

ADOPTED MINUTES
Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

3rd of May 2018

Attendees:

Councillor Darren Scully
Councillor Mark Dalton
Councillor Réada Cronin
Councillor Seamus Moore
Councillor Anne Breen
Councillor John McGinley
Councillor Padraig Mc Evoy
Councillor Mark Lynch
Bill Clear
Niall Morrissey, Director of Services
Brian Martin, Administrative Officer
John McGowan, Senior Engineer
Brendan Synnott, Senior Executive Engineer
James Doyle, Senior Staff Officer
Inspector David O'Sullivan

Apologies:

Councillor Joe Neville
Vivian Cummins
Councillor Paul Ward

Item 1 - Introduction

Cathaoirleach Darren Scully welcomed everyone to the meeting including members of the Kildare Cycle Forum.

Item 2 – Minutes

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

Item 3 – Presentation from Phil Skelton, Stayin Alive at 1.5 Campaign

Cathaoirleach welcomed Bill Skelton from the “1.5 Stayin Alive Campaign” to the SPC. Bill made a detailed presentation to the members about the campaign he has successfully carried out over recent years in respect to cycle safety and safe passing distances. The members then asked him various questions about areas covered by the presentation. The Cathaoirleach and the Director of Services thanked Phil for the presentation. The Director also agreed that the Transport Department would support the campaign.

Item 4- Road Safety and Cycling Forum Update - National Bike Week Update

Brian Martin updated the members that the Council has made an offer of employment for the vacant Road Safety Officer position and hope that the person would commence their duties in the coming weeks. He also informed the committee that the Council has received funding of €7,500 from Department of Tourism and Transport to fund various activities for Bike 2018. Bike Week will take place from the 9th to the 17th of June 2018.

Item 5 – Update from the Director of Services

The Director of Services gave the members an update in respect to various Roads Projects around the County. A general discussion arose over matters arising from the areas covered by the Directors presentation.

Item 6- Roads Programme 2018 – John Mc Gowan, Senior Engineer

John McGowan, Senior Engineer made a presentation to the members in respect to planned Roads Programme for 2018. His presentation covered projects funded by the NTA, DTTAS and TII. He also covered the planned Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programme for the county for 2018. He also covered

the Winter Salting Programme. He then took a number of questions from the members in respect to different areas of his presentation.

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

Cllr. Pender - Kildare Newbridge MD Meeting

Does the council have comparative costings per unit between solar powered street lights and the existing lamp posts and would the council consider introducing solar powered street lighting in certain areas for future development for example on the Slí Na Sláinte walking routes?

Response from Roads Department: A comparable cost per unit between solar power and existing street lighting models is not available at this time.

Trials were carried out in the Dublin region using solar powered street lights. The initial information provided to the Council is that the solar powered option is significantly higher in terms of capital and maintenance costs. The trials also reported that the solar power poles were subject to high levels of vandalism and malicious damage. The Council is not considering any trials in respect to solar powered lighting at present.

Cllr Neville - Signage relating to speeding in estates (CL19/0417) & Matters Arising (CL03/1017)

This matter was discussed by the SPC in 2017. Following clarification of the Councillor's request with the MD Engineer (which relates to the provision of temporary signage in housing estates) the issue will be included on the SPC's 2018 Programme of Work.

Referral from Full Council, December 2017, Cllrs Mc Evoy, Kennedy, Larkin, Mc Cabe and Murray.

That the Council explore options for partnerships with operators of private parking sites to implement the same parking bye-laws that apply to the appropriate public areas.

At the meeting Cllr McEvoy asked the Director to contact a retailer operating in Clane area who fears that when the Bye-Laws come into operation and the maximum two hour parking comes into effect a number of commuters will use their car park all day and asked is there anything KCC can do to assist the owner. The Director agreed that the Pay Parking Section would contact the owner concerned to discuss the matter but informed the meeting that the Council in an attempt to cover costs would have to bring in a form of Pay Parking in any potential agreement with the owner.

Referral from Full Council, February 2018, Cllr. Lynch

Considering the high cost and technical difficulties of improving road safety at junctions such as Dagwelds, Kinneagh and Coill Dubh cross, that the council seeks a policy change whereby low cost immediate remedial measures, such as chicanes are used on primary or secondary roads in critical locations where appropriate, at the request of the public and the members.

Response from Roads Department: The Roads Department policy is to examine, in the first instance, all requests for road safety interventions via the Technical Assessment and Advisory Group (TAAG). Applications for low cost remedial measures are compiled and submitted to the Department of Transport (DTTAs) on an annual basis for funding support to carry out works, where deemed necessary and feasibly. Where low cost measures are not achievable, efforts are made to secure funding via other mechanisms and sources (i.e., via planning conditions, submissions to An Bord Pleanála, special grants etc) . The design of traffic calming measures on regional roads/junctions is governed by the DTTAs Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). Engineering interventions are determined by the existing speed limits in addition to other relevant local conditions such as road widths, surface condition and other constraints.

At the meeting the SPC Councillor Lynch asked to support his motion that the council seeks a policy change whereby low cost immediate remedial measures, such as chicanes are used on primary or secondary roads in critical locations where appropriate. The SPC agreed to examine if the council could allocate resources to technically assess issues raised by Councillor Lynch's motion at the above locations.

Cathaoirleach Darren Scully thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

The next meeting will be held on the 6th of September 2018.