



Minutes of the Celbridge - Leixlip Municipal District Meeting

Held on Friday 18 October 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara.

Members Present: Councillor B Caldwell (Cathaoirleach), Councillors R Heather, N Killeen, J Neville, C O'Rourke, L Panaite Fahey and Councillor D Trost.

Officials Present: Ms C Barrett (District Manager), Mr R Linnane (Municipal District Engineer), Ms E Hanlon (Director of Finance), Mr M McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Ms P Pender (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr J Healy (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms S Barry (Administrative Officer), Mr M Hearn (Staff Officer), Ms A Murphy (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Woodhouse (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Cathoirlach welcomed everyone to the October Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District meeting.

CL01/1024

Declaration of Conflicts or Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

CL02/1024

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the draft minutes of the Monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday 20 September 2024 including the progress report.

Resolved: On the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday 20 September 2024 of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted



CL03/1024

Municipal District Works

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

Schedule of Municipal District Works – October 2024

The outdoor crews are carrying out general footpath and road maintenance works in the Municipal District area. These currently include jet-vacing of road gullies, mechanical sweeping of roads, road repairs with road patcher unit, restoring water cuts on rural roads and general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received are triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate.

Winter Operations:

Winter salting service operations for the 2024/2025 season will commence on the 14 October. Annual jet-vacing of gullies to commence on 4 November.

Road works programme for 2024

Road Overlays - Restoration Improvement

- R403 Clane Road, (Ardras to Barberstown) - Works completed 13/05/24.
- R403 Barnhall R/A to M4 overbridge - Works completed 03/05/24.
- R405 Maynooth Road, Celbridge - Works completed.05/07/24
- R149 Confey at Graveyard - Works completed. 12/09/24
- L 5061 Loughlinstown Road - Works completed. 04/10/24.
- L 89945 Knockaulin, Leixlip - Works completed 30/04/24
- R449 Kilmacredock R/A to Matt Geoff Bridge - Tender complete works to start 21 October

Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance 2024

Surface dressing was carried out on June 4.

Location: South Ardclough at Boston Cottages, Pluckstown and Ougherard. Approx 3.250km length 14,000 sq.m of local road L2008 and L6018.

Footpath repair and restoration:

Footpath repairs in The Grove in Celbridge are now complete. Footpath repairs in Castletown estate, Oaklawn and Leixlip park in Leixlip all complete.

Realignment of R148 at Collinstown:

Roadworks are progressing on the R148 at Collinstown, Leixlip. Works area is from the roundabout at the R148/ R449 to the Junction of the R148 with Kellystown Lane.



Roadworks are scheduled to be in place until the end of 2024. Temporary traffic management measures will be in place for the duration of the works.

Royal Canal Greenway:

Access to Royal Canal Greenway from Louisa Bridge now open to access towpath from Louisa Bridge to Cope Bridge. Access from Louisa Bridge to Maynooth now closed off to facilitate construction of Greenway. Works from Louisa Bridge to Dee bridge are progressing and this section will be open in Quarter 4 2024.

Liffey Bridge Celbridge – Emergency repair works:

Traffic on the R403 over the River Liffey bridge in Celbridge will be reduced to a single lane and controlled using temporary Traffic Lights during the October/November mid-term break to facilitate emergency bridge repair works. Traffic management will include local diversions for the Ardclough/Newtown Road, the Hazelhatch Road and vehicles will be restricted from exiting St. Particks Park onto the Main Street. The emergency works are necessary to ensure the safety and structural integrity of the bridge. Single lane traffic will be maintained over the bridge at all times. Delays are expected during peak times.

The members thanked Mr Linnane and the team for their works to date and raised the following

- Enquired into the timeline for closure of the bridge in Celbridge and if both sides would be closed
- Asked if signage would be displayed in the coming week explaining that delays were to be expected including diversions signs
- The map produced to explain the diversions had been a helpful tool in explaining to the public
- Was the mortar being used specific for use on bridges
- Was the bridge a protected structure

Mr Linnane advised there had been additional funding allocated for the R449 for resurfacing to try reduce surface noise. It was confirmed that there would be signage erected 7 days before works started on the bridge including diversion signs. He explained that many options were considered regarding when to close the bridge to minimise disruption. The bridge would be closed for a four day period, from 29 October to 1 November inclusive.

The District Manager explained that the mortar used required a set temperature and a specific setting time, therefore works could only be carried out in sections and during the



daytime. It was agreed that Mr Conlon would circulate the necessary information to the members.

The report was noted.

CL04/1024

Pedestrian Lights

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

That the council consider installing Pedestrian lights at the bottom of Captains Hill from AIB across to SoCoffee.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell and seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey.

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that a design had been prepared for the incorporation of a third pedestrian crossing at the junction of Main Street and Captain's Hill to improve facilitates for vulnerable road users. The works were being costed and if funding could be provided by the National Transport Authority (NTA), then this work could be undertaken in 2025.

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

CL05/1024

Greenway

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

That the Council update the members on the Greenway between Leixlip and Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that Glas Civil Engineering Ltd were continuing works on the Royal Canal Greenway scheme from Louisa Bridge, Leixlip to Maynooth Harbour.

As part of this scheme, the following works were ongoing:



- Section of the towpath/Greenway from Maynooth Harbour to the R406 Straffan Road, Maynooth remains closed for upgrade works. This section of Greenway would be reopened within the next month, although, some works would remain outstanding for a number of weeks.
- Section of the towpath/greenway from R406 Straffan Road, Maynooth to Pike Bridge remains closed for upgrade works. This section of Greenway should be reopened in December 2024.
- Upgrade works would be continuing along the R148 Road between Pike Bridge and Deey Bridge. Various traffic management layouts and a road works speed limit reduction (from 80km/hr to 50km/hr) would be periodically in place for these works. Works along the R148 commenced in early October and were expected to take 3 to 4 months to complete.
- Section of the towpath/Greenway between Pike Bridge and Deey Bridge was currently open to the public but would close for upgrade works in the coming weeks.
- Section of the towpath/Greenway from Deey Bridge to Louisa Bridge, Leixlip remains closed for upgrade works. This section of Greenway would reopen in November 2024 with possibility that some works may remain outstanding for a number of weeks beyond this date.

Construction works on the full extents of the project were due to be completed by June 2025. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CL06/1024

Winter Gritting Program

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather .
That the council expands the scope of the winter gritting program to include roads in estates with higher traffic volumes.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Heather and seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the objective of the Kildare County Council (KCC) Winter Maintenance Plan is to keep all principal roads in the County open to traffic, free from ice and safe to travel on. Kildare County Council treat our National Secondary, Regional and Local Roads. National Primary and Motorway routes are dealt with by contractors on behalf Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

The KCC Winter Maintenance plan and map of routes are prepared annually and updated on our website.

Kildare County Council currently operate 10 routes within its Winter Maintenance Programme, treating approximately 705km of the Local, Regional & National Secondary Road network in the county. This equates to the treatment of approximately 26.5 % of Kildare's Road infrastructure. Including all Motorway and National Primary roads treated by TII, 30.3 % of all Public Roads within county Kildare are treated. This is higher than our neighbouring counties, who treat between 24-26 % of their road network. This requires a significant input of resources, including 24 drivers, vehicles, equipment, technical and administrative staff and operates at a considerable cost.

Kildare County Council's salting trucks on all routes are running at capacity at present, precluding the Council from adding new roads to the current Salting Routes without removing the service from another area of the County.

Please note that at times of severe weather conditions, Kildare County Council staff, during the working day, may give priority to other roads and junctions outside of our standard routes that need treatment. This may include snow clearing and salting on additional roads at critical locations.

Therefore, due to resource limitations, it is not possible to facilitate this request for further routes to be added to the current Winter Maintenance Plan.

Councillor Heather welcomed the report, noting difficulties experienced by drivers when leaving ungritted estates.

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

CL07/1024

Interim Speed Limit

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke



That the council extend and implement a 30kmh interim speed limit on the Hazelhatch Road in Celbridge out as far the current school pedestrian entrance at the GAA and Tennis club junctions to protect school-goers on this busy road?

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Rourke and seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that in 2023, a National Speed Limit Review was completed by the Department of Transport as part of the Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030. Based on a direction (RS01/2024) received from the Department of Transport, the following national default speed limits are to be implemented on a phased basis:

- 30 km/h (Urban Areas)
- 60 km/h (Rural Local Roads)
- 80 km/h (National Secondary Roads)

The default speed limits are to take effect on a staggered basis with provisional commencement dates as follows:

- Before end of 2024 for 60 km/h on Rural Local Roads
- 2025 for National Secondary Roads (80km/h) and Urban Speed Limits (30km/h)

The Hazelhatch Road is Regional Road (R405) and is not being examined as part of the current phase of works (rural local roads). It will be examined as part of the urban speed limit exercise and submissions in relation to extending existing speed limits will be considered at this time. The passing of special speed limits that differ from the default national speed limit is a matter for the elected members.

Councillor O'Rourke was unhappy with the report and was seeking a more specific response regarding the location at the school. Members agreed that there were a number of issues at this location and queried if a temporary measure was needed to be investigated for speed reduction. They suggested that traffic calming measures be considered e.g speed bumps, signage or possibly a lollipop lady. They also felt the narrow path would need to be looked at. The Cathaoirleach advised members that the Executive must follow guidelines set out and the District Manager advised the members that this was a complex process, and the



Council must follow what was coming from National level, but understood the concerns raised by the members. Members were reminded that the enforcement of speeding in the area was a matter for An Garda Síochána.

Councillor O'Rourke felt there was no sense of urgency, the school was currently a safety concern and there was no time frame for the new school.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CL08/1024

Capital Projects

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville
Can the council update the members on large scale capital projects in place for this Municipal District in 2025 such as the second bridge in Celbridge, the Parochial House in Celbridge, the North Kildare Pool and the Wonderful Barn

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that the Capital Programme 2025-2027 was being prepared at present and will be noted by members during the statutory budget process in November. The Capital Programme will indicate the status of each capital project, the funding provision for 2025-2027 and the estimated timescale to the next milestone for the relevant project

The report was noted.

CL09/1024

Playground in Celbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
That the council consider the upgrade and repair of the playground in Celbridge due to safety concerns.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Panaite Fahey and seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the upgrade to the playground safety, surfacing and repair of equipment would be carried out over the next few months.



Councillor Panaite Fahey informed the committee there had been a number of incidents in recent weeks and asked for the list of repairs that would be carried out, including an estimated timeframe for repairs to be completed. She also queried if new equipment could be considered.

Councillor Heather supported the motion, and Councillor Trost asked if the equipment still in situ at the St John of Gods playground could be relocated to this playground.

The District Manager advised the members that it was hoped repairs would be carried out before year end and would include surface repair and the service of the current equipment. There were no plans currently to add additional equipment at this location. It was agreed for all comments to be taken back to the Parks Section and to await the masterplan for Donaghcumper to see if a playground could be included in these plans.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Panaite Fahey, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all member sthat the report be noted.

CL10/1024

Tree Programme

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Trost
Can the Council provide the members with an update on the schedule for the 2024-2025 tree programme.

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that it was planned to tender a programme of tree works before the end of the year. Any works would then be carried out in the first half of 2025.

Councillor Trost asked if a list of tree works done for 2024 and the list for 2025 could be circulated to the members when available.

The District Manger agreed to take this back to the Parks Section.

The report was noted.

CL11/1024

Cherrywood, Castletown.

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Trost
Can the Council provide an update on the reseeding and works to the Cherrywood Backlot, Castletown.



A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that works were underway to regrade and seed this area. It should be complete by the end of the month. The report was noted.

CL12/1024

Chief Executive's Part 8 for the Wonderful Barn

A report was previously circulated to the members to consider the Chief Executive's Part 8 Report for the Proposed Redevelopment of the Wonderful Barn.

Ms Denise Murray from Metropolitan Workshop gave a presentation to the members including the proposed redevelopment of the Wonderful Barn, outlining the locations of the Wonderful Barn, the connectivity and distances to amenities in the town, both present and future, a site analysis, the consultation process and engagement, the development concept including an isometric view of the proposals in and around the Wonderful Barn, a proposed landscape plan including access and movement, and a detailed plan of the Wonderful barn and Barnhall House, including existing stable and a proposed café.

The members thanked Ms Murray for the detailed presentation and queried if there was any update on the uncovering of the pool in this area. They also requested that the presentation be circulated to the members. Members asked what to expect in the next stage of the process and were disappointed regarding the possibility URDF funding would not last after January 2025. They were happy to see a community focused approach in the final plans and noted it will be a great facility for the people of Leixlip and a great tourist attraction for the area.

Ms Pender advised that once the Part 8 was agreed the next stage would be to secure funding. At the moment this would be through URDF and the vision was to deliver the project piecemeal. She also asked that members consider the allocation of some LPT funding.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Neville, and agreed by all members that the Part 8 be noted.



CL13/1024

Housing Waiting List

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
That the council provide an up-to-date report of the waiting lists for housing in this Municipal District and the number of applicants

The motion was proposed by Councillor Panaite Fahey and seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the I-House reporting system reports on an applicant's area of choice in this Municipal District area and not where they currently live.

While it was not possible to choose from the I-House system the Municipal District area as all the individual townlands in this area would need to be included, for the purpose of this report the larger towns in this Municipal District area were listed below.

Ardclough - 49 applicants

Celbridge - 1253 applicants

Leixlip - 961 applicants

The members queried if a list of completed houses, vacant houses and a list showing whether a property was council owned or owned by another housing body could be made available. They also requested if a quarterly list could be provided showing peoples first preference. Clarification was sought regarding CBL housing and why the number of properties was so low.

Ms Barry advised the members that the monthly Vacant House report showed the vacant properties in the municipal district and that all housing lists changed constantly.

She agreed to look into whether an AHB list was available and would revert back to the members. She also advised members that the number of CBL properties varied each month and that applicants could apply even if the property is outside of their areas of preference.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Panaite Fahey, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted



CL14/1024

Waterways Ireland

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That this council writes to Waterways Ireland asking them to ask the owners of Trees that hang over the Liffey between Salmon Leap bridge to Main St, Car park to be cut back.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell and seconded by Councillor Heather

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

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Heather, and agreed by all members that this council writes to Waterways Ireland to ask the owners of trees that hang over the Liffey between Salmon Leap Bridge to Main St. car park to be cut back.

CL15/1024

State Land Database

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

Can the Council provide a database report of properties or lands in this municipal district submitted to the State Land Database and advise which properties remain to be added.

A report was received from the Property Interest Register, Corporate Section informing the members that the Land Development Agency (aka State Land Database) has confirmed that Tailte Eireann provides the required data to the Agency and local authorities are not involved in the compilation of this data. The LDA also confirmed that should a public body/LA note that there is an error in the mapping, they can contact the LDA to have the mapping reviewed.

Councillor Killeen noted discrepancies and anomalies and would discuss with Ms Murphy after the meeting.

The report was noted.



CL16/1024

Donaghcumper Lands and House

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
Can the council give a timeframe for when a masterplan for Donaghcumper Lands and House will be available for public consultation following the recent announcement of the purchase.

A report was received from the Corporate, People and Cultural Services Section informing the members that the Council were intending to make a budget provision for 2025 to progress pre-feasibility studies/a masterplan. A review would need to take place in early 2025 to determine what staffing resources were available to progress in line with an overall project priority programme.

Councillor O'Rourke would follow up with Mr Ryan, Director of Service, to seek clarification after the meeting.

The report was noted.

CL17/1024

Parochial House

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

Can the council provide an update on the acquisition of the Parochial House in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Corporate, People and Cultural Services Section informing the members that the acquisition was subject to approval from the Charities Regulatory Authority and has been with them for a significant number of months. The Parish Committee are also considering alternative legal mechanisms that may be open to them.

Councillor Heather sought clarification on the alternative legal mechanisms, and the District Manager advised that she understood that this was regarding conveyancing.

The report was noted.

CL18/1024

Planning Enforcement

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

That the Council commence a commitment to a minimum of a weekly visit to the Municipal District areas in respect of proactive planning enforcement visits and monitoring in response



to a spike in unauthorised developments and breaches of proper site management in the area.

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

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that the prioritisation of alleged enforcement cases and the assignment of resources to the Planning Enforcement Section of the Planning Department is a matter for management and is an Executive Function.

The issue of Site Management is outside the remit of Kildare County Council and is dealt with by the appropriate developer or owner of any site under development.

All developers are legally required to comply with the respective conditions of their planning permissions.

Councillor Killeen noted a spike in unauthorised developments and asked if the Executive could investigate current hotspot areas where reports of development with no planning permission and non-compliant developments were being reported.

Mr Conlon advised that he had previously spoken to the Councillor on this and the Planning Section currently did not have the resources to commit to weekly visits. He advised the members that if they were aware of individual cases to discuss with the Unauthorised Development Section, but he was unable to discuss any current live cases. It was agreed to revisit in 6 months' time.

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

The members agreed to take Item 19 and 21 together from the Agenda.

CL19/21/1024

Primrose Gate Estate

Item 19

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
That the council takes in charge the Primrose Gate estate in Celbridge to protect the safety of school-goers at St Patrick's Primary school in Celbridge.



The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Rourke and seconded by Councillor Heather

A report was received from the Building Control Section informing the members that Kildare County Council Development Control legacy team are working with Uisce Éireann (UÉ) and the Municipal District office to progress the taking in charge of Primrose Gate. UÉ have committed to funding the necessary remediation works associated with the foul and watermain infrastructure, with the particulars of the UÉ site resolution plan currently being finalised. Due to the unique circumstances pertaining to this development, Development Control propose to put forward Primrose Gate for taking in charge at the November 2024 Municipal District meeting despite the site resolution plan not being actioned. It is the intention that the site resolution plan associated with the UÉ infrastructure will be actioned and tendered for by Development Control under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with and all other works will be undertaken by the Municipal District office subject to available funding and resources.

Councillor Heather again queried the delay in taking in charge and the District Manager advised that as discussions were still ongoing with UÉ, the taking in charge would come before the committee at the next meeting. Development Control have met with Area Engineer regarding surface defects.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Heather and agreed by all members.

Item 21

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
Can the Council provide clarification on the taking in charge of Primrose estate in Celbridge and if the gate will be open to allow access to the school grounds.

A report was received from the Building Control Section informing the members that Kildare County Council Development Control legacy team are working with Uisce Éireann (UÉ) and the Municipal District office to progress the taking in charge of Primrose Gate. UÉ have committed to funding the necessary remediation works associated with the foul and watermain infrastructure, with the particulars of the UÉ site resolution plan currently being finalised. Due to the unique circumstances pertaining to this development, Development Control propose to put forward Primrose Gate for taking in charge at the November 2024 MD meeting despite the



site resolution plan not being actioned. It is the intention that the site resolution plan associated with the UÉ infrastructure will be actioned and tendered for by Development Control under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with and all other works will be undertaken by the Municipal District office subject to available funding and resources. The opening of the gate will be subject to agreement from the relevant parties upon taking in charge.

The report was noted

CL20/1024

Estates Taken in Charge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey

Can the council provide a list of estates taken in charge in Celbridge

A report was received from the Building Control Section informing the members that Development Control publish a list of all estates taken in charge on our website as follows:

<https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/BuildingandDevelopmentControl/DevelopmentControl/ListofEstatesTakeninCharge/>

This list is sorted by town/village and is updated each time an estate is taken in charge.

The report was noted.

The members agreed to take items 22, 23 and 24 from the agenda together

CL22/23/24/1024

Local Area Plan

Item 22

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

Can the Council provide an update on the latest timelines for the Local Area Plan in Celbridge and the Traffic plan alongside it.

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section and Forward Planning Section informing the members that the Roads Project Team were currently completing the Newbridge Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA). The next ABTA to be completed will be for Celbridge and Leixlip however the procurement of a consultant to complete this large project will not commence until 2025 once the Newbridge ABTA has



been completed. A timeline for the commencement and completion of the ABTA can be provided in due course once a consultant is in place for the project.

The review of the Celbridge Local Area Plan is not in the current work programme and therefore timelines are unknown.

Councillor Neville noted that there was currently no traffic plan in the Celbridge area and could this be done separately to the Local Area Plan.

Mr Conlon advised the members that the LAP relies on the Traffic plan (APTA) to be completed.

The report was noted.

Item 23

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

Can the Council provide an update on the Celbridge Local Area Plan?

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that the review of the Celbridge Local Area Plan is not in the current work programme and therefore timelines are unknown.

Councillor Heather asked when a timeframe would be available.

The report was noted.

Item 24

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

Can the council confirm the status of land zonings within Celbridge Local Area Plan or if the County Development Plans supersedes until renewal of the Local Area Plan

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that regardless of timelines, a County Development Plan sits above a Local Area Plan in the statutory plan hierarchy and takes precedence in terms of its application and implementation. The review of the Celbridge Local Area Plan is not in the current work programme and therefore timelines are unknown.

The report was noted.



CL25/1024

Celbridge-Leixlip Draft Budget Plan 2025

A report was previously circulated to the members with an update on the Celbridge-Leixlip Draft Budget Plan 2025

Ms Hanlon informed the members that in accordance with Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 requires that a draft budgetary plan for the municipal district to be prepared under the direction of the chief executive and submitted for consideration by the municipal district members for each municipal district. This draft budgetary plan contains the discretionary funding which is made available to municipal district members. The Act requires that the Chief Executive, in determining the resources to be made available to each municipal district in the draft budgetary plan shall have regard to:

- The needs and resources available or likely to be available to the local authority and
- Resource needs of each municipal district

The Act provides that the draft budgetary plan shall set out the GMA and shall be considered at a meeting within the prescribed period, but no later than 10 days prior to the local authority budget meeting. The Act also provides that it is a reserved function of the Members of a municipal district to adopt the draft budgetary plan either with or without amendment. If the Members of a municipal district do not adopt a draft budgetary plan the Chief Executive may take account of the draft budgetary plan, as presented to the Members of that municipal district, without amendment. The total provision allocation for the General Municipal Allocation for 2025 is €20,788,655, of which €5,085,749 is based on the retained LPT as voted for by Members in September. The total provisional General Municipal Allocation for the Celbridge/Leixlip Municipal District is €3,404,243 (€3,271,938 in 2024).

Councillor Panaite Fahey questioned if some of the allocation for Transport, under street cleaning, could be transferred to Parks for playgrounds, suggesting €10,000. Members also raised the importance of seeing a more detailed report of breakdown under each heading and queried if there was a chance of the allocations not being spent.

Ms Hanlon advised the members that Parks had sought the amount set out in line with the number of playgrounds/adult gyms in the area. She also agreed to distribute the detailed list to members.

The District Manager advised that if monies were to be taken from street cleaning this would impact bins not being emptied around the municipal district.



Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Trost, and agreed by all members that the Celbridge-Leixlip Draft Budget Plan 2025 be adopted.

CL26/1024

Flood Relief Scheme

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Trost
That the Council engage with the OPW to renew and to prioritise works on the flood relief scheme for Celbridge and Hazelhatch and include the very latest timeline for delivery

The motion was proposed by Councillor Tost and seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the Council, together with the OPW are currently progressing 4 Tranche 1 flood relief schemes across Kildare.

These were:

- Morell Flood Management Scheme: Stage (iv) Construction
- Naas Flood Relief Scheme: Stage (i) Preliminary Design
- Athy Flood Relief Scheme: Stage (i) Preliminary Design
- Leixlip Flood Relief Scheme: Scheme Development of proposed works to augment the existing scheme.

The prioritisation of the remaining Tranche 2 schemes included in the OPW Flood Risk Management Plans are subject to approval from the OPW and the availability of resources within the OPW and the Council.

The Council, together with the OPW, are committed to progressing flood relief measures within Kildare.

Councillor Trost felt flooding was a serious concern, especially over the Winter months, referencing the GAA grounds, the tennis club and flooding concerns for individual residents. He asked the council for an urgent assessment and to ensure they forward plan.

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



CL27/1024

Dog Warden Service

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Trost
That the Council consider a dog warden service for this Municipal District, following the recent announcement by the Government that up to 40 dog wardens are to be hired by local authorities nationwide in 2025.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Trost and seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey.

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the ISPCA provides a dog warden service on behalf of Kildare County Council and its Inspectors work closely with other agencies including An Garda Síochána. Currently there are two dog wardens serving the entire county which is on a par with other counties. The service will be reviewed when further details of plans for expansion and ongoing funding are made available from the Government.

Councillor Trost asked for the Council to avail of any additional funding at the earliest opportunity.

Mr Hearn advised the members that the response provided was as much information as the Council had at present, and that Kildare County Council did not recruit dog wardens, but worked alongside the ISPCA.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Trost, seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CL28/1024

Úisce Éireann

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville
That this council write to Úisce Éireann to ask them to upgrade the pipes on the road into Leixlip from Maynooth considering the number of recent bursts

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



A report was received from the Water Services Subject to the agreement of the members, Councillor Nevilles motion will be referred to Úisce Eireann via the dedicated email address for notices of motion and a response will be expected before the next meeting. The members would be updated accordingly.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell, and agreed by all members that this council write to Úisce Eireann seeking an upgrade to the pipes on the road into Leixlip from Maynooth considering the number of recent bursts.

CL29/1024

Community Facility

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen
That the council revisit the purchase of the Bank of Ireland property in Leixlip which at this time appears to be for sale as this building would make a fantastic community facility

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

A report was received from the Community Section informing the members that the purchase of a community facility in Leixlip is not included in the capital programme and no funding is currently available for this project.

Councillor Killeen felt this was an invaluable opportunity for a community facility.

The members supported the motion and the opportunity to purchase a landmark property, noting a community facility was needed in the municipal district.

Ms O'Brien advised that there was no funding currently available, and the Council were prioritising delivering on current projects. The focus was currently on investigating options for a swimming pool North of the County.

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

CL30/1024

Tea Lane Graveyard

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



That the council provides an update on the restoration of the roof of the Conolly Mausoleum at Tea Lane Graveyard, Celbridge?

The motion was proposed by Councillor Heather and seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that it was Kildare County Council's intention to apply for 'Community Monuments Funding' in 2025 for repair works to the roof of the Conolly Mausoleum at Tea Lane Graveyard. However, no details in relation to Community Monuments Funding for 2025 have as yet been released.

The members were in support of the motion and referenced the great works done to date at Tea Lane.

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

CL31/1024

North Kildare Swimming Pool

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

Can the council provide an update on the site for a North Kildare Swimming Pool.

A report was received from the Community Section informing the members that Kildare County Council is currently completing site feasibility studies on a priority site which has been identified to locate a pool in North Kildare.

The report was noted.

CL32/1024

Wonderful Barn

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

Can the council provide an update on the work in progress on the Wonderful Barn.

A report was received from the Public Realm Section informing the members that the Part 8 proposal for the Wonderful Barn has completed its statutory process coming before the elected representatives of this Municipal District for decision at the October meeting. A



specialist team has been appointed to complete conservation works at the Wonderful Barn, overseen by Howley Hayes Cooney. Works commenced in September and will be completed before year end/early 2025, weather permitting. Some of these works have been funded through the Historical Structures Fund (HSF).

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded