

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services**

**STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**6<sup>th</sup> of September 2018**

**Attendees:**

Councillor Darren Scully  
Councillor Mark Dalton  
Councillor Réada Cronin  
Councillor Seamus Moore  
Councillor Anne Breen  
Councillor John McGinley  
Councillor Joe Neville  
Councillor Paul Ward  
Bill Clear

Niall Morrissey, Director of Services  
John McGowan, Senior Engineer  
Declan Keogh, Roads Safety, Cycling and Sustainable Transport Officer  
Evelyn Wright, SEO  
Councillor Martin Miley

**Apologies:**

Vivian Cummins  
Councillor Mark Wall

**Item 1 - Introduction**

Cathaoirleach Darren Scully welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Item 2 – Minutes**

No matters arising from minutes of previous minutes which were approved by the members.

### **Item 3 – Update from the Director of Services**

The Director of Services gave the members an update with regards to various Roads Projects in each MD around the County. An update on the progress of the plans for relocation of the Machinery Yard was also given and on the number of building sites currently operating in the County. The upcoming Bord Pleanála oral hearing on the proposed Drehid expansion was discussed. The timelines of the M7 works and anticipated completion dates were also provided. A general discussion and questions ensued and were responded to and clarified by the Director.

### **Item 4- Road Safety, Cycling and Sustainable Transport**

Declan Keogh was welcomed to the Meeting and he updated the members on the forthcoming EU Mobility Week between September 16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. A number of activities are planned and will be promoted by KCC. Project EDWARD on September 19<sup>th</sup> was also referred to – European Day Without Any Road Deaths.

The members were also updated on current and planned projects in relation to cyclists and pedestrians. A discussion on electric vehicle charging points took place and plans for expansion of the network of charging points was referred to.

### **Item 5- Review of Winter Salting Routes**

John McGowan, Senior Engineer made a presentation to the members in respect of the review of the Winter Salting Programme. He then took a number of questions from the members in respect to different areas of his presentation. Niall Morrissey advised that any extension of the routes was an operation matter. The members discussed the costs of the provision of vehicles, plant and equipment and the role of members of the community assisting during severe weather events.

### **Item 6 – Public Realm**

Niall Morrissey discussed the use of public footpaths and on-street parking spaces by local businesses. Reference was made to the very good summer and the use of outdoor spaces by members of the public. The provision of tables, chairs and other seating on public footpaths and roadways was discussed. The Chairman suggested that members might wish to put their views forward for discussion. The members

were advised that suspension of a pay parking space costs €25 per day, but that there was no consistency throughout the towns. Members were also advised that suspension of a parking bay was for the duration of pay parking enforcement hours (i.e., ~ 9-5pm). There was discussion on the regulation of public spaces via the Planning and Development Act/Section 254 and licensing requirements. The issue of payments for use of space and the requirement for businesses to pay rates was referred to.

### **Item 7- Referrals from Municipal District and Full Council Meetings to SPC:**

Cllr Miley thanked the SPC for the invitation to attend and discuss his motion from the Athy MD. Following discussion of the issue of water and hedge cuts on public roads, it was agreed that John Mc Gowan, SE, would pursue the issue with representatives of the IFA and convene a meeting to discuss.

#### **Motion - Councillor Miley**

In light of water lying on roadsides in this municipal district, that the council continue opening water cuts and also work with the local farming community (Irish Farming Association) to put a policy in place for landowners to open water cuts safely.

#### **Response from Roads Department:**

Roadside drainage works are being carried out throughout the Athy MD Area. This work will continue for the next few months. It will also be combined with preparing works for road improvements and maintenance works in the summer. The issue of an agreement with the IFA will be a policy issue for Kildare County Council.

Councillor Mark Wall was not present at the SPC to discuss his motion, set out below. The issue raised was addressed by John Mc Gowan, SE in his presentation on the review of salting routes throughout the county.

#### **Motion - Councillor Wall**

That the council immediately include the L3010, Kildangan to Kildare Town Road on their salting routes and that emergency signage be on standby for all future events where accidents occur and where roads are not salted.

#### **Response from Roads Department:**

The salting trucks used by KCC are running at near full salting capacity at present, which precludes the Council from making any changes, no matter how small, to the

salting routes, during routine salting operations. Consequently, it is not possible to extend the routes at this time, nor it is possible to cater for additional roads during routine operations. There is, however, an alternate route to the L3010, which is salted, by travelling on the R417 from Kildangan to Monasterevin and from Monasterevin to Kildare via the old N7 or the M7. The issue of providing emergency signage etc., can be examined by the Municipal District Engineer.

A review of the salting routes will be carried out in advance of the 2018/2019 winter period.

While the Chairman advised that there was no AOB on the Agenda, Cllr. Neville raised the issue of the NTA's Bus Connects proposal. Niall Morrissey advised that a submission was a matter for the members and that KCC would not be making a submission.

Cathaoirleach Darren Scully thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

The next meeting will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018.