

**MINUTES OF TRANSPORTATION
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 04 2017**

Present:

Councillor Darren Scully, Cathaoirleach
Councillor Mark Dalton
Councillor John Mc Ginley
Councillor Réada Cronin
Councillor Paul Ward
Jimmy Earle (Rural Transport)

Also Present:

Niall Morrissey, Director of Service
Evelyn Wright, Senior Executive Officer
Brian Martin, Administrative Officer
Celina Barrett, Chief Fire Officer
Derek Whelan, Assistant Chief Fire Officer
Declan Keogh, Road Safety Officer
Diarmuid Donoghue, Cycling Officer
Anne Byrne, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies:

Councillor Joe Neville
Councillor Anne Breen
Councillor Seamus Moore

Agenda

Item 1 - Introduction

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee.

Item 2 – Minutes

No matters arising from previous minutes which were proposed by Cllr. McGinley and seconded by Cllr. Dalton and adopted.

KILDARE CYCLING FORUM

The SPC was advised of the establishment of the Cycling Forum and membership as follows:

Chairman: Cllr. D. Scully; Cllr. P. McEvoy, Cllr. S. O'Neill; Cllr. F. McLoughlin Healy; Declan Keogh, Kildare RSO, Diarmuid Donohue, KCC Executive Engineer.

Roy O'Connor, National Transportation Authority, (NTA); Barbara Connolly, Cycling Ireland.

Cllr. Scully, Chairman introduced the Cycling Forum Committee and advised that the first meeting of the Forum had taken place. Roy O'Connor, NTA gave a brief update to the Members in respect to NTA Cycling Schemes and Greenway Schemes and clarified NTA's role.

Cllr. McLoughlin Healy queried the concentration of NTA cycle schemes in the North of the County. Mr O'Connor advised that the Royal Canal Greenway is part of a National strategy to link Dublin and Galway. The development of a Traffic Management Plan for Newbridge would support the strategy for greenways/cycle track for this area.

Declan Keogh Road Safety Officer made a presentation to the meeting in respect of National Bike Week (June 10-18th) and outlined proposed events.

Cllr. O'Neill requested information in respect of the allocation of funds for Bike Week from Department of Transport, Tourism and Sports (DTTAS). Declan Keogh informed the meeting that the Council had applied for an allocation of €10,000 and €7,500 was granted by DTTAS and that the information would be shortly made available through the website [www. bikeweek.ie](http://www.bikeweek.ie)

Barbara Connolly, National Development Officer from Cycling Ireland briefed the meeting on the Cycling Right Training Programme aimed at Secondary Schools.

Cllr. McEvoy enquired whether the training programmes are available for any age group. Ms. Connolly informed the meeting that training programmes are focused on ability rather than age.

Cllr. McLoughlin Healy stated that there was a need for at least one BMX Park for the Newbridge area. Ms Connolly agreed to discuss the matter further with the Councillor outside the meeting.

Diarmuid Donohoe, KCC Executive Engineer gave the SPC a brief update of the status of the following NTA Schemes:

- Kilcullen Road Cycle Scheme
- Naas/Kill/Johnstown Scheme
- Greenway Route from Naas to Sallins

It was agreed that the next Cycling Forum Meeting would be scheduled for the 25th of May 2017

Item 3 – Update from the Director of Services

Niall Morrissey informed the meeting that the Roads Programme is up and running. The two LIHAF projects for the County are at early stages. The CPO for the Athy Distributor Road had been lodged with An Bord Pleanála. The Council continues to seek funding for the joint Traffic Management Plan for Kildare and Newbridge from NTA. Once the necessary funding is confirmed, a tender process will commence. He also informed the members of developments in respect of the M7 Interchange and Sallins By-Pass.

Item 4 - Fire Service

Derek Whelan Assistant Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation on Special Projects and Emergency Management Policies.

Cllr Scully thanked Derek for the presentation and asked about the boundary on the motorway between South Dublin County Council and Kildare County Council. Celina Barrett, Chief Fire Officer, advised that the boundary stops at Johnstown Logistics but there is an existing inter-county relationship between the two local authorities that if an incident occurs fire tenders will be sent from Belgard Road, Tallaght and Naas Fire stations.

Item 6 - Road Safety

Declan Keogh briefed the meeting in respect of road safety. He also informed them of upcoming promotion and events in relation to Driver Fatigue and “Women in Cars”

Item 7- Referral from the Kildare/Newbridge MD (March 2017):

Councillor Lynch

That this Municipal District is trialled with the colour coding of existing poles to clearly identify taxi rank's, disabled parking and loading bays on the poles directly beside these parking spaces. Colour coded poles would clearly identify to vehicles, as to the status of the space in which they may inadvertently be parking or help identify same to the relevant users and remove the need for unsightly and costly signage.

Response from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department: A trial of colour coding existing poles would have a financial implication for the MD and costings would be required prior to the commencement of a trial. It may be appropriate for the SPC to consider a policy to ensure consistency throughout the County.

After a discussion on this issue, the SPC members agreed not to go forward with a trial

Item 8- Referral from the Celbridge/Leixlip MD (April 2017)

Councillor Neville

Do the Council have signage relating to speeding in the estates? The signage would be along the lines of dumping/dog fouling signage. The Members agreed to refer this

issue to the SPC to consider a policy on the provision of signage in housing estates, other than signage related to Jake's Law.

A general discussion arose in respect of the requirements under Jake's Law. The SPC was advised that a call for expressions of interest for the installation of signage under Jake's Law had taken place. It was clarified that only housing estates taken in charge by the Council could be considered for the installation of such signage. With regard to submissions received, the SPC was advised that assessments were scheduled to be carried out as soon as technical resources were available. Following technical assessment, draft Bye Laws will be presented to the Full Council for approval.

The Cathaoirleach thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14th September 2017.