

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPTEMBER, 2015 AT 2.30 P.M.**

**Mayor, Councillor Joe Malone, Presiding.**

**Present:-**

**Councillors:** Matt Doran, David Fitzgerald, David Kennedy, Michael Doyle, Andrew McGuinness, Malcolm Noonan, Patrick O'Neill, Breda Gardner.

**Also Present:** Mr. Simon Walton, A/Director of Services, Mr. Seamus Foley, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Brian Tyrrell, Senior Executive Officer and Ms. Catherine Cooney, Staff Officer.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Peter 'Chap' Cleere, Cllr. Kathleen Funchion, Cllr. Patrick McKee.

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**Mayor's Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2015, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings:**

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Matt Doran  
Seconded by: Cllr. Breda Gardner  
And Resolved

“That the minutes as presented to this meeting be and are hereby adopted.”

## **2. Matters brought forward by direction of the Mayor.**

- (i) The Mayor informed the Members of his recent visit to Kilkenny, Minnesota, on the invitation of Mayor Kevin Taaffe and advised that he will give a brief report on the visit at the October monthly meeting.
- (ii) The Mayor acknowledged the achievement of Kilkenny Senior Hurling Team in becoming All Ireland Champions. He commended the work of Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald and Council Staff in the organising of Homecoming Civic Reception for the Hurling Team in Nowlan Park. He also extended his best wishes to Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald on his recent retirement.
- (iii) The Mayor advised Members that City Hall will be open to public on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, from 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. as part of Kilkenny Free Day.
- (iv) The Mayor mentioned the following initiatives which he has/will be attending:
  - Gold Star Project – acknowledged the work of Paul Crilly.
  - Recent announcement of 136 jobs for Kilkenny.
  - Book Launch of Derry Noonan.
  - Opening of new premises by Sam McCauley Chemist.
  - Anniversary of Peace in Christ Nuns.
  - Lifeline Seminar by Ossory Youth.
  - Launch of People of the Year Awards.
  - Production in the Watergate of “The Elephant Man” and upcoming Patrick Rafter Concert.
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Actively Retired Group.
  - LAMA Autumn Training Seminar – 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 – Hotel Kilkenny.

All Members acknowledged the contribution of Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald to the Council and to Kilkenny City and wished him well in his retirement. They also expressed the importance of filling the Senior Engineer’s post as quickly as possible.

Mr. Simon Walton, A/Director of Services, and Mr. Brian Tyrell also acknowledged the commitment of Kieran Fitzgerald to Kilkenny and extended best wishes to him in his retirement on behalf of the Executive.

### Votes of Sympathy

Members joined with the Mayor in offering a Vote of Sympathy to the families of the following:

Phil Doyle, Lord Edward Street, Kilkenny.  
Paddy Henderson, Waterford Road, Kilkenny.  
Margaret Brett, Newpark, Kilkenny.  
Seán Curran, 56, Connolly Street, Kilkenny.  
Elizabeth Hickman, Garden Villas, Kilkenny.

Ned Fox, 85, Assumption Place, Kilkenny.  
Christy Kerwick, Sycamore Drive, Archers Street, Kilkenny.  
Dr. Martine Millett-Johnson, New House, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny.  
Jimmy Long, Maple Drive, Ardnore, Kilkenny.  
Alice Stapleton, St. Francis Terrace, Kilkenny.  
Ted Whearty, 371 Clohogue, Clifden, Kilkenny.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and respectfully passed in silence, all present standing.

### **3. Fix Date of Municipal District Budget Meeting.**

It was agreed that the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Kilkenny City will be held on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, to coincide with October Monthly Meeting.

### **4. Presentation from Manager of Rothe House and Gardens, Grace Fegan.**

Ms. Grace Fegan, Manager of Rothe House and Gardens, gave a presentation to the meeting containing a brief history of the house, vision statement, the gardens, the visitor experience and special events. Ms. Fegan also highlighted that Rothe House and Gardens has also become an Educational Facility, Family History Centre and a Community Resource. Following the presentation a report containing cashflow forecasts for the next three years was circulated to the Members and Ms. Fegan made an appeal for extra funding from the Council.

All Members present thanked Ms. Fegan for the presentation and report and assured Ms. Fegan of the Council's continued support. Members raised a number of queries in relation to:

- Support through discretionary funding.
- Current position in relation to multi-ticketing in Kilkenny.
- What the Council can do to promote Rothe House.
- Civic Trust Funding.

### **5. Tourism Structures.**

Mr. Brian Tyrrell gave a brief presentation on the tourism structures in Kilkenny, developing Kilkenny's Tourism Product, numbers of visitors to Kilkenny, strategic and operational Agencies involved, Kilkenny's Tourism Development and Implementation Plan, Fáilte Ireland's Capital Investment Programme, Medieval Mile Branding/Marketing and policy alignment between all stakeholders.

Following the presentation, Members thanked Mr. Tyrrell for his presentation and suggested that steps should be taken to promote tourism in the rural areas. Mr. Tyrrell responded to a number of queries raised by Members and during the discussion it was agreed that students who recently carried out some research on tourism in Kilkenny as part of a Post Graduate Certificate in Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise

under the auspices of Prof. Susie Jarvis and Dr. Coleman Farrell of U.C.D. would be invited to make a presentation on same at the November Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Kilkenny City.

## **6. Update on Roadworks Schemes.**

Mr. Seamus Foley circulated a report to the Members regarding the current status of the roadworks schemes for Thomastown and Callan areas. Mr. Foley and Mr. Walton replied to queries raised by Members in relation to:

- Footpath restoration in Kilfera.
- Works at the Rower Village and bridge in Inistiogue.
- Completion of footpath restoration in Thomastown.
- Provision of double yellow lines in Stoneyford and Inistiogue.

Cllr. Matt Doran advised that the residents of Community Hall Road in Stoneyford have requested a name change on this roadway to Merino Drive and enquired as to the process involved to carry out this request.

Following a discussion, Mr. Brian Tyrrell agreed to come back to the Members at the November Monthly Meeting with a process and procedure.

## **7 & 9. Village Renewal Scheme and Streetscape Paint Scheme**

Mr. Simon Walton advised Members of the recent announcement of funding by the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government under the Public Participation Network to benefit local communities. Mr. Walton and Mr. Tyrrell responded to queries from the Members regarding how communities can access the allocated funding.

Brian Tyrrell circulated a report on the current position regarding applications for grants under the Streetscape Paint Scheme for Graiguenamanagh and Callan. Members thanked Mr. Tyrrell for the report and spoke favourably of the scheme.

## **8. H.G.V. Management Plan.**

Mr. Simon Walton circulated and went through report on submissions received following public consultation process of H.G.V. Management Plan and explained to Members that this item can be deferred to the October monthly meeting to allow Members to consider the contents of the Report. Members agreed to defer the item to the October meeting.

**10. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. David Fitzgerald received 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald  
Seconded by: Cllr. Michael Doyle  
And resolved

“that Kilkenny Municipal District Council in accordance with the Age Friendly status of Kilkenny City and County introduce designated Old Age Pensioner (OAP) car park spaces within the public car parks which are convenient for OAPs to access local shops, services and facilities.”

It was agreed that this proposal would be operated on a trial basis in one or two car parks in Kilkenny City. Car spaces will be demarcated and as there is no legal basis for enforcement, members of the public will be requested to comply as a courtesy, similar to the mother and baby spaces currently in many car parks.

**11. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. David Kennedy and Cllr. Kathleen Funchion received 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. David Kennedy  
Seconded by: Breda Gardner

“That Kilkenny County Council will name the bridge in Thomastown the Nicholas Mullins Bridge. This bridge currently has no name on it. Nicholas Mullins was born and reared in the house right by the bridge and this man gave his life for Ireland. This would be a fitting tribute.”

While Members had no objection to the proposal, it was agreed that an advertisement would be placed in the Kilkenny People advising the public of the proposal and allow for submissions to be received in respect of same.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_