



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

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

Officials Present: Mr. J. Boland (District Manager), Mr. R. Linnane (District Engineer), Mr. K. Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officer), Mr. M. McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Mr. T. Shanahan (Senior Executive Officer), Mr. S. Wallace (A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer), Mr. D. Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr. D. Conlan (A/Senior Engineer), Mr. M. Hearn (Staff Officer), Ms. S. Barry (Administrative Officer), Ms. M. McCarthy (Administrative Officer), Ms. S. Martin (Road Safety Officer), Ms. P. Hyland (Senior Executive Planner), Ms. P. O'Rourke (Climate Action Coordinator), Mr. J. Hennessey (Senior Executive Engineer), 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 March 2026 Celbridge-Leixlip municipal district meeting.

CL01/0326

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



CL02/0326

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on 20 February 2026, including the Progress Report

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Trost, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday, 20 February 2026 of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL03/0326

Municipal District Road Works

The members received an update on municipal district road works.

Schedule of Municipal District works – March 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, general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received are triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate.

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.

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:

Tender awarded for footpath repair works in Dara Court in Celbridge, works to be carried out in early Q1 2026. Currently, waiting for broadband upgrade works to be completed in this



estate prior to Kildare County Council footpath contractor commencing. Other estates in the district are currently being assessed for footpath works for 2026.

Road Closures:

L1015: Uisce Éireann works on L1015 (Top of Kellystown lane to Confey) are currently ongoing. It is planned that these works will be suspended from the 30 March to the 10 April subject to the works proceeding on the R149 at Confey. The L1015 road will be temporarily reopened for the works to proceed on the R149.

R149: Uisce Éireann are currently planning to close the R149 between the junction of the L1015/R149 to the junction of the L5052/R149 at Allenswood. It is proposed to carry out this closure during the Easter Mid Term break to minimize disruption. Access to Confey Cemetery and Confey GAA will be provided at all times. The L1015 road from Confey to Kellystown lane will be open to vehicles during this period.

L50651: Uisce Éireann works on The Drive in Castletown Estate in Celbridge commenced on the 16 January and are scheduled to be completed by 30 March. This section of road will be closed for these works and local access will be coordinated by the Uisce Éireann Contractor with the residents of Castletown as the works progress along the road.

R405: Uisce Éireann are seeking a full road closure of the R405 Maynooth Road in Celbridge from the junction of the L50651(Castletown Drive) and the L1022 (Aghards Road junction) from the 30 March until the 16 June. Vehicles are proposed to be diverted onto the Aghards Road and Shackelton Road to rejoin R405 Maynooth Road.

The members raised concerns over the Maynooth Road closure and it was agreed to discuss this issue later in the meeting.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the District Engineer and his team for their work to date and the great work on restoring the bridge in Celbridge.



CL04/0326

Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District

LPT Schedule of Works 2026

The members considered the approval of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2026 (list previously circulated).

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Trost, seconded by Councillor Ryan and agreed by all the members that the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2026 be approved.

CL05/0326

Deputation from the Green Lane Schools, Leixlip

The members received a deputation from Mr. S. O'Boyle, Principal, Scoil Eoin Phóil, Leixlip.

The principals of Scoil Mhuire and Scoil Bhride had sent their apologies as they were unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments.

Mr. O'Boyle thanked the members for their invitation and said that he was speaking on behalf of his own school and on behalf of the principals, parents and students of Scoil Mhuire and Scoil Bhride in relation to the loss of the Green Lane School Traffic Warden, which followed a retirement in Confey.

Mr. O'Boyle explained that since the traffic warden was redeployed to Confey, the three schools have become increasingly concerned for the welfare of the students, with two incidents reported, including one at the location where the traffic warden was redeployed. Parents are parking on the streets and children are now crossing at various points on the road. The schools have contacted the local community Gardai and the Council about reversing the decision to relocate the traffic warden, or to having another school warden appointed. The weather has improved but the situation needs to be resolved ahead of the winter months when with the deterioration in the weather more people drive their children to school. Mr. O'Boyle explained that he tries to be outside the school as much as possible at the start and end of the day, but that this is not always practical due to work commitments.



The members noted the following:

- Thanked Mr. O'Boyle for an impactful and well researched presentation.
- Councillor Killeen noted she could meet on site to examine the safety concerns.
- Noted the situation at this location and at many other schools around the county.
- Drivers also need to take responsibility as to where they choose to park their cars and to ensure children cross at the crossing.
- Schools should be promoting walking to school where possible to try and alleviate some traffic from the area.
- The council are experiencing difficulties in recruiting people to fill these vacancies due to small number of hours of work required.
- A lot of information has been presented for the members to go away examine.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. O'Boyle on behalf of all the members for taking the time to come to the meeting and for a very informative presentation.

CL06/0326

English Row, Celbridge

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

That the council prepares a timeframe for works to enhance the paths and signage and considers removal of overhead cables at English Row, Celbridge in the interest of safety and to better integrate with the Main Street where improvements were completed in the past.

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 Active Travel Bridge Scheme in Celbridge includes the removal and undergrounding of overhead cables at the junction of English Row, Main Street and the Liffey Bridge. It also includes the renewal of the footpaths from the Main Street to a point just beyond the pedestrian crossing on English Row. There was no funding to extend this work beyond the proposed active travel scheme.



Councillor Trost asked if there were any costings available.

The members raised the following

- That this was also discussed at the recent Tidy Towns AGM.
- It was understood that costs were calculated previously.

The District Engineer advised that there was nothing else planned except what was included in the Active Travel Bridge Scheme Plan which included removal of some old poles and the overhead cables tidied up at this location. He said other projects could possibly fall under the remit of the Public Realm Team.

The District Manager agreed to discuss this with Active Travel Team.

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

CL07/0326

Beatty Park, Celbridge

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

That the council installs a path across the front green in Beatty Park, Celbridge where there is a mud path at present.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that his footpath request would be added to the footpath works scheduled to be carried out in 2026.

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



CL08/0326

Galvin's Cross on Station Road, Leixlip.

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

That the council considers putting in place traffic lights at Galvin's Cross on Station Road, Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that there were currently no plans to provide traffic signals at this location. If a future Active Travel Project was being examined in the area the junction would be considered for upgrade works.

Councillor Caldwell described this as a very busy junction with reports of difficulties exiting the two new estates.

Councillor Killeen asked if this could form part of the Area Based Travel Assessment.

Mr. J. Hennessy, (Senior Executive Engineer) explained that there were no imminent plans, but it may be considered in the future.

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

The members agreed to take items 9 and 13 together.

CL09/0326

R149 Leixlip

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

That this council objects to any proposal by Uisce Éireann to completely close the section of road from the top of Captain's Hill Junction to an area at the back of Confey GAA grounds, Leixlip on the R149.



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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that currently, there was a statutory process being carried out by Kildare County Council on behalf of Uisce Éireann under Section 75 of the Roads Act, 1993 and the Roads Regulations to temporarily close the R149 at Confey from the Junction of the L1015 to the junction of the L5052 Allenswood to facilitate works on behalf of Uisce Éireann for the Maynooth Water Network Upgrade. The statutory procedures for making submissions in relation to this process are set out in the legislation and set out in the advertised notices.

The Cathaoirleach noted a strong opposition to schemes involving full road closures.

Councillor Caldwell explained that he has had sought further clarification and despite the inconvenience of road closure and delays he felt that the benefit of better water pressure and improved sewerage pipes. The entrance to the G.A.A and Confey Cemetery would remain open, and works were being carried out whilst children were off school.

The members raised the following

- Local residents raising concerns regarding delays.
- Notwithstanding that infrastructure is needed and the resulting benefit to the area, it was important disruptions minimal.

A lengthy discussion ensued wherein Councillor Killeen stated that it was imperative that Uisce Éireann meet with members to discuss works prior to decisions being made so connectivity issue and associated impacts could be minimalised and rationale of works be explained.

Some members suggested that alternative options be considered such as night time works.

The District Engineer explained the project was approved by An Coimisiún Pleanála following in depth assessments which looked at all options and what would cause the least impact. Due to the machinery being used as well as associated health and safety concerns, the only realistic option was to fully close the road.



The Cathaoirleach brought the debate to a close and asked the members to note the advice from the District Engineer that alternative options had been reviewed and assessed, but due to health and safety concerns the only option in this case was a full road closure and asked that the Municipal Engineer continues to monitor and review the situation.

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

CL10/0326

EV Charging Infrastructure

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

That the council undertakes an assessment of suitable locations on council-owned land within this municipal district for the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, including rapid charging points, and engage with relevant charge point operators to explore opportunities for the delivery of this infrastructure.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that Kildare County Council were part of a Regional Group working on a collaborative approach to develop a comprehensive Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Strategy. The strategy was in development and would focus on assessing existing networks and planning for future needs with an assessment of both destination and neighborhood charging. While the Strategy was not finalised, it was likely that the preferred model for the delivery of EV charging points was for third party providers to develop on a commercial basis with the Local Authority assisting in the delivery to other locations where there are gaps in the network.

Councillor Heather noted the current high cost of commercial chargers and asked if there was an expected timeframe for the strategy to start. He said that despite the Government encouraging decarbonisation it was apparent that there was a deficit when it comes to infrastructure.



Mr. M. McLoughlin explained that there was currently no timeframe but hoped the strategy would be finalised in the near future and would keep the members updated.

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

CL11/0326

Streetlights in Riverforest Estate, Leixlip

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

That the council engages with the ESB with a view to improve the quality and number of streetlights along the main avenue in Riverforest Estate 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 has established the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS) to ensure that all public lighting proposals are assessed in a fair, transparent, and consistent manner. Under KLIPS, requests are prioritised based on several factors including for example the number of residents affected, traffic and pedestrian volumes, technical feasibility and availability of existing infrastructure.

ESB Networks is only required to be directly involved where public lights are direct-fed from ESB infrastructure, i.e. where no separation exists between local authority public lighting assets and ESB assets. In all other cases, engagement with ESB is not required unless network alterations are needed.

To enable the Public Lighting Section to carry out a full technical evaluation and prepare indicative costings, it is requested that the councillor provides detailed location maps. These should clearly identify the specific streets and lights where improvement is being sought. When this information is provided, the proposal will be progressed and reported in accordance with KLIPS criteria.



Councillor Brooks explained that although the nights were starting to get brighter repairs would need to be done before the winter to resolve the reduced lighting on the left-hand side at this location. He agreed to forward the exact location to the Public Lighting Section

Councillor Killeen expressed her disappointment with the report as funding was previously allocated to KLIPS prior to Bus Connect and that the whole area needed upgrading.

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

CL12/0326

Shackleton Road, Celbridge

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

Can the council confirm when Shackleton Road, Celbridge will be resurfaced following works (now completed) by the ESB in connection with the Solar Farm at Killeenlea?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District office was currently in discussions with the contractor responsible for the permeant reinstatement of the surface on the Shackleton Road to schedule these works during a period when the schools are closed for midterm break. The exact dates and time duration for these works was not known yet.

Councillor Ryan asked if late evening works could be considered now the evenings were getting brighter.

The District Engineer explained that initially works were scheduled for during the Easter midterm, but the contractor had no availability, so it was now expected to be completed in the summer but would be dependent on other works in the area.

The report was noted.



CL13/0326

Maynooth Road, Celbridge

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

Can the council update members on discussions between Uisce Éireann and the District Engineer on alternative travel options to the proposed full road closure of the Maynooth Road, Celbridge and extensive traffic diversions for infrastructure works?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that discussions were still ongoing with the Uisce Éireann Project Team and their contractors in relation to the proposed Crodaun Foul Network upgrade works. Details of requirements for either lane closures or full road closures to facilitate the work had not been finalised yet.

Councillor O'Rourke asked if there had been any decision since the report was issued.

The District Engineer explained that the works from the second entrance to Crodaun down to the Maynooth Road were now near completion and works would then move to the section from Castletown Drive down to the Aghards Road. It was also noted that the council try to minimise disruptions as much as possible but sometimes there is no alternative to full road closures with diversions in place, discussions were ongoing between An Garda Síochána, Kildare County Council and the Project Team regarding expected peak time disruptions and the monitoring of delays.

The report was noted.

CL14/0326

Safe Routes to Schools

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

Can the council provide an update on proposals for Safe Routes to Schools for Green Lane and Confey, Leixlip including detailed design, scope and implementation time frames?



A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing members that the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project for Scoil Eoin Phoil, Green Lane, Leixlip is intended to be delivered as part of the larger Green Lane (Leixlip) Active Travel Enhancement Scheme. The project is currently at design stage, and it is intended it will be put forward for Part 8 planning approval in the latter half of 2026. Construction will progress in 2027 (dependent on the availability of funding from the project sponsors (the National Transport Authority)). Staff from the Sustainable Transport Section are meeting with representatives from Scoil Eoin Phoil this week to discuss the scheme. There are not currently any SRTS schemes in active design for Confey.

The report was noted.

CL15/0326

Parks Works Programme 2026 and Alternative Grass Management.

Parks Works Programme 2026

The members received a presentation from Mr. S. Wallace on the Parks Works Programme 2026 (report previously circulated)

Mr. S. Wallace presented the members with a review of the 2025 Works Programme, providing updates on the following:

- Leixlip Playground
- Celbridge Outdoor Youth Facility – design and consultation
- St Catherines Park – Sensory Garden design- Part 8
- Play Day
- Outdoor Recreational Plan
- Tree Surgery Works Programme
- Grass Maintenance
- Tree Planting Programme

The Parks Works Programme for 2026 was presented under the following headings:

Projects

- Celbridge Outdoor Youth Facility – The Slip
- St. Catherine's Park Sensory Garden



- Castletown Woods – Conservation Plan
- Hazelhatch Road – tender for design services to prepare a masterplan
- Willowbrook Park - tender for design services to prepare a masterplan for the open space

Operations

- Tree Works
- Grass Maintenance
- Tree Planting – Oct – Dec
- Apprenticeship Scheme

Planning

- LRD Applications / Planning Applications/ Compliance / Part 8s
- Taking in Charge
- Local Area Plans
- County Development Plan – Allotments Strategy, Parks Assessment Criteria & Amenity Infrastructure

Administration

- CRMS
- Legal Works
- Allotment Administration

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Wallace for the presentation and asked that the members forwards and questions onto the Parks Department.

Alternative Grass Management

The members received a presentation from Ms. P. O'Rourke on Alternative Grass Management.

Ms. P. O'Rourke informed the members of the following:

- There were now 11 local authorities, alongside Waterways Ireland and the GAA involved in this research.



- The PHD VIVA on assessing measures for the improvement of biodiversity in public open spaces has concluded.
- Findings include agricultural land assessed had more ~~of an~~ abundance of plant life and insects than town parks.
- Wildflower roundabouts were shown to have more bumblebees and hoverflies than ornamental roundabouts and act as stepping stone for fauna.
- They concluded that town parks needed less management, more floral resources and habitat diversity.
- Research carried out showed that herbicide alternatives were effective but took longer to work and were labour intensive and less cost effective.
- Research into effects on biome are hypervariable.
- A combination of hot foam and sweeping would be effective in maintaining grass verges edges.
- Educate people to increase understanding of the need to allow native flora to flourish.
- Grass 2 Gas was beginning to receive national recognition.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. P. O'Rourke for a very informative presentation.

CL16/0326

Celbridge Arts and Performance Group

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

That the members agree to receive a presentation from the Celbridge Arts and Performance Group on proposals for the development of the former Parochial House in Celbridge as an arts and cultural centre for the community.

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

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

Councillor O'Rourke asked for the members support, explaining that the presentation would help to understand the outline of the groups vision, the benefit such a group has to offer the



community and how the group aligns with the objectives for local cultural and community development. It was noted that these groups had been working collaboratively on a community-driven proposal for the future of the former Parochial House site, with the aim of developing it into an arts and cultural hub which would serve the wider Celbridge community, in tandem with the planned new library.

Councillor O'Rourke agreed to forward on contact details for the invitation to issue.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by all members that a letter be written to invite the Celbridge Arts and Performance Group to the April municipal district meeting to give a presentation on proposals for the development of the former Parochial House in Celbridge as an arts and cultural centre for the community.

CL17/0326

An Post

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

That this municipal district writes to An Post requesting the installation of additional public post boxes in Celbridge and Leixlip. In light of the significant distances many constituents have to travel to access post boxes and the limited parking availability at main street locations, the letter should request that An Post assess potential additional locations in residential areas and other accessible points in order to improve accessibility and convenience for local residents.

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

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

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Trost and agreed by all members that a letter be written to An Post.



CL18/0326

St. Patrick's Primary School, Celbridge.

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

That the members agree to receive a presentation from St. Patrick's Primary School, Celbridge.

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

Councillor Killeen explained that representatives of the Parents Association from St. Patrick's Primary School had been in previously to do a deputation regarding road safety concerns and would like the opportunity to present again before the members.

Councillor Caldwell expressed concerns and Councillor Trost sought clarity on exactly what was the content of the presentation.

Councillor Killeen referred broadly to the role of the members in representing the community and this was opportunity for the Parents Association to highlight their concerns which in this instance related to road safety concerns.

It was agreed that a vote be taken. Five (5) members were in favour of the presentation being received.

Councillor Killeen agreed to forward on details for invitation to issue.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor O'Rourke and following a vote, it was agreed by the majority of the members that a letter be written to St. Patrick's Primary School inviting a representative of the Parents Association to give a deputation at the next municipal meeting on road safety concerns.

CL19/0326

Social Housing Development

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



Can the council provide an update on the social housing development on the land beside Leixlip Community and Youth Centre?

A report was received from the Housing Department advising the members that Kildare County Council has received Stage 4 approval from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage with the request that a value engineering exercise be completed. This is nearing completion and the contractor is expected to be appointed shortly. Work on the site is expected to commence in May.

The report was noted.

CL20/0326

Public Realm Improvements, Leixlip

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

Can the council provide an update in relation to when much needed public realm improvements will begin in Leixlip?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department, informing the members that in collaboration with the Municipal District Engineer that the delivery of the Public Realm Improvement Scheme listed within the Leixlip Town Renewal Master Plan focusing on the Main Street and connecting junctions had commenced. These works will require Part VIII planning approval. The council are currently at Topographical Survey Stage and hope to proceed with feasibility and design when resources are available.

The report was noted.

CL21/0326

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2026

The members considered the approval of the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2026 allocation for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District which was previously circulated.

The 2 Celbridge Leixlip projects proposed for approval were.

Celbridge Leixlip	Elm Hall Heritage Group	Local History / Heritage talks in May and during Heritage Week. Partnering with Local Studies Dept and Kildare Library Services to update Leaving Cert RSR supports for students in late 2026.	€360
Celbridge Leixlip	Tea Lane Graveyard Committee	To host a concert during Heritage Week.	€1,500
Total			€1,860

In addition to the Municipal District projects, 6 countywide projects were submitted, these are projects that cover two or more Municipal Districts:

County	Kildare Federation of History Groups	Organise seminar to commemorate 150th anniversary of The Rescue of Fenian Prisoners from Freemantle, Australia (organised by John Devoy).	€150
County	Kildare Irish Figure Dancing Confederation	Annual Heritage Gathering - 400 dancers from around Kildare and approx. 50 volunteers.	€1,450
County	Kildare Bat Group	Purchase of a computer to gather data in the field, process data, in particular acoustic sound files, and present data to public, bat conservation and KCC.	€1,500
County	County Kildare Archaeological Society	Develop an up to date and not for purpose website which will include links to Journals / past articles, blog and article publication areas, social media to	€1,500

		promote the heritage of the county, booking facilities for meetings and field trips.	
County	Growing Wild in collaboration with Erin's Green	Immersion weekend in Willow - willow weaving & craft, willow tree information and lore, use of natural, renewable materials.	€1,400
County	Cill Dara le Gaeilge	Expand on research done into Máire Ní Raghallaigh life and her role in the revival of the Irish language in Kildare and beyond as well as her role in the nationalist movement.	€1,500
Total			€7,500

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Brooks, seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by all members that the allocation of the Community Heritage Grant Schemes for the Celbridge Leixlip municipal district 2026 be approved.

CL22/0326

Unauthorised Developments

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

That the council provides a report to the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District detailing for each of the past five years:

- The number of complaints relating to alleged Unauthorised Developments received and deemed valid within the municipal district
- The number of enforcement notices issued, and
- The further enforcement actions taken by the council in cases where compliance was not achieved.

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



A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the Planning Enforcement System does not allow for categorising or recording cases by Municipal District. Between 2021 and 2025 the Planning Enforcement Section of the Council received in excess of 1,300 complaints. Regrettably the Planning Enforcement Section is not in a position to provide the breakdown requested. Extracting this information would require a review of each individual case file, which would involve a significant commitment of staff time and resources and would impact the delivery of core services.

Councillor O'Rourke asked if the information could be provided on a countywide basis and what matrix the council uses to monitor the enforcement process.

Ms. M. McCarthy advised that the countywide information available would be the number of complaints received and the number of enforcements. To obtain enforcement actions this would require opening each case individually, and as stated in the report would involve a significant commitment of staff time and resources and would impact the delivery of core services.

Councillor O'Rourke asked if the countywide information on the number of complaints received and the number of enforcements be circulated to the members.

Ms. M. McCarthy agreed to circulate the countywide details as requested.

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

CL23/0326

Three Schools Campus

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

Can the council confirm any planned proactive discussions with the Department of Education and the Boards of Management of the three schools to ensure the new school campus in Celbridge is prioritised urgently?



A report was received from the Planning Department advising that the members will be aware that Kildare County Council Forward Planning Team engage with the Department of Education on a quarterly basis to ensure land use plans for settlements across County Kildare make adequate provision for the delivery of new schools and/or extensions to existing schools. The council has emphasised the urgency of the progression of the new school campus, however, the delivery of this project is a matter for the Department of Education. The member's attention is drawn to CS O27 of Variation No. 3 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 as follows "Work in close partnership with the Department of Education to support the timely planning and delivery of new schools across the county, so that educational infrastructure meets the needs of a growing population and contributes to the long term social and economic wellbeing of the community. It is a priority of the Council that the triple school campus at Ballyoulster, Celbridge is delivered during the life of this Plan".

The report was noted.

CL24/0326

Liffey Valley Park Project

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

Can the council provide an update on the progress of the Liffey Valley Park Project?

A report was received from the Planning Department advising the members that the final [Liffey Valley Park Feasibility Study – Phase 1 Celbridge Bridge to St Catherines Park, Leixlip](#) (linked) which was completed in February has now been published and was available for viewing on the Kildare County Council website. As this was the completion of the feasibility study only, the progression to project and consent stage would be required to be considered in the context of resources and funding.

The report was noted.



CL25/0326

Flood Relief Scheme

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

That the council works with the Office of Public Works (OPW) to deliver a flood relief scheme for Celbridge and Hazelhatch (combined) that was to be carried out under Tranche 2 of the OPW prioritisation.

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

A report was received from the Flood Risk Management Section advising the members that Prioritisation of flood relief schemes was determined by the OPW. There was currently no potential scheme for the Celbridge and Hazelhatch, Area for Further Assessments (AFAs). The OPW had indicated that they would not approve the delivery of Tranche 2 Schemes until the Tranche 1 Schemes were substantially complete (i.e. Morell Flood Management Scheme (FMS), Athy Flood Relief Scheme (FRS), Naas (FRS) and Leixlip (FRS). The council does not have resources in place to progress flood relief schemes independent of OPW support.

Councillor Trost asked if there was any short, medium or long-term works planned by either the OPW or Kildare County Council in areas such as Primrose Gate, Tennis Court, G.A.A and St. Patrick's School.

Mr. M. Hearn advised that works were progressing on a number of Tranche 1 Schemes and re-iterated that there is currently no scheme for the Celbridge/Hazelhatch area.

Councillor Trost expressed his disappointment with the report and requested the council write to the OPW as there were flood concerns which needed to be actively pursued.

The District Manager agreed to follow this up with the Environment Department.

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



CL26/0326

Walled Gardens on Castletown Drive, Celbridge

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

That the council carries out a safety assessment of the entrance to the Walled Gardens on Castletown Drive, Celbridge and undertake repairs where required.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department advising the members that the Municipal District Engineer would engage with the appropriate department to assess the location.

Councillor Ryan raised concerns from local residents noting that the wall was part of the Castletown Estate and included an archway.

The members raised the following

- The wall was believed to be originally built by William Conolly.
- That the eighteenth-century heritage wall was experiencing deterioration and seemed to be under significant pressure with bulging reported in several places.
- One resident had recovered a piece of fallen stone and has kept it in the hope it can be used in repairs.
- Enquired if a preservation order would be required to prevent further deterioration occurring.

Mr. M. McLoughlin explained that these works would not fall under the Municipal District Office and agreed to discuss further with the appropriate department.

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



The members agreed to take items 27, 28 and 29 together

CL27/28/29/0326

Swimming Pool

Item 27

The members considered the following motion in the Councillor Brooks.

That the council provides details of what engagement has been undertaken with Swim Ireland to secure a site for a swimming pool in Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Community Department advising the members that Swim Ireland was the National Governing Body (NGB) for swimming, water polo, diving and artistic swimming. Their remit is primarily to encourage participation, develop excellence and regulate the sport. They do not have a remit in terms of acquiring sites for pools. Given this remit, previous engagement with Swim Ireland has focussed upon research and guidance around exemplar sites, several of which are being consulted. Undoubtedly when a site is selected in Kildare and the focus of the Leixlip Pool Project moves to detailed feasibility, deep engagement will take place, given Swim Ireland's experience. Swim Ireland recently appointed an interim Chief Executive Officer and analysis published by Swim Ireland supports the council's pursuit of a pool in this part of Kildare. This will also support our advocacy for funding for delivery of the pool. A meeting has been arranged with Swim Ireland to discuss their analysis and studies.

The members fully supported the motion and asked that they be kept updated with any progress. LPT funding had already been allocated including funding for the successful pilot pop up pool project.

Mr Shanahan advised that the council plan to work closely with Swim Ireland as strategic partners, working collaboratively in securing further funding and moving the project forward. Currently there was no further details on possible sites, but it was hoped a decision would be made in the next month.



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

Item 28

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

That the council considers the acquisition of a temporary pool for Leixlip until the permanent pool is delivered.

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

A report was received from the Community Department advising the members there was no funding for this new proposal, which was not proposed as part of annual budgetary discussions by elected members last year. In addition, the provision of a temporary pool in the past involved extensive logistical work by the council, and a cost of c. €150,000 borne by Swim Ireland and Kildare County Council. If this is proposed, the funds in place for the proposed permanent pool would need to be redirected to this proposal and the team currently working on site selection and feasibility in the Community Department would have to be assigned to this work.

This would delay momentum on the permanent project, which we hope can enter Stage 2 – site specific and development feasibility in Q2 2026. The Council does not therefore have resources to simultaneously pursue the pop-up pool and permanent pool.

Councillor Killeen sought clarity as to what stage the council were currently at in regards the Capital Programme Delivery and if a delivery time was available. An interim pool could still be a great investment dependent on the expected time frame for delivery.

Mr. T. Shanahan explained that the tender was already written and ready to go with a Project Manager in place. It was hoped that a decision on the site would be made next month and then a briefing with the members could be arranged. There was currently €10 million of funding which was still not enough, and discussions were ongoing with Swim Ireland. There would also need to be a public consultation



Following discussions the members agreed to refer to the new pool project as the North Kildare Pool.

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

Item 29

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

Can the council provide a detailed update in relation to the provision of a Leixlip swimming pool and detailed timeframes?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that a site selection report regarding a pool for Leixlip was under consideration by Senior Management. Three sites were under consideration under a range of high-level criteria including acquisition cost (where applicable), planning, environmental, access, topography, cost of delivery relative to the site, delivery timelines linked to the site, site-specific risks/dependencies, opportunity cost, population catchment, flood-risk, heritage impacts etc. When the site was selected and there was clarity around timeline it was fully intended that members would be briefed. A detailed feasibility study for the site that is selected will be commissioned and already the tender brief for this has commenced. To maintain momentum, this study will also seek to assess different construction options, and the related magnitude of costs and delivery programme, to move quickly to detailed design and planning.

The full stages of capital programme delivery, as communicated in previous briefings to members are:

- 0 Land Purchase
- 1 Annual Allocation
- 2 Preliminary- Feasibility
- 3 Feasibility
- 4 Preliminary Design
- 5 Part 8

- 6 Detailed Design
- 7 Tender
- 8 Funds Confirm O/S
- 9 Construction

The report was noted.

CL30/0326

Clearing of Bridge Arches in Celbridge

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

Can the council provide clarity on the entity responsible for the clearance of debris and overgrowth under the bridge arches in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that as advised previously, owners of land have an important role in ensuring that watercourses are managed and free flowing so that in extreme weather events the risk of flooding can be minimised. If the watercourse on or beside land was not part of a statutory drainage scheme, the riparian owner may generally be responsible for the management of the watercourse. Loose impediments/debris - of which there are none at present - under the bridge arches in Celbridge are removed by the local District Engineer.



The Office of Public Work's (OPW) National Flood Information Portal provides practical advice and assistance for the management of watercourses.



Councillor Trost noted the report and advised that he would continue to pursue this situation as the build-up of debris under the arches poses a flooding risk if not removed.

The report was noted.

CL31/0326

Confey Cemetery

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

Can the council provide details on the numbers of spaces and estimated timeframe remaining in Confey Cemetery?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that with some planned reworking of internal pathways, there was an estimated twelve months capacity remaining in the cemetery.

Councillor Brooks noted the report and was happy to see that the council were looking into alternative solutions.

The District Manager explained that he had examined the issues onsite and that both short, medium and long term were examined.

The report was noted.

The Meeting concluded.

These Minutes were adopted at the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting on 17 April 2026

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator