

**Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting
Held at 10.00 am on Friday 20 January 2017
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara**

Members Present: Councillor B. Caldwell (Cathaoirleach)
Councillors K. Byrne, M. Coleman, I. Cussen, A. Larkin, J. Neville and B. Young

Present: Mr P. Minnock (District Manager), Ms E. Wright, Ms M. McIvor and Mr K. Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officers), Mr C. Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr J. Kelly (Assistant Municipal District Engineer), Ms A.M. Conneely (Community and Enterprise Development Officer), Mr E. Fagan, Ms V. Cooke and Ms K. Keane (Administrative Officers), Ms A. Corbett (Senior Community Worker), Ms M. Dalton (Meetings Administrator), Ms A. M. Campbell (Meetings Secretary).

CL01/1701

Minutes and progress report

The members considered the minutes of the last municipal district meeting held on 16 December 2016 together with the progress report.

The minutes were approved subject to an amendment of item CL27/1612 "Mr. Minnock stated that the deadline for submissions for this plan was the 3 February 2017" and CL28/1612 "Councillor Cussen said that this does not seem to be a problem in the rest of the country, it seems to only be a problem in Kildare, the reason being the lack of bins".

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Young that the minutes be confirmed with the amendments "Mr. Minnock stated that the deadline for submissions for this plan was the 3 February 2017" and "Councillor Cussen said that this does not seem to be a problem in the rest of the country, it seems to only be a problem in Kildare, the reason being the lack of bins" and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL02/1701

Matters Arising

Odours from sewers on Main Street, Leixlip (CL27/1606) (CL03/1609) (CL04/1611)

Councillor Young stated with reference to the progress report where it was reported that there had been no finding of an odour on the two days that he had previously reported, he said that he had visited the plant and had been informed that there had been a fault before Christmas so there had definitely been an issue causing odours.

Re-marking of cycle lanes on the Shackleton Road (CL09/1612)

Councillor Cussen stated that the issue was not just the re-marking of all the cycle lanes but the condition in general of all the cycle lanes which should be looked at.

Update of Schedule of Municipal District Works (CL03/1611) (CL02/1612)

Councillor Cussen referred to the estimate of costings for new public lighting in the progress report. She asked where this funding would come from and if it was a municipal district issue.

Ms. Wright stated that there was no decision made as to funding and in addition to this there were legal issues involved due to this work taking place on a public street.

Councillor Cussen stated that the municipal district members should be involved in discussions in relation to this issue.

The Cathaoirleach proposed, with agreement of all the members to take item number 3 on the Agenda next.

CL03/1701

Response from the National Transport Authority and Bus Shelters

The Meetings Administrator proceeded to read out a letter on request of the Cathaoirleach which was received from the National Transport Authority (NTA) following a meeting which was held on 8 November with the Chairpersons of the municipal districts and Mr. Hugh Creegan of the NTA.

The letter had been distributed to all the chairs of the municipal districts and the Cathaoirleach stated that he would circulate a copy of this letter to the members.

Councillor Neville thanked the Senior Executive Officer of the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department and the Municipal District Engineer for their work on the placement of a school warden in Green Lane. He stated that he would like to see a better advertising campaign in the lead up to submissions which must be made before Tuesday 24 January 2017 on the campaign to reduce speed limits to 30kmph in housing estates.

Councillor Young welcomed the discussion with the NTA, but said that he would like the Roads Department to clarify the outline of the proposals before decisions were made in relation to the bus service on the Easton Road.

Councillor Caldwell stated that it was not off-peak services that were required in the Glen Easton area but additional early morning services.

Ms Wright referred to the letter from the NTA and said that the NTA had signed a national bus shelter contract with JCDecaux Ireland for the supply, installation and maintenance of bus shelters. She said that a list of proposed bus shelters from Kildare Local Travel Link had been circulated to the members and if the members identified locations which they considered suitable for a bus shelter in a rural area they should compile and submit this list by the end of January to the Director of Roads for submission to the NTA for consideration.

In response to Councillor Cussen's query in relation to the lack of a rural bus link for Ardclough, the Senior Executive Officer of the Roads Department advised that if a need was established for a bus in that area then Kildare Local Travel Link should be the first point of call for this request. She also advised that the Director of Transport had suggested that each municipal district should set aside a small budget of €15,000 which could be used to provide bus shelters in rural areas.

CL04/1701

Schedule of Municipal District Works

The Municipal District Engineer gave a comprehensive presentation to the members on the projects undertaken by the municipal district office in 2016.

The Cathaoirleach, together with the members thanked the Municipal District Engineer on his excellent presentation and they thanked all the staff of the municipal district office and outdoor staff on all their hard work during the year. The members stated that it was great to

see that the road cleaning crews would be working on Saturdays and said it would be a great improvement to the towns.

Councillor Cussen asked that the Municipal District Engineer would re-investigate the problem of the pole she had previously reported that is sticking up in the river Liffey at the Mill in Celbridge. She said that it had been reported that the area had been examined but the pole had not been found. Councillor Cussen said that she had seen it recently and advised that it was near the pedestrian bridge but it was only visible when the water was low and that it needed to be removed as it was a safety hazard.

The report was noted.

CL05/1701

Repair of footpaths in the Grove Estate, Celbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne
That action be taken to repair footpaths in the Grove Estate, Celbridge where they have been raised by tree roots and have resulted in dangerous lips at the following locations (details supplied).

The motion was proposed by Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that if the Parks Department can arrange removal of the trees then the municipal district office will arrange to repair the footpaths.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that if the Parks Department can arrange removal of the trees then the municipal district office will arrange to repair the footpaths.

CL06/1701

Footpath repair on route to Scoil na Mainistreach

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne
That the footpath from house (details supplied) be repaired as it is in a dangerous condition and is an important route for children attending Scoil na Mainistreach.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this work has been added to the Overseer's task list and will be repaired in the coming months.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that the report be noted.

CL07/1701

Footpath from Ballyoulster Estate to Donaghcomper graveyard

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council put a footpath from Ballyoulster Estate to Donaghcomper graveyard.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Byrne

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is no funding available for this request and perhaps the members could consider this scheme for Local Property Tax (LPT) funding.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Byrne that the report be noted.

CL08/1701

Cleaning, spraying and planting at entrance to Ryevale

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville
That the council include the area at the entrance to Ryevale across from Galvins Cross to be cleaned, sprayed or possibly planted this year.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that a verbal report will be given at the meeting by the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent.

The Meetings Administrator undertook to ask the Senior Parks Superintendent to contact Councillor Neville to discuss this issue as he was not in attendance at the meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that the Meetings Administrator would request that the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent contact Councillor Neville in relation to this item.

CL09/1701

Cleaning of road sign on the Aghards Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman
That the road sign "Caution Stop Ahead" on the Aghards Road leading to the junction with the Shackleton Road be cleaned.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this is an old sign and no longer required. The Municipal District Office will arrange removal.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that the Municipal District Office arrange the removal of the "Caution Stop Ahead" sign at this location.

CL10/1701

Repairs to cycle track on the Shackleton Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman
That repairs be carried out to the cycle track on the Shackleton Road at the junction with the Aghards Road for the safety of cyclists.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this work has been completed.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that the report be noted.

CL11/1701

Provision of pedestrian crossing at English Row

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Byrne
Could a pedestrian crossing be provided at the end of English Row where it meets Tea Lane Celbridge and if a footpath could be provided from the grotto to the entrance of Saint Raphaels Special School?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is no funding available for this request, however the members could consider this scheme for Local Property Tax (LPT) funding.

The report was noted.

CL12/1701

Repair of street light on path from Riverforest to Glendale

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell

Can the council fix the street light on the path way from Riverforest entrance to Glendale estate?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this light is now operational following the connection of the light to a new supply by the Electricity Supply Board (ESB).

The report was noted.

CL13/1701

Upgrade of lighting at bottom of Captains Hill

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell

Can the council upgrade the lighting at the bottom of the Captains Hill and the Arthur Guinness car park?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Public Lighting Section will assess the street lighting at these two locations and determine if an upgrade is viable and necessary at this time.

Councillor Caldwell stated that an upgrade to the lighting was very necessary at these locations and especially at the car park which was very busy and where the lighting there was extremely dull.

The report was noted.

CL14/1701

Review of Salmon Leap Bridge to roundabout

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville
Can the council, ahead of a meeting with the Lucan Area Committee review the area from the Salmon Leap Bridge to the roundabout with the engineer. With that a plan could be drawn up as part of our presentation?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will assist the members with any technical queries and that the members can contact the municipal district office directly.

Councillor Neville stated that the councillors of the Lucan Area Committee were aware of the problems but that the members needed to have a specific proposal for them which outlined and identified the areas that needed attention. He said that the members needed to take the lead on this which may lead to a better chance of success.

The Municipal District Engineer suggested that an operational meeting could be held with the members in the municipal district office in Maynooth.

Councillor Neville proposed that they walk this route together.

The Municipal District Engineer agreed and said that he would email the members to agree a suitable date for this meeting.

The report was noted.

CL15/1701

Installation of cycle lane along Celbridge Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Larkin
Can a cycle lane be installed along Celbridge Road from Forest Park to Young's Cross and could it be put forward for National Transport Agency (NTA) grant?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the advice of the Municipal District Engineer and the Traffic Management Section will be sought on this matter. If a cycle lane is deemed to be required funding options will be explored, including National Transport Authority (NTA) funding.

Councillor Larkin stated that traffic usage was increasing along this road and also to the park and with the possibility of new houses being built in the vicinity in the future, the usage would increase further, so a cycle lane would be a great facility. He said that this cycle lane should be promoted as he believes it would get used frequently. He said that there was great scope for this on the lane up to Castletown as the lane was quite wide. He proposed finding funding for this project elsewhere if the NTA would not provide it.

The report was noted.

CL16/1701

Repairs/replacement of vehicular entrance footpath to Leixlip Library

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Larkin

Can the necessary repairs/replacement be carried out on the vehicular entrance footpath to Leixlip library?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this footpath repair has been added to the Overseer's task list for attention in the coming months.

The report was noted.

CL17/1701

Traffic Survey on the Lords Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman

Can a traffic survey be carried out on the Lords Road and measures be put in place to alleviate the fears of residents of speeding vehicles on this narrow road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out at this location and will revert back to the members when it is completed.

The report was noted.

CL18/1701

Repainting of yellow box at entrances to Aldi and Hawthorn View

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman

Can the yellow box at the entrances to Aldi and Hawthorn View on the Maynooth Road be repainted?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this request will be carried out when weather conditions permit. The report was noted.

CL19/1701

Survey and rejuvenation of area behind The Courtyard and Arthur Guinness Square

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville
That this council survey and set out what possibilities there are to rejuvenate the area behind The Courtyard and Arthur Guinness Square. With the work that has been done recently it would be great to continue and improve that whole area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that it is proposed to develop a design to improve the appearance of this area with a continuation of the existing boardwalk and to improve the appearance of the grass embankment. This will require the co-operation of the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) who own some of the land in question and any design proposals would require the procurement of consultant engineers to develop such designs. There are no financial or staff resources available to progress this any further in the current year due to existing commitments across the county.

Councillor Neville expressed dissatisfaction with the report. He said the report did not give the costing for this project and that this area should be developed. He also said that the members should seek funding to have work done in clearing and improving this area as it had the potential to be opened up as an amenity all the way down to the river.

Councillor Larkin agreed with Councillor Neville and stated that the Parks Department should finish this project. He said it would make the area more attractive and encourage tourism. He noted a recent television programme featuring Michael Portillo which had been filmed in this area which he said was a great advertisement and that funding should be provided for this project.

Councillor Cussen stated that it was great to see the William Roantree plaque visible on the William Roantree house, however she said it was a pity that the response did not state what

plans were for the next stage. She also suggested that maybe Kildare Fáilte could promote this area.

Councillor Caldwell supported the motion and said that the area was very overgrown but he understood that bad weather had delayed works. He said that cutting back the trees would be a great improvement as this was a lovely area.

The District Manager stated that he felt that the members were very negative in their comments and that the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent had put in tremendous work and was very positive in trying to progress this area. He stated that the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent had the initial design carried out for the boardwalk but that there were ownership and engineering issues with the land. He said that there had been anti-social problems in this area and that the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent had made significant progress and transformed it. He also informed that the funding required for this project would be double the Local Property Tax (LPT) funding.

Councillor Neville said that the reason that he was negative to the response from the Parks Department was that he did not want to wait another year to see if progress could begin to be made in this area.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that the report be noted.

CL20/1701

Display of A1 Zoning map in Celbridge Library

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin

That A1 copies of the map 13.1 land use zoning of the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan be put up on display in the Celbridge library as soon as possible.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Larkin, seconded by Councillor Neville

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that copies of the A1 Zoning map are available at Celbridge Library.

Councillor Larkin stated that he was dealing with members of the public who were contacting him with their frustrations in relation to the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan. He said that he felt that the timeline was tight but he understood that it was a statutory process. He said that

copies of the plan were on the bottom shelf of the library and in his opinion they should be displayed on A1 size paper and put on a wall in the library where people could view it without difficulty.

In response to Councillor Larkin's question, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the members received an email about the Draft Leixlip Local Area Plan. He said that the council had received 620 submissions in relation to this plan and that the Chief Executive's report was due on or before the 16 February 2017. He advised the members that they would then have six weeks to consider the Chief Executive's report. He explained that he had spoken to the librarian and that he would check that the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan was prominently displayed.

In response to a query from Councillor Neville, Mr. Kavanagh stated that there was nothing to prevent the display of this plan in other venues such as GAA clubs or Community Centres. He advised the members that the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan was still open for submissions up to the 3 February 2017.

Councillor Caldwell stated that he felt that the perception was that the timing of these plans was not good as they happened around the Christmas period and that people were not given enough time to consider them.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that he had an issue with this perception as the plans were brought before the members on the 15 November 2016 which was six weeks before Christmas and therefore in plenty time for deliberations.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Larkin, seconded by Councillor Neville that the Senior Executive Officer of the Planning Department undertook to ensure that A1 copies of the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan would be prominently displayed in Celbridge library.

CL21/1701

Circular route from Leixlip Gate be considered by Slí na Slaínte

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin
That the circular route that is being used by pedestrian, walkers, runners, cyclists etc, which runs from Leixlip Gate to Intel roundabout, Louisa Bridge down Accommodation Road and right back towards Leixlip Gate be considered for a Slí Na Slaínte route and would it be possible to install some urban gym equipment along the route.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Larkin, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that this location will be considered in conjunction with Kildare Sports Partnership and in the context of other commitments across the county in the current year and that the cost and an outline design will be presented to members later in the year.

Councillor Larkin said that he had spoken to the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent and that he would welcome a designated route noting it would be brilliant for the area if it could be considered as a Slí na Sláinte route.

Councillor Neville stated that he supported the motion, that the route was 4.7km and he would like to see it being advertised so that it could be utilised more.

Councillor Coleman said that he supported the motion also as he thought that this would be a great asset to the area.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Larkin, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that this circular route to be considered in conjunction with Kildare Sports Partnership and a cost and outline design to be presented to the members later in the year.

CL22/1701

Provision of fence in Crodaun Forest Park, Celbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Byrne
Can the council consider providing a fence opposite houses (details provided) in Crodaun Forest Park, Celbridge similar to the one erected in Hawthorn View to good effect to prevent anti-social behaviour in the estate?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that this location was inspected. A huge amount of garden green waste is being dumped at this location, but before any consideration could be given in relation to a fence, a commitment would be required as to how the residents propose to stop this illegal dumping of garden waste and remove the existing waste.

Councillor Byrne said that he would check into how the residents would propose to stop the illegal dumping of garden waste and remove the existing waste from this location.

The report was noted.

CL23/1701

Provision of information as to how the LAP for Celbridge and Leixlip were advertised

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen

Can the members be provided with a list which shows how the Local Area Plans for Celbridge and Leixlip were advertised and brought to the attention of residents in our area?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2017-2023 and an information leaflet was placed on public display in Áras Chill Dara, Naas at the public counter in the Planning Section and Leixlip Library, the Woods, Leixlip. The report also noted that a full copy of the plan with information leaflets and all associated documentation including environmental reports were made available on the Kildare County Council website from the 15 of November 2016 and that the publication of the plan also appeared on the council's website newsfeed. A public notice was placed in the Leinster Leader on the 15 of November 2016 which advised that the plan had been published and was available at the locations outlined above. Details of the publication of the plan and its locations and how to make a submission were set out on an information leaflet which was issued to the Public Participation Network and Social Media Office coordinators. The coordinators have confirmed that they distributed the details regarding the Draft Local Area Plan to their members and 'followers'. The report also confirmed that details of the Draft Local Area Plan had been posted multiple times on the council social media platforms i.e. Facebook and Twitter.

The Celbridge Local Area Plan 2017-2023 with an information leaflet was placed on public display in Áras Chill Dara, Naas and Leixlip Library and a full copy of the plan and all associated documents and environmental reports were made available on the council's website from the 13 of December 2016 at 9 a.m. A public notice was placed in the Leinster Leader on the 13 of December (newspaper used for all Local Area Plans in North Kildare) which advised that the plan had been published and is available at the locations outlined above. Details of the publication of the plan and its locations and how to make a submission were set out on an information leaflet which was issued to the Public Participation Network, Celbridge Integrated Service Provide and Social Media Office coordinators. The coordinators have confirmed that they distributed the details regarding the Draft Local Area Plan to their members and 'followers'. The report also confirmed that details of the Draft Local Area Plan have been posted multiple times on the council social media platforms i.e. Facebook and Twitter.

Councillor Cussen stated that the advertisement of the Draft Local Area Plans were for public engagement. She said that they had been advertised in the Leinster Leader and that the Liffey Champion was the saturation paper for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District. She said that there should be large displays of the plans and maps in the library which she added had been closed over the Christmas period and that an advertisement should have been placed in the Liffey Champion listing where these plans could be seen and the times that they could be viewed. She said that this created huge frustration to the public.

The Senior Executive Officer for the Planning Department said that he took Councillor Cussen's point in relation to advertising in the Liffey Champion but that complaints that were made in relation to people not being able to access the on-line system over the Christmas period were unfounded.

Councillor Cussen asked why the submissions could not be sent in by email. She said that this was off-putting to people and that because a lot of people try to send in their submissions on the same day they have trouble trying to get on to the on-line system.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the advantage to the on-line system was that people can attach documents to their submissions and that they also get an automatic response with an acknowledgement of their submission received.

Councillor Caldwell agreed with Councillor Cussen and stated that future advertisements for their municipal district should be placed in the Liffey Champion.

In response to Councillor Cussen's question as to the timeline of the planning process, the District Manager stated that there would be an In-Committee briefing on the 25 January 2017 and he would give Councillor Cussen a template of the generic timeline at the meeting.

Ms. Cooke outlined the two methods for submissions. She said that they could be submitted on-line where documents could be attached. She said that paper submissions could be made. She informed the members that submissions could not be made by email due to the complexity of the system and the size of the documents.

She added that staff were available to assist people in making submissions if they were having difficulties.

In response to Councillor Cussen's query Ms. Cooke stated that issue papers were not included in the statutory time frames for Local Area Plan reviews.

In response to Councillor Young's request, the District Manager undertook to create a link to the on-line submission system to make it easier for people to access.

Councillor Cussen noted the report.

CL24/1701

Restoration of The Boathouse in Leixlip

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville

Can the council review the possibilities and opportunity to restore The Boathouse in Leixlip in co-operation with the owners?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that it was proposed to seek the permission of the owners of the structure firstly regarding the possibilities of restoring The Boathouse. If this is granted then it is proposed to seek quotations from a number of conservation architects to prepare a report which would enable the restoration of The Boathouse. However, before this is carried out, it is proposed to complete a number of existing commitments in the municipal district.

Councillor Neville stated that this was a key focal and heritage point in Leixlip and that it would be remiss of him not to raise the issue and to allow this very visible feature to go to rack and ruin. He said that the owners would be second to none in protecting heritage and anything that the council could do to assist them would be of great benefit to ensure that the future of this structure is secure.

The report was noted.

CL25/1701

Consideration of receipt of presentation from LAWCO

The Meetings Administrator informed the members that Ms. Aoife McGrath had made a presentation to the Director of Service for Water Services and the Environment and she had requested the opportunity to make a presentation to each municipal district to consider receipt of a presentation on the operations of the Local Authorities Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO) and an update on the preparation of the 2nd Cycle Draft River Basin Management Plan.

Following discussion by the members it was agreed to receive this presentation at their monthly meeting on 21 April 2017.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Young and with the agreement of all the members to receive a presentation on the operations of the Local Authorities Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO) and an update on the preparation of the 2nd Cycle Draft River Basin Management Plan at the April meeting of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District to be held on 21 April 2017.

CL26/1701

Pilot project for additional bins in Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen
That the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be selected for a pilot project whereby additional bins (any bin or dog waste specific) are provided and are included in the bin emptying schedule. The project could only help to improve the litter problems in our municipal district.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council are not in a position to service anymore bins on our current route. If a new location for a bin is identified then we could consider removing/relocating an existing bin to this location but no additional bins can be serviced with the current resources.

Councillor Cussen said that a costing for the provision and service of extra bins was requested at the December meeting and that the members had not received this costing. She said that a survey had been carried out by Kerry County Council and the outcome was that seventy five percent of dog walkers carried dog bags to clean up after their dogs and she could not understand why this county was so reluctant to improve the provision of extra bins along well known dog walking routes. She said that this issue had been discussed since 2015 and she could not understand why it could not be progressed. She re-iterated that this was not a problem in any other county and she queried as to where the impediment was in Kildare. She said that bins can be provided by an Irish company for €168 and that the council received €49,000 in revenue from dog licences so funding should not be the issue. She asked for co-operation from the members to put money from the Local Property Tax funding into issues for dog fouling such as stencilling, bins and dog fouling campaigns.

Mr. Fagan stated that a presentation was given by the Environmental Awareness Officer on "Any Bin Any Bag" to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee (SPC). He stated that the reply to the motion was issued from the Roads Section who have the responsibility for the emptying of bins in the municipal district but that a more detailed report from both Roads and Environment could be presented for the next meeting.

Councillor Caldwell suggested that a letter be sent to Meath County Council to enquire how their dog bin system operates.

Councillor Larkin stated that he supported the motion for a pilot project be carried out in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District to see how well it would work.

Ms. Dalton undertook to request a report on this issue from the Environment and Roads Section for the progress report on this issue for the February meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell that the Meetings Administrator would request a report on this issue from the Environment and Roads Section for the progress report on this issue for the February meeting.

CL27/1701

Site map with names of deceased displayed at gate of Confey graveyard

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell

That the council place a site map with the names of the deceased displayed at the gate of Confey graveyard?

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Coleman

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that this proposal has merit and would be examined. The Environment Section is commencing a pilot project to survey a number of cemeteries in 2017. As part of this work it may be possible to progress this proposal.

Councillor Caldwell said that this site map was currently in place in Kilcock graveyard and it was very helpful.

Councillor Coleman agreed and said that it was a very worthwhile initiative.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Coleman that the issue of placing a site map with the names of the deceased displayed at the gate of Confey graveyard will be examined by the Environment Department.

CL28/1701

Drafting of procedures for grants to Residents Associations

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen
Can our municipal district have a report back from the Environment Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) in respect of how we can contribute to the drafting of new procedures for grants to residents associations, as we requested new procedures following the grant allocations in 2016?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Environment Section will examine the matter in advance of advertising the Residents Grants Scheme for 2017. A revised application will be prepared to reflect key considerations, e.g. number of housing units within the estate, area of green space, year of construction, etc.

Councillor Cussen stated that she had no issue with the money or governance on this issue but the criteria needed to be looked at. She said that she would like to have this revised application form for the February meeting to look at as the Residents Association Grants would be coming up again shortly.

The report was noted.

CL29/1701

Agreement of spend of retained Local Property Tax (LPT) for 2017

A copy of the agreed allocation of the retained Local Property Tax (LPT) funding was circulated at the meeting as outlined:

<u>Community</u>		Estimated Cost	Service Total
<u>Community Grants</u>			
Residents Association Grants	€20,000		
Community Grants	€60,000		
Mens Shed	€10,000	€90,000	

Christmas Lights

Kildare County Council

		Estimated Cost	Service Total
Celbridge Lights	€20,000		
Leixlip Lights	€15,000	€35,000	
 <u>Festivals</u>			
Celbridge Festival	€5,000		
Celbridge St. Patricks Day	€5,000		
Leixlip Festival	€14,000		
Leixlip St. Patricks Day	€6,000	€30,000	
 <u>Age Friendly Programme</u>			
		€10,000	
 <u>Tea Lane Project</u>			
		€15,000	
 <u>Mojo Project</u>			
		€25,000	€205,000
 <u>Parks</u>			
Parks projects to be agreed		€60,000	
Leixlip Playground			
To be held while discussions regarding playground in Leixlip Amenity Centre takes place		€30,000	
			€90,000
 <u>Sports Partnership</u>			
Sports Partnership Projects to be agreed		€10,000	€10,000
 <u>Heritage</u>			
Donaghcomper Cemetery			
Details to be submitted by Bridget Loughlin		€25,000	€25,000
 <u>Environment</u>			
<u>Tidy Towns</u>			
Celbridge Tidy Towns	€10,000		
Leixlip Tidy Towns	€10,000		
Ardclough Tidy Towns	€5,000	€25,000	

	Estimated Cost	Service Total
Dog Bag Facilities	€5,000	€30,000
<u>Roads</u>		
Footpaths		
Programme to be agreed	€175,000	
Damaged Roads		
Programme to be agreed	€100,000	
Celbridge Boardwalk study	€10,000	€285,000
Total LPT allocation:		€645,000

Councillor Larkin stated that there was a meeting to discuss the Local Property Tax funding and that all the members were in agreement with the spend. He noted that there was a lot of work still to be done.

Councillor Neville said that there was a significant amount of money and that the members had tried to contribute to as many different groups as possible. He thanked the members on their agreement on this schedule and said that he looked forward to the work that still needed to be done but noted said that the community should feel the benefit from this funding.

Councillor Cussen said that it was the peoples' money as they had contributed to it and everyone was entitled to benefit from it.

Councillor Caldwell agreed and said that everyone was obliged to pay and that it was a great initiative and the benefits were enormous to community groups and businesses.

Councillor Colman stated that the schedule was very good and would be a very good benefit to communities.

Councillor Young stated that seventy per cent of property tax came from valuations of properties that were less that €200,000 and he would like to see the members resisting the increase of this tax in future years.

The Community and Enterprise Development Officer stated that the grants were due to be advertised on the first week in February. She said that groups had six weeks to apply before the closing date which would be mid-March. She confirmed that she would send out the guidelines to the members the following week.

Resolved the allocations of the Local Property Tax (LPT) monies, as outline above, were proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Larkin and agreed by all the members.

CL30/1701

Consider receipt of deputation from Leixlip United Soccer Club

The members considered the receipt of deputation from Leixlip United Soccer Club. It was agreed to accept a deputation from the Leixlip United Soccer Club but as there were issues in relation to it to be discussed beforehand, it was decided to discuss these at the in-committee briefing with the District Manager on 25 January 2017 and a decision would be made if this deputation was to be held at the monthly meeting of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District in February or March this year.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville that the members receive a deputation from Leixlip United Soccer club and a decision to be made on the date of this deputation at the In-Committee briefing to be held with the District Manager on 25 January 2017.

CL31/1701

Options and costings for a Customer Services Point for Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen That the members are provided with current options and costings for a Customer Services Point for our Municipal District. That we have a discussion and make an informed decision on the Customer Services Point for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Byrne

A report was received from the Corporate Service Department informing the members that a motion similar to this was debated at the meeting of the Celbridge/Leixlip Municipal District on 16 October 2015.

'That agreement be made on the location of the Customer Services Point for Celbridge/Leixlip.'

The report dated 14 October 2015 advised the Cathaoirleach and members in response to that motion. The minutes of that meeting recorded the discussion on the motion and the resolution was that the Cathaoirleach stated that the matter needed further consideration at a later date.

The report notes that the position outlined in the report of 14 October 2015 remains unchanged in that there is no budgetary provision for the development of a customer service point. The Facilities Manager inspected the libraries in Leixlip and Celbridge and indicated that neither is suitable for a customer services point without extensive renovation and possible extension as all the available space is being utilised. In order to progress a Customer Services Point within the district, a resolution from the members is required stating

- That the members agree that a Customer Services Point is necessary
- The location – Leixlip or Celbridge. The option to bi-locate is not feasible.
- A funding source

It will then be possible to revert to the member with detailed cost analysis.

Councillor Cussen stated that there was a need for a Customer Services Point in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District. She said that Athy and Maynooth had area offices. She said that Naas was not on a bus route and was a good distance away. She said that she was not looking for a full complement of staff which she had been informed was four persons but she wanted to know what the lowest cost would be for a facility and a person to run it. Councillor Neville agreed that he had made his view known that there should be this facility in the town and he stated that he had previously submitted a motion requesting a Customer Service Point but that it was decided against as the cost was too prohibitive. He said that there was a disconnect between the council and the community and people did not know where to go to get information.

Councillor Young asked if the council would consider the HSE building on the Shackleton Road in Celbridge as he thought that there might be space available there and it would be less of an issue if there was an existing space to use for this purpose. He stated that in his opinion it would not necessitate four staff it could work with two and have two nominated as back up staff in the council. He said that when it was first discussed the cost was half a million but that it could be reviewed and re-examined for that site as the running costs might be significantly lower.

Ms. McIvor said that originally a customer service point in each municipal district was considered but only one was provided in Athy. She advised that the Athy office was there historically where the staff provided a range of services, including receipting of monies for rent etc. She said that the council had researched options in 2015 and options had not changed since then. She said that application forms were available in the libraries and asked what in addition the members were looking for. She said that due to health and safety requirements a single person could not run this service and that four people were necessary to cover breaks, annual leave, sick leave etc. and she stated that funding had to be identified. She also added that services would be cut if staff had to be taken from existing staff.

Councillor Larkin said that a demand for a Customer Service Point in Leixlip was not number one on their list of priorities and he agreed with Councillor Young that it would be hard to justify a half a million euro for this service.

Councillor Coleman said that he could not justify the annual running costs of €200,000 and the set up cost and he queried where the funding would come from.

Councillor Caldwell said that he believed that the services were excellent in the council and it should be left as it was, he said that he could see the reasoning behind it but he could not justify the cost.

Councillor Cussen stated that it was covered by the Local Government Act to roll out these offices in the municipal district areas. She said that it was important to have a point of contact in the community and that many elderly people did not possess mobile phones so a point of contact was needed. She suggested that perhaps people would travel to Maynooth and that a point of contact there might work.

The Senior Executive Officer for Corporate Services committed to organising an initial overview of the feasibility of setting up a Customer Service Point in the Maynooth Area Office.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Byrne that the Senior Executive Officer for Corporate Services undertook to organise an initial examination of the feasibility of setting up a Customer Service Point in the Maynooth Area Office.

The meeting concluded.