**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday 21st of September, 2009 at 3.00p.m. in the Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.**

**Cathaoirleach**: Cllr. Michael O’ Brien.

**Present:** Cllrs. M.H. Cavanagh, M. Fitzpatrick, C. Connery, P. Crowley,

M. Shortall, J. Brennan, F. Doherty, S. Treacy, A.McGuinness,

P. O’ Neill, P. Dunphy, B. Ireland, T. Maher, C. Long, M .Doran, A.M. Irish, J. Coonan, M. Brett, E. Aylward, P. Millea,

M. Noonan, T. Breathnach, P. Cuddihy, A.Phelan.

**Apologies:** Cllr. B. Manning

**Also Present:** J. Crockett County Manager, P. O’ Neill, J. Mulholland, T. Walsh Directors of Services, J. Dempsey Head of Finance, D. Malone Senior Planner, M. Arthurs and A.M. Walsh Senior Executive Officers, S. Walton & B. Mernagh Senior Engineers, E. Morrissey Senior Chemist, C. Kelly Assistant Planner, and A. Waldron Meetings Administrator.

Votes of Sympathy:-

A vote of sympathy was extended to the following:-

* Paddy Quigley, Ballincur, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny on the death of his wife Mary Quigley.
* Josie Foran, Harristown, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny on the death of Sean Foran.
* Donal Leahy, Fiddown, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny on the death of his father Dan Leahy.
* Sheila Brennan, The Shop, The Sycamores, Freshford Road, Kilkenny on the death of her mother Mrs. DeLoughry.
* Neddy Murphy, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny on the death of his wife Maura Murphy.
* John Joe Aylward, Parkstown, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny on the death of his sister Peggy Aylward.
* The Walsh Family, Rathinure, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny on the death of John Walsh.

At the outset of the meeting the Cathaoirleach noted the following events which had taken place since the last ordinary meeting of Kilkenny County Council:-

* Congratulations to the Kilkenny All Ireland Senior team who achieved the historic 4 in a row
* Congratulations and commiserations to the Minors, Under 21’s,Intermediates and Camogie teams who all reached All Ireland finals but were defeated. All put up fine displays.
* Other sporting achievements to note were

-JP O’Neill who won a silver medal in the World Transplant Games

-Kilkenny Golf club who won the prestigious Barton Shield in Tullamore

Again the County and City of Kilkenny fared extremely well in the Tidy Towns competition

* Kilkenny City won a Gold Medal and finished just 3 points short of the overall National winner
* Inistiogue won a Bronze Medal and came second in the County
* Tullahought was Commended and came 3rd in the County
* Gowran National School won the award as tidiest school in the South East
* Callan was given an endeavour award having the most improved score in the County
* Castlecomer won the award as tidiest town in the 1,000-2,500 population category.

Events since the last Meeting

* Congratulations to all involved in the recent very successful Iverk Show which was particularly successful as they had to rearrange the date due to the bad weather
* Congratulations and good wishes to all involved in the People of the Year Awards launched recently
* Since the last meeting, Arts Week has taken place. One of the most successful in living memory with numbers of visitors up despite the recession.
* Congratulations to all involved in the Graiguenamanagh book weekend
* Best wishes goes to the Celtic Arts Festival and the Castlecomer Writers Weekend which is to take place shortly

Before commencement of the business of the meeting Cllr. P. Cuddihy clarified to the meeting the statement made by the hierarchy with regard to the forthcoming Lisbon Treaty.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes - Dearbhú Miontuairiscí:**

**(a)**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on 20th July, 2009:- Proposed by Cllr. T. Maher, Seconded by Cllr. M. Shortall and resolved: - “That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday 20th July, 2009 copy of which had been circulated to each member with the agenda be and are hereby adopted”.

**(b)** Minutes of Kilkenny Electoral Area Meeting held on 8th of July, 2009:- Proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick, Seconded by Cllr. A.McGuinness and resolved:- “That the minutes of the Kilkenny Electoral Area Meeting held on 8th of July, 2009 copy of which had been circulated to each member with the agenda be and are hereby adopted”.

**(c)** Minutes of Thomastown Electoral Area Meeting held on 20th of July, 2009:- Proposed by Cllr. P. O’ Neill, Seconded by Cllr. S. Treacy and resolved:- “That the minutes of the Thomastown Electoral Area Meeting held on 20th of July, 2009 copy of which had been circulated to each member with the agenda be and are hereby adopted”.

**(d)** Minutes of Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 11th September, 2009 :- Proposed by Cllr. P. Dunphy, Seconded by Cllr. C. Long and resolved:- “That the minutes of the Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 11th September, 2009 copy of which had been circulated to each member with the agenda be and are hereby adopted.

**2.      Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council.** -**Gnó forordaithe do réir Reachtaíochta, Orduithe Seasta, nó Rúin an Chomhairle.**

**Housing & Other Disposal - Tithíocht & Díuscairt Eile**

1. **Housing Disposal – Tithíocht Díuscairt**
2. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 75 Clonmore Hall, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny. To Louise Maye in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”
3. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 2 The Park, The Weir, Castlecomer Road to Mr. Sean Martyn in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
4. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 10 The Park, The Weir, Castlecomer Road to Sharon Lyons in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
5. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 11 The Greens, Jerpoint West, Thomastown to Milos Fisher and Michaela Hospodarova in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
6. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 23 The Greens, Jerpoint West, Thomastown to Kristian Knox in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
7. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 10 The Greens, Jerpoint West, Thomastown to Lynda Jackman in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
8. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 25 The Greens, Jerpoint West, Thomastown to Michael Kavanagh & Caroline English in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
9. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 22 The Greens, Jerpoint West, Thomastown to Lukasz and Katarzyna Tiffert in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”.
10. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in Boherkyle, Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny to Thomas & Carmel Moore in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”. This is a Shared Ownership arrangement.
11. Proposed by Cllr. M. Shortall, Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in No. 7 The Weir View, Castlecomer Road, Kilkenny to Margo McNally in accordance with the terms of the Housing Acts 1966 to 2002”. This is an affordable Housing arrangement.
12. **Other Disposal - Díuscairt Eile**
13. Proposed by Cllr. P. O’ Neill, Seconded by Cllr. A. Phelan and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Clifden, Clara, Co. Kilkenny to the Ossory Diocesan Trust in accordance with details contained in the Notice served under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001”.
14. Proposed by Cllr. A. Phelan, Seconded by Cllr. P. O’ Neill and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Ballinvarry English, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny to Patrick & Bridget Whelan in accordance with details contained in the Notice served under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001”.
15. Proposed by Cllr. M.H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Incharourke, Fennor, Co. Tipperary to Richard & Barbara Stanley in accordance with details contained in the Notice served under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001”.
16. Proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick, Seconded by Cllr. M. Shortall and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Rathcash, Clifden, Co. Kilkenny to Thomas & Bridget Hickey in accordance with details contained in the Notice served under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001”.
17. Proposed by Cllr. J. Brennan, Seconded by Cllr. P. Millea and resolved:- “That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Inchirourke, Fennor, Co. Tipperary to John O’Dwyer in accordance with details contained in the Notice served under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001”.

**(c) Finances** - **Airgeadas**

**(i)** Proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick , Seconded by Cllr. M. Brett and resolved:-“That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves the continuation of a Long Term Loan of €8,500,000 to Kilkenny Local Authorities Leisure Complex Ltd repayable to the Council under certain conditions as laid out in Folio 10536 in the Register of County of Kilkenny”.

**(d) Corporate Affairs - Gnóthaí Corparáideacha**

**(i)** Nomination of 1 Representative on to the Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency. It was proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. T. Maher and resolved:- “That Cllr. Pat O’ Neill, be and is hereby nominated as Kilkenny County Council’s representative onto the Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency.

**(ii)** M9 Per cent Arts Scheme In introducing this item John Mulholland, Director of Services informed the meeting that he would be recommending that an assessment panel be set up consisting of the Cathaoirleach, Mayor and local representatives of craft organisations with a view to finalising a design project for a suitable piece of art work on the 2 motorways. He confirmed that under the terms of this scheme there would be funding allocated of €53,000 for each respective motorway. In his view this sum would be insufficient and further financial sponsorship may be required.

Further to queries regarding other infrastructural projects availing of this scheme, Mr. Mulholland informed the meeting that he had communications with the Department of the Environment but they had said no specifically with regard to the Graignamanagh Inner Relief Road. It was the view of members contributing that the 1% sum would not be adequate and that Kilkenny County council should speak to supporter clubs and others particularly if it was agreed that any such projects should reflect Kilkenny’s industry and success in Gaelic Games.

Further to related question, Mr. Mulholland informed the meeting that the issue that had arisen regarding the height of the motorway in respect of the N9/M9 motorway near Ballyreddin was a matter for the contractor and he hoped that this matter could be resolved satisfactorily.

Contributions Cllrs. A. Phelan, M. H. Cavanagh, T. Breathnach, P. O’ Neill, M. Fitzpatrick, P. Cuddihy and P. Millea.

**(iii)** Appointment of Director to Kilkenny Local Authorities Leisure Complex Ltd. The County Manager Joe Crockett informed the meeting that the arrangement had previously been that the Cathaoirleach and Mayor would respectively act as Directors to Kilkenny Local Authorities Leisure Complex Ltd. It was proposed by Cllr. T. Maher, Seconded by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick “That the Cathaoirleach be appointed as Kilkenny County Council’s Director to Kilkenny Local Authorities Leisure Complex Ltd”.

**(iv)** Confirmation of External SPC Nominations received (correspondence from Business, Industry & Trade Union Pillars attached) Adrian Waldron Meetings Administrator confirmed to the meeting that SPC nominations had been received from the business/industry and trade union pillars. He drew members attention to the nominations recently received from the newly formed Environmental Pillar.

He confirmed to the meeting that he had been in contact with the local community and voluntary agencies representative and they would be finalising their nominations at their annual meeting to be held towards the end of September. He further informed the meeting that no nominations had so far been received from the farming pillar. However, a reminder had been sent following the initial request made in July.

In response to queries raised, Mr. Waldron and the Director of the Environmental SPC Philip O’ Neill outlined the nomination process which had been decided at national level and reflected the environmental sectors status at national social partnership level. Adrian Waldron confirmed that he had spoken to the coordinator on this matter and it had been confirmed that the nominees were local representatives of groups with a national remit at environment and heritage organisations.

Contributions Cllrs. T. Breathnach and P. O’ Neill.

1. Fixing of dates for first meetings of 2009-2014 SPC’s

It was agreed that the dates for the first meetings of 2009/2014 SPC’s would be fixed by the respective directors and chairs of the SPC’s. Elected members on the various SPC’s agreed that they would row in with any dates agreed.

It was agreed that future dates of SPC’s would be agreed at that first meeting. Tony Walsh confirmed to the meeting that the first County Development Board meeting would take place sometime in early October. Members contributing stressed the important role of the CDB in prioritising growth and stimulation of the economy within the County. The County Manager confirmed that John Dempsey, Head of Finance would be bringing forward Kilkenny County Council draft economic policy for the October meeting. The Cathaoirleach reiterated that the stimulation of the economy in the county was the top priority for Kilkenny County Council.

1. Filling of Vacancy on Kilkenny VEC caused by resignation of Cllr. A.M. Irish. It was proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. B. Ireland and resolved: - “That Cllr. J. Brennan be nominated to Kilkenny VEC to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr. A. M. Irish”.

In respect of the above members contributing expressed satisfaction with the legislation which left Cllr. Irish no option but to resign. It was agreed that Kilkenny County Council and Kilkenny VEC would write to the Minister for Education Batt O’ Keeffe requesting that the relevant legislation i.e. S.I 94/2004 be amended to ensure that the anomaly regarding gender balance on VEC’s is removed.

It was also agreed that Kilkenny County Council would write to the Minister for Education asking him to ensure that the county structure for VEC remain intact.

Contributions Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, J. Brennan, M. Fitzpatrick, C. Connery, A. Phelan, C. Long, P. Cuddihy and T. Breathnach.

1. Filling of Vacancy on South East Regional Authority caused by resignation of Cllr. J. Brennan.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. P. Dunphy and resolved: - “That Cllr. A.M. Irish be appointed to the South East Regional Authority following the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr. J. Brennan”.

Members thanks Cllr. Brennan for this service on the South East Regional Authority particularly during his tenure as Chair of the authority and noted the circumstances which had lead to this resignation

Contributions: Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh and T. Breathnach.

**(e) Planning - Pleanáil**

1. Managers Report on Submissions to the Draft Kilmacow Local Area Plan.

Denis Malone Senior Planner presented the Managers Report on submissions received for the above Local Area Plan. He outlined to members the options that were before them today and confirmed that following in the event of this stage of the draft plan being passed the plan would go again on public display for a period of 4 weeks. He informed members that the final plan would be coming before them at the December meeting.

Members commenting thanked Mr. Malone and Caitriona Reilly Executive Planner for the level of engagement which they had in the preparation of this plan. It was noted that substantial changes had been made to the initial draft. Members contributing also thanked the people in the locality for their input into the plan coming before members today.

Commenting, Denis Malone informed the meeting that this draft plan sought to manage zoning requirements for the forthcoming years in recognition of the changing circumstances since the making of the 2002 plan. He outlined specifically changes which had been made.

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*39 lower village delete (amendments to be made by Caitriona Reilly and Denis Malone)*

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Breathnach, Seconded by Cllr. P. Dunphy and resolved:- “We the members of Kilkenny County Council having considered the proposal to make a local area plan for Kilmacow under Section 18-20 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended and having considered the County Manager’s Report as circulated on the 15th September 2009 on the written submissions made during the formal consultation period do hereby consider that the proposed local area plan should be varied and modified in accordance with the procedures under Section 20(3)(d) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended by Section 9 of the Planning & Development (Amendment) Act 2002 and with our decision made at a meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on the 21st September, 2009”.

**(f) Environment –** **Comhshaol**

Closure of Dunmore Landfill Site – Presentation

Presentation was made by Simon Walton Senior Engineer Planning & Environment section. The content of his presentation outlined:-

* Details of the management of Dunmore Landfill site since its commencement in particular outlining details of tonnage since 2007.
* Detail of waste quantities and customer profile.
* Confirmation of the landfill closure date i.e. Saturday 31st of October, 2009.
* Proposals for the facility post landfill closure.

In particular he outlined to members expansion proposals on receipt of grant aid of 75% of the overall cost.

Members in contributing thanked Mr. Walton for his presentation all contributors requested that the excellent performance of front line staff and the operation of the facility be put on record.

In response to queries Mr. Walton confirmed that a community fund had been set up from a portion of the gate fees and that he was proposing to advance any prospective project following meetings with the Dunmore consultative committee. He outlined details of the aftercare requirements as part of the licence from the EPA. He confirmed that he had been in contact with the commercial operators and that they were aware of the closing date and the need for them to make alternative arrangements post closure. Further to queries from members regarding the proposals to expand the civic amenity centre, Mr. Walton confirmed that without grant aid an extension would not be feasible and that the centre would remain as is and therefore would be unable to cater in the medium term for domestic customers. Members expressed satisfaction that the civic amenity centre portion of the site was remaining open and requested that Kilkenny County Council ensure that same is publicised particularly in view of the huge number of annual transactions that go towards the centre.

On behalf of management Philip O’ Neill Director of Services joined with the members in thanking the staff of the landfill. He also thanked the commercial customers who have used the site since services had commenced in the late 80’s. Further to queries from members he confirmed that in respect of Granny additional information had been sought by the DOE which Kilkenny County Council are currently putting together. Contributors. Cllrs. J. Coonan, P. Cuddihy, M. Fitzpatrick, T. Maher, P. Dunphy, M. Noonan, M. Shortall, C. Connery, M. H. Cavanagh, T. Breathnach.

**(g) Water Services - Seirbhísí Slántaíochta**

Water Quality Monitoring – Presentation

Michael Arthurs SEO gave a detailed presentation outlining Kilkenny’s water quality monitoring programme this detailed presentation outlined:-

* The context of the water quality programme
* Kilkenny Local Authorities approach to water quality monitoring
* An explanation of water quality monitoring
* The ethos and legislative background of water quality monitoring
* The methodology of how Kilkenny Local Authorities monitor water quality
* The monitoring plan
* The report and procedure
* The water monitoring team
* The partnership and interagency approach
* The location of the various public and private schemes for water and waste water.
* The intended outcome of the programme
* The challenges facing the programme
* The educational and information role that Kilkenny Local Authorities play informing the public on water quality.

Following this detailed presentation the Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Arthurs on behalf of the elected members. It was agreed that a copy of this presentation would be emailed to all elected members. Following a query with regard to lime in water, Philip O’ Neill Director of Services informed the meeting that Kilkenny forms part of the lime stone region. It was agreed that Mr. O’ Neill would approach his colleagues within the region with a view to providing advice to the public within that region. It was estimated that this process would take a period of approximately 2 months.

**3. Urgent Correspondence - Comhfhreagras Práinneac**

None

**4.     Business adjourned from a previous Meeting - Gnó ar athló ó chruinniú   roimhe  seo:**

None

**5.    Fix Dates and Times of Meetings - Dátaí agus Amanta do chruinnithe a shocrú:**

**(a)** Schedule of meetings from September – November – Agreed

**(b)** Fix date for Joint Meeting of Kilkenny County Council and Kilkenny Borough Council – Cllr. Malcolm Noonan informed the meeting that the perspective meeting with the Minister for the Environment would take place sometime in October and that he would revert to the Council once a date had been agreed with the Minister.

It was noted that during the discussions at the July meeting regarding the current budgetary situation, it had been agreed that a special meeting of Kilkenny County & Borough Council’s would take place to discuss the recommendations contained in the McCarthy report it was agreed that the whips would meet to agree a date for this meeting to be held sometime in early to mid October.

**6.     Consideration of Reports and Recommendations of Committees of the Council - Plé ar Thuairiscí agus Moltaí ó Choistí an Comhairle:**

**(a)** Report on Kilkenny Electoral Area Meeting held on 8th July, 2009

This report was presented by area chair Cllr. J. Coonan.

Issues noted

* Discussion took place with regard to the possibility of a Borough Boundary Extension – It was agreed that a further discussion on same would wait until after the visit by the Minister for the Environment.

**(b)** Report on Thomastown Electoral Area Meeting held on 20th July, 2009

This report was presented by Cllr. Pat O’ Neill

Issues noted

* Concern was expressed at that meeting regarding damage caused to local roads as a direct result of vehicles servicing the motorway.
* Discussion regarding the works which continue to be carried out for the Rower/Rathcoole/Tiscoffin areas even though they are no longer in the Thomastown electoral area.
* It had been proposed at this electoral meeting and subsequently agreed by the full meeting of the Council that a resolution would go to the Department of Transport requesting that some discretion be allowed regarding the diverting of money from surface dressing to drainage in relation to the estimates for 2010.
* Discussion took place regarding the Thomastown, Graignamanagh and Callan Flood Risk Management Study.

Contributions Cllrs. P.O’ Neill, A. Phelan, F. Dohorty, P. Dunphy and P. Millea.

**(c)** Report on Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 11th September, 2009

This report was presented by Cllr. P. Dunphy

Issues noted

* A meeting had taken place with garda representatives
* Housing report was presented at this meeting by John McCormack
* Update was given on the roadwork’s programme

**7. Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the Meeting -**

**Gnó Eile romhainn i bhFógra reachtála an Chruinnithe**

None

**8.        Education & Training**

Conferences – Request for approval to attend as per circulated list.

Proposed by Cllr. P. O’ Neill, Seconded by Cllr. C. Long and resolved: - “That approval be given as per circulated list”.

**9.       Matters Arising from Minutes - Gnótha ag éirí as Miontuairiscí**

None

**10.      Any Other Business - Aon Ghnó Eile**

None

**11.     Notices of Motion - Fógraí Rúin:**

**18(09) Cllr. Malcolm Noonan**

Proposed by Cllr. M. Noonan, Seconded by Cllr. M. O’ Brien and agreed “Kilkenny County Council calls on the Government to support the Family Resource Centre Programme and, in particular, the four Family Resource Centres based in County Kilkenny. We support the three campaign principles of the Family Resource Centre National Forum, which are:

1. The Family Resource Centre programme delivers a value-for-money support for families across Ireland. At times of financial hardship, the services of Family Resource Centres will be needed more than ever. Rather than considering closing or reducing the FRC Programme, it should be developed and expanded.
2. The Family Support Agency is the best vehicle to deliver the Family Resource Centre Programme, and the Agency should be maintained.
3. If any changes are to be made to the FRC Programme or Family Support Agency, the Family Resource Centre National Forum must be consulted on the way forward.

**19(09) Cllrs. Tomas Breathnach, Maurice Shortall, Marie Fitzpatrick, Michael O’ Brien & Ann Phelan.**

Proposed by Cllr. T. Breathnach, Seconded by Cllr. M. Noon and agreed: - “That Kilkenny County Council write to the Department of Finance, of Transport and of Community and Rural Affairs to urge the provision of adequate funding in the forthcoming budget for the Rural Transport initiative so as to ensure the continuance of the rural transport services provided by Ring a Link in Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary”.

**20(09) Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh**

“Kilkenny County Council calls on the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to significantly extend Community Employment Schemes in County Kilkenny to alleviate the hardship of unemployment and as a means of ensuring that essential projects are carried out within communities around the county”.

Deferred

**21(09) Cllr. Pat Crowley**

Proposed by Cllr. P. Crowley, Seconded by Cllr. A. Phelan and resolved:-“That Kilkenny County Council supports the idea of a strategic alliance with Tipperary hospitals in the ongoing negotiations of the HSE for the future development of acute hospital services in the South East Region”

In presenting this notice of motion to the Council Cllr. Crowley outlined the background to the notice and in particular the possibility in the near future of accident and emergency services and maternity services being removed from St. Luke’s Hospital Kilkenny despite it being the 8 busiest maternity hospital in the country. He provided statistic which showed that St. Luke’s provided value for money and outlined the preferred approach which advocated sharing facilities with Clonmel hospital.

He confirmed to the meeting that through the various services St. Luke’s covered a catchment area of some 250,000 people in the South East. It was agreed that this issue would be raised by the new Cathaoirleach of the HSE South Committee Cllr. Tom Maher at their next meeting.

**12. Notices of Motion from other local authorities seeking support of Kilkenny County Council County   Council - Fógraí i dtaobh Rúin ó Údaráis Áitiúla eile ag lorg tacaíochta ó Chomhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh:**

**24(09)**  **Limerick County Council – 21st July 2009**

“That Limerick County Council calls on the Government to take the necessary steps to have the Christmas bonus reintroduced for people in receipt of Old Age Pensions”.

Noted.

**25(09) Clare County Council – 22nd July 2009**

“That Clare County Council calls on the H.S.E’s Medical Card Selection to take into account the statutory pension levy deduction imposed on public sector workers when assessing medical card applications”

Noted

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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CATHAOIRLEACH DATE