**KILKENNY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 17th SEPTEMBER, 2012 AT 7.30 PM**

**Mayor, Councillor Seán Ó hArgáin,** **Presiding.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Martin Brett, John Coonan, Paul Cuddihy, Marie Fitzpatrick, David Fitzgerald, Kathleen Funchion, Andrew McGuinness, Joe Malone, Malcolm Noonan, Joe Reidy.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Jimmy Leahy.

**Also Present:** Mr. Joe Crockett, Co. Manager, Mr. John Mulholland, Director of Services, Mr. Brian Tyrrell, Town Clerk and Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald, Senior Engineer.

### Mayor’s Summons of Meeting:

Notice dated 10th September, 2012, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

**Item 1. : Confirmation of Minutes:**

1. **Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th July, 2012**

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Kilkenny Borough Council held on 9th July, 2012, having been previously circulated were tabled for confirmation, it was

Proposed by Cllr. John Coonan

Seconded by Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick

And Resolved:

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

The minutes were then signed by the Mayor.

1. **Minutes of Adjourned Monthly Meeting held on 10th July, 2012**

Minutes of Adjourned Monthly Meeting of Kilkenny Borough Council held on 10th July, 2012, having been previously circulated were tabled for confirmation, it was

Proposed by Cllr. Malcolm Noonan

Seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett

And Resolved:

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

The minutes were then signed by the Mayor.

1. **Draft Minutes of Kilkenny City MPC Meeting of 28th August, 2012**

The draft Minutes of Kilkenny City MPC Meeting of 28th August, 2012 were noted.

**Item No. 2: Matters brought forward by direction of the Mayor:**

The Mayor, Cllr. Sean O’hArgáin noted the following and congratulated those involved or participating:

* Kilkenny Senior and U21 Hurlers
* Kilkenny Olympians and Paralympians
* Kilkenny Arts Festival
* Tidy Towns Gold Medal Award to Kilkenny
* The Mayor thanked all who organised the National Day of Commemoration Ceremony held in the Castle Park. He noted the forthcoming launch of the book commemorating those Kilkenny people who died in the Great War
* Healthy Towns Initiative promoted by Irish Times/Pfizer
* Kilkenny Fashion Week.
* The Mayor also noted and commended those involved in Suicide Awareness Week and noted the forthcoming Drugs Awareness Week in October
* The Mayor and members also conveyed their sympathy to the Spence family, Hillsborough, Co. Down on the recent tragic deaths of three family members in a farm accident
* Members joined with the Mayor in offering a Vote of Sympathy to the families of the following people who have died recently

Paul O’Dwyer

Paul Butler

Fiona Gaynor

Mary Nolan

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

**Kilkenny Civic Trust:**

The Mayor read a letter from Kilkenny Civic Trust in which Kilkenny Civic Trust had decided to gift €400,000 to Kilkenny Borough Council over a three year period to assist in the restoration of St. Mary’s Church, Kilkenny.

Members welcomed the gift, thanked the Civic Trust and looked forward to meeting the Trust to discuss payment and any other issues arising.

The Co. Manager referred to the Capital Grant Schemes application currently being assessed by Failte Ireland. Schemes included are St. Mary’s, Butler Gallery, Kilkenny Castle Yard and the Medieval Mile. Mr. Crockett also sought and obtained approval from members to include a garden project which would provide a world class garden from Ossory Bridge through to the existing Linear Walk at Riverside Drive/The Meadows.

**Item No. 3: Tidy Towns Results 2012:**

Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald, Senior Engineer, provided members with a comprehensive report on the results of the Tidy Towns competition for 2012. Mr. Fitzgerald whilst acknowledging the retention of Gold Medal status, expressed some disappointment with the results, given the levels of attention being paid to the various issues. Members who spoke on the issues, paid compliments to the Borough Council staff.

It was generally agreed that there needs to be a greater level of engagement with the Keep Kilkenny Beautiful Committee in relation to the preparation of the application for future years. The Mayor called for a partnership approach to ensure that the application is as comprehensive as possible.

Tributes were also paid to the Keep Kilkenny Beautiful Committee for their efforts and particular attention was drawn to the fact that Mr. Sean Leahy had been selected for a national “Local Hero” award.

**Item No. 4: Roadworks Scheme 2012 - Update:**

Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald circulated a written report outlining progress on the adopted Road Works Scheme for 2012. Mr. Fitzgerald noted that the 2012 Road Works Scheme was on schedule despite inclement weather conditions. The Report addressed the following areas:-

1. Road Maintenance
2. Public Lighting Energy and Maintenance
3. Surface Restoration and Resurfacing
4. Footpath Rehabilitation
5. Mobility Management and Traffic Calming
6. Special Improvement Works
7. Parking in Residential Areas
8. High Street/Parliament Street Rehabilitation.

Members noted the report and Mr. Fitzgerald responded to questions.

**Item No. 5: Kennyswell Road/Circular Road Re-alignment:**

Mr. Fitzgerald circulated a report and maps showing the proposed re-alignment of the Kennyswell Road/Circular Road. The public consultation process would commence on 21st September 2012.

Members welcomed the proposals and encouraged all interested parties to familiarise themselves with the proposals to ensure that the consultation and assessment process would be comprehensive.

**Item No 6**: **Recommendations from Municipal Policy Committee:**

1. Casual Trading:

Cllr. Joe Reidy, Chairman of Kilkenny City Municipal Policy Committee reported that the MPC meeting held on 28th August had recommended that the existing casual trading area be relocated to the central area of the Parade for a trial period from Thursday 20th September, 2012 up to the Savour Kilkenny Food Festival. Members agreed to the trial period.

1. Christmas in Kilkenny:

Cllr. Joe Reidy also advised that the MPC had recommended that expressions of interest be sought from the private sector to manage the entire Christmas festival on the Parade/Castle Yard.

The recommendation was agreed unaminously.

**Item No 7: Agree Wording for Commemorative Plaque at John’s**

**Green:**

In Honour of: In onóir

Ms. Margaret Tynan (1930 – 2007) Máireád Ní Thíonáin (1930 – 2007)

First Lady Mayor of Kilkenny An príomh Bean-Mheára ar Chathair Chill Chainnigh

It was Proposed by Cllr. Paul Cuddihy

Seconded by Cllr. John Coonan

And agreed:

“That the commemorative plaque to be placed in the renovated John’s Green, to honour the memory of the late Cllr. Margaret Tynan, former Mayor of Kilkenny would read as follows:-

**Item No. 8: Nomination of Member to Board of Directors of Kilkenny Leader Partnership following the resignation of Cllr. David FitzGerald:**

It was Proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett

Seconded by Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick

And agreed

“That Cllr. Kathleen Funchion be appointed to the Board of Directors of Kilkenny Leader Partnership following the resignation of Cllr. David FitzGerald”.

**Item No. 9: Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Malcolm Noonan received 20th June, 2012:**

Proposed by Cllr. Malcolm Noonan

Seconded by Cllr. Kathleen Funchion

And agreed:

'That the members of Kilkenny Borough Council support the introduction of by-laws or other measures which would ensure that circuses which use wild animals are prohibited from performing in any part of the local authority area in light of the well-documented evidence of suffering endured by the animals involved and the serious animal welfare issues raised.”

Following a debate the motion was defeated by six (6) votes to four (4) and the Mayor declared the motion lost.

**Item No. 10: Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Joe Malone received 29th June, 2012:**

Proposed by Cllr. Joe Malone

Seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness

And Agreed:

“That Kilkenny Borough Council resolves to work with the operator of the City Bus Service to promote and expand the service and in this context assist the bus company to seek Government funding for vehicles that are environmentally friendly to compliment the City’s Environment Friendly Strategy.”

**Item No. 11: Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. David Fitzgerald received 5th September, 2012**

“That Kilkenny Borough Council put monies aside in the forthcoming budget to support the cost of erecting a suitable statue to honour Kilkenny’s hurlers”.

**Item No. 12: Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Andrew McGuinness received 12th July, 2012**

This motion was withdrawn by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness.

The remaining items on the Agenda were deferred to the October Meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

**MAYOR**

**Date:**