

CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AR IMEACHTAÍ AN CHRUINNITHE MHÍOSÚIL A TIONÓLADH
AR 13 Ú FEABHRA 2024 AG 2.30PM

*MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF ADJOURNED MONTHLY MEETING
HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2024 at 2.30pm*

Mayor, Councillor Joe Malone Presiding.

Present/ I Láthair:-

Councillors/Comhairleoirí: Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr John Coonan, Cllr David Fitzgerald,
Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and Cllr Eugene McGuinness.

Also Present: Mr. Tim Butler Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh
Senior Executive Officer, Ms Annette Fitzpatrick, Town
Regeneration Officer, Mr Alan Hyland, Executive
Engineer and Martina Walsh, Staff Officer.

Apologies Cllr. Maria Dollard.

MAYOR'S SUMMONS OF MEETING:

Notice dated 9th February, 2024, convening an adjourned Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

A dhaingniú Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe - Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting:

- (i) Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th January 2024 having been previously circulated were tabled for confirmation.

Cllr Andrew McGuinness requested that an amendment be made to the Minutes to include a proposal made at the January Meeting.

This Proposal was:

“An affordable parking solution be examined for commuters working in Kilkenny City.”

Proposed By: *Cllr. John McGuinness*

Seconded By: *Cllr. Andrew McGuinness*

And Agreed:

“That the Minutes as presented to the meeting be amended and hereby adopted

- (ii) Minutes of Adjourned Meeting held on 9th February, 2024 were 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.

1. Cúrsaí thabhairt ar aghaidh ordú ón Méara - *Matters brought forward by direction of the Mayor:*

- The Mayor extended commiserations to O'Loughlin Gaels GAA club on their recent defeat in the All Ireland Club Final.
- On 6th February a meeting was held with the Rotary Club in Mayor's Parlour to discuss Pedestrianisation of key lanes around the City.
- Proposed a Mayoral Reception be held to honour all the Volunteers in Kilkenny. Meeting held with the Volunteer Centre on 7th February to arrange same.
- Commended all the Community groups across the City and County who were honoured at a special awards ceremony at the Parade Tower on 8th February.
- The Mayor attended the unveiling of new information plaques which have been installed in 4 locations across the City to highlight our heritage.
- On 9th February the Mayor welcomed a group of Argentinian students in City Hall.
- Heritage Walk Group marked their 600th walk with a gathering in Town Hall on 10th February attended by the Mayor.
- Advised of the upcoming Menta Health Seminar which will take place in the Army Barracks on 13th March.
- Invited Members to the launch of St Patrick's Day Parade on 22nd February in Paris Texas. Richie Power appointed as Grand Marshall.
- Commended 8yr old Stevie Mulrooney from Castlecomer on his fine rendition of Ireland's Call at the Ireland versus Italy match at Aviva Stadium.

2. *Áthghiniúint Uirbeach - Butts Area Regeneration- Presentation.*

Ms Annette Fitzpatrick, Town Regeneration Officer, gave a Presentation to Members on the Butts Area Regeneration Project, (BAR) .

Ms Fitzpatrick outlined that this project arose from the Loughmacask Area Plan which was adopted in June 2023 in which the Butts Area was designated as a "Special Area for Regeneration".

Funding of €850,000 has been approved for this Plan which will have 4 key elements : Housing, Economic, Social & Recreation.

Ms Fitzpatrick, the Project Lead, advised that the project is at Phase 2 which is the development of the Regeneration Framework. Public consultation with all the Stakeholders and the wider Community will take place and a Site Office will be located in Pearse Street. A Community Liaison Officer will also be appointed.

The Members thanked Ms Fitzpatrick for her Presentation.

Issues raised by Cllrs Joe Malone, Cllr Andrew McGuinness, John Coonan, Martin Brett, Eugene McGuinness and David Fitzgerald as follows:

- Community Liaison Officer meet with the residents of the Butts area.
- The need for continuous public consultation and the lack of facilities in the area in particular for St Canice's Football Club.
- Presentation be made available to all residents of the Butts Area including Thomas Square and Lord Edward Street.
- Time frame for Regeneration funding and grant assistance.

Ms Fitzpatrick responded that a leaflet drop to all the houses in the area was scheduled to take place on Friday of that week and that a community meeting would be held in early March. She advised that this project will be driven by the needs of the local residents and it was their opportunity to have a say in the future of their area. She informed the Members that it was an ongoing project with no specific time frame for completion but that a report would be issued quarterly. She advised that the Plan included Thomas Square and Lord Edward Street.

4 Bóithre - Works Update

Mr Alan Hyland gave a Presentation on the Road works undertaken since the last Meeting. These included the following :

- Bohernatounish Road Zebra crossing.
- Cootes lane Bridge - processing of Tenders.
- Cillin Hill & MacDonagh Bus Shelter
- Glendine Heights drainage & resurfacing.
- Pockocke Active Travel - Phase 2 - new hedge planted.
- Safe Route to School - Granges Rd.- new shared surface commenced.
- Sycamore Drive - bollards erected
- Traffic Signal Maintenance - Rioch St and William Robertson Way.
- Storm Damage - Clean up at Garringreen.
- Watergate Urban park - analysis of tenders.

Mr Hyland also outlined the commuter parking options operated by the Council and privately operated car parks.

He also advised the Members that Active Travel funding of €3.5 million had been allocated.

The Members thanked Mr Hyland for his presentation.

Issues raised :

- Sycamore Drive - problem with water on road.
- If all the bus shelters are wheelchair friendly.
- To raise the ramp at Lake School Michael Street to inhibit speeding.
- Leniency to be afforded to mass goers parking in the Black Abbey carpark during mass times.

- Possibility of scheduling work on the Granges Rd during school holiday period to alleviate traffic problems.
- Time line for new bridge at Breaghagh Valley .
- Loss of the 15 mins grace for parking adversely affecting businesses.
- Affordable solution for all day parking for workers in the City.
- Issue of vandalism at William Robertson Way could CCTV cameras be installed.
- Park and Ride facility needed.
- Review of bus routes with a view to adding extra routes.
- Further capacity for public parking at County Hall.
- Glendine Heights gullies not connected to the pipeworks.

Mr Hyland responded that all issues would be addressed over the coming days. He advised Members that the bus shelter at MacDonagh station would be reviewed with a view to making it wheelchair friendly.

In relation to the problem of surface water at Sycamore Drive, Mr Tim Butler advised that the bollards erected were a remedial measure and that the matter could be investigated under the Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme(SUDS).

Mr. Butler advised that a Workshop would be held for the Members before the next meeting to discuss the options for commuter parking. He also outlined that a Park and Ride facility was discussed at a recent City Task Force Meeting and that he would revert to the Members on its progress. A meeting with the National Transport Authority in relation to extending the bus routes as part of the SUMP process will be sought.

With regard to use of CCTV to tackle the problem of vandalism Mr Butler advised that each Local Authority will have to prepare a Data Protection Impact Assessment first.

5. *Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion.*

4(24): Proposed by Cllr Eugene McGuinness:

Seconded by Cllr John Coonan and agreed:

“To ask Kilkenny County Council to fully utilise and improve green areas within its control in the City by providing more accessible pathways, seating and playground facilities, particularly in areas such as Loughboy Park, Pockocke Park and the Closh.”

Cllr Mc Guinness spoke on this motion.

Mr Butler responded that currently there are 36 Playgrounds in the City and County. it will be difficult to achieve funding for more facilities in the City. Parks Section will consult with the residents of the Closh with their proposals for enhancement of the area.

5(24): Proposed by Cllr John Coonan:

Seconded by Cllr Andrew McGuinness.

“That a pedestrian crossing & traffic calming measures be put in place at the following locations:

A. Between the Castlecomer Road roundabout near the new service station and the Kilkenny City bus stop adjacent to Glenbawn.

B. At New Road, between Greens Bridge and the Castlecomer New Road roundabout.”

The proposal was opposed by Cllr David Fitzgerald who said that the cost should be borne by Inver, the new Service Station on that road and that it should be part of their planning permission.

Mr Tim Butler responded that he would revert to Planning to check the planning conditions but that proposals could be considered through Active Travel funding. He advised that he would revert to the Members on this at the next meeting.

6(24) : Proposed by Cllr John Coonan.

That the restoration of the deteriorated patio and footpaths at Upper Patrick street opposite the St John of God School be undertaken as a matter of priority for school children, pedestrians and residents in the area.”

7(24) : Proposed by Cllr Eugene McGuinness.

“To ask Kilkenny County Council to consider installing an additional pedestrian crossing on the town side of the Johnswell road, close to the bus stop to help facilitate school going children crossing to and from the estates of Lintown, Beechlawns and Rosewood.”

6 Aon Ghnó Eile - Any Other Business.

Both 6 & 7 Motions were deferred to March Meeting.

That concluded the business of the Meeting.

Signed: _____

MAYOR

Date: _____

