

Minutes of Meeting of Planning & Development, Heritage, Community, Arts & Culture Strategic Policy Committee (SPC3) held on the 13th September 2018 at 3.00 pm in the Council Chamber

Chairman: Cllr. Pat Dunphy

In Attendance: Cllr J Brennan, Cllr D Kennedy, Cllr M. Noonan, Cllr P McKee, M.T. Brennan, P O'Brien, John Burke, M Brennan
S McKeown, D Malone. N Louw, J Coyne, E.O'Reilly

Apologies: J Hurley, Cllr P. Fitzpatrick, M Mulholland, Ml. Delahunty

Item 1- Minutes of previous meeting.

- With respect to the amendment to the 11th April meeting minutes as proposed by Cllr McKee & seconded by Cllr Fitzpatrick at the July 5th meeting, D Malone expressed his dissatisfaction at the requested amendment as it was not interpreted from the April 11th meeting that a specific time limit i.e. 7/10 days had been agreed.

Cllr McKee advised that it was his clear understanding that this time limit had been agreed.

- Cllr D Kennedy noted that his apologies had been omitted from the July 5th meeting minutes.
- With respect to Item 3 – All Ireland Pollinator Plan of the 05th July meeting minutes M T Brennan advised that the colour of the Garden Bumble Bee (*Bombus Hortum*) is not Black & Amber. *Bombus Hortum* is a black, yellow and white bee.
- The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 05th July 2018 were proposed by Cllr J Brennan & seconded by Cllr David Kennedy.

Item 2 - Matters Arising

None

Item 3 – Our Public Libraries

J Coyne provided a presentation on Our Public Libraries 2020 outlining the Vision, Values & Ambitions of the strategy. The aims and objectives of the Kilkenny County Council Cultural Strategy 2018-2022 have been informed by this strategy.

Also presented were the library targets going forward to 2022.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr P Dunphy, Cllr M Noonan, and Cllr J Brennan & MT Brennan.

Item 4 – Vacant Site Levy - Update

D Malone provided an update on the Vacant Site Levy (VSL)

The roll out of the VSL to date has concentrated in the Kilkenny City, Ferrybank & Castlecomer areas. Currently 19 sites remain on the Register (3 of which are under appeal). The land valuations were carried out in April & the landowners have been notified.

D Malone advised that Circular PL 04/2018 & the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2018 has been issued to clarify the interpretation of the original definition of a “vacant site” in the case of agricultural land.

In addition the Planning Section has reviewed its processes and to ensure additional checks and balances in relation to the implementation of the VSL are now in place.

A discussion ensued with contributions from P O’Brien, Cllr P McKee, Cllr D Kennedy, Cllr J Brennan, Cllr M Noonan & M Brennan.

It was agreed that the VSL process & the planning department’s system of checks and balances would be presented at the next meeting of the SPC 3.

Item 5 – Development Contribution Scheme

S McKeown provided a presentation on the Development Contribution Scheme. The current scheme was adopted March 2016 and covers the period to end of 2017.

The new scheme is required to align with the Councils Capital Programme which was approved during March last.

Once prepared a draft of the new scheme will be on public display for a period of 6 weeks. The draft scheme will then be reviewed by the SPC 3 for recommendation to the Council/Chief Executives report to Council. The approval of the elected members of the Council is required within 6 weeks of receipt of the Chief Executives report.

The current Development Contribution Scheme will remain in place until a new scheme has been adopted.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr Dunphy, Cllr D Kennedy, and Cllr P McKee & Cllr J Brennan.

Item 6 – NPF/Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy – Update

D Malone advised that the South East Regional Assembly had been given a preliminary Draft RSES for consideration within the next two weeks

A discussion ensued with contributions from Cllr M Noonan, Cllr J Brennan & MT Brennan

It was agreed to raise it with the Cathaoirleach regarding the possibility of having a special meeting to discuss this draft plan

Item 7 – County Development Plan & Local Area Plans - update

N Louw presented an update on the County Development Plan & Local Area Plans (LAP's) for Callan & Thomastown.

The County Development Plan is in the pre-draft stage of the process and the Chief Executive's Report on same is listed for discussion at the next meeting of the Council on 17th September next.

It is anticipated that the Development Plan review will be suspended until the RSES has been published, and will be recommenced within 13 weeks of the making of the RSES.

With respect to the Callan & Thomastown LAP's, public meetings have taken place and written submissions received. Draft plans for both are being prepared with the draft Callan LAP expected to go on public display during October 2018 and the draft Thomastown LAP to go on public display during November next.

A discussion ensued with contributions from Cllr J Brennan, Cllr D Kennedy & P O'Brien.

Item 8 – Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday **13th December 2018 @ 3pm** in the Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street., and Kilkenny.

That concluded the business of the meeting.