

**CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL
CHAINNIGH
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY**

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING
HELD ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2024 AT 2.30 P.M.**

Mayor Councillor Andrew McGuinness Presiding

Present/ I Láthair:-

Councillors/Comhairleoirí: Cllr John Coonan, Cllr Eugene McGuinness, Cllr Seán O'hArgáin, Cllr David Fitzgerald & Cllr Maria Dollard

Apologies: Cllr Joe Malone

Also Present: Ms. Catherine Cooney, A/Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Stan Cullen, A/Senior Engineer, and Ms. Joanna Pierce, A/Staff Officer.

MAYOR'S SUMMONS OF MEETING:

Notice dated 6th December 2024 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 8th November, 2024 having been previously circulated were 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:

Cllr. Andrew McGuinness reminded Members of the invitation received from St. Canice's Cathedral to attend the Civic Service of Carols by Candlelight on the Sunday 22nd December in their formal ceremonial robes.

All confirmed their attendance.

3. Kilkenny Municipal District – Works Update

Mr. Stan Cullen presented an update on works completed at a number of locations across the City:

- Active Travel – pedestrian crossing on Castlecomer Road,
- Footpath repairs and safety improvements on Kells Road,
- Storm clean up after Storm Darragh,
- Accident clean up on Sion Road,
- Lantern Lights replacement at Rose Inn Street.

Mr. Cullen spoke about the ongoing maintenance works, including street sweeping, leaf cleaning, and pavement repairs. He presented examples of signage and signal maintenance, tree management, and gully cleaning.

He advised that the Lacken Boardwalk Improvements are due to be completed before Christmas and official opening will take place in January, dates to be confirmed.

Mr. Cullen advised on the progress of Coote’s Lane Bridge and it is planned to complete the scheme before Christmas with a view to opening it in the New Year.

Mr. Cullen commented on the successful execution of the Yulefest Festival Lighting and the significant amount of work involved in completing the project by the Municipal District Staff.

Mr. Cullen gave an update on the Part 8 Planning process for the Carnegie Library stating that the Southern Regional Assembly have given their approval to go ahead and proceed with Part 8 process.

The Members welcomed the updates and thanked Mr. Cullen for the presentation.

The Mayor congratulated all staff involved in the erection of the Christmas tree and the commencement of Yulefest Festival.

Elected Members raised the following queries:

- Concern over fireworks and complaints from the public. They requested that notices be placed at various points regarding the noise for animal owners.
- Lighting on John’s Bridge not working, safety concern.
- Lack of adequate lighting on the Castlecomer Road.
- Review of buildings in private ownership on Coote’s Lane.
- Dangerous derelict buildings condition across the City, causing damage during bad weather conditions.
- Alternative access for wheelchair and buggy users to the Boardwalk from the Lacken side.
- The material used for footpath repairs is causing a lot of growth, becoming very slippery and dangerous for pedestrians.
- Seasonal mulching of leaves and using for composting.
- Maintenance of the Roundabouts across the City.

Mr. Stan Cullen responded and advised that:

- Kilkenny Area Office will arrange notice for the animal owners prior to the Fireworks Show.
- Derelict Buildings: There is legislation available under the Roads Act. Works are in conjunction with the team looking after the Derelict Site Register to address sites that pose a danger.
- The Kilkenny Area Office will review the options for access to the Boardwalk for wheelchair and buggy users.
- The material used for footpaths is advised to be like-for-like with what was previously approved for the development of the estates. The best way to ensure that issues are addressed promptly is to contact Kilkenny Municipal District at kmd@kilkennycoco.ie.
- Seasonal leaf mulching and use for composting will have to be reviewed by the Kilkenny Municipal District Area Office in accordance with the treatment of waste legislation.
- Maintenance of the Roundabouts across the City – the Kilkenny Municipal District Area Office staff assigned to the project are reviewing the best approach to carry out the maintenance of the roundabouts to reduce the cost.

Elected Members raised a query regarding the proposed housing development at Loughboy Park and the need to engage with the neighbouring residents. It was requested that an information session be held by the Housing Section for the residents. It was agreed that Ms. Cooney would request Mr. Gardner, A/Director of Services, Housing Section to arrange a site visit for the Kilkenny Municipal District Elected Members.

4. Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion

19 (24): Proposed by Cllr. Seán Ó hArgáin

“That Kilkenny Municipal District proposes to lead a bid for Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann to return to Kilkenny City as soon as is feasible.”

Cllr Seán O’hArgáin spoke on his motion. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Seán Ó hArgáin
Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness
And Agreed:

“that Notice of Motion reference 19(24) be referred for consideration at the Plenary Council Meeting in January 2025”.

20 (24): Proposed by Cllr. Seán Ó hArgáin

Seconded by Cllr. Maria Dollard

And Agreed:

“That Kilkenny County Council will review the enforcement around noise pollution from hospitality venues to ensure that local residents’ rights to normal sound levels are prioritised, particularly at weekends.

Cllr Seán O'hArgáin spoke on his motion and all the Members supported it.

Members also discussed an issue with the shop fronts signage that are not in compliance with planning requirements.

Mr. Cullen responded that there is uncertainty around noise pollution outside the property.

Ms. Cooney also advised that, according to the response received from the Environment Section, Kilkenny County Council does not have bye-laws regarding noise pollution. The control and regulation of noise pollution are in accordance with the National Protocol for Dealing with Noise Complaints for Local Authorities.

5. Aon Ghnó Eile - Any Other Business

The Mayor wished a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all present and congratulated the three General Election candidates on a very well fought campaign. He offered his commiserations on the result to all three candidates and in particular to the former colleague and outgoing Minister, Malcolm Noonan, T.D.

That concluded the business of the Meeting.

Signed:

MAYOR

Date:
