

MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 19TH NOVEMBER, 2018 AT 3.00 P.M.

Chair: Eamon Aylward.

Cllrs: John Brennan, Tomás Breathnach, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Peter Cleere, Fidelis Doherty, Matt Doran, Michael Doyle, Pat Dunphy, David Fitzgerald, Ger Frisby, Pat Fitzpatrick, Breda Gardner, David Kennedy, Andrew McGuinness, Joe Malone, Michael McCarthy, Malcolm Noonan, Melissa O'Neill, Patrick O' Neill, Maurice Shortall & Sean Tyrrell.

Officials: Colette Byrne, Tim Butler, Mary J. Mulholland, Martin Prendiville, Brian Tyrrell, Denis Malone, Bríd Hynes, Fiona Deegan, Frank Stafford & Anne Maria Walsh.

Apologies: Cllrs. Patrick McKee & Pat Millea and Mr. Sean McKeown.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(a) **Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday 15th October, 2018**

Proposed by Cllr. Michael McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty and agreed:
"That the Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 15th October, 2018 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

(b) **Minutes of Special Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 22nd October, 2018**

Proposed by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach, seconded by Cllr. Maurice Shortall and agreed:
"That the Special Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 22nd October, 2018 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

(c) **Minutes of Special Budget In Committee Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 5th November, 2018**

Proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. Malcolm Noonan and agreed:
"That the Minutes of Special Budget In Committee Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 5th November, 2018 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

Cllr. Eamon Aylward extended congratulations to:

- All the winners at the Kilkenny Chambers Business Awards.
- All communities involved in the Pride of Place Awards Night in Cork and to Open Circle who received a special award.
- All recipients of the People of the Year Award.
- All the GAA Clubs that won their respective County Championships and wished them all well in the Leinster Championship.

Cllr. Aylward extended votes of sympathy to the following:

- The family of the late Cllr. Johnny Fahy, Killenaule, Tipperary.
- The family of the late Mr. Eddie Kelly, Glenmore.
- The family of the late Mr. Tom Hartley, Glenmore.
- The family of the late Mr. Seamus Purcell, Piltown.
- The family of the late Mr. Willie Hennessy, Glenmore.
- The family of the late Fr. Nicholas Flavin, Kilmacow.

- The family of the late Mr. Martin Glendon, Clonmantagh.
- The family of the late Ms. Mary O'Neill, Mooncoin.
- the family of the late Mr. Dickie Doyle, Piltown.
- The family of the late Mr. Larry Gilmartin, Mooncoin.
- The family of the late Mr. Jim Moran, Kilmacow.
- The family of the late Mr. Jim English, Mooncoin.
- The family of the late Ms. Esther Cuddihy, Mooncoin.
- The family of the late Mr. Michael O'Donnell, Carrick-on-Suir.
- The family of the late Mr. Ned O'Keeffe, Mooncoin.
- The family of the late Mr. Johnny O'Shea, Piltown.
- The family of the late Ms. Susan Morrissey, Kilmacow.

A minutes silence was observed.

Cllr. Aylward requested approval of Members to go into committee at 4.30 p.m. to consider Budget 2019. It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. David Kennedy and agreed.

2. (a) **Housing & Other Disposal – Tithíocht & Díuscairt Eile**

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr. Matt Doran seconded by Cllr. Breda Gardner and agreed:

“That, 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 Lands at Main Street, Stoneyford, Co. Kilkenny – which measures approx 2.98 acre and as outlined on the attached map - to Stoneyford Development Association, Stoneyford, Co. Kilkenny by way of long term lease for a term of 25 years at an annual rent of €52. Stoneyford Development Association to be responsible for all legal costs associated with the lease, including those of Kilkenny County Council.” [Notice sent to members on the 1st November, 2018].

- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr. Ger Frisby seconded by Cllr. Melissa O'Neill and agreed:

“That, in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council approves of the disposal of its interest in a plot of ground at Rathculliheen, Milepost, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny, which measures approx. 0.02 ha., as identified on the attached map, to Mr. Terry Power, Ballinvoher, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny, for the nominal sum of €10.00 (Ten euro) with Kilkenny County Council / Irish Water being responsible for all legal costs associated with the sale.” [Notice sent to members on the 1st November, 2018].

- (iii) It was proposed by Cllr. Matt Doran seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and agreed:

“That, 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 Parkmore, Castleinch, Co Kilkenny as identified on the attached map to Fintan William Fennelly, for the nominal sum of €10.00 with Kilkenny County Council being responsible for all legal fees associated with the sale. Plot A measures 0.057 Ha and Plot B measures 0.186 Ha.” [Notice sent to members on 9th November 2018]

(b) (i) **Presentation from Watergate**

Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Joanna Cunningham and Mr. Joe Reidy to the meeting. Ms. Cunningham gave a Powerpoint Presentation on the Watergate Theatre.

In her presentation she gave an overview on the operation of the Watergate:

- Mission Statement and change of logo/branding.
- Board & Team Members.
- Strategic Priorities.
- Establishing Identity.
- Audience Led Programme.
- Key Partnership.
- Sales & Marketing.
- Expenditure & Income.
- Occupancy Rates.
- Targets for 2019.
- Role of theatre in the Cultural Quarter in Kilkenny.

She thanked the Members for the Council's continued financial support and advised that the theatre would not be able to operate without it.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. F. Doherty, B. Gardner, M. Noonan, A. McGuinness, M. Shortall, S. Tyrrell, P. Fitzpatrick, T. Breathnach, D. Fitzgerald & P. Cleere. Members thanked Ms. Cunningham for the presentation and wished her well in her role as Director of the Watergate Theatre.

Members also thanked Joe Reidy, Chairman and Board Members for their work over the last 25 years in developing the Theatre. They expressed their gratitude to Ger Cody, former Director, who retired in 2017.

Issues arose from Members as follows:

- Links with overseas theatres/drama college/education.
- Further development of the theatre.
- Single Box Office for all Festivals.
- Use theatre as Convention Centre.
- Schools Programme.
- 25th Anniversary Concert.

Ms. Cunningham responded to all queries raised.

Ms. Byrne thanked Joanna for her presentation and acknowledged the work of the Directors and Board Members over the years. She looks forward to working with them on the Theatre Strategic Plan.

(c) (i)

Update on LEO

Ms. Fiona Deegan gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Members on the operation/services of the LEO Office and the Economic Dashboard for Kilkenny. A copy of the presentation was circulated to all Members.

Ms. Deegan presented an overview of the following:

- Mission Statement.
- Business Information & Advisory Services - Statistics.
- Enterprise Support Services - Statistics.
- Partnerships & Brexit Supports.
- Update on 13 Actions for 2018 contained in Local Economic & Community Plan - Retail Strategy.
- Shop Local Campaign.
- All types of financial assistance provided.
- Update on Economic Dashboard for Kilkenny.

Cllr. Eamon Aylward thanked Ms. Deegan for her presentation.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. B. Gardner. M. Noonan & T. Breathnach in relation to:

- Unemployment statistics for Co. Kilkenny only.
- Removing people from the Register in part-time employment.
- Traditional business skills development.
- Investment loans for local enterprises.

Ms. Fiona Deegan responded to all queries and advised Members to contact her if they had any further queries.

(d) **Update: N25 New Ross By-Pass**

Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Sean Dobbs, Project Liaison Officer to the meeting.

Mr. Dobbs gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Members on the N25 New Ross By Pass PPP Project.

In the presentation he gave an overview on the following:

- Reasons why Scheme has been undertaken.
- Project Timelines - started in 1993, due to be completed in 2019.
- Map outlining the route, junctions, bridges, under bridges/over bridges.
- Barrow Bridge - Design Considerations/Construction.
- PPP Contract.
- Consultations with Local Authorities.
- Public Liaison & Relations.
- Quarterly newsletter and video.

Mr. Dobbs proceeded after the presentation to play the recent progress video for Members which showed the various stages of the Scheme and the construction of the bridge. Cllr. Aylward thanked Mr. Dobbs for his presentation and stated that this is the largest bridge in Ireland and looked forward to the completion of the Scheme.

The meeting adjourned at this stage to go into committee.

The meeting resumed at 5.40 p.m.

(e) **Chief Executives Monthly Report**

Ms. Colette Byrne, Chief Executive presented her monthly report. Cllr. Aylward advised Members that report is taken as read.

Queries arose from Cllr. Tomás Breathnach in relation to Regional Spatial Strategy and proposed timeframe for completion.

Mr. Denis Malone advised that draft has been presented to the Regional Assembly. Draft will be published on the 26th November. Period of consultation is ten weeks.

Ms. Byrne advised that the Council will hold a Workshop for Members on this in January 2019.

Mr. Tim Butler advised that a public information day on the N24 Canal Road Improvement Scheme has been arranged for the 27th November in Mooncoin.

3. (i) **Local Authority Elected Members Role & Remuneration Review**

Cllr. Aylward advised that letter and terms of reference in relation to Local Authority Elected Members Role & Remuneration Review has been issued with the Agenda for Members information. It is a matter for an individual Members to make a submission as part of the review process.

4. **Business Adjourned From a Previous Meeting**
None.
5. (i) **Schedule of Meetings from July, 2018 to October, 2018**
It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick seconded by Cllr. John Brennan and agreed.
- (ii) **Special Meeting In Committee on Abbey Quarter**
It was proposed by Cllr. Joe Malone, seconded by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick and agreed that the Special Meeting In Committee be held on Monday, 3rd December, 2018 at 4.00 p.m.
- (iii) **Cathaoirleachs Reception for Kilkenny Handballers**
It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Cleere, seconded by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick and agreed that a Reception be held for Kilkenny Handballers. Date to be agreed with the Handball Association.
6. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations of Committees of the Council**
None.
7. **Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the Meeting-**
None.
8. **Conferences – Request for approval to Attend**
Schedule of Conferences circulated with the Agenda was proposed by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach seconded by Cllr. John Brennan and agreed.
9. **Matters Arising from Minutes**
None.
10. **Any Other Business**
Cllr. Maurice Shortall asked that the closing date for receipt of applications for Housing Grants be extended to 14th December, 2018.
11. **Notices of Motion**
None.
12. **Notices of Motion from other local authorities seeking support of Kilkenny County Council**
It was proposed by Cllr. John Brennan seconded by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick and agreed that the following Notices of Motion 34 (18) to 35 (18) be taken as read and noted:
- 34(18) Clare County Council**
"Clare County Council calls on the Minister for Education and Skills to recognise the important role that outdoor educational centres play in the education and development of our youth by funding all staff salaries of outdoor educational centres directly from Department funds."
- 35(18) Donegal County Council**
"Donegal County Council calls on An Post and the Dublin Government to reserve their decision to close 17 Post Offices in Donegal and also to reverse their decision to close all the other Post Offices across the state. If the Gaeltacht is to survive it needs these services in the community. This Government is on one hand talking about the importance of saving "An Gaeltacht" and "Rural Ireland", but on the other hand it is taking away vital services from our community. I would ask that this motion is also circulated to other County Councils."

That concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE