

## **Was oi CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH** **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA gCRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH A THIONÓLADH AR AN 10<sup>th</sup> MÉAN FÓMHARI 2021 A BHEIDH AR SIÚL VIA MS TEAMS MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON, 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 VIA MS TEAMS.**

**Mayor, Councillor, Andrew McGuinness, Presiding.**

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

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

**Apologies:**

**Also Present Via Teams :** Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer, Mr. Denis Malone, Senior Planner. Mr. Nicolaas Louw Senior Executive Planner, Ms Naomi Scully Assistant Planner, Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer

Ciarán Ruane and Stephanie Lynch HSE,

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**Mayor's Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 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 9<sup>th</sup> July 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”.

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

The Mayor:

- Congratulated Mary Fitzgerald on her achievements at the Tokyo Paralympics.

- Commended musicians David Long, Alan Nolan and Gwen Blanchfield on their recent album releases.
- Welcomed the announcement from Failte Ireland for further funding been allocated under Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme.
- Reminded all that it was World Suicide Prevention Day and praised all local groups and organisations who help to save lives including the Samaritans, mental health workers and taxi watch.

The Mayor raised the possibility of resuming face to face meetings and all the Members supported him. Anne Maria Walsh confirmed that guidelines have been issued regarding the resumption of in-person meetings and these will be discussed at CPG. Each type of meeting will have to be considered independently. Mr Butler advised that the return of face to face meetings will be facilitated provided the guidelines are adhered to including the 60% capacity and all present have Covid passport or proof of recovery of Covid in the last 6 months. By the 22<sup>nd</sup> October the Government have indicated that all restrictions will be lifted. The Mayor agreed to represent the views of the Members at CPG.

## **2. Máistirphlean Naomh Canice – Cur i láthair** St Canice's Masterplan – Presentation.

Mr. Nicolaas Louw, Senior Executive Planner gave a presentation on the current status of St. Canice's Masterplan. He advised the Members that one of the objectives of the City and County Development Plan 2021-2027 is to complete a Masterplan in partnership with the HSE for the lands at St Canice's Campus. The process of the Draft Plan was outlined including the setting up of the steering committee, the background studies, surveys and the public online consultation event held on the 14<sup>th</sup> July. 37 Submissions were received covering general issues, health & HSE services, sports, education, older people, transport and housing. The Members are requested to make their submissions before the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021 by emailing [ourplan@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:ourplan@kilkennycoco.ie) after which the Draft Masterplan and Environmental Report will be published. The Draft Plan will then be put on public display and go through the public consultation process before being adopted.

The Members thanked Mr. Louw and raised the following:

- Timeframe for plan
- Cancer Support Centre
- Delivery of an allied health service
- Role of the HSE Board

Mr. Louw, Mr Malone and Mr Ruane responded to Members. Mr Louw is expecting to have the draft plan on display before Christmas and adopted by the end of 2022. Mr. Malone advised that the Masterplan does not fall under the statutory planning process but is an objective contained within the recently adopted City and Development Plan. Mr. Ruane asked for constraint around the discussion of the Masterplan. The site is owned by the HSE and their priorities will take precedence. The HSE management will consider priorities for the site which include, Healthy Living, Older Persons Services, Tusla, Cancer Support Service and Occupational Health.

## **3. Boithre/ Roads**

Roads Update

Mr. Gardner provided a report for Members detailing road work updates for September. The report included information on pavement maintenance works, footpath improvement, connectivity & zebra crossing works, bus stops, flower planting throughout the City and general maintenance works. He advised that Ormonde Street improvement works are to commence shortly and the Part 8 for the Watergate Urban Park will be advertised shortly. Contractors have been appointed for pedestrians crossings around the City. Consultants have been appointed for St. Kieran Street and Cootes Lane. He detailed the Rás na mBan preparations, the lighting up of the City, the audit of dumping on laneways, the review of Section 254 licences and the audit of the public realm. He reminded the Members that submissions for the speed limits review are due by 1<sup>st</sup> October. The 3 Year Restoration Improvement Plan will be on the agenda for the October Meeting.

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

- Works left to be completed in the Butts.
- Speeding on Lord Edward Street and the possibility of a pedestrian crossing.
- Works at Newpark and the corner at No 42 Newpark Drive.
- Parking around Nolan Park at match times
- Information on works at St. Francis Terrace
- The reinstatement of disabled bay, accessible parking and seating in Patrick Street.
- Laneway's between Gaol Rd and Rioch St, Assumption Place and Bishop Birch and Stephen Street.
- Update on bus stops/set-downs in Shandon Park, change to set-down on Gaol Road to Stephen. Possibility of expanding Bus Routes around the City
- Covid restriction, the one-way system, lessons learned and consultation with businesses.
- Dumping on laneways.
- Road surface on right hand side of Castle Road.
- Clarification on the Saturday Market on the Parade.
- Car roads repairs and the possibility of walking routes through the car roads to attract funding.
- Members approval for Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme in Market Yard.
- Loose pot-hole cover on Callan Road
- Footpath in Smithland Court.
- Cootes Lane traffic issues and the possibility of bringing in KKB, Acorn Project and similar at the consultancy process.
- Greensbridge and crossing for the new Skatepark.
- LED lighting and the impact on wildlife – John's Bridge.

Mr. Butler and Mr. Gardner responded to Members. Mr. Butler advised that the possibility of funding for outdoor enhancement schemes from Failte Ireland had been sought before the Members earlier in the year and the Members had consented to the application. Discussions were also had with the Gardai. All proposed works at the Market Yard will be subject to the Members approval, planning and public consultation. Saturday Markets on the Parade are due to cease at the end of September; however the Members will be asked for their approval to allow the Market on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October for Kilkenny Day. Mr. Butler confirmed he had spoken to the NTA in relation to the bus routes and bus stops in Kilkenny. The introduction of the bus service into Kilkenny was very expensive and to provide more routes and stops would require extra funding. The NTA want to ensure the success of the current routes/stops before committing to further

expansion. Works at Lakeside will help alleviate some of the indiscriminate parking around Nolan Park on match days but the Council will continue to engage with the GAA, the Gardai and the public in relation to this matter.

Mr. Gardner advised that works on footpaths in the Butts have been completed. Works in Newpark have also be completed for this year but more are scheduled for next year. He was not aware of an issue at No.42 Newpark but will investigate. Works on St. Francies Terrace will be completed by late November. Disabled and assessible parking on Patrick Street is to be reinstated. Environment will be asked to look at the major laneways mentioned and for the more minor laneways, maintenances works will be carried out. Survey of laneways is being completed at present. A presentation will be made to Members on its findings and then funding will be sought for the reports recommendations . The junction at Gaol Road is been examined. Better sequencing of the traffic lights at the St Patrick's Church could help alleviate some of the traffic issues at the Village Inn and surroundings during school times.

Mr. Gardner confirmed that the resurfacing of the Castle Road is in the Road Works Programme for 2022. Walking routes through the car roads will be considered in the overall plan. Active Travel measurers and will address many of the traffic issues in the City and make our car roads and laneways more pedestrian and cyclist friendly. The loose pot-hole cover on the Callan Road will be addressed by the Developer and the footpath in Smithland's Court will be improved. Cootes Lane will be considered as a polluter friendly road. The Greensbridge crossing is located in the best possible line of sight but other proposals to address the limitations of the bridge are being examined. A Bat habitat underneath John's Bridge has put restrictions on lighting up the bridge but LED lighting is proven to be the less intrusive light form for wildlife.

Cllr. Fitzgerald requested that a list of all application for public realm applications in the City be provided. Mr. Butler confirmed he will circulate again all recent public realm presentations made to the Members. Cllr. Eugene McGuinness asked for a timeframe for the reversing of the one-way system and Cllr. Andrew McGuinness asked that this issues be on the agenda for the October Meeting. Members agreed that the workshop on the 3-year Restoration Improvement Plan will be held in committee at 1.30pm before the next MD meeting.

#### **4. Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion**

It was            Proposed by:        Cllr. John Coonan  
                      Seconded by:        Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
                      And Resolved

“ That Kilkenny Municipal District support the installation of a CCTV System at the area of the New Skateboard Park in Kilkenny City”

Cllr. Coonan outlined the success of the new Skatepark in the City, however a small cohort of people were abusing the Park. The installation of CCTV cameras would act as a detection tool and a deterrent to this minority group.

Mr. Butler confirmed that Members had agreed an allocation of €50,000 each year towards the provision of 19 CCTV cameras and one of these cameras will be located at the Skatepark. There is however a process to follow which includes, JPC approval, Garda Commissioner approval and public consultation.

## 5. Aon Ghnó Eile.

Any Other Business

Mr. Butler advised the Members of the upcoming Kilkenny Day to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The day was very successful last year and this year a bigger programme is planned. Members were asked to approve the use of the Parade for a Market on that day.

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

“ That a Market could be held on the Parade on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021 between 9am and 5pm to coincide with Kilkenny Day”

Cllr. David Fitzgerald opposed the proposal.

Mr. Gardner gave Members a presentation on the Kilkenny City Wayfinding Strategy. He explained the presentation was for information only and once any decisions have to be made in relation to the signage it will be bought before the Members.

As the time approached 4.30pm

It was Proposed by: Cllr. John Coonan  
                      Seconded by: Cllr. Joe Malone  
                      And Agreed

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

Mr. Gardner provided the Members with details on the Orientation Study carried out in the City. He listed the key findings from the study, its recommendation and highlighted the major issues. The Members were shown images of the inconsistent design of signs around the City including destination signage and street name signage along with a map showing suggested signage locations. He detailed the next stages which includes agreeing the signage design, the material to be used, the destinations and the signage strategy.

The Members asked to be consulted in the decision making process for the Wayfinding and Mr. Gardner agreed that once he has further information he will present it to the Members.

The Mayor thanked all for attending and looked forward to holding the next meeting in person in City Hall.

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

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

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

