

**Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting  
Held at 10.00 am on Friday 18 October 2019  
In the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara.**

**Members Present:** Councillor M Coleman (Cathaoirleach)  
Councillors B Caldwell, I Cussen, C Galvin,  
N Killeen, V Liston and J Neville.

**Present:** Mr T McDonnell (District Manager), Mr L Dunne (Senior Executive Officer), Ms F Millane (Financial/Management Accountant), Ms P O'Rourke (Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Ms P Pender, Mr B O'Gorman and Mr T Shanahan (Administrative Officers), Ms A M Gough (Staff Officer), Ms C Taylor (Clerical Officer), Ms K Keane (Meetings Administrator) and Ms A M Campbell (Meetings Secretary).

**CL01/1019**

**Minutes and progress report**

The members considered the minutes of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on 20 September 2019, together with the progress report.

**Resolved** On the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Cussen that the minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on 20 September 2019 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**CL02/1019**

**Matters Arising**

**Organisation of Food Waste Information event in Celbridge (CL20/0719)**

Councillor Cussen noted the update on this item in the Progress Report and re-iterated that she had requested to be included in discussions relating to any events being organised in relation to food waste as she had submitted the motion on this in July.

**Safety measures for cyclists/pedestrians and other road users on the Aghards Road (CL11/0919)**

Councillor Cussen stated that in September the members were informed that an update would be given at the October meeting and noted there was no update on the progress report in relation to this item.

**Pay Parking System in Leixlip and Celbridge (CL05/0919)**

Councillor Cussen stated that the progress report update referred to a review of pay parking hours but at the September meeting the members agreed to review all aspects of pay parking in Leixlip and Celbridge and the Meetings Administrator confirmed this.

In response to a request from Councillor Neville for information on the Pay Parking review process, the District Manager confirmed that a briefing would be arranged between the members and Mr Doyle from the Pay Parking Section of the Roads Department.

**Chain of office for Cathaoirleach of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District (CL17/0719)**

The members all agreed with the design and wording as circulated and to proceed with the purchase of a Chain of Office for the Cathaoirleach of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

**November monthly meeting of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.**

The Meetings Administrator advised the members that their monthly meeting scheduled for the 15 November would be held in the Committee Room due to upgrade works being carried out on the equipment in the Council Chamber.

**CL03/1019**

**Schedule of Municipal District Road Works**

The Municipal District Engineer briefed the members on the schedule of Municipal District Road Works. He advised the members that the entrance to Ralph Square and the entrance to The Town Pub in Leixlip had now been resurfaced. He informed the members that due to savings from the resurfacing programme they had tendered to resurface Mill lane in Leixlip and to do some resurfacing in Castletown housing estate in Celbridge. The roads maintenance crews were currently carrying out maintenance cleaning of the road gullies in

the municipal district and also cutting back hedgerows around junctions. He informed the members that they would be starting footpath repairs in the older estates in Celbridge and Leixlip after the midterm and that the realignment of the R148 was currently on programme and due to open to traffic next week.

### **CL04/1019**

#### **Draft Budgetary Plan 2020**

The members considered the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020 which had been circulated to the members.

Ms Millane informed the members that in accordance with S.58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the draft General Municipal Allocation (GMA) for Kildare County Council was €6,610,203 which was divided across the five Municipal Districts as per the attached Draft Municipal Budgetary Plan 2020. The draft GMA takes account of council's decision, taken at the council meeting of the 23 September 2019, to vary the local property tax rate by +7.5%. The impact of that decision was to ring-fence €4,889,290 of discretionary funding to the municipal districts and this money was included in the GMA.

In considering the Draft Budgetary Plans, each municipal district was afforded the opportunity to allocate its portion of the GMA according to its priorities. Therefore, members may reallocate funding provided for that municipal district from the headings set out in the Draft Budgetary Plan having regard to the impact their decisions would make to those services.

It was intended, as in 2019, to assign the retained LPT to a single heading in the local authority budget, but Finance would need the municipal district members' agreed split of the LPT to be agreed at a municipal district meeting before the end of January 2020. This would allow sections to include the expenditure in their works programme for 2020.

With regard to pay parking, any surpluses were retained for that municipal district. As such, any variations in parking bye-laws would continue to have a direct impact on the monies available for spend within the municipal district.

The legislative requirement was that following consideration of the draft budgetary plan, the municipal district members shall, by resolution, adopt the draft budgetary plan with or without amendment. The Chief Executive shall take account of any budgetary plan adopted, but if the members do not adopt a budgetary plan the Chief Executive may take account of the draft budgetary plan as presented. The purpose of the draft budgetary plan was to provide

each municipal district with an opportunity to allocate its portion of the GMA according to its priorities.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Caldwell, Ms Millane informed the members that the total allocation for playgrounds/outdoor parks was €24,500 which included €7,000 per playground and €3,500 for the outdoor gym.

Councillor Galvin requested a list of the playgrounds and outdoor gyms/skateparks in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

**Resolved** with the agreement of all the members that the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020 be adopted without amendment and a list of the playgrounds and outdoor gyms/skateparks in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be provided to the members.

### **CL05/1019**

#### **Draft Kildare County Council Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019**

The members considered submissions received on the Draft Kildare County Council Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019 which had been circulated to the members.

Ms Gough informed the members that the Draft Kildare County Council Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019 were put on display from 26 June to 24 July 2019. Seven valid submissions were received, five for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District and two for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

The members agreed to the changes proposed in the submissions to include Ardclough in the bye-laws and to proceed to public consultation again on this basis.

**Resolved** with the agreement of all the members to the changes proposed in the submissions received and the inclusion of Ardclough in the Draft Kildare Council Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019 and to proceed to public consultation again on this basis.

### **CL06/1019**

#### **Taking in charge of estates in Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District**

The committee agreed to consider item 5 and item 6 on the agenda together.

#### **Item 5 – Question Councillor Caldwell**

Can the council give an update on the taking in charge of Knockaulin Estate, Leixlip?

**Item 6 – Question Councillor Coleman**

Can the Building and Development Control Section give an update on the taking in charge of estates in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control informing the members that it was hoped that a report in relation to the taking in charge of Primrose Village, Celbridge, Cluain Dara, Leixlip, and Knockaulin, Leixlip would be available to the members of the municipal district and would be on the agenda for the municipal district meeting in November and on the agenda for full council in December.

The report was noted.

**CL07/1019**

The members all agreed to defer item 7 on the agenda until the November meeting.

**CL08/1019**

**Pay Parking in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District**

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

That a report be given to the members of this municipal district in tabular form on pay parking for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District for the years 2015-2019. Report to show separate information for Celbridge and for Leixlip and to include comparatives for enforcement hours and reflective surplus/deficit between each municipal district in Kildare.

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 as follows:

## Kildare County Council

Year	Leixlip				Celbridge			
	Income	Enforcement expenditure	Total Expenditure	Surplus/ Deficit	Income	Enforcement expenditure	Total Expenditure	Surplus/ Deficit
2015	88,597.00	84,071.43	154,420.00	- 65,823.00	103,249.00	103,281.98	214,384.00	- 111,135.00
2016	103,783.00	70,962.04	100,261.00	3,522.00	111,163.00	75,785.92	164,861.00	- 53,698.00
2017	95,516.00	65,971.46	100,464.00	- 4,948.00	102,042.00	69,871.90	134,339.00	- 32,297.00
2018*	156,467.00	60,395.74	75,161.00	24,516.00	141,491.00	67,607.20	106,820.00	- 4,685.00
2019 (up to end of August)	111,000.00	42,775.75	62,660.00		99,566.00	45,809.91	83,862.00	

\*Please note that from 2018 the procedures for calculating deficit/surplus changed.

Expenditure and income are treated separately for calculation of surplus/deficit. Agreed budget expenditure and income figures are offset against actual income and expenditure figures.

Budgeted expenditure is offset against actual expenditure. An underspend in expenditure creates a surplus, an overspend a deficit.

Budgeted income is offset against actual income. If actual income exceeds budgeted income, there is a surplus.

On the contrary if actual income is lesser than budgeted income there is deficit.

Both figures from expenditure and income are then offset against each other for the final surplus/deficit figure.

Please note that up to 2017 actual income and expenditure were offset against each other to calculate surplus/deficit

Councillor Cussen stated that the report did not provide the detail requested in her motion. She requested information be provided for Celbridge and for Leixlip to include comparatives for enforcement hours and reflective surplus/deficit between each municipal district in Kildare.

The District Manager stated that he would request this information from the appropriate department for the members.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell, that information be provided to the members for Celbridge and for Leixlip to include comparatives for enforcement hours and reflective surplus/deficit between each municipal district in Kildare and the report was noted.

**CL09/1019**

**Repair of bridge over the canal in Ardclough**

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

That the council repair the bridge over the canal in Ardclough or if the bridge is not under the council's remit, to contact and work with the relevant authority (presumably Waterways Ireland) to have the bridge repaired.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Cussen.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this was the responsibility of Waterways Ireland and they had previously been informed of the damage.

Councillor Galvin stated that she had been contacted by residents in Ardclough on this issue and it was not acceptable for the bridge to be left in such a poor condition and asked when Waterways Ireland had been informed.

Councillor Cussen asked that a formal request issue to Waterways Ireland for repair of the bridge in Ardclough.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that a letter issue to Waterways Ireland to request that the bridge over the canal in Ardclough be repaired and the report was noted.

**CL10/1019**

**Public transport links to Celbridge**

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

That the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee contact the National Transport Authority to highlight the serious issues on public transport links to Celbridge raised during #ComplainCampaign2019.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Transportation Department welcomed any further

information available from Councillor Galvin in relation to #ComplainCampaign2019 to enable us contact the National Transport Authority.

Councillor Galvin distributed copies of the Complain Campaign Overview to the members at the meeting for their information. Councillor Galvin stated that she had run this campaign in September to help highlight the many issues facing members of the public using the bus services in Celbridge. Councillor Galvin compiled and listed the top complaints and issues submitted by users of the bus services in Celbridge and Dublin Bus's responses to these issues. Councillor Galvin suggested contents for a letter to the National Transport Authority (NTA) in the overview and stated that this was for discussion amongst the members.

The members congratulated Councillor Galvin on the work she had carried out in this campaign and agreed that a letter should issue to the NTA on this matter.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that a letter detailing the issues outlined by Councillor Galvin could be drafted and circulated to the members for approval before issue to the NTA. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all the members that a draft letter on the issues listed by Councillor Galvin be circulated to the members for approval before being issued to the NTA and the report was noted.

### CL11/1019

#### **Dishing of footpaths on the Aghards Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman. That the footpath be dished on the Aghards Road at the entrance to Thornhill Meadows.

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 the Municipal District Engineer could meet Councillor Coleman to investigate the issue as the footpaths were currently dished at this location.

Councillor Coleman agreed to meet the Municipal District Engineer at this location.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Caldwell, that the Municipal District Engineer meet with Councillor Coleman at this location.



**CL12/1019**

**Review of exit on the Green Lane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville.  
That the council review the exit on the Green Lane from the houses to the left of the turn for Accommodation Road.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer could meet Councillor Neville onsite to review this exit.

Councillor Neville agreed to meet the Municipal District Engineer at this location.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell, that the Municipal District Engineer meet with Councillor Neville at this location.

**CL13/1019**

**Review of speed ramps on the Celbridge Road**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell.  
Can the council confirm when will a review of the condition of the speed ramps on the Celbridge Road be carried out?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer had reviewed the ramps on the Celbridge Road and the ramps were in a satisfactory condition.

The report was noted.

**CL14/1019**

**Feasibility study of cycle lane facilities in Celbridge and Leixlip**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston.  
Can the Municipal District Engineer outline the steps and timeframe involved in a feasibility study to develop, expand and upgrade cycle lane facilities in Celbridge and Leixlip?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that commencement of such a project, as one project, would likely involve funding of approximately €20m and would require compliance with the Public Spending Code as set out in Common Appraisal Framework (currently being reviewed). Acquisition of significant engineering resources, internal and external (consultants) would also be necessary.

Normally such a project begins with the sanctioning authority identifying a funding stream for the project, then the Local Authority would recruit resources and consultants. A project of this scale would likely be a programme of small projects, with the entire scheme taking in the region of 20 years to complete.

The report was noted.

**CL15/1019**

**Repairs to the footpaths in Glendale**

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

Can the Municipal District Engineer detail when repairs to the footpaths in Glendale will be conducted as there have been some safety and accessibility issues there?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer would arrange for some repairs to be carried out in the coming months. However, the budget for 2019 would only allow for minor repairs. Members might consider allocating LPT funding in 2020 to carry out further repairs.

The report was noted.

**CL16/1019**

**Review of top of Captains Hill**

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

Can the council review the top of Captains Hill from the exit at Dun Carraig to determine the possibility of installing a mirror facing up the Captains Hill to Riverdale?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council did not install mirrors on the public road on the advice of the National Roads Authority (NRA) and Irish Public Bodies (IPB).

The report was noted.

**CL17/1019**

**Youth Area Profile and Needs Assessment 2019**

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

That the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District write to the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) for an update on the Youth Area Profile and Needs Assessment 2019 and to ask when an assessment of youth needs is likely to be undertaken for Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that this was a matter for the members to agree.

The members all agreed that a letter issue to the KWETB on this matter.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all the members that a letter issue to the KWETB for an update on the Youth Area Profile and Needs Assessment 2019 and to ask when an assessment of youth needs is likely to be undertaken for Celbridge.

**CL18/1019**

**Lands in Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District in ownership of Kildare County Council**

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

That the council provide a report on lands within the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District that are in full or part ownership of Kildare County Council.

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

A report was received from Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Property Interest Register shows all land or property that Kildare County Council own or have an interest in. This means that every piece of open space and social housing unit is shown as council property. When the members ask for

details of land owned in a particular geographical area it was necessary to narrow down the scope of the request to the type of land ie housing land or recreation land.

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that attached was a report on the housing land owned in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

Councillor Killeen thanked the Housing Department for their report and stated that she was in contact with the section dealing with the Property Interest Register to seek further information.

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

### **CL19/1019**

#### **LPT spend in Celbridge-Leixlip for the last 5 years**

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

Can the council provide an itemised breakdown of the LPT spend in Celbridge-Leixlip for the last 5 years? (2019 inclusive)

The District Manager confirmed that he had contacted Councillor Galvin and the members in advance of the meeting in relation to this item.

The report was noted.

### **CL20/1019**

#### **Number of house allocations in 2019 for Celbridge**

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

Can the council confirm how many house allocations are expected to be made in total in 2019 for Celbridge?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that 22 allocations were made to date in 2019 in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District. It was expected that approximately 30 allocations in total would be made in 2019.

The report was noted.

**CL21/1019**

**Pilot to survey all houses and commercial businesses**

The members agreed to take item 21 and 22 on the agenda together.

**Item 21 – Motion Councillor Coleman**

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

That Celbridge Town be considered as a pilot for the county to survey all houses and commercial businesses to demonstrate proof that their waste is disposed of by an approved waste operator or brought by the waste producer to an authorised waste facility, to tackle the scourge of dumping.

**Item 22 – Question Councillor Cussen**

Can the council outline how the Waste Bye-Laws which came into effect in March 2019 are functioning currently?

The motion was proposed by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Cussen.

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the Council's Waste Management (Segregation, Storage and Presentation) Bye-laws 2018 became effective from 1 March 2019. Under the bye-laws, households and businesses must comply with the relevant provisions contained therein regarding the appropriate segregation, storage and presentation of waste material. The bye-laws allow for the council to undertake inspections, including calling to premises. Where a premises was found to be in breach of the requirements, provision was made for the imposition of a Fixed Payment Notice (€75 fine). The Environment Department was planning an information campaign on the new requirements and this would be followed up with targeted inspections in local areas.

Councillor Coleman noted that a pilot survey scheme on the disposal of waste had commenced in Kilkenny city and he would like to see a similar waste survey piloted in Celbridge and then expanded to the whole of the county to help address the issue of illegal dumping in Kildare.

Councillor Cussen asked about enforcement of the council's waste bye-laws and if the public were made aware of them.

Mr O'Gorman confirmed that the council's Waste Management Bye-Laws 2018 were being enforced and when the Environment Department received complaints they were being acted upon. Mr O'Gorman also confirmed that the Environment Department was planning an information campaign on the new requirements.

In response to a question from Councillor Caldwell on the provision of a Litter Warden for Celbridge, Mr O' Gorman confirmed that it was hoped that the new Litter Warden would begin the role in January.

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

### **CL22/1019**

#### **Works to alleviate odour in Leixlip**

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

Can the council give an update on the works to alleviate the odour in Leixlip?

A report was received from the Water Services Department informing the members that this was a matter for Irish Water and the elected member should contact Irish Water in this regard via the dedicated Local Representative Service Desk in compliance with Irish Water instructions and protocol. The contact details were as follows;

Email: [localrepsupport@water.ie](mailto:localrepsupport@water.ie) Ph: 1890 178178 or 01 7072854

The report was noted.

### **CL23/1019**

#### **Maintenance of Black Avenue**

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

That the council maintain the Black Avenue regularly and cut the briars and overgrown hedging along the narrow pathway that separates pedestrians from cars.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the grass on Black Avenue was cut on a regular basis between March and October. Any hedgerows and meadow areas were cut at the end of each year outside of bird nesting season. This work for this year was due to be carried out in the next month.

Councillor Caldwell stated that he had received numerous complaints from residents living at this location reporting rubbish being dumped regularly in the overgrowth at Black Avenue.

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

### CL24/1019

#### Barrier at the entrance of Black Avenue

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

That the council arranges to have the barrier at the entrance of Black Avenue opened and closed every night and to consider giving a key to the Residents' Association in case of an emergency.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that Kildare County Council would open the barrier on Black Avenue and open and close it during the months November, December and January. The council do not have the staff resources outside of this to close the barrier. There was a previous arrangement with Fingal County Council to close the barrier however they were no longer in a position to do this. Therefore the council would require some community involvement to close the barrier outside of these times. A key to do this or for emergency access could be made available to residents.

Councillor Caldwell stated that he would engage with the residents and ask them to contact Ms O'Rourke in relation to the closure of the barrier and the provision of a key.

In response to a question from Councillor Killeen in relation to a review of how this agreement was operating, Ms O'Rourke confirmed that a review would be carried out early in 2020.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville, that Councillor Caldwell ask the residents to contact Ms O'Rourke in relation to the provision of a

key to close the barrier on Black Avenue and Ms O'Rourke undertook to review this arrangement early in 2020 and the report was noted.

**CL25/1019**

**Usage of glyphosate in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District**

The member agreed to take item 26 and 29 on the agenda together.

**Item 26 – Motion Councillor Liston**

That the council provides information on the specific areas, frequency and amount of glyphosate used in the Celbridge-Leixlip municipal area in 2019 and the projected change for 2020-2021.

**Item 29 – Question Councillor Cussen**

Can the council confirm what product was used when spraying the grass verges in Aghards, Clane Road and Shackleton Road?

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that attached was a list of the grass maintenance areas in Celbridge/Leixlip. Glyphosate was used to control grass and weeds around any obstacles within these contract areas 3 times a year between March and October. The Parks Department had yet to determine what the projected change would be for 2020. This would be subject to identifying pilot areas regarding the reduction of the use of glyphosate and also discussing this with the current contractors and the cost implications. Any changes in practise would have to be carried out within the budget for grass maintenance which had almost doubled across the county in the last 3 years. Once the issue had been further considered, any proposals would be made available to the members.

The product used when spraying the grass verges in Aghards, Clane Road and Shackleton Road was Gallup which had glyphosate as its active ingredient. It was used for spot spraying around trees, bollards etc. Additional spraying had been carried out along kerbs and paths which was not done by the contractor.



In response to Councillor Liston's questions in relation to the concentration and quantity of Glyphosate being used and in what areas of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District they were sprayed, Ms O' Rourke informed the members that the contractor working on behalf of the Park Section in the Celbridge and Leixlip area had ascertained that the quantity of Glyphosate used in the form of Gallup in Celbridge was 465L and the quantity used in the Leixlip area was 225L for the 2019 season.

In response to questions from Councillor Liston in relation to outcomes without the use of Glyphosates, Ms O'Rourke informed the members that Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Council were using alternatives to herbicides and pesticides. The transition period was being used to educate the public and to assess the various alternative methods of maintenance based on various area types. For example within suitable open space areas the mowing regime had been reduced in part by allowing areas to grow as meadows and mowing the areas with associated higher footfall. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Council had also examined the use of hot water systems to control weeds and noted that the maintenance costs had risen significantly in line with the labour associated with the new maintenance regime.

In response to a question from Councillor Cussen in relation to what actions the council was taking to achieve the agreed reduction of chemical usage by 2020, Ms O' Rourke informed the members that the Parks Section was seeking answers to short, medium and long term alternatives to chemical usage. To this end the Parks Section was communicating with third level horticultural institutes with regard to the possibility of scientific research being undertaken to assess the various alternatives to herbicides and pesticides. This was to establish what were potentially the most effective and environmentally friendly methods of replacing chemical usage to manage the public open spaces of the county within the resources available to us. The council was awaiting updates regarding this line of enquiry. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Caldwell, that the report be noted.

### **CL26/1019**

#### **Map of Liffey Valley Park (St Catherines Park)**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen. That the council provide a detailed map of Liffey Valley Park (St Catherines Park) identifying the portion of lands that is under the ownership of Kildare County Council.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Coleman.

A report was received from the Parks Department attaching a map showing the land in Kildare County Councils care.

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

### CL27/1019

#### **Cutting grass verge from Celbridge-Leixlip interchange to Kilmacredock roundabout**

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

That the grass verge from below the Celbridge/Leixlip interchange to the Kilmacredock roundabout be cut and kept on the works programme for 2020.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that grass maintenance costs across Kildare had almost doubled in the last 3 years. There was no scope to add additional areas to this at present.

Councillor Neville stated that the Tidy Towns report noted that the grass verges needed to be cut back on the approach road into Leixlip. He stated that this was the Main Road and should be included in the works programme.

Councillor Caldwell stated that this area has been neglected for the last number of years and it was a poor reflection on Leixlip for visiting tourists and people living in the town.

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

### CL28/1019

#### **Update on the Tree Programme**

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

Can the Parks Department give an update on when the Tree Programme will go to tender for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that a tender for tree works in the district based on requests received in the last 18 months would be issued in the next 2 weeks. Contractors would have 4 weeks to return the tender. The final extent of works would depend on the budget available to complete the works requested and what tender prices come back. A commencement date for works would be dependent on what company wins the tender and when they could start.

The report was noted.

### **CL29/1019**

#### **Installations of new piece of public artwork**

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

Can the council confirm if a new piece of public artwork was installed following the upgrade works to the approach road and the waste water treatment site in Leixlip and if not, can the new piece of artwork be sited in St Catherine's Park once decided upon?

A report was received from Economic, Community and Cultural Development informing the members that the Per Cent for Art scheme was not restricted to the commissioning of permanent visual artworks. In this instance, the Per Cent for Art funding that was allocated for the Waste Water Treatment Plant was used to further develop Kildare County Council's support for film production in the county by commissioning a series of original films to be made in North County Kildare i.e. Gridlock, JFK The Badgeman Conspiracy and Talker. The report was noted.

### **CL30/1019**

#### **Role of Administrator**

The Cathaoirleach introduced Mr Tony Shanahan to the members and informed them that going forward, Mr Shanahan would be taking up the role of Meetings Administrator for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee.

The members thanked Ms Keane for all her help and support in her role as Meetings Administrator to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District over the last number of years.

The meeting concluded.