

CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
KILKENNY CITY

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AR IMEACHTAÍ AN CHRUINNITHE MHÍOSÚIL A TIONÓLADH
AR AN 11ú DEIREADH FÓMHAIR 2024 AG 2.30PM

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING
HELD ON 11th OCTOBER, 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,

Also Present: Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Ms. Catherine Cooney, A/Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Stan Cullen, A/Senior Engineer, Ms. Caitriona Corr, Senior Staff Officer, and Ms. Martina Walsh, Staff Officer .

Apologies: Cllr Maria Dollard , Cllr David Fitzgerald & Cllr Joe Malone.

MAYOR'S SUMMONS OF MEETING:

Notice dated 4th October 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 20th September, 2024 having been previously circulated were tabled for confirmation.

It was:

Proposed By: Cllr Eugene McGuinness

Seconded By: Cllr John Coonan

And Agreed:

"That the Minutes as presented to the meeting be and are hereby adopted".

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr Seán O'hArgáin requested a meeting with the TII (Transport Infrastructure Ireland) in relation to the considerable tailbacks on the Bennettsbridge Road.

Mr Tim Butler responded that Members can raise this at the Annual Meeting with the TII once arranged and in the meantime a letter will issue to them before the next meeting expressing the Members concerns.

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

The Mayor brought forward the following:

Welcomed Mr Stan Cullen in his new role to the Kilkenny Municipal District Area.

Requested a Workshop for Elected Members be held in relation to Traffic Management throughout the City to include an update in relation to bus routes.

3. Agree Date for Kilkenny Municipal District Budget Meeting 2025.

It was agreed that the Kilkenny Municipal Draft Budget Meeting be held on 8th November at 2.00 p.m. followed by the Kilkenny Municipal District Meeting at 2.30pm to conclude at 4.00 p.m. This will then be followed by a Workshop.

4. Update on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP).

Ms. Caitriona Corr presented an update on the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP). The Plan is designed to meet the needs of businesses and the public in terms of accessible transport and the wider infrastructure of the City with a projected population growth of 9,280 by 2030. The City is divided into 4 key areas including two new neighbourhoods, Loughmacask & Breaghagh Valley. There has been ongoing consultation with the public and key stakeholder groups and the final plan is expected to be presented to the Members at the end of 2024.

The Members welcomed the Plan and thanked Ms. Corr for her presentation.

Elected Members raised the following queries:

- Possibility of Courtesy Crossing being replaced by safer Pedestrian Crossings.
- Insufficient parking for buses within the City.
- Problem of shared space between cyclists and pedestrians.
- Replacement of bollards knocked during works on scheme.

Caitriona Corr responded to all issues raised. She advised that

- All "type B" Zebra Crossings are being installed as they are cheaper, faster to install and kinder to the environment.
- The development of walking and cycle paths are part of the Scheme.
- Mobility Management Teams made up of teachers and students are in place in City schools.
- Replacement of bollards would be a matter for the Kilkenny Municipal District Roads team.
- A further meeting with stakeholders will take place on 21st October at which the Traffic Management Plan would be discussed.

5. Restoration Improvement Plan 2025 to 2027.

Mr. Stan Cullen presented the Plan which sets out the programme for the next three years for Road Improvement Works based on the condition of roads, drainage, level of traffic on these routes, deterioration over the years, etc. He advised that details of an allocation will be received in February 2024.

It was:

Proposed by: Cllr Andrew McGuinness,

Seconded by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness

And Agreed

“That the Restoration Improvement Plan 2025 to 2027 be hereby adopted.”

6. Winter Maintenance Plan

Mr Stan Cullen gave a presentation on the proposed Winter Maintenance Plan 2024/2025. This outlined the priority 1, 2 & 3 routes of the plan.

Issues raised by the Members as follows:

- Dangerous icy conditions on footpaths in estates with steep gradients can these be included in Plan.
- Possibility of provision of Salt Boxes in housing estates for community to assist in salting of these areas.

Mr Stan Cullen advised that there would be a public liability issue with volunteer involvement in the salting process but that every effort would be made to have resources available to deal with problem areas but that the Plan when adopted would be adhered to as much as possible.

7. Bóithre- Monthly Roads Update.

Mr Stan Cullen, A/Senior Engineer gave a presentation to the Members on Road Works undertaken since the September Meeting:

The Members thanked Mr Cullen for his presentation.

Issues raised included the following:

- Problem of camper vans parking in Riverside Drive Park.
- Timing issue with traffic lights on John Street.
- Foliage and roots of trees a problem within estates.
- Gully cleaning.
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Mr Cullen responded to all issues raised and advised that he would consult with the Planning Section in relation to guidelines on the planting of trees within estates. He informed Members that new Street Sweeping Machines have been introduced and staff would be concentrating on problem gullies based on previous history.

8. Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion

15(24): Proposed by Cllr. Seán O'hArgáin.

Seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness & agreed:

"In the light of additional and welcome housing development in the environs of Kennyswell Road and the existing traffic difficulties in the area, that Kilkenny Municipal District demand an urgent solution to the need for safe traffic management, including parking, adjacent to Kenny's Well itself and that this arrangement will involve consultation with all the residents of the area."

Mr Cullen informed the Members that signage is underway to facilitate inbound HGV traffic only and should be in place early 2025. He advised that improvements to walking and cycling facilities in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations should assist in the application for funding.

16(24): Proposed by Cllr. John Coonan

Seconded by Cllr Eugene McGuinness and agreed:

"That a review & plan for putting in place of traffic calming be undertaken at the following locations - Bohernatounish Road, Sycamore Drive & Woodbine Ave."

Mr Cullen advised the Members that the Active Travel Team are preparing proposals for a minor junction/crossing improvements for the area subject to NTA approval. Speed surveys will be carried out and the traffic requirements identified will be sought for delivery in 2025.

17(24): Proposed by Cllr. John Coonan.

Seconded by Eugene McGuinness and agreed:

" That an up-to-date position regarding the refurbishment / opening of the historic Jail Cells at Courthouse in parliament street for tourism purposes be addressed as part of the Medieval Mile. "

Mr Butler advised the Members that one objective of the Kilkenny Tourism Strategy 2023 to 2028 was to undertake a feasibility study with a view to developing the City Jail Cells into a visitor experience linked to the Medieval Mile area and that discussions will take place with the Department of Justice at that time.

18(24): Proposed by Cllr. Maria Dollard .

This motion was deferred to the November Meeting.

9. Aon Ghnó Eile - Any Other Business.

Cllr Eugene McGuinness queried why the change in proposal made to Fáilte Ireland in relation to the refurbishment of City Hall was not brought before the Members. Mr Tim Butler responded that this was not a material change. An update on the plans would be provided to Members.

That concluded the business of the Meeting.

Signed: _____

MAYOR

Date: _____