

**Draft Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting held at 10.00am
on Friday, 19 February 2021
on Microsoft Teams**

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

Officials Present: Ms C Barrett (District Manager), Mr C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. C O'Toole (A/Staff Officer)), Mr L. Dunne (Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr O Brady, Mr E Fagan, (Administrative Officers), Ms A Burke (Executive Engineer), Mr J Malone (Acting Senior Executive Engineer), Mr M Hurley (Safety Officer), Mr A Shanahan (Meetings Administrator) and Ms C Dempsey (Meetings Secretary).

CL01/0221

Christopher (Christy) Noonan Community Worker deceased

The Cathaoirleach invited Councillor Coleman to say a few words about the late Christopher (Christy) Noonan who had passed away the previous evening. Councillor Coleman informed the members that Christy was a great community worker who volunteered with Celbridge Tidy Towns for years.

The members offered their sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of Christy Noonan and a minutes silence was observed.

CL02/0221

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 22 January 2021 together with the progress report.

The minutes of the monthly meeting were approved subject to amendments of item CL02/0121 to Councillor Cussen 'outdoor gym equipment' to be added to end of sentence to aid clarity.

(CL34/0121) to Councillor Cussen who stated that the following sentence caused confusion so should be removed 'Councillor Cussen would seek clarification on the report and Mr Wallace would communicate with Councillor Cussen directly.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen and seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 22 January 2021, of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be approved subject to the above amendments. The progress report was noted.

CL03/0221

Matters arising

On progress report item CL02/0120 & CL22/0720 Councillor Galvin stated the referred to meeting had recently happened. Councillor Galvin would update members of outcome of this playground subcommittee meeting.

On progress report item CL06/0121 Transport Strategy for Celbridge and Leixlip area. Councillor Liston asked if there was any update in relation to this item. Ms C. Barrett advised she was in the process of organising traffic management studies and would update members as soon as she has an update, she advised Maynooth and Newbridge would be progressed during 2021, but not Celbridge or Leixlip due to the requirements of the Local Area Plans (LAP) Schedule.

Councillor Liston inquired what the rationale was behind the current consultation and could more information be provided on the portal for the Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road Route Corridor Options. Ms C Barrett advised any questions in relation to this could be directed to the project team who would answer Councillors Liston's question directly.

The Vacant Homes report was noted and the Cathaoirleach informed members to direct any queries to the Vacant Homes Officer outside the meeting.

CL04/0221

Municipal District Road Works

The Municipal District Engineer updated the member on the works:

- The maintenance crews were carrying out essential maintenance only due to the current level 5 Covid-19 restrictions.
- Contractors were carrying out some essential footpath repairs in Simmonstown, on the Green Lane and also near the Liffey Business Campus. This work was to remove trip hazards from the footpaths.
- The municipal district engineer was awaiting the agreed schedule for LPT works for 2021 which would feed into the works programme.
- The municipal district engineer briefed the member on the schedule of roads for resurfacing in 2021

Restoration Improvement to take place at following areas;

- Young Cross to Co Boundary
- Confey to Kellystown (Approx 1km near Shaughlens Geln)
- Celbridge to Ardclough road
- Ryevale junction
- Green Lane (Loughnamona to Catsletown)

Restoration Maintenance to take place at following areas;

- Ardrass
- Pluckstown

CL05/0221

Schedule of Municipal District Works 2021

Councillor Galvin stated she would like to confirm that the €50,000 figure that falls within the €82,500 figure under Community facilities department and within playground/youth library/Art long term projects, was to be allocated to a youth facility project and the remaining funds would be allocated to the library.

Councillor Caldwell stated he hoped to get regular reports back from groups they had given funding to, and members should monitor this.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville and seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by all members that the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal Schedule of Municipal District Works 2021 (including the agreed list of roads works) be agreed and approved.

CL06/0221

To receive an Accessibility presentation from Mr M Hurley, Health and Safety Officer

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr M Hurley, Health and Safety/Access Officer to the meeting and proposed that if the members had any questions for Mr Hurley, they should email him their questions after the meeting and all the members agreed.

Mr Hurley advised that he would reply to all questions received

Mr Hurley delivered a presentation to the members highlighting the following points:

- Accessibility to buildings and all services was a legislative requirement under the Disability Act 2005.
- The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities came into force on 19 April 2018.
- The National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 was the key framework for policy and action to address the needs of people with disabilities.
- There were five local Local Access Groups in Naas, Newbridge, Celbridge, Maynooth and Athy.
- The role of the Access Officer was to provide and co-ordinate assistance and guidance to persons with disabilities accessing services provided by the council offices.
- The County Kildare Access Strategy 2020-2022 took a universal approach and the objectives for 2021 were outlined.
- Kildare County Council had achieved winner at the All-Ireland Community and Council Awards 2020 for having the best Disability Access and Inclusion

Initiative and had also achieved winner of the overall Grand Prix Award for working to make County Kildare inclusive and accessible to all.

- Working collaboratively with disability advocates would help the council deliver its shared commitment that no section of the community was left behind in the future delivery of council services.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr Hurley for his comprehensive presentation and congratulated him and his team on achieving the award for All-Ireland Community and Council Awards 2020 and the overall Grand Prix Award.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor, seconded by Councillor and agreed by the members present that the report be noted, the presentation be sent to the members and any further queries would be forwarded to Mr M Hurley directly.

CL07/0221

Eir telephone kiosk on Main Street, Leixlip

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council request Eir to remove the unsightly telephone kiosk on the Main Street, Leixlip opposite the Mall.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that If the members agreed, correspondence could issue to Eir requesting removal of the telephone kiosk.

A discussion ensued amongst the members, the following points were raised;

- The telephone kiosk was unsightly and
- The Tidy Towns group would like it removed

- If it was to be replaced with a digital phone this would benefit victims of domestic violence and individuals experiencing homelessness who have no option but to use this public facility.

The District Manager advised the members she was unaware of a digital phone being considered, however she would investigate further and revert to the members to advise had the council received an application to install a digital phone.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by the members that Ms Barrett would investigate if a digital phone was being considered by the council and that the council request Eir to remove the the telephone kiosk on the Main Street, Leixlip opposite the Mall.

CL08/0221

Application to NTA for funding for segregated cycle lane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That the council apply to the National Transport Authority for funding for a segregated cycle lane from Leixlip Village to the Louisa Bridge linking back to Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that National Transport Authority's (NTA) finalised 5-year plan is to be published shortly outlining approved projects for their Sustainable Transport Measures Grants. Kildare County Council has completed extensive consultation with NTA, however, the decision on what projects make the finalised list is a matter for funding authority to determine.

Councillor Neville welcomed the report. The members outlined the following points

- If no funding available from NTA or LPT this project may not materialise.
- As Celbridge and Leixlip are densely populated it was important that this project happens.

- Preparation of shovel ready projects needed to be a priority.
- Visibility to members of what the approved projects would be.
- That the District Manager distribute presentation given at SPC to the members.

Ms Barrett advised the council did very well with their allocation of €7,730,000 from the NTA especially the north of the county, which was granted €3,750,000 towards the Royal Canal Greenway. The NTA was presently prioritising the greater Dublin area and that maps were available on the NTA site. It was emphasised that projects within the municipal district would progress as the funding comes through over the next 5 years.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed by the members that the report be noted and the presentation given at the Transportation Safety and Emergency Services SPC be sent to the members.

CL09/0221

Riverforest estate exit / entrance review

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That as part of the Riverforest estate exit/entrance review that the council also include a cycle and speeding assessment of the estate as part of the process

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 there is currently no funding allocated to carry out a review of Riverforest Estate. If funding is allocated this request can be included in the scope of the works.

Mr Buggie advised that it could be included in the LPT allocation for 2021 and that it would be possible to add this request to the scope of the works for the Riverforest junction assessment.

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

CL10/0221

“Triangle Structure” at Ardclough

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman that the capping stones be replaced on the “triangle structure” in Ardclough

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office will inspect and carry out any minor repairs if required.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

CL11/0221

Severe flooding at St Catherine’s Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen that the council actively investigate severe flooding issues at St Catherine's Park and in Confey Leixlip and to urgently provide a solution to same.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that reports were received from residents in relation to flooding in St Catherines Park earlier this month. However, this was after particularly heavy day of rain and follows above normal rainfalls for January. The result of this is all soils are waterlogged or close to it and so any rainfall now may result in periodic flooding in areas. The council have inspected the area since the report and have not found any subsequent flooding. Parks would continue to monitor the area.

The members welcomed the report and raised the following issues;

- Could the council confirm what determines if and when the council records localised flooding events in the municipal district (not included on OPW's maps) using the OPW flood data collection form?
- There was a concern in relation to lack of drainage and it may not be a once off event and have the new works contributed to the increased flooding.

Mr S Wallace advised he would keep the situation under review and continue to monitor the area.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the report be noted and Mr Wallace would monitor and keep this drainage issue under review.

CL12/0221

Drainage issues at Leixlip

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen that the council assess the drainage issues in respect of housing estates from Confey area to Main Street, Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office will assess any drainage issues notified to them. All roadside gullies in Celbridge and Leixlip were cleaned in Q4 of 2020.

Mr C Buggie advised there has been no calls to the municipal district office in relation to this and that he could discuss it off-line with Councillor Killeen and if necessary, ask Senior Executive Engineer in Environment Section to review. The Cathaoirleach asked that this item be put on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by the members that the report be noted and Mr C Buggie would speak to Councillor Killeen to investigate further and the item be put on the progress report.

CL13/0221

Pedestrian Walkway from Barnhall Meadows estate

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Galvin
That as part of the National Transport Authority Stimulus funding for projects to improve walking and cycling facilities, that this council proposes that a safe pedestrian walkway be built from the newly built Barnhall Meadow estate, located on the Celbridge road in Leixlip to the local schools.

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 funding was allocated by the elected members from LPT to install a footpath in front of the shops at Barnhall

The members welcomed the report, they stated this needs to be prioritised and ties back into item CL08/0221 - Application to NTA for funding for segregated cycle lane. It would be ideal if this could feature in an application to NTA. They questioned could NTA funds be used as opposed to LPT.

Mr Buggie advised that members agreed to spend LPT funding on this project delivery which was dependent on level 5 restrictions being lifted. NTA are considering all substantial projects this year as opposed to smaller ones. He would request that the team dealing with it, highlight it with NTA to ascertain would funding be considered.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

CL14/0221

Bus stop at Elton Court

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell.
Can the council confirm if there has been any response from Dublin bus to the request submitted for a bus stop at Elton Court, on the Celbridge Road, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that no response has been received to date. The members will be informed once a response was received.

CL15/0221

Capital Programmes as per the 2021 budget

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville
Can the council set out a basis for and a timeline of the capital projects to be delivered in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District as per the 2021 Budget?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that
The following are a list of the projects listed in the Capital Projects to be delivered or progressed in 2021 by the Parks Section.

Project	Budget	Comment
Leixlip Playground	€200k	Survey to be carried out March / April to get opinions on improvements required. Tender for design of car park and playground to be prepared and issued. Construction of new playground and car park to be tendered before the end of the year.
Wonderful Barn	€200k	Prepare a tender for consultants to develop plans for Barnhall House and associated buildings by end of year.
Celbridge Abbey Playground	€80k	Add equipment, circulation paths and seating to the playground. Work to be completed by Summer.
St Catherine's Park	€200k	Tender for construction of sensory garden by end of year
Castletown Woods	€100k	Tender for consultants to prepare a conservation plan for the woods by the end of the year.

A further report was received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road was currently progressing through a non-statutory public consultation as part of the route options selection process. The scheme is currently funded by Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) – 75% and council funds - 25%. It is proposed to proceed through the route options selection process to detailed design and the relevant statutory processes in 2022. The council have applied for and are awaiting notification on further URDF funding for this project.

The report was noted.

CL16/0221

Road repairs at Riverforest

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

Can the council confirm when the road will be repaired in Riverforest that was worked on by the ESB in 2019?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the ESB have recently applied for a road opening licence to carry out these repair works. The licence is valid until August 2021.

The report was noted

CL17/0221

Switching on of signalised pedestrian crossings

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

Can the members be given an update on when will the signalised pedestrian crossings that were installed in this municipal district last year be switched on?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that The 2 new pedestrian signal crossings installed on the Aghards road and on the Maynooth Road near Castletown North entrance, are both with the ESB construction team for connection.

The electrical connection charges for the 3 new pedestrian signal crossings installed near Westfield on the Green Lane, at St Marys GAA on Green Lane and at Scoil Ui

Dhalaigh on Old Hill in Leixlip have been discharged and the council are waiting for the connections to be assigned to the relevant ESB team for construction.

The report was noted

CL18/0221

Standing Orders

To consider and adopt revised Standing Orders for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee.

The Cathaoirleach proposed that the item in relation to the revised Standing Orders for the Celbridge-Leixlip District Committee be deferred and listed as an item on the March agenda. The Cathaoirleach requested the members to read the draft report in advance of the next March meeting as she would not be taking questions on the day.

Resolved on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach and agreed by all members present that the consideration of the revised Standing Orders for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee be deferred and listed as an item on the March agenda.

CL19/0221

Celbridge Primary Psychology Services

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Galvin That this council write to the HSE, calling on them to re-open the Celbridge Primary Psychology services.

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

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

A discussion ensued amongst the members and they stated this service was now required more than ever during Covid-19.

Councillor Liston advised she was a member of the Regional Health Forum with the HSE and would also raise this item at the next meeting. In addition, eye test and

dental services have been removed in north County Kildare. Cllr Liston agreed to also raise these issues.

The members proposed an amendment to the motion,

That this council write the the HSE and the Minister of Health asking them to reopen Celbridge Primary Psychology Services.

The amended motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by all members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Galvin seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that this council write to the HSE and the Minister of Health asking them to reopen Celbridge Primary Psychology Services.

CL20/0221

Proposal for 37 housing units on the Ardclough Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen
Can the members receive an update on the proposal for 37 housing units on the Ardclough Road?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the closing date for tender returns for an Architect Lead Design Team was 11 February 2021, which now require assessment. It should be noted that updates in relation to this project are provided monthly to members in the Chief Executive's report.
The report was noted.

CL21/0221

Children in emergency accommodation

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

Can the council confirm if all children in emergency accommodation in the Municipal District are provided with tablets or computers to enable their learning while schools are closed?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the engagement of students with remote learning and availability of laptops/computers is a matter for the Department of Education and Skills. Various assistive schemes are administered in this area and are available to children currently in emergency accommodation in the Municipal District

Councillor Liston enquired whether schools have the sufficient equipment required for each student.

Mr Brady advised that availability of laptops/computers was a matter for the Department of Education and the parents. There are different supports that can be accessed if the need arises such as Tech2Students which was widely publicised. The report was noted.

CL22/0221

Acquisition of buildings for social housing

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin
Can the council provide an update on the acquisition of buildings for social housing in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Currently there are two CPO's ongoing in Celbridge, there are no direct acquisitions. Acquisitions are considered throughout the year as they come to the council's attention. The Chief Executive's report which was issued to the members monthly, provides a regular update in relation to housing projects.
The report was noted.

CL23/0221

Housing units ready for allocation under leased Scheme

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen
Can the council confirm how many housing units in each estate in the municipal

district would be ready for allocation under the leased scheme in March or soon after?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the designation of essential sites dealt with units which were due to be completed by 28/02/2021. 61 units in Barnhall Meadows are included in the leasing programme and are due for delivery in a single phase by the 01 April 2021, this is the only scheme being delivered via the leasing programme in the Municipal District.

The report was noted

CL24/0221

Cutting of hedgerows

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman
Can the council confirm what means they have used to inform the public that it is prohibited to cut hedgerows from the 01 February to 31 August?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Notification is issued in local papers and on Kildare County Council website in September each year, advising landowners of their requirements to maintain hedgerows. This maintenance can only be carried out from 01st September to end of February.

Councillor Coleman welcomed the report however he was more concerned about prohibiting cutting of the hedgerows as opposed to maintaining them.

Ms Barrett advised this could be taken back to Communications Officer and ask her to advertise on the council's social media advising the public that it was an offense to cut hedgerows during this period.

The report was noted.

CL25/0221

Public Realm Town Plans

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen
Can the council confirm what the next steps are for the public realm town plans for Leixlip and Celbridge and when will public consultation phase commence?

A report was received from the Public and Strategic Development Department informing the members that The Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team continue to engage closely with Metropolitan Workshop, the consultants appointed to prepare both the Leixlip and Celbridge Town Renewal Plans.

The Urban Design Analysis stage was complete for both towns. It is proposed to commence the next round of online public consultation in March/April 2021.

The report was noted

CL26/0221

Control of Horses Byelaws

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen
That the members are updated on the Kildare County Council (Athy) Control of Horses Byelaws 2016 and the subsequent rolling out of same to other parts of Kildare, to include Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District area.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Control of Horses Byelaws in Athy are in place and operational. These byelaws were adopted in November 2016. There are also existing byelaws, i.e. The County Council of Kildare Control of Horses Byelaws 2000, which are applicable in the functional area of the county council including Celbridge–Leixlip.

These were revoked in the Athy byelaws to the extent that they relate to the area of Athy, but otherwise remain in full force and effect.

The members raised the following points:

- What was the outcome of these bye laws being adopted in 2016 in Athy?
- Does the council plan to roll it out to other municipal districts?
- Newbridge was considered as another area for a pilot programme, has there been any progression with this?

Mr Fagan confirmed he would check with Environment in relation to the questions raised by members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members that the report be noted and Mr Fagan would seek clarification on the questions raised and revert to the members.

CL27/0221

Environmental Performance Assessment

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston that the council provides a report at the March Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting on the findings of the Environmental Performance Assessment 2019 (and 2020 if available) by the EPA, relevant to this municipal district, with a copy of the same circulated in advance to members.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the EPA advise that they will not be issuing individual local authority assessment reports for 2019, however they will be releasing a national report in the coming weeks. A copy of the report or link can be forwarded to members when available and if any member has any queries re same, they can contact Environment Section

Councillor Liston welcomed the national report however she was really looking for the detail at county level and broken down further into municipal district level (if available) and for it to be presented at the municipal district meeting to the members. She also enquired, if the EPA were not doing an up to date report, why was this?

Mr Fagan advised he would request the information from Mr Holligan, Senior Engineer in Environment.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed by the members that the report be noted and Mr Fagan would request the information from Mr Holligan, Senior Engineer in Environment once he received the report from the EPA and would make it available to the members.

CL28/0221

Date and venue for used Mattress Day

The member considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell
Can the council provide a date and venue for the Used Mattresses Day in Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Mattress Amnesty which was held at the Civic Amenity Sites in previous years was part-funded under the Department's (DCCAE) Anti-Dumping Initiative. In the event that a similar scheme is launched for 2021, an application for funding will be made to the Department. The Members will be aware that there are also logistical issues to be considered, including finding an appropriate location.

The report was noted.

CL29/0221

Recording of localised flooding events

The member considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston.

Can the council confirm what determines if and when the council records localised flooding events in the municipal district (not included on OPW's maps) using the OPW flood data collection form?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that The OPW Past Flood Events Forms have been circulated to the Municipal District offices. These forms require input across several headings, such as flood data

(including depth and flow) and impact of the flood event (including impacts on people and properties). The Municipal District Engineer determines if there is meaningful and useful data available from each specific event to facilitate the completion of the form.

Councillor Liston welcomed the report, she would like to know where these forms are stored and are they available to view.

Mr Fagan advised he could check what forms are completed and if they are available.

The report was noted.

CL30/0221

Colour scheme for Main St in Leixlip

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council develop a recommended colour scheme for the Main Street in Leixlip as part of the Shop Front Grants Scheme.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Coleman. A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Department informing the members that There is a Shop Front Guidelines document (link below) that has guidance for business owners who are interested in improving their shop front. Furthermore, in some other towns in the County a specialist paint company has been brought in to advise the business owners re: colour. The businesses came together as a group and engaged with the paint company directly but if there was a cost associated with this the group from Leixlip could apply for a grant to cover that cost.

<http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Business/SupportingBusinessinCountyKildare/ShopFrontTownCentreImprovementGrantScheme/Shop%20Front%20Guidelinesb.pdf>

Mr Dunne advised there was a provision for businesses to apply for shop front grants either individually or as a group to consider a combined colour scheme. Ms McNabb, Head of Enterprise would deal with these applications.

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

CL31/0221

Review of legacy funding payments

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen. That a review of Legacy Funding Payments for Festivals and Christmas Lights be carried out in respect of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

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

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Department informing the members that this matter will be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

A discussion ensued amongst the members and Mr Dunne clarified that the member's motion related to their municipal district only.

The following points were raised;

- The Finance Committee may not be the appropriate group to review this and it may be appropriate that a motion go to Full Council, as an overall review of these payments is what is required.
- There is no legacy funding for Celbridge, just Leixlip
- Potential risk to Leixlip Festival arising from a review
- There should be equity and consistency within the municipal district

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the report be noted. Members noted they would give consideration to putting a motion related to this matter to full council.

CL32/0221

Communication to enhance learning about Council

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston. that the council, in partnership with schools in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District, co-develop a pilot engagement framework which would aim to establish open channels of communication for young people to enhance their learning about council; increase their awareness of all opportunities through the council to actively participate in the development of their town and county; and to enable young people give their feedback on the form of engagement methods.

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

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Department informing the members that This framework is already in place through the Council funded Comhairle Na nÓg. Comhairle na nÓg are child and youth councils in the 31 local authorities of the country, which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies.

In light of the fact that Comhairle na nÓg is for young people under the age of 18 and who therefore have no other voting mechanism to have their voice heard, Comhairle na nÓg is designed to enable young people to have a voice on the services, policies and issues that affect them in their local area.

Comhairle had 58 members county wide in 2020. During the year they worked with the Halo Project, Youthreach, KYS and attended several training courses.

They also had the opportunity to work on:

- Consultation process for the development of new green space strategy for Kildare.
- Engaging in the consultation process for the Integration Strategy.
- Having discussions on the participation of young people from Comhairle on the Environment SPC.
- The Comhairle Coordinator represents Comhairle at the JPC forum.

It is considered that Comhairle gives an excellent opportunity to engage with young people and to listen to their point of view.

The council will forward the motion enquiry to Kildare Youth Services who deliver the Comhairle Na Nog programme on behalf of Kildare Co Council.

The members welcomed this motion and suggested inviting Comhairle na nÓg to present to the meeting and noted it is important to devise some pilot engagement framework for primary and secondary schools

Mr L Dunne agreed he council would forward the motion to Kildare Youth Services and revert to members with the outcome.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted. Mr L Dunne would write to Kildare Youth Services on this motion and revert to the members with the outcome.

CL33/0221

Swimming pool for North Kildare

The members agreed to take this motion and a question from Councillor Neville together.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman. That this Municipal District Committee receive a report on the advancement of delivering the swimming pool for North Kildare.

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

The members considered the following question (CL35/0221) in the name of Councillor Neville.

Can the council outline the action to-date in relation to the North Kildare swimming pool?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Department informing the members that the members will be aware that Kildare County Council

and Maynooth University applied for funding for a public swimming pool for North Kildare under the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Scheme. The application was unsuccessful, and an appeal was lodged as the assessment of the application did not seem to take account of the wider community benefits of the project. Also, the fact that the Council is making a significant capital contribution to the project and Maynooth University are offering a site for the facility. No response has, yet, been received to the appeal

Councillor Coleman expressed his disappointment at the application being unsuccessful, he was concerned that the Sports Infrastructure Scheme did not take into account the benefits this swimming pool would provide to the wider community.

Councillor Galvin concurred with Councillor Coleman and hopes the appeal would be successful and if not, what were the next steps in the process.

A discussion ensued amongst the members and they raised the following issues that may assist a future application should the appeal be unsuccessful;

- Did the location at Maynooth University hinder the application would it have been more successful if another location was identified.
- Should consideration be given to Leixlip as a location close to Maynooth and Celbridge, with parking spaces available and accessible to the train station.
- It should be outlined in application that there is a plan to teach children how to swim this might strengthen the application's community credentials.
- The members would be interested in understanding the finances and funding, especially the monetary contribution, if any by Maynooth University towards the proposal.

Mr Dunne advised the members the council was very disappointed the application was unsuccessful but that they needed to see the process through with the appeal. The Economic Community and Cultural Department would update the members with the response.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted and will keep the members informed.

CL34/0221

Age Friendly Pre Walkability Audit of Leixlip

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen
Can the members receive a presentation on the report following the Age Friendly Pre-Walkability Audit of Leixlip?

A report was received from Economic Community and Cultural Department informing the members that unfortunately, the Kildare Age Friendly pre - walkability audit for Leixlip did not take place due to increased Covid-19 restrictions imposed at that time and will be carried out when restrictions allow.

The report was noted

CL35/0221

North Kildare Swimming Pool

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin
Can the council outline the action to-date in relation to the North Kildare swimming pool?

The members agreed to take this question and motion CL33/0221 from Councillor Colman together.

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Department, informing the members that the members would be aware that Kildare County Council and Maynooth University applied for funding for a public swimming pool for North Kildare under the Large-Scale Sports Infrastructure Scheme. The application was unsuccessful, and an appeal was lodged as the assessment of the application did not seem to take account of the wider community benefits of the project. Also, the fact that the Council was making a significant capital contribution to the project

and Maynooth University are offering a site for the facility. No response has, yet, been received to the appeal.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.