

MINUTES OF ADJOURNED COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN WATERGATE THEATRE ON FRIDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2020 AT 3.00 P.M.

Chair: Andrew McGuinness

Cllrs: Eamon Aylward, Tomás Breathnach, John Brennan, Martin Brett, Peter Cleere, John Coonan, Deirdre Cullen, Fidelis Doherty, Maria Dollard, Matt Doran, Michael Doyle, Pat Dunphy, Pat Fitzpatrick, Joe Lyons, Joe Malone, Eugene McGuinness and Patrick O'Neill.

Audio: Cllrs. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Ger Frisby, Michael McCarthy.

Officials: Colette Byrne, Sean McKeown, Mary J. Mulholland, Martin Prendiville, Denis Malone, Fiona Deegan, Kevin Hanley, Catherine Cooney and Anne Maria Walsh.

Apologies: Cllrs. Michael Delaney, Denis Hynes and Mr. Tim Butler.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

(a) Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 20th July, 2020

Proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. John Brennan and agreed:

"That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Monday, 20th July, 2020 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Andrew McGuinness extended congratulations to the following:

- John Ormond, Senior Executive Engineer and Water Services Staff involved in the Kilkenny Sludge Management Project which won a UK Water Industry Award in August.
- Cllr. Pat O'Neill on the birth of his daughter Grace.
- The volunteers of Kilkenny Welcome Team.
- Dicemen Productions on winning the best documentary at Underground Cinema Film Festival.
- Robert Grace, Singer Songwriter, Graiguenamanagh who signed a recording contract with Sony.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Andrew McGuinness extended votes of sympathy to:

- Declan O'Connor on the death of his mother Maureen O'Connor, Rathcrogue.
- Frank Stafford on the death of his father Frank Stafford Snr. Graiguenamanagh.
- Michael Arthurs on the death of his mother Catherine Arthurs, Tullogher.
- Family of the late Phyllis Gillman, Castlecomer Road, Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Mrs. Ellen Kelly, Castlecomer.
- Family of the late Noel Doyle, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Christ Power, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Maureen Walsh, Ballyfacey.
- Family of the late Ed Walsh, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Martin Hussey, Rosbercon.
- Family of the late Calvin Walsh, Tullogher.
- Family of the late Maureen Scannell.
- Family of the late Maura Power, Tullogher.

- Family of the late Tony Fitzgerald, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Sophie Walsh, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Mary Flavahan, Kilmacthomas.
- Family of the late George Peters Junior, Tullogher.
- Family of the Pat Fitzgerald, Glenmore.
- Family of the late Peggy Malone, Tullogher.
- Family of the late Kathleen Lyons, Slieverue.
- Family of the late Milo Power, Kilmacow.
- Family of the late Mary O’Keeffe, Carrigeen.
- Family of the late Mairead McSuibhne, Clara.
- Family of the late Sean Hogan, Mooncoin.
- Family of the late Liz Knox, Mooncoin.
- Family of the late Eileen Delaney, Mooncoin.
- Family of the late Mary Walsh, Mooncoin.
- Family of the late John Keegan, Piltown.
- Family of the late Margo Commins, Piltown.

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

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Cleere seconded by Cllr. Deirdre Cullen and agreed:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the Lease of the property known as The Sessions House, (former Courthouse), Logan Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, to Design & Crafts Council Ireland, Castle Yard, Kilkenny, for a period of 25 years, at a rent of €1.00 per week, for use as an ‘Educational Facility’ and with each party to be responsible for their own legal costs.” (Notice sent to members on the 1st September, 2020).

- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett seconded by Cllr. Joe Lyons 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 Property at Nos. 1 & 2 Johns Green, Kilkenny, as identified on the attached map, to Liam & Emma Hennessy, Rathculbin, Kells, Co. Kilkenny, for the sum of €155,000 (one hundred and fifty five thousand euros). Each party will be responsible for their own legal costs associated with the sale.” (Notice sent to members on the 1st September, 2020).

- (iii) It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick seconded by Cllr. Joe Malone and agreed:

“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 Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, to dispose of its interest in a plot of land at Gowran Road, Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny to Anthony (ors Tony) Donohue, Gowran Road, Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny for nil consideration and with each party being responsible for their own legal costs associated with the sale. Plot measures 0.65 acre.” (Notice sent to members on the 1st September, 2020).

- (iv) It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick seconded by Cllr. Joe Malone 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 Cellarstown, Kilkenny to Philip Meany, Cellarstown, Kilkenny for Nil consideration and with each party being responsible for their own legal costs associated with the sale. Plots combined measure 0.065acre.” (Notice sent to members on the 1st September, 2020).

- (v) It was proposed by Cllr. John Brennan seconded by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick 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 Foulkscourt, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny as identified on the attached Map to Aisling Delaney, Foulkscourt, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny for Nil consideration and Kilkenny County Council will be responsible for all legal costs associated with the sale. The land measures 100m² approx." (Notice sent to members on the 1st September, 2020).

- (vi) It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Cleere seconded by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty 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 Newtown, Ladywell, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny [as identified on the attached map] to Kilkenny & Carlow Education & Training Board, Seville Lodge, Callan Road, Kilkenny for the nominal sum of €10.00 and in exchange for other lands at Newtown, Ladywell, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, with each party being responsible for their own legal costs associated with the sale & exchange. Combined land to be disposed of = 1.32 ha approx." (Notice sent to members on the 8th September, 2020).

- (vii) It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett 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 the property at 53 Westfield, Outrath Road, Kilkenny to Gail Kenny, 53 Westfield, Outrath Road, Kilkenny for nil consideration with each party being responsible for their own legal costs associated with the sale." (Notice sent to members on the 8th September, 2020).

It was proposed by Cllr. Peter Cleere, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre Cullen and agreed that the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland be invited to the October Meeting to give a presentation on their proposals for The Sessions House, Thomastown.

(b) **Pleanail - Planning**

- (i) **Part 8 - Conversion of Former Fire Station, Maudlin Street, Thomastown**
Chief Executive Report has been circulated and it is recommended that the Members approve the Part 8 for the conversion of former Fire Station, Maudlin Street, Thomastown.

It was proposed by Cllr. Deirdre Cullen, seconded by Cllr. Peter Cleere and agreed that:

*"We the Members of Kilkenny County Council approves the proposed Part 8 in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended for the proposed **conversion of former Fire Station, Maudlin Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny to dwelling**, as circulated."*

- (ii) **Part 8 - Refurbishment & Rear Extension to Dwelling at 18 Wolfe Tone Street, Kilkenny**

Chief Executive Report has been circulated and it is recommended that the Members approve the Part 8 for the Refurbishment and Rear Extension to house at 18 Wolfe Tone Street, Kilkenny.

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. Joe Malone and agreed:

*"We the Members of Kilkenny County Council approves the proposed Part 8 in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended for the proposed **development of 18 Wolfe Tone Street, Kilkenny City, as circulated.**"*

(iii) **Part 8 – Demolition & Replacement dwelling at Circular Road, Kilkenny**

Ms. Mary Mulholland advised the Members that it is proposed to commence the Part 8 process for demolition and replacement of a house on the Circular Road, Kilkenny. The new purposely built unit will be constructed for a specific family's disability needs. It was intended to refurbish existing unit but it is much better value for money to demolish and rebuild.

It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. Eugene McGuinness and agreed to commence the Part 8 process for this Housing Project.

(iv) **Draft Development Plan for City & County**

Mr. Denis Malone, Senior Planner advised that each Municipal District has now received a presentation on the City & County Development Plans, the process involved and the current status.

It is recommended that the Members agree dates for two Workshops in October 2020 to consider the Draft Development Plan before it goes on public display during October to December. The Chief Executive Report on display of the draft will be issued before end of March 2021.

(c) (i) **Local Property Tax**

Mr. Martin Prendiville referred Members to the CE Report dated 15th September, 2020 circulated with the Agenda and the PowerPoint Presentation given to Members at their recent Workshop. As part of the 2021 budget process the Elected Members are required to make a decision on the Local Property Tax by 30th September, 2020.

He advised Members that due to Covid the Council is facing unprecedented challenges due to loss of income from commercial rates, parking fees, housing rents and other income sources. The Council has also incurred additional expenditure to comply with Covid Guidelines. There is a very high degree of uncertainty surrounding the projected outturn for 2020 and the outlook for 2021. The projected shortfall for 2020 is €5.9m in the absence of any further Government support. In order to reduce this shortfall for 2020 expenditure allocations totalling €2.3m have been paused until there is more clarity on the level of compensation being provided by Government.

The process for Budget 2021 has commenced and Members will be required to adopt a budget before the end of November 2020. Detailed discussions will take place with Elected Members throughout October and early November to agree a budget for 2021.

All income streams will continue to be under pressure into 2021. The estimated reduction in Income from commercial rates and other goods and services for 2021 is €3.7m. Expenditure reductions will have to be implemented for 2021 in line with the available income in the absence of Government support. It is recommended that the LPT for 2021 remains at the same level as 2020. This will ensure that Income of €1.1m will be retained for 2021.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. Michael Doyle and Peter Cleere. They stated that we are in unprecedented and challenging times and that there is a need to retain the same amount of income in 2021 generated from the Local Property Tax in 2020. This will continue to deliver services to the people.

It was proposed by Cllr. Michael Doyle, seconded by Cllr. Peter Cleere and agreed by all that:

“We, the members of Kilkenny County Council in pursuance of the provisions of Section 20 of the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act, 2012 (as amended), hereby resolve that from the period from 1st November 2020 to 31st October 2021 the local adjustment factor shall remain the same as that which applied from 1st November 2019 to 31st October 2020 in respect of relevant residential properties situated in the administrative area of Kilkenny County Council. The invariable rate shall take effect from the liability date in the year in which notification is sent to the Revenue Commissioners”.

(d) (i) **Proposed Technological University for the South East**

Presentation deferred to next meeting pending availability of the Presidents of Carlow IT and Waterford IT.

Ms. Colette Byrne advised that an e-mail has been received today from the Communications Team for the Technological University of the South East of Ireland Project giving an update on the current state of progress. This will be circulated to all Elected Members following the meeting.

Cllrs. Pat Dunphy, Pat Fitzpatrick, Eamon Aylward, Fidelis Doherty and John Brennan all contributed to a discussion on the University for the South East. Members are concerned in relation to the delays in delivering this project and want to know what or who is holding it up. Money is committed to the project and maybe lost if this project is not progressed.

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Dunphy, seconded by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick and agreed that a further letter be issued to Minister Simon Harris seeking full details on the proposed establishment of the University for the South East.

(ii) **Appointment of Elected Member to Kilkenny & Carlow Education & Training Board**

It was proposed by Cllr. Joe Malone, seconded by Cllr. Eugene McGuinness and agreed:

“That Kilkenny County Council hereby appoints Cllr. Tomás Breathnach to sit on Kilkenny & Carlow Education & Training Board.

(iii) **Draft Polling Scheme 2020**

Ms. Anne Maria Walsh referred to report circulated to the Members for their information on the proposed public display of the revised Polling Scheme for County Kilkenny. The Draft Scheme will be circulated to the Courts Registrar, the 5 TD's and Elected Members. It will be advertised for public display from Wednesday, 30th September, 2020. Submissions will be received up to Friday, 6th November, 2020.

Members were further advised that the making of the revised Polling Scheme is a Reserved Function and it will come back to the Members at the November Monthly Meeting.

(iv) **Chief Executive's Monthly Report**

Ms. Colette Byrne presented her monthly CE Report. Cllr. Andrew McGuinness asked the Members to contact the Chief Executive if they have specific questions on her report.

Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick requested clarifications of the spending of the Municipal District allocations Mr. Prendiville advised that this was one of the items of expenditure deferred pending clarification of additional monies from the Government. This was agreed at previous meetings where a schedule of deferred expenditure was brought to the Members. All these items of expenditure are on hold as there is currently a shortfall of €5.5m to €5.9m for 2020 after rates waiver. Submissions have been made to Government for extra funding. Cllr. Andrew McGuinness requested that Members be invited to a Workshop to discuss the Municipal District allocation.

Mr. Prendiville briefed the Members on the Restart Grant and Restart Plus Grant. To-date €7.7m has been paid out to businesses. Approx. €770k will be paid out over the next two weeks. Over 1,000 will have availed of the Grant Scheme.

Cllrs. Peter Cleere and Pat Fitzpatrick enquired in relation to appealing decisions on the Restart Grant and requesting a letter be sent to the Minister.

Mr. Prendiville advised that there are approx. 30 appeals on the first grant. Further clarification is awaited from the Department. The closing date for applications has been extended to 31st October, 2020.

Mr. Sean McKeown advised that the Animal Welfare Charter Committee has had its first meeting. The Committee has requested that the membership be extended to include representatives from An Garda Siochana and Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement [KTCM].

It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. Joe Malone and agreed that the membership of the Animal Welfare Charter Committee be increased by two to include representatives from the Gardai and KTCM.

Cllr. Joe Malone and Cllr. Maria Dollard contributed to this item.

Mr. Sean McKeown advised that SPC4 has recommended that Kilkenny County Council join the European Climate Alliance. This is a non-governmental organisation and both Carlow and Wexford [who are participating Local Authorities in the three Counties Energy Agency, 3CEA] have already joined the Alliance.

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett and agreed that Kilkenny County Council become a Member of the Climate Alliance of European Cities.

(e) (i) **Arts Act Grants**

Report on Arts Grants Applications and Recommendation was circulated with Agenda.

It was proposed by Cllr. John Brennan, seconded by Cllr. Pat O'Neill and agreed:

"That Kilkenny County Council approves the allocation of €9,600 to the 10 applicants approved under the Arts Grants 2020, as per report circulated".

(ii) **Community Event Grants**

Report on Community Event Grant Applications and Recommendations was circulated with Agenda.

It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan, seconded by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty and agreed that:

"That the Festival & Event Grants 2019 totalling €10,400 are hereby approved by the Members of Kilkenny County Council, as per report circulated."

Cllrs. Pat Fitzpatrick and John Brennan sought clarification on supports for communities who wished to organise events coming up to Christmas.

Ms. Colette Byrne advised that a grant has been confirmed by Failte Ireland for a Kilkenny Animated Wolfwalker Festival in October. Other discussions are taking place to see what can be delivered in these challenging times. Bringing people into Kilkenny is paramount and ensuring social distancing is complied with. There must be attractions in Co. Kilkenny to keep people here.

Ms. Mary Mulholland advised that an application for funding under Town & Village Renewal has been submitted for Christmas lights and a Shop Local Campaign.

3. **Correspondence**

Correspondence as set out on the Agenda have been noted by the Elected Members.

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

None.

5. **Schedule of Meetings**

(i) **Fix Venue for October Monthly Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. John Coonan and agreed that the October Meeting be held in the Watergate Theatre.

(ii) **Fix Dates for Workshops for Draft Development Plan**

It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett, seconded by Cllr. Pat Dunphy and agreed that Planning Workshops be held on Monday, 12th October at 3.30 p.m. and Friday, 16th October at 4.00 p.m. in the Rivercourt Hotel.

It was agreed by Members that the CPG Meeting on Monday, 12th October be held at 2.00 p.m. and the Kilkenny Municipal District Meeting be held at 1.30 p.m. on the 16th October, 2020.

(iii) **Fix date for Workshop for Budget 2021**

It was proposed by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach, seconded by Cllr. John Brennan and agreed that a Budget Workshop be held on Friday, 23rd October, 2020 at 3.00 p.m. in Rivercourt Hotel.

(iv) **Schedule of Meetings**

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. Eamon Aylward and agreed.

Cllr. Joe Malone requested clarification on holding face to face SPC Meetings.

Ms. Colette Byrne responded that there is a very clear message to avoid in person meetings where possible. We should only hold in person meetings which involve statutory items and items which are time bound by legislation. All of us must comply with the National Guidelines particularly now with rising numbers of COVID. It would be preferable to hold off on any face to face meetings for at least a couple of weeks. Members are advised that meetings/briefings can be facilitated through Teams or Teleconference calls.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. Martin Brett and Eugene McGuinness in relation to this issue and increasing Anti-Social Behaviour in Kilkenny. They stated that a meeting is needed to discuss this and have the relevant staff present.

Colette Byrne stated that there has been an increase in Anti-Social Behaviour. Staff are trying to deal with all the complaints and have regular engagement with Gardai on issues.

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. Martin Brett, seconded by Cllr. John Coonan and agreed that approval is given to attendance at Conference on The Fair Deal Scheme organised by Celtic Conferences in October 2020.

9. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

None

10. **Any Other Business**

- (i) Mr. Martin Prendiville advised the Members that the Watershed needs to urgently upgrade the filtration system in the swimming pool. These works had been planned to take place as part of a bigger project which has secured grant funding. Matching funds of €800k are required for the full project and this level level of funding cannot be secured in the short term. The grant conditions will not allow the project to be completed in phases. Due to the urgency of the works to the swimming pool, the Watershed Board have requested a repayable loan of €200k from Kilkenny County Council. The swimming pool generates 50% of the income of the Watershed. It is recommended to the Members that Kilkenny County Council provide a loan of €200k repayable over a seven year period.

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Maria Dollard and agreed:

"That Kilkenny County Council advances a loan of €200,000 to Kilkenny Local Authorities Leisure Complex Limited [The Watershed] repayable over seven years."

- (ii) Ms. Fiona Deegan advised Members on the progress to-date in delivering a brand for Kilkenny. The Kilkenny.ie website is being revamped and relaunched in October 2020. Consultants were appointed to develop the website which will link into other websites such as Invest.ie and Taste.ie. This new branding will be an overarching website for the City and County. The main brand will be our distinctive "K" with our black and amber colours. Details have been circulated by Tim Butler, Director of Services. New signage will be erected shortly for the Wolfwalker Festival incorporating the new branding images.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. Martin Brett and Maria Dollard. Members were pleased to approve the new branding image. Ms. Deegan further advised that Cartoon Saloon will have a suite of events in October in association with Kilkenny

Animated to showcase Wolfwalker. Sunday 11th October, 2020 has been designated "Kilkenny Day". The Council is working on a programme of events for the day which will comply with all Covid social distancing guidelines. Programme will be published shortly and details will be available on all social media outlets. She encouraged all to get involved and be proud Kilkenny people for the day.

Cllr. Andrew McGuinness welcomed "Kilkenny Day" and stated that it was great to see it revived again as it has proved very successful a few years ago.

- (iii) Cllr. John Brennan raised a query on changes in the collection of refuse. He advised that private collectors would no longer collect refuse in plastic bags. He requested a report for the next Council Meeting. Mr. McKeown advised that a report will be prepared. He stated that all Refuse Collectors are required to renew their licences annually and it is policy to move to segregated waste and move away from plastic bags.

11. **Notices of Motion**
04 (20) Cllr. Michael Doyle

It was proposed by Cllr. Michael Doyle, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre Cullen and agreed that:

"That Kilkenny County Council would write to Irish Water asking them to address the excessive amount of lime in the water that households in Inistioge, The Rower and Thomastown have due to the introduction of the new water source for the area. At the very least Irish Water should write to all of their customers on this new supply line outlining the options a household has in dealing with lime in the water, if the current situation is not addressed thousands of households will be looking at huge costs in replacing household appliances on a regular basis."

Cllrs. Michael Doyle and Deirdre Cullen spoke on this motion and acknowledged the investment in a new water source for Inistioge, however this water is very hard. Home appliances are being damaged and need to be replaced. The water is safe but undrinkable and people are still buying bottled water. Information needs to be given to all householders on protecting their appliances.

05 (20) Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. Denis Hynes & Cllr. Tomás Breathnach

It was proposed by Cllr. Joe Malone, seconded by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach and agreed that:

"That Kilkenny County Council would ask the Minister for Defence to immediately award all medals to the Jadotville Men while they are still alive".

Cllrs. Joe Malone, Tomás Breathnach and Andrew McGuinness spoke on this motion and stated that the Irish soldiers in the battle of Jadotville should be honoured with medals for bravery.

06 (20) Cllr. Tomás Breathnach

It was proposed by Cllr. Tomás Breathnach, seconded by Cllr. Eugene McGuinness and agreed that:

"That Kilkenny County Council writes to the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government to urge it to review the income thresholds for eligibility for local authority housing supports. The objectives of the review should include an upward revision of income limits to better reflect affordability conditions and to ensure that a payment from a social welfare source does not render any household ineligible for housing support simply because it raises household income above nominal eligibility thresholds".

Cllr. Tomás Breathnach spoke on the motion and how benefits from Social Welfare are affecting eligibility for housing supports and the need to review income thresholds.

07(20) Cllr. Maria Dollard

It was proposed by Cllr. Maria Dollard, seconded by Cllr. Pat O'Neill and agreed that:

"That Kilkenny County Council would embark on a collaborative process with the Kilkenny Archives, Kilkenny Archaeological society and other relevant interests to develop a sustainable vision and plan for the management, digitisation and public display of the archives of Kilkenny City and County. Such a plan would recognise the significance in particular of the civic archives of Kilkenny City dating back to the 13th century and allow wider public access to these, important photographic collections and other important collections. It would also outline a sustainable funding model and a permanent home for the archives of the city and county of Kilkenny."

Cllrs. Maria Dollard, Pat O'Neill, Martin Brett and Pat Fitzpatrick contributed to this motion. All referenced the need to preserve our archives and fund a suitable location to house the archives. There is a need to digitise these archives for future generations.

08(20) Cllr. Maria Dollard & Cllr. Denis Hynes

It was proposed by Cllr. Maria Dollard, seconded by Cllr. Joe Malone and agreed that:

"Recognising the contribution of CE Supervisors for their years of dedication to their communities and the findings of the Labour Court rulings, Kilkenny County Council calls on the Government to engage, consult and honour the commitment of a fair gratuity scheme and resolve the pension entitlements for all the Supervisors and Assistants who have put in the years of service and deserve their due recognition".

Cllrs. Maria Dollard, Joe Malone and Tomás Breathnach contributed to this motion. All referenced the Labour Court ruling issued twelve years ago which has not been implemented. They recognised the value of the work carried out by CE Workers/ Supervisors for all the various communities.

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

It was proposed by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett and agreed that Notices of Motion 15(20) to 22 (20) from the following local authorities be taken as read and noted.

15 (20) Waterford City & County Council

"That Waterford City and County Council support SIPTU and the "Big Start Campaign" which demands adequate investment in the Early Years services to make it affordable, accessible with high quality with professional pay for childcare workers. And further calls on the government to fully support the campaign."

16 (20) Limerick City & County Council

"The Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee recommends that Limerick City and County Council request an urgent meeting with the Minister with responsibility for Planning to outline the Council's opposition to the National Planning Framework on Rural Housing Policy; the SPC also recommends that the request be circulated to all local authorities."

17 (20) Limerick City & County Council

That Limerick City and County Council totally reject the National Planning Framework Policy regarding once-off rural housing based on social and economic need; (b) a meeting be arranged with the Minister responsible to highlight the issues around this policy; and (c) this Motion be circulated to all Local Authorities to discuss and support same."

18 (20) Kerry County Council

“That Kerry County Council write to the Minister for Finance and request that a state pension public service fund be put in place for public service workers as a matter of urgency.”

19 (20) Louth County Council

“That Louth County Council establishes a special taskforce with the relevant stakeholders and the local community in light of the impact COVID-19 is having and will continue to have on people’s mental health and wellbeing”

20 (20) Kildare County Council

“That the members of Kildare County Council supports the request from Féileacáin to waive the fees for family grave plots where a baby will be buried and that we write to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government request that all local authorities waive the fees for family grave plots where a baby will be buried, that the Department should instruct all local authorities to waive the fees for planning permission for headstones where a baby will be buried and that a Children’s Funeral Fund be established.”

21 (20) Kildare County Council

That Kildare County Council requests that the Minister undertakes the following: That the stillbirth register and stillbirth certification be removed and be replaced with a birth certificate and death certificate for babies who are stillborn, so that babies who are stillborn can be registered on the birth and death register and can receive the same state records of their existence as everyone else. Parents whose babies who are currently listed on the stillbirth register should be given the opportunity to have their babies placed on the birth and death register and to receive a birth and death certificate for their babies.

22 (20) Sligo County Council

“For Sligo County Council to write to the relevant Ministers to address the issue of extending the timescale and conditions of employment of Tús and CE participants on various employment schemes. These participants are greatly contributing to their local communities and helping out in so many ways, and are also benefitting socially from these schemes. However, after a certain period of time they must leave the scheme and cannot avail of it again until another period of time has passed. This is unsatisfactory for many participants and also for the sponsor groups in the communities where they work. Can this motion be shared with other local authorities”.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE