

- COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH –
KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

*Clár do Ghnáth-Chruinniú Chomhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh
le reachtáil ar de Luan, 20 Samhain, 2023 ar a 3.00 i.n.*

**AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING
OF KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**

MONDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 2023 AT 3.00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, JOHN STREET & MS TEAMS

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

- (i) Minutes of Plenary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 20th November, 2023 [*Minutes Attached*].
- (ii) Minutes of Statutory Budget Meeting held on Friday, 24th November, 2023 [*Minutes Attached*].
- (iii) Minutes of SPC1: Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Tourism, Planning & Development Policy held on Thursday, 21st September, 2023 [*Minutes Attached*].

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

(a) **Tithíocht & Díuscairt Eile - Housing & Other Disposal**

- (i) “Notice is hereby given, that at a meeting of the Council to be held after the expiration of 10 days from the date of this notice, it is the intention of Kilkenny County Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in property at Clogh Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny to Respond having its registered office at Dominick Place, Airmount, Waterford for the nominal sum of €1,778.00 with each party being responsible for their own legal costs associated with the transfer. The consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage is not required.”
(*Notice sent to Members on the 4th December, 2023*).
- (ii) “Notice is hereby given, that at a meeting of the Council to be held after the expiration of 10 days from the date of this notice, it is the intention of Kilkenny County Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in property at Barrack Street, Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny to Respond having its registered office at Dominick Place, Airmount, Waterford for the nominal sum of €1,651.00 with each party being responsible for their own legal costs associated with the transfer. The consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage is not required.”
(*Notice sent to Members on the 4th December, 2023*).

- (iii) “Notice is hereby given, that at a meeting of the Council to be held after the expiration of 10 days from the date of this notice, it is the intention of Kilkenny County Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Poulgour, Wetlands, Kilkenny, to Cairn Homes Properties Limited, 7 Grand Canal Street Lower, Dublin 2, for the nominal sum of €10.00 and Kilkenny County Council will be responsible for all legal costs associated with the sale in accordance with standard rates of payments for legal fees under CPO procedures. Combined area measures 0.14 hectare. The Consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not required.”

(Notice issued to the Elected Members on 7th December, 2023).

(b) **Pleanail - Planning**

- (i) Taking in Charge [Final] TC 174: Steps into Linear Park at Talbots Inch Village [Attached]

(c) **Bóithre - Roads**

- (i) Road Safety Plan [Presentation]

(d) **Tithíocht- Housing**

- (i) Southeast Regional Homeless Action Plan 2023-2026 [Report Attached]

(e) **Economic Development – Forbairt Eacnamaíoch**

- (i) Kilkenny Tourism Strategy 2023-2028 [Report Attached]

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

- (i) Chief Executive’s Monthly Report [Report Attached].

3. **Comhfhreagras - Correspondence**

- (i) Acknowledgement from Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine in relation to the National Strategy for Horticulture 2023 – 2027 - Notice of Motion 13-2023 [Attached].
- (ii) Acknowledgement from OPW in relation to Flood Relief Schemes - Notice of Motion 14-2023 [Attached].
- (iii) Response from Department in relation to Group Sewerage Schemes - Notice of Motion 15-2023 [Response Attached].

4. **Gnó ar athló ó chruinniúroimhe seo - Business Adjourned from a Previous Meeting**

5. **Dátaí agus Amanta do chruinnithe a shocrú - Fix Dates & Times of Meetings**
 - (i) Schedule of Meetings [*Report Attached*].

6. **Plé ar Thuairiscí agus Moltaí ó Choistí an Comhairle Consideration of Reports & Recommendations of Committees of the Council**
 - (i) Report of SPC1: Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Tourism, Planning & Development Policy held on Thursday, 21st September, 2023 [*Report Attached*].

7. **Gnó Eile romhainn i bhFógra reachtála an Chruinnithe - Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the Meeting**

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

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

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

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

17 (23) Cllr. David Fitzgerald
"Kilkenny County Council to prepare a structural buildings conservation report as a first step to repairing, stabilising and conserving Woodstock House and to put a plan in place to repurpose this important tourism, cultural and historical asset".

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

42 (23) Clare County Council
"Today I want to encourage all of you to urge the Minister for Finance to take immediate action in introducing Primary Medical Certificates (PMCs) to all individuals with physical disabilities. I also call upon the members of the Seanad to initiate a commencement debate emphasizing the critical necessity for the Minister for Finance to issue PMCs to all those with physical disabilities.

In recent weeks, I have received numerous heartfelt communications from individuals across our county. These messages have come from parents and family members who share a common belief with me - that the widespread issuance of PMCs to individuals with physical disabilities could significantly enhance the quality of life for these individuals and their families.

I understand this is not the first time this issue has been brought to the attention of the Minister, or the Ministers before him, and undoubtedly it will continue to be raised with the ministers who follow.

People born with physical disabilities often endure a multitude of health challenges, including heart problems, early onset arthritis, chronic pain, conditions such as Lupus, MS, Syringomyelia, visual and hearing impairments, bronchial issues, and a compromised immune system, to name just a few.

The introduction of PMCs for all those affected would go a long way in aiding families by providing improved access to transportation for hospital and doctor visits, granting individuals a modicum of independence necessary to maintain their spirits.

The current criteria for obtaining a Primary Medical Certificate is archaic and no longer applicable to the myriad of complex disabilities diagnosed on a daily and weekly basis. A Primary Medical Certificate should be a top priority, not an arduous and exasperating process.

We must recognise that individuals with disabilities deserve our unwavering support and assistance. They should not be treated as second-class citizens but should receive the necessary support to help them navigate each day with reduced pain and improved quality of life. A Primary Medical Certificate is a vital document that confirms severe and permanent disability.

The existing criteria, defined in the Finance Act 2020, no longer suffice. We must advocate for a radical overhaul of the Finance Act in 2024 to adapt to the evolving needs of individuals with disabilities.

Our government must actively champion the rights of people with disabilities and provide more than mere table scraps in terms of support and recognition. It is crucial that we facilitate the application process for a Primary Medical Certificate through Local Health Offices.

In conclusion, let us unite in our resolve to make a difference in the lives of individuals with physical disabilities by pushing for the introduction of Primary Medical Certificates. Let us demonstrate our commitment to equality, compassion, and progress for all members of our society."