



**Minutes of the Athy Municipal District Meeting  
held at 10.00 am on Monday, 16 June 2025  
in the Council Chamber**

**Members Present:** Councillor A Breslin (Cathaoirleach) Councillors B Dooley, M Leigh and V Behan.

**Online:** Councillor I Keatley

**Officials Present:** Mr A Dunney (District Manager), Mr K Dunne (District Engineer), Mr M McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Mr N Shortt (Senior Executive Technician), Ms M O'Brien (LPT Co-Ordinator), Ms E Price (Administrative Officer), Mr K Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officer), Mr B McGrath (Meetings Administrator), Ms A Noone (Meetings Secretary) and others.

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The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the June meeting of the Athy Municipal District. She offered her condolences to Ms M O'Brien on a recent bereavement in her family.

**AY01/0625**

**Declaration of Conflicts or Pecuniary Interests**

Declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

There were no declarations made.



## **AY02/0625**

### **Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Athy Municipal District meeting held on Monday, 19 May 2025 and the progress report was noted.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dooley, seconded by Councillor Leigh and agreed by all members that the minutes of the Athy Municipal District meeting held on 19 May 2025 be adopted and the progress report be noted.

## **AY03/0625**

### **Municipal District Roadworks Update**

The members received an update on the municipal district road works.

#### **National Transport Authority (NTA) – Active Travel Measure Updates**

No update since the last Athy Municipal District meeting. Project Team dealing with this.

#### **Department of Transport – Climate Adaption Projects**

No projects currently added in Athy Municipal District (MD).

#### **Municipal District Restoration Improvement Works – RI Program**

Four RI Regional Schemes tendered and awarded

R418 Knocknacree - Almost complete

R417 Srowland

R448 Junctions - Complete

R418 Ballyshannon / Tippeenán - Complete

Eight RI Local Schemes tendered and awarded

L8077 – R418 to Ballyroe

L8077 – Ballyroe to Grangemellon

L8076 – Heath Ballyroe Grangemellon

L40161 – Coltstown to Knocknacree - Complete

L4014 – Ballycullane Upper - Complete

L8042 – Belán



L6090 – Dalkinstown - Complete

L8095 – Plunketstown – Commenced

### **Municipal District Restoration Maintenance Works – RM Program**

RM regional program is outlined below,

R417 Grangemellon to Levittstown

R417 End of 2024 works to Maganey

R448 Moyleabbey to Crookstown

R448 Blackrath – Kilgowan

RM local program is outlined below,

L8008 Calverstown

L8070 Ardscull to Kildare Road

L8075 Ardreigh

L8092 Davidstown

L4013 Burtownhall

L8094 Deerpark – R418

L8099 Ballyraggen

L8053 Ballinacarrick lower

L8052 Hughstown

### **Local Improvement Schemes**

One Scheme added to the list

### **Community Involvement Schemes**

No update for 2025.

### **Footpath Upgrades / Surveys**

Three schemes tendered and awarded as outlined below.

Dun Brinn - Under Construction.

Kingsgrove/ Graysland.

Ballyroe – Complete.



## Nurney

### **Signage Works**

Continuing our update of signage in the Athy Municipal District.

Local road speed limit signs complete.

Redundant signs around Athy removed.

Cleaning of signs around the Municipal District commenced.

### **Road Markings**

To be as per our RI and RM programme.

### **Drainage Works**

Several villages have had drainage systems cleaned.

Jetting drainage lines on various roads – ongoing.

Cleaning gullies – ongoing.

Carrying out water cuts along roads – ongoing.

Drainage works to the RI programme - Complete

### **Road Patching**

Carrying out patching along various sections. – ongoing.

### **Street Sweeping**

Street sweeping to areas – ongoing.

Bin collection – ongoing.

### **Community Works**

Civils works complete for interactive well-being facility in Edmund Rice Square

### **General Maintenance**

Hedge cutting complete along the regional road junctions and RI and RM programmed roads.



Hedge cutting on junction sightlines.  
Winter maintenance is now complete.

The report was noted.

#### **AY04/0625**

#### **Athy Residual LPT**

The members considered residual LPT allocations and Sports Grants 2025.

Councillor Breslin thanked Ms M O'Brien and the members for their help and assistance during the process. She added that it was a good news story for Athy. The money allocated to Athy Sports pitches would be of huge benefit to the local community and to all of South Kildare for generations to come.

Due to a conflict-of-interest Councillor Leigh removed himself from the chamber while discussions and vote took place.

It was agreed to allocate €6,943 to Mill Celtic Football club.

It was agreed to allocate the LPT remaining balance of €130,000 to the Ardrew Sports Grounds Capital Project.

Councillor Keatley questioned if the council had any plans to add additional resources to progress the development, particularly at the planning stage? Could they please push this project forward. There were plenty of sports clubs in Athy that were under pressure for use of pitches.

The District Manager advised that Ms L Kirwan from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team had previously met with the members and discussed the Ardrew Amenity Lands project. He added that she had held workshops and was working on preliminary drawings at the moment in preparation for the commencement of the Part 8 process. The



Parks team were also offering support to the project. He thanked the members for their support in allocating monies to progress the project.

The members raised the following:

- The sports pitches project showed how well LPT can be spent when the members came together to do what was best for the community.
- It would be one of the largest sports infrastructure projects in South Kildare.
- LPT money was being well spent on worthwhile projects.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dooley, seconded by Councillor Keatley and agreed by all members present that the above Residual LPT and Sports Grants be approved.

#### **AY05/0625**

##### **Capital Programme 2025-2027**

The members discussed the Capital Programme 2025-2027.

The Cathaoirleach sought questions from the members regarding the Capital Programme 2025-2027.

There were no questions.

The report was noted.

#### **AY06/0625**

##### **Annual Meeting 2025**

The members considered the date of the Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m. on Monday 21 July 2025 followed by the monthly meeting.



**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Leigh, seconded by Councillor Behan and agreed by all members, that the Annual Meeting take place at 10:00 a.m. on Monday 21 July 2025 followed by the monthly Municipal District meeting.

**AY07/0625**

**Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994**

The members noted the Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Installation of two New Bus Shelter at the following locations:

Bus Stop 11729, Calverstown, Co.Kildare (Northbound)

Bus Stop 11734, Calverstown, Co.Kildare (Southbound)

Councillor Keatley questioned if there was a timescale for the completion and installation of the bus stops and would the work be carried out in house?

Mr M McLoughlin advised that the NTA were responsible for the installation of the bus shelters and they were currently undergoing a tender for new suppliers so there would be a considerable delay.

The report was noted.

**AY08/0625**

**Sightline Issues at the Junction of L8084 and R417**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Leigh.

That the council finds a solution to the sightline issues at the junction of L8084 and R417, Athy.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Leigh and seconded by Councillor Behan.

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District office will investigate the matter and, in the interim, hedge cutting can improve sight lines.



The members raised the following:

- There had been some work carried out on the road in the past number of years but coming from the L8084 to the R417 the sightlines were very bad and could not see oncoming traffic from the right hand side.
- The speed limit on that road was 60km.
- The junction needed to be rectified.
- The design of the road was a problem.
- The sightlines from the Carlow Road were poor, it was difficult to see oncoming traffic.
- Not everyone adhered to the speed limit and driver behaviour was also an issue.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Leigh and seconded by Councillor Behan that the report be noted.

#### **AY09/0625**

#### **Footpath from Greenhills Lane to connect with the existing footpath at John's Lane, Athy**

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

That the council installs a footpath from Greenhills Lane to connect with the existing footpath at John's Lane, Athy.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District office is investigating the matter, and the current design is being peer reviewed.

Councillor Breslin advised that she had previously brought this motion a number of years ago and her understanding at the time was that it would progress. This lane was used as a shortcut by a lot of people in Athy especially elderly members of the community. At the end





of St Johns Lane, people were coming onto a roadway with no path. She had spoke to the District Engineer and she was hopeful to progress the works.

Councillor Dooley advised that there was an ageing population in that area who used the lane to access shopping and other facilities and asked that this item be kept on the progress report for an update.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Breslin and seconded by Councillor Dooley that the report be noted.

#### **AY10/0625**

##### **Entrance Pillar at Coneyboro Estate**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Leigh.

Can the council advise the timeline for rebuilding the entrance pillar at Coneyboro Estate?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that there is currently no timeframe for these works, however the debris will be removed as soon as possible.

Councillor Leigh requested an estimated timeframe for the works.

The District Engineer advised that he had no funding at the moment but they would remove the rubble as soon as possible.

The report was noted.

#### **AY11/0625**

##### **School Zone in Kilmead**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Leigh.

Can the council provide an update on progress for a school zone in Kilmead?



A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that Kilmead is on our roads programme for 2026. Footpath works and road surfacing need to be completed before school zone.

The District Engineer advised that he was hopeful to start footpath and road surfacing works later in the year and the school zone in 2026.

The report was noted.

### **AY12/0625**

#### **Location of Designated Bus Bays in Athy**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Dooley.

Can the council inform the members on where the designated bus bays are in Athy Town?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the designated bus bays are outlined in the Athy parking bye-laws adopted by the members of the former Athy Town Council in 2013. Bus bays are located at:

- Barrow Quay (1)
- Leinster Street (1)
- Duke Street (1)
- Mount Hawkins (2)
- Church Road

Councillor Dooley advised that bye-laws needed to be reviewed. There were issues surrounding parking of buses in the town. With Shackleton opening, designated bus spaces were needed.

The report was noted.



### **AY13/0625**

#### **Bus Parking at Designated Bus Bays in Athy Town**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Dooley.

Can the council confirm what the criteria is for bus parking at the designated bus bays in Athy Town?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that a bus bay is for the purpose of setting down and collecting passengers only. Buses are not permitted to remain at bus bays beyond the time required to carry out this function. Designated bus parking can be considered under the review of the Athy Parking Bye-Laws. It should be noted that designated bus parking should not be located in the immediate town centres, where spaces are at a premium. They should be located on the outskirts of a town where the bus can park after dropping off passengers.

Councillor Dooley advised that there was a bus bay on Barrow Quay and passengers were collected at the courthouse, one bus company received three tickets over the last number of weeks. He would bring this as a motion.

Councillor Breslin was hopeful that the bye-laws would be reviewed later in the year under the next Cathaoirleach. Parking at Duke Street and the library needed to be looked at also.

Mr M McLoughlin advised that a review of Kildare Town bye-laws would be carried out first and then Athy was next, he was hopeful it would be before the end of the year,

The report was noted.

### **AY14/0625**

#### **Part 8 at 10 Woodstock Lodge, Athy, Co. Kildare**

The members considered the Chief Executive's Part 8 report for the proposed development at P82025.01 for a rear extension to 10 Woodstock Lodge, Athy, Co. Kildare.



Mr N Shortt went through the presentation and advised the members of the following:

- It would be funded by the Traveller accommodation programme.
- The house was located adjoining Flinters Place housing estate.
- The proposed extension was a two-story extension which would be to the side but predominantly to the rear of the existing dwelling.
- They would carry out internal alterations and two story extension.
- Converting it from a three bedroom unit to a five bed unit to accommodate the growing family requirements.
- The property was currently occupied.
- The newly created extension would be 65 square meters over to two stories and it will create a total floor area of 148 square meters.
- There were no third party objections or observations, there were two internal observations from roads and parks with no objections

Councillor Breslin thanked the team for their presentation.

Councillor Behan queried the valley at the back where the existing roof met with the new roof, and asked could it the new roof run straight into the original rood so as to prevent future water damage.

Mr N Shortt advised that he would take Councillor Behan's point on board.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Leigh, seconded by Councillor Behan and agreed by all members present that the Chief Executives Part 8 report for a rear extension to 10 Woodstock Lodge, Athy, Co. Kildare, Planning Ref No. P82025.01 be approved.

#### **AY15/0625**

#### **McAuley Court, St Vincent's Hospital, Athy**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Dooley.

That the council provides a report on the progress for the takeover of the independent senior living units in McAuley Court, St Vincent's Hospital, Athy.



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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the discussions regarding the transfer of McAuley Court, St Vincent's Hospital, Athy are at an advanced stage, with Draft Heads of Terms of Agreement substantially agreed. Once the terms are fully agreed, it is expected the transfer process will move onto the legal stage.

Councillor Dooley advised that he looked forward to seeing that progress forward and he was not happy about how the HSE went about their business. This had been held up by legalities for too long.

Councillor Leigh echoed all of Councillor Dooley's sentiments and advised that he had previously held a position on the Regional Health Authority and he had tried to get this on the agenda at every meeting and was very frustrated with the HSE. He was delighted to see progress and looked forward to seeing the finished project.

Councillor Breslin agreed and added that it had been put on the long finger by the HSE. No one was making decisions. The way the residents were treated by the HSE was not right.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dooley and seconded by Councillor Breslin that the report be noted.

### **AY16/0625**

#### **Meeting re Contract for PPP Bundle 3**

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

That the members immediately seek a meeting with the Minister for Housing and the Department of Housing and Local Government following the announcement that the NDFA have been instructed by the Department not to proceed to award the contract for PPP Bundle 3. This development has a serious impact on proceeding with the construction of the 79 units at Ardrew, Athy.



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

A report was received informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree on.

Councillor Breslin thanked the members for their support and added she found it very strange that the contract was not being awarded as a contractor had already been appointed for the Ardrew site. She added that it was going to cost more in the long run to delay this project. Costs were going up by the hour within the construction industry. There were over 800 people on the waiting list for housing in Athy and this was the biggest, good news story for social housing. Two bed and four bed units were badly needed. It made no economic sense and was a waste of resources yet again.

The members raised the following:

- It was irresponsible and complete mismanagement to stop the process now when a contractor had been engaged and works had already started.
- They had been very optimistic about the project with no indication that such a decision would be made and it was very disappointing for the constituents.
- Queried why the funding was stopped.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Breslin and seconded by Councillor Behan that the report be noted.

### **AY17/0625**

#### **Pedestrian Lights on William Street, Athy**

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

Can the council provide a timeframe for when the pedestrian lights on William Street, Athy will be commissioned?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the pedestrian lights on William Street were installed some time ago,



however, we are awaiting attendance on site by ESB which, recently, is proving to be challenging on a number of our projects. The Strategic Projects and Public Realm team will follow up again with the ESB and inform Councillor Breslin once a further update is received.

The report was noted.

#### **AY18/0625**

##### **Update on Taking in Charge of The Friary, Castledermot**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breslin.  
Can the council outline the up to date position in relation to the Taking in Charge of The Friary, Castledermot?

A report was received informing the members that Development Control are actively engaging with Uisce Éireann regarding the final scope of works for the agreed site resolution plan. While it had been hoped that works would commence in 2024, the agreement was only formalised and finalised in recent months to include a wayleave relating to the surface water network discharge into the adjoining site. Development Control intend to tender for the remedial works once all details are finalised, subject to available resources.

The report was noted.

#### **AY19/0625**

##### **Tidy Town Grant Allocations 2025**

The members considered the Tidy Town Grant Allocations for 2025 for the Athy Municipal District.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Leigh, seconded by Councillor Behan and agreed by all members present that the Tidy Town Grant Allocations for 2025 for the Athy Municipal District be approved.



## **AY20/0625**

### **Cemetery Committee Grant Allocations 2025**

The members considered the Cemetery Committee Grant Allocations for 2025 for the Athy Municipal District.

Mr K Kavanagh advised that the list of groups that had applied for grants had all received a grant.

Ms C Whelan added that once all groups had been paid out, the applications would reopen to allow other groups to apply.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dooley, seconded by Councillor Behan and agreed by all members present that the Cemetery Committee Grant Allocations 2025 for the Athy Municipal District be approved.

## **AY21/0625**

### **Solar Meitheal Projects in Athy**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Leigh.

That the council investigates the potential for Solar Meitheal projects in the Athy Municipal District.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Leigh and seconded by Councillor Behan.

A report was received from the Climate Action Officer informing the members that SEAI'S Sustainable Energy Community Program (SEC), is a program that engages community involvement allowing a shared learning and implementation of energy solutions locally. The County Mentors are Emer Conway and Jim Kenehan. They are in the best position to advise on a group scheme and how it could be conducted through an Sustainable Energy Community.





If the project is community based it could potentially be considered under the second round of the Community Climate Action Fund Program (CCAF) depending on the criteria set. CCAF is expected to be announced later in the year.

Councillor Leigh advised the following:

- He had recently attended a committee meeting where solar meitheal projects had been discussed.
- The community support local economic activities which were playing a part in meeting national climate action targets.
- It was positive to hear that further opportunities could arise under the second round of the community climate action fund.
- This project could be a model for how towns and rural areas embraced renewable energy.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Leigh and seconded by Councillor Behan that the report be noted.

#### **AY22/0625**

#### **Survey of St Michael's Cemetery Car Park**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Dooley.

That the council carries out a survey of St Michael's Cemetery Car Park, Athy and resurface areas that are in disrepair.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Dooley and seconded by Councillor Behan.

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that a survey of the car park has been carried out and no works are planned as the surface is considered to be in good condition. Any future works are subject to the relevant funding being available in the annual budget programme.



Councillor Dooley advised that a small section of the car park had a thin layer of tarmac where weeds were protruding, and asked that it be redressed. He added that volunteers who had carried out work and assisted the caretaker, they had also arranged an artist to create a mural for one part of the wall.

Councillor Behan agreed with Councillor Dooley and asked if arrows could be installed on the surface to allow visitors who weren't familiar with the car park to see the correct way around.

Mr K Kavanagh advised that he would refer the matter to the engineers and ask them to take a look at the area and also look at installing arrows in the carpark.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Dooley and seconded by Councillor Behan that the report be noted.

The meeting concluded.