

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 17TH
OCTOBER 2016 AT 11.30AM**

Chair: Cllr P Fitzpatrick

Cllrs: J Brennan, M H Cavanagh, M McCarthy and M Shortall.

Officials: P Beubry, M Delahunty, M Mulholland, N Byrne, B Moloney & M Mullally

Apologies: Cllr P Millea

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-

September Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District Members held on 27th September 2016

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M McCarthy, seconded by Cllr M Shortall and agreed:- "That the minutes of the September Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held of 27th September 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved."

2. Reception of Deputation - Mill Lane and Mill Road, Gowran

Ted Ryan on behalf of residents of Mill Lane and Mill Road, Gowran made a presentation to the members seeking the provision of footpath and street lighting from the grotto at the junction for Bennettsbridge from Gowran to the junction at Mill Lane, a pedestrian crossing at the junction of L6731 and adjustment of the speed limits in the area. He advised that the stretch of road in question is approximately 100m in length and used regularly by children, elderly walkers and runners. He confirmed that there are 19 children living along this stretch of roadway. Members expressed their surprise at the number of children and advised that safety of children and road users is of paramount importance. They thanked Ted Ryan for his detailed and well presented submission. It was agreed that P Beubry would prepare a costing on works requested and consider for inclusion in the 2017 Road Works Programme.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

a) Environment - The exemption process for the continuation of pre paid refuse and recycling bags for householders in 2017.

B Moloney outlined details of revised food waste regulations introduced in July 2016 for towns / villages with a population in excess of 500 for householders to separate out food from their general refuse. She advised that there are 17 areas in Kilkenny affected by these regulations. Regarding pre – paid refuse and pre-paid recycling bags, Kilkenny County Council were successful in obtaining an extension to extend the period for the continued

use of bags until December 2016 to allow customers to run down their current stock and seek an alternative collection service if required. The Council is currently running an exemption scheme for households that have no bin storage on their property or access to a suitable collection service. Details of exemptions available which are currently being advertised were outlined. A conversation ensued on various aspects of implementation of the regulations including:

- Increased cost to consumer
- Customers inability to pay additional costs
- Elderly peoples difficulty to handle heavy bin
- Need for contractors to come on board
- Exemptions obtained no guarantee contractor will collect bags
- Possibility of increased dumping as a result of increased costs
- Smells / odours and how often brown bin would be collected
- End use of product collected in brown bin.
- Consumers not aware of their revised responsibility
- Need for more information about home recycling
- Possibility of implementing brown bin in estate in North Kilkenny on pilot basis prior to Christmas.

Members agreed that in light of the many uncertainties which exists around implementation of food waste regulations that the next SPC meeting would be open to all members to discuss this issue and if agenda for next SPC meeting is already full, that a special meeting would be held.

B Moloney was thanked for presentation provided and withdrew from the meeting.

b) **Housing – Housing Capital Update**

M Mullally provided a detailed update for the members on the Housing Capital Programme and also updated members on the opening of the Private Grant Scheme 'Housing Aid for the Elderly (HOP)'. M Mullally was thanked for the information provided and withdrew from the meeting.

c) **Roads – Roads Programme update.**

P Beubry circulated to the members update on 2016 Road Works Programme and dealt with members queries. Members thanked P Beubry for all the excellent work completed and asked that their thanks be extended to the General Services Supervisors and Roads Crews.

4. **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.**

No item was raised.

5. **Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

Items submitted by members:-

Cllr M H Cavanagh:

a) Bottle Banks

Cllr M H Cavanagh advised that a location is urgently needed for the provision of bottle banks in Urlingford. She advised that it is not acceptable that a town of its size does not have bottle banks and this situation is adding to the problem of illegal dumping at the bring banks in Freshford. Cllr M McCarthy advised that a lot of people have requested that bottle banks in Freshford remain at their current location. M Mulholland advised that the contractor was requested to empty these banks more frequently to alleviate problem of illegal dumping but have come back and advised that they are not always full when collected. She advised of a clause in the contract which requires contractor to empty bring banks within 48 hours of being notified that they are full. She advised that no works were completed to the Freshford site because it was intended as a temporary option only. M Mulholland also advised of proposed rebranding of bring banks which is due to be rolled out from 2017. Possibility of adopting a bring bank and need for naming and shaming was also discussed.

b) Trees at Old Bridge Street, Freshford

Item dealt with prior to the meeting.

c) Safety at Barna

Cllr M H Cavanagh enquired could one last effort be made by P Beubry to resolve safety issue at Barna.

d) Water Replacement Scheme at Galmoy

Cllr M H Cavanagh raised issue of how boil water notice imposed in respect of Galmoy Water Replacement Scheme was dealt with. She advised that the lack of any update to consumers during the period of the boil water notice or information to the consumers when the Notice was lifted was unacceptable.

e) Flooding at Bayswell / Lough

P Beubry advised that a costing has been completed and he will consider for inclusion in the 2017 Special Works Programme.

6. Correspondence

No items were raised.

**7. Matters arising from minutes
Hedge Cutting**

M Delahunty circulated to the members update prepared by M Butler, Roads in respect of hedge cutting. A conversation ensued and it was agreed that the issue which requires attention in Court is the small minority of land users / owners who never cut hedges. M Delahunty to discuss with Director of Services.

Summer Works Scheme

M Delahunty advised that he is awaiting response from Director of Services on the issue.

8. Any other business

Members expressed their best wishes to Mary Mulholland in her new directorate.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____