

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

MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA gCRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH A THIONÓLADH AR AN 12th SAMHAIN 2021. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON, 12TH NOVEMBER 2021.

Deputy Mayor, Councillor, Martin Brett, Presiding.

Present/ I Láthair:-

Councillors/Comhairleoirí: Cllr. David Fitzgerald, Cllr. Eugene McGuinness, Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Maria Dollard.

Apologies: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness

Also Present: Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer, Mr. Michael Murphy, Senior Engineer, Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer.

Mayor's Summons of Meeting:

Notice dated 5th November, 2021, 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 8th October 2021, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. John Coonan
Seconded by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness
And Resolved

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

Minutes of adjourned monthly Meeting held on 13th October 2021, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness
Seconded by: Cllr. John Coonan
And Resolved

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

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

The Deputy Mayor:

- Acknowledged the great work of Kilkenny Civil Defence and gave details on the Civil Defence award night taking place on the 1st December.
- Congratulated Ballyhale Shamrocks on their victory in the county final and commiserated with O'Loughlin Gaels.
- Wished Colin Fennelly and Joey Holden all the best on their retirement from the county team.
- Congratulated the Reverend Stephen Farrell on his appointment as Dean of Ossory.
- Advised that tickets for the Mayor's Concert on the 8th December will go on sale on Monday the 15th November.
- Urged everyone to continue to wear masks, sanitise hands and reduce contacts to try and reduce the spread of Covid.

Votes of Sympathy

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

Harry Byrne, Clover, Gowran, Kilkenny.
Kay Doyle, Waterford Road, Kilkenny.

A minute's silence was observed for the deceased.

3. N-Boithre – Nuashonrú Roads update

3 Year Roads Programme

Proposed by: Cllr. John Coonan
Seconded by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness
And Resolved

“ That the 3 year road programme as circulated be ratified”

Speed Limit Review

Mr. Michael Murphy, Senior Engineer, updated the Members on the proposed speed limit changes in the City that were received under the current Speed Limit Review. He outlined on his recommendations but reminded Members that the Speed limit Review is a lengthy process and at present this is only the 1st draft.

Members thanked Mr. Murphy and raised the following:

- Footpath on Dunmore Road.
- Reducing speed limit from 80 km to 50 km and from 50 km to 30 km.
- Speed vans at certain times and locations.
- Speeding and all day parking on Nuncio Road.
- Park and Ride.

Mr. Murphy, Mr. Butler and Mr. Gardner responded to Members. Mr Murphy confirmed that the Dunmore Road comes under the remit of the TII. Mr. Butler reminded the Members that the Speed Limit Review has to be carried out in accordance with the guidelines and if the guidelines state that the appropriate speed limit has been applied to that road it should not be altered. Mr. Gardner confirmed that speed reduction measures could be introduced on some roads to slow the flow of traffic. New parking Bye-Laws will be considered under the proposed Traffic Management Plan. At present the Local Transport Plan is being drafted and this will determine actions for a Traffic Management Plan for the City. Public Transport including park and ride, footpaths, traffic management and parking will make up the four pillars of the Traffic Management Plan.

Update on Road Projects

Mr Ian Gardner, provided a report for Members detailing road work updates for November. The report included information on improvement works in Ormonde Street, public lighting improvement works, bus shelter provision, fencing, footpath improvements works, traffic calming works, tree pruning, road markings and maintenance works. He also advised Members about the commencement of the feature lighting works at St. Canices Cathedral, works on the Ring Road to Ballyfoyle steps and the City Demarcation Project. He confirmed that the Watergate Urban Park Part 8 had been advertised and contract works awarded for various projects around the City.

The Members thanked Mr. Gardner and praised the staff on the quantity and quality of works around the City. They raised the following:

- Public lighting in Cypress Grove, Brooklawn, Loughboy Park and the public lighting efficiency programme.
- Works on Cootes Lane and actions in the Pollinator Plan
- River Management Plan.
- One way road between Old Newpark with Newpark Close.
- Changes to John Street Taxi Rank.
- Anti-social behaviour at St. Canices Steps
- Replacement of lights on John's Bridge.
- Appropriate trees on Ormonde Street, William Street and elsewhere in the City.
- Shared space on Ormonde Street and proposed completion date.
- Problem on Coach Road with tree branches and leaves.
- Accuracy of information for Demarcation Project.
- Public seating as part of Watergate Urban Park.
- Update on electric car charging points in the City
- Measures to prevent people parking on footpaths in Ballybought Street.
- Update on Lanes Programme
- Details of work at St Patrick's Church Junction.

- Expansion of city bus routes.

The Members congratulated Cllr. Maria Dollard on her invitation to attend a conference on remote working in Spain.

Mr. Ian Gardner and Mr. Butler responded to all the Members queries. Mr. Gardner advised on the progress and procedure for the provision of public lighting around the City and confirmed that areas mentioned by the Members were included in the plan. A River Management Plan would involve a number of organisations such as the OPW, National Parks and An Taisce coming together. It is not the Council's responsibility. Mr. Butler agreed to talk to the Parks Department to see if they have engagement with any of the organisations involved with the river.

Mr. Gardner agreed to look at the one way road in Newpark and if there are no objections convert it to two way. He will look at the Bye-Laws in relation to the John Street Taxi Rank. The incidents of antisocial behaviour at St. Canices steps have reduced but the area will continue to be monitored. The lighting of John's Bridge is part of the feature lighting programme and will be fitted with led lighting and include lighting up the footpath. Lighting the bridge itself is prohibited because of the presence of bats.

Mr. Gardner agreed that there are a lot of inappropriate trees around the city but these will be pruned before considering knocking them. The trees on Ormonde Street are appropriate and planted in tree pits to prevent roots from spreading. The Parks Department are developing a Tree Masterplan. Members can make representation if are aware of issues with trees, branches or leaves. Mr Gardner agreed that special attention is needed in relation to the Demarcation Project and a presentation will be made to Members at the December meeting.

Mr Butler confirmed that there are Bye-laws prohibiting outdoor drinking in public areas and while these Bye-laws were relaxed during the pandemic they are now been policed. Outdoor drinking is only permitted in licenced areas and will not be permitted in the Watergate Urban Park.

Mr. Gardner advised that he is awaiting a National Policy for guidance on the provision of car charging points in the city. In relation to Ormonde Road the area is not a shared space but there is 2 meters on either side of the road and pedestrians have right of way at crossing. The works will not be completed before Christmas but the first phase is well under way.

The provision of bollards on Ballybough Street were necessary to prevent parking. An update on some of the City Lanes will be provided at the next meeting. Mr Gardner gave details on the works being carried out at St. Patrick's Church Junction. Expansion of the bus routes is dependent on funding from the NTA but it hoped that the number of routes could be expanded to provide more direct routes and more frequent buses. An update on street signing will be presented to Members shortly. Members asked about parking facilities in the Medical Centre at Newpark for matches in Nolan Park. Mr Butler agreed to keep the consultation process open in relation to Nolan Park and see if the GAA will make an approach to the HSE for match day parking.

4. Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion

(14) 21 Maria Dollard

“ That Kilkenny Municipal District calls for the establishment of a multi stake holder forum for the Kilkenny Skatepark. This forum could consist of 2/3 representative of the Skaters, 1 representative of the Chamber of Commerce, 1 representative of the Gardai, 1 representative of the PPN, a representative of Kilkenny County Council Executive and elected members from the Municipal Area”

Maria Dollard agreed to postpone this motion to a later date.

15(21) John Coonan

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. John Coonan

Seconded by: Cllr. Joe Malone

And Agreed:

“That Kilkenny Municipal District undertake a review of the public lighting in the area of The Parade Kilkenny”.

5. Aon Ghnó Eile/Any Other Business

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. Joe Malone

Seconded by: Cllr. John Coonan

And Agreed:

“ That a Christmas Market and a Band Stand have permission to be held on the Parade for the duration of Yulefest on three consecutive weekends in December on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays”.

In light of the increase in Covid cases Mr. Butler confirmed that CPG will decide on holding Council meetings in person or on line.

The Deputy Mayor thanked all for attending.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

MAYOR

Date:
