**Minutes of Kilkenny County Council Meeting held on Monday 16th September, 2013**

**Chair:**  Cllr. P. Dunphy

**Councillors:** Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, P. Millea, M. Shortall, J. Brennan, J. Coonan, M. Fitzpatrick, M. Brett, P. Cuddihy, M. Noonan, A. McGuinness, D. Fitzgerald, M. Doran, T. Maher, P. Crowley, J. Moran, T. Prendergast, M. O’ Brien, S. Treacy, C. Long, T. Breathnach, A.M. Irish, E. Aylward, F. Doherty.

**In attendance**: J. Crockett, J. Mulholland, J. McCormack, P. O’ Neill, D. McDonnell, S. Walton and A.M. Walsh.

**Apologies**: Cllrs. C. Connery and W. Ireland.

1. **Confirmation of Minutes - Dearbhú Miontuairiscí:**
2. Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday 15th July, 2013**.** Proposed by Cllr. T. Maher, Seconded by Cllr. J. Brennan and agreed:- “That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on the 15th July, 2013 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved.”
3. Minutes of Joint Meeting of Kilkenny County & Borough Council’s held on 15th July, 2013. Proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick, Seconded by Cllr. M. Noonan and agreed:- “That the minutes of Joint Meeting held on 15th July, 2013 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved”.
4. Minutes of SPC 3 Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning Meeting held on 4th September, 2013. Proposed by Cllr. T. Maher, Seconded by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick and agreed:- “That the minutes of SPC 3 Meeting held on 4th September, 2013 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved”.
5. Minutes of Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on 25th June, 2013. Proposed by Cllr. J. Brennan, Seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty and agreed:- “That the minutes of Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on 25th June, 2013 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved”.
6. Minutes of Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee Meeting held on 11th July, 2013. Proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick, Seconded by Cllr. A.M. Irish and agreed:-“That the minutes of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee Meeting as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved”.
7. Minutes of Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 12th July, 2013. Proposed by Cllr. C. Long, Seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty and agreed:- “That the minutes of the Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 12th July, 2013 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved”.

**Chairman’s Congratulations:-**

* Congratulations to all villages and towns who took part in the Tidy Towns Competition
* Congratulations to the Kilkenny Senior Camogie team on reaching the All Ireland Final.
* Congratulations to the U16 Glenmore Camogie Team.
* Congratulations to the Kilkenny Arts Committee
* Congratulations to the Piltown Show committee
* Congratulations to Claire Grace on winning a European Bronze Medal for boxing.

Cllr. Pat Dunphy also sent best wishes to Cllr. B. Ireland and Darragh Connery (son of Cllr. C. Connery) both recovering from illness.

**Votes of Sympathy**

* Colm Killian (Machinery Yard) on the death of his father Patrick Killian.
* Liz Teehan (Housing) on the death of her mother Molly Lahart.
* Benny Nolan (Caretaker) on the death of his mother Marie Nolan
* Killian Hennessy (Fire Services) on the death of his mother Eveline Hennessy.
* Carmel Hogan (Planning), Margaret Mahoney and Michael Brennan (Kilkenny Borough) on the death of their sister Ann Keenan.
* Philippe Beubry (Area Engineer) on the death of his sister Veronique Beubry.
* Martin Butler (Roads) on the death of his sister Eileen Barham.
* Michael Delahunty (HR) on the death of his mother in law Rita Conway.
* Statia Bookle & Family, Mullenakill, Tullogher on the death of Jimmy Bookle.
* Jim Delahunty & Family, Listerlin, Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny on the death of Josie Delahunty.
* Anne Hartley & Family, Kilmackevogue, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny on the death of Bridget O’ Brien.
* Eddie Doyle & Family, Ardbeg, Coolnaleen, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny on the death of Peter Doyle.
* Michael Lannon, Suir Crescent, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny on the death of Mary Lannon.
1. **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council.** -**Gnó forordaithe do réir Reachtaíochta, Orduithe Seasta, nó Rúin an Chomhairle.**
2. **Roads – Bóithre**
3. Proposed by Cllr. S. Treacy, Seconded by Cllr. J. Moran and agreed: - “That the County Council of the County of Kilkenny in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and in compliance with Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended by Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act, 2010, hereby declares the road at Maudlin Court, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny to be a public road”.

1. Proposed by Cllr. C. Long, Seconded by Cllr. T. Breathnach and agreed: - “We the members of Kilkenny County Council approve the initiation of proceedings for the taking in charge of 37 Residential Units at Kylemore, Fiddown, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended by Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act 2010”.
2. Proposed by Cllr. F. Doherty, Seconded by Cllr. A.M. Irish and agreed:- “We the members of Kilkenny County Council approve the initiation of proceedings for the taking in charge at Millbanks Grove, Rosbercon, Co. Kilkenny in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended by Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act 2010”.
3. Proposed by Cllr. T. Maher, Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran and agreed: - “We the members of Kilkenny County Council approve the initiation of proceedings for the taking in charge of (30 House Development) at The Meadows, Callan, Co. Kilkenny in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended by Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act, 2010”.
4. **Planning – Pleanail**

**Part 8 Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001-2013 Ballyragget Urban and Village Renewal.**

Mr. S. Walton outlined to the meeting the works to be undertaken to the urban realm in Ballyragget. He advised that extensive public consultation has been held with all interested parties. The Part 8 report as circulated outlined the detailed work proposed, schedule of submissions received, copy of screening assessment undertaken and senior planners report, together with map.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, J. Brennan, P. Millea, M. Shortall, T. Maher, P. Cuddihy, M. O’ Brien, M. Noonan, J. Coonan and T. Breathnach.

 A number of members were concerned that some residents in Ballyragget were not happy with the works proposed. It was requested that further consultation would take place to deal with the outstanding issues. Queries were raised in relation to the timescale to have works completed and the draw down of money from Leader.

Members complimented the roads staff on consultation and engagement that already has taken place with the communities in Ballyragget.

Mr. Walton responded to the queries raised and advised that the funding amounts to €400,000. There are tight deadlines to get the works completed to draw down the money by the end of 2013. He gave a commitment to discuss the works further with a small number of residents that have concerns.

The majority of the community are in favour of the undergrounding of the cables, new lights and the traffic management proposals. There are concerns over footpaths/parking on the eastern side of the square.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. J. Brennan and agreed:- “That we the members of Kilkenny County Council approve Ballyragget Urban and Village Renewal Scheme as set out in the County Managers Report dated 5th September, 2013 subject to further local consultation in respect of kerb build on the eastern side of The Square”.

Cllr. P. Millea proposed that a decision on the Part 8 be deferred for another month until all concerned are addressed. This was seconded by Cllr. M. Shortall”.

County Manager advised the members that works cannot proceed without approval of members to the Part 8. The grant of €400,000 is available in 2013 and the time frame is exceptionally tight. This grant may not be available next year. Extensive consultation has taken place and Mr. Walton has given a commitment to go back to the small numbers of residents who still have concerns. It is imperative that members seriously consider the Part 8 report before them and make a decision in principle on it at today’s meeting.

Following further discussion Cllr. Millea withdrew the amendment. The resolution by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr. J. Brennan and agreed: - “That we the members of Kilkenny County Council approve Ballyragget Urban and Village Renewal Scheme as set out in the County Managers Report dated 5th September, 2013 subject to further local consultation in respect of kerb build on the eastern side of The Square was agreed by all” .

1. **Roads – Bóithre**

**Roads Programme Update**

Mr. John Mulholland gave a powerpoint presentation to members giving an update on road projects for 2013. He also referred to report circulated to members with the agenda. In his report, details of the current roads programme was outlined. Reference was made to new web based pavement management system which gives details on the overall condition of the road network. He advised members that motorway maintenance and renewal contracts were provided by EGIS Lagan since May 2013. NRA has provided a dedicated line for reporting incidents/emergencies on the motorways.

A new road safety plan for County Kilkenny for the period 2013-2020 is being finalised and will be published later this year.

Under Smarter Travel, a cycling route on the Old Dublin Road has been completed this year. Grant was provided towards the preparation of a Smarter Travel Strategy in Ferrybank. This is being considered by the public at this time.

Design has also commenced on provision of new cycle bridge at Ossory Bridge and construction work has commenced on the new pedestrian bridge near Carnegie library.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. P. Dunphy, C. Long, M. O’ Brien, P. Cuddihy, M. Shortall, S. Treacy, E. Aylward, T. Breathnach, T. Maher, D. Fitzgerald, F.Doherty, M. Fitzpatrick, J. Coonan, M. Noonan and A.M Irish.

The issues raised by members relate to the following:-

* Funds for Tower Road, Piltown
* Current status – timeframe for projects at Damerstown, Coolbawn, Copenagh Cross, Tennypark to Cuffesgrange (N76)
* Dangerous junction – Kiljames cross
* Motorway maintenance – Outline what contract covers – slip roads, overbridges? How do public reports incidents.
* Signage for Kilkenny on motorways
* Piltown By Pass – Update on outstanding issues
* Development levies on private cul-de-sac
* Ferrybank Smarter Travel Strategy – Request to facilitate further discussion with public and Waterford City Council.

A number of Councillors raised specific questions on the Central Access Scheme, Archaeology on the houses at Vicar Street, Northern Ring Road status, cost of schemes to date, advising the public of the current position and work that is currently underway and also progress on design of stage 2 of Central Access Scheme.

Mr. Crockett advised members that the archaeology on the houses at Vicar Street is being carried out under licences from the Department of Arts & Heritage. This is a legal requirement and the costs involved would be included as part of any major capital project. To date there has been nothing significant found. The central access scheme has been in planning since the early 1970’s. Greensbridge cannot be improved, an extra bridge is required to enable the city centre to be developed. Bord Pleanala has approved the plans for the new bridge. The development of the Diageo site as a new technological campus and the proposed visitors centre will require new road infrastructure to enable people to get in and out of the city. Plans for the Diageo site will be available early in October and the public will be able to see what the potential of the site can bring to the development of the city.

Cllr. P. Cuddihy proposed that work would progress on stage 2 of the Central Access Scheme to ensure that all approvals are in place when funds become available. This was seconded by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh and agreed by all members. County Manager gave a commitment to progress stage 2 of the project.

Mr. J. Mulholland responded to queries raised by members on specific roads throughout the county. He advised that members can log any complaints/issues on “Fix my street” website.

Cllr. C. Long raised an issue regarding the long queues at the Motor Tax Office, and Cllr. A.M. Irish asked about delays in issuing licences. Mr. Mulholland advised that additional staff have been assigned to Motor Tax to deal with the customers on declarations for vehicles off the road and to clear the backlog on the licences.

1. **Water Services – Seirbhísí Uisce**

**Water Services Programme Update**

Mr. P. O’ Neill gave a powerpoint presentation on the current status of the Capital Schemes, Rural Water Programme and the transfer of services to Irish Water

* Capital Schemes – In the 4 year programme 2010-2013 the total value of all projects is €26m. There are three schemes under construction in 2013 – Purcellsinch WWTP, Ballyhale WWTP and Paulstown WWTP.

Two WWTP Bundle Schemes at approval stage (1) Freshford/Johnstown/Goresbridge and (2)Stoneyford/Castlecomer/

Urlingford- Castlecomer at contract design stage, Urlingford recently approved by Department and approval for Stoneyford is expected shortly.

There are a number of schemes been planned, list of these schemes are included in the presentation.

* Rural Water Programme – Grant allocation for 2013 to €830,500, local contributions is €112,500, giving a total of €943,000. A pilot group sewerage scheme at Massford and Lower Kilmacow will be funded. New additional water supply for the Gowran/Goresbridge/ Paulstown area will be sourced and Part 8 will be going for the October Council Meeting.
* Irish Water- Transfer of all water services will take place on 1st January, 2014. Irish Water will then be responsible for the Capital Programme . Irish Water have indicated that Domestic Metering will commence in Kilkenny in mid 2014. Local Authority will operate the water services for Irish Water under service level agreements for a period of 12 years.

Contributions were received from Cllr. P. Dunphy, J. Brennan, P. Crowley, S. Treacy, J. Coonan, F. Doherty, T. Breathnach, M. Noonan, M. O’ Brien and T. Maher.

Members complimented the water services staff on the number of capital projects underway and in planning. This is a huge investment in the infrastructure, it was requested that the powerpoint presentation be circulated to each member.

Queries were raised in relation to the following:-

* Update on fluoridation
* Pressure of supply in Kilmoganny for fire fighting purposes
* Timescale for WWTP at Inistioge
* Coon – Problems with filtration
* Status of Glenmore WWTP- Small schemes programme

Mr. P. O’ Neill responded to all queries raised. It was agreed that the HSE would be invited to give a presentation on fluoridation to SPC 2 – Infrastructure, Transportation and Water Services.

1. **Housing - Tithíocht**

 **Housing Report**

 Mr. John McCormack referred to the housing report circulated with the agenda. He updated the members on the current status with the National Rent Scheme and Housing Assistance Payment. Kilkenny County Council will be a pilot for the implementation of the Housing Assistance Payment from 1st January, 2014. He advised members on the details of the capital allocations received for 2013. Details on the capital projects are listed in the report. Members were advised that an additional allocation of €2.4m was received in August 2013 for a retrofitting programme of works to 152 houses under the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland grant scheme. This is a major housing project that must be completed by the end of the year.

Members attention was directed to Section 5 of the report, all funds under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme has now been fully committed.

In relation to Traveller Accommodation members, were advised that a new three year programme was underway and it would be presented to the members for approval in 2014.

There has been an increase in the number of homeless people in Kilkenny. The provision of private rented accommodation is getting more difficult due to higher rents and also shortage of accommodation.

Contributions were received from Cllr. M. Noonan, M. Fitzpatrick, M. Doran, M. Shortall, P. Crowley, T. Maher, J. Coonan, T. Breathnach and P. Dunphy.

Members in general thanked the Director of Services for the detailed report and thanked the housing staff for the service provided under difficult circumstances. The provision of grant for retrofitting 150 houses was welcome despite the short timeframe. Members acknowledged that it would be difficult to deliver on this retrofitting before the end of the year and also to maintain the existing housing services.

Specific queries were raised in relation to

* Housing development at St. Catherine’s, Wetlands
* Clarify provision of funding to the Homeless Service providers – has there been a 7½% reduction in grant – mental health and other issues leading to homelessness.
* Rents increasing on private properties
* National Rent scheme, how will rent be calculated, deduction at source, pay at Post Office
* Housing list – Removal of people when they are in private rented accommodation.
* Housing adaptation Grants – Mobility aids to people over 70 years.
* Voluntary housing – issues with compliance on building control and fire compliance
* Plans for provision of any social units by the local authority

Mr. McCormack responded to all queries raised. He advised that delivering on housing service in these economic times is challenging for staff. Rents are increasing in the private sector and there is no additional accommodation being provided. He also advised that new legislation is being drafted and a new housing bill is expected to be placed before the Dail to deal with Notice to Quit etc.

Members requested a special meeting to be held to deal with specific housing issues. The chairman requested the chairman of the Housing SPC to arrange a special meeting for all members to attend. This was agreed by all members.

1. **Finance - Airgeadais**

**June 2013 Finance Overview**

Report on the Financial Review of the Local Authority Budgets for the 1st half year of 2013 was circulated for member’s information. Mr. Crockett advised that the Council was over budget by approx €100,000 at 30th June, 2013. Corrective action will be taken during the 2nd half of the year to ensure that the financial position of the Council does not deteriorate. Areas of concern were highlighted in the report circulated and these will be monitored closely.

1. **Economic Development**

**Milk Expansion Report**

A report on milk expansion was circulated by the County Manager for member’s information. The report outlines the work undertaken by members of the working group of Chief Executives and the Scientific Technical Working Group. It is expected that there will be a 60% increase in milk supply yielding an increase of some 2,000 jobs. There is also expansion plans in place for beef under Food Harvest 2020.

1. **Urgent Correspondence - Comhfhreagras Práinneach**

Cllr. M. Brett submitted letter of resignation as Chair of SPC 3, Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning with effect from the 1st October, 2013.

Chairman Cllr. P. Dunphy requested the members in accordance with standing orders to deal with the filling of this vacancy as urgent business. The members consented to this on the proposal of Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. O’ Brien.

Proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. O’ Brien and agreed:- “That Cllr. T. Maher is appointed chairperson of SPC 3, Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning with effect from 1st October, 2013”.

All other correspondence was circulated and noted.

**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:**

* + - 1. Proposed by Cllr. T. Maher, Seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty and agreed - schedule of meetings from September - November 2013.
			2. Agree date for Joint Special Meeting - Diageo Site. – Date of 7th October was proposed by Cllr. M. O’ Brien, seconded by Cllr. T. Breathnach and agreed.
			3. Agree date for Special Meeting to consider Thomastown Urban and Village Renewal Part 8 Report and Recommendations – Date of 4th November, 2013 at 2.00p.m. in County Hall, proposed by Cllr. M. O’ Brien, seconded by Cllr. S. Treacy and agreed”.
1. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations of Committees of the Council - Plé ar Thuairiscí agus Moltaí ó Choistí an Comhairle:**
2. Proposed by Cllr. M. Brett, seconded by Cllr. A.M. Irish and agreed: - Chairpersons Report of SPC 3 Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning Meeting held on 4th September, 2013 hereby approved”.
3. Proposed by Cllr. J. Brennan, Seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty and agreed:- Chairpersons Report on Rural Water Monitoring committee Meeting held on 25th June, 2013 is hereby approved.
4. Proposed by Cllr. C. Long, seconded by Cllr. T. Breathnach and agreed:- Chairpersons Report on Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 12th July, 2013 is hereby approved.

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

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

None

**8.        Education & Training – Oideachas agus Oiliúint**

1. Conferences – Request for approval to attend as per circulated list – Proposed by Cllr. T. Breathnach, Seconded by Cllr. M. Shortall and agreed.
	* + 1. Summary of proceedings at Conferences have been received from

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Councillor** | **Date of Conference** | **Title of Conference** |
| Jane Moran             | 5th – 7th July, 2013 | Mental Health and Well Being Skills for Elected Members |
| M.H Cavanagh | 12th – 13th July, 2013 | Climate Change Policy towards 2050 |
| John Brennan | 19th – 20th July, 2013 | Taxing Goods and Services |
| Tom Maher | 26th – 28th July, 2013 | ‘Future is Food’ - Employment Opportunities in Artisan Foods |
| Pat Dunphy | 2nd – 4th August, 2013 | Rural Crime Prevention and Detection Conference. |

**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:**

**4(13) Cllrs. M. Fitzpatrick, M. O’Brien & J. Brennan**

Proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. M O’ Brien and agreed:- “Kilkenny County Council in keeping with the objective of making Kilkenny County a fair employment area agrees with and endorses the right of all employees to be represented individually and/or collectively by a trade union if they so wish.

We would expect and encourage all employees and their representative organisations in Kilkenny County to fully recognise this basic fundamental Human Right and so not intimidate, harass or threaten the continued employment of those exercising this right”.

**5(13) Cllrs. T. Breathnach, T. Maher, J. Coonan and M.H. Cavanagh.**

Proposed by Cllr. T. Breathnach, Seconded by Cllr. T. Maher and agreed:- “That Kilkenny County Council supports the campaign of the Restaurants Association of Ireland to keep the VAT rate for tourism and hospitality at 9% into 2014 and beyond”.

**6(13) Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick**

Proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick, Seconded by Cllr. M. O’Brien and agreed:- “The Council recognises that the trafficking, exploitation and abuse of women and girls is taking place in Kilkenny and throughout the country as a direct result of prostitution”.

**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:**

**20(13) Limerick City & County Council – 12th July, 2013**

“That Limerick County Council calls on the Minister for Education and Skill, Mr. Ruairi Quinn, T.D., and the Department of Education to allow some choice based on the old second level school catchment areas and tradition when it comes to assessing school transport eligibility, especially in areas where it is cost neutral and if agreed, that this motion would be circulated to all other local authorities”.

 **Noted**

**21(13) Carrickmacross Town Council – 16th July, 2013**

“That Carrickmacross Town Council notes that a significant piece of immigration reform legislation is currently due to come before the US House of Representatives. This has the potential to positively transform the situation for the estimated 50,000-70,000 undocumented Irish people in the United Stated. That we hereby agreed to write to Congressman John Boehner, Speaker in the US House of Representatives commending this legislation and encouraging its approval by Congress”.

**Noted**

**22(13) Monaghan County Council – 16th July, 2013**

“In light of the Government’s improved financial situation, that this Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection in increase all Old Age Pensions to match the inflation rate over the last three years”.

**Noted**

**23(13) Waterford City Council – 18th July,** **2013**

Waterford City Council commends the 10 former workers from Waterford Crystal in respect of their pensions, welcomes of the decision of the European Court of Justice, recognises the European Court of Justice has found the former Government failed in its obligations to the workers, accepts that the judgement must go back to the High Court

but calls on the Government not to drag its heels on the issue. This Council also calls on the Government to compensate all former workers of Waterford Crystal and to transpose into Irish law the 2008 EU Directive and insure it gives protection to all Irish workers and their pensions in the future.”

**Noted**

**24(13) Waterford City Council – 18th July, 2013**

“That Waterford City Council recognizes that the trafficking, exploitation and abuse of women and girls is taking place in Waterford and throughout the country as a direct result of prostitution. That Waterford City Council believes human rights abuses can be ended by targeting the demand for prostitution by introducing laws which make it an offence to pay for sex and is seeking such laws. We note the success of similar laws in other European countries. That Waterford City Council will convey its views to the Minister for Justice.”

**Noted**

**25(13) Offaly County Council – 19th July, 2013**

“That Offaly County Council supports the radical reform of Seanad Eireann” .

**Noted**

**26(13) Offaly County Council – 19th July, 2013**

“That Offaly County Council write to the Minister for Health to highlight the importance of Community Care and the role of the Public Health Nurse”.

**Noted**

**27(13) Clones Town Council – 30th July, 2013**

“That Clones Town Council calls on the Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly, TD to confirm that discretionary medical cards will not be withdrawn from cancer patients who are not considered terminally ill”.

**Noted**

**28(13) Macroom Town Council – 1st August, 2013**

“That Macroom Town Council calls on Minister Phil Hogan to write to all town Councils explaining the breakdown of exact savings that are to be made by the proposed abolishment of Town Councils”.

**Noted**

**29(13) Limerick City & County Council – 16th August, 2013**

“That, Limerick County Council calls on the Government to carry out a serious review of its present policies on Free Legal Aid making a substantial contribution themselves; and that have been means-tested as eligible for Free Legal Aid, applicants would select from a panel of the legal profession, directly employed by the State on a fixed annual salary; and that recipients of Free Legal Aid should have the cost associated with this aid paid back through the following ways:- (i) if in receipt of Social Welfare, a weekly deduction should be taken from same, (ii) if a property owner, a charge should be put on this property which could be collected with interest if that property is sold in the future, or handed down”.

 **Noted**

Meeting concluded at 6.00p.m.