

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

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA gCRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH A THIONÓLADH AR AN 12<sup>th</sup> MÁRTA 2021 A BHEIDH AR MS TEAMS. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON, 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021 VIA MS TEAMS.**

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

**Present Via Teams / I Láthair via Teams:-**

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

**Apologies:**

**Also Present Via Teams :** Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Executive Engineer, Ms Bernadette Moloney, Environmental Awareness Officer, Mr. Thomas Brennan, Executive Engineer, Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer

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**The Mayor had difficulty in gaining access to the remote meeting and the Deputy Mayor temporarily chaired the meeting.**

**Mayor's Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

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

Minutes of monthly meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Martin Brett  
Seconded by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness  
And Resolved

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

Mr. Butler confirmed that he had discussed the proposal to include the cycling strategy in the Draft City and County Development Plan with the Senior Planner, Mr. Denis Malone. Mr. Malone advised that the cycling strategy is an operational plan and will feed into the Local Transport Plan and it would not be appropriate to include as part of the Development Plan.

Mr. Butler introduced two promotional videos to the Members for the upcoming St. Patrick's Festival. It will be a different type of festival this year with everything on line. The festival programme will commence on 16<sup>th</sup> March culminating with a concert on the 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. The concert is a collaboration between the award winning Wolfwalkers and Kíla. The full list of events is available on [www.stpatricksfestivalkilkenny.com](http://www.stpatricksfestivalkilkenny.com).

Cllr. Joe Malone spoke on behalf of the St. Patrick's Festival Committee and thanked all the Committee Members for their contribution to the festival. He made particular reference to Ms. Marian Flannery, Event Manager.

The Members paid tribute to all involved with the festival.

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

The Deputy Mayor:

- Reminded all that Covid is still with us and requested the public to continue to adhere to public health requirements.

## **3. Fodhlíthe trádála ócáideacha Casual Trading Bye-Laws**

Ms. Anne Maria Walsh advised that the Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws report had previously been circulated in the February Agenda and it was now on the March Agenda for consideration. She advised that 2 additions are included in relation to the special Casual Trading Area (Kiosk) Confirmation has been received from the Gardai that they require no amendments to the Bye-Laws. Local Artists requested a change to the Bye Laws to –

- Allow Artists market on Mayor's Walk to run from May to September (Part 3 Schedule 2)
- Use of gazebos on the Mayor's Walk for protection of artist's work

Members have to decide on any additional periods for casual trading as outlined in the report but it is recommended that the City Engineer would determine what weatherproofing if any could be permitted on the Mayor's Walk.

The Mayor joined the meeting at this stage.

Members raised the following:

- Mobile coffee docks around the City.
- Permanent cover on Mayor's Walk.
- Year-round Saturday Market on the Parade.
- Quality of art displayed

Ms. Walsh and Mr. Gardner responded to Members. Ms. Walsh advised that the City Casual Trading Bye-Laws permits trading only in designated areas and by licence. At present the Bye-Laws state that trading on the Parade on Saturday/Sunday/ Bank holiday Monday's can be determined by the Members but a permanent Saturday Market would require a change to the Bye-

Laws. Consideration should be given to existing businesses in the City if amendments are to be proposed. Mr. Gardner confirmed that weatherproofing on the Mayor's Walk would have to be investigated and no decision will be made without consulting the Members. He reassured Members that there is a stringent application and licencing process that Artists must follow to enable them to sell their Art .

It was Proposed by: Cllr. Martin Brett  
Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
And Resolved

“ that the Draft Bye-Laws be adopted with the additions and the amendment to allow Artist's market on Mayor's Walk to operate every weekend from May to September”.

The Members agreed to postpone the discussion on a Saturday Market until the September Municipal District meeting.

#### **4. Plean Bainistíochta Bruscair 2021-2023**

Litter Management Plan 2021-2023 .

Ms. Bernadette Moloney gave the Members an overview of the Draft Litter Management Plan 2021-2023. Kilkenny County Council has a statutory obligation to adopt a Litter Management Plan every 3 years and the current draft was recently put out for public consultation. It is hoped to bring the draft to a full Plenary meeting in April or May to seek adoption.

The draft report she explained covers the following:

Chapter 1. Statutory and consultation process, Chapter 2. What is litter and GDPR compliance, Chapter 3. Highlights of previous plan, Chapter 4. Overview of services and facilities provided by Kilkenny County Council, Chapter 5. Community partnership in protecting the Environment, Chapter 6. The challenges and future solutions, Chapter 7. Budget and Chapter's 8 & 9 Provides details on the objectives and the performance indicators.

Ms. Moloney asked the Members for any ideas /initiatives that they might have for the plan in particular to Chapter 6 and the following areas:

- Illegal dumping and means to try to decrease incidents of illegal dumping around the County.
- Scattered litter in hedges and on road sides.
- Keeping Bring Banks litter free.
- Dog fouling
- Demand and supply of litter bins.
- Unauthorised temporary signage

The Members thanked and complimented Ms. Moloney for her presentation. They praised Ms. Moloney, Kilkenny County Council, Tidy Towns and the Keep Kilkenny Beautiful Committee for the recent success at the IBAL awards. They raised the following:

- Producer pays policy in relation to re-usable coffee cups.
- Number of prosecutions for dog fouling.
- Roll out of Big Belly Bins around the City.
- Leniency in fining people who leave their bottles etc at Bring Banks which are full.

- Illegal dumping by rogue collectors.
- Build up of rubbish at back of fence in Lacken Drive.
- Issue of littering/dumping on Cootes Lane and Daly's Hill.
- Rubbish in the Butts.
- CCTV usage to catch litter offenders.
- Reverse vending machine for bottles ( payment or vouchers).
- Circular economy – Men's Sheds and upscaling.
- Composting.
- DNA testing of dog foul – to catch dog fouling offenders.

Ms. Moloney and Mr. Gardner responded to Members. Ms. Moloney advised that there was a reusable cup campaign in place before COVID and it is hoped that this can be reinstated once the pandemic is over. Refill.ie is an initiative being rolled out to reduce plastic bottle use. Illegal dumping was being tackled before COVID by door to door inspection and people were legally obliged to show proof of how they dispose of their rubbish. Since COVID inspections have to be conducted by post with the homeowner given a deadline to provide proof of rubbish disposal. Prosecutions/fines will follow for people who cannot show how they dispose of their rubbish. It is also hoped that this exercise will expose rogue collectors and reduce indiscriminate dumping.

Dog fouling continues to be a major problem and the provision of bag dispensers and bins is not working. Prosecutions and fines for dog fouling are very difficult to enforce. After COVID it is hoped to engage with community groups/ residences and school children to try get the "pick up and take home" message across. DNA testing will be looked at. There is a proposal for a dog play area in Dunmore Recreational Park where dogs can be let off their leads and this could be used as an education ground. New legislation is required under GDPR for the use of CCTV but enforcement in relation to littering etc is ongoing .

Ms. Moloney agreed to investigate littering problems at Lacken Drive and the Butts and is looking at solutions for the problems at Cootes Lane and Daly's hill. She will examine the possibility of introducing a lenient approach on fines if Bring Banks are full. The temporary signage policy will be brought back to Members for input at the later stage. A National Scheme on a waste plan for the circular economy is being rolled out and Kilkenny will implement once it is finalised. Kilkenny County Council continues to support Men's Sheds on the upcycling schemes and it is also promoting composting as a great home resource.

Mr. Gardner advised that Big Belly Bins had been very successful but their trial period is coming to an end this year. The bins are expensive and decisions will have to be made in relation to quantity and lease versus buy options. If the Council is going to roll out more of these bins' sponsorship of the bins from local business could be sought.

## **5. Clár Oibre Bóthar Cathrach Chill Chainnigh 2021**

Municipal District of Kilkenny City Annual Road Work's Programme 2021

It was Proposed by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
 Seconded by: Cllr. Martin Brett  
 And Resolved

“ that the Municipal District of Kilkenny City Annual Road Work's Programme 2021 be adopted”

**6. Cur i Láthair - Balla Columbarium beartaithe Reilig Naomh Kieran (Réamh-Chuid 8)**  
Presentation - Proposed Columbarium Wall St. Kieran's Cemetery (Pre-Part 8)

Mr. Thomas Brennan, Executive Engineer provided the Members with a summary of the proposed erection of a Columbarium Wall Garden in St. Kieran's Cemetery and explained he was seeking their consent to proceed to Part 8 Planning on the development.

He described what a Columbarium Wall is to the Members, why it was being proposed, trends for cremations locally and nationally, where it will be located and its appearance.

As the time approached 4.30pm

It was Proposed by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
Seconded by: Cllr. Joe Malone  
And Agreed

“ To extend the standing order to finish dealing with the current item”

The Members thanked Mr. Brennan for his presentation and raised the following:

- Natural burial plots to be included near the proposed wall.
- Provision of a local crematorium.

Mr. Brennan confirm that the Environment Section could look into the possibility of providing some natural burial plots . Mr. Butler advised that there was no proposal to build a crematorium locally.

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

“ that the Municipal District of Kilkenny City consent to proceeding to Part 8 Planning on the proposed Columbarium Wall, St Kieran's Cemetery.”

**7. Aon Ghnó Eile.**  
**Any Other Business.**

Ms. Walsh advised that she had received a request from Cois Nore to make a presentation to the Members at the next Municipal District meeting of Kilkenny City.

All Members agreed to the request.

The Mayor thanked all for attending and wish all a very happy St. Patrick's Day.

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

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

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