



**Minutes of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting
held on Friday, 20 February 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas**

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

Online: Councillor P. Brooks and Councillor N. Killeen

Officials Present: Mr. M. McLoughlin (Acting District Manager), Mr. R. Linnane (District Engineer), Mr. S. Wallace (Acting Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer), Mr. D. Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr. D. Conlan (A/Senior Engineer), Mr. M. Hearn (Staff Officer), Ms. A. Coyne Sheridan (LPT Co-ordinator), Ms. D. Egan (Meetings Administrator) and Ms. J. Woodhouse (Meetings Secretary).

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the members to the February 2026 Celbridge-Leixlip municipal district meeting.

Councillor Killeen had requested for her motions and questions to be taken first as she had to leave the meeting early. The members all agreed to take Councillor Killeen's items first.

CL01/0226

Declaration of Conflicts or Pecuniary Interests

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



CL02/0226

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on 16 January 2026, the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 23 January 2026 and to note the Progress Report

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Trost, seconded by Councillor Ryan and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday, 16 January 2026 and the Special Meeting held on the 23 January 2026 of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

The Cathaoirleach noted the recent passing of former Labour Councillor Kevin Byrne and a minutes silence was held.

The members described Councillor Kevin Byrne as a unique person, who served his community so well. He always gave generously of his time to the local people and will be dearly missed by many. Councillor Byrne's funeral is due to take place on Tuesday, 17 February 2026.

CL03/0226

Municipal District Road Works

The members received an update on municipal district road works.

Schedule of Municipal District Works – February 2026

The outdoor crews are carrying out general footpath and road maintenance works in the Municipal District area. This includes the mechanical sweeping of roads, road repairs with road patcher unit, restoring water cuts on rural roads, cutting back verges at junctions, and general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received are triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate. Verge trimming and hedge trimming at junctions are being carried out where sight visibility issues are present in advance of the commencement of the 2026 nesting season (01 March to 31 August). Winter maintenance road salting operations have commenced and will continue until the end of April 2026. Forecast road temperatures and



recorded real time temperatures are monitored to determine requirement to deploy salting trucks in the county. Surveying of Roads for road improvements has commenced. The council has just received an allocation of 11 million from the Government of which Celbridge usually receive approximately 1.1 million

Storm Chandra

Outdoor crews addressed local flood issues as they arose in the district during the recent storm event. Levels of Liffey in Celbridge and Wheatfield are currently being monitored and communicated to the ESB as they are currently discharging increased flows from Poulaphouca Reservoir.

Road Works Programme 2026 and Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance 2026

Municipal District staff are currently carrying out pavement surveys in the district to determine locations for Road Improvement (RI) and Road Maintenance (RM) Works Programme for 2026.

Footpath Restoration Programme 2026

Works are now complete for footpath repair work package in Newtown Park and Avondale estates in Leixlip. Tender was awarded for footpath repair works in Dara Court in Celbridge, works to be carried out in Q1 2026. Currently waiting for Broadband upgrade works to be completed in this estate prior to Kildare County Council footpath contractor commencing.

Road Closures

Uisce Éireann works on L1015 (Top of Kellystown Lane to Confey) are scheduled to commence on Tuesday, 13 January and to be completed by Friday, 13 March. This section of road will be closed for these works. Uisce Éireann works on the Drive in Castletown Estate in Celbridge to commence on the 16 January and scheduled to be completed by 07 May. This section of road will be closed for these works and local access will be coordinated by the Uisce Éireann Contractor as the works progress along the road.



Future Road Closures

Uisce Éireann are currently seeking approval for a two-week full road closure over the Easter mid-term on both the R149 at Confey and on R405 in Celbridge at Crodaun. Discussions are ongoing with Uisce Éireann to try minimize disruption during these works.

The members raised the following

- Thanked Mr. R. Linnane and his team for their work to date and for being so reactive in getting work completely quickly in the municipal district.
- Councillor Caldwell objected to the full road closure, as it was not viable for the road to be closed completely for a period of 2 weeks and the council must look at alternative options. He suggested the closure of one lane and the operation of a stop-go system.
- Enquired as to how commuters can manage such disruptions.
- Noted that there was an alternative route planned for buses and emergency vehicles.
- Enquired when will a decision be made regarding the proposed road closure.
- Could night works be investigated with Uisce Éireann, as this would ease the congestion during the day especially at peak school times. Alternatively, longer working days, making use of the longer day light. This may require two shifts, but could work up to 9:00 p.m.
- It was noted that night work may cause noise disruption for some local residents. However, a full road closure is not viable and an alternative must be found.
- Current plans would see the majority of traffic re-directed over the Old Bridge and this is not suitable for this purpose.
- Uisce Éireann must work with the local communities as they know the area best and use this local knowledge to ensure minimal disruption during future planned works.
- Uisce Éireann must take into account the unprecedented nature of the disruptions which a complete closure of the road would cause.



CL04/0226

Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District

LPT Schedule of Works 2026

The Cathaoirleach advised that the members had met together to discuss the agreement and approval of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2026 and advised that this process was nearly complete, but more time was required before finalising.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Trost and agreed by all members to postpone this item until the March 2026 Municipal District meeting.

CL05/0226

Allocation of €129,190 from Adopted Budget 2026

(General Municipal Allocation - Division H Service H09 - H0909)

The members considered the allocation of €129,190 from adopted Budget 2026 (General Municipal Allocation - Division H Service H09 - H0909). This item had previously been deferred from the January 2026 meeting.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor O'Rourke and agreed by all members that the allocation of €129,190 from adopted Budget 2026 (General Municipal Allocation - Division H Service H09 - H0909) be split evenly between the Roads Section and the Parks Section, with each section receiving €64,595. The Cathaoirleach noted that the allocation to the Parks Section was to include initial works on the Parks Work Programme for a new playground on council owned land on Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge.

The members agreed to take Councillor Killeen's motions and questions at this juncture: Motion CL11/0226, Question CL18/0226, Motion CL24/0226 and Question CL27/0226

CL06/0226

Entrance into Dun-Carrick, Leixlip

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

That the council investigates the possibility of making the entrance into Dun-Carrick, off Captain's Hill, Leixlip safer for pedestrians and vehicles exiting the estate.



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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office had investigated the visibility issues at the entrance to Dun-Carrick on numerous occasions in the past. There was no possibility of improving sight visibility for exiting vehicles due to the position of the existing buildings, property boundary walls, and the existing geometry and topography of the road layout on the Captain's Hill. The existing footpath was also limited by the existing level of the footpath on the Captain's Hill and the level of the existing footpath in Dun-Carrick.

Councillor Caldwell accepted the report, noting the constrained nature of the junction, and emphasised the need for driver awareness of pedestrians and cyclists.

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

CL07/0226

Streetlights, Main Street, Leixlip

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

That the council upgrades the street lights to white LED on Main Street, Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the countywide National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) contract was coming to an end in 2026. Once Kildare County Council has prepared a programme for the completion of the remaining sites across the county, a list of works in each municipal district would be circulated to elected members.

Councillor Caldwell accepted the report and noted that he was aware this would take time.



Mr. D. Hodgins explained that heritage lights were now excluded from the project and advised that the council had a number of alternative options available. He agreed to review and find a solution.

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

CL08/0226

Aghards Road, Celbridge

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

That the council segregates the cycle lanes on Aghards Road, Celbridge, using bollards to increase cyclist, motorist and pedestrian safety on this busy, fast stretch of road.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council has no plans to upgrade the cycle network along Aghards Road in Celbridge. Any upgrade would require a comprehensive examination, in accordance with the Department of Transport Project Appraisal Guidelines to qualify for active travel funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA). This link is not included in the current portfolio of projects being examined by Kildare County Council, and this current portfolio would require at least a decade of NTA funding based on the current level of funding being allocated to the county. This is before any new projects are added to the list.

Councillor Heather explained that he travels this road daily and had been made aware of several incidents recently involving cyclists. There had been a noticeable increase in cyclists and it is great to see this modal shift. However, this particular road has pinch points and the junction can be confusing. He noted the cost involved, but requested that the council look to future proof this stretch of road to accommodate the increased number of cyclists.



Mr. D. Hodgins explained that there simply is not enough money available per annum and it is about managing the expectations of the public. The current portfolio of work with the current funding being allocated would take 10-15 years to complete, without any additional works being included. If there was an increase in funding allocation, then extra schemes could be investigated.

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

CL09/0226

Bridge in Celbridge

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

That the council considers additional high visibility warning signs to highlight the ongoing risk of crashing into the bridge in Celbridge, which occurs on a regular basis at the same location on the exit from the Lucan Road.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the last two vehicle bridge strikes had been due to stolen vehicles being driven at high speeds late at night. There does not appear to be any issue with any other road users navigating the four-arm junction and accessing the bridge carriageway safely. It is not proposed to install any additional warning signage at this location.

Councillor Trost noted the report but was disappointed with the response. He explained that he had seen signage used in other towns and felt that this type of signage should be considered. There had been considerable damage caused after the last incident and a lot of the wall had fallen into the river. This was not going to be an easy fix as it is a stone wall and could be costly to repair. Councillor Trost asked if there was a time frame for the repairs and for estimated costings to be provided.



Councillor Heather supported the motion and he did not agree that signage would be costly. He explained that he had also frequently seen people struggle on the bridge.

Mr. R. Linnane explained that last two incidents occurred at nighttime and one driver was reportedly under the influence of alcohol. The last incident was a car travelling at high speed and it was this incident that resulted in a large amount of the wall falling into the river.

The District Engineer explained that the bridge had a speed limit of 50km/h and was wide enough for two vehicles, adding that signage would not be beneficial and that incidents were down to driver behaviour. He advised that the debris from the river was due to be removed next week and would then be taken back to the compound to be cleaned. It was estimated that it would take two weeks to finalise repairs.

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

CL10/0226

The Mill, Celbridge

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

That the council considers additional safety measures at the exit point from The Mill, Celbridge onto English Row as the volume of traffic increases.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Mill in Celbridge is privately owned. There is no potential for providing additional safety measures at this entrance using the public road/footpath area.

Councillor Trost felt the closure of the Abbey Carpark could be a reason the carpark was now experiencing higher volumes of traffic. Visibility issues were being reported as drivers were exiting. There was a blind spot at the corner and the whole area was in need of a revamp. Councillor Trost enquired if a mirror could be installed as a short-term solution.



The District Engineer explained that this was a private carpark and any works would need to be carried out by the owners. He noted that Mill is a protected structure with a historic entrance and there was no scope regarding the footpath or road as the area was too narrow.

Councillor Trost thanked Mr. R. Linnane for the explanation and enquired if an alternative public carpark could be investigated, as this was currently a pressure point.

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

CL11/0226

Leixlip Safe and Accessible Routes Plan

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

That the council develops and implements a targeted "Leixlip Safe and Accessible Routes Plan" aimed at improving pedestrian, cycling and community safety across the town, identifying high-risk areas around schools, estates, bus stops and key walking routes, including Captain's Hill, Riverforest, Glendale, Glen Easton, Rinawade, Castletown and the town centre approaches. Engage directly with residents, local schools, disability advocates and community groups to shape priorities and ensure pinch points are identified and collated. That a full report be brought back outlining timelines, resourcing, community consultation plans and interim safety options.

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

A report was received from Capital Projects Team informing the members that Kildare County Council notes the motion. Many of the issues raised are already reflected in the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020–2023 (as extended to 2026), including Amendment No. 1. The matters will be considered within the scope of existing plans and ongoing work programmes, subject to resources and funding.

Councillor Killeen explained that she had received numerous representations regarding safety concerns in a number of housing estates within the municipal district. The report



provided seems to imply that nothing has been done for 7 years, as the Leixlip Local Area Plan was drawn up in 2019. The public are urgently asking for safe and accessible routes and additional action is required. There were no plans identified in the report and she felt that the report was not doing the Capital Projects Team justice.

Mr. D. Conlan explained that in addition to the report the team was working on a Part 8 to improve walking on Captain's Hill, Active Travel in Celbridge including the Mobility Corridor and several other Capital Projects, including the road North of Confey. It was noted that the Forward Planning Team were working with resources they currently have available and were prioritising projects as necessary.

Mr. D. Conlan confirmed the road was the road to Barnhill. This was currently out to tender and awaiting a consultant to be appointed. It was hoped that this would progress over the next year. It was agreed a meeting as suggested be arranged through the Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Killeen welcomed the clarifications and asked if a meeting could be arranged in the next three weeks.

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

The members agreed to take items 12 and 13 together.

CL12/0226

School Warden

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

That the council retains/reinstates the school traffic warden, on the road crossing between Leixlip GAA and Scoil Eoin Phoil on the Green Lane in Leixlip.

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



A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council acknowledges the importance of school wardens to the school community across the county. The adjustment to the provision of the school warden service is necessary due to the retirement of staff which requires the redeployment of currently available school wardens. However, it is confirmed that there will continue to be a warden located on the crossing outside Scoil Mhuire/Scoil Bhride on Green Lane for the time being and there is also a signalised crossing located beside the Leixlip G.A.A Club that the school community can avail of, while making their way to and from school. Options have been examined in relation to Green Lane, however, there is no current capacity to replace the warden before the end of this school year. A National Transport Authority funded Active Travel Scheme is being prepared for construction along Green Lane and when this scheme is completed, the active travel options for users will be dramatically improved along the link close to the schools.

Councillor Brooks noted concerns from parents and teachers at this school since the loss of another School Traffic Warden. He questioned what the council's procedure was to fill vacancies, especially when retirements were expected. Councillor Brooks mentioned that he looked forward to the roll out of the Active Travel Scheme.

The members supported the motion and raised the following:

- Looked forward to a presentation being arranged with the school.
- Aware that the council had issues filling current vacancies for School Wardens around the county and that the position does not appeal to everyone as there are only a few hours of employment required.
- Enquired if the traffic warden position was not filled would it be an option to relocate the current traffic lights at the G.A.A.

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

CL13/0226

School Warden

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



Can the council outline what steps can be implemented for the safety of school goers and other vulnerable road users, following the announcement of the discontinuation of the school warden at Scoil Eoin Phoil in Leixlip?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council acknowledges the importance of school wardens to the school community across the county. The adjustment to the provision of the school warden service is necessary due to the retirement of staff which requires the redeployment of currently available school wardens. However, it is confirmed that there will continue to be a warden located on the crossing o outside Scoil Mhuire/Scoil Bhride on Green Lane for the time being and there is also a signalised crossing located beside the Leixlip G.A.A Club that the school community can avail of, while making their way to and from school. Options have been examined in relation to Green Lane, however, there is no current capacity to replace the warden before the end of this school year. A National Transport Authority Funded Active Travel Scheme is being prepared for construction along Green Lane and when this scheme is completed, the active travel options for users will be dramatically improved along the link close to the schools.

The report was noted.

CL14/0226

Abbey Farm Estate, Celbridge

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

Can the council advise when the permanent repair works to the footpaths in the Abbey Farm Estate, Celbridge will be carried out?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the footpath repair works in Abbeyfarm were currently on hold as the ESB will be working in the estate for the next 4 to 6 weeks installing new ducting.

The report was noted.

The members agreed to take item 15 and 16 together.



CL15/0226

Active Travel Bridge

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

Can the council provide the members with an update on the planned Active Travel Bridge over the River Liffey in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the detailed design for the scheme has been completed. Land transfer agreements were being progressed to enable Kildare County Council to confirm to the National Transport Authority (NTA) that the scheme is ready to be tendered.

Councillor Ryan explained that this had been ongoing for some time. He enquired as to what the nature of land transfer issues were.

Mr. D. Hodgins explained that there was no timeframe available. The land transfer issues were relating to funding as the council require commitment for reimbursement from government funding and were awaiting various land agreements.

The report was noted.

CL16/0226

Celbridge Active Travel Bridge

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

Can the council confirm the next steps for the Celbridge Active Travel Bridge, given recent funding from the Active Travel Investment Programme?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the detailed design for the scheme has been completed. Land transfer agreements are being progressed to enable Kildare County Council to confirm to the National Transport Authority (NTA) that the scheme is ready to be tendered.

The report was noted.



CL17/0226

Safe crossing on Captain's Hill, Leixlip

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

Can the council provide an update on a previous motion (06/1124) in relation to a safe crossing on Captain's Hill between Avondale Estate and St. Mary's Park, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Capital Projects Team informing the members that Kildare County Council can confirm that a Part 8 proposal for Captain's Hill is currently being developed. This includes a proposed controlled pedestrian crossing designed to accommodate safe pedestrian movements from the western footpath at the bus stop across to the eastern footpath serving Avondale and St. Mary's Park.

The report was noted.

CL18/0226

Traffic Lights on Captain's Hill/Main Street Junction

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

Can the council provide an update on the functionality of traffic lights on Captain's Hill/Main Street Junction, in terms of traffic flow timers and congestion?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that there were no reported faults occurring with the traffic signal technology at this location. The site runs in adaptive mode, so the timing adjusts, within presets, depending on the flow of traffic on each approach and pedestrian demands.

Councillor Killeen explained that she had raised this issue several times and there seemed to be a problem with the flow of traffic and the sequencing of the left sensors. She requested that a meeting onsite be arranged.



Mr. D. Hodgins agreed to meet with Councillor Killeen on site.

The report was noted.

CL19/0226

R405 Primrose Hill National School, Celbridge

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

Can the council update members on the progress of the previously agreed detailed review and assessment of road-safety improvements on the R405 at Primrose Hill National School, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the works at this location were not on the work programme for the Sustainable Transport Section and no funding had been allocated for this area of the R405 in the 2026 National Transport Authority (NTA) Active Travel allocations. Should an opportunity arise in the coming months to progress works at this location, the elected members will be informed.

The report was noted.

CL20/0226

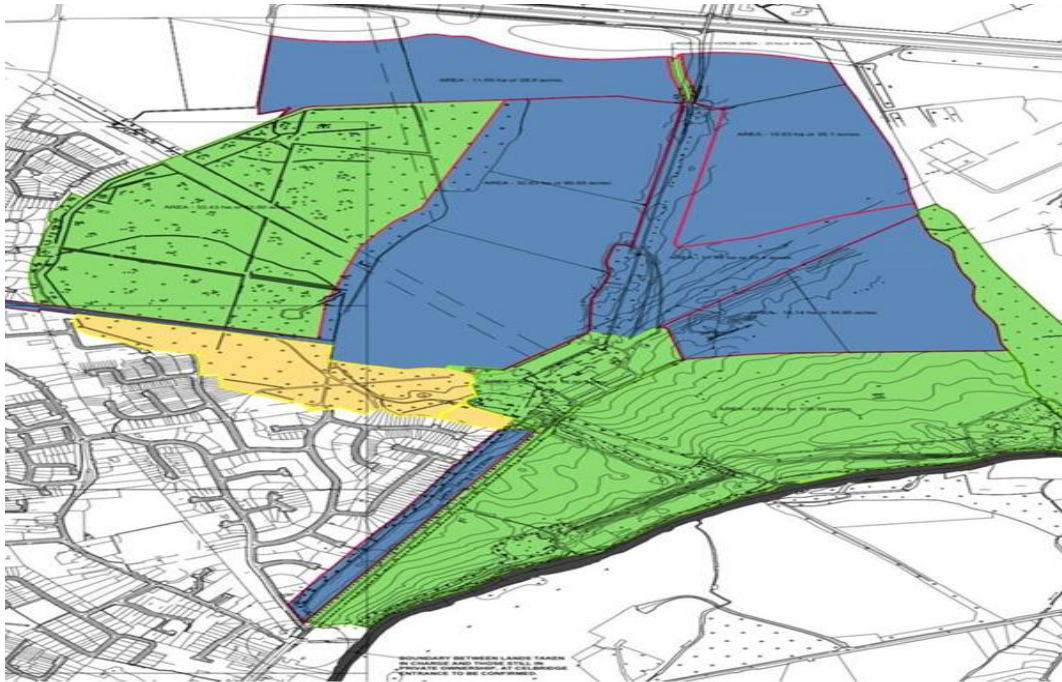
Castletown House and Demesne/Parklands

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

That the council discusses plans with the Office of Public Works for a forest walk and nature trail through the land owned by Kildare County Council, now that Castletown House and demesne/parklands is in state ownership.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the Land marked in yellow on the map below.



Discussions are ongoing with the Office of Public Works (OPW) in relation to developing a walking route in the lands in Kildare County Council ownership. The preparation of plans is subject to completing removal of laurel within the woodland to facilitate the completion of a topographical survey and a conservation plan for the woodlands.

Councillor Ryan was happy with the response received. He noted the importance of exercise and that a 15 minute walk was great for mental health and anxiety. He sought a timeline for the topographical survey.

Mr. S. Wallace explained that it would in the autumn as the Parks Department needed to remove Laurel and this cannot be carried out during the nesting season.

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



CL21/0226

Playground, Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to include initial works for a playground on council-owned land at Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge, in the Parks and Open Spaces Work Programme for 2026?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that initial work on Hazelhatch Road lands is included in the Parks and Open Spaces Work Programme for 2026. The work is scheduled to start Quarters 3-4, but this will be subject to completing works on other existing project commitments and staff resources first.

The report was noted.

CL22/0226

Tree Works Programme

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

Can the council provide members with the programme of works for tree pruning in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District for 2026?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that works on compiling a programme of tree works in the municipal district areas would not happen until Q3-Q4 this year. When the programme has been compiled and tendered it will be issued to the members as has been done previously.

Councillor Ryan enquired as to when the list would be circulated to the members.

Mr. S. Wallace informed that it would be Q4 at the earliest.

The report was noted.



CL23/0226

Wonderful Barn, Celbridge

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

Can the council provide an update on works at the Wonderful Barn, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing the members that the main park renovation project is currently on hold pending the allocation of a larger funding stream, similar in scale to the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) programme. In the meantime, we have continued with conservation activities to the externals of the barn. The enabling works contract for this phase has now been completed, and the conservation works that we had planned for last year are also finished. We have submitted an application to the Historic Structures Fund to support further conservation works to the ground floor internal area of the barn and the walled garden. We expect a decision in April 2026, and if approved we will then be able to proceed with the next stage of conservation.

The report was noted.

CL24/0226

Green Lane Schools

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

That the members agree to receive a presentation for the Green Lane Schools from the parents group in relation to road safety issues in Leixlip.

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

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

Councillor Killeen explained that she had raised this a couple of years ago and that the school leadership group would like to come into present to the members and explain the barriers they were currently experiencing, improvements required in regards safety concerns.



Councillor Trost asked if representation was from all the schools.

Councillor Killeen agreed to obtain further details and forward them onto the Meetings Administrator so that an invitation could be sent out.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted and a presentation from the schools leadership group be arranged.

CL25/0226

Uisce Éireann

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

That Uisce Éireann is invited by the council to an urgent meeting with members of this Municipal District to help members provide an explanation to constituents, for the change of plan to full road closure rather than stop-go system for the proposed works on the Maynooth Road for the piping infrastructure works scheduled for May.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator informing the members that subject to the agreement of the members, Councillor O'Rourke's motion will be referred to Uisce Éireann via their dedicated email address localrepsupport@water.ie . A formal written response will be sent the councillor who raised the motion.

The Cathaoirleach explained that there had been a recent meeting with Uisce Éireann. However, this meeting was advertised at short notice, resulting in members not being available to attend.

Councillor O'Rourke advised that there was now no need to pursue this item with an email as the meeting which took place had been very informative.



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

CL26/0226

Invitation to the Office of Public Works

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

Can the council provide an update on the motion (17/1225) passed by this municipal district to invite the Office of Public Works to make a presentation to members of their step-plans for Donaghcumper House in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator informing the members that a letter issued to the Office of Public Works (OPW) on 6 January 2026 inviting them to the February Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District meeting. Explaining that in light of the magnificent restoration of Castletown House by the OPW over the last decades and the recent re-uniting of its demesne lands into state ownership, the members would welcome the opportunity to hear a broad step-plan for Donaghcumper House. An acknowledgement was received on 13 January 2026 via CRM from the secretary of Minister Kevin Boxer Moran TD. A further email was sent on 13 February 2026 asking for an update. There has been no further correspondence received to date.

Mr. M. McLoughlin advised that discussions with the OPW were ongoing and that the members would be kept updated.

The report was noted.

CL27/0226

Customer Service Point, Leixlip

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

Can the council provide an update in relation to the interim customer service point in Leixlip, digital classes for older persons and information and clinics available for Leixlip residents in respect of council services?



A report was received from Corporate Services informing the members that at the May 2025 Municipal District meeting (Minute CL23/0525), Members were advised that staffing retention challenges and increased reliance on online services continue to make the provision of an interim customer service point unfeasible, with the former Athy customer service point cited as an example of the operational difficulties involved. This position remains unchanged. To support residents who require paper-based information, application and leaflet stands have been installed in Leixlip and Celbridge Libraries, providing ready access to frequently requested forms including motor tax, social housing supports, housing adaptation grants and Register of Electors documentation. In November 2025, both libraries ran a five-week beginner digital skills programme for adults, delivered by Searsol and funded through Corporate Services. The training covered essential practical skills such as safe online shopping, electronic toll payments and managing taxes online, with the aim of promoting digital inclusion and confidence. Library meeting rooms remain available for booking by all users, including council departments seeking to host clinics. However, due to consistently high demand from community groups and library programming, it is not feasible to designate library branches as permanent clinic locations or to prioritise particular groups for space.

A report was also received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Housing Clinic schedule for 2026 was currently being considered. The members will be notified of this schedule when it was complete and it would be advertised by the Communications Team. If a member wishes to discuss the possibility of holding a Clinic in their municipal district, they can contact Housing or refer through the Members Portal.

The report was noted.

CL28/0226

Donaghcumper Lands

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

That the council provides a detailed plan for what amenities it aims to provide on Kildare County Council owned lands at Donaghcumper.



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

A report was received by the Strategic Property Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council was considering the maximum use of the lands in its ownership at Donaghcumper including use for amenity purposes in line with its objectives for the area. The members of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District will be briefed as proposals for the use of the lands are developed.

Councillor Brooks noted that the report contained limited information and that it was important that the members understood future plans. He enquired if a timeline was available.

The members raised the following:

- This subject had been raised several times since the land came into the ownership of Kildare County Council over a year ago.
- Appreciate this would take time, but momentum was needed and the community was asking for broad amenities to be provided on the lands.
- Enquired if a visit to the site could be arranged.
- Noted that following recent storms there were reports of damage to trees beside the wall on the Dublin Road which would need to be investigated.
- Aware the council would be looking into a long term plan but was there any short term plans available. This could maybe include opening up access to the River Walkway allowing for the commencement of the use of the lands.

Mr. M. McLoughlin noted that the council would like to see the lands opened up, but did not want to do anything prematurely that could possibly cause conflict at a later stage. The members will be kept updated regarding any progress. He advised that the process would include a Public Consultation and a briefing to the members. He agreed to bring all queries back to Mr. D. Creighton to include issues relating to trees, the request for a tour and the exploration of any short term plans for the lands.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Brooks, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that the report be noted and details forwarded to Mr. D. Creighton.



CL29/0226

Liffey Bridge, Celbridge

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

Can the council provide an update in relation to the identification of the landowners and the communication intended to remind them of their responsibilities for the need to have the river cleared of debris and growth at the Liffey Bridge, Celbridge especially noting the very high-water levels in the past month?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the council has issued a reminder to riparian owners to be aware of their rights and responsibilities in relation to watercourses.

Councillor Trost asked what response the council had received to date, noting that severe weather was being experienced more frequently. He also queried who was responsible for the clearing of the bridge arches, as debris had settled there.

Mr. M. Hearn explained that land direct was unable to provide the details of all landowners and that the council plan to issue a media statement to include the responsibilities of the riparian owner and a link to the Office of Public Works website for additional information.

The report was noted.

CL30/0226

Dog Warden Service

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

Can the council provide an update on extending the dog warden service in this municipal district, following the announcement last year that additional funding would be made available?



A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the dog warden service is provided by a third party (employing three wardens) on behalf of Kildare County Council. The wardens' role and responsibilities include:

- Operation of the dog shelter.
- Dealing with queries and complaints from the public, court cases etc.
- Working in close co-operation with An Garda Síochána in relation to matters pertaining to control of dogs.
- Co-ordinating activities in relation to the control of stray dogs in accordance with the Control of Dogs Act.
- Rehoming of dogs seized where possible when not reclaimed by their owners.

Key aspects of the national funding (implemented in 2025) included the hiring of an additional warden along with support to upgrade shelters and purchase new vehicles. Improvement works have been carried out at the shelter to increase capacity and to improve welfare conditions for both staff and animals. The service in Kildare is provided on a county-wide basis - i.e. wardens are not assigned to any specific municipal district. Any further expansion of the service would of course be subject to funding being made available. There is no provision in the current budget for additional resources.

Councillor Trost welcomed the response and requested confirmation that the extra funding had now taken the number of dog wardens up to three for the county.

Mr. M. Hearn confirmed that the funding had enabled another Dog Warden to be employed taking the number up to three and the funding also funded vehicles and an upgrade to the shelter.

The report was noted.

CL31/0226

Donaghcumper Cemetery

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



Can the council update the members on any plans for Donaghcumper Cemetery, Celbridge regarding the installation of a Columbarium Wall and a bench or benches for mourners and visitors?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the provision of a Columbarium wall in Donaghcumper had been delayed due to the current inclement weather. The revised plan was for works to commence before the end of February with completion expected within 4-6 weeks.

Councillor O'Rourke welcomed the report and would discuss the installation of the benches further offline.

The report was noted.

CL32/0226

Confey Cemetery

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

Can the council provide an update on securing a new site for the expansion of Confey Cemetery?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the council continues to seek potential sites in the Leixlip/Confey area and the members will be kept updated on any progress.

Councillor Brooks asked if there was a timeline available as this was an ongoing issue of concern.

Mr. M. Hearn advised that there was no timeline available as the council were yet to find a suitable site. He advised that the members would be kept updated regarding any progress.

The report was noted.



CL33/0226

Swimming Pool, Leixlip

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

Can the council give an update in relation to the provision of a swimming pool for Leixlip and when we should expect works to begin?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that work is ongoing by the Project Manager and the Community Department, to assess several sites across a range of criteria, to determine the optimum site in terms of cost of delivery, access, population catchment, environmental impact, delivery timelines and a range of other factors. It is intended that this report be brought to Senior Management in March for their consideration and recommendation and thereafter where a preferred site is selected, it is intended to brief elected members of this Municipal District on the next steps. Parallel to this activity regarding site selection the council are also assessing and where practical visiting several facilities outside Kildare, to review existing facilities, to learn from these experiences, in turn determining the preferred construction, project delivery, cost and operational approach for the pool.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded

These Minutes were adopted at the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting on 20 March 2026

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator