Minutes of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting held on Friday, 16 October 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas

Members Present: Councillor D. Trost (Cathaoirleach), Councillors B. Caldwell, R. Heather, C. O'Rourke and D. Ryan.

Online: Councillor N. Killeen

Officials Present: Mr. J. Boland (District Manager), Mr. C. Buggie (Senior Engineer), Mr. D. Conlan (A/Senior Engineer), Mr. J. McGauley (Executive Parks and Landscaping Officer), Mr. N. O'Riordan (A/Chief Fire Officer), Ms. M. Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Mr. S. Deegan (Senior Engineer), Mr. P. Lynch (Executive Engineer), Ms. E. Hanlon (Director of Finance), Ms. C. Alkhatib (Financial Management Accountant), Mr. T. Shanahan (Senior Executive Officer), Ms. A. Coyne Sheridan (LPT Coordinator), Ms. D. Egan (Meetings Administrator), Ms. K. Leslie (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CL01/1026
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

CL02/1026
Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 18 September 2026, along with the Progress Report.

In relation to the Progress Report, Councillor O'Rourke queried whether the Transport Department had contacted Google Maps. She also asked whether the Planning Department could consider assessing the Walled Gardens, Castletown for inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Ryan and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District, held on Friday, 18 September 2026 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL03/1026

Municipal District Road Works

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

Schedule of Municipal District works – October 2026

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, and general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received are triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate.

Jet-vac cleaning of road gullies will commence in early November. Main routes will be prioritised initially with housing estate gullies following.

The bulk of hedge trimming is now complete for the year. Vegetation at junctions and where there is the possibility of roadside signage being obscured will be monitored.

Celbridge Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) traffic count survey commenced on the 05 October, and data will be recorded for 7 days. Equipment will be removed following the completion of the survey.

Road Works Programme 2026 and Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance 2026

Status of 2026 projects:

- R403-28 - English Row, Celbridge (Works complete)
- R404-Old Hill to Castletown, Leixlip (Postponed, moving to 2027 works programme)
- R157 - Old Carton, Dunboyne Road. (Contractor on site)
- L1058 - Rear of Castletown House Estate (Works complete)
- L5050 - Young's Cross to State Labs Celbridge (Works complete)
- L5056 /L50563- Easton Road.-Accom. Road Leixlip (Works complete)

Footpath Restoration Programme 2026:

- Footpath repair works are completed in Dara Court.
- New works tender awarded for Abbeyfarm, Vanessa Close and Vanessa Lawns. Works in Vanessa Lawns have commenced.
- Other estates in the district are currently being assessed for footpath works for Q4 2026.

Bus-stop works:

- Upgrade to bus-stop at entrance to L5066 Kileenlea on R403. Contract awarded, works to commence in coming weeks. Works include widening of footpath from Wolstans to Kileenlea junction on south side of R403 and tightening of junction at Wolstans.

Uisce Éireann Road Closures:

L1015: Road closures on the L1015 and R149 for pipe works on this project complete.

R405: Pipe instillation works complete. Permanent road reinstatement works will be carried out under lane closures.

R405: Road closures complete on the R405 Hazelhatch Road. Permanent road reinstatement works will be carried out under lane closures.

ESB Works on R405:

ESB are proposing to install 190 meters of critical ducting on the R405 from Beatty Park to the North Entrance to Castletown Estate. Works are to be carried out under a lane closure

with a shuttle traffic management system in place. Works are due to commence on 19 October.

Mr. C. Buggie advised that most items on the Road Works Programme had been completed, with works on the R157 - Old Carton, Dunboyne Road due to finish shortly. The Winter Maintenance Programme had commenced on 12 October 2026 and would run until April 2027. Salting routes were available on the council's website.

The members raised the following:

- Did the council have a policy in relation to salting busy throughways in estates?
- Did the council's salting trucks have the technology to track and display real-time information?
- A bus stop pole was requested for Confey.
- When would bollards and yellow boxes be reinstated following works on English Row, Celbridge?
- What was the extent of proposed ESB works on the R405, how long would they take, and what traffic management plan was in place?
- Would these works be carried out on the same section of road that Uisce Éireann had been working on for the past number of months, as this may cause annoyance to residents?
- What bus stop works were being carried out at Kileenlea?

Mr. C. Buggie informed the members of the following:

- Throughways were not generally included on the Winter Maintenance Programme due to limited budget and resources, but specific examples could be considered.
- The council did not currently have real-time technology on salting trucks, but he had recently attended a Winter Maintenance Conference where a Scottish council had given a demo on the real-time technology they used, which was displayed on their website.
- The council would liaise with the National Transport Authority in relation to the bus stop at Confey.
- The Municipal District Office would reinstate bollards at English Row, while line markings were the responsibility of the contractor and would be enforced.

- Works were being undertaken on a different section of the road than previous Uisce Éireann works.
- The traffic management plan had been submitted to the Municipal District Office.
- Works could only take place between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and the road was to be closed up every evening.
- He would check when works were expected to end and revert to the members.
- The query on bus stop works would be taken back to the Active Travel Team.

CL04/1026

Amendments to Parking Tariffs for Celbridge

The members considered the amendments to the parking tariff rate charges for Celbridge.

The members raised the following:

- They needed to meet to discuss the implications of the amendments before making any decisions.
- There was an under-provision of parking spaces in both Celbridge and Leixlip.
- It was difficult to support an increase in charges during a cost-of-living crisis.
- These funds would be vital in supporting community groups.
- Would it be possible to postpone this decision?
- The issue of Christmas parking arrangements should be included as part of these discussions.

Mr. C. Buggie advised that the matter could be deferred if the members felt that there was a benefit. The District Manager advised that the November monthly meeting would be too close to the Budget Meeting, meaning a Special Meeting would be required to agree Items 4 and 5.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Heather and agreed by all members that this item be deferred to a Special Meeting of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District and that consideration of Christmas parking arrangements in the municipal district be included on the special meeting agenda.

CL05/1026

Amendments to Parking Tariffs for Leixlip

The members considered the amendments to the parking tariff rate charges for Leixlip.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Heather and agreed by all members that this item be deferred to a Special Meeting of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

CL06/1026

Road Markings and Signage at Ardclough

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

That the council erects appropriate warning signage on both approaches to the Church in Ardclough to alert motorist that a School Traffic Warden is operating ahead, and also for all road markings around the triangle to be repainted, to ensure that they are clearly visible and provide appropriate guidance to motorist and pedestrians.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that a request for the remarking of the road markings at the triangle at Ardclough, has been made to Kildare County Council's road lining contractor. A review of existing signage will be carried out from the school to the triangle and the approach from Henry Bridge and Wheatfield, to determine if additional signage is required.

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

CL07/1026

Pedestrian Crossing and Footpath Works at Tea Lane, Celbridge

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

That the council prioritises the assessment and delivery of a safe, accessible pedestrian crossing on Tea Lane, Celbridge, at a location suitable for service users and staff of St. John of God, inspects the condition of the existing footpaths in the area and undertakes necessary repairs and accessibility improvements, particularly for wheelchair users and people with mobility difficulties.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that as part of the granted planning permission conditions for the development of the grounds of Celbridge Lodge, the developer is required to provide both a pedestrian crossing adjacent to the junction of Tea Lane and English Row and two uncontrolled crossings at the site vehicular entrance adjacent to 151 Tea Lane. The developer is also required to widen the footpath to 2m on both sides of Tea Lane from the junction of English Row to Tea Lane graveyard. The Municipal District office will carry out an assessment of existing paths and carry out any necessary remedial work.

Councillor Heather welcomed the response, advising that he had been approached by St. John of God regarding the dilapidation of the footpaths and that a controlled crossing was needed here.

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

CL08/1026

Traffic Calming at St. Patrick's School, Celbridge

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

That the council completes a full safety assessment of the Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge outside St. Patrick's School including the pedestrian crossing servicing the school and the GAA club entrance and urgently considers additional traffic calming measures, as traffic volumes and speeding continue to increase.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Transport Department will engage with the Board of Management of St. Patrick's School to discuss options to address the traffic issues.

Councillor Trost welcomed the report and advised that he was happy to visit the school to meet with the Board of Management.

Councillor Heather suggested "Children Crossing" signage be installed and that a raised junction be considered at the entrance to Hazelhatch Park.

Mr. C. Buggie advised that the Municipal District Office would install signage and that he would liaise with the Active Travel Team in relation to junction upgrades.

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

CL09/1026

Footpath Assessment on Main Street, Celbridge

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

That the council carries out a safety assessment of the paths on both sides of the Main Street, Celbridge, and if any damaged paths are identified, they are repaired as a priority.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Celbridge Municipal District area overseer has recently carried out a defect survey of the paths on Celbridge, Main Street and has identified locations where repairs are to be carried out. This work will be carried out in the coming weeks.

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

CL10/1026

Transport Assessment of Backweston Campus

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

That the council confirms that the commitment given in response to motion CL05/0325 at the March 2025 meeting, to include Backweston Campus within the Celbridge-Leixlip-Confey Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) remains in place, including consideration of any public transport infrastructure improvements required to support existing and future travel demand to the campus, such as enhanced bus stop facilities, shelters and passenger amenities along the R403/R404 corridor.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that as previously confirmed, the study area for the Celbridge and Environs Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA), will include the Backweston Campus area.

The items listed in the motion will be considered as part of the development of the ABTA; however, some of the elements listed may be outside the scope of the project. Engagement will also be needed with the National Transport Authority who are responsible for the provision of some of the improvements listed.

Councillor Heather advised that it was imperative to provide passenger amenities and cycle paths here. Councillor Killeen noted that there was also a lack of adequate lighting in this area.

Mr. D. Conlan informed the members that the council would continue to engage with the relevant stakeholders. He noted that the public consultation would be commencing shortly and that there were plans to hold an in-person public meeting in Celbridge Library.

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

CL11/1026

Transport Issues at GAA Clubs and Green Lane, Leixlip

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

That the council upgrades the road markings, traffic management and pedestrian access at the junction exits and entrances at the GAA clubs in Leixlip and reassesses pedestrian safety at school zones on the Green Lane.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department advising the members that all road markings at the junction of Glen Easton Estate and Leixlip GAA Glen Easton Pitches are in good condition. There is no scope to upgrade the markings as the markings are appropriate for the current junction/ entrance configuration. There are vertical deflection traffic calming features on both approaches to the junction at this location. The management of vehicular traffic and pedestrians accessing and exiting the Leixlip GAA facility at peak times and the possible upgrading of the access gate arrangement is a matter for Leixlip GAA. The Green Lane Active Travel Scheme will address school pedestrian access deficiencies in the area adjacent to the three Primary Schools on the Green Lane. Works are expected to commence in Q2 2027.

Councillor Killeen requested that the matter relating to junctions at Glen Easton remain on the Progress Report.

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

CL12/1026

Site Works at Crodaun Forest Park, Celbridge

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

Can the council confirm if an inspection of the works recently completed by Uisce Éireann/ Coffey, at Crodaun Forest Park, Celbridge, have been carried out, and if so, can they confirm whether the site has been fully reinstated to the same condition as it was prior to the commencement of the works and also outline what inspection, remedial works, landscaping or other measures are being undertaken to ensure that any damage or disruption caused by the works is properly addressed, and that it is returned to its original condition?

A report was received from the Transport Department advising the members that site visits and inspections were carried out during the construction phase of the works. The final inspection of hard and soft landscaped areas affected by the project has not yet been carried out by Kildare County Council. The Municipal District Office and the Parks staff met with Uisce Éireann (UÉ) and their contractor and have agreed reinstatement details at Crodaun Forest Park southern entrance. When UÉ informs Kildare County Council that all works are complete, a final inspection will be carried out by the Municipal District Office for the roads and footpath and by the Parks Department for the soft landscaped areas.

Councillor Ryan accepted the report, informing the members that the District Engineer had discussed this matter with Celbridge Tidy Towns.

The report was noted.

CL13/1026

Celbridge Mobility Corridor/Second Bridge Project

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

Can the council provide an update on the Celbridge Mobility Corridor/ Second Bridge project?

A report was received from the Capital Projects Team informing the members that the detailed design on the project is due to start this month, and the procurement of a land valuer will also be progressed. A more detailed project programme will be prepared and indicative timelines for the progression of the project will be available following this. Please note that quarterly updates on the project will be available going forward in the Chief Executive Report each quarter.

Councillor Heather advised that there was some cynicism from the community and queried whether the council could guarantee that the project would actually be delivered this time.

Mr. D. Conlan noted the following:

- The council had never been closer to getting this project delivered.
- The planning application and compulsory purchase order had been approved.
- The project was fully funded.
- A consultant had been appointed and the kick-off meeting was scheduled for the following Tuesday, after which the council would have a better idea of the programme.

The report was noted.

CL14/1026

Power Washing Works on the Main Street, Celbridge

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

Can the council confirm when a full power washing of the Main Street paths in Celbridge will be implemented, now that the water restrictions are lifted?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that power washing works on the Main Street, Celbridge will commence on Monday, 19 October and will proceed for several weeks.

Councillor Trost informed the members that footpaths had become discoloured and could have a negative impact on local businesses who relied on the look of the streetscape.

The report was noted.

CL15/1026

Growth and Debris in the River in Celbridge

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

Can the council confirm that the river around the bridge in Celbridge will be reviewed to ensure the arches and immediate surrounding areas are cleared of any growth and debris, before the heavy winter rains recommence?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District office will carry out an inspection of the areas under the arches to ensure they are not restricted. Management of vegetation upstream and downstream of the bridge is the responsibility of the riparian owner.

A report was also received from the Environment Department informing the members that the responsibility for these works lies with the riparian landowners, i.e. the owners of land or property which is located on the banks of a watercourse. The Office of Public Work's (OPW) National Flood Information Portal provides some practical advice and assistance for the management of watercourses.

In summary, responsibilities as a riparian owner include:

- Passing on water flow without obstruction, pollution or diversion affecting the rights of others.
- Managing the channel for the purposes of flood risk and having due regard for the needs of wildlife and giving space for nature.

- Maintaining the bed and banks of the watercourse (including trees and shrubs growing on the banks), taking appropriate steps to prevent erosion of the banks, clearing any debris, whether or not it originated from your land.
- Maintaining free passage for fish.
- Keeping clear any structures that you own such as culverts and weirs.

Further information is available from the OPW website at https://www.floodinfo.ie
Councillor Trost suggested that riparian owners be contacted and reminded of their responsibilities, noting that he was happy to assist in the delivery of communication.

Mr. C. Buggie advised that this would involve a Land Registry search to identify owners and that he would assess the area and make a plan. Ms. M. Hunt advised that the Environment Department would liaise with the Transport Department to determine the best course of action.

The reports were noted.

CL16/1026

Link Road and M4 Overpass at Kildare Innovation Campus

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

Can the council provide an update on the delivery of the public link road, along the northern side of Kildare Innovation Campus (KIC), Leixlip, (provided for by a Condition under planning reference 23/60047) connecting the Barnhall Road/ M4 Junction 6 approach near the Castletown House entrance, with the Celbridge Road (R404) near Salmon Leap Canoe Club, and the new pedestrian and cycle overpass across the M4 motorway, that will link that road within KIC to the entrance of Barnhall Meadows estate, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that Kildare County Council is currently working with the developer to facilitate the opening of the road to public traffic. Before the road can be taken in charge and opened, a number of outstanding requirements must be satisfactorily completed. These include:

- Completion of the Road Safety Audit Stage 3 process and resolution of any recommendations arising.
- Completion of all outstanding snagging items associated with the road and related infrastructure.
- Submission of CCTV survey records for the drainage network and confirmation that the drainage infrastructure is operating satisfactorily.
- Submission of as-built drawings and all other required completion documentation.

To date, the road has been heavily utilised by construction traffic associated with the ongoing development of the Kildare Innovation Campus. As a result, it has not been considered a suitable environment for public use while construction activities were ongoing. Kildare County Council and the developer are actively progressing the remaining items required for completion and opening of the road. However, at present, no confirmed opening date has been agreed. Once all requirements have been met and the road is deemed suitable for public use, arrangements for opening will be finalised.

Councillor O'Rourke welcomed the progress on the link road, but noted that an update on the new pedestrian and cycle overpass across the M4 motorway had not been provided in the report.

Mr. D. Conlan apologised for the omission, advising that Kildare Innovation Campus were delivering this project and that he would seek an update and revert to the members.

The report was noted.

CL17/1026

Bus Shelters along the R403/404

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

Can the council provide details of bus stop upgrade plans and shelter details including timelines for distribution of covered shelters along the R403/404 and in particular at Backweston Campus, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the bus stops along the R404, Celbridge, including stops at Backweston Campus will be assessed for future bus shelter works. If feasible, these locations will be added to our bus shelter programme for design in 2027.

Councillor Killeen requested the identification numbers of the bus stops to be assessed.

Mr. C. Buggie advised that he would take this query back to the Active Travel Team and revert to the members.

The report was noted.

CL18/1026

Permanent Closure of Blakestown Level Crossing

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

Can the council outline what are the proposed pedestrian and cycle access connections, in advance of the proposed permanent closure of Blakestown Level Crossing, as part of the DART+ West project?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that any queries about this project should be directed to Irish Rail. Kildare County Council has no role in the provision of any pedestrian or cycle access connections associated with Dart+ West. All details can be found on DART+ West

Councillor Killeen noted that the Active Travel Team should be in a position to respond to this question as it pertained to a greenway and requested an update in the next Progress Report.

Mr. D. Conlan advised that this matter would be brought back to the Active Travel Team for comment.

The report was noted.

CL19/1026

Clean-up of the Leixlip Spa Area

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

That the council carries out an urgently needed clean-up of the Leixlip Spa area.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that a clean up of the Spa will be carried out before the end of the year.

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

The members agreed to take items 20 and 21 together.

CL20/21/1026

Masterplans for Hazelhatch Road and Willowbrook Park

Item 20

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

That the council organises an onsite meeting with local councillors and Gardaí at the Park in Willowbrook, Celbridge to address the ongoing antisocial behaviour which is causing distress and concern among residents in the surrounding housing estates, to discuss improving safety measures such as improved lighting, CCTV, and infrastructure upgrades.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that tree pruning was carried out to the trees on the open space over the Summer which allows for better passive surveillance. We have also removed bonfire material and will continue to liaise with the Gardaí to collect material when and where feasible.

The Parks Department has scheduled the commencement of tender document preparation to engage consultants to prepare masterplans for Hazelhatch Road and Willowbrook Park, Celbridge for November 2026. The aim of the plan will be to provide additional amenities for all ages to improve the function and use of the space.

A report was also received from the Community Department informing the members that in response to questions submitted in advance of the Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership Annual Public Meeting on 01 October, An Garda Síochána advised that a proactive policing operation is currently in place in the central green area serving Castlewellan, Willowbrook Lodge, Beatty Grove, Beatty Park, Ashgrove and the Aghards Playground. The operation includes Community Policing, High Visibility Mobile and Beat Patrols aimed at reducing and disrupting anti-social behaviour, identifying offenders, increasing Garda visibility and providing reassurance to residents. The policing plan includes ongoing cooperation and communication between An Garda Síochána, local residents, resident groups, elected members and Kildare County Council, with residents encouraged to report incidents promptly to support enforcement efforts.

All submissions received and responses provided at the Public Meeting will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Adopted meeting minutes are published on the Kildare County Council Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) webpage.

The issuing of a letter of invitation to An Garda Síochána to attend a meeting is a matter for the members to consider.

Members should note however, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Kildare LCSP, a dedicated meeting for elected representatives will be scheduled before year end. It is expected that elected members will have an opportunity to submit questions in advance of the meeting for consideration. An invitation to this meeting will issue in due course.

In addition, consultation has commenced on the first Kildare Community Safety Plan. All stakeholders are invited to participate in the consultation process. The input of elected members will be particularly important in identifying local community safety priorities and issues, and this engagement will help inform the objectives and actions contained within the

Plan. The consultation process provides a significant opportunity for members to contribute to the future direction of community safety policy and initiatives across the county. Full details of consultation can be found on Kildare County Council website: www.kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Community/LocalCommunitySafetyPartnership

Item 21

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

Can the council advise on the progress of Masterplans for Celbridge Playgrounds to include Hazelhatch Road and Willowbrook?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the Parks Department has scheduled the commencement of tender document preparation to engage consultants to prepare masterplans for Hazelhatch Road and Willowbrook Park, Celbridge for November 2026.

Councillor Ryan noted that ashes from bonfires in Willowbrook Park needed to be cleaned up and that commercial bins should be locked away to prevent materials being taken from them.

Councillor Heather advised that instances of antisocial behaviour were occurring nightly. Residents felt threatened and the council must devise a response in conjunction with An Garda Síochána.

The members raised the following:

- There had been significant vandalism.
- The council should correspond with the Garda Superintendent.
- This was an immediate issue and could not wait for the LCSP to act.
- Residents were of the view that the green space be rezoned for residential development to prevent such incidents.
- Scoil Mochua was directly affected by these issues and keen to find a resolution.

Mr. J. McGauley advised that the Parks Department would continue to manage small bonfires as much as possible and that he would arrange an onsite meeting with local councillors and An Garda Síochána at Willowbrook Park as soon as possible.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by all members that an onsite meeting be arranged and that the reports be noted.

CL22/1026

Update on Tree Pruning Schedule

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

Can the council provide an update on the tree pruning schedule for the next six months in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the Parks Department Operations Team staff have a schedule of works over the winter period. This will be forwarded to all the members before this month's meeting. In addition, surveys are ongoing to prepare a schedule of works for contract tree surgery which is intended to commence in February 2027.

The report was noted.

CL23/1026

Reallocation of LPT to the Celbridge Christmas Lights Committee

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

That the Members agree to reduce the allocation under the Community Innovation Fund by €15,000 and reallocate these funds to the Celbridge Christmas Lights Committee. This additional one-off funding contribution is proposed to assist the Committee in addressing legacy issues, meeting increased operational costs, and delivering additional requirements.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree.

Councillor Heather informed the members of the following:

- This would be a one-off payment to address legacy issues, including replacement of the brackets on Celbridge Main Street.
- It would take a lot of work to make the system effective.
- The money would be well spent.
- One single contractor would be managing every aspect.

The members supported the motion, thanking Councillors Heather and Trost for all the work they had done on this matter.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Ryan and agreed by all members that €15,000 be reallocated from the Community Innovation Fund to the Celbridge Christmas Lights Committee and that the report be noted.

CL24/1026

Invitation to Uisce Éireann

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

That the council invites Uisce Éireann to our November Municipal District meeting to provide an update on plans to solve the continuing burst pipes in this municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator advising the members that this is a matter for the members to agree.

Councillor Caldwell advised that he had been in contact with a representative from Uisce Éireann who was willing to attend a municipal district meeting and that he would put in a request with them.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Heather and agreed by all members that an invitation be issued to Uisce Éireann and that the report be noted.

CL25/1026

Letter to Uisce Éireann

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

That members support the request to contact Uisce Eireann (UÉ) seeking that a detailed programme for upgrade and urgent repair of the mains on the R148 that has caused continuous bursts and outages in Leixlip. That in this letter, UÉ is asked to present at the Water Services Workshop on 23 November to develop a coordinated business continuity response for repeated and prolonged water outages, to include concrete plans and timelines for urgent repair for this mains.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator advising the members that this is a matter for the members to agree.

Councillor Killeen advised that this area had experienced significant water outages and that Uisce Éireann needed to progress repair and replacement of mains urgently.

Councillor Caldwell informed the members that he understood that it would be another two years before replacement works would be carried out.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor O'Rourke and agreed by all members that a letter be issued to Uisce Éireann and that the report be noted.

CL26/1026

Measures Redacted from Intel Ireland External Emergency Plan

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

Can the council provide details of the off-site emergency response arrangements for Intel Ireland Ltd., including traffic management, public communication and community protection measures, that have been redacted from the Draft External Emergency Plan placed on public display?

A report was received from Kildare Fire Service informing the members that the External Emergency Plan for the Intel Ireland Ltd facility at Leixlip, as required under the SEVESO Regulations, and prepared by the Principal Response Agencies – Kildare County Council, An Garda Síochána and Health Service Executive - has recently been out for public consultation. Certain elements of this document were redacted, for operational or security measures, and will not be made available into the public arena. These include An Garda Síochána traffic management plans. With respect to public communication and community protection measures, there is no specific redaction of these measures. Under the SEVESO Regulations, public communication and community protection measures (i.e. what to do in the event of an incident) are, by regulation, required to be addressed by the site operator. The Principal Response Agencies will communicate with Intel Ireland Ltd in this regard and ensure that this requirement is fulfilled. Similarly, where Kildare County Council or Kildare Fire Service consider it necessary to communicate with the public in the event an emergency at any location, the methodology by which this would be achieved is as detailed in the Kildare County Council Major Emergency Plan, which is available at: KCC Major Emergency Plan.pdf

Councillor O'Rourke accepted certain information was confidential and queried how the public would be communicated with in the event of a major emergency.

Mr. N. O'Riordan advised the members of the following:

- Depending on their size and nature, not all emergencies would require public notification.
- Communications would be issued via social media, radio and text messages.

- A national tender for a text alert service was currently being drawn up.
- Hopefully when this came to fruition, localised alerts would be possible.
- Intel Ireland Ltd. had an obligation to communicate with the public.

The report was noted.

CL27/1026

Part 8 – Proposed Captain's Hill Active Travel Scheme

The members considered the Chief Executive's Part 8 Report for Proposed Captain's Hill Active Travel Scheme, Leixlip, Co. Kildare (P82026.06).

Councillor Killeen noted that members should participate in part of the design phase. Councillor Heather queried how the members would be kept informed.

Mr. S. Deegan informed the members that this scheme would stretch from the Leixlip Main Street to Cope Bridge and would be fully funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. He noted that the public consultation had been completed and that the council would seek input from the community and elected members during the detailed design phase.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor O'Rourke and agreed by all the members that the Chief Executive's Part 8 Report for Proposed Captain's Hill Active Travel Scheme, Leixlip, Co. Kildare (P82026.06) be approved and that the report be noted.

CL28/1026

Taking in Charge of Barnhall Meadows Estate, Leixlip

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

That the council provides an updated report on the Taking in Charge process for Barnhall Meadows Estate, Leixlip, further to Motion CL26/0925 including outstanding Taking in Charge requirements, progress on the relocation of public lighting columns located on private folios, and the anticipated timeline for completion.

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

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Team informing the members that following an assessment of the outstanding developer works in Barnhall Meadows by Kildare County Council over the summer, an additional schedule of surface and drainage defects was issued to the developer and works to address these items are currently underway. Progress has also been made in addressing some issues including the relocation of some lighting columns. Once the outstanding works have been satisfactorily completed, it is intended to readvertise the proposed Taking in Charge of Barnhall Meadows and subsequently bring the matter before the members at a municipal district meeting for consideration.

Councillor O'Rourke queried what the timeline was for conclusion of the Taking in Charge process.

Mr. P. Lynch advised that the development had been re-snagged during the summer and a team was currently on-site working through the list. The Building and Development Control Team hoped to conclude the process in Q1 2027.

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

CL29/1026

Donaghcumper Masterplan

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

Can the council provide an update on the progress being made towards the preparation of the Donaghcumper Masterplan, to include the timeline for completion and when the members and local community can expect to be consulted on the future use and development of the lands?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that The Council is progressing the preparation of an Urban Design Masterplan for the

Donaghcumper lands as part of a wider strategic planning framework for Celbridge. The framework will guide the future planning, conservation, accessibility, amenity and development of these lands in an integrated and coordinated manner. It is intended that the draft Donaghcumper Masterplan will be published alongside the proposed Variation to incorporate a settlement plan for Celbridge into the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 (as varied). This approach will ensure that the future role of the Donaghcumper lands is considered within the broader planning and a statutory development context for Celbridge and will provide a coordinated basis for public consultation and stakeholder engagement.

It is anticipated that the draft Variation will be published in Q1/Q2 Elected Members, Statutory Bodies and the wider community will have an opportunity to make submissions on the proposed Variation including the draft Masterplan during the statutory consultation process. The Council will publicise the consultation arrangements in advance and will keep Members informed as the project progresses.

The report was noted.

CL30/1026

Celbridge-Leixlip Draft Budget Plan 2027

The members considered the Celbridge-Leixlip Draft Budget Plan 2027.

Ms. E. Hanlon advised the members that this was a challenging budget period and that there had been increases in expenditure allocations for local road maintenance, parks and landscaping, street cleaning and public realm maintenance.

The members raised the following:

- What was the difference between the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District column and the Central Income column?
- Would the decision to be made on proposed amendments to the parking tariff rate charges have an impact on the figures in the report?
- It was difficult to understand how such a large municipal district only received 16.13% of the overall allocation.

- The decision made at Full Council to reduce the Local Property Tax (LPT) allocated to smaller municipal districts had had a huge impact.
- It would be valuable for newer members to receive a presentation to better understand retained LPT.

Ms. E. Hanlon advised the following:

- Central Income referred to a countywide allocation, whilst the Celbridge-Leixlip column was specific to the municipal district.
- Voting against the parking tariff amendments would have an impact and funds would be taken off the local road allocation.
- In the overall context, other municipal districts in the county had larger populations and more roads.
- The LPT allocation was based on Retained LPT from the Government, which the members had voted to distribute by population.
- LPT was retained at the discretion of the members as they had the option to vary it upwards or downwards by up to 15%, and she was happy to detail this further later.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Ryan and agreed by all members that the Celbridge-Leixlip Draft Budget Plan 2027 be approved and that the report be noted.

CL31/1026

Leixlip Swimming Pool

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

Can the council provide an update on Leixlip Swimming Pool?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that further to the email issued to elected members on 29 September, a tender has been published seeking a full site and development-type feasibility study, with a closing date of 02 November. Allowing for evaluation, award, and standstill period under procurement legislation, it is intended that services under this process would commence in December and the estimated duration of this phase of the project is 24-26 working weeks. This timeline

may, however, be affected by the ongoing industrial action. The study will assess the technical, financial, environmental, operational and statutory requirements of the project and inform future funding applications and project development decisions. It should provide the information necessary to decide how to move to the next stage such as:

- The preferred site development approach.
- The preferred construction methodology.
- The preferred swimming pool solution.
- The preferred sustainability strategy.
- Capital and lifecycle cost implications.
- Planning and statutory requirements.
- Indicative timescales, programme and phasing requirements.
- Risks and mitigation measures.
- Future funding and delivery considerations.

Mr. T. Shanahan informed the members that the tender period had been extended and would now be closing on 16 November, following which a consultant would be appointed. The study would include groundwork and site investigations to ensure the council was in the best position once it came to submitting the planning application. He noted that he was happy to provide the members with further details of what the tender entailed.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.