

MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 2020 AT 3.00 P.M.

Chair: Peter Cleere.

Cllrs: Eamon Aylward, Tomás Breathnach, John Brennan, Martin Brett, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, John Coonan, Deirdre Cullen, Michael Delaney, Fidelis Doherty, Matt Doran, Michael Doyle, Pat Dunphy, David Fitzgerald, Ger Frisby, Denis Hynes, Joe Lyons, Joe Malone, Michael McCarthy, Andrew McGuinness and Eugene McGuinness.

Officials: Colette Byrne, Martin Prendiville, Tim Butler, Sean McKeown, Mary J. Mulholland, Martin Mullally, Paddy Crotty, Ian Gardner, Ken Boland and Anne Maria Walsh.

Apology: Cllrs. Pat Fitzpatrick, Malcolm Noonan & Patrick O'Neill.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(a) Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday 16th December, 2019

Proposed by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett and agreed:

"That the Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 16th December, 2019 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

Cathaoirleach Peter Cleere extended congratulations to the following:

- Ballyhale Shamrocks, Conahy and Tullaroan on winning All Ireland Club Hurling Finals.
- Kilkenny City on achieving first in IBAL Awards.
- TII on launch of the new City Bus Service.
- Aidan Fogarty on participating in Dancing with the Stars.

He wished Cllrs. Hynes, Noonan and O'Neill the best of luck on their General Election Campaign. He thanked Corporate Staff for all their work in compiling the Register of Electors for the forthcoming election.

He wished Mary Ann Vaughan, KCLR every success in her new role with Tipp FM.

The Cathaoirleach extended votes of sympathy to:

- Ms. Mary Mulholland on the death of her father Joseph Stephenson.
- Ms. Grace Quinn on the death of her brother Pat Heffernan.
- Eileen Leahy on the death of her father Sean Brophy.
- Eddie Mullally on the death of his father Stephen Mullally.
- The Boyle Family, Parkview, Kilkenny on the death of their mother Mollie Boyle [*Pensioner and wife of the late Tom Boyle, County Secretary*].
- Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick on the death of his uncle Martin Fitzpatrick.
- Family of the late Ned Connolly, Ferrybank.
- Family of the late Nellie [Ellen] Grace, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Christopher Comiskey, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Matty Maher.

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

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr. John Brennan seconded by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach 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 dwelling at Kiltown, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny (as identified on the attached map) to Ellen Byrne and Elizabeth (Betty) Byrne, Kiltown, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny for the nominal sum of €10 (ten euro) with Kilkenny County Council being responsible for all legal costs associated with the transfer. Area measures 0.4071 ha.” (Notice sent to Members on the 2nd January, 2020).

- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness seconded by Cllr. Michael Doyle 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 a plot of land at 64 Ossory Park, Kilkenny to Patricia Dullard, daughter of Ellen Jeffrey (deceased).” (Notice sent to Members on the 3rd January, 2020).

(b) **Planning**

(i) **Part 8: Vicar Street**

Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer presented a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed Improvement Scheme for Vicar Street, Kilkenny. In his presentation, he gave an overview on the following:

- Location and current access to Vicar Street.
- Current status of traffic movements, road and footpath conditions, number of traffic movements.
- Existing issues that prevail for traffic users and pedestrians.
- Rationale for Scheme.
- Details of average daily traffic on Vicar Street and at various junctions heading to Vicar Street.
- Proposed recommendations.

He advised that the proposed Scheme for Vicar Street is one way going South and the introduction of cycle lane. This will go forward for Part 8 Planning shortly. The public will have an opportunity to make submissions.

It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett, seconded by Cllr. John Coonan and agreed that Kilkenny County Council proceed with Part 8 Planning for this Road Improvement Scheme. It was agreed to circulate the presentation to all Members for their information.

(ii) **Part 8: Housing at Ladywell, Thomastown**

Mr. Paddy Crotty, Senior Executive Engineer gave a presentation on the proposed development of 25 units at Ladywell, Thomastown. In his presentation he gave an overview on the following:

- Demand for Housing in Thomastown and requirement for 1 bed, 2 bed, 3 bed and 4 bed units.
- Timeframe for Part 8 Process.
- Site location and access to the site.
- Proposed house designs broken down per unit type.
- Overview of site plan and house type layout.
- Proposal for road widening on Ladyswell Road.

Mr. Crotty advised that there is ongoing discussions with the adjoining landowner and Grennan College in relation to land acquisition and access to the school's playing pitches.

Cllr. Deirdre Cullen welcomed the proposed plan for the development of 25 units in Thomastown and the number of units which will be wheelchair accessible.

It was proposed by Cllr. Deirdre Cullen, seconded by Cllr. Denis Hynes that Kilkenny County Council proceed with Part 8 Planning for this development.

(c) (i) **Public Lighting Retrofit**

Mr. Ken Boland, Senior Executive Engineer gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the Local Authority Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project.

In his presentation he gave an overview on the following:

- Works carried out to-date in Kilkenny on approx. 5,000 lights
- 5,359 further lights to be upgraded.
- Cost of works, grant funding and annual savings to Kilkenny County Council.
- Photos of before and after of lights retrofitted to-date.
- Kilkenny is lead authority for Region 2 – East for 10 counties.
- Rationale for the National Project.
- Outcomes of the National Project.
- Benefits of the National Project.
- Project timelines.
- Financing of the Project for the Country.

Cllr. Peter Cleere complimented the work already done to-date and the improvements made on the lights already retrofitted.

(d) (i) **Festival Grants 2020**

Mr. Sean McKeown presented his report on the allocation of Festival Grants for 2020. He advised Members that the report circulated should have read 14 grant applications and 14 grants awarded. A budget provision €112,000 was approved by the Members. 80% of the budget i.e. €89,000 is allocated to Festivals that have an impact on tourism. The Council will encourage the Festival Committees to "green" their festivals and become local champions of our Climate Change policies and commitments. Mr. McKeown recommended that 14 Festival Grants be approved as set out in the schedule attached to the report.

Cathaoirelach acknowledged the increase in the budget and the significant contribution by Kilkenny County Council to supporting these annual festivals.

It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett, seconded by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach and agreed:

"That the Festival & Event Grants 2019 totalling €89,000 are hereby approved by the Members of Kilkenny County Council, as per report circulated."

(e) (i) **Chief Executive's Monthly Report**

Ms. Colette Byrne, Chief Executive presented her Monthly Chief Executive Report.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Peter Cleere advised Members that any queries arising from the report should be taken up with the Chief Executive. The report was being taken as read.

(ii) **Draft Standing Orders for SPC's**

Mr. Tim Butler presented the report on the Draft Standing Orders for Strategic Policy Committees. He advised separate Standing Orders were prepared for the benefit of the External Members of the SPC Committees. These Standing Orders are similar to those adopted for Plenary Council Meetings. Once adopted they will be circulated to all SPC Members. The CPG has approved the draft Standing Orders.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr. John Brennan and agreed:

"That the Draft Standing Orders for Strategic Policy Committees is hereby approved by the Members of Kilkenny County Council."

3. **Correspondence**

Cllr. Peter Cleere advised that IDA has accepted the Council's invitation to address the Members at the April Council Meeting.

4. **Business Adjourned From a Previous Meeting**

None.

5. **Schedule of Meetings from November 2019 to February 2020**

(i) **Schedule of Meetings from January 2020 to April 2020**

It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett, seconded by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach and agreed.

(ii) **Agree date for Monthly Meeting March 2020**

It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett, seconded by Cllr. Eamon Aylward and agreed that the March Monthly Council Meeting will be held on Monday, 23rd March, 2020 at 3.00 p.m.

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**

It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre Cullen and agreed.

9. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

None

10. **Any Other Business**

It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Cleere, seconded by Cllr. Michael Doyle and agreed that a Cathaoirelach's Reception be afforded to the three Hurling Teams who won the All Ireland Club Finals at a date and venue to be confirmed.

11. **Notices of Motion**

None.

12. **Notices of Motion from other local authorities seeking support of Kilkenny County Council**

It was proposed by Cllr. Eamon Aylward, seconded by Cllr. John Brennan and agreed that Notice of Motions 01(20) to 04(20) be taken as read and noted.

01 (20) Laois County Council

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment, Mr. Richard Bruton, T.D. to stop the rollout of 5G Fifth Generation Cellular Technology across the Country – we as a Council and public representatives have a moral and ethical responsibility to protect the health and wellbeing of our citizens – there is a reason why insurance companies will not insure 5G – this needs to be investigated further by an independent company with no prospect of financial gain.”

02 (20) Waterford City & County Council

“That Waterford City and County Council in keeping with the objective of making Waterford 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 employers and their representative organisations in Waterford City/County to fully recognise this basic fundamental human right and so not intimidate, harass or threaten the continued employment of those exercising this right.”

03 (20) Monaghan County Council

“Monaghan County Council calls on the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, Richard Bruton TD and Minister for Finance, Paschal Donohoe TD:

Legislate for a deposit return scheme to be introduced on recyclable packaging.
Ensure that all local authorities in the state be funded to provide a climate action officer to incorporate energy efficiency in all aspects of Council work.
Introduce a carbon tax on aviation fuel.”

04 (20) Kerry County Council

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation to remove the cap on County Enterprise Boards which prevents them from dealing with enterprise that have more than ten employees and that this motion will be circulated to all Local Authorities in the country.”

That concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE