enhance the membership in particular in the Environmental Pillar. She explained the importance of the Network and what role the Members could play in encouraging people from all organisations and community groups to participate especially in the aftermath of the Local Elections and the new SPC's that will be formed.

All the Members welcomed Ms. Whelan, thanked her for her presentations and made the follow observations and comments:

- The necessity of the PPN.
- Flexibility of meeting groups outside office hours.
- Awareness of the Nuclear Free Local Authority All Ireland Forum taking place in Kilkenny in March.
- Review period for the PPN and the measurement of success.

Ms. Whelan responded to the Members. She explained the current situation in relation to the PPN. She confirmed that she is available to meet groups in the evenings and her

awareness of the upcoming forum on Nuclear Free Local Authorities. She clarified the review period for the PPN and how success will be measured.

4. Nuashonrú ar phlean bainistíochta HCV HCV Management Plan update

Mr. Simon Walton outlined to Members that the HCV management plan had been discussed at the November Municipal District Meeting and he was requested at that meeting to prepare a detailed traffic impact assessment report to the MDM in February 2019 regarding the implications of:

1. a one way inbound for articulated vehicles on Kennyswell road,
2. a one way west to east for articulated vehicles along Banim Terrace, Bishops Hill, Troysgate, Green's Bridge and New Road and
3. a 5 axle plus articulated vehicle ban on Newpark Drive, Lover's Lane, Ballybought Street and O'Loughlin Road.

He circulated the detailed traffic impact assessment report to members which specified the effects of implementing the HCV plan. The report provided information on the origins and quantity of the Heavy Vehicle Traffic. It also outlined the volume of HCVs on the routes currently being taken. He noted the positive impacts of such vehicles in terms of the local economy and that some of the facilities generating the HCVs are key local employers and have been located at their existing facilities for generations. On the negative side he also noted the impact of this traffic and its capacity to generate noise, congestion, road safety issues and air pollution in the City.

The presentation demonstrated the impact of introducing all the traffic management measures proposed under the 2014 draft HCV Management Plan. It also illustrated the effect of partial implementation of the plan along with some additional, potential measures including the provision of low-noise surfacing and traffic calming/periodic speed limits.

In conclusion Mr. Walton explained that introducing the 2014 draft HCV management plan as it stands would move HCV traffic from Kennyswell Road, reducing impact to 110 properties and 2.1km of street but channelling this traffic onto Banim Terrace/New Road/Dublin Road where this would have an impact on 269 properties and 3.4km of street. On that basis full implementation is not recommended. He went on to clarify that some elements of the plan are worthwhile including the prohibiting of HCV (5 axel) on Newpark Drive, Lover's Lane, Ballybought Street and O'Loughlin Road together with a one way system (west to east) for HCVs (5 axel) on Green's Bridge and the introduction of policies for noise reduction measures and road surfacing on designated HCV Routes.

The Members thanked Mr. Walton for his update and raised the following queries/ observations:

- Enforcing existing prohibitions (signage)
- Speed limits on Dublin Road.
- LIHAF and the N76 external corridor.
- Parking on Dominic Street and the need for a new Garda station.
- Making HCV and Northern Ring Road regular item on the agenda

- Central Access System, Phase 2 & 3.
- Discussing the HCV plan with the parking strategy.

Mr. Tim Butler and Mr. Simon Walton responded to all queries and observations. Mr. Butler gave an update on LIHAF, CAS Phase 2 & 3 and the Northern Ring Road. Mr. Walton explained that the speed limit on the Dublin Road had been reviewed in 2017 and would not be due for another review for 5 years. He asked that Members consider the report and discuss it at subsequent meetings. If Members agree on the partial implementation of the HCV plan he would put implementation measures in place shortly thereafter.

Mayor Peter Cleere vacated the chair and was replaced for a short period by the Deputy Mayor Joe Malone.

5. Nuashonrú ar thionscadail bóithre agus ar bhóithre

a) Update on Road Projects – Kilkenny Rural

Ms. Emir Slattery provided an update on the Road Project in her area including;

- Taking in charge process commencing in Brookfield, Ballyhale and Kingscourt, Callan and the ongoing process in the Greens, Thomastown.
- Traffic counter on Friarshill, Thomastown road safety audit to be completed.
- Tender document to issue in March for the 2nd Phase of Fairgreen Regeneration in Callan.
- Mobility Management Plan for Callan to issue for tender 1st week of March.
- Planning decision on Kings River Project in Callan due 22nd February.
- Brief to appoint Consultant for the Mobility Management Plan for Thomastown will be ready for tender before the end of February.
- Traffic counter completed on Maudlin Street, Ladywell Street, and the Quay in Thomastown and one to be put in place on Green Lane Callan by 22nd February.
- Ballyhale to Knocktopher footpath.
- Drop in information session on 20th February in Thomastown Area Office for the Culvert.

Members raised queries in relation to:

- Brookfield Estate Ballyhale.
- Consideration for a reduction in rates for Businesses in Thomastown during period of works on the Culvert.
- Funding for Culvert in Thomastown.
- Speed limits into Thomastown.
- Footpath to United Park in Thomastown.
- Lighting on the Well Lane, Graiguenamanagh.
- Traffic counter from Skeoughvosteen side into Dungarvan Village.
- Update on flood relief project for Graiguenamanagh

Mr. Tim Butler and Ms. Emir Slattery responded to Members. Mr. Butler detailed the funding allocation for the culvert, the general works programme and the timeframe for the work. He also gave an update on the flood relief scheme for Graiguenamanagh

confirming that Kilkenny County Council are awaiting details of Senior Executive Engineer from Public Appointment Service will appoint a 2nd Engineer shortly. Ms. Slattery confirmed that she will examine issue in Brookfield, she will examine speed limits and the footpath to United Park in Thomastown. The lighting and surfacing on the lane in Graiguenamanagh will be looked at and a traffic counter will be put in place outside Dungarvan Village before the next MD meeting.

Cllr. Mick Doyle made a proposal that the Businesses on Market Street in Thomastown be given an exemption from paying rates during the 16 week period that works on the Culvert are taking place. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Breda Gardner. Mr. Butler explained that it was the nature of road works that there will be some disruption and it is always the Council's intention to minimise this. Every town and village has had works carried out over the years and a precedent to waiver rates could not be set both from a fairness and budget prospective. This matter would require a supplementary budget

b) Roads – Kilkenny Urban

Mr. Simon Walton provided members with an update on the various road works and road closures in Kilkenny City for Quarter 1 including:

- Medieval Mile footpaths and associated street enhancements (commencing 4th March)
- Enhancement works at Upper Patrick Street should be completed by end of March.
- Road removal and road reinstatement works on Parnell Street commencing 18th February.
- Engineering works to facilitate the introduction of the Kilkenny City Bus Service will commence in early April.
- Tree pruning works at The Parade/Mayor's Walk will commence on 18th February.
- ESB works on new underground cable around John's Green and Wolfe Tone Street will commence in March/April 2019. They will also be laying cable to service the new cinema and the old Mart site generally between 20th and 25th February.
- Irish Water are rolling out a number of work programmes in Q1 including mains replacement at St. Canice's Place, Dean Street and Butts Green. Similar works on James Street will commence in mid March 2019.
- Streets of Kilkenny 5k will be held on evening of 18th April with road closures around the City to facilitate the expected 1000 participants.
- High Street, Parliament Street and the Parade will be closed on the 17th March to facilitate the St. Patrick Day parade.

Members raised queries on the following:

- Possibility of Grangers Road re alignment at St Canice's School been included as part of Road Works Programme.
- New Fire Station and new Garda Station on same site
- New road from Castlecomer Road to St Francis Bridge to be name Old Mart Road by Naming Committee.
- When will the next phase of path resurfacing in Newpark take place?
- More lighting in Hazel Grove, Loughboy.
- Parking issues around Loughboy Medical Centre.

- Patrick Street works.
- Pruning works on Michael Street.

Suspension of Standing Orders:

It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald
Seconded by: Cllr. David Kennedy
And Resolved

“that the finishing time of the meeting be extended to deal with this item”.

Cllr. David Fitzgerald and Cllr. Joe Malone also requested that the meeting be extended to discuss the Notice of Motion brought by Cllr. Malone in relation to a poster free election in City and Environs for the upcoming Local Election. A discussion ensued but Mayor Cleere explained that the standing order allow for the meeting to be extended but only to deal with the item currently been discussed. He asked the other Members present if they would be happy with written responses from Mr. Walton to allow the Notice of Motion to be heard or if they would prefer to have responses from Mr. Walton now. The majority of members opted to have Mr. Walton respond.

Mr. Walton responded to the members. He explained that the next phase at Newpark will commence later this year. He agreed to investigate the lighting situation in Hazel Grove, and the parking at Loughboy Medical Centre and revert to members. He clarified the situation with Businesses on Patrick Street and the open communications that took place during the works. All Businesses that requested a meeting were met and any queries raised were dealt with. Pruning of Trees on Michael Street has not been scheduled yet.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
MAYOR

Date: _____