

**Minutes of Athy Municipal District Meeting held at 10.00 am on 18 April 2016 in the Council Chamber, Municipal District Offices, Rathstewart, Athy**

**Members Present:** Councillor M Wall (Cathaoirleach), Councillors A Breslin, M Dalton, I Keatley, M Miley and T Redmond

**Officials Present:** Mr G Perry (A/District Manager), Mr Liam Dunne, Ms A Aspell and Ms E Wright (Senior Executive Officers), Mr D O'Flaherty (District Engineer), Mr J Coppinger (Senior Engineer), Mr B O'Gorman (Administrative Officer), Ms P Berry (Enterprise Office), Ms L Russell (Arts Officer), Ms A Corbet (Community), Ms M Mclvor (Meetings Administrator) and Ms O Mooney (Secretary)

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The members welcomed Ms Maura Mclvor, Meetings Administrator and wished her well on her new appointment.

**AY01/1604**

**Athy Distributor Road**

Mr Coppinger updated the members that the public consultation relating to the emerging preferred route had taken place. The work of completing this phase of the development of the scheme was nearing an end. The consulting engineers would now complete their analysis leading to the selection of the preferred route and the team would move to concentrate work on the preferred route in terms of planning, design, appropriate assessment and environmental impact assessment. The objective was to publish the compulsory purchase order and the environmental reports in quarter 4 of 2016. As agreed, the preparation of the necessary documents and maps, etc required to progress the process of varying the Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018 and the County Development Plan 2011-2017 had commenced.

**Resolved** that the Planning Department would brief the members, in committee, as to how they plan to vary the development plans in question.

**AY02/1604**

**Confirmation of Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the Athy Municipal District meeting held on 14 March 2016.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Breslin, seconded by Councillor Miley, that the minutes be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**Matters Arising**

**Concerns of school buses using the Cush Inn Area as collection point (AY12/1512)**

Councillor Redmond asked for an update of this matter. The District Engineer informed the members that a meeting had been arranged with himself, the Road Safety Officer and Bus Eireann on 14 April 2016. However, this meeting was cancelled by Bus Eireann. He advised the members that this meeting would be re-scheduled for the near future.

**Resolved** that meeting would be re-scheduled with Bus Eireann.

**Accommodation - Dragon Boat and Associated Equipment (AY14/1601)**

Councillors Redmond and Miley asked for an update on this matter. The District Engineer stated that the District Manager was dealing with this issue. Councillor Redmond stated that the regatta season was commencing shortly and the storage of these boats was a big issue. Councillor Miley stated that all the members supported the accommodation of these boats earlier this year and it was important to make this happen.

**Resolved** that the District Manager and District Engineer liaise on this matter and that a report issue for the next meeting.

**Community CCTV in the Woodstock Area of Athy (AY17/1509)**

Councillors Redmond and Miley asked for an update on this matter. The members noted that four cameras require repair. Costings were being sought for the cost involved and this would be made available to the members at the next meeting. Councillor Redmond understood that these cameras had been repaired and were working. Councillor Miley asked for an update on the monitoring of these cameras by the Gardai. Councillor Dalton asked for an update on whether signage would be installed to say that CCTV was in operation.

**Resolved** that an update would be sought on the monitoring of CCTV cameras by the Gardai and also whether signage would be installed to say that these cameras were in operation.

**Voluntary Housing Associations (Dominican Site, Dominican Friary House and Flinter's Field) (AY08/1601)**

Councillor Redmond asked for an update on this matter.

**Resolved** that a report be prepared for the next meeting.

**Entrance to Woodstock Close at the traffic lights on the junction of the Fortbarrington Road and the N78 (AY07/1511)**

Councillor Breslin asked for an update on this matter and she requested that works would not go ahead until the residents had seen the draft design. The members noted that a draft design had been undertaken. A drawing indicating amended road line markings had been prepared and a contractor was being sourced. The District Engineer confirmed that no decision would be undertaken until the residents view the draft design.

**Resolved** that no works would commence until the residents view the draft design.

**St. Michael's Cemetery, Athy (AY23/1509)**

The members noted the report indicating that works to level the area at rear of cemetery had commenced and pedestrian access would be closed. Contractor had been appointed to commence works on footpath improvements and associated kerbing. Further improvement works for new sections within cemetery would be progressed later in the year. The provision of a second tap would also be investigated. Councillor Breslin requested that a small entrance be located on the Carlow side of the cemetery. Councillor Wall enquired about the emptying of bins at the cemetery, as they had not been emptied in three weeks.

**Resolved** that a report be sought for the May meeting in regard to an entrance being located on the Carlow side of the cemetery and also the collection of bins at the cemetery.

**New Cemetery in Churchtown (AY23/1509)**

The members noted that Part VIII documentation was being finalised. Councillor Wall understood that the Part VIII was to be announced.

**Resolved** that approval be sought to commence statutory process at the next meeting.

**Ernest Shackleton Sculpture (AY05/1602)**

Ms Russell gave the members a brief update on the matter. She informed the members that Mark Richard was the artist of this sculpture. Twenty-seven submissions had been received and private information would be deleted from these submissions and they would be published thereafter. She explained that the location of the sculpture would be considered

as part of the Emily Square Development. She added that the sculpture would be unveiled in August 2016. Councillor Miley stated that the sculpture would need to be put in a prominent position in the Square.

**Resolved** that the members be kept informed of progress.

### **AY03/1604**

#### **Update on Community and Economic Development Issues**

Ms Berry gave the members an overview of progress on a number of projects happening in the municipal district. The following are some of the issues:

St. Patrick's Day Parades - the Town Promoters Group supported the parade in Athy and also fully supported the start up of the Monasterevin St Patrick's Day Parade, which was a resounding success this year, and looking to recreate this in other parts of the community.

The Town Promoters Group will also be assisting with other events as required throughout the year such as Darkness into Light, Festival committee work.

Residents Associations - helping them fill out their applications forms for litter pickers, bags, gloves and filling out of forms for collection of rubbish.

Tidy Towns Groups - Contact had been made with Tidy Town Groups and applications to be submitted by 30 May 2016.

Monasterevin Youth Cafe - she stated that herself and Helen Dowling met with this group indicating that the group are organising a fundraiser in July or August this year.

Care and Repair Programme - for the over 65s - support the delivery of minor repairs to allow people feel comfortable in their own homes. This programme was supported by Athy Enterprise Centre, TUS, Athy Men's Shed and was available to Athy and surrounding areas.

Darkness into Light Project - 700 persons have registered to date. Rachel's in the town had been opened every Saturday morning and Athy College was open every Monday evening from 7 pm to 9 pm for registration.

Recreate Environmental Project - thirteen schools were invited to participate but only five schools took part - creating art out of waste in conjunction with Lions Club and Tidy Towns.

St Michael's Church - five benches had been made to go into both the graveyards in the town.

Erasmus French Student Training Project - 36 students are coming over from France for training in equestrian and farming for three weeks in late August and she was in the process of finding accommodation for these students.

Pride of Place - she was working with council estates in the municipal district and promoting the Youth Endeavour Award for the Athy Municipal District.

Athy Waterways Activity Development Group - supporting the new water based training centre and canoe club. Engaging with the group to support the delivery of a water based festival this year.

The members thanked Ms Berry for her comprehensive report and good work to date.

The District Engineer stated that he was meeting with Tri-Athy next Wednesday. Councillor Breslin asked whether this event was still going ahead as there was no follow up or presentation from them since they last attended the municipal district meeting. The District Engineer stated that a presentation would have to be made to the members at the May meeting before the event takes place.

**Resolved** that the District Engineer request representatives of Tri-Athy to make a presentation to the members at their May meeting.

### AY04/1604

#### Review of Parking Bye-Laws

Ms Wright informed the members that a review of the Pay Parking Bye Laws for Athy should not commence until the land of the former Dominican Church was acquired so that its use can be considered in the review. Councillor Redmond asked whether the Housing Section were involved in discussions and he requested a timeframe for this project. He added that a carpark would need to be included in this design. Councillor Miley asked for clarification as to whether the council own the land. The District Engineer confirmed that the land was in the ownership of the council. The District Engineer stated that the main concern was the changeover of usage from Church to Library. He stated that infrastructure, existing road network and other issues would be looked at as a whole and that a full design would need to be carried out. He added that €1.5 million had been allocated to the provision of the new library. The cathaoirleach stated that either himself or one of the members should be invited to attend the Dominican site meetings or that a special meeting be arranged as the members feel that they are being left out of discussions. Ms Wright stated that she would get clarification with regard to the site meetings and rights of way for the May meeting. Councillor Redmond stated that the concerns of the members should be relayed to the District Manager. Councillor Miley proposed that the cathaoirleach attend these meetings and this was agreed by all the members.

**Resolved** that Ms Wright would get clarification with regard to Dominican site meetings as the members proposed that the cathaoirleach would attend the meetings, and that

clarification be sought with regard to the issue of right of way for the May meeting. Also, the members concerns are to be relayed to the District Manager.

**AY05/1604**

**Re-design of Edmund Rice Square, Athy**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breslin:

That the Council complete the redesign of Edmund Rice Square to dove tail with existing car park arrangements in the area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Breslin and seconded by Councillor Dalton.

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Council had a draft plan which would dovetail with the private car parking adjacent to the Edmund Rice Square car park. It would also entail reconfiguring the location of the bottle banks.

Councillor Breslin stated that she was happy with the report but she requested a timescale and whether it was feasible for this design and work to happen. Councillor Dalton stated that there was the potential for greater activity in this commercial area.

The District Engineer circulated a draft plan which was intended to integrate Edmund Rice Square and Pettit's car park depending on finance being found. He added that the car park was owned by Athy Town Council and it was re-designed twenty-five years ago. He also added that the main changes would happen near the Ulster Bank. He re-iterated to the members that this was a discussion document and that changes could be made. He stated that continuity of movement of traffic not pay parking was his main concern.

The members agreed that attracting business into the town was a priority.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Breslin, seconded by Councillor Dalton that this draft be discussed and costing be prepared.

**AY06/1604**

**Undergrounding of Mains Electricity Cables in Athy Town Centre**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Dalton:

That consideration be given to the possible undergrounding of mains electricity cables in Athy Town centre and that funding for this project be sought directly from central government.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Dalton and seconded by Councillor Redmond.

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that this matter was discussed at a meeting of the regeneration group and it was agreed that such a project would be desirable. However, it would require a funding stream to facilitate the appointment of a project manager who could be tasked to undertake an initial feasibility study including liaising with utilities. The issue of funding sources could be examined when the scope/feasibility of the project was clarified and when preliminary costings are available.

Councillor Dalton stated that taking away the overhead cables would help with the overall appearance of the town centre. He asked that it might be highlighted through the Local Area Plan and that funding be sought. Councillors Redmond and Keatley supported the motion stating that, the days of overhead wires should be gone and that it should be all underground. Councillor Miley asked that this matter be prioritised. The cathaoirleach stated that this matter should be dealt with under the draft plan.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dalton and with all the members in agreement that this would be dealt with under the Local Area Plan.

**AY07/1604**

**Condition of Cloney Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wall:

That the Council bring the Cloney Road up to a proper standard considering the amount of flooding on the road at this time.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Wall and seconded by Councillor Miley.

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that the road in question was Lowtown Lane. This was located in the flood plain of the River Barrow. During the heavy rains of late 2015/early 2016, this lane was detrimentally affected by flooding. The lane was a cul-de-sac. It could be considered under the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS).

The cathaoirleach confirmed that the report was incorrect as the road which he was referring to was the L7064 and that this road can be included in the Municipal District Office flood relief schemes for later in the year.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wall, seconded by Councillor Miley that this road be included in the Municipal District Office flood relief schemes for later in the year.

### **AY08/1604**

#### **Flooding on the L8040 in Backmoon**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Keatley:

That the Council relieve the persistent flooding on the L8040 in Backmoon.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Keatley and seconded by Councillor Redmond.

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that this road can be included in the Municipal District Office flood relief schemes for later in the year.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Keatley, seconded by Councillor Redmond that this report be noted.

### **AY09/1604**

#### **Realignment of the Junction at Walterstown Cross, Nurney where L7055 meets L7071**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Miley:

Can the Council realign the junction at Walterstown Cross Nurney where L7055 meets L7071?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Office and the Roads Design Department would arrange a meeting on site with Councillor Miley to examine this issue.

Councillor Miley stated that he was happy with the report. He added that there had been a number of accidents at this junction as some people were driving through the junction and not stopping. He asked that a safety audit be carried out. The District Engineer stated that there was a need to make the side roads stand out more.

**Resolved** that the District Engineer, Road Design Department would meet with Councillor Miley on site to examine this junction and that a safety audit be carried out.

**AY10/1604**

**Works at Sweep Lane, Nurney**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Miley:

Can the Council resurface Sweep Lane in Nurney and install public lights at entrance of lane?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that Sweep Lane in Nurney needs to be redesigned in relation to drainage, footpaths and road surfacing. The public lighting appears to be in reasonable condition. There was a deficit of lighting on the main road at the top of the lane. The Public Lighting Unit had contacted the Municipal District Office with a view to meeting on site to discuss future surface improvement proposals for this location and would co-ordinate necessary public lighting improvements where required.

Councillor Miley asked that a plan be put in place for this area as lighting on the main road needs to be improved. The District Engineer agreed that Sweep Lane had a lot of residents and that an overall plan would need to be put in place.

**Resolved** that the District Engineer undertook to contact the Public Lighting Unit to request them to look at this area and prepare a report for the next meeting.

**AY11/1604**

**Speed Survey on R428 at Raheenderragh near Carolans House**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Redmond:

Can the Council ask roads design to start a detailed speed survey on the roads of the R428 at Raheenderragh near Carolans House, with a view to reducing the speed limit if the results show significant speeding?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that this would be included in the countywide speed limit review which was due to commence shortly.

**Resolved** that this report be noted.

**AY12/1604**

**Update on the improvements on the sewerage network planned for  
Narraghmore**

The Acting District Manager informed the members that this matter continues to receive ongoing attention. Recent blockages were resolved and the pumps were cleared of rags. The situation was being monitored closely. It was likely that effluent would have to be tankered on a weekly basis until the longer-term solution, which was currently advancing, was in place.

Councillor Keatley stated that he understood that weekly tankering would be required and he asked for confirmation of this. The Acting District Manager stated that he would come back to the members in this regard. The cathaoirleach asked the Acting District Manager to relay to the District Manager that advancing this project needs to happen quickly. Councillor Miley confirmed that sixteen loads of sewage were going out of this estate every week and it was very costly.

**Resolved** that the District Manager confirm that tankering was happening on a weekly basis and that he be advised of the members request that the long term solution be advanced quickly.

**AY13/1604**

**Residents Association grants for the Private Estates**

The members considered the residents association grants for private housing estates in the Athy Municipal District.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Miley, seconded by Councillor Keatley and agreed by all members that the residents association grants for private housing estates 2016 in the Athy Municipal District be adopted.

**AY14/1604**

**Memorial Bench dedicated to the late Councillor Noel Scully at Plewman's Terrace, Athy**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breslin:

Can the Council have the necessary repairs and reinstate the memorial bench dedicated the late Councillor Noel Scully at Plewman's Tce, Athy?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Office would investigate this matter and would report back to the Members.

**Resolved** that the District Engineer would examine the matter and report back to the members.

**AY15/1604**

**Policy of Allotments**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Redmond:

That the Council work with locals to develop a policy of Allotments in our county on council owned lands. This motion is calling on the council to work as a pilot with the Woodstock area that was recently cleaned up.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Redmond and seconded by Councillor Dalton.

A report was received from the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent informing the members that the area in question in Woodstock was small and would only accommodate a small number of allotments. There was no funding within the current year's budget to develop an allotment scheme in Woodstock but arrangements could be made to meet local residents to discuss the matter further.

The members supported this motion and stated that this matter should be seriously considered and that all council lands should be looked at with a view to providing allotments and also, that the residents might put something in place themselves.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor Dalton, that this matter be brought to the Woodstock Forum for their consideration and this was agreed by the members.

**AY16/1604**

**Efficiency of Two Sewerage Plants in Kilmead**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Miley:

That the Council investigate the efficiency of the two sewerage plants in the village of Kilmead and give a full report to the municipal district and ensure that there is no pollution risk to the local rivers and streams.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Miley and seconded by Councillor Keatley.

A report was received from the Water Services Section informing the members that the Waste Water Treatment Plant operated by the Council had not had any recent issues and was working to capacity. Ongoing maintenance and routine cleaning are carried out at the site to ensure that it operates effectively. The private Waste Water Treatment Plant was not controlled or operated by the Council and hence, Water Services cannot comment on its operation. The Building Control Section would have knowledge of its operation. When this new plant was taken in charge, flows would be diverted here and the old plant would be decommissioned. There had been a recent pollution incident in Kilmead. This was unrelated to either plant and was likely caused by an illegal discharge. The pollution had been cleaned up and the incident was currently being investigated.

Councillor Miley welcomed the report and he stated that investigations need to be progressed. The cathaoirleach supported the motion and stated that the council should contact Irish Water and NAMA and need to identify what can be done in this regard. He asked that Building Control would comment on this report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Miley, seconded by Councillor Keatley that Building Control comment on this report and that Irish Water and NAMA be contacted to identify what can be done.

**AY17/1604**

**Dog Fouling - Castledermot**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Miley:

That the Council advise on a plan to deal with dog fouling particularly in the village of Castledermot.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Miley and seconded by Councillor Redmond.

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the issue of dog fouling remains of concern in many areas within the county. The primary responsibility rests with the dog owner. Under the Litter Management Plan, the Council had agreed particular actions to deter dog fouling. The Council was promoting an "any bag-any bin" initiative and would also provide footpath stencilling in particular areas of Castledermot to promote awareness among dog owners. In addition, signage can be provided to local community and resident groups, which highlights that dog fouling is an offence under the Litter Pollution Act.

Councillor Miley stated it was very disrespectful of dog owners to allow this to happen. Footpaths had been upgraded in the Castledermot area and other areas in the municipal district. He urged that the council advertise that fines would be imposed. Councillor Redmond supported the motion and stated the ongoing struggle and health hazard for young children, wheelchairs users. He asked that the council bring in bye-laws that dog owners must carry a bag to collect foul. Councillor Keatley suggested that a "name and shame" campaign should commence and asked that the Senior Executive Officer in the Environment Section would look into this. The Acting District Manager pointed out that enforcement was difficult. Councillor Miley stated that something needed to be done to embarrass dog owners into cleaning up their dog fouling.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Miley, seconded by Councillor Redmond that this matter be reviewed by the Senior Executive Officer in order to alleviate the problem of dog fouling in Castledermot and other areas in the municipal district.

### **AY18/1604**

#### **Discharge of Canal Drain on the Barrow Way and Area in Greenhills**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Redmond:  
Can the Council investigate the discharge at both the canal drain to the side of Mackeys house on the barrow way and also the pipe that local fisherman have described across from greenhills?

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the matters would be investigated by the Environment Section, in conjunction with the District Engineer's office.

Councillor Redmond stated that there was blue water going into the river and apparently had been on about this issue since 2014. The cathaoirleach said that this was a very serious matter and the delay in having it investigated was not acceptable. He sought a reply within 24 hours advising if pollution was occurring and outlining what action would be taken.

**Resolved** that the issue of blue water discharge be investigated by the Environment Section and that a reply be given to the members within 24 hours advising whether pollution was occurring and how it would be rectified.

### **AY19/1604**

#### **Arts Grants for the Athy Municipal District**

The members considered the arts grants for the Athy Municipal District. Ms Russell informed the members that grant information sessions took place in Athy and there was an independent panel of two persons judging these grants.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Miley, seconded by Councillor Keatley and agreed by all members that the arts grants for 2016 be adopted.

### **AY20/1604**

#### **Residents Association Grants for the Local Authority Estates**

The members considered the residents association grants for local authority housing estates in the Athy Municipal District.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Miley, seconded by Councillor Keatley and agreed by all the members that the residents association grants for local authority housing estates for 2016 be adopted.

### **AY21/1604**

#### **Site in Calverstown for a Village Playground**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Keatley:  
That the Council identify a site in Calverstown for a village playground.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Keatley and seconded by Councillor Redmond.

A report was received from the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent informing the members that the assistance of the local community would be required to the idea. Firstly the demand for a playground in Calverstown would have to be determined. Secondly, there are no suitable lands

owned by Kildare County Council for a playground in Calverstown. Thirdly, the immediate priority in the delivery of recreational projects was the delivery of a playground in Castledermot. Therefore, it was not possible within the available staff resources to progress any other substantial recreational projects in the Athy Municipal District until this is complete. The request can be considered for a future programme of recreational works.

Councillor Keatley stated that he was not happy with the report. However, he added that he would identify a site and he would come back to the council in this regard. The members supported this motion.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Keatley, seconded by Councillor Redmond that Councillor Keatley would identify a site in the area and would come back to the council in this regard.

### **AY22/1604**

#### **Taking in Charge of the Priory Village Estate in Calverstown**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wall:

Can the Council confirm the up to date position with the taking in charge of the Priory Village Estate in Calverstown?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Section informing the members that the Priory Village had not been taken in charge to date. Priory Village was one of fifty four estates advertised for taking in charge in 2015. Fifteen of these estates had been taken in charge to date. Consultations are ongoing with Irish Water in relation to the remaining estates.

The members asked for the outcome of discussions with Irish Water for the remaining estates.

**Resolved** that a report be prepared for the next meeting informing the members of the outcome of discussions with Irish Water for the remaining estates.

### **AY23/1604**

#### **Former Model School, Athy**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wall:

Can the Council confirm any contact they have had with Government Departments regarding the former Model School in Athy, and have the Council any plans for this historic building?

A report was received from the District Manager informing the members that discussions were ongoing with the owner of the building regarding its future use. A number of possible options are being explored but matters are very much at a preliminary stage. He asked the members to bear in mind though, that any interventions are likely to be very costly as this was a listed building. The members would be kept informed.

The cathaoirleach stated that the roof had been repaired and was in good condition. He stated that he would contact the District Manager directly.

**Resolved** that Councillor Wall would speak directly with the District Manager and that the members be kept informed of progress.

### **AY24/1604**

#### **Taking in Charge of Rheban Manor, Athy; Priory Village, Calverstown and The Paddocks, Crookstown**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Keatley:

Can the Council give an update on the taking in charge of Rheban Manor, Athy, Priory Village, Calverstown and The Paddocks, Crookstown?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Section informing the members that Rheban Manor, Priory Village and The Paddocks had not been taken in charge to date. Priory Village was one of fifty four estates advertised for taking in charge in 2015. Fifteen of these estates had been taken in charge to date. Consultations are ongoing with Irish Water in relation to the remaining estates. Rheban Manor had not been completed to date so the taking in charge does not arise. The Paddocks in Crookstown was served by a Waste Water Treatment Plant. Irish Water does not to date have a protocol in place for the taking in charge of developments with stand alone treatment plants which do not connect to the public mains. Consequently, the taking in charge of The Paddocks cannot be considered.

Councillor Keatley stated that there were houses for sale in Rheban Manor and he asked whether the Housing Section were actively looking at houses in Rheban Manor. He stated that he was confused by the response and that clarification was required on this report.

Councillor Breslin stated that a snag list was being done in Rheban Manor and it was in the process of being taken in charge.

**Resolved** that a further report on Rheban Manor, seeking clarification on the taking in charge, be prepared for the next meeting.

**AY25/1604**

**Cooker Replacement Scheme**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wall:

That the Council confirm if they are operating a cooker replacement scheme as before, the amount allocated to the scheme and the number of cookers replaced in the County and the Municipal District.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Wall and seconded by Councillor Dalton.

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the council are not currently operating a cooker replacement scheme as before, and no specific allocation for this scheme was made in the annual revenue budget 2016. However, it was proposed that this type of scheme would be operated under the "Tenant Support Scheme" which the members set aside a budget of €250,000 for 2016. The detailed procedures for this scheme are currently being finalized, and we await confirmation of staff resources to initiate the scheme.

The cathaoirleach asked whether those who had paid into this scheme could be given an update. Ms Aspell stated that she could check who had paid into this scheme and would update the members at the May meeting.

In response to a question from Councillor Redmond, Ms Aspell confirmed that the cookers in question were solid fuel cookers and replacement would be part funded by the council. The cathaoirleach asked that a person from Housing Maintenance would attend the May meeting.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wall, seconded by Councillor Dalton that Ms Aspell would check who had paid into this scheme and update the members at the May meeting and also that a member of Housing Maintenance would attend the May meeting.

**AY27/1604**

**Site Resolution Plan and Housing Purchases in the Friary Housing Estate,  
Castledermot**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Keatley:

Can the Council update the members on the progress of the site resolution plan and housing purchases in the Friary housing estate, Castledermot?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the Planning Department had advised that a Site Resolution Plan had been agreed and now needs to be implemented before the taking in charge can be considered. The Council was purchasing five houses in this estate. The purchase would be completed in conjunction with the completion of outstanding estate works. In order to proceed, we require a number of details from the Builder and this information had been requested and we are awaiting its submission. The purchase would be dependent on completion of the units to the required standard.

In reply to Councillor Keatley's query about the timeframe for works to be completed, Ms Aspell stated that the Planning Section were liaising with Housing and they hoped to have this sorted out quickly.

**Resolved** that a timeframe be prepared for the members and report for the next meeting.

### **AY28/1604**

#### **Quality of Rail Service to and from Athy and Monasterevin Stations**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Dalton:  
That representatives from Iarnród Éireann be asked to attend a future meeting of Athy municipal district to discuss quality of rail service to and from Athy and Monasterevin stations.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Dalton and seconded by Councillor Keatley.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dalton, seconded by Councillor Keatley that a letter issue to Iarnrod Eireann for further services to be provided due to overcrowding on trains.

### **AY29/1604**

#### **Monasterevin Day Care Centre**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Redmond:  
That the Council call on the HSE manager to give a presentation on the issues of Monasterevin Day Care Centre, dental services, meals on wheels and other issues members of this municipal area have concerns with.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Redmond and seconded by Councillor Dalton.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor Dalton that a letter issue to the HSE Manager to give a presentation to the members on the services provided at this centre.

The meeting then concluded.