

CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AR IMEACHTAÍ AN CHRUINNITHE MHÍOSÚIL A
TIONÓLADH AN 20th MARTA, 2023

*MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING
HELD ON 14th APRIL, 2023 AT 2.30 P.M.*

Mayor, Councillor David Fitzgerald, Presiding.

Present/ I Láthair:-

Councillors/Comhairleoirí: Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr. Maria Dollard, Cllr. Eugene McGuinness, Cllr Andrew McGuinness.

Apologies: Cllr. Joe Malone.

Also Present: Mr. Tim Butler Director of Services, Ms. Mary Mulholland, Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Ian Gardner Senior Engineer, Alison McGrath Staff Officer.

MAYOR'S SUMMONS OF MEETING:

Notice dated 6th April, 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 20th March, 2023 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 Mayor**

The Mayor:

Congratulated the Kilkenny Lions Club for a successful fund-raising event on behalf of Carlow Kilkenny Homecare Team.

Welcomed the official sod turning of the new Abbott Plant in the IDA Business Park.

3. *Fodhlíthe um rialú páirceála -Parking Proposals*

It was agreed by all to defer this item to the May meeting.

4. *Boithre - Roads*

- **Laneways Feasibility Study**

It was agreed by all to consider the Laneways Feasibility Study as the first item.

Martin Peters and Katia Papkovskaia presented the Laneways Feasibility Study to the Elected Members. The presentation included:

- Link A- Blessed Felix House Tilbury Lane
- Link B- Wellington Square to Parnell Street
- Link C- Pennyfeather Lane to Ormonde Street
- A new Sensory Park
- Suggested finishes-Materials Palette
- Suggested finishes-Lighting
- Traffic Surveys/ Flows
- Parking- Existing Parking
- Traffic Management
- Drainage- Soft Landscaping
- Evans Lane-Sketch Proposal
- Chapel Lane-Sketch Proposal

The Members thanked Mr. Martin Peters and Ms. Katia Papkovskaia for the presentation. Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr Eugene McGuinness and Cllr. David Fitzgerald.

Issues raised by Members as follows:

- Welcomed the proposals, very positive body of work.
- Potential to reduce Anti-Social behaviour in laneways.
- Cost of the proposals and appropriate funding required to progress the plans.
- Timelines to works being completed.
- Opportunity to deal with issues re traffic access to Cathedral Square car park.
- Level of collaboration with all those affected.
- Welcomed the Sensory park.
- Requested walkabout of the laneways and the associated changes.
- Introduction of one way/parking changes/pedestrian access to be completed in a planned structured way.

- Welcomed sensitivity of proposals in particular biodiversity elements.
- Support from 'Love Your Lane' Tidy Towns Award.
- Discussion on Lighting proposals.
- Welcomed the proposals for Evans Lane and Tilbury Place.
- Wellington Square sight lines to be considered.
- New school required for Mother of Fair Love.
- City Walls being acknowledged.

Mr. Tim Butler noted that the presentation at this stage was for information purposes only as it is a Feasibility Study. The URDF gives us an opportunity to apply for funding for these proposals. Mr. Ian Gardner added that the NTA had funded all works completed to-date. URDF funding for derelict properties may also include the areas around the properties. Ms. Katia Papkovskaia noted that small pockets of funding may be available for projects such as community gardens. The proposals will be submitted in full under Part 8. The timelines and costings are currently being prepared. Access to the Cathedral car park is an issue particularly at peak times. Biodiversity is an integral part of the project and an ecologist is part of the team. The School has welcomed the proposal of a Sensory Park. Wellington Square sight lines are still under consideration.

- 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 Improvement Works.

The Members thanked Mr. Gardner for the presentation. Contributions were received from Cllr. John Coonan, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, Cllr Maria Dollard, Cllr Eugene McGuinness and Cllr. David Fitzgerald.

Issues raised by Members were as follows:

- Welcomed the cycling lanes and other improvements in the Johnswell/Pococke area and connection to the Ring Road.
- Resurfacing at Green's Bridge welcomed.
- New lighting and drainage at Melville Heights.
- New design of lanterns on High Street are in keeping with our heritage and rewiring for the lights.
- Greens Bridge pedestrian crossing requires consideration.
- Dean Street works welcomed.
- The wheelchair access at the Fairways welcomed.
- Newpark Fen works welcomed.
- Match day parking in Newpark area requires attention: Park & Ride to be considered and awareness of available car parks.
- Riverside Drive- drains blocked.
- New street signs delivery and installation.
- Lighting at the Parade at Christmas rolled out as a permanent fixture.
- Age Friendly seating option on the Castle Road.
- More inclusivity of Residents Associations when completing works such as hedge cutting/removal.

- Pencil bollards in Newpark welcomed.
- Elected Members to attend erection of new street signage.
- Lack of Irish Rail engagement regarding works at O'Loughlin Road.

Mr. Tim Butler advised that following representations from the Elected Members a meeting was held with the GAA and An Garda Síochána a number of years ago. Measures were put in place at this time which greatly improved match day traffic. Additional measures raised will be advised to the GAA and Gardaí. Regular meetings in advance of matches where large crowds are expected will continue with Gardaí, GAA and Kilkenny County Council.

Mr. Ian Gardner responded that a connection from the Pococke area to the Ring Road will form part of a permeability study in the future. The Heritage style lighting in the High Street and rewiring is underway. Significant consultation took place in the Pococke area prior to works commencement. Hedge removal took place early in the year when permitted. Drainage issue at Riverside Drive has been reported.

The proposed new street signs have been approved following consultation with the Commissioner for Irish. One new sign has been ordered and to be installed on a temporary basis to allow a review to take place. The Elected Members to be invited to view the new street signage. Greens Bridge works were resurfacing works only and not pedestrian safety resolution, it may be considered under Active Travel.

5. *Socraigh dáta don CGB - Fix a date for the AGM and the Election of Mayor*

It was proposed and agreed by all to hold the June Municipal District meeting at 10.30am and the Election of the Mayor at 2.30pm on Friday, 9th June, 2023.

6. *Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion*

It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and seconded by Cllr. Eugene McGuinness and agreed by all to suspend Standing Orders to complete Item 6.

5 (23) It was agreed to defer this Notice of Motion to a future meeting.

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

"That this Municipal District would assess the condition of the steps leading from Lacken Drive to O'Loughlin Road with a view to resurfacing the steps and taking preventative measures to help prevent pedestrians from slipping, provide a costing and a timeframe so it can be considered by the elected members."

Cllr. Andrew McGuinness spoke on his motion.

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

"That this Municipal District would engage with the developers and residents of Parcnagowan, Kilkenny, to help speed up the taking in charge process and address

the issues that have arisen in recent years including serious difficulties with rain water drainage that has resulted in some residents' homes being flooded, and the presence of a large sink hole in the green area".

"That a timeline for the taking in charge process be outlined along with a plan of action to deal with each of the issues while detailing who is responsible for doing so".

Cllr. Andrew McGuinness spoke on his motion.

Mr. Tim Butler outlined the Taking in Charge process and the motion would be referred to Planning.

8 (23) It was proposed by Cllr. Eugene McGuinness and seconded by Cllr. Maria Dollard and agreed that:

"Kilkenny County Council consider the repurposing of the Handball Alleys in Michael Street by Kilkenny Squash Club to accommodate new squash courts whilst preserving the structural integrity and design of the present Handball Alley".

Cllrs. Eugene McGuinness, John Coonan, Maria Dollard and Andrew McGuinness spoke on the motion.

Issues raised by the Members:

- Heritage of the handball alley
- Anti-Social Behaviour in the area.
- Improved sporting facilities for Kilkenny

Mr. Tim Butler responded that Anti-Social Behaviour has reduced in the area as a result of Garda patrols. Funding for the improvement works may be available under URDF.

9 (23) It was proposed by Cllr. David Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and agreed that:

"That Kilkenny Municipal District propose that Kilkenny City apply to join with Cities across the world to become a member of the International Carbon Neutral City program".

Cllr. David Fitzgerald spoke on his motion and requested a presentation at a future meeting on what is involved to achieve this status.

7. Aon Ghnó Eile - Any Other Business

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

Signed: _____

MAYOR

Date: _____