

CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AR IMEACHTAÍ AN CHRUINNITHE MHÍOSÚIL A
TIONÓLADH AN 11th SAMHAIN 2022

*MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING
HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 2.30 P.M.*

Mayor, Councillor David Fitzgerald, Presiding.

Present/ I Láthair:-

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

Apologies:

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

MAYOR'S SUMMONS OF MEETING:

Notice dated 4th November, 2022, 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 14th October , 2022, having been previously
circulated was tabled for confirmation.

It was:

Proposed By: Cllr. John Coonan

Seconded By: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness

And Agreed

"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 Deputy Mayor**

Votes of Sympathy

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

Ms. Aoife Byrne, Lower Grange, Gowran (following an accident in Kilkenny City).

Mr. Eoin McDonald, New Street, Kilkenny

Ms. Bridie Hanley, Galway (Mother of Kevin Hanley, Head of IT)

The Mayor:

- Confirmed that the book of condolences for the the people of Cresslough in Donegal will be sent to the Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council.
- Congratulated the newly appointed Catholic and Church of Ireland Bishops.
- Thanks all who attend the Loughmacask meeting on the new Draft Masterplan.
- Acknowledged and thanked all involved in striving to make Kilkenny an Age Friendly City and in particular Cllr. John Coonan.
- Thanked all Councillors who participated in the seminar on mobility and cycling.

3. Straitéis Nua Leabharlainne Náisiúnta -New National Library Strategy Presentation

Ms. Josephine Coyne, County Librarian gave an update on the New National Library Strategy. The new strategy is a plan to develop the public library service over the next 5 years. The strategy began with a consultation process involving the public, internal stakeholders, targeted focus groups, and external stakeholders. The findings from the consultation process included recognition of the importance of the role of the library service in

- climate action.
- sustainable development goals.
- adult literacy.
- digital framework.
- cultural and social infrastructure.
- local studies and archives.
- Importance of reading and using library services for pleasure.

The importance of people, places and connections underpinned the strategy. It highlighting the importance of the data supporting service design, the workforce and the need for marketing. The strategy plans to deliver:

- good quality well-resourced and community focused libraries.
- state of the art technologies.
- skilled, flexible library staff.
- opportunities for people – literacy, health & wellbeing, social inclusion, education, digital, culture, creativity, local history and climate action.
- increase membership and usage.

Ms. Coyne advised Members on the current capital development projects including the new Mayfair Library and the extension to Thomastown Library. She gave details on the resources needed and increased expenditure for their operation. She concluded her presentation with particulars on how the library services provides value for money.

Contributions were raised by Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr John Coonan, Cllr Martin Brett, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr. Eugene McGuinness, Cllr David Fitzgerald and Cllr Andrew McGuinness.

Ms. Josephine Coyne responded to the contributions raised by the Members.

4. *Boithre* - Roads

- Monthly Update
- Update on one-way system

Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer provided a report for the Members detailing works undertaken throughout the City and Environs. The report included details on pavement improvement works in Pearse Street, Connolly Street, McDonagh Street and Fatima Place. Improvement works to Ormonde Road Junction, Dean Street, Dunningstown Road shared surface and ramp link at McDonagh Junction. Other works undertaken includes flood response, road sweeping of fallen leaves and facilitating of events in the City.

Tenders have been returned for Dominic Street footpath improvements and pedestrian crossings at Bohnernatounish Road, Outrath Road, Nuncio Road and Penneyfeather Way. New pay and display machines have been installed around the City and the amination lighting of laneways has commenced. Old Phone kiosks have been removed and the rollout of e-bikes continues.

The Members thanked Mr. Gardner. Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr Eugene McGuinness, Cllr Joe Malone, Cllr. David Fitzgerald.

Issues raised by Members as follows:

- Footpaths at Butts Green.
- Lord Edward Street drainage and speed limit sign.
- Footpaths around Cedarwood Estate.
- Blockages/flooding on O'Loughlin Road and permanent solution.
- Bus shelter on Ormonde Road.
- Driver's behaviour and parking on footpaths.
- Traffic light sequencing between Market Cross carpark and Market Yard.
- Height of kerbs taken into account for wheelchair users.
- Crossing at the Orchard Pub and raised crossings
- MacDonagh Railway Station and its ongoing deterioration of unused buildings.

Mr. Gardner responded to Members and agreed to look into issues raised.

- Update on one-way system.

Mayor Cllr, David Fitzgerald welcomed the Access Group to the meeting.

Mr. Tim Butler provided the Members with an update on the one-way system. He detailed the background and circumstances that led to current system being put in place. He advised than any changes to the current system must form part of the detailed analysis of future traffic management for the City under the sustainable Mobility Plan. A public meeting on the Mobility Plan is due to take place on the 22nd November. Tenders to appoint a consultant will be sought before the year end. By Quarter 1 2023, it is hoped that a traffic model will be in place to show that impact of any changes to the one way system. The many areas that need consideration include drop-off points for the elderly, bollards,

clutter on footpaths, cycle lanes, shared pedestrian and cyclist space, underground cables, negotiations with bus operations, HGV's, engagement with businesses, Market Yard Urban Enhancement Scheme and electric charging points.

The Members thanked Mr. Butler. Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Eugene McGuinness and Cllr. David Fitzgerald.

Mayor Cllr. Fitzgerald advised as Elected Members it is our duty to consider reports and advice from Engineers and Consultants. This is a complex matter and he encouraged all to attend the public meeting on the 22nd of November.

5. *Chathair Charbóin Cothaitheach* – Carbon Neutral City

Mayor Cllr. David Fitzgerald advised the Members that in order to move forward and establishing Kilkenny as a Carbon Neutral City a notion of motion will have to be passed. He confirmed that he intends to debate the motion at Kilkenny City District Meeting early in the new year and then being it forward to the full Council.

6. (9) 22 Cllr. David Fitzgerald

“That Kilkenny MDC introduce a permit to allow commercial rate payers who use their private cars for collections and deliveries to and from their commercial premises uses the loading bays within the City centre by displaying a valid loading bay permit to be issued by Kilkenny County Council”.

Mayor Cllr. Fitzgerald explained that he had been approached by small businesses who do not have commercial vehicles seeking permission to short-term parking in loading bays.

The motion was discussed by the Members and the Executive and it was agreed that motion would be deferred until the Senior Engineer provides a report on how any change might work. Mr. Butler reminded Members that any changes to the current system will have to be included in the adopted Bye-Laws.

(11) 22 Cllr. Eugene McGuinness

“To ask Kilkenny County Council to consider introducing a one-way traffic system for Assumption Place to help alleviate the traffic problems currently being experienced by residents”.

Cllr. Eugene McGuinness detailed the ongoing traffic problems that residents of Assumption Place are having and how a one-way system might solve these issues.

The motion was discussed by the Members and they agreed that the Senior Engineer would provide a report on options that could be considered for the area.

7. Aon Ghnó Eile - Any Other Business

Cllr. Maria Dollard raised the need for an accessible parking bay on Ormonde Street and the appointment of a disability and access officer for Kilkenny County Council. Mr. Gardner agreed to look at providing a parking solution on Ormonde Street. Mr Butler confirmed that a temporary access officer is in place but going forward in his opinion there should be an access officer for a number of disciplines in the Council.

Cllr Eugene McGuinness raised the issue of anti-social behaviour in the Peace Park. The Members agreed that this is an issue that should be raised at the Joint Policing Committee Meeting. Mr. Gardner confirmed that the public lighting in the Peace Park will be switched over to LED lighting in the near future.

Mayor David Fitzgerald advised the Members that if they wish to raise items under AOB they should do so in advance of the Agenda going out or at least 24 hours' notice before the MD meeting is due to take place.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

The Mayor thanked all for attending.

Signed: _____
MAYOR

Date: _____