

Kilkenny County Council – Joint Policing Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on Friday, 20th January, 2017 at 2.00 p.m. in Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny

PRESENT: Cllr. Patrick McKee, Chairman, Cllr. Tomás Breathnach, Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Cllr. Matt Doran, Cllr. Michael Doyle, Cllr. Pat Dunphy, Cllr. David Fitzgerald, Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, Cllr. David Kennedy, Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. Michael McCarthy, Cllr. Melissa O’Neill, Cllr. Patrick O’Neill, Cllr. Maurice Shortall, Mary Mescal, Breda McDonald.

Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes, Kilkenny Garda Station
Superintendent Padraig Dunne, Kilkenny Garda Station
Superintendent Derek Hughes, Thomastown Garda Station
Detective Sergeant Ger Egan, Kilkenny Garda Station
Sergeant Peter McConnon, Crime Prevention Officer, Kilkenny Garda Station
Inspector Anthony Farrell, Kilkenny Garda Station.
Sergeant Barry Smith, Divisional Clerk, Kilkenny Garda Station.

Tim Butler, Director of Services, Kilkenny County Council
Catherine Cooney, Staff Officer, Kilkenny County Council

Apologies: Cllr. Eamon Aylward, Cllr. Ger Frisby, Deputy John McGuinness, T.D., Deputy Bobby Aylward, T.D., Mary Donnelly.

Cllr. Patrick McKee, Chairman - opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd November, 2016.

It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Melissa O’Neill
Seconded by: Cllr. Michael McCarthy
And Resolved:

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

Item No. 2: Kilkenny County Council Intoxicating Liquor Bye Laws – Proposed Amendment.

Mr. Tim Butler explained that purpose for the proposed amendment to the Bye Laws is to include the area of Kilkenny City previously administered by Kilkenny Borough Council and informed the meeting that the Council will enter into a public consultation phase with the amended draft Bye Laws following which the Council will consider any submissions received and the Bye Laws will be put before the Elected Members for adoption.

Item No. 3: Update on Kilkenny Road Safety Plan 2015 – 2020.

Mr. Tim Butler stated that the mid-term review of the Kilkenny Road Safety Plan 2015 – 2020 is scheduled to take place within the next few months and requested that this item be deferred to later in the year. It was agreed to defer the item to September meeting of the JPC.

Members of the Committee commented and raised queries in relation to the following issues:

- Garda Resources.
- CCTV on the slipways onto and off of motorways.
- Safety of pedestrians on roads.
- Speed Vans locations.
- Novice Drivers.
- Weekend Socialising in Kilkenny City.

Members of An Garda Síochána responded to all queries raised.

Item No. 4: Presentation by An Garda Síochána on Crime Statistics, Traffic and Road Safety – 2016 Statistics.

Detective Sergeant Ger Egan made a presentation to the Committee outlining statistics for 2016 in relation to Crime and set out objective/proposals of An Garda Síochána for 2017.

All Members thanked Detective Sergeant Egan for the very comprehensive presentation and commented and raised queries regarding the following matters:

- Burglaries on Farms – Detective Sergeant Ger Egan, Superintendent Derek Hughes and Sergeant Peter McConnon responded.
- Text Alert .
- Victim Support – Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes responded.
- Recovery of stolen goods – Chief Superintended Dominic Hayes responded.
- Drones

Inspector Anthony Farrell gave a brief presentation to the meeting on Road Safety Statistics for 2016 which included traffic collisions, Garda Activity in relation to Road Safety, National Roads Policing Plan 2016 and Going Forward 2017 and beyond.

Item No. 5: Agree Date for Public Meeting

Mr. Tim Butler informed the Committee of their obligation under the Joint Policing Committee Guidelines to hold an annual Public Meeting. Following a discussion it was agreed to hold this meeting on Wednesday, 12th April, 2017, at 6.30 p.m. in Callan, Co. Kilkenny, and to hold a Joint Policing Committee Meeting at 5.30 p.m. prior to the public meeting.

The meeting then concluded.