

**CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA gCRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR  
CHILL CHAINNIGH A THIONÓLADH AR AN 11<sup>th</sup> MÉAN FÓMHAIRE 2020.**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON, 11<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2020 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, KILKENNY**

**Mayor, Councillor, John Coonan, Presiding.**

**Present/ I Láthair:-**

**Councillors/Comhairleoirí:** Cllr. Eugene McGuinness, Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. David Fitzgerald. Cllr. Maria Dollard.

**Apologies:**

**Also Present:** Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer, Mr. Denis Malone, Senior Planner, Ms. Cairíona Corr, Cycling Officer, Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer.

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**Mayor's Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020, 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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
Seconded by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness  
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:

- Provided an update on measures agreed with Kilkenny County Council and Gardai to address the anti-social behaviour in Linear Park.
- Congratulated all on the opening of the new Butler Gallery.
- Praised the new outdoor seating areas around the City.
- Commended St. Luke's ICU Staff for their fundraising cycle to support people specifically affected by Covid.

- Asked that people continue to listen to the advice of Dr. Ronan Glynn.
- Expressed disappointment at the closure of KBC bank in the City.
- Wished Cartoon Saloon well at the Toronto International Film Festival.
- Shared his concerns about anti-social behaviour in Irishtown.
- Asked if the lighting on John's Bridge could be reviewed.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

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

Margaret Kavanagh, Larchfield, Kilkenny.  
 Kevin Barry, Middleknock, Kilkenny.  
 Gerry Rooney, Noremount, Kilkenny.  
 Tommy Cummins, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny.  
 John Hume, (Politician) Nobel Peace Prize Winner.

### **3. Cur i láthair ón óifigeach Rothaíochta.**

Presentation from Cycling Officer

Ms. Cairíona Corr, Cycling Officer gave the Members a presentation on the plans underway to cultivate a cycling culture in Kilkenny. The Members thanked Ms. Corr for the presentation. The Members raised the following queries/comments in relation to cycling and sustainable transport.

- The need for cycling lanes as standard on all roads. (should be included in Development Plan).
- The need for more vehicle charging points and not in paid car parks (fast charge).
- Continuous problem of people parking on cycling lane and poor driver behaviour.
- Problematic areas for cyclists e.g. Lacken Walk.
- Need for improved infrastructure including bike stands.
- Constraints of narrow streets within City.
- Possibility of long-term carpark outside of city with a bike sharing scheme.
- Safety measures for cyclists and disability/access issues.
- Bike to work scheme and the possibility of its expansion.
- Motorists behaviour around schools and the encouraging of schools to get pupils to cycle to school as pioneered in the Gaelscoil.

Ms, Corr responded to Members. She advised that decisions will have to be made on the loss of on street parking, less drop off at school at gates, changing of habits and more segregation/ traffic calming measures. However, the benefits for health and the environment will far outweigh any inconvenience caused.

### **4. Cur i láthair ar Athbreithniú ar Phlean Forbartha Cathrach agus Contae.**

Presentation on City and County Development Plan Review.

Mr. Denis Malone, Senior Planner, detailed to the Members the process for the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan and its current status. The draft plan will be ready to go on public display from October subject to Members approval. Mr. Malone advised the Members that 2 workshops will be held after the next Council Plenary meeting where Councillors will have the opportunity to go through the plan line by line before it goes on public display. The Members will be given a copy of the draft plan before the workshops. The process of adopting Kilkenny's City and County Development Plans was suspended in November 2018 pending the making of the

Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy. Mr. Malone will provide Members with details on the legislation which can extend the timeline of a Development Plan until a new one is adopted.

**5. Nuashonrú ar an gcóras faid shóisialta/bealach amháin I gCathair Chill Chainnigh.**

Update on social distancing/one- way system in Kilkenny City.

Mr. Ian Gardner informed Members that it had been agreed that a review of the new social distancing measures introduced in Kilkenny City in June 2020 would be take place after a six-week period of its implementation.

He gave an overview on the temporary social distancing measures that were introduced to provide greater space for pedestrians to social distance during the pandemic and in doing so minimise negative impact on traffic flow. He detailed the timeline and particulars of measures introduced.

Mr. Tim Butler provided members with the result of 2 surveys (one from the public and one from businesses) carried out after the introduction of the one-way system. He also referred to a survey carried out previously by the Chamber of Commerce. The public response was very positive towards the scheme with the majority wanting the measures to be retained for the period of the pandemic. The response from businesses was less favourable with a low participation rate.

Mr. Butler acknowledged that is was unfair for the Members to have to decide on the one-way system without studying the results of the surveys and it was agreed that the review would take place at the October Municipal District meeting.

It was:      Proposed by:      Cllr. David Fitzgerald  
                  Seconded by:      Cllr. Eugene McGuinness  
                  And agreed by all

“that the next Monthly Meeting will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> October and will include further discussion on the one-way system”.

It was      Proposed by:      Cllr. John Coonan  
                  Seconded by:      Cllr. Martin Brett  
                  And agreed by all

“the next item on the agenda Update on Roads Project would be the final item to be dealt with at this meeting”.

**6. Nuashonrú ar thionscadail bóithre.**

Update on Road Projects

Mr. Ian Gardner provided a report for Members detailing road work updates for September. The report included information on pavement works, improvement works, footpath works, draining works and maintenance works including vegetation maintenance. He also provided the Members with details on Evan’s Home, provision of outdoor seating, Saturday/Sunday Market’s on the Parade and Mayor’s walk, new handheld units for the traffics wardens and details on additional funding for active travel measures in the City. Members thanked Mr. Gardner for the detailed report. The Members raised the following queries/comments in relation to roads:

- Footpaths at Newpark Close, O' Loughlin Road, Glendine Heights, Dean Cavanagh Place and Fatima Place.
- Damaged capping on walls at Whitewood Park.
- More details on how the additional funding will be spent and assurance that all works are disability compliant.
- Public lighting on the Ballyfoyle Road and report on public lighting in the City.

As the time approached 4.30pm:

It was Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald  
 Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
 And agreed by all

“that standing orders be suspended to allow for the present item on the agenda to be finalised”

- Irish Water works at Fatima Place.
- Traffic fines complaints.
- Condition of the cobbled streets.
- Ramps for Lovers Lane and Glendine Heights.
- Water Barracks soccer pitch – provision of new gaol posts.
- Solution for pedestrian crossings for Sion Road residences.
- Consultants report on car roads/lanes

Mr. Butler and Mr. Gardner responded to all the Members queries. Mr. Gardner agreed to look at the footpath mentioned and traffic surveys are carried out where needed. He explained that Whitewood Park and the soccer pitch at the Water Barracks fall under the Parks Department and they have been notified of issues. He explained that the additional funding received for active travel measures has to be claimed before the end of November and works will be commenced immediately. All works will comply with accessibility guidelines. He acknowledged that Traffic Wardens have a very difficult job and all complaints are investigated fully. Cobble paving continues to be an issue but improved methods and materials are been introduced. He agreed to email the Members with proposed improvement works for the Sion Road.

Mr. Butler confirmed that Kilkenny County Council is the lead Authority for the Eastern Regional LED lighting upgrade and works will commence in 2021. He will provide an update for the next Municipal meeting. Mr. Gardner is currently carrying out a survey of lights in the City Centre and any upgrades will be in keeping with the Medieval City. He was not aware of the Irish Water issue at Fatima Place but will follow up and report back to the Councillors concerned.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_