

**Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting held at 10.00am on
Friday, 22 January 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 and Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms S. O'Gara (Project Manager), Mr J Malone (Acting Senior Executive Engineer), Ms K Keane, Mr O Brady, Mr E Fagan, (Administrative Officers), Mr S Deegan (Climate Action Officer) Ms C O'Donnell (Acting Senior Planner Mr A Shanahan (Meetings Administrator) and Ms C Dempsey (Meetings Secretary).

CL01/0121

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 18 December 2020 together with the progress report.

The minutes of the monthly meeting were approved subject to amendments of item (CL23/1220) to Councillor Galvin who had provided evidence of consent from a person in line with GDPR to include student and teacher's name in minutes.

(CL22/1220) to Councillor Liston, she requested that word Glasco be replaced with LAWCO.

(CL09/1220) to Councillor Liston who stated that the sentence be removed 'Councillor Liston welcomed the report and noted that some years ago the members got the speed limit reduced and they are anticipating would not be increased as it is a very narrow road with a lot of traffic'.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen and seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting with the agreed amendments held on 18 December 2020, of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL02/0121

Matters arising

Councillor Caldwell referred to item CL23/0720 on progress report - Provision of green waste composting area along the Silleachain Lane, Councillor Caldwell suggested asking residents in these areas to identify areas that may be suitable for compost sites.

Councillor Caldwell referred to CL25/0620 Scheme for Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure 2020 on progress report. Parks Department contacted Councillor Caldwell during the week to say work would be done in this area in relation to outdoor gym equipment.

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

CL03/0121

Municipal District Road Works

The Municipal District Engineer updated the member on the works that had taken place in 2020 under the following headings;

- Roadworks Programme
- Drainage maintenance
- Footpath maintenance
- LPT projects
- NTA projects
- Severe Weather Response

He also outlined the Financial Summary for 2020, LPT projects and NTA projects undertaken in 2020 and other significant work completed. He outlined the LPT

projects for 2021 and Restoration Improvements 2021-2022 which are still subject to Department funding.

The members welcomed the updates and were very pleased with the age friendly benches and pencil bollards. Councillor Killeen enquired about the review of the bins for 2021/2022. Councillor Cussen advised review of the bins was currently being undertaken through the Environmental Strategic Policy Committee

The members asked about the dog fouling bins. Mr C Buggie advised that the current position from the Environment Department is the 'any bag any bin' policy remains. It was noted that a review of bin locations was needed. Cllr Cussen advised that the Environment SPC decided that a review of bin locations was to be undertaken which might highlight the possible relocation of some bins.

The members enquired if there would be any financial support available from Covid-19 funding for Sunday street cleaning. The members will pursue through Environment to see if they can avail of this.

Mr C. Buggie remembered the late John Fanning who tragically lost his life last October.

John was the foreman in the Leixlip area for road maintenance and worked with Kildare County Council for 14 years.

The members offered their sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of John Fanning, and to his work family, and remembered him fondly.

The members thanked Mr C Buggie and his team for all their hard work and efforts over the last year, and acknowledging Mr Buggies leadership in this regard.

CL04/0121

Agree and Approve the allocation of LPT Schedule of Works 2021 (including the agreed list of road projects)

It was agreed by all members that this item be brought forward to the February municipal district meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by all members that the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2021 be carried forward and listed as an item on the February agenda.

CL05/0121

Update of finished, unfinished and estates under construction

The members welcomed the report and required clarification in the following areas in the report.

- The column 'bond successfully called in' as it only had one yes against it.
- The 'bond expired' column caused confusion as it indicated € 734,000 had expired, the members required further clarification on this.
- They asked was it a live list or a reflection of 2020.

Mr J. Malone explained the document was a working document and would be updated every 6 months. Mr Malone would respond directly to Councillor Galvin in relation to her queries.

As Ms A Burke was unavailable to attend this meeting it was agreed by all members that any further queries would be forwarded to Ms A Burke directly.

Ms C. Barrett explained in terms of taking in charge the process is initiated by a request. Normally the request comes from the developer, but if not, residents can request their estate be taken in charge through Section 180. Without a request the council could not commence the taking in charge process. She also indicated apartments could not be taken in charge and confirmed that bonds are now being actively managed by Kildare County Council staff.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members present that the report be noted, and any further queries would be forwarded to Ms A Burke directly.

CL06/0121

Transport Strategy for Celbridge and Leixlip area

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston
That the council outlines all scenarios under which a Transport Strategy for Celbridge and Leixlip area would be started in the first half of 2021.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Councils Planning Directorate has asked the Roads and Transport Directorate to develop transport strategies associated with various Local Area Plans (LAP's). These are orientated around the Planning Directorate's programme for the year. The Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Directorate would need to complete those strategies required to inform the LAP's before starting any further work.

If Traffic Management plans were contracted out to consultants, Celbridge would be considered as a priority location.

The members welcomed the report but expressed their frustration as this issue has been raised for years. Celbridge and Leixlip were to be considered but Celbridge as a priority and a special case due to the following reasons.

- Highest population density in the county
- Celbridge has a high number of commuters
- The train station is not centrally located
- The bus service in Celbridge is over subscribed.
- There is inadequate cycling infrastructure
- It could take 45 minutes to get from one end of the town to the other.
- Traffic congestion, which will again become an issue when we exit Covid-19 restrictions

- The urgent need to support climate action

The members called on Ms Barrett to explain the options and clarify if resources were a barrier so they could assist.

Ms C. Barrett understood the members frustration This work is being carried out by a team of two people that do not exclusively work on transport strategy. Ms Barrett is trying to adequately manage available limited resources. Transport strategies must be done in advance of Local Area Plans (LAPs) but must be done in the order in which LAPs are expiring. This is a requirement of the new Planning Regulators Office that now means all other LAPs, that have expiry dates before the Celbridge Leixlip LAP, have to be prioritised. It was noted that even if Traffic Management plans are contracted out to consultants, there is still a resource requirement to manage the work with the consultants and co-ordinate interaction with almost all Council Departments. Ms. Barrett noted that she would be meeting the Planning Department to further discuss the work plan for transport strategies and would update the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that District Manager to revert to members on the prioritisation of transport strategies following consultation with Planning Department the report be noted.

CL07/0121

Entrance to the Barnhall Rugby Club

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville That the paths be dishd at the entrance to the Barnhall Rugby Club to make it more accessible to all.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer would arrange this work to be carried out as soon as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

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

CL08/0121

Road safety from Confey Church to the bottom of Captains Hill.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That the council assess the road safety from Confey Church to the bottom of Captains Hill.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is currently a footpath on one side of the road with a pedestrian crossing at the school and a pedestrian phase in the main traffic lights at the junction of the Main Street. The road has a 50km/hr speed limit and the surface is in good condition. There is a driver feed-back sign near the entrance to St. Mary's Park.

The members advised it would be worth getting speed checks carried out on the road as this might slow traffic down. They understood there was no easy solution and it was not possible to make the road any wider and that once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, Mr Buggie could get a speed check done on this road. They asked that it be kept on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by the members that the report be noted and that once Covid-19 restrictions were lifted, a speed check would be carried out on this road. This item should remain on the progress report.

CL09/0121

EV charging points in Celbridge and Leixlip

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

Can the council confirm what plans are in place for applying for funding and installing EV charging points in Celbridge and Leixlip in 2021?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that as part of SEAI funding application councils are expected to identify the areas of highest demand where chargers would receive highest usage however, a method of achieving this and confirming demand and local acceptance for the proposed charger has not evolved yet. However, it is expected that a more formal process would merge once the scheme becomes established. Locations are to be based in residential areas and based on demand to facilitate residents without access to off street parking. A dedicated clearly marked parking space must be provided per charge point with adequate enforcement measures in place to ensure access to EV which require charge. A funding application would be premature at this stage pending revision of the relevant Pay Parking Bye Laws to ensure that the dedicated EV charging locations could be enforced

The report was noted.

CL10/0121

Public lighting in Willowbrook Park

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

That the council install public lighting in Willowbrook Park on the pathway from Willowbrook Park to Ash Grove for the safety and security of all users.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that The Public Lighting Section would visit the location of the requested new streetlight, and it would then be assessed using a priority system within Kildare's Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS).

Lighting schemes would be scored on various factors and placed within KLIPS according to that score. The lighting within KLIPS would be installed as and when funds become available and depending on where the request sits within KLIPS.

Councillor Coleman welcomed the report and noted this is the only council park in Celbridge and that fixing lights in this area, was a favourable situation for all concerned and would allow for:

- An Garda Síochána would monitor the park once the lighting is working
- The path in the area also allows access to the shops and bus stops
- There is also protection for the playground if lights working

The members queried what is the municipal division for KLIP lighting compared to other municipal districts?

Mr. O'Toole advised that a desktop review had already been carried out in relation to this area, unfortunately it was going to come down to availability of funding. There was no amount specifically set down per municipal district and the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department allocate funding fairly and adequately. There are presently 3 requests for funding re KLIPS in this MD. St Patricks is first on the list and only one request could be done at a time. Councillor Coleman stated he would meet Mr O'Toole to try and progress the matter quicker, especially as An Garda Síochána have expressed an interest in the matter.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted. Councillor Coleman would meet Mr C. O'Toole to try and progress the matter. This item should be put on the progress report.

CL11/0121

Replacement of the Ardclough road sign on the Hazelhatch Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman
Can the council provide an update to the members on the replacement of the Ardclough road sign on the Hazelhatch Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that This sign would be installed by the crew this week.

The report was noted.

CL12/0121

Publication of municipal district agendas, reports and minutes on website

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston That the council publishes all municipal district agendas, reports and minutes in an open, accessible, and searchable format on its website.

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

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that Currently the council publishes all agendas and minutes of Municipal District meetings and the full council meeting on its website and on the Members Information Portal (members use only). The agendas are published as soon as they issue, the minutes are published as soon as they have been approved by the members of the relevant committee. Heretofore, the agenda reports on motions and questions were provided to the press immediately after the meeting but as we have moved to online meetings, we are making these reports available to them in advance of the meeting. Agenda reports also form part of the minutes which are published.

The members receive numerous reports in preliminary/draft format for discussion and input, both at municipal district meetings and at full council. It is not proposed to publish draft reports until they have been agreed/adopted by the members as to do so would be confusing and providing incomplete information to the public.

The members welcomed the report however they indicated existing reports were not easily accessible for visually impaired viewers and were not searchable. Councillor Liston noted Fingal County Council had a very good system in place for the community where they could put into a search engine a name of a Councillor and

see their motions or questions, by meetings or topic. This system would help the community understand how Kildare County Council works, create a trusting environment and support public engagement.

Ms Keane, Corporate Services accepted the members view on behalf of the public, however noted such a system was not currently in place in Kildare and would need to be considered further, having regard for budgets and resources. Ms Keane stated she would enquire regarding the system Final County Council use and speak with Mr Hopkins (HIS). She noted the IT department are already under significant pressure assisting staff with remote working due to Covid-19 along with all the other projects currently ongoing, that are required by different departments. It is not something that will be considered in a short time frame, but an initial examination would be carried out and updates provided via the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members that the report be noted and the matter examined further and an update provided via the Progress Report.

CL13/0121

Proposed development of the old ESB lands off Main Street Leixlip

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell. Can the council provide an update of the proposed development of the old ESB lands off Main Street Leixlip?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Initial proposals were prepared by Cluid and recently responded to by the Planning Department. Cluid are reviewing comments and would develop a more detailed proposal. They expect to tender for a design team in Quarter 1, 2021.

Councillor Caldwell welcomed the report, he requested it remain on the progress report. Mr O Brady indicated that Cluid had been in contact with the Planning Department and work was ongoing, he would keep the members updated as it progresses.

The report was noted, and the members agreed that the Housing Department would keep them updated as it progressed.

CL14/0121

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 25 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Garden and orchard at the rear of Newtown House

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council retain and maintain the garden and orchard at the rear of Newtown House.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that The Architects Section are currently preparing a Part 8 application for a development of 4 single storey units suitable for older persons on the site. As part of this development it is intended to use part of the site to the west and north side of Newtown House. The design intent for this area is that it would act as 'shared surface' to provide access to the development and a limited amount of residents parking however the intention is also that this space would maintain an amenity value and would complement the setting of the proposed development and Newtown House itself.

It is understood that the Parks Section have looked at the trees on the site and that the existing planting is not considered to be of high-quality. However, as part of the design development of this area the Architect's Section would give proper consideration to the retention of existing planting as part of any future development proposal.

Councillor Caldwell welcomed the report. The members advised it would be a shame to lose this orchard as it is the last remaining public orchard in Celbridge.

Mr O Brady informed the members once the Part 8 documents are completed, they would be brought before the members for consideration

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by the members that the report be noted and Mr Brady would keep the members informed once the Part 8 was prepared.

CL15/0121

Update on Public Realm Projects.

A meeting was planned for 28 January 2021 with elected member and senior officials of Kildare County Council to present an update on Public Realm Projects.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that this meeting date be noted.

CL16/0121

Three school's campus in Celbridge

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 Galvin and Killeen.

That the council outline specific reasons for the delay in progressing the three school's campus in Celbridge and work to accelerate the outstanding issues with all stakeholders.

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

The members considered the following question (CL18/0121) in the name of Councillor Neville.

Can the Municipal District Committee get an update from the council on the site for St. Raphael's Special School, Celbridge Community School and St. Patrick's National School?

A Combined report for item 16,17 and 18 was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that The Receiver, in association with NAMA, commissioned a Draft Masterplan for the Ballyoulster Key Development Area (as identified in the Celbridge Local Area Plan (LAP). It outlines a key school campus site to facilitate the three schools, in addition to the development of new residential areas and parklands. The Masterplan also provides the framework for the phased development of the overall area, and the schools sites have been identified in Phase 1. The council has reviewed the Masterplan and feedback has been provided and subsequently, the Receiver/NAMA and their consultants have come back with clarifications which have been reviewed and additional comments have recently been provided. From the council's perspective, however, the need to accommodate the three schools is paramount importance and is not dependant on any masterplan.

There were some technical challenges to be teased out in relation to the development objective contained within the LAP, for an upgrade to the existing pedestrian/cyclist footbridge and/or a new pedestrian/cyclist bridge in the town centre and a mechanism for its delivery/funding and the phasing of overall development. These are now resolved to the council's satisfaction.

The Director of Services for Planning and Strategic Development has been in contact with the receiver to progress matters. He understands that there is an issue of a commercially sensitive nature which is also impeding progress, but solutions are being explored with the full co-operation and support of Kildare County Council.

The members welcomed the report and Councillor Killeen indicated that one of the three schools are in temporary accommodation the last 12 years. The pressure is mounting for the new school campus to open which would facilitate the relocation of 3 schools (Celbridge Community College (currently in temporary accommodation at Maynooth Road), St Patricks Primary School (currently on the Hazelhatch Road) & St Raphael's Special Education School (currently in St John of God complex). The members need to ensure they work with Kildare County Council to progress this and

solutions. Councillor Galvin advised on foot of the recent zoom meeting with the school management the frustration that was expressed was palpable. The members indicated there seemed to be a communications issue and that the receiver does not appear to be prioritising the delivery of the school campus and felt contacting the Department of Education would be more effective.

Ms O'Donnell indicated that facilitating the relocation of the schools was a priority for Kildare County Council. In November 2020 Kildare County Council received the draft master plan from the receiver. Feedback was subsequently received and submitted on behalf of the various Departments within the council in relation to the Master Plan. While the master plan is not a statutory document the Local Area Plan is, and the relevant objectives of the Local Area Plan would be transposed into the Master Plan. Kildare County Council would be requiring that the delivery of the school campus would form part of the first phase of delivery. There are however a number of objectives that must be realised as part of the overall delivery of the Ballyoulster Master Plan, one of the more notable objectives relating to the improvement of pedestrian and cycle facilities at either of two locations; alongside the existing Liffey Bridge or via Main Street/ Donaghcumper/ Dublin Road.

The next step is to get the master plan finalised, where it could then be presented to the members for noting. The Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department would keep the members updated as the master plan progresses **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by the members that the report be noted and the members be kept updated as the master plan progress's and this to remain on the progress report

CL17/0121

Invitation to three school campus teams

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen
That the members invite the three school's campus team to present to the February Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department, informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree. If agreed, any deputation or presentation would be facilitated remotely.

A discussion ensued amongst the members. Councillors Killeen and Galvin indicated they would like the meeting with 3 schools to take place during the February MD meeting, as a Deputation. It was however raised by some members that receipt of a Deputation may be restrictive, and a clarification of the Standing Order was sought from the Meeting Administrator.

Mr Shanahan indicated that if a Deputation was to take place standing orders stipulate that the maximum time allowed would be 30 minutes, presentation time by the Deputation was limited ordinarily to 5 minutes, in addition rules do not accommodate a question and answer session with council officials or questions from the Deputation. Some members indicated it would be up to the school to decide what route they would like to take in relation to the meeting, but this proposal was not supported as an amendment to the motion. Cllr Coleman noted that the current motion restricts the invitation to a specific date i.e. the date of the municipal district meeting and prevents a Q&A and may therefore not be constructive.

Following further discussion, Councillor Cussen proposed an amendment to the motion, and the members considered the following amended motion:

That the members invite the three schools campus team to present to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District members and relevant Council Officials, during February and as a matter of urgency.

The amended motion was proposed by Councillor Cussen seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by a majority of the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that an invitation be sent to the three school campus team to present to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District members and relevant Council Officials, during February and as a matter of urgency.

CL18/0121

Invitation to Nama re Ballyoulster school's site.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Galvin that this council write to NAMA in relation to delays on the Ballyoulster schools' site, inviting them to meet the councillors of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District in February 2021.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that this council write to NAMA in relation to delays on the Ballyoulster schools site, inviting them to meet the councillors of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District in February 2021.

A discussion ensued amongst the members and they indicated there seemed to be a communication's issue, as the receiver does not appear to be prioritising the delivery of the school campus. The members believed that contacting the Department of Education would escalate the process.

Following further debate, Councillor Galvin proposed an amendment to the motion as follows:

That this council write to NAMA and to Department of Education in relation to delays on the Ballyoulster schools site, and invite them to meet the councillors of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District in February 2021, as a matter of urgency.

The amended motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Galvin seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by all members present that a letter issue to the NAMA and the Department of Education and Skills inviting them to a meeting with the members of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District in February, as a matter of urgency .

CL19/0121

Suitable trees in pots for Main Street Celbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen. That the Main Street Celbridge area be assessed by the council and progressed for some suitable trees in pots as part of the public realm.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that some discussion has already taken place between the Municipal District Engineer and the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team on this subject. However, the Town Renewal Plan process has commenced for Celbridge and all new proposed public realm works should be considered in this context and in accordance with the future proposed Public Realm Strategy for the town.

Councillor Liston fully supported Councillor Cussens motion noting there was a need for it to be linked to the Town Renewal plan.

Ms M Hunt advised that the Public Realm Team had discussed this with the Parks Department, Heritage Officer and Mr Buggie. While biodiversity is paramount, and ordinarily, tree pits are more suitable, the presence of services under the footpaths in Celbridge, render tree pits an unsuitable solution in Celbridge. Ms M Hunt undertook to revert to Parks Dept and Heritage Officer with the members wishes to have tree pots provided in Celbridge and that the provision of same be decoupled from the Town Renewal Plan.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by the members that the report be noted and Ms Hunt would discuss the issue with Parks and update the members accordingly. The item would go on the progress report.

CL20/0121

Actions and preparations to prepare projects for the Municipal District in relation to funding

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen
Can the council outline what actions and preparations are underway to prepare projects for the municipal district where funding might become available throughout 2021?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department. Informing the members that several projects are being progressed in the municipal district at present, these are Leixlip Playground, The Wonderful Barn, a Youth Facility for Celbridge and Sensory Garden for St Catherines Park. It is unclear what funding might be available for these or what stages of the projects could be funded. However, work would continue to deliver these projects in 2021. The exact timeframes to reach this stage would be dependent on the scale of the project and the staff resources available to progress them. Further details on their progression would be presented to councillors before the end of March as part of an outline of the Parks Section Works Programme for 2021.

The report was noted.

CL21/0121

Celbridge habitat data

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston.
Can the council confirm if the Celbridge habitat data provided as an output of the Celbridge Habitat Survey report been published as GIS layers, if so could you provide the link to the map be provided and if not can this be done?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development Department and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Habitat Survey (and associated mapping) informed the preparation and formulation of the land use zoning and development strategy adopted in the Celbridge Local Area Plan 2017-2023. The Planning Department does not currently make this information available

on the GIS as it should not be read in isolation from the supporting narrative derived from the habitat survey. The maps and associated narrative (including appropriate policies and objectives for the protection of habitats, etc.) are available in the Celbridge LAP document.

Councillor Liston welcomed the report however detail in the report was not clear on rationale as there are a lot of data layers, maps, powerful tools that are not being utilised adequately

Ms C O Donnell advised she would revert to Councillor Liston on her query.
The report was noted.

CL22/0121

Climate Action Update

Mr Deegan from the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO), in collaboration with the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) delivered a presentation to the members highlighting the following points:

- It was aimed at encouraging elected members to lead local climate action initiatives at municipal district level.
- It demonstrated examples of local climate action initiatives already piloted/undertaken, namely the Climate Camp pilot held in Kildare Town.
- These examples included the Community Training Programme which resulted from a LEADER/CARO partnership and the development of Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC'S), with a focus on the Maynooth SEC, which was chaired by Councillor Hamilton.
- It focused on the importance of partnerships for community development and local climate action, such as the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, between the GAA and local Government, which would see the development of Sustainable Club Workshops and toolkits under the Green Clubs Programme.

- It recognised the leadership role played by the elected members in communities and within municipal districts, as well as the untapped expertise which existed at local level.
- It explored how one might connect with their communities and looked at the framework provided by the Climate Action Charter.
- Some of the key actions it contained included the building of a sustained localised citizen engagement model and the importance of connecting with young citizens.

The members agreed that any questions they had in relation to the presentation would be forwarded directly to Mr Deegan.

CL23/0121

French drains in Confey Cemetery

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council put in place more French drains in Confey Cemetery.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Cussen. A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that Kildare County Council recently carried out detailed geotechnical investigations at Confey Graveyard, which found there to be little to no natural soakage in the underlying ground. Therefore, the installation of French drains would not serve any useful purpose in addressing ground water issues.

The members welcomed the report however Councillor Caldwell expressed his dissatisfaction at the response, if French drains could not be used could the Environment Department look for an alternative drain to rectify the problem. The issue was particularly unpleasant at Christmas time with as the problem with drainage was very evident at the angel's plot area.

Councillor Killeen stated we were not affording people dignity in their place of rest if this matter was not addressed.

Mr E Fagan would revert to the Environment Department and request Mr Flynn to examine alternative long-term solutions.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted and that Mr Fagan would revert to the Environment Department and request M Flynn to examine alternative long-term solutions. This item should be put on the progress report.

CL24/0121

Update on the extension of Confey Cemetery

The member considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell
Can the council provide the members with an update on the extension of Confey cemetery?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that recent investigations by Kildare County Council in conjunction with the HSE found the ground in the lands adjacent the existing cemetery at Confey to be unsuitable for interments. It would therefore not be possible to extend the cemetery. Alternative sites would have to be considered.

Councillor Caldwell was unhappy with the report and asked if the council could clarify if the unsuitable land was to the left, right or behind Confey cemetery.

Mr E Fagan confirmed he would request clarification on the exact location of the land and revert to the members.

CL25/0121

Illegal dumping at Oldtown Road and Clane Road (Ardglass) Celbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman.
That the council urgently act in finding a solution to prevent the perpetrators from illegal dumping (which occurs on a regular basis) on the Oldtown Road and Clane Road (Ardglass), Celbridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Galvin. A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the area in question is a busy regional road as it is one of the main roads out of Celbridge and is regularly patrolled by the council's Community Warden.

The council employed CCTV cameras at the location in question for several weeks before Christmas with some success. The warden has reported that the dumping tended to happen in the evenings or under cover of darkness, and that in some cases the rubbish appears to have been dumped from a moving vehicle.

The operation of removing the fly-tipping from this location is hampered as it is a winding road with a continuous white line down the middle. Operation of a traffic control system is required while the rubbish is being cleared and the assistance from the Municipal District Engineer's Office is appreciated in this regard.

The Community Warden would continue to monitor this area in the future. Any information the members, or members of the public, may have in relation to illegal dumping could be passed on to the council warden for follow up action.

Councillor Coleman welcomed the report. He stated that it was very unfortunate for communities living in the area, he noted the following.

- Kildare County Council do weekly clean ups in this area
- Residents are regularly cleaning it up
- The use of cameras is required over extended periods
- Kildare County Council needed to make use of social media to highlight the issues caused by illegal dumping
- The members also need to continue engaging with the Municipal District office and the Environment Department
- Communities could not walk in this area due to the rubbish
- There is also a concern of rodent infestation due to the accumulation of rubbish.

Mr E Fagan stated the following:

- Cameras have been placed in the area.
- There have been several fines issued however it is difficult to monitor as in majority of cases the rubbish is being dumped from moving vehicles.
- Kildare County Council could not put all their resources into just one area.
- Kildare County Council have and would continue to support residents.

The members further noted:

- It was a reoccurring issue
- Enforcement needs to continue
- The public should be encouraged to report offenders
- Target the issue at source

Councillor Coleman acknowledged clean-up efforts that have taken place by Kildare County Council and residents in the area however he felt very little has been done to stop it. Councillor Coleman would like cameras to be used on the Oldtown Road. Mr E Fagan would revert to the Environment Department and the members would be updated with any progress.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed by the members that the report be noted. Councillor Coleman requested that be used cameras on the Oldtown Road. Mr E Fagan would revert to the Environment Department and the members would be updated with any progress. This item should be added to the Progress Report.

CL26/0121

Suspension of Standing Orders

At 1.00 pm the Cathaoirleach informed the members that to continue with the meeting, a suspension of standing orders was required.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by all members that standing orders be suspended for 15 minutes

CL27/0121

Library Development Plan

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen.
That the council brief the members on the Library Development Plan - Scheme for Libraries to include the request for a new library for Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Ms M Higgins, County Librarian is due to present the Kildare Library Service Interim Development Plan 2020-2022 to full council on Monday 25 January and the Draft Development Plan would be issued to all Councillors in advance of this meeting.

'Recover, Refocus, Re-Energise – Kildare Library Service Interim Development Plan 2020 – 2022.'

The plan includes libraries under physical spaces and access to investigate options to improve the library services in Celbridge during the lifetime of the plan

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

CL28/0121

Free hygiene products in the municipal libraries in 2021

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen
Can the council confirm if they would continue the provision of free feminine hygiene products in the municipal district libraries in 2021 when they reopen?

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Leixlip Library has provided a selection of free feminine hygiene products in public toilets since February 2020 on a 6-month trial basis. The intention of the Library Service was to review this service at that

stage with a view to expanding based on the pilot. Once the pilot site at Leixlip Library returns to full service, the Library Service would review the matter. The report was noted.

CL29/0121

Suspension of Standing Orders

At 1.20 p.m. the Cathaoirleach informed the members that to continue with the meeting, a suspension of standing orders was required.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by all members that standing orders be suspended for 20 minutes until 1.40pm

CL30/0121

Legacy funding payments in respect of festivals and Christmas lights

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen
Can the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District members receive a report detailing legacy funding payments in respect of festivals and Christmas lights from the community section since 2015?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department and circulated to all members.

Councillor Cussen welcomed the report and asked when was it proposed to review the calculation of these payments?

The report was noted.

CL31/0121

Playground listed for Ardclough

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen.
Can members have an update on the status of the playground listed for Ardclough?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members, that Funding of €100k (€50k 2022 and €50k 2023) for Ardclough Playground is included in the Capital Programme 2021-2023. However at least another €100k needs to be identified to finance the project. Additionally the completion of upgrading Leixlip Playground, the development of an outdoor youth facility for Celbridge and the development of The Wonderful Barn needs to be completed before this project could be progressed.

Councillor Cussen welcomed the report circulated to the members prior to the meeting, however in 2018 she was told Ardclough playground would be included in the next years' work program and stated she would contact Mr Wallace to seek clarification.

The report was noted.

CL32/0121

Tree maintenance programme in the municipal district

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman. Can the council provide an update to the members on the 2021 tree maintenance programme in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the council is currently finalising the programme and appointing a Tree Surgeon to carry out works based on requests received in 2020. This would be circulated to the members in the next few weeks. It is hoped to commence the works once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

The report was noted.

CL33/0121

Youth facility in Celbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin Can the council provide an update on progress on the youth facility in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that a meeting was held with the councillors on the playground sub-committee in recent weeks. Several steps have been agreed to progress this matter. These steps include the identification of stakeholders who need to be involved, a meeting of these to identify the stages and potential outcomes required to deliver the project. It is hoped to finalise the stakeholders and arrange a meeting of these in the next 6 weeks.

The report was noted.

CL34/0121

Funding for youth facility in Celbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin
Can the council confirm if the €40,000 allocated to the youth facility in Celbridge from the 2020 LPT allocations has been set aside in a dedicated fund?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the €40k allocated for a Youth facility in 2020 LPT allocations has not been set aside as clarification is needed from the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee as to the allocation of €200k allocated in 2020 for Playground/Youth Facilities/Arts and what the division is between the 3 projects. All unspent LPT is retained and carried forward to the next financial year. This motion was passed at the Budget Meeting in November 2020.

The members welcomed the report they requested it be recorded in the minutes that the allocated amount is €50,000 as opposed to €40,000.

The report was noted.

CL35/0121

Update on the plans from Into Kildare

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.
Can this Municipal District Committee get an update on the plans from Into Kildare for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District and indeed North East Kildare?

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Into Kildare is responsible for the promotion and development of tourism in the County. While it has been a challenging start to 2021, Into Kildare has solid plans in place to support the tourism and hospitality industry when Kildare reopens to visitors with an extensive digital marketing campaign, press and family trips and events throughout the year of which the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District and North East Kildare would benefit from.

Specifically the development of the Grand Canal Greenway would have a positive impact on this area with an opportunity for Hazelhatch and Ardclough. In the first quarter, the focus is on staying local and supporting local and the outdoors. To this point, Into Kildare is encouraging those within 5km of Arthur's Trail to explore relevant sections and walks of Castletown House Parklands. Taste of Kildare would take place in the latter part of the year. Visitors would be encouraged to stay longer and explore what Kildare has to offer.

Several projects are planned in marketing and communication of each municipal district, through an enhanced website, brochure and photography. Intokildare continues to support the tourism and hospitality sector in this area and take on board and feedback and requests.

The council is delighted with Councillor Neville's interest in tourism and appreciate his support. It is vital that the Kildare shop window is kept open and visible for the moment encouraging local and community engagement. Now more than ever this valuable industry and biggest employer needs our support and assistance in getting back to business and attracting visitors and tourists to the county for the future.

The council would value any suggestions/ideas from the Municipal District Committee and indeed budget to support this and tourism in the municipal district. Any additional funding would be great which would lead to specific activities in the municipal district.

Councillor Neville welcomed the report he would like to see a greater focus on promotion and development of tourism in Leixlip.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.