



**Minutes of the Celbridge - Leixlip Municipal District Meeting**

**Held on Friday 19 April 2024 at 10:00 a.m.**

**In Newtown House, Leixlip .**

**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), Ms S McCullough (Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer), Ms S Bookle (LCDC Coordinator), Mr M Hearn (Staff Officer), Ms A Brangan (Senior Executive Planner), Ms E Donnelly (Acting County Art Officer), Mr C O'Toole (A/Administrative Officer), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Woodhouse (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the April Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District meeting in Newtown House in Leixlip. He thanked the staff of Newtown House for the opportunity to hold the meeting at a venue within the Municipal District, giving the public the opportunity to come and see how a Municipal District meeting runs. Newtown House was one of many projects which had benefitted from LPT funding.

**CL01/0424**

**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.



**CL02/0424**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the draft minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday 15 March 2024 including the progress report.

**Resolved:** On the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Heather and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday 15 March 2024 of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**CL03/0424**

**Draft Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan**

The members received a briefing from Ms. S Bookle on the Draft Kildare Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024- 2029.

Ms. S Bookle Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Co-ordinator presented a briefing, based on the draft LECP sent to the members on March 1 (recirculated March 20). She had worked with Ms. J McNabb (Head of Enterprise) to prepare the plan. The purpose of the briefing was to:

- Inform members of the process to develop the LECP.
- For their consideration of the draft objectives (section 7) to ensure consistency with:
  - a) Kildare County Development Plan
  - b) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy
  - c) Consistency between the economic and community elements

**Process to develop the LECP**

- Members were reminded that this was a statutory plan which commenced in February 2023. Detailed guidelines underpin the development of the plan.
- The economic element is overseen by the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning, Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and community element by the Local Community Development Committee. An advisory steering group was in place. All structures had met between six and eight times since commencement.



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- The preparation stage concluded in July 2023, with a draft vision and four high level goals.
- Broad ranging consultation took place between July and November 2023, with over 1,300 people engaging. The final draft vision and high level goals were agreed in December 2023.
- The draft objectives were prepared and agreed by the LCDC and SPC in February.
- Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) screenings were completed and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) are currently considering the draft for consistency with the County Development Plan, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) and consistency between community and economic elements.
- If the Municipal District members approve the draft plan for consistency, it will be presented for approval at the full council meeting in April.

The members raised the following:

- Noted the vast volume of work done by Ms Bookle and Ms McNabb and their teams with the plan and their engagement with the members throughout the process.
- The plan itself had a Kildare focus, asked how does the plan fit in with LAP based on the previous LECP.
- That demand varies in each municipal district and how this plan will be adapted.
- Looked forward to the next stage. Was positive to see that the plan outlines the needs for arts centres, museums and primary care centres in Leixlip.
- While 94 groups were met through PPN, ongoing engagement is required to continue to reach out and engage with people.
- Highlighted huge amount of dereliction in the municipal district
- Asked how many minority groups participated.
- Asked if the council needed to wait for the government or can things now progress forward.
- Asked what the lifetime of the plan was.
- How will the plan be measured and changed to ensure the KPI's are being met.



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- Outlined that this plan, is not on its own going to change anything, but it sits alongside the county development plan and other reports and plans.
- Had experience of engaging as part of the CCAS and happy to see that universal access is inputted really strongly in the plan.
- While this is a county plan, the differences between the county are important but it is also important that all councillors support the broader development of Kildare.
- Asked could members be kept updated on progress with a suggestion timeframe of 6 month updates.
- Can the public make direct contact regarding the plan.

Ms Bookle advised the members that:

- Differences in this model was that it would be overseen and monitored with a monitoring committee, there would also be an annual report given.
- Family resource centre would be a national one. From Kildare Towns experience the members were advised to ensure that they were prepared and have a local group ready.
- This plan sets the frame, noting Kildare County Council is fifth largest local Authority in the country.
- Engagement with groups included traveller groups, disability groups, all this work was ongoing and the council would keep making contact with the groups
- Members of the public can make contact at any stage but to be aware that this was a 6 year plan with a 2 year implementation and will be presented at the next full Council meeting for consideration

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by all members that the draft LECP was consistent with the County Development Plan, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and that the community and economic elements were also alligned.

It was agreed to present the plan for approval at the full council meeting in April.



**CL04/0424**

**Municipal District Works**

**Celbridge/Leixlip -Schedule of Municipal District works – April 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.

**Road works programme for 2024**

**Road Overlays - Restoration Improvement**

- R403 Clane Road (Ardras to Barberstown) -Tender complete.
- R403 Barnhall Roundabout to M4 overbridge -Tender complete.
- R405 Maynooth Road (Ardrath to Lufthansa) - At tender stage.
- R149 Confey at Graveyard - Preparing tender documentation.
- L 5061 Loughlinstown Road. - Preparing tender documentation.
- L 89945 Knockaulin Leixlip - Works in progress.

**Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance**

Surface dressing is scheduled to commence on 04 June 2024.

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

**Footpath repair and restoration:**

Works on dishing footpath crossing points in Easton Park and Oaklawn in Leixlip now complete. Currently identifying works in The Grove in Celbridge for repair and replacement.

**Realignment of R148 at Collinstown:**

Roadworks will commence on the R148 at Collinstown, Leixlip on 29 April 2024. 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.

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### **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.

The members raised the following:

- Thanked the Area Engineer and staff for works to date.
- Could the members be given an up-to-date list of all the estates which have had footpath works carried out
- Asked what time frame could be expected when a project was out to tender.
- Asked what works were due to be carried out on the Loughlinstown Road would this include traffic calming.

The Area Engineer advised the members that

- Traffic calming measures including signage would be included with works at Loughlinstown Road. First section of work would be from Lucan Road back, edges would be done first then complete overlay and surface dressing.
- The time frame for works varies dependent on size of the job. Once tenders were received they must be reviewed. Successful applicants would be awarded the job and then the contractor would be expected onsite within 10 days.
- Knockaulin was in bad need of repair and a job cannot be put on system without a road number.

### **CL05/0424**

#### **Rye River Bridge**

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

That the council or Inland Waterways remove the debris that has gathered on the Rye River Bridge on Main Street, Leixlip.

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



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A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the Municipal District office would arrange to have the debris removed. This work would need to be done when the river is in low flow and the works need to be carried out by specialist contractors.

Councillor Killeen questioned why a previous report had stated Waterways Ireland were responsible.

The Area Engineer advised that Waterways Ireland were responsible only for Navigable waters, otherwise the responsibility lay with the riparian owners and in this case Kildare County Council own the bridge.

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

### CL06/0424

#### Aghards Road/Shackleton Road Junction

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen  
That the council provided an update on the assessment of the Aghards Road/Shackleton Road Junction, Celbridge.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that a topographical survey had been carried out at the junction, mapping the location of all infrastructure associated with the junction. Sight visibility lines had been checked and are all in accordance with the design manual for urban roads and streets. Potential junction improvement design options were currently being developed with assistance with Kildare County Council (KCC), Active Travel team with a view to seek funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to deliver improvements at the junction.

The members raised the following:

- The junction experienced high volumes of traffic and was on a bus route.
- That signage on ramp was nearly worn off.



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- Felt this was an accident waiting to happen and needed to be dealt with urgently.
- Concerns raised over the risk of buses meeting cyclists at the junction.
- It was felt that the design of the junction was poor, especially for cyclists and pedestrians, many see the junction as a crossing which it was not designed for, others approach the junction believing it's a T junction.
- Could traffic lights be investigated.

The District Engineer advised the members that:

- A survey was carried out and options were being explored.
- There were constraints in regard to boundary walls
- The District Engineer was working alongside the Active Travel Team investigating possible options including signage and tabletop ramps. The junction had complexities and the Council would need to follow the advice given by the NTA.
- Once a design was available it was hoped that the works would be carried out in Q4 depending on funding availability
- Traffic lights would not be investigated initially as it was hoped to make the junction safe with using the current road corridor.

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

### CL07/0424

#### Confey Masterplan

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen That following the adoption of the Safe Roads - Safe System Approach for roads in the Confey Masterplan [motion 123], the approach plan now be designated with resources to plan and project manage implementation and that stakeholders be invited to attend a meeting to discuss.

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





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A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that amendment No. 1 of the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended) was adopted by Kildare County Council on 25 March 2024 and will come into effect on 5 May 2024.

The following response was included in the Chief Executive's report in respect of Motion 123 of the Chief Executive's Report: "The design of the street network will follow the placemaking ambition of the Masterplan and Design Code, as well as the standards/guidance set out in the Design Manual of Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) and other national guidance. All streets will have a slow design speed reflecting the urban nature of the Confey urban extension, making them intrinsically attractive and safe. Individual projects will be subject to relevant Road Safety Audits and Quality Audits through the Development Management process."

Once the amendment comes into effect, all planning applications will be required to comply with this policy objective through the development management process. The Transportation team will be available through the normal pre-planning process to assist applicants in this respect.

Councillor Killeen expressed her disappointment with the report and her lack of understanding as to why the council did not want to proceed with meeting stakeholders, she felt they needed to be proactive with Confey as it was a blank canvas

The District Manager advised the members that each planning application was assessed fully by the Transportation Team on submission and Safe Systems applied, this ensured compliance with any safety standards. During the adoption stage this process was explained to all members, and nothing happens until an application had been received.

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

**CL08/0424**

### **Timeline for Confey Masterplan**

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



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That the council provide a timeline for implementation of improvements to estate entrances, traffic on Captains Hill etc and aspects that were published as part of the Confey Masterplan - extension to Leixlip LAP but lie outside of the Masterplan zoned area.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that amendment No. 1 of the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended) was adopted by Kildare County Council on 25 March 2024 and would come into effect on 5 May 2024. The Chief Executive's report indicated that the Captain's Hill upgrade works would occur during Phase 1 of the development of the masterplan lands included in Amendment No. 1. Furthermore, Motion 77 of the Chief Executive's Report recommended Linking the Confey Masterplan lands to Confey train station to Leixlip town centre to enable the promotion of sustainable transport modes as a core objective of the Confey Masterplan. Walking and cycling trips were provided for in the Masterplan, and the improvement of Captain's Hill would enable improved bus-based transport. The proposed Captain's Hill Improvements forming part of the overall Confey Masterplan aims to relieve traffic congestion on the road, however, it places particular importance to the junction with main street. In addition, it was intended that many of the other proposed transport and active travel measures in and surrounding the Masterplan Lands would have a positive impact on traffic/mobility in the town centre by reducing the amount of commuter traffic passing through the town.

The implications of this would be considered in the context of resources and future work programmes by Kildare County Council, Transportation Department and accordingly a specific timeline cannot be given at this stage until the implications are fully assessed. Councillor Killeen asked for a time frame for implementation and raised safety concerns. The District Manager advised that the Confey Masterplan had only recently been adopted and would be included in the Roads capital budget moving forward. The next capital budget was due next in October.



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

### CL09/0424

#### St Patrick's School, Celbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather  
That the council facilitate a meeting between St Patrick's School, Board of Management, Celbridge and the relevant Owners Management Company (OMC) to help them come to an agreement on the use of the back gate for school access.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that this is not a matter for the executive of Kildare County Council. That work was ongoing by Development Control Team to have the estate, Primrose Gate, taken in charge. The draft Taking in Charge map has the area of the gate included. When that area was in the control of the local authority, the council would be able to work through a process to have the gate opened.

Councillor Heather noted that the Parents Association were getting increasingly frustrated with the situation surrounding the gate, with increased concerns over safety. He accepted the report in principle noting it was not a matter for the Executive. He sought a timeframe on how long the Taking in Charge would expect to take.

The District Manager advised that the situation with the school had its complexities and that the District Engineer had previously met on site with the Parent's Association. It was confirmed that the draft map for taking in charge had now been agreed and the map was inclusive of the gate. The Council were now awaiting works to be completed and would then look at Taking in Charge. It was hoped this would happen before the end of the year.

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



**CL10/0424**

**Transport Assessment**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston  
That the council outline the steps involved in preparation of the Transport Assessment for Celbridge including the periods of public engagement, as well as an outline of the requirements for the preparation of the social infrastructure audit.

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

A report was received from the Capital Projects Team informing the members that the National Transport Authority (NTA) had developed a set of guidelines for the delivery of an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) which was another name for a transport assessment. There were 6 parts to an ABTA as follows:

- Part 1: Baseline Assessment: establishes the receiving plan area characteristics in terms of transport demand / demand patterns, mode split and infrastructure provision, with practical examples of how this information can be illustrated.
- Part 2a: Establish context for the ABTA: provides guidance on the forecasting of future transport demand, how objectives can be set for an ABTA.
- Part 2b: Options Development: methods for identifying potential transport measures.
- Part 3: Scenario Assessment: provides guidance on how to appraise the transport options developed, using the defined transport objectives, with practical examples at the Development Plan and Local Area Plan levels.
- Parts 4 and 5: Plan Preparation and Finalisation: provides guidance on the preparation of the ABTA, as supplemental to the Development Plan or Local Area Plan preparation, in particular the establishment of transport policies/objectives and associated steps to finalise the ABTA report.
- Part 6: Monitoring and Evaluation: Sets out the requirements relating to monitoring and evaluation of the ABTA plan.



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The delivery of the ABTA would be managed by the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department in Kildare County Council who would appoint a consultant to complete the parts referenced above. The process to appoint a consultant would commence in quarter 3 of 2024 with Part 1 starting thereafter. There would be two rounds of public consultation as part of the ABTA project – an initial phase 1 round where citizens have the opportunity to provide their thoughts on what works well from a transport perspective, what should be addressed in the ABTA, and make suggestions for further consideration. This consultation also includes a survey to gather information to inform the ABTA.

A further round of consultation would take place once options had been developed to give citizens the opportunity to comment on the various proposals. The project team will brief the elected members at least three times during the project – once at the start of the project, next prior to the second phase of consultation and finally at the end of the project before the ABTA is finalised and published.

Councillor Liston welcomed the report and was happy to see proposal of Q3 this year. She noted that the members were having an in-camera meeting later in the day regarding this. Councillor Cussen noted that the process itself had changed and looked forward to the meeting later in the day.

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

### **CL11/0424**

#### **Bus Stops**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman  
That the council install bus shelters at bus stops 7110 and 3901 on the Dublin Road, Celbridge to facilitate users from the Orchard Garden Centre and the Loughlinstown Road.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that Kildare County Council (KCC) would carry out a survey of both

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bus stop locations to review the suitability of bus shelter installations. Kildare County Council would then liaise with the National Transport Authority (NTA) with the view of including the bus stop improvements in the 2025 scheduled programme of bus shelter installation works.

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

### CL12/0424

#### Cope Bridge

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

That the council update and improve the footpath underneath Cope Bridge for access as soon as possible.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that the footpath under Cope Bridge was under the ownership and maintenance remit of Waterways Ireland.

Councillor Neville advised that he had bought this up this previously noting that it was currently dangerous to get from one side of the bridge to the other.

Councillor Killeen commented that previously this came up and the report said that the works would be done.

The District Manager advised the members of complexities and that anything along the river was owned by Waterways Ireland as they own the assets. Therefore, anything outside of the scope of the Greenway was outside of Kildare County Councils control. It was agreed that the council write to Waterways Ireland

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted and a letter issue to Waterways Ireland.



**CL13/0424**

**IPB Funding**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville  
That the council apply for IPB funding for footpaths in this municipal district from the central fund?

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the Municipal District Office had requested and secured funding to the value of €400,000 from the KCC/IPB fund for footpath replacements in the Municipal District in 2024. The Municipal District Office was currently identifying estates and locations where works would be carried out.

Councillor Neville was happy with the report noting that this had been ongoing for a few years. It showed that by working together as Councillors with the District Engineer and keeping the pressure on that funding had now been secured.

The District Engineer hoped that all funds would be spent within 2024.

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

**CL14/0424**

**Captains Hill**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell  
Can the council provide an update on the installation of traffic lights or a zebra crossing on Captains Hill between Avondale and St Mary's Park?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that Kildare County Council, Traffic Management Section shall add the location of similar types of requests in the county to be assessed to determine what type of pedestrian crossing may be suitable at this location. It should be noted that there is no current funding allocation for the provision of new pedestrian crossings.

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The report was noted.

### **CL15/0424**

#### **Cycle Lane**

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

Can the council advise what plans are in place to create a continuous cycle lane on the main Celbridge to Maynooth Road R405?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that Kildare County Council has over 40 projects contained in the National Transport Authority (NTA) Active Travel Portfolio. A cycle track on the entire R405 connecting Celbridge and Maynooth is not included in the current portfolio, however, should an opportunity arise to bring forward the scheme then this will be done, subject to funding and resources being available.

Councillor Heather accepted the report adding that more needed to be done to join up the towns and to encourage people to leave their cars at home.

The District Manager agreed to follow this up.

The report was noted.

### **CL16/0424**

#### **Riverforest Road Safety**

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

Can the council provide an update on Riverforest road safety?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that options for amending the junction at Riverforest would be finalised following the determination of the Railway Order application for DART+ West which was made to An Bord Pleanála in 2022 by Córas Iompair Éireann. Any approved designs for changes to the entrance to the existing railway station and bridge across the railway and canal within this significant capital project would directly affect the layout of the Riverforest junction. As there was no identified funding stream for works, Kildare County Council was awaiting a decision in order to eliminate undertaking redundant expenditure.





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Councillor Neville advised that his concerns were related to the speed of cars from the entrance down to the schools.

The District Engineer advised that the speed sign states 30kph and that a speed review was done. There were no speeding issues observed at the bottom end of the road however some were reported from the terminus up.

The report was noted.

### **CL17/0424**

#### **Position Paper and Scoping Report**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen  
That Councillors for Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be provided with the Position Paper and Scoping Report (including details of cost and resource requirements) as required to inform the next stages of identifying a Special Amenity Area Order for the Liffey Valley Area as per Motion from Cllrs Cussen and Liston October 2023 and CDP LR024.

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

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that the Position Paper and Scoping Report was currently being prepared. Due to resourcing issues within the Heritage, Conservation and Biodiversity Team and a shortage of specialist consultants the completion of this report has been delayed. A further update would be provided to the Elected Members, once same had been completed.

Councillor Cussen noted that herself and Councillor Liston had previously submitted a motion back in October 2023 also and was disappointed with the report received.

A lot of background work was carried out before submitting the motion back in 2023 and the report received then stated Q1. The response now stated however that the Council were unable to progress due to staffing issues with no time given. This is hugely important and merits more priority. Councillor Cussen looked for clarification on what stage the council were currently at.

The members raised the following:

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- felt that this should be further ahead as it had been scoped before
- asked if the constraints of staff and consultants had impacted the consultation process.

There was no one in attendance from Forward planning so Ms Brangan agreed to take questions back to Ms Granville from Forward Planning

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

### CL18/0424

#### All-Inclusive Playground

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell  
That the council provide an update and finish time on the works etc for the all-inclusive Playground at the Amenities Centre in Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Parks and Open Spaces Section informing the members that Tenders for the relocation of the existing playground to the Wonderful Barn had been received and the work was in the process of being awarded. Tenders for the design of the new playground closed on the 10 April and these would be assessed over the next few weeks and the tender awarded. A tender to redesign the car park in the amenities centre to facilitate the new playground had also been advertised and would close the end of April. Timeframes for completion of the works cannot be given until all the relevant contractors had been appointed but it was likely to be towards the end of the year.

Councillor Caldwell expressed his frustration waiting 4-5 years for funding despite receiving funding from Intel towards this project.

The members raised the following:

- People were upset with the delays, kept getting same reports with different dates.
- Noted that old playground equipment was being restored and repaired and would be used at the Wonderful Barn.



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- Sooner the playground was opened the better as this would be accessible to all. The Access Group had been assisting with this project alongside Mr Hurley from the Council
- Aware of complexities and that over time with delays that costings had gone up with inflation.

The District Manager advised the members that she understood their frustration and that,

- Complexities on site included relocation of carparking spaces which had caused delays.
- There were very few contractors on the market.
- Parks Team were also disappointed with delays after dedicating significant resources and time to this project. The commitment of the Parks Team should be recognised.

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

### CL19/0424

#### Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

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

Can the council provide an update on the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District ORIS (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme) Liffey Valley Park feasibility study and next stages?

A report was received from the Parks and Open Spaces Section informing the members that the procurement of consultants to prepare a Feasibility Study for the development of a Greenway from Leixlip to Celbridge (Phase 1 - Liffey Valley Park) is underway. Tenders were published on Etenders in February 2024. A number of tenders were received. The FP Team had now completed the tender assessment process with appointment of consultants to follow.

Councillor Cussen accepted the report and was happy that consultants had now been appointed and the process could now begin. Councillor Cussen gave thanks to the Forward Planning Team for all their work to date.

The report was noted.



**CL20/0424**

**Shackleton Road**

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

Can the council outline what scope there is for planting along the areas with pencil bollards on the Shackleton Road and junction, Celbridge to soften and improve the quality of experience, safety and aesthetic of the area?

A report was received from Parks and Open Spaces informing the members that planting around the bollards on Shackleton Road would not be practical at this location due to the location of housing and schools along the road which results in a lot of pedestrian movement across the road at various points. These movements would impact on trying to establish any planting along the road.

Councillor Liston asked if small planting boxes would be an option.

The District Engineer advised that the bollards were never meant to be there but unfortunately due to poor parking the council had no option but to install them.

The report was noted.

**CL21/0424**

**Ryevale House**

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

Can the council provide an update on the waste issue in Ryevale House?

A report was received from Parks and Open Spaces informing the members that the woods around Ryevale House were cleaned on the 28 March and 2 April. The area continued to be monitored.

Councillor Neville expressed his disappointment with the response and was hoping for an extensive report.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed as per response to Councillor Neville's CRM previously submitted that the woods had been inspected and 4 bags of rubbish had been removed. The Council would continue to monitor the area.

The report was noted.



**CL22/0424**

**Wonderful Barn**

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

Can the council provide an update on work being carried out on the Wonderful Barn?

A report was received from Public Realm informing the members that Preparation of the Part 8 proposal was progressing well, with the design team finalising all the necessary documentation for the Planning Department following several specification amendments to the allotments, facilities and parkland proposals. It was expected all drafts would be completed by the 31 May. Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR) were working with the design team to achieve a publication date of 7 June, provisional at present, commencing a 20-week statutory process.

Advance works, as mentioned in previous updates were in design phase and were scheduled to be onsite in August 2024 with a completion date October 2024. These would be very visible conservation works, including the re-slating of the Barn, Dovecote conservation works and restoration of the garden walls.

SPPR were preparing an information/fact sheet for the elected members, which would be ready in the coming weeks for circulation. This will provide information on the successful funding grants received to date, the advance works completed and to be carried out and a layout of the site.

The report was noted.

**CL23/0424**

**Henry Bridge**

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

Can the council advise what scope there is within the Ardclough Rural Settlement Renewal Masterplan to address the issue of heavy goods vehicles continually damaging Henry Bridge on Arthur's Way?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the need for a weight restriction at Henry Bridge would need to be considered in collaboration with the Bridge Asset Owner, Waterways Ireland. The Ardclough Rural



## Kildare County Council

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Settlement Renewal Masterplan refers to HGVs in the SWOT analysis – the challenges they bring to the village in terms of safety/damage to bridges etc and to determine opportunities to explore an option of removing unnecessary HGV traffic from Ardclough. Page 16 of the Plan refers to movement and the required preparation of a Local Transport Plan which connects destinations and improves movement but also would explore options of re-routing, The removal of HGVs from any road network is a matter for the Roads Authority to consider as a number of conditions need to be addressed.

The report was noted.

### CL24/0424

#### Grand Canal Greenway

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman  
Can the council provide an update on the extension to the Grand Canal Greenway from Hazelhatch Bridge to the 12th Lock by South Dublin County Council.

A report was received from Public Realm informing the members that an update had been received from South Dublin County Council advising that they expect to go to tender before the end of April, with construction to commence in September and a 9-month construction programme to follow.

The report was noted.

### CL25/0424

#### Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2024

The members received the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2024 for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District prior to the meeting for approval. (See appendix 1)

The members were reminded that there was an embargo on this information until applicants had been informed of the outcome at the end of the month.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, Seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by all members that the awards and bursaries be approved.



**CL26/0424**

**Election Poster Free Zone**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman  
That the members voluntarily agree that the Main Street Celbridge, be made an election poster free zone (from the Castletown Gates to the Grotto) supporting the request of Celbridge Tidy Towns.

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

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

The relevant guidance related to election posters has been published on the Council's new [Local Election 2024 webpages](#)

As the members will know compliance with any election poster free zones was a matter for each candidate, and the Council cannot enforce this.

The members should be aware that, as agreed at April's Protocol and Procedures Committee, and arising from motions at various Municipal District Meetings, the Corporate Services Department were writing to all Tidy Towns Committees in the County on this matter.

Where the written official position of the Committee was communicated to that Department, this would be communicated to any candidates attending for formal nomination in the statutory period from 11 May to 18 May 2024.

The members raised the following:

- That other European countries had designated spaces for election posters.
- New candidates would not be aware of this.
- Could not dictate to shop owners what advertisements they put up in their windows.
- Leixlip not included in motion as it had always been agreed to put no posters on Main Street



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

### **CL27/0424**

#### **Installation of a Post Box**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman  
Can the members be informed of any correspondence received from An Post on the installation of a post box following my motion in

A report was received from Corporate Services informing the members that no response had been received to date, a follow up letter had now been sent to An Post.

Councillor Coleman expressed his disappointment that no response had been received from An Post but was happy a follow up letter had been sent.

The report was noted.

### **CL28/0424**

#### **Open Data Project**

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

Can the council confirm the current status of Kildare County Council's Open Data project and when will it be available for publishing municipal district related data?

A report was received from the Information Technology Section informing the members that,

- In 2023 the Open Data officer kicked off a process to audit all open data sets in Kildare County council. By the end of 2023 sixty-three data sets were published to the Government open data portal ([data.gov.ie](https://data.gov.ie)) on behalf of Kildare County Council. Our aim in 2024 is to publish 30 more open data sets to [data.gov.ie](https://data.gov.ie) with a focus on high value data sets.
- In compiling these open data sets there was not a focus on producing data sets with municipal data specific attributes, we will consider this inclusion where appropriate for future open data sets which we publish.





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Councillor Liston noted that the council now had a data portal for Kildare at <http://data.kildarecoco.ie> which was launched last November she asked if the council planned on doing a press release or promotional piece on the new portal.

Mr Hopkins sent his apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting but gave a response through the meetings administrator, informing the members that the council had no immediate plans for a press release. The council would like to have more data sets and high value data on the site. Once this was available the council would consider a press release. The report was noted.

### CL29/0424

#### Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2024

The members were circulated the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2024 allocations for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District prior to the meeting for consideration.

(Appendix 2)

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by all members that the grants be approved.

### CL30/0424

#### Planning Permissions

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen  
Can the council provide an update on the total number of planning permissions for houses granted in the municipal district, per town, in the last 5 years and how many of those have commenced and completed?

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that the current Planning Administration system does not produce statistics of this nature by either Municipal District or Town.

The full Planning register of applications granted was available on the Kildare County Council website.



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Work was ongoing to develop annual monitoring returns for the purposes of monitoring Core Strategy figures by settlement, but this will monitor on the current County Development Plan which was adopted with effect from the beginning of 2023.

The last five years traverses two County Plans and these statistics would not be available. Housing Commencements and completions are available from the website of the Central Statistics Office.

Councillor Killeen expressed her dissatisfaction with the report stating that she felt the department had chosen not to give the figures.

The report was noted.

### **CL31/0424**

#### **Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards**

The members were circulated the community, festival and resident association grant awards assessed by the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department for 2024 to consider prior to the meeting. (appendix 3)

Mr O'Toole advised the members that there was one additional grant for consideration received from the Celbridge Tourism Forum for the June Bank Holiday for €2,000.

The members raised the following:

- Sought clarification regarding listing of Residents Associations on the sheet.
- That €10,000 remained from the LPT
- Sought Clarification on how a Parents Association submissions were assessed.
- Asked if charities were eligible if County based.
- Sought clarification on why grants had been unsuccessful.
- In the case of being unsuccessful could another application be submitted through LPT allocations

Mr O'Toole advised the members that,

- The Resident's Association on the list was an estate which had a community worker working with them and funding was allocated as area was deemed deprived.



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- Allocations to Parents Associations was dependant on what the grant was to be used for. If it was being used for something that the Department of Education should be providing, then a grant would not be awarded.
- Charities were assessed also on the services they provided and if they operated in the area.
- Applications which had been unsuccessful had not met the procurement criteria of providing 3 quotes.
- If anyone was unsuccessful this time, then resubmission was allowed for LPT funding. It was noted that the procurement rules still applied.

The members were asked to leave the room if they had any beneficial interests to any of the applicants. Councillor Caldwell remained in the room and the grant for Christmas lights in Leixlip was not considered, this was to ensure a quorum was met. Councillor Liston, Neville and Coleman left the room.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by all members present that the grants excluding the Leixlip Christmas lights be approved.

All members returned to the room with Councillor Caldwell leaving. The members considered the Christmas Lights in Leixlip. Councillor Heather took the chair for the consideration of the final grant which was the Leixlip Christmas Lights Allocation of €14,000

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by all members that the Leixlip Christmas Lights Allocation be approved.

### CL32/0424

#### Uisce Eireann

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather  
That the council seek clarification from Uisce Eireann on its longer-term plans to avoid water supply disruption to households in Celbridge and work with Uisce Eireann to help avoid such instances in future.

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

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A report was received from the Water Services Section informing the members to contact Uisce Eireann directly via their dedicated email support address at [localrepsupport@water.ie](mailto:localrepsupport@water.ie) or by phoning 0818178178, or raise it at their next dedicated Councillors Clinic. The next clinic was on Monday 26 June at 11am online.

Councillor Heather felt it was important to write to Uisce Eireann requesting a meeting before Monday 26 June.

Councillor Cussen noted that all members had made contact with Uisce Eireann and were only being drip fed information. No details of long term plans were being supplied .

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted and a letter be sent to Uisce Eireann asking that Uisce Eireann meet with the members before the end of May 2024.

### CL33/0424

#### Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

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

That this Municipal District writes to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth requesting an update on when a call will issue for funding for Family Resource Centres and emphasising Celbridge's urgent need for these services.

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

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

Councillor Liston noted that there had been delays in funding and had been waiting a long time and if a letter could issue in regards consideration of Leixlip Family Resource Centre

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted and a letter issue to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.



**CL34/0424**

**Civic Amenity Centre**

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

Can the council provide an update on the Civic Amenity Centre for North Kildare?

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the section was working in conjunction with the Municipal District office to deliver a joint project on the site at the M4.

A number of meetings had taken place. Currently a scope for design consultants was being finalised.

The report was noted.

**CL35/0424**

**Leixlip Pop Up Pool**

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

Following on from the success of the Leixlip Pop Up Pool, can the council provide an update as to the plans to deliver a pool in Leixlip either through SWIM Ireland or Council built?

A report was received from Economic Community and Cultural Development Section informing the members that Kildare County Council was currently in discussions with Swim Ireland and other bodies with a view to advancing a swimming facility for North Kildare. Meetings were ongoing with various suppliers and consultants with a view to exploring alternative solutions.

Councillor Killeen hoped the project would be further ahead as was previously informed last year that it was at the final discussion stage. Councillor Killeen asked when a solution may come for a permanent pool.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.



# Kildare County Council

## Appendix 1

**NB: INTERNAL REFERENCE ONLY FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL AFTER 30TH APRIL 2024**

Arts Act Grant 2024				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of the proposed project	Award €
Celine	Hanratty	Celbridge / Leixlip	The young people of PlayActing Youth Theatre are to perform a new play for the National Theatre Connections drama festival. In March they will perform in Straffan. Their second performance is in a professional theatre in Belfast where they will meet and collaborate with young theatre-makers from across Ireland.	2050
Ciaran	Austin	Celbridge / Leixlip	Leixlip Musical and Variety Group (LMVG) is delighted to present The Producers â€” a Mel Brooks Musical â€” 23rd to 27th April in Leixlip. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International, and will be directed and choreographed by Claire Tighe, with musical direction from Demot Oâ€™Callaghan.	800
Clodagh	Kelly	Celbridge / Leixlip	Sticks, Stones and Words A body of artwork based on Asemic writing, using found materials (soil, stones, wood, campfire charcoal, Tar and Feathers) to create four large 4ft x 3ft 2D mixed media artwork. This artwork part of a bigger series of artwork 'Archeology of Consciousness'	1800
Dee	Byrne	Celbridge / Leixlip	My proposed project, titled 'The Woman, The Witch, and The Wanderer,' explores witchcraft and Earth magic in Ireland. Spanning three chapters, it reflects on the witch's role in the Irish landscape, honouring nature-based spirituality from ancient to modern times.	400
Deirdre	Banfield	Celbridge / Leixlip	Our project is a collaborative effort of our group members. A large felted tapestry outlined in the shape of a footprint, representing our carbon footprint will show both the beauty and the destruction of our seas. The completed work will be 3D, weaving marine litter between multicoloured felting wools.	1500
Mark	Butler	Celbridge / Leixlip	I'm a visual artist from Leixlip. This grant will assist me with the cost of materials and studio time to develop a new body of twelve paintings to be completed by myself, at my studio in Leixlip, by 30 November, 2024. I aim to exhibit this work publicly.	700
Orla	Gildea	Celbridge / Leixlip	To Purchase Final Draft Scriptwriting Software for writing Screenplays and attend an intensive course for 5 consecutive Saturdays at plus College...	800
Patty	Abozaglo	Celbridge / Leixlip	This is a professional development application which aims at consolidating my dance practice, by creating space to reflect, refresh Laban Dance concepts and practice and recreate content by combining with other Art forms.	840

Culture Night Commission Award 2024				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of the proposed project	Award €
Ken	McEvoy	Celbridge / Leixlip	Off the Record is a songwriters-in-the-round style event featuring songwriters Clara Rose, Sharon Murphy and Sive in collaboration with renowned session musicians. The event will bring together an eclectic mix of artists from different genres to perform, chat about the creative process, and share the stories that inspired their songs.Ã	3100

Drama League of Ireland Bursary Award				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Briefly summarise why you wish to apply for this award and the benefit(s) to your practice	Award €
Orla	Gildea	Celbridge / Leixlip	This bursary would be a fantastic opportunity for me, as the calibre of tutors engaged by DLI are at the top of their profession and working in the Arts. The training would enhance my skills and allow me to bring the learning back to the community groups I work with.	575

Executive Coaching for Creative Professionals Award				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Summarise why you wish to apply for this award and the benefit(s) to your practice	Award €
Mark	Butler	Celbridge / Leixlip	I'm applying for executive coaching because I would value some assistance with professional development, strategic goal-setting, and the use of social media for promotion. A fresh perspective from experienced eyes would be of benefit, and I'd be happy to embrace accountability and feedback in order to strengthen my art practice.	600

Platform 4 Recording Bursary Award				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of the proposed project at Platform 4	Award €
Conor	Matthews	Celbridge / Leixlip	I wish to record and produce a weekly podcast series featuring original poems, to be published over the course of a year.	900

Research and Think Award				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	3. Provide a brief summary of your proposed body of research/thinking	Award €
John	Conway	Celbridge / Leixlip	To research and think about strategic shifts in my practice after 10 year of prolific practice and project delivery, using a period of structured guidance and support with additional mentorship from Dr. Ailbhe Oâ€™Brien, CounterPoint Arts.Ã	2500

Tyrone Guthrie Centre Bursary Award				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of your proposed body of work at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre	Award €
Geraldine	O'Brien	Celbridge / Leixlip	LIVE! a dystopian playÃ for young people. A worldwide viral attack has resulted the young people of Celbridge escaping into woods in an attempt to survive. The themes of friendship, loss, peer pressure and survival are explored. The research is complete and I need time and space to write	400
peter	mccluskey	Celbridge / Leixlip	I have 50% work completed on my 5th fiction novel, tentatively titled Blood On The Tracks. It is a contemporary fiction novel set in Kildare and Krakow. I am also at a similar point in writing a collection of contemporary poetry titled â€”The Flickering Tideâ€”Both projects to complete by end 2024.	400



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### Appendix 2

No	MD	Name of Group	Project Details	Allocated
2	Celbridge/Leixlip	Elm Hall Heritage Group	Follow-up to launch of Bridget Dwyer film. Present famine box to original workhouse in Celbridge. Talk on Slí Mór and talk on Callender's Mill	897
3	Celbridge/Leixlip	Derrybeg Farm CSA	Plant 160 native trees in a "L" shape on Derrybeg Farm	400
4	Celbridge/Leixlip	Celbridge Heritage and Tourism Forum	Host a talk and produce educational digital content on Drapier's Letters to be published on website.	1,500
5	Celbridge/Leixlip	Riverforest View Residents Association	Plant mixed pollinators/ wildflowers	550
<b>Total</b>				<b>3,347</b>

*Table 2 Grant Allocations to Celbridge/Leixlip MD*



**Kildare County Council**

Appendix 3

**Community Grants 2024 for approval Celbridge Leixlip M.D.**

No	Group Name	Project	Grant Requested	Proposed Grant
1	1/10 Kildare Leixlip/Confey Scout Group	Training for leaders	€3,000	€1,000
2	19th Kildare Salesian Scout Group	Renovate toilet block	€3,000	€2,250
3	1st Kildare 2nd Celbridge Scout Group	Summer Activities	€2,900	€1,560
4	Ardclough Village Centre Ltd , Community Organisation	Audio/visual equipment	€3,000	€3,000
5	Avengers DLS (Developing Life Skills) Foróige Youth Club	Provide a safe space where young adults with an intellectual disability	€2,000	€1,600
6	Avondale Residents Association	Construct a memorial garden	€1,400	€1,400
7	Celbridge ICA	Visit to Avondale Forest Park.	€2,080	€1,000
8	Celbridge Indoor Bowls	Community Day with games	€2,000	€2,000
9	Celbridge Heritage and Tourism Forum	Community Celebration Day	€2,960	€2,000
10	Community Cancer Caregivers	Cleaning service for families undergoing their cancer treatment	€3,000	€1,000
11	Condors Athletic Special Olympic Club Celbridge	Activities for members	€2,000	€1,100
12	Derrybeg Farm CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)	Materials	€3,000	€1,300
13	Happy Feet Walking Football Group	Training and playing equipment	€990	€750
14	Insight Theatre Group Celbridge	Upgrading of stage equipment	€2,066	€2,000





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15	Leixlip Christmas Lights	Christmas lights for Leixlip,	€14,000	€14,000
16	Leixlip Community First Responders	Training and equipment	€3,000	€1,800
17	Leixlip Special Olympics club	Uniforms	€1,000	€800
18	Leixlip Youth Premises Group Ltd	Summer camp	€2,500	€950
19	Leixlip Youth Project (inSync) Formally Kildare Youth Services	Summer camps	€3,000	€3,000
20	North Kildare (Leixlip) Arch Club	Leadership training programme	€1,800	€1,800
21	Parents Association St Patrick's Primary School Celbridge	Large outdoor games for the children	€1,906	€1,430
22	Silver Thread	Trips and outings	€3,000	€1,500
23	St Raphaels Parents and Friends Association	Mimic a village atmosphere inside the unit.	€1,426	€1,425
24	Start with Art	Painting project	€960	€960
25	The Acre Project	Develop vegetable plots in polytunnels	€1,258	€1,100
26	Women's Group	Crafts and activities	€800	€800
			Total for Approval	€51,525
			Budget	€60,000
			Balance remaining	€8,475



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Festival Grants 2024 for approval Celbridge Leixlip M.D.				
No	Group Name	Project	Grant Requested	Proposed Grant
1	Carers support group North Kildare	Celebrate 20th anniversary	€900	€550
2	Celbridge Community Council	Celbridge St Patrick's Day Parade 2024	€ 2,000	€500
3	Celbridge Community Centre CLG	Harvest Festival	€1,802	€400
4	Celbridge Heritage and Tourism Forum	Celbridge Swift and Vanessa Festival	€1,989	€500
5	Celbridge Street Festival	Celbridge street festival.	€2,000	€750
6	Leixlip Youth Premises Group Ltd	Family Fun Festival	€2,000	€500
7	Leixlip Youth Project ( InSync) Formally Kildare Youth Services	Annual Loughnamona Community Halloween Festival	€1,950	€500
8	Parents Association St Patrick's Primary School Celbridge	International picnic day	€2,000	€300
9	St Raphaels Parents and Friends Association	Annual Summer Party	€2,000	€500
10	The Acre Project	Fly it High Project	€1,405	€500
			Total for Approval	€5,000
			Budget	€5,000
			Balance remaining	€0



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These Minutes were adopted at the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting on 17 May 2024

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

\_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator