

# CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY

## MIONTUAIRISCÍ AR IMEACHTAÍ AN CHRUINNITHE MHÍOSÚIL A TIONÓLADH AN 10<sup>th</sup> FEABHRA, 2023

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023 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, Mr. Ian Gardner Senior Engineer, Alison McGrath Staff Officer.

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#### MAYOR'S SUMMONS OF MEETING:

Notice dated 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023, 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 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation.

It was:

**Proposed By:** Cllr. John Coonan

**Seconded By:** Cllr. Eugene 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 Mayor**

#### Votes of Sympathy

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

Mr. John Ryan, formally of Ryan Jewellers, High Street, a long-term member of the business community in Kilkenny City.

Mr. Paul Doran, Windgap - brother of Cllr. Matt Doran.

**The Mayor:**

- Welcomed to Kilkenny Niall Coll, Bishop of Ossory and the Rt. Reverent Adrian Wilkinson, Bishop of the Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory.
- Acknowledged and thanked Lieutenant Colonel Gareth Prendergast who is moving from his position in Stephens Barracks and wished him well in his new role.
- Noted the recent attack on Cllr. Eugene McGuinness's home and that there is no justification to threaten any individual in carrying out their duties as a Public Representative.
- The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth through IPAS has contracted a local hotel to provide accommodation under the International Protection Programme.

Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr Eugene McGuinness, Cllr Joe Malone and Cllr. David FitzGerald condemning the attack on Cllr. Eugene McGuinness's home.

Issues raised by Members as follows:

- No prior notification or consultation regarding the International Protection Programme.
- Availability of accommodation for tourism bed nights in Kilkenny.
- Update on St. Kieran's Cemetery rules and regulations.

Tim Butler advised the Members that the International Protection Programme is operated by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. They engage directly with private sector accommodation providers. The Council has sought legal advice regarding the Bye-Laws for St. Kieran's Cemetery and also contacted other local authorities regarding their cemetery regulations. Further updates will be provided at future meetings.

**3. *Trádáil ócáideach/Casual Trading***

- (i) Amendment to trading hours in March, 2023 (St Patrick's Festival).

Mr. Butler requested Members approval to permit trading for the period 15th to 19th March for the St. Patrick's Festival.

Issues raised by Members as follows:

- Confirmation of the route for the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

In response to the query it was confirmed that the route is the same as 2022.

It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and seconded by Cllr. John Coonan to extend the Casual Trading Bye-Laws for the period 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

**4. *Tithíocht/ Housing:***

- (i) Housing Delivery Plan

It was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

**5. *Boithre - Roads***

**- Monthly Update**

Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer provided an update for the Members detailing works undertaken throughout the City and Environs. The report included details on Dean Street Improvement Works. Footpath Repairs in Sycamores, Aylesbury, Ashurst and Cedarwood. Feature Lighting upgrading at Rothe House and Market Slip. New seating at Newpark Fen and also Drakelands Shared Surface. Mr. Gardner provided an update on maintenance works including drainage, pavement and vegetation maintenance and provided an update on road markings, traffic signals maintenance and improvements and probation service works undertaken at Newpark Fen and St. John's Graveyard.

Mr. Gardner advised on a number of retirements from the outdoor staff.

The Members thanked Mr. Gardner for the presentation. Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr Eugene McGuinness, Cllr Joe Malone and Cllr. David FitzGerald. The Members acknowledged the work undertaken by those retiring and wished them well.

Issues raised by Members were as follows:

- Footpath in the Sycamores and the use of tarmac and concrete
- Consideration of footpath survey in Assumption Place and Cedarwood.
- Additional seating in Newpark Fen.
- Condition of St. John's Graveyard.
- Pedestrian lights at Hotel Kilkenny not working.
- Lights on Ring Road not working.
- Additional drainage works required on the Ring Road.
- Pedestrian crossing at John's Green.
- Trees on Stephen Street.
- Active Travel funds should include footpaths and the maintenance of cycle lanes.

Mr. Gardner responded to Members and agreed to examine issues raised. He advised that tarmac is used on footpaths as it is more flexible than concrete. Footpath repairs are based on representations and are followed up by staff to examine the conditions of the footpaths. Drainage issues should be reported to [kmd@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:kmd@kilkennycoco.ie). Additional seating is being provided at Newpark Fen. The trees in Stephen Street are not suitable for urban streets, repair works were undertaken last year and will require further work in the future.

#### **- Ossory Bridge – Safety Improvement Scheme**

Mr. Butler presented on the Safety Improvement Scheme for Ossory Bridge. The key design improvements include:

- Shared surface 3.m minimum width over bridge (existing widths are 1.4m narrowing to 1.2m at lighting columns.)
- Tie-in of new shared surfacing.
- New parapets.
- Interface and transition of parapet to safety barrier.
- Pavement Improvements included plus road markings, signage etc.

Works will require the removal of the artwork at the bridge to allow for wider footpaths. The Council has been in contact with the Artist regarding same.

The Members thanked Mr. Butler for the presentation. Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr Eugene McGuinness, Cllr Joe Malone and Cllr. David FitzGerald.

Issues raised by Members as follows:

- Decision to decommission art piece should include the history of the artwork.
- Noted piece of the work is broken.
- TII has responsibility of the removal cost of art work.
- Parking on Ring Road to access Lacken Walk.
- Increase height of railing on the bridge.
- Timeline to complete works.

Mr. Tim Butler responded to Members and agreed to examine issues raised. The works are due to commence in Q3 2023 and be completed by end of year.

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

3 (23) It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan and seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett and agreed that:

“With new developments adjacent to the Ring Road leading to an increase in the volume of pedestrians and cyclists crossing the Ring Road can the Council

look at measures to greater facilitate pedestrians and cyclists crossing the Ring Road safely”.

Cllr. John Coonan spoke on his motion.

4 (23) It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan and seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and agreed:

“That Kilkenny Municipal District undertake a programme of refurbishment/replacement of the footpaths/streetscape in St. Fiacre’s Place as a matter of priority”.

Cllr. John Coonan spoke on his motion.

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

Cllr. Martin Brett requested a presentation by the HSE on the future of St. Canice’s Hospital.

Cllr. Maria Dollard noted the closure of the public car park at the Canal Walk. This car park includes accessible parking for those using the Walk. Tim Bulter noted the car park was closed for filming and it was a temporary measure. It is due to reopen shortly.

At the request of the Mayor the next meeting of the Municipal District of Kilkenny City will take place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am.

Cllr. Maria Dollard sent her apologies for the 13<sup>th</sup> March.

That concluded the business of the meeting. The Mayor thanked all for attending.

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

**MAYOR**

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