



Minutes of the Celbridge - Leixlip Municipal District Meeting

Held on Friday 17 May 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara.

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

Officials Present: Ms C Barrett (District Manager), Mr R Linnane (Municipal District Engineer), Mr S Wallace (A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer), Ms P Pender (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr G Conlon (Senior Executive Officer), Mr J Hennessy (Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Walsh (Executive Engineer), Ms S Barry (Administrative Officer), Mr F Brown (Administrative Officer), Mr M Hearn (Staff Officer), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Woodhouse (Meetings Secretary) and other officials

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the May Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District meeting. He thanked the community centre staff at Newtown, Leixlip for facilitating the April Municipal District meeting. He noted that this was the last meeting for the current Councillors ahead of the upcoming local elections.

CL01/0524

Declaration of Interest

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.



CL02/0524

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the draft minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday 19 April 2024 including the progress report.

Resolved: On the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday 19 April 2024 of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL03/0524

Municipal District Works

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

Schedule of Municipal District Works – May 2024

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

Road Works Programme for 2024

Road Overlays - Restoration Improvement

- R403 Clane Road, (Ardras to Barberstown) - Works completed 13/05/24.
- R403 Barnhall Roundabout to M4 overbridge - Works completed 03/05/24.
- R405 Maynooth Road, (Ardrath to Lufthansa) - At construction stage.
- R149 Confey at Graveyard - Preparing tender documents.
- L 5061 Loughlinstown Road. - Preparing tender documents.
- L 89945 Knockaulin Leixlip - Works completed 30/04/24

Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance 2024

Surface dressing is scheduled to commence on 4 June.

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

Footpath repair and restoration:



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Tenders are being assessed for works in The Grove in Celbridge for repair and replacement, works to commence in May.

Tender documentation is being prepared for Castletown Estate and Leixlip Park in Leixlip.

Realignment of R148 at Collinstown:

Roadworks have commenced on the R148 at Collinstown, Leixlip. Works area is from the roundabout at the R148/ R449 to the Junction of the R148 with Kellystown Lane. Roadworks are scheduled to be in place until the end of 2024. Temporary traffic management measures will be in place for the duration of the works.

Uisce Eireann works on R403 Dublin Road Celbridge:

Permanent reinstatement roadworks on R403 carried out during nighttime closures.

Surface course and setting of utility cover lids now complete. Snagging works are now being carried out.

Councillor Caldwell asked if there was any progress in regards Confey Cemetery and slowing down the traffic and if any time frame was available.

The District Engineer advised that it would include road markings but it had not gone to tender as yet, the tender process should take 2 weeks so it was anticipated to take approximately 5 weeks in total.

CL04/0524

Capital Programme 2024-2026.

The members considered the Capital Programme 2024-2026 which had been previously circulated

The members raised the following,

- Asked if the procedure had changed, as previously the members had been asked nearer July for the list of key items to be submitted and prioritised.
- Would this be the time to discuss projects for the next Capital Programme.
- That the Wonderful Barn was awaiting URDF funding.
- Update sought on the bridge project
- That a tourist centre/ arts centre was required. Could any existing building be CPO'd for this type of project.



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- Gaps were present in social infrastructure in the municipal district, could lands owned by Kildare County Council be considered to be utilised for sports, community infrastructure and childcare facilities.
- Delays with the Parochial House project, enquired where this project was currently at.
- Same project list ongoing since 2019, the members felt it was time to add more.
- Would a Family Resource Centre fit criteria for URDF funding?
- It was suggested that members meet offline to discuss these matters further.

The District Manager advised the members that typically the Capital Programme appeared on the agenda at the May municipal district meeting and by October it would then be for the members to note. If the members should decide to reprioritise projects this would also mean that funding would need to be reprioritised. It was agreed that other projects could be discussed but currently no funding was available. It was suggested that the members should start to consider projects on the basis of short, medium and long term projects.

The following updates were given,

- The groundworks process was ongoing on the pedestrian bridge including bore holes and was anticipated to take to the end of the year. construction would then commence after anchor points were secured.
- The second bridge was on list for URDF funding. This funding would fund up to the planning stage if secured. Further funding would then be needed to progress to construction.

Ms Higgins advised the members that,

- The provision of a Family Resource Centre did not fall under the remit of the local government, the council could however support an application and work alongside TUSLA and other bodies/boards such as SIPSY, LECP's AND LCDC's.
- There were currently a number of small grants available. Members were asked to put forward projects for review, noting that many of these grants require nomination from the local authority to access the funding streams.



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- The Parochial House project was experiencing unexpected delays but work was ongoing. It was noted that the Naas Library despite being owned by Kildare County Council took 6 years to be completed, so all these projects would take time.

The report was noted and it was agreed for the Capital Budget be reissued to the members and an off line meeting was agreed for the members on Wednesday 29 May at 11 am in the Area Office

CL05/0524

Section 38

The members considered the section 38 of the road Traffic Act 1994 – Proposed Rapid Build Scheme to protect cycle infrastructure and vulnerable road users on the Shinkeen Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare.

The report was noted.

CL06/0524

Hazelhatch Road Safety Audit

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

That the council undertakes a safety audit of the current route for children up the Hazelhatch Road and into the grounds of St. Patrick's School, that also includes recommendations on safe routes and measures including the Primrose gate access that was conditioned in planning. That these proposals include assessment of any further enhancements to safety measures that would be required when the gate is opened as an access.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that the Road Safety Audit process is a very defined one which is outlined in the "Road Safety Audit Guidelines" published by TII in 2017. The audit process is applied at the various stages of completing a road construction project and is clearly not applicable in this circumstance.

The original planning application for St. Patrick's School was lodged in 2007 and at that time the temporary planning that was granted was for a maximum of 5 years. It was never



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envisaged that the school would remain at this temporary location for the amount of time that it has.

The purpose of good Planning is to ensure that the right development happens in the right place at the right time. When there is a Planning application for the permanent school all aspects of the location and safe routes can be considered. In the interim the Municipal District Engineer has met with representatives of the parents and school and has undertaken works to cut back the vegetation along the paths and our Development Control section are working to progress the Taking in Charge of the Primrose Gate Estate.

The Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces department will also liaise directly with the Planning Department to seek a resolution to this issue in order to regularise access to the school as envisaged in the planning process.

Councillor Liston expressed her surprise at the report as 2 years ago a similar report was carried out at Ardclough

The members raised the following:

- The safety of the children was paramount, the access currently being used was unsafe
- A safety audit would review the change in movement patterns.
- Original conditions needed to be reevaluated and a medium resolution investigated.
- Questioned a lack of enforcement
- Would taking in charge of Primrose Gate be a possible solution.
- How did the council assess and manage safety risks.
- What assessments were available.
- Was there a safety framework.
- Aware site bought for the 3 schools, was there a timeframe available.

The District Manager advised the members that the council receive several requests from schools around the county regarding safety issues. The council worked alongside schools on such matters. The situation with St Patricks School was hampered as it was not in a permanent location. Options available to schools would be school zone areas, pencil bollards and signage, this however was not an option in this case. St Patricks school was currently located with access via wide path with 2 crossing points. Discussions were ongoing



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with the NTA and the council were awaiting feedback. A Safety Audit would not usually be carried out at a temporary location.

Councillor Liston looked forward to receiving the options from the NTA, it was felt that a Safety Audit should still be considered. An audit would identify and validate risks and such risks could then be put forward to the Department of Education.

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

CL07/0524

Yellow Box

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen
That the council repaints the Yellow Box and the ramp at Aghards Road/Shackleton Road as a matter of priority.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that the road markings at the Shackleton Road/Aghards Road junction will be refreshed.

Councillor Cussen thanked the Area Engineer asking if there was any update with NTA funding to progress issues and if there was a time frame for the ramp to be installed.

The Area Engineer advised the members that the NTA had asked if the junction could be signalised. The Area Engineer and his team were now looking into the design of a signalised junction. Once a design was agreed, the NTA would then be contacted for funding. It was hoped that this would be expected to start in the second half of the year with the procurement process expected to begin in September.

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



CL08/0524

Bin Report

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen
That the council presents the Bin Report to members with any proposals for this municipal district to be contained therein.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that a location survey and usage survey was carried out for the bins in the Municipal District. Maps and usage survey report were previously Circulated.

The members raised the following:

- More bins were required around the municipal district. There were currently 37 bins in Celbridge and 70 bins in Leixlip. In Ardclough residents currently empty the bins in their area into their own domestic household bins.
- What was the criteria for selecting bin locations.
- Aware that the council had no resources available currently to service more bins
- Enquired into when the bin survey was carried out and when it was due to be redone.
- The members were interested to see if the new deposit return scheme would have an impact on recyclables deposited.
- The members noted that there were still some main walking routes with no bins.

The District Engineer advised the members that the bin survey was carried out in March/April 2024. The information provided gave a baseline on locations of bins and the ability to monitor usage. The District Engineer worked closely with the litter wardens with regards litter and identifying black spots.

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

CL09/0524

Capital Funded Projects

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



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That the council provides a report on the number of and value/cost of capital funded projects (either full or part funded by capital funding) in this municipal district by town, project and value separated into projects delivered or, yet to be delivered from capital plans from 2019 to 2024.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that this information is already provided to the members on an annual basis as part of the Annual Financial Statement. The members had the opportunity to discuss the Capital Programme at their May Municipal District meetings and were given a briefing on the 2024-2026 Capital Programme in November 2023.

The attached appendices (9a,b,c and d) provide a breakdown of the outturn on the Capital Programme by the Municipal District office and project for each year from 2021 to 2023 together with a separate document that was produced covering the years 2016-2020.

Councillor Killeen was happy with the report, noting it was helpful to have the range of data available. She highlighted the importance of financial literacy and looked forward to projects on the Capital Programmes moving forward. Housing and Roads were being provided, but a places for people to connect was needed in the area.

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

CL10/0524

Public Lighting

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

That the council installs public lighting along the footpath at the permeability between Beatty Park and Beatty Grove, Celbridge leading to the Maynooth Road.

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



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A report was received from the Transport Design Team informing the members that the request was added to the KLIPS Register and will be ranked accorded to the KLIPS Criteria. The public lighting section has requested the maintenance contractor to submit a quote for the works.

Councillor Coleman was happy with the report and noted the importance of highlighting locations where permeability works and the importance of public lighting to ensure public safety.

Councillor Liston asked how the KLIPS system worked and if the members could receive information on how works were prioritised and what time frames for delivery could be expected.

The District Manager agreed to discuss this with the team and revert back to the members. It would be the role of the next SPC members to engage on this matter. She noted that funding tended to be the challenge in regard public lighting, there was the initial cost and then the cost of running lights whilst also ensuring the council reached its climate targets.

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

CL11/0524

The Bungalows St Patricks Park, Celbridge.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman
That the council installs a single yellow line on both sides of the road at The Bungalows St Patricks Park, Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that the installation of single yellow lines at this location can be considered in the pending Celbridge parking bye-laws review.

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



CL12/0524

Celbridge Bridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather
That the council imposes a heavy goods vehicle ban on Celbridge Bridge during peak hours to ease congestion and improve the flow of traffic around Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that from recorded traffic counts on roads leading to the Celbridge Bridge Class 4 vehicle percentage is at or less than 2%. The majority of large and heavy vehicles (Class 4 vehicles) using the Celbridge Bridge are public transport vehicles. Dublin Buses L51, L59, L58, W61, C4 routes and the Bus Eireann 120 service traverse the bridge. The remaining Class 4 vehicles that are HGVs are minimal and their removal at peak times would be ineffective as a measure to improve traffic flows around Celbridge.

Councillor Heather advised that he had been contacted regarding traffic issues and to investigate possible options.

The members raised the following,

- Traffic issues were seen daily with larger volumes seen on a Saturday,
- The problem was with the Hazelhatch Road, a solution could be to close off this road.
- Buses run every 15 minutes and if more people chose public transport this would in itself reduce congestion.

The District Engineer advised the members that many HGV'S avoided the area when congestion was bad and that the statistics included in the report were inclusive of HGV'S which came out as 0.5% of the total

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

CL13/0524

Phone Boxes on Main Street

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



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Can the council provide an update on the removal of the phone boxes on Main Street, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that Kildare County Council has no update on the report issued at the November 2023 Municipal District meeting.

A previous report issued to the Municipal District members in October 2022 on this matter confirmed that the Municipal District Engineer had contacted Eir requesting that the existing phone box be removed from the Main Street, Leixlip. Eir advised Kildare County Council that they were required by Comreg to provide pay phone services in the area and that a number of calls from that payphone were to numbers for assistance. Eir proposed an upgrade to the phone box to a new style Kiosk which would require planning permission. Planning permission (22/1013) for the new kiosk, integral communication unit and digital display board was refused by the planning authority.

The District Engineer updated the members that an application for road opening license had been received to remove the phone boxes with further information to be supplied.

The report was noted.

CL14/0524

Yellow Box

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

Can the council provide an update on any possible extension to the yellow box at the Shackleton Road/Avenue St Raphaels Manor Junction, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that the yellow box markings at junctions are provided to allow vehicles traveling on a higher priority road to exit to a lower priority road and reduce the possibility of a collision caused by a traveling vehicle rear ending a stationary vehicle waiting to exit the higher priority road. The half yellow box at this junction is currently installed incorrectly. The existing yellow box will be removed, and a new yellow box will be installed on the St. Raphaels Avenue side of the Shackleton Road.

The report was noted.



CL15/0524

Big Belly Bins

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen
Can members be updated on the date for installation of Big Belly Bins in Celbridge and Leixlip?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that orders have been placed for the two belly bins to be installed in the Municipal District. Details on the external wrap design are currently being finalised. It is estimated that the bins will be installed in 8 weeks.

The report was noted.

CL16/0524

St. Patrick's School

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heather.
Can the council confirm the process of getting a temporary bridge and pathway built along the back area of St. Patrick's School, to the left-hand side of the pedestrian gate when facing north, on the land owned by the council?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that there was no process or means of providing a temporary bridge to provide pedestrian access to St. Patrick's School. The provision of safe pedestrian access for St. Patrick's School was conditioned under the granted planning permission for the school.

The report was noted.

CL17/0524

Entrance to the Liffey

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council opens, on a permanent basis, the two right of ways that allow pedestrians and fishermen to enter the Liffey River bank in Castle Park, Mill Lane, Leixlip.

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



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A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that one entrance to the Liffey River bank in Castle Park is open permanently. The other entrance is closed as the boundary wall of the adjoining premises was in a dangerous condition and the property owner has been requested to repair it.

Councillor Killeen asked could contact be made with the owner to open the second entrance. Mr Wallace advised the members that the hedge had previously been removed and ground reinstated, the boundary wall was currently dangerous and had therefore been fenced off. Contact had been made with the owner and the Council were in discussions regarding the wall.

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

CL18/0524

Zoned Area for Recreation and Amenities

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

Can the council provide details of the open space managed by Kildare County Council and zoned for recreation and amenity in this municipal district where there are no structures in place – e.g. playgrounds etc?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the following areas of open space in Leixlip are owned by Kildare County Council. The Wonderful Barn, Lough na Mona, Leixlip Amenities Centre, William Roantree Park
St Catherines Park is maintained and managed by Kildare County Council and title of the lands are currently being transferred to Kildare County Council from the OPW. Leixlip Spa is leased from CIE. Part of William Roantree Park is licenced by the ESB to Kildare County Council.

Open spaces in housing estates are taken in charge by Kildare County Council. However, the title to the land may not be registered to Kildare County Council. Development Control are working on registering these lands. A full list of the estates in Charge is attached.

If the councillor has specific queries in relation to ownership of public open space zoned for recreation and amenity these can be investigated further.



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Councillor Killeen sought clarity on where St Catherine's Park was on the list. She asked what the difference was between leasing and licensing.

Leixlip	Knockaulin	TIC
Leixlip	River Forest Estate	TIC
Leixlip	Louisa Valley	TIC
Leixlip	Glen Easton	TIC
Leixlip	Rinawade	TIC
Leixlip	Cluain Dara	TIC
Leixlip	Sycamore Avenue	TIC
Leixlip	Dun Carraig	TIC
Leixlip	The View, St. Mary's Park	TIC
Leixlip	The Grange, Louisa Valley	TIC
Leixlip	Castle Park & Castle Park Estate	TIC
Leixlip	Glendale Meadows Estate	TIC
Leixlip	Castletown Estate	TIC
Leixlip	Elton Court	TIC
Leixlip	Forest Park	TIC
Leixlip	Glendale	TIC
Leixlip	Highfield Estate	TIC
Leixlip	Highfield Park Estate	TIC
Leixlip	Leixlip Park	TIC
Leixlip	Newtown (Glendale) Leixlip.	TIC
Leixlip	Oaklawn	TIC
Leixlip	Oaklawn Close	TIC
Leixlip	Oaklawn West	TIC
Leixlip	River Forest (Phase 2)	TIC
Leixlip	River Forest View/Woodside	TIC
Leixlip	Riversdale	TIC
Leixlip	Rockingham	TIC
Leixlip	Ryevale Lawns (Phase 1 & 2)	TIC
Leixlip	Ryevale Lawns (Phase 3)	TIC

Mr Wallace advised the members that each lease licence depends on the situation and that Leixlip Spa lease dated back to the the1970's

The land at William Roantree Park is mainly in the ownership of Kildare County Council but some of the park encroaches on the Old Mill Race which is owned by the ESB and licenced by them to Kildare County Council for

The report was noted.



CL19/0524

The Grove Estate, Celbridge

The members considered the following Question in the name of Councillor Heather
Can the council provide an update on plans to create a pathway around the back green in
The Grove estate in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the Council would engage with the Residents Association in relation to the works and see what timelines could be incorporated into our works programme. Additional finance in addition to the Local Property Tax provided for the project would also have to be identified.

Councillor Heather accepted the report noting that this was a large area and that a path would improve access. He asked if the Works Programme was still going ahead over the Summer.

Mr Wallace advised the members that he would talk to Residents Association and that the timeframe maybe longer as the team were wanting to add other projects.

The report was noted.

CL20/0524

URDF Funding

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville
That the council outlines the status of the URDF funding process for Kildare and where an application for Leixlip lies either through the Wonderful Barn or the regeneration of Leixlip Village.

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

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Section informing the members that there were several projects that were progressing or completed under URDF Calls 1 and 2 of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF). Projects completed included the refurbishment of Naas Library, the development of the County Library to Part 8 and Phase 1 of the Celbridge Southern Relief Road and Second Liffey



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Crossing – traffic surveys, modelling etc. Call 2 includes the Maynooth Town Centre Masterplan, the Naas Town Renewal Masterplan and the Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road. Call 3 had a specific focus on addressing long term vacancy and dereliction across

the URDF cities and towns, accelerating the provision of residential accommodation. The Housing Vacancy Team were progressing several projects under Call 3 and confirmed that there were 10 approved sites on the list for Leixlip. URDF Call 4 was expected to be announced this year, however the council have not had any indication to date of when the announcement will be made, the funding that will be available and the project scope that will be required to meet the funding requirements. There are several projects in Kildare that will be hoping to go forward for URDF Call 4, including the Wonderful Barn.

Councillor Neville questioned how funding was prioritised

The members raised the following,

- Great to see a number of projects on the list within the municipal district
- Been waiting on update on URDF funding since last October, advised documents had been with the Minister since January
- Queried if the second bridge was expected to be put forward in Q4

Ms Pender advised the members that.

- Call 3 criteria was specific to housing.
- Call 4 was expected to revert back to the original call 1 and call 2 criteria.
- That Kildare and Athy were now over a population of 10,000 and therefore eligible to apply for URDF funding
- The council had a lot of projects in mind for when Call 4 was opened and that the Wonderful Barn was on the list for inclusion.
- The council intended to put forward as many projects as possible which meet the criteria and the Department would then decide regarding allocation of funding

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



CL21/0524

Old ESB Site

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

Can the council provide an update on the development on the old ESB Site on Main Street, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the plans submitted by Cluid had been reviewed and there were several design issues to be resolved before proceeding to statutory approval.

There was a community element associated with the design and the parking element was agreed with Transportation.

The report was noted.

CL22/0524

Plans for Old ESB Site

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

Can the council confirm if it has been able to obtain plans for the old ESB site, Leixlip and the community/car park element of it?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the plans submitted by Cluid had been reviewed and there were several design issues to be resolved before proceeding to statutory approval.

There was a community element associated with the design and the parking element was agreed with Transportation.

Councillor Neville asked if a timeframe was available and any update on the community element of the plans

Ms Barry advised the members that

- There had been a number of issues with regards the design,
- A revised design was expected from Cluid next week. The council would review this plan and if happy discuss with all Sections involved.
- The members would be briefed ahead of approval.

The report was noted.



CL23/0524

Homeless Statistics

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

Can the council provide details of the number of requests for help [calls logged] to the council's homeless team, the number of homeless assessments completed and the number

of people accommodated in an emergency for 2022, 2023 and 2024 in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that details of homeless presentations for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 (to 31/03/2024) recorded as below:

Year	Presentations to Homeless Services – Celbridge MD	Presentations to Homeless Services – No MD specified	Presentations to Homeless Services – Countywide	Accommodated in Emergency in County
2022	123	427	1,397	229 families, 607 singles
2023	191	597	1,981	240 Families, 617 singles
2024 to 31/03/24	41	110	515	59 families, 130 singles.



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Presentations were recorded per municipal district area where possible. However, it should be noted that many presentations during these periods were recorded as 'No Municipal District'. This category may, therefore, include Celbridge/Leixlip Municipal District presentations. Many homeless persons presenting do not have an actual address and do not specify a Municipal District that they are connected to.

It should also be noted that Social Housing Support (SHS) applicants are invited to choose up to three (3) areas of choice for an allocation. Therefore, it was difficult to capture persons currently living in a particular Municipal District and requesting an allocation in another Municipal District.

Housing acquisitions under the Tenant In Situ scheme had prevented a significant number of families from becoming homeless during this period.

Details of homeless presentations and persons accommodated in emergency accommodation was included in the Chief Executive Reports.

Councillor Killeen queried why no municipal district information was available as application forms had a section to supply 3 areas of preference. It was felt that there was a gap in statistics and asked for this to be further investigated.

Ms Barry agreed to seek clarification on Councillor Killeen's behalf and revert back.

The report was noted.

CL24/0524

Ryevale House

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville
That this council writes to the Department of Integration requesting an independent report from a body such as HIQA into the issues at Squirrel Wood and facilities at Ryevale House.

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

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



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“That this council writes to the Department of Integration requesting an independent Health and Quality report from a qualified body into the issues at Squirrel Wood and facilities at Ryevale House”

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by all members that a letter issue to the department of Integration with an amendment to the motion.

CL25/0524

Map of Castletown House

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

Can the council present a detail map of Castletown house outlining the exact ownership of the lands in the greater Castletown estate?

A report was received from the Corporate Section informing the members that Kildare County Council do not maintain a register of landownership. Tailte Eireann (TE) are the new state agency established following the merger of the Property Registration Authority, the Valuation Office and Ordnance Survey Ireland and are responsible for maintaining an up to date and verified database of land ownership in Ireland. Information on landownership is available through the Tailte Eireann website.

The report was noted.

CL26/0524

Vanessa's Bower

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

That the council provides a progress report on the study being carried out to support repair of Vanessa's Bower in Celbridge Abbey and to urgently progress actions for its restoration.

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

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that Kildare County Council Conservation and Heritage Team has made a number of approaches to the owners



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(and representatives of same) regarding Vanessa's Bower over the past number of months and remain committed to continuing this engagement.

However, notwithstanding this, ongoing engagement and commitment to supporting the necessary repairs to the Bower, the Elected Members will be aware that the specialist Executive Architectural Conservation Officer post in Kildare County Council remains vacant despite a recruitment campaign in February 2024. As a result of this and a significant nationwide shortage of suitably qualified professionals in the private market, a number of

conservation related projects are behind schedule in order to prioritise the progression and completion of time bound external grant aided projects. Further updates on Vanessa's Bower will be provided to members in due course.

The members raised the following

- That Vanessa's Bower was in a state of disrepair
- The bower was listed as a protected structure
- It was important part of the heritage of the area
- Vanessa's Festival coming up on the June bank holiday
- Asked if the study was carried out on Vanessa's Bower as agreed before Christmas.
- Highlighted the importance of engagement as more and more of the Bower was falling into the Liffey
- How can this be prioritised as a matter of urgency, the situation remained the same even after 3 years.
- Grant was previously available but St John of Gods refused. How could things be progressed, what funding was currently available
- Members aware that the Conservation Officer post was vacant, was there a time frame available for a replacement.

Mr Conlon advised the members that

- No time frame was currently available as recruitment for a replacement Conservation Officer had proved difficult. The section would soon have a vacancy for a Heritage Officer also .
- The council were facing limitations as the Bower was not in ownership of Kildare County Council.



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

CL27/0524

Barnhall Meadows

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

That the council implements an estate management plan to deal with issues presenting in relation to road safety and estate management issues at Barnhall Meadows: confirming which aspects are management company related and which are Kildare County Council related in terms of specific roles in the estate management piece; in order to resolve bike, bin, road safety, parking and open space management issues.

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

A report was received from the Building Control Section informing the members that Barnhall Meadows was a mixed-use development consisting of apartments and conventional housing. When complete is it envisaged that the conventional housing elements of the development and their associated infrastructure would be put forward for Taking in Charge. The apartments and their associated infrastructure would remain under the control of a Management Company as is standard practise.

Until such time as the development is put forward for Taking in Charge all areas would remain the responsibility of the developer. Development Control do not have a function with the regard to development of Estate Management Plans.

Councillor Killeen felt there was currently a gap in the role of estate management regarding responsibilities. There were currently 2 types of management, the maintenance aspect and then overseeing role of management. Barnhall Meadows had mixed tenure, Councillor Killeen felt that Kildare County Council should attend management meetings. It was felt that



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some of the current issues couldn't wait till the estate is taken in charge, these included bins, bike locking facilities, and other issues around resolving problems as they arose.

The members raised the following:

- Could a project be investigated around estate management, highlighting what can be done to resolve issues and finding out where responsibility lay
- The current situation wasn't envisaged originally as cost rental wasn't an issue at the time
- The lack of engagement was causing further situations to arise

Mr Hennessey advised the members that

- There were a number of estates in similar situations
- Usually when taking in charge was complete a Residents Association was formed and the council work alongside the newly formed group.
- Barnhall Meadows was unique as it had mixed tenure with a large proportion of housing bodies each of which should sit on the Residents Association along with possibly Councillors also. This would however be outside the remit of Building Control to manage

The District Manager advised that currently the responsibility lies with the developer. Building Control were responsible for the infrastructure and then the wider issues would be covered by housing. It was agreed to pass information onto housing.

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

CL28/0524

Willow Avenue

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather
That the council takes in charge Willow Avenue in Primrose Gate to facilitate access to St. Patrick's School while the full take in charge process for the whole estate is ongoing.

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



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A report was received from Building Control informing the members that Primrose Gate is currently under the control of an Owners Management Company (OMC), including Willow Avenue. Development Control do not take in charge individual Avenues within a development. The OMC are actively engaging with Kildare County Council Development Control with a view to progress the taking in charge. A site resolution plan is required. When the development in its entirety is brought to a general utility standard, Primrose Gate, including Willow Avenue, will be progressed for taking in charge.

Councillor Heather accepted the report noting that the council were working as hard as possible. He asked if taking in charge could be a way of potentially resolving issues in the medium term, asking if this had been done previously in other estates

Mr Hennessy advised the members that Primrose Gate was a large development and that taking in charge of one road would not usually happen. This could however sometimes be the case if an estate included a distributor road, therefore in this situation an avenue may be taking in charge ahead of the whole estate.

It was confirmed that a taking in charge map had been obtained from the Owner Management Company and works listed to be completed issued by the council. The Council

were awaiting a site resolution from Uisce Eireann also, but unfortunately no timeframe was available.

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

CL29/0524

Policies RE P22 and REO160

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



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Can the council confirm what actions it will take in 2024 and 2025 to advance the significant heritage and tourism potential of Celbridge as outlined in policies RE P22 and REO160 of the Kildare County Development Plan?

A report was received from into Kildare advising the members that Kildare Failte continues to engage and promote all tourist attractions in County Kildare, showcasing the key attractions mentioned below.

The 2022 Rose of Tralee visit covered Celbridge and Leixlip, particularly highlighting The Arthurs Way Trail, which was originally developed and promoted by Kildare Failte. Local communities were engaged to welcome the visitors. The International Rose of Tralee will visit again this year with Kildare Failte and Barberstown Castle collaborating to promote the county both nationally and internationally.

Many of the tourism and hospitality sector in Celbridge and surrounding areas are members of the Into Kildare tourism network, including Castletown House, Cliff at Lyons, Ardclough Arthurs Way Museum, and Carton House, and as such are beneficiaries of ongoing tourism campaigns and activities orchestrated by Kildare Failte, including sales missions, digital marketing, PR, and media campaigns.

Additionally, Into Kildare and Kildare County Council are facilitating a Kildare stand exhibiting at Bloom, the forthcoming KPMG Women's Irish Open at Carton House, the Rose of Tralee, the Taste of Kildare festival, and a number of international sales missions. Local tourism and hospitality providers are offered the opportunity to take part in each of these events.

Furthermore, the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team are developing the Part 8 application to progress the Wonderful Barn project. The development of the Wonderful Barn site will be a key tourist attraction for the area, attracting local, national and international visitors.

The report was noted.



CL30/0524

Castletown Walled Gardens

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

Can the council confirm what is the status of finalising the council's ownership of the area of Castletown Walled Gardens currently in process?

A report was received from the Building Control Section informing the members that Tailte Éireann (TÉ) requested some amendments to documents previously lodged for the vesting of Castletown Estate, which necessitated the completion of further searches. Our legal representatives have confirmed that the required documents have been re-lodged with TÉ, but warn of significant delays in processing such applications.

The report was noted.

CL31/0524

St Wolstan's Abbey.

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

Can the council provide an update on the Taking in Charge of St Wolstan's Abbey. Celbridge?

A report was received from the Building Control Section informing the members that Development Control were actively engaging with Uisce Éireann in relation to a site resolution plan for the foul infrastructure in St. Wolstans Abbey. The development cannot be progressed for taking in charge until all infrastructure had been brought to a general public utility standard.

Councillor Coleman asked if funding was available.

Mr Hennessy advised the members that a site resolution had been put forward, there was currently a broken pipe which was located in a private garden, this issue had been raised with Uisce Éireann seeking funding for the works. If funding was available works could be started and the council could then look to recoup the money.

The report was noted



CL32/0524

Tidy Towns Groups and Cemetery Maintenance

The members considered the proposed grant allocations for Tidy Towns groups and Cemetery Maintenance for 2024

Tidy Town Grants

	TT Group	Grant 2024
Celbridge-Leixlip MD	Celbridge	€ 12,728
	Leixlip	€ 12,728
	Ardclough	€ 1,136
	Total	€ 26,592

Cemetery/Graveyard Maintenance Grants

	Cemetery/Graveyard	Grant 2024
Celbridge-Leixlip MD	Tea Lane	€ 740

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by all members that the grants for Tidy Towns groups and Cemetery Maintenance for 2024 be approved.

CL33/0524

Confey Cemetery

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell
That the council carries out upgrade works to Confey Cemetery to include plastering the wall and repairing the gate.

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



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A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that they would investigate this and revert back to the councillor.

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

Councillor Caldwell noted that it had been a pleasure to sit as Cathaoirleach and work alongside the other members in serving the local community. He gave thanks to Councillor Coleman, Councillor Galvin and Councillor Liston who had decided not to stand for re-election. He thanked all the staff and senior management for their support.

The members expressed their thanks and best wishes to the outgoing councillors and wished each other the best for the upcoming elections

The District Manger thanked all the councillors on behalf of the senior management and staff of Kildare County Council for all their work and dedication in representing the people of Celbridge and Leixlip municipal district.

The meeting concluded.