

Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 2 February 2023 at 2 p.m. at Athy Distributor Route Offices, Athy, Co. Kildare

Attendees: Councillor Paul Ward (Chair); Councillor Anne Connolly.
Councillor Angela Feeney; Councillor Colm Kenny; Mr Darren Devane;
Mr Gerry Dornan.

Also Present: Ms Celina Barrett, A/Director of Services; Mr Stephen Deegan, Senior Engineer; Mr Daragh Conlan, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr Mark McLoughlin, A/Senior Executive Officer; Mr Fergus Hogan, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies: Councillor Nuala Killeen, Councillor Mark Stafford,
Councillor Joseph Neville, Cormac Browne, Brian Purcell

Introduction

The Cathaoirleach Paul Ward welcomed all the members of the SPC to the February meeting.

Item 1 – Minutes- 3 November 2022

On the proposal of Gerry Dornan and seconded by Councillor Anne Connolly the minutes of 3 November 2022 were approved.

Item 2 – Declarations of Interest

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that it was requirement for members to declare potential conflicts of interest or pecuniary interests for item under discussion at the meeting. The item was noted.

Item 3 – Update from Director of Services

The A/Director of Services, Ms. Celina Barrett provided an update on the following projects:

- Active Travel Investment– some shortfalls in anticipated funding of schemes following the recent funding announcement of €9,965,000. The team are assessing the implications of this funding allocation.
- Kilcullen Road Active Travel Scheme, Naas – commencing on site with budget of €6.7 million.
- Royal Canal Greenway
- Maynooth Eastern Ring Road – CPO commencing.
- Athy Distributor Road – significant stage with bridge beams installed.
- Celbridge-Hazelhatch link Road
- Machinery Yard and Salt Barn – ongoing
- Maynooth Fire Station – Part 8 in place.

The A/Director advised the members that the Kildare County Council Parking Framework Policy was adopted at the December 2022 full council meeting. Councillor Connolly requested that the funding allocation for NTA projects be circulated.

She said that the members at the January Full Council meeting had requested an update on establishing the Kildare Sustainable Transport Forum and that Mr. M.McLoughlin was progressing this with a view to establishing the sub-committee by the end of Quarter 2 2023.

She said that the 30-minute grace period for pay parking introduced during Covid would revert back shortly to the 15 minutes that were in place previously.

Item 4 – Referrals from Municipal District Meeting

The A/Director of Services Celina Barrett informed the members that there was one referral from Municipal District Meeting from Councillor Durkan. Celina Barrett let the members know that there was no update and Councillor Durkan will be invited to attend the May meeting.

Item 5 - Discuss and Agree Work Plan 2023/2024

Celina Barrett, A/Director of Services discussed the Work Programme 2021- 2022, the members agreed that following Priorities are addressed:

- Public Park
- Permeability
- Access and Disability
- Road Network and Congestion
- Fire Officer

The members agreed that Electric vehicles will remain on the Works Programme.

Celina Barrett moved on to the Works Programme for 2023-2024 and made a proposal to include Climate Action Plan as there was an emphasis on transport due to a 50% reduction in carbon through avoid – shift – improve. She also noted that Stephen Deegan, Senior Engineer will provide an overview of the policy at the next meeting in support this proposal.

Mr. Gerry Dornan made three proposals to be added to the Work Programme 2023-2024.

- Review bicycle parking / bunkers / hangers
- Implementation of universal access to Greenways instead of 'kissing gates'.
- Review shared path policy in high usage pedestrian/cyclist areas.

Cathaoirleach Paul Ward advised the members that and proposals for the Work Programme should be submitted to the secretary for consideration at the next meeting.

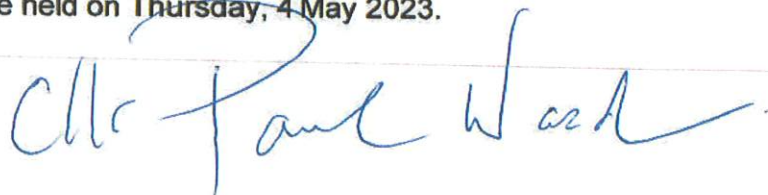
Item 6 - Site Visit of the Athy Distributor Road Scheme

Daragh Conlan, Senior Executive Officer, provided a presentation to the members on the Athy Distributor Road Scheme.

Stephen Deegan, Senior Engineer acknowledged and recognised the great work and collaboration of the team on the project.

Cllr Ward concluded the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions prior to site visit by the members.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 4 May 2023.



Cllr Paul Ward