

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup>  
DECEMBER, 2015 AT 2.30 P.M.**

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

**Present:-**

**Councillors:** Matt Doran, Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere, Michael Doyle, David Fitzgerald, David Kennedy, Andrew McGuinness, Patrick McKee, Malcolm Noonan, Patrick O’Neill, Breda Gardner.

Apologies: Kathleen Funchion.

**Also Present:** Ms. Colette Byrne, Chief Executive, Mr. Simon Walton, A/Director of Services, Mr. Seamus Kavanagh, A/Senior Engineer, Mr. Brian Tyrrell, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. Catherine Cooney, Staff Officer, Ms. Claire Goodwin, Kilkenny County Council.

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**Mayor’s Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2015, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

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

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Matt Doran  
Seconded by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere  
And Resolved

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

**Matters Arising**

Cllr. Matt Doran requested an update on the Flood Relief Scheme in Callan. Mr. Simon Walton responded by advising the meeting that as a result of difficulties arising following the first test of the scheme, some remediation works have been carried out to the pumping system and the Council will be keeping the scheme under review.

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

- (i) The Mayor congratulated all those involved in the success of the following recent events:
  - Civic Reception for Army Generals held at City Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2015.
  - Launch of The Kilkenny 2016 Plan to commemorate the centenary of the 1916 Rising which took place in Rothe House, Kilkenny, on 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015.
  - O'Loughlin Gaels G.A.A. Club on winning the County U21 Championship.
- (ii) The Mayor thanked all who contributed to the Mayor's Christmas Fund for their generosity.
- (iii) The Mayor mentioned a number of events which he attended since the last meeting of the Municipal District and congratulated all involved and informed Members of a number of upcoming events for their diaries.

### Votes of Sympathy

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

Frances Ivory, 4, Ossory Park, Kilkenny.

Carole Delaney, Dean Cavanagh Place, Kilkenny and formerly of Kilrush, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.

Daniel McEvoy, 38, Michael Street, Kilkenny.

Davy Fenlon, 25, Woodland Estate, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny.

Margaret O'Neill, St. Francis Terrace, Kilkenny.

Lorcan Bergin, 18, Rioch Street, Kilkenny.

Ann Madden, late of Larchfield and Friary Street, Kilkenny.

Johanna Hayes, 51, Lower Newpark, Kilkenny.

Brede Dunne, 20, Nore Terrace, Maudlin Street, Kilkenny.

Mary McGuinness, 17, Wolfe Tone Street, Kilkenny.

Mary Keane, The Sycamores, Freshford Road, Kilkenny.

Marie Parsons, 22, Assumption Place, Kilkenny.

Justin Maher, Goodwins Gardens, Kells, Co. Kilkenny.

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

## **3. Presentation by Claire Goodwin, Parks Department, on Woodstock.**

Ms. Claire Goodwin gave a presentation to the Members on Woodstock Gardens which included details of the following:

- History of the Gardens.

- Developments carried out to date on the Gardens.
- Sources of Funding in the past.
- Future proposals/plans for the Gardens.

All Members showed their appreciation for the presentation and complimented the work being carried out by the staff at Woodstock Gardens. Ms. Goodwin responded to queries raised in relation to the following:

- How to link Woodstock with other tourist destinations in the County and City.
- Costing for proposed Reception Area.
- Has Council looked at Volunteer Programmes.

Following a discussion it was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Michael Doyle

Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness

And Agreed

“that a Business Plan be prepared so that Woodstock Gardens can have a clear direction into the future”.

In response to queries raised, Mr. Brian Tyrrell provided the following information to the Members:

- The challenge is to convince tourists that there is more to see in Kilkenny other than Kilkenny Castle.
- Recent Fáilte Ireland research results revealed that the Kilkenny Brand is the second most recognised brand by tourists visiting Ireland.
- The LECP sets out a number of goals in relation to tourism promotion with time targets for the completion of goals.
- Kilkenny Tourism has been very successful in the promotion of the Kilkenny Brand and advised that details of all events taking place in the county should be scheduled back through Kilkenny Tourism.
- Rural transport is an issue countywide and the Council are following up on all funding options.
- A small group has been set up in-house to look at E.U. Funding.
- The Council will prepare a 5 year plan for Woodstock for the agreement of the Members.

#### **4. Presentation by Ballyhale Parents Association.**

Representatives of Ballyhale Parents Association made a brief presentation to the Members outlining the difficulties being encountered by Parents collecting their children on the main road in front of Scoil Phádraig, Ballyhale. A document was circulated setting out the Board of Management’s suggested solution to the problem.

Members thanked the representatives for their presentation and assured them of their full support to resolve the issues outlined.

Replying to comments and queries raised by Members, Mr. Simon Walton stated that an audit undertaken throughout the County in 2007/2008 identified a whole range of safety measures around schools and all the necessary works were carried out and implemented by 2010. Mr. Walton agreed to investigate the issues raised in relation to Scoil Phádraig, Ballyhale, and carry out a further audit with a view to presenting a report to the Municipal District Members in conjunction with the 2016 Road Works Scheme at the January or February Municipal District Meeting.

**5. Presentation by Inistioge Tidy Towns Committee.**

Representatives from Inistioge Tidy Towns Committee circulated a report and gave a brief presentation to the meeting on the following:

- History and progress of Inistioge Tidy Towns.
- Objectives of the Inistioge Tidy Towns.
- Current status of Inistioge.
- Short term achievable requirements.
- Medium/Long Term Requirements.

All present agreed that it is possible to make progress on some of the short term requirements listed in the report and the Council will be happy to work with the group to make this possible.

Mr. Brian Tyrrell advised the Committee that the Fáilte Ireland website is a good research tool for advice on how to market or promote your area for tourism related purposes.

**6. Address by Deputy Ann Phelan, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine and with Special Responsibility for Rural Economic Development.**

The Mayor welcomed Minister Ann Phelan and invited her to address the Meeting.

Minister Ann Phelan thanked the Members for inviting her to address the Municipal District Meeting in the Community Hall in Thomastown and during her address explained her role in relation to Rural Economic Development which focuses on the promotion of employment in rural Ireland and the regeneration of towns and villages. She outlined the funding provided by the Government and in particular the funding available to Kilkenny.

**7. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Andrew McGuinness received 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
Seconded by: Cllr. David Kennedy  
And Resolved

“that this Municipal District would investigate the provision of wheelchair friendly swings and amusements in playgrounds in Kilkenny and also to enter into discussions with the O.P.W. with a view to providing wheelchair accessible amusements in the play area at Kilkenny Castle Park. Should this be successful, the provision of such equipment should be rolled out across the city and county.”

**15. Notice of Motion in the of Cllr. Patrick O’Neill received 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. Patrick O’Neill  
Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness

“that this Municipal District Council facilitates an opportunity for members of the public to sign a petition in City Hall in relation to the proposed review of the current Boundary between Waterford City and South Kilkenny. This petition should take place in the run up to Christmas and the New Year when footfall will be at its optimum in the City and in order to give the people of Kilkenny City a chance to engage in the public consultation process and show support for the people of South Kilkenny.”

The Mayor concluded the meeting by wishing everyone present a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

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

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

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