



Minutes of the Celbridge - Leixlip Municipal District Meeting
Held on Friday 16 May 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
in Newtown House, Leixlip.

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

Officials Present: Ms C Barrett (District Manager), Mr R Linnane (District Engineer), Mr M McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Ms S Barry (Administrative Officer), Mr D Conlan (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr M Hearn (Staff Officer), Ms A Coyne Sheridan (LPT Coordinator), Mr T. Shanahan (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Woodhouse (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the May Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District meeting being held in Newtown House, Leixlip.

The Cathaoirleach informed the members of the passing of Marioara Mutiu, wife of Nicolae Mutiu, Transportation.

A minute's silence was observed.

CL01/0525

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.

CL02/0525

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the draft minutes of the Monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday 11 April 2025 including the progress report



Resolved: On the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Trost and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday 11 April 2025 of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL03/0525

Municipal District Works

The members received an update on municipal district road works.

Schedule of Works - Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District - May 2025

The outdoor crews are carrying out general footpath and road maintenance works in the Municipal District area. This includes the mechanical sweeping of roads, road repairs with road patcher unit, restoring water cuts on rural roads, cutting back verges at junctions, general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received are triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate.

Winter Maintenance:

Winter maintenance operations for Q1/Q2 2025 are now complete.

Road Works Programme 2025:

1. L1016 Ardclough Village (380lin.m) (Tender complete)
2. R403 Dublin Road, Celbridge (1179lin.m) (Assessing Tenders)
3. L5061 Loughlinstown Road. (558lin.m.) (Tender complete)
4. R148 Main Street., Leixlip (120lin.m) (Preparing Tender Document)
5. R449 Kilmacredock to M4 (400lin.m)
6. L1015 Kellystown Lane to Confey (1574lin.m)
7. R148 Blakestown Cross towards Pikes Bridge.

Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance

Surface dressing is scheduled to commence on 26 May.

Location: Allenswood L5052 from the R149 to the county boundary. (1.75km)

Advanced works have commenced in preparing this road for surface dressing.

Footpath Restoration Programme 2025:

Works commenced on the footpath on R403 Lucan Road from Rye River Brewing to Donaghcumper Cemetery. Currently, assessments are being carried out in housing estates in the district to determine locations for 2025 for footpath restoration works programme.

Roadworks on R148 at Collinstown:



Works are now substantially complete. Kildare County Council are currently completing the taking in charge process for this road.

The report was noted

CL04/0525

Section 38

The members agreed to note the commencement of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Scoil Mochua Safe Routes to School Scheme, Celbridge.

CL05/0525

Accessible Parking

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
That the council provides an accessible parking space at the post office in Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that currently there was a disabled parking space and an age friendly parking space in front of the Post Office in Celbridge.

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

CL06/0525

Double Yellow Lines

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council places double yellow lines at to entrances to cul-de-sacs in Glendale Meadows, Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the Municipal District office staff would monitor parking in the estate near the pedestrian entrance to Saint Catherine's Park with the view to identify cul-de-sac entrances that may benefit from the



installation of double yellow lines to deter inappropriate and indiscriminate parking at junctions in the estate.

Councillor Caldwell explained that parking issues were being reported in the evenings and at the weekends, and asked could double yellow lines be investigated?

During discussion members raised the following points:

This area is likely to experience more issues as the Dart+ project begins. Therefore could Parking Bye Laws be a solution?

The District Engineer advised that the council would continue to monitor the situation. He agreed to circulate the Parking Wardens details to report parking issues during office hours, issues out of hours would be a matter for An Gardaí Síochána, who also have powers.

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

CL07/0525

Loughlinstown Road, Celbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather
That the council, in light of general safety concerns and a recent serious incident, implements safety measures on the Loughlinstown Road, Celbridge - such as centre markings, speed bumps, speed restrictions and signage.

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

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the speed limit on the Loughlinstown Road was 60kph. Kildare County Council adopted a policy for traffic calming measures which does not permit speed ramps on 60kph roads.

There was frequent repeater 60kph signs and a 60kph driver feedback sign on the road.

Section 7.3.13 of the Traffic Signs Manual states:

“On roads less than 5.3m in width, over-running of the carriageway edge can occur if centre line markings are provided, causing maintenance problems. Drivers might also expect a road marked with a centre line to be wide enough for opposing lanes of traffic to pass. On such



roads the centre line should therefore, be omitted, and on rural roads Edge Lines, RRM 025, provided where required.”

There were several extended sections along the re-surfaced section of the Loughlinstown Road that were substantially less than 5.3m. There was considerable pavement edge damage at these locations prior to the road being re-surfaced. The markings applied were therefore installed to comply with Section 7.3.13 to prevent pavement edge damage.

A further 1.0km section of the Loughlinstown Road from the entrance of Ballylouster football club towards the Hazelhatch train station would be resurfaced later this year. There was sufficient road width on this section to install a centreline marking.

Additional on-road traffic calming markings could be installed following the completion of this work.

Councillor Heather explained that lots of concerns were raised over increased vehicle levels in the area and disregard for the pedestrians on the road who were often people using amenities close by and visitors to the nursing home. It was felt that the current road was inadequate and concerns were also raised over dangerous bends. He asked what interventions were possible in the short and medium term.

The members raised the following

- Overgrown trees were reported and were causing visual issues with signage
- The road was being used as a short cut.
- Traffic calming options needed to be investigated, would fake ramp markings or rumble strips be an option
- Could Gardai enforce speed limits and provide data on offences?

The District Engineer advised that this road was in a rural location with a speed limit of 60kph with frequent repeater 60kph signs and a 60kph driver feedback signage on the road. The situation would continue to be monitored but a lot of reports were down to driver behaviour. He advised that a speed survey will be done for 7 days and contact would be made with Gardai.



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

CL08/0525

Road markings

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

That the council completes a review of the road markings at heavily used road intersections in the Celbridge/Ardclough areas and takes action to renew them where necessary if they are badly worn and difficult to identify.

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

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the Municipal District office was continuously monitoring and reviewing the condition of road markings in the district and refresh markings in high trafficked areas regularly. Some of the materials used in line marking is dependent on dry conditions and on air and road temperatures and most of the line refreshing works in the Municipal District area were carried out during the summer months.

Any areas that members consider need refreshing should be referred to the District Engineer.

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

CL09/0525

Path at Killeenlea

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

That the council, in the interest of safety, improves the existing path at Killeenlea and extends it towards Saint Wolstan's School, Celbridge, as the road is used by local students attending the school and the area is also used as a drop off area for students.

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



A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that currently there was a footpath on the southern side of the R403 road from Killeenlea to Saint Wolstans. There were also dedicated vehicle drop off and pick up facilities within the road area for Saint Wolstans and the North Kildare Educate Together Campus.

An estimate of costs for providing a footpath from Killeenlea to Springfield Bed and Breakfast on the northern side of the R403 Clane Road was previously carried out. It was determined that the estimated cost was prohibitive for the delivery of a footpath in the northern verge. Councillor Trost referenced the solar farm being commissioned and that there were already concerns over the health and safety issues and the current traffic.

The members raised the following

- Lots of development expected in the area which would increase footfall
- Funding stream would need to be identified
- Could solar signage be investigated
- Would the council consider using development contributions for works
- Noted this was not an isolated issue as parking concerns were being raised from many schools around the County.
- Aware that this wont be easy to resolve but could a project be investigated around school parking issues District-wide, with a 5 year vision to include an educational piece for the public
- An education piece was needed to encourage Active Travel as many children were still being dropped to school even for short distances.
- Members noted that they would consider an awareness piece around walking to school and may table this in June.

The District Manager advised the members that

- In terms of Speed Limit Review, the Rural Roads were complete which have seen speed limits reduce to 60kph
- Jakes Law would see speed limits of 30 kph in housing estates
- The Urban 30kph limits were not yet ready as the Council is awaiting guidance and possible legislation, once this was in place workshops would be held. Clarity on the locations of the urban core to which 30kph applies is essential first.
- Then interventions in school zones were next and signage could then be investigated



- Progressing active travel routes were essential to continue to reduce reliance on car usage.
- LPT had been utilised by other municipal districts (Clane Maynooth) for school zone projects including addition of road markings and pencil bollards, so an applicable design was in place.

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

CL10/0525

E-bike Stand

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

That the council undertakes a feasibility study in regard to the provision of a permanent e-bike stand at the end of Captains Hill.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Section informing the members that there were no plans to install permanent e-bike parking stands in Leixlip. Such a proposal could be included as part of future neighbourhood charging hubs, which could be considered when the Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy was completed, and an Implementation Plan was prepared.

Councillor Brooks asked if there was a timeframe expected as to when E-bike stands could be introduced as there was a definite demand in Leixlip

The members raised the following

- Intel had shown a keen interest to support this initiative which would also assist employee accessibility to and from work
- Could a rent a bike charging hub initiative be considered at the train station and for use on canal paths.
- Would like to see a scheme in both Celbridge and Leixlip

The District Manager refered to the Electric Vehicle Strategy which includes the delivery of a National EV Charging Network. The draft document had been received and Kildare County



Council had made substantial comments, the final draft was expected in September. Once at the Implementation Stage funding streams would be identified and it would be at this point that charging usage and demand could be investigated. It was anticipated that were E-bike charging stands possible it would have to be part of co-located EV charging hubs. However it is already difficult to assess demand and this would have to be looked at for investment to occur.

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

CL11/0525

Cycle Bridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
That the council provides a report on the status of the agreed jointly funded pedestrian and cycle bridge to be constructed over the M4 linking Leixlip to Barnhall and Celbridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Rourke and seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the detailed design of the bridge had commenced and a draft design had been reviewed by the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Structures Team. There were several comments to be addressed by the developer to satisfy TII and allow the design to be finalised.

A further update would be provided following the completion of the design and approval process with a timeline for construction provided.

Councillor O'Rourke sought a timeframe.

Ms McCarthy explained that a timeframe was not available, currently it was with the TII and the developer, and the Council were not leading this project. The District Engineer explained that this was all part of a 10 year project and the Kildare Innovation Campus included the bridge. This wasn't a stage phased development and updates would be given to the members when available

Report: on the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed all members that the report be noted.



CL12/0525

Solar Bins

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

Can the council review the usage of solar bins on Celbridge and Leixlip Main Streets?

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that no data had been recorded on the use of the solar bins in Leixlip and Celbridge. Usage of the two bins going forward would be recorded and data would be forwarded on to the members.

The report was noted.

CL13/0525

Bus Shelters

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

Can the members receive an update on the bus shelters at bus stops 7110 and 3910 on the Dublin/Lucan Road, near the Orchard Garden Centre?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Section informing the members that there were over 500 existing bus stop locations in County Kildare and Kildare County Council was working with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to review and prioritise improvements to bus stop infrastructure. When this review was complete a list of potential bus shelter and other improvements for locations would be prepared and appropriate public consultation undertaken.

The report was noted.

CL14/0525

Street Cleaning

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

Can the council confirm how often street surfaces are power-washed on rotation in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that there was no schedule or rotation for the power washing of street surfaces in the Municipal District.

Generally, it was only main street footpath surfaces that were power-washed and these were power-washed when the District Engineer deems it necessary.

Councillor Killeen asked could this process become more streamlined/regular.



The District Engineer advised if particular areas of concern could be forwarded onto him, he could assess them.

The report was noted.

CL15/0525

Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor

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

Can the council confirm that it has submitted the application to An Bord Pleanála for consent and compulsory purchase of land for the Celbridge – Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor and if not, what is the new target date for this submission?

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the submission has been reviewed by Senior Counsel, and several follow up meetings had taken place. The submission was to be updated to take account of comments raised during the review process. An updated date for the submission of the application to An Bord Pleanála would be provided in due course once timeline for completing the updates had been received.

Councillor O'Rourke clarified that she was hoping for a more detailed report to include dates and timeframes as the public were looking for information. Ms McCarthy explained that this was a complicated process and the members would be updated in due course.

The report was noted

CL16/0525

Wonderful Barn

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

That the council provides seats at the playground at the Wonderful Barn.

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

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that Kildare County Council would look at providing seats at the playground at the Wonderful Barn subject to identifying a budget.

Councillor Caldwell referred to the seating provided by the Leixlip Access Group as an appropriate example of seating.



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

CL17/0525

Funding Streams and Project Applications

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen
That the council provides details of all funding streams and project applications relating to projects in Leixlip and Celbridge over the last two years.

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

A report was received from the Parks Section and the Public Realm Section informing the members that the following projects including funding streams applied for and the amounts of the grant awarded and availed of by the Parks Section in the last 2 years were;

- Outdoor Gym Celbridge Abbey - Community Recognition Fund 2023 - €20,000
- Outdoor Youth Facilities, Celbridge – Community Recognition Fund 2024 - €50,000

The funding streams that were made available annually through central government have a specific focus on a particular type of project or project stage i.e. feasibility study, planning consents etc. Rural Regional Development Fund (RRDF) funding was available in 2023/2024 and was specific to towns/villages with a population below 10,000 which excludes projects for Celbridge and Leixlip. An application to the Historical Structures Fund (HSF) to assist the Wonderful Barn project was successful in 2024, when €100,000 was received. A further application in 2025 for this fund was not successful. In 2023 a BHIS grant was approved for the Wonderful Barn in the sum of €11,000. An Urban Regional Development Fund (URDF) application was expected in 2024, Call 4, which did not materialise and we expect it should come forward in 2025 as indicated in the Programme for Government. URDF targets towns/villages with populations over 10,000 people. Kildare County Council is in the unique position in that it has 7 large towns looking to this fund to progress several projects in the Capital Programme.



The Acre Project, Celbridge – In 2023, funding of €10,000 from Celbridge/Leixlip Municipal District LPT was allocated towards a feasibility study regarding site extension, additional facilities and redevelopment of the Acre Project site.

Councillor Killeen explained that she included this motion to maximise opportunity and to ensure the council avail of all funding available, including European funding streams. She felt it was important that the council ensure that an up to date list was available including shovel ready projects for when funding was secured.

During discussions, members noted:

It was not intended to criticise the team involved in these projects but it did appear from press releases for the sector generally around funding announcements, that the Council had not won some funding.

Ms Pender referenced the Wonderful Barn as a priority project for the Public Realm Section. The Part 8 was approved last year with costings of €23 to €25 million. She noted no one funding stream would deliver all this, and relevant funding streams were limited. Regarding using the URDF funding, she stated there was no clarity yet on that from Government Departments and that it appeared this fund would be amalgamated with a new infrastructure fund. She advised that despite the frustrations around funding, the Public Realm Section were committed to maintaining momentum and were working to try deliver this project in phases, and prioritising also the protection of the heritage of the site. She advised that to keep this project shovel ready over €1.6m had been spent in the last year on enabling works and conservation. She advised that the team are aware of all funding opportunities and put a lot of work into them, as it's a very competitive funding landscape. As an example of this, all 5 Historic Structures Fund applications by this Council were rejected this year.

In response to requests for more regular updates in relation to large projects, Ms Barrett reminded members that a briefing would be provided to the June MD meeting.

Councillor Killeen noted the work the Public Realm Team do and was aware the Wonderful Barn was a key project. She wanted to ensure momentum wasn't lost on the project.

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



CL18/0525

Playground at Leixlip Amenities Centre

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

Can the council provide a starting date for the Playground at Leixlip Amenities Centre?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the contractor had confirmed works to commence week beginning 16 June, 2025.

The report was noted.

CL19/0525

Amenities Space

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

Can the council outline plans for the amenities space along the banks of the Liffey behind the Court Yard Hotel, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the shrubbery was pruned back behind the car park and there were plans to improve the decking area with the Courtyard Hotel site, to make it more universally accessible.

Councillor Brooks clarified that the response was limited and was looking for a more long term plan.

The Cathoirleach updated the members that the Access Group were working on this project and that works included a viewing stand with an accessibility ramp.

The report was noted.

CL20/0525

Social Housing Build Pipeline

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

Can the council confirm the status of the Social Housing build pipeline for Celbridge, and if targets will be met?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the monthly Chief Executives report provided an update on the status of the build programme and there were several schemes in the municipal district area.

Kildare County Council has schemes at Newtown House, Leixlip, Ardclough Road, Celbridge and the Public Private Partnership (PPP) at Oldtown Mill, Celbridge.

Cluid Housing Association is developing the ESB site, Leixlip. The part 8 for this scheme was expected to launch in June/July.



In relation to the provision of social and affordable housing the Part V requirement was added as a condition on any grant of Planning Permission in accordance with the requirements of section 94(4) and section 96(2) and (3) (Part V) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, unless an exemption certificate shall have been applied for and been granted under section 97 of the Act, as amended

Planning permissions for housing development on lands purchased on or after 1 August 2021 has a 20% Part V requirement. On Lands where there is a 20% Part V requirement at least 10% of the Part V provision must be used for social housing units and the remainder can be used for affordable housing, which can be affordable purchase, cost rental or both. A 10% Part V requirement applies where land has planning permission or was purchased between 1 September 2015 and 31 July 2021 and planning permission is granted before 31 July 2026.

Councillor Heather sought clarity on where the percentage figures for Part V provisions came from and if any timeframes were available

Ms Barry advised that the percentage requirement for part V provisions came from Planning Legislation and was dependent on when planning approval was obtained. The time frame for Housing developments can only be estimated so it was hoped that

- Newtown House was to be expected mid 2026
- Ardclough expected end of 2026 to early 2027
- Old Town Mill would possibly be expected 2027

The report was noted.

CL21/0525

CPO of Sites

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen
Can the council outline the next steps following the CPO of sites at Leixlip Main Street, to ensure restoration of use to the sites?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that An Bord Pleanála held an Oral Hearing on 13 February 2025 in relation to the Compulsory Purchase (CPO) of these properties, the Board subsequently issued an Order dated the 9 April 2025 with their decision to Annul the CPO on the basis that there was a live planning application on the site which could be implemented.



The Town Regeneration Team would continue to monitor progress on the development of this site.

The report was noted.

CL22/0525

Trading Licenses

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brooks
That the council reviews trading licenses for food trucks for Leixlip Village where currently only temporary summer licences are only being issued thus making it less appealing to traders.

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

A report was issued from the Corporate Section informing the members that the current Casual Trading Bye Laws were adopted by the members in June 2022.

The process incorporated onsite and online meetings with members, and the reports to the June 2022 Committee Meeting set out the background to the bye laws pertaining to Leixlip Village.

In the course of considering a designated casual trading area at William Roantree Park, the Parks Department noted that the grassed areas proposed would not recover adequately in winter months, were trading allowed at the location all year round. This may also create some safety issues.

This resulted in the members adopting a seasonal restriction to trading at this location.

There are however other factors that may restrict interest in the trading location.
Access issues at the location prohibit the use of a food truck, as opposed to a food cart.
The location is further complicated by the fact that part of the area needs to be left accessible to a fire tender, in the event of emergency.



The members, at the time of making the bye laws did not wish to suspend parking spaces at the adjacent public carpark, in order to create larger and more permanent casual trading spaces.

However, should the members wish to now amend the bye laws to accommodate this, they may do so, but this will require (in line with the Casual Trading Act, 1995), a public consultation period of 6 weeks, followed by an appeal period of 4 weeks, before any new bye laws can come into effect.

Given that Parking Bye Laws apply to the public car park, a separate statutory process would also be applicable under those Bye Laws, to suspend or temporarily remove spaces, to create a trading area, if the members wished to proceed in this manner.

Councillor Brooks welcomed the detailed response, he explained that he wouldn't want to reduce any parking spaces, however the market was running successfully in the church grounds and would like to see trading expand to include food trucks.

During discussion the members noted:

The Wonderful Barn was ultimately the most suitable future location for markets, when the Part 8 development was completed.

It was suggested that the Council encourage traders to apply for licences over the summer months and then review demand later.

Mr Shanahan explained that he could only comment on the areas in council ownership, as those were generally relevant to Bye Laws. He agreed that the Wonderful Barn, when completed, should incorporate the possibility of a market and would compensate for the absence of a suitable public square for that purpose at present. He felt that the Bye Laws and licence fee were not a barrier as identical Bye Laws in Maynooth had resulted in a regular market of up to 19 licenced traders.

He noted that the current Bye Law for seasonal use was agreed by the members because access issues made it unsuitable for food trucks, it was on that basis the report had suggested the car park adjacent as the only solution to achieve the objective of the motion. Given that the members did not wish to proceed with this option, Mr Shanahan agreed that he could reach out to the relevant market trading bodies to promote the current market area to traders.



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

CL23/0525

Customer Service Point

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen
That the council provides an update on opening a customer service point in Leixlip.

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

A report was issued from the Corporate Section informing the members that as set out in the minute of the September 2024 Committee Meeting, the scope of solutions, subject to funding, were provision of leaflet stands in Leixlip and Celbridge Library. In addition, the members agreed that IT literacy was a significant issue for customers, that required further supports.

Following allocation of new budgets in 2025, and as set out in the March 2025 Progress Report, Corporate Services have engaged with the Library Service and visited libraries in both towns.

Locations for leaflet stands were agreed at a meeting on May 8, and new display units are being procured. It is also proposed to create leaflets with the key contact information for most regularly contacted Sections in each Department.

As part of an overall review of the top 10 application forms, simplified user checklists will also be developed.

Following engagement with library staff the most requested forms are for:

- Motor Tax related
- Social Housing Supports
- Housing Adaptation Grants
- Register of Electors

It should be noted that effective online options for Motor Tax and Voter Registration are in place, however it is noted that IT literacy was flagged by members as an issue.



Therefore, following feedback from Libraries on the matter of Adult Literacy, it has been established that there is significant demand for the Adult Literacy for Life six-week course, using tutors from KWETB, however funding is a barrier.

Therefore, Corporate Services have also agreed to provide funding to support provision of these courses in 2025 and are liaising with Libraries regarding the administration of this. It is intended that part of the training on this will specifically include accessing Council services online.

Councillor Killeen noted the report and this had been ongoing now for three years, she asked about the original budget of €400,000. The project on adult literacy was welcomed, although she felt this in itself wouldn't solve the issue surrounding lack of face to face contact being provided. The public were looking for face to face support in many areas including the application process for housing grants, filling out of forms, general housing queries. The members raised the following

- Could a space be made available at the new centre at Applegreen for meetings to be held
- Understood the council could not provide a full time customer service point but could a clinic be investigated similar to that of the housing clinics held around the county
- Highlighted that the area of adult literacy was a nationwide problem.
- Reports of individuals finding it difficult to complete forms especially when English was not their first language

Mr Shanahan explained that there was never a budget of €400,000, and never a capital funding line in the Capital Programme for this. He advised that this figure was given to the members as the minimum *costings* at that time *if* such a service was to be provided. He referred to a previous meeting in 2024 where it was identified and agreed by the councillors that older people were having difficulty with literacy and especially accessing online services. There was unfortunately no budget available in 2024 when the motion was discussed. Therefore the earliest that Corporate Services could progress this was 2025, and they have agreed to provide €2,500 from their budget to the library services, and libraries were progressing 4 separate such classes to offer assistance in this area.

As notified before, the Athy Customer Service Point had been closed due to the increased take up of online services and issues with retention of staff at the relevant level.



Footfall data at the Customer Service Counter in Naas, and data from the CRM system indicated that Housing related clients accounted over 60% of all queries. He advised that based on this, if a customer service demand existed for in-person services, that, based on the data, and members feedback, it was for housing services, and he would raise this with relevant managers, and relay the members calls for greater promotion of housing clinics. He advised that given the service demands, and due to retention issues at the relevant staffing level, unfortunately it would not be possible for the Customer Service Team to have personal presence, especially if in any event most customers required housing services. He advised however, as agreed following the motion in September 2024, that new leaflet and application form stands were being provided in both libraries which would display selection of forms and staff would be in the libraries for printing etc.

In response to requests he also undertook to contact local Citizen Information Centres to establish if there were any information gaps that required clarification around Council services.

Councillor Killeen asked if the council would be willing to consult Library management to see if they would be happy to accept and deliver application forms and other personal documents to relevant Council offices.

Mr Shanahan agreed to investigate this but no commitment was made as he expressed serious concerns around handling confidential information and noted that typically council application processes are increasingly online or freepost.

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

CL24/0525

Uisce Éireann

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
Can the council provide an update on contact with Uisce Éireann for the ongoing water issues affecting Hazelhatch Park and Callenders Mill following the March municipal district meeting?

A report was issued from the Corporate Section informing the members that on foot of the motion ref: CL21/0425, in the name of Councillor O' Rourke, a written request for a meeting



issued to Uisce Éireann on 23 April. The letter set out the motion and stated the request for the organisation to attend an Municipal District Meeting.

The following response was received, and a reply has issued reminding the Body that the letter sought attendance at a meeting.

“I am writing to you today regarding your correspondence on behalf of the Members of Kildare County Council, regarding the installation of the upgraded water pipelines at Hazelhatch Road

Your Uisce Éireann reference number for same was 34297.

I am pleased to advise that my colleagues in our Infrastructure Delivery Team at Uisce Éireann have reviewed your query and the following response has become available: Uisce Éireann are progressing with replacement of old water mains between Celbridge, Co. Kildare and Newcastle, Co Dublin. The project is currently in design stage. Site Investigations are scheduled to commence within two weeks for a duration of approximately 4-6 weeks. Design stage is expected to be complete in Q2 2025 and construction is expected to commence in Q3 2025

We would like to thank you for your correspondence, I trust that this update provides clarity to both you and your (District) members. Should you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact us on the details below.”

The report was noted.

CL25/0525

Casual Trading Licences

The members considere the following question in the name of Councillor Trost
Can the members be informed on the number of Casual Trading Licences that were issued for 2025 in Celbridge/Leixlip?

A report was issued from the Corporate Section informing the members that no Casual Trading Licences hade been issued so far in 2025 for Celbridge/Leixlip.

One was issued in 2024 for The Slip in Celbridge.

The report was noted.

CL26/0525

Invitation to the OPW

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

Can the council update the members on the status of its invitation to the OPW decided at the municipal district February meeting and whether there has been a reply to this invitation?

A report was issued from the Corporate Section informing the members that Letters in this matter were issued on 27 February 2025 and again on 10 March 2025.

No reply was received.

In following up the matter the letter re-issued by email on 2 May 2025 and no reply has been received.

The report was noted.

CL27/0525

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2025

The members considered the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2025 allocation for the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District.

Celbridge Leixlip	Celbridge Heritage and Tourism Forum	To produce an education video on Swift's Drapier's Letters	€1,500.00
Celbridge Leixlip	Tea Lane Graveyard	Place information story boards onto a wooden garden shed within the ground of Tea Lane	€1,499.37
Celbridge Leixlip	Derrybeg Farm (CSA)	To Plant 150 native trees on Derrybeg Farm	€495.00

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Trost and agreed by the members that the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2025 allocation for the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be approved.



CL28/0525

Liffey Valley Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather
That the council provides a detailed plan, including remaining obstacles, timeframes and funding sources for the completion of the Liffey Valley Park.

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

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that as previously advised the current project was a feasibility study which would be completed in Q3 2025. Further stages with respect to the progression of this project including funding, would be determined following completion of this study.

Councillor Heather understood that Liffey Valley Park was a Long Term Strategy seeking clarity on what the scope of the feasibility study would provide and how the results would contribute to the project progressing.

Ms McCarthy advised the members that a feasibility study determines the likelihood of a projects success. It was hoped that the draft feasibility study would be available in September. Ms McCarthy agreed to check if anything had been received back from the consultants and revert back. It was noted that finding a funding stream can pose a problem moving projects forward after the feasibility result.

Councillor Heather questioned which funding streams could offer funding as this project has a wide scale public support.

Ms McCarthy explained that things can change with availability of funding so would need to wait and see, and it was too soon to pre-empt this without the final study being available.

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

CL29/0525

Manor House Hotel, Celbridge.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
That the council outlines any proposals it has received (if any) for possible developments at the site of the Manor House Hotel in Celbridge.



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

A report was received from the Integration Team informing the members that the Celbridge Manor Hotel was used by the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) for homeless accommodation.

Kildare County Council had not received a proposal from the International Protection Procurement Service (IPPS) to develop the site for the accommodation of International Protection Applicants or from the Ukraine Crisis Temporary Accommodation Team (UCTAT) to develop the site for the accommodation of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection. However, the site was used for both of these purposes previously in addition to the use by DRHE.

Councillor O'Rourke and other members reported receiving many queries regarding the owners intended use of the property. There had been reports of new pipes being laid which raised concerns as to whether the structure of the building was being changed.

The District Manager advised the members that the report provided outlines the current situation. The local Authority were not always consulted regarding the usage of properties unless a Planning Application was submitted. The Council would have no control for any change of use if it lay outside of planning requirements. All planning applications were accessible to the public to access on the Council website.

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

CL30/0525

Community Innovation Fund and Residents Association

The members considered the report previously circulated for allocations under Local Property Tax Community Innovation Fund and Residents Association (Projects) Grants Schemes.

(see appendix 1)

Councillor O'Rourke sought clarity in regards guidelines and the application process.

Councillor Killeen noted the importance role the members play in informing groups of the availability of grants

Mr O'Toole advised the members that if the demand was there and groups were experiencing difficulty with the application process support could be provided. He updated



the members that the second round for applications would open in late July and that once applications were processed they would be brought before the members for consideration in September 2025.

The District manager advised the members that the staff within the Community Section were working with the Chief Executive to ensure fairness in the process.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Heather and agreed by the members that the allocations under Local Property Tax Community Innovation Fund and Residents Association (Projects) Grants Schemes be approved

CL31/0525

Celbridge Abbey Car Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
That the council enforces and takes action for the illegal dumping taking place at Celbridge Abbey Car Park.

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

A report was received from the Transport and Environment Section informing the members that the council were aware of the unauthorised dwellings at this location which have been the subject of a number of motions and questions. The council was reviewing the situation at present and will make a determination on the best course of action when circumstances permit.

Councillor Panaite Fahey noted this was a sensitive matter and that the illegal dumping needed to be stopped.

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

CL32/0525

Recycling Centre

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey
Can the council provide information on the possible Recycling Centre in Celbridge being in development stage at this time?



A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that this matter was discussed with Councillors at the Capital Projects meeting on 14 March in context of funding and Capital Projects within the municipal district area.

Councillor Panaite Fahey sought clarity on whether a Recycling Centre would be developed. The District Manager explained that the Council were trying to prioritise and progress a number of projects. With the introduction of the Return Scheme it was not viable to develop a Recycling Centre. The council were looking to use the area to provide a joint Municipal District Office with Clane Maynooth inclusive of office space. This project would involve a part 8 planning application.

The report was noted

The members agreed to take items 33 and 34 from the Agenda together

CL33/34/0525

Cemetery

Item 33

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

Can the council provide an update on the purchase of land for a new cemetery for Leixlip?

Item 34

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

Can the council provide an update on the provision of land for the expansion of Confey Cemetery in Leixlip?

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the council were seeking potential sites in the Leixlip /Confey area and had engaged the services of a local estate agent to pursue the options. The members would be updated on any progress.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.



Appendix 1

Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District Residents Association Project Fund 2025				
No	Group Name	Project	Grant Requested	Grant Proposed
1	Beatty Park Neighbourhood Group	Boundary/Wall Maintenance	€ 1,725.00	€ 1,725.00
2	Glen Easton Residents Association	Boundary/Wall Maintenance	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
3	Dara Residents Association	Environmentally Friendly Weed Control	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
4	Rinawade Residents Association	Boundary/Wall Maintenance	€ 1,500.00	€ 1,500.00
5	St Mary's Park Residents Association	Flower Meadow and Bench	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
6	Leixlip Castletown Residents Association	Pruning Project	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
7	Oaklawn West Residents Association	Estate Signage	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
8	St. Raphael's Manor, Residents Association	Additional Planting	€ 1,880.00	€ 1,880.00
9	Chelmsford Manor Residents Association	Boundary maintenance and new flower bed	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
10	Ryevale Lawns Residents Association	Benches	€ 5,000.00	€ 2,000.00
11	Castlewelan Park Residents Association	Additional Planting	€ 1,800.00	€ 1,800.00
12	Avondale Residents Association	Equipment	€ 1,300.00	€ 1,100.00
13	Wheatfield Residents Association	Pruning and Flowerbed revamp	€ 2,135.61	€ 2,000.00
14	The Grove Celbridge	Pollinator Friendly Planting and Signage	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
			Budget	€ 30,000.00
			Amount for Allocation	€ 25,005.00

Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District Community Innovation Fund 2025				
No	Group Name	Project	Grant Requested	Grant Proposed
1	Liffey Celts Basketball Club	Ongoing Club Development	€ 6,000.00	€ 4,000.00
2	MU Barnhall Rugby Club	Mixed Ability Blitz	€ 3,000.00	€ 2,500.00
3	Tea Lane Graveyard Committee	Concert	€ 4,250.00	€ 2,750.00
4	Insight Theatre Group Celbridge	Purchase of Stage	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
5	Play Acting Youth Theatre	Workshops	€ 999.00	€ 999.00
6	Celbridge Bobcats Baseball Club	Equipment	€ 2,018.20	€ 885.00
7	Parents Association St Patrick's Primary School Celbridge	Polytunnel and Gardening Equip	€ 3,280.00	€ 3,280.00
8	Celbridge Boys Club	Activities	€ 4,440.00	€ 1,800.00
9	Ballyoulster Utd FC	Replacement Boiler	€ 4,500.00	€ 4,500.00
10	Celbridge Town Football Club	Dugouts	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
11	Leixlip Tennis Club	Floodlight Repairs	€ 4,885.38	€ 2,899.38
12	1st/10th Kildare Leixlip/Conley Scout Group	Redevelopment of Scouts Den	€ 4,900.00	€ 4,900.00
13	Leixlip Golden Years Active Retirement Club	Activities	€ 2,850.00	€ 2,850.00
14	Ardclough Village Centre Ltd	Workshops	€ 4,895.00	€ 2,770.00
15	Leixlip Youth Project (inSync) Formerly Kildare	Youth Work	€ 15,000.00	€ 4,500.00
16	Scoil na Mainistreach Parents Association	Play Equipment	€ 4,956.00	€ 4,956.00
17	Leixlip Men's Shed	Installation of Shed	€ 5,830.00	€ 5,000.00
18	silverthreadclubcelbridge@gmail.com	Activities	€ 1,240.50	€ 987.50
19	Celbridge Heritage and Tourism Forum	Celbridge Guinness Festival	€ 5,000.00	€ 5,000.00
20	Intercultural Women's Network	Climate Justice Project	€ 5,000.00	€ 3,320.00
			Budget	€ 150,000.00
			Amount for Approval	€ 67,676.86