



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

**Held on Friday 21 March 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

**in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara.**

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

**Officials Present:** Ms C Barrett (District Manager), Mr R Linnane (District Engineer), Ms S Barry (Administrative Officer), Mr S Wallace (Acting Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer), Mr M Hearn (Staff Officer), Ms P O'Rourke (Climate Action Coordinator), Ms A Coyne Sheridan (LPT Coordinator), Mr T Shanahan (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Woodhouse (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the March Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District meeting.

**CL01/0325**

**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.

**CL02/0325**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the draft minutes of the Monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday 21 February 2025 including the progress report

**Resolved:** On the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Friday 21 February 2025 of the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and the progress report noted.



## **CL03/0325**

### **Municipal District Works**

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

#### **Work Schedule - Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District Works - March 2025**

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.

#### **Winter Maintenance:**

The annual winter program of Jet-vacking of road gullies and hedge cutting operations is complete. Restoration of water cuts are completed for Leixlip, Celbridge and Ardclough.

#### **Road Works Programme 2025:**

All projects at preparation of tender documents stage.

- L1016 Ardclough Village (380lin.m) (At tender stage)
- R403 Dublin Road, Celbridge (1179lin.m)
- L5061 Loughlinstown Road. (558lin.m.) (At tender stage)
- R148 Main Street., Leixlip (120lin.m)
- R449 Kilmacredock to M4 (400lin.m)
- L1015 Kellystown Lane to Confey (1574lin.m)

#### **Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance**

Surface dressing is scheduled to commence in May before the June bank holiday weekend.

**Location:** Allenswood L5052 from the R149 to the county boundary. 1.75km

Advanced works have commenced in preparing this road for surface dressing.

#### **Footpath Restoration Programme 2025:**

Assessments currently being carried out in housing estates to determine locations for 2025 footpath restoration works programme.



## Roadworks on R148 at Collinstown:

Works are now substantially complete. Kildare County Council is currently commencing the taking in charge process for this road.

**CL04/0325**

## Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2025.

The Members considered the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2025.

Schedule of Municipal District Works 2025					
Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District					
Y2025					
Job		Project Details	Agreed Budget €		
	Transport, Mobility & Open Spaces	<u>Roads Projects</u>			
		Footpaths and older roads	167,314		
		Extra Bin Collection	17,000		
		<u>Public Lights Projects</u>			
		New Public Lights	50,000		
		<b>Transport, Mobility &amp; Open Spaces Sub-Total</b>	<b>234,314</b>		
		<u>Community</u>			
		Swimming Pool	50,000		
		Community Development Work	14,000		
		Brigid Spirit of Kildare	20,000		
		Festivals	25,000		
		St Patricks Day Parade Leixlip	7,000		
		St Patricks Celbridge Parade	28,000		
		CKAN - Access Officer	10,000		



		Celbridge Christmas Lights	35,000		
		Ardclough Christmas Lights	3,000		
		Leixlip Christmas Lights	20,000		
		Leixlip Youth and Community Centre	25,000		
		Community Innovation Fund	150,000		
		Celbridge First Responders	5,000		
		Leixlip First Responders	5,000		
		Community Project Leixlip- KYS/ In Sync	15,000		
		Comhaltas - Craobh Bheartla Uí Fhlatharta	10,000		
		Run of the Mill workshops	10,000		
		Resident Association Grants	30,000		
		Climate Action Innovation Fund	7,041		
		Municipal District Activities	3,000		
		Derrybeg Farm	11,000		
		Ardclough Village Centre	20,000		
		Acre Design Phase	45,000		
		Leixlip SOS	10,000		
		Meals on Wheels Leixlip	5,000		
		Meals on Wheels Celbridge	5,000		
		Confey Mens Shed	10,000		
		Leixlip Scouts	5,000		
		Kildare Orchestra	10,000		
		Celbridge Replacement Furniture	5,000		
		<b>Community Sub Total</b>	<b>598,041</b>		
		<b><u>Economic Development, Planning &amp; Heritage</u></b>			
		Public Realm- Matched funding	25,000		
		<b>Econ Dev, Planning &amp; Heritage Sub Total</b>	<b>25,000</b>		



	<b>Corporate, People &amp; Cultural Services</b>	<b><u>Libraries &amp; Arts</u></b>			
		Music Generation	10,000		
		Water bottle refill station	3,000		
		Coiste Gaeilge	3,000		
		Changing Places Facility- Leixlip	15,000		
		<b>Corporate, People &amp; Cultural Sub-Total</b>	<b>31,000</b>		
		<b><u>Climate Action</u></b>			
	<b>Environment</b>	Celbridge Tidy Town	10,000		
		Leixlip Tidy Town	10,000		
		Ardclough Tidy Town	5,000		
		Christmas Tree Recycling	4,000		
		<b>Environment Sub-Total</b>	<b>29,000</b>		
		<b><u>Recreation &amp; Amenities</u></b>			
		Tree Pruning and Planting	70,000		
		Grove Walk	20,000		
		Glyphosate Reduction	12,500		
		<b>Recreation &amp; Amenities Sub-Total</b>	<b>102,500</b>		
		<b>Total LPT Funding</b>	<b>1,019,855</b>		
			<b>953,578</b>	<b>66,277</b>	<b>1,019,855</b>
		<b>Pay Parking Funding</b>			
		Castletown North Entrance Improvement Works	5,000		
		Footpaths and Older Roads	32,978		
			<b>37,978</b>		
		<b>LPT Carry forward from 2024</b>	<b>66,277</b>		



**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey and agreed by all member that the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2025 be approved.

#### **CL05/0325**

##### **Backweston, Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the names of Councillor O'Rourke and Councillor Killeen

That the council undertakes a transport masterplan for Backweston, Celbridge and subsequently seek funding from the NTA to progress this plan.

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

A report was received from Transport Section informing the members that there were no resources available to carry out a transport masterplan at present however the study area for the Celbridge/Leixlip/Confey Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) would include this location. (A letter from the National Transport Authority (NTA) circulated previously to all members had also been re-issued).

Councillor O'Rourke asked if there was a frame for the transport masterplan.

The District Manager advised that it was hoped that the ABTA would commence before the end of 2025, subject to resources, and was expected to take a year to complete. It was confirmed that the Council had corresponded with Backweston and NTA regarding the matter.

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

#### **CL06/0325**

##### **New Bridge, Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the names of Councillor Panaite Fahey

That the council outlines a plan for noise reduction on the new bridge planned in Celbridge and explain if a public consultation will be facilitated.



The motion was proposed by Councillor Panaite Fahey and seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from Transport Section informing the members that a Noise and Vibration Assessment was completed in 2024. This identified 27 receptor locations along the scheme that required noise mitigation. There was no requirement for a noise barrier on the bridge itself. The newly constructed road would be constructed using low noise road surfaces to reduce road traffic noise for as many properties as possible.

Extensive public consultation had been carried out on the project to date to arrive at the emerging preferred route for the project. The project was currently being prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and during the ABP planning approval process, all stakeholders can submit their concerns to the Board, for their consideration and assessment.

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

#### **CL07/0325**

#### **CCTV**

The members considered the following motion in the names of Councillor Trost

That the council review signage and other measures in council-managed car parks in Celbridge, such as the use of CCTV, to ensure the public are aware that use of car parks is at the user's risk, and to deter crime and protect public safety.

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

A report was received from Transport Section informing the members that the Transport Department would review signage in its carparks as requested. The Transport Department was not in a position to operate or monitor CCTV cameras for the purpose of public safety. Any such scheme would require the permission of the Garda Commissioner in the context of a Community Based CCTV Scheme for the primary purpose of public order and safety in public places in accordance with Section 38 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005.

The members raised the following

- This was a live issue, still ongoing and evolving
- That there was a duty of care to people using the carpark



- Would the council have the right to install CCTV, to protect their property?
- If CCTV was not possible could other public safety options be investigated in the short term. It was suggested if closing the car park temporarily was an option.
- Asked if the public could be kept updated on the situation

The District Manager advised the members that given the need for public parking that closure of the car park would not be recommended and would send a negative message. She advised there is extensive legislation around community CCTV, and that a pilot scheme in Clane but was experiencing challenges with the legislation and had been trying to progress for the past 3 years. It was confirmed that the council would continue to engage with the landowners and that An Garda Síochána were also aware of the situation.

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

#### **CL08/0325**

##### **Type B Pedestrian Crossings**

The members considered the following motion in the names of Councillor Killeen  
That the council installs Type B Pedestrian Crossings in this Municipal District trialling their efficacy at key points requiring Pedestrian crossings.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport Section informing the members that the Department of Transport Advice Note (TSAN-2024-01) sets out the options for two new zebra crossings configurations which are additional options for local authorities to consider when planning new infrastructure installations. The document includes one option that does not use belisha (flashing) beacons and another that does not use both belisha (flashing) beacons and signage. These alternative layouts have not been developed to eliminate the use of flashing beacons and each of the new crossing types have their own specific set of criteria which must be completely satisfied to facilitate implementation.

To date, the Traffic Management Section has not identified locations that fulfil the criteria set out in the attached document and it is not expected that further safety reviews of locations





will take place in the short term. However, when suitable locations are identified, consultation will be undertaken with elected members and stakeholder groups before a decision would be made to implement the crossings. It should be noted that the provision of zebra crossings are not universally acceptable to all stakeholders and their provision is not without its challenges.

In the meantime, we will continue to install zebra crossings (with belisha beacons) and signalised pedestrian crossings as normal, subject to suitability and resource considerations. Councillor Killeen agreed to follow up with the relevant Section offline.

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

#### **CL09/0325**

##### **Public Lighting**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Trost  
Can the council give an update on the installation of public lighting along the footpath at the walkway between Beatty Park and Beatty Grove leading to the Maynooth Road, Celbridge?  
A report was received from Sustainable Transport Section informing the members that the Public Lighting Section had requested a quotation from the Public Lighting Maintenance Contractor. The work would be carried out in Q2, 2025.

The report was noted.

#### **CL10/0325**

##### **Abbey Car Park**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Trost  
Can the council provide the members with the revenue details taken from the parking meter in the Abbey Car Park for months of January and February 2024, January, and February 2025?

A report was received from Transport Section informing the members that the following revenue details were taken from the parking meter in the Abbey Car Park for the requested period

<b>Abbey Car Park Pay parking revenue</b>			
	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>€1,338.55</b>	<b>€2,185.95</b>	<b>€3,524.50</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>€768.65</b>	<b>€1,122.85</b>	<b>€1,891.50</b>

The report was noted.

### **CL11/0325**

#### **Pedestal Chargers**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen  
Can the council confirm what the current process is to enable a household to install a pedestal charger for an electric car in a designated parking space and an undesignated parking space in housing estates, which would involve cables being run under the public footpath?

A report was received from Transport Section informing the members that the current legal position in Ireland is that only the ESB can own an electricity distribution or transmission system. "Private Wires" refers to private individuals or undertakings running their own electricity cables in order to transfer electricity. Private Wires are currently prohibited. The installation of pedestal chargers connecting back to a private supply is deemed to be a Private Wire and therefore currently prohibited.

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) on 18 August 2023 launched a public consultation on Private Wires and this consultation closed on 13 October 2023. ZEVI (Zero Emission Vehicle Ireland) made a submission relating to EV charging infrastructure as part of that consultation process and we await the outcome of that process.

The report was noted.

### **CL12/0325**

#### **Leixlip Louisa Station**

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



Can the council provide an update on proposals sent to Iarnród Éireann in relation to the detailed proposal outlining the planned safety improvement measures at the pedestrian access at Leixlip Louisa Station?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that there was a Part 8 masterplan approved in 2008 for the development of the amenity lands in Loughnamona.

This included a proposal to link the Louisa car park to an additional car park in Loughnamona to facilitate use of the playing pitches. Last year there were initial discussions with CIE about implementing this connection. This would require a detailed design for any connection. It would also require some redesign of the CIE car park to facilitate safe pedestrian access. Funding would also be required. Progressing this was on our works programme this year but was subject to completing other projects first.

The report was noted.

#### **CL13/0325**

##### **Intel site, Leixlip**

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

Can the council provide an update on progress to complete all roadworks in the vicinity of the Intel site in Leixlip?

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that roadworks on the R148 at Collinstown had now been certified by the project team as substantially complete. There were some minor snags being carried out associated with the new section of road to be taken in charge. These would be complete in the coming weeks. All other construction activity at this location was on lands adjacent to the R148 but would not be in charge of Kildare County Council. Works on the R148 between Kellystown Lane and Pike Bridge associated with the Royal Canal Greenway would be substantially complete by the end of May 2025.

The report was noted.

#### **CL14/0325**

##### **Compulsory Purchase Order**

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

Can the council provide an update on when the joint application for consent and compulsory purchase order (CPO) for the Celbridge-Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor and bridge will be



submitted to An Bord Pleanála, given that senior counsel was engaged to review this application in February?

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that a briefing on the Roads Capital Programme was delivered at the February Municipal District meeting to provide an update on the status of all projects including the Celbridge Hazelhatch Mobility Corridor. There was no further update available at this time.

Cllr O'Rourke's clarifying question sought clarity on a timeline.

The District Manager advised that while the project was a priority for 2025, that due to a number of other priority projects she couldn't yet commit to a definitive timeline.

The report was noted.

### **CL15/0325**

#### **Parks Works Programme 2025**

A report had been circulated to members prior to meeting on Parks Works Programme 2025 and a review of 2024 Park Works Programme.

The members received a presentation from Mr S Wallace on the Parks Works Programme 2025.

Mr S Wallace informed the members that all works listed on the projects and operations programmes were in order of priority. Projects were part of 30 projects across the county and 30 operational works. He informed the members about the Parks Work Programme for 2025 highlighting the ongoing work under four different headings:

#### **Projects**

- Leixlip Playground - install playground
- Celbridge Outdoor Youth Facility – The Slip & Celbridge Abbey
- St Catherines Park Sensory Garden
- Castletown Woods – Conservation Plan

#### **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

Mr Wallace also reminded the members of the need for youth play facilities and that he would welcome support for this from members, given the demand for this in the District.

The members welcomed the work done to date, and raised the following points:

- Welcomed that Leixlip Playground was on the list
- Asked if there was any update regarding upgrade of Celbridge Playground.
- Asked was the Tree Works Programme ongoing, and the current status
- Noted issues reported in St Patricks Park
- Asked was the Abbey carpark a suggested or confirmed location for the teen facility and if the current situation would cause delays
- Clarification sought with some projects outstanding from 2024

Mr Wallace advised the members that

- Tender process was complete for Celbridge playground and would include resurfacing works and replacement of some equipment, and works would take up to 12 weeks.
- Advised that Celbridge Abbey included a proposed covered seating area at the outdoor gym.
- The Tree Works Programme was ongoing, the works programme was done before Christmas and that the list would be checked to see if St Patrick Park was on there
- Confirmed that all items outstanding from the 2024 list in blue would carry over into 2025

He also advised that while the members may focus upon projects, that there was very significant work and large costs involved in grass maintenance, tree replacement/planting and up to 30 protracted legal cases related to outdoor recreation lands.

The members also received a presentation from Ms. P O'Rourke, Climate Action Co-ordinator in relation to Open Space Management - Alternative Maintenance.

Ms P O'Rourke highlighted the following timelines to the members:

Year	Alternative Maintenance Actions
2019	•formulate a plan of action
2020	•Communications strategy with pilot sites established, •mandate by people to move forward
2021	•MU masters research commenced, •Partners 10 LA's and WI •Waste grass experiment
2022	•Master research continues with practical and controlled experiments, •Advance exploration of circular economy, •Further research potential exploration.
2023	•Report/Manual Alternative Maintenance •GAA joins as partner •PHD commence
2024	•Terrain AI - Commence Phase 2 Grass to Gas •PHD ongoing including carbon calculation model •Wicklow Co Co Joins as partner
2025	•Grass to Gas Dashboard hase 2 project summary - April Full Council Meeting •PHD final year Alternative Maintenance

The members raised the following:

- Could the Grass to Gas programme be offered to Resident Associations to assist in the disposal of their green waste.
- Asked if there was any data available for unmanaged lands and hedgerows. It was felt that the reframing of category to include this would be important.
- Were soil samples taken in wet conditions.



Ms O'Rourke advised the members that all points would be considered and that decisions relating to alternative methods would be made at the end of the PhD process and when agreed, the members would be briefed and information made available to the public. Already one Residents Association in Clane Maynooth MD were seeking to implement new approaches to weed control. She clarified that unmanaged areas, especially hedgerows were included in the research and that this could be made clearer. She clarified that attempts are made to generally take samples in dry weather, but this wasn't always possible. The report was noted.

The members agreed to take item 16 and 19 together from the agenda

**CL16/19/0325**

**Scoil Mochua**

**Item 16**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey  
That the council outlines the plan and update on the land transfer at Scoil Mochua in Celbridge for the Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) unit.

**Item 19**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heather  
Can the council provide an update on its efforts to expedite the land title transfer for Scoil Mochua Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classrooms?

The motion was proposed by Councillor Panaite Fahey and seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that following a legal representative's submission to Tailte Éireann to have the land at Willowbrook registered to Kildare County Council, Tailte Éireann had now requested further information in relation to the application. This included providing information on 'acts of ownership' and a requirement for consultation with the public. The information and procedures were onerous and the legal representatives had advised that even if this information was submitted the application for



registration may not be successful. They have advised examining alternative mechanisms to acquire title to the land. The council were currently engaged in this process.

Councillor Panaite Fahey sought a timeframe explaining that parents were unable to get places for their children.

The District Manager explained the legal complexities. The land was not owned by the council. It should have been transferred but the developer went into liquidation and the lands were then vested in the Minister for Finance. The council has engaged with Tailte Éireann (TE), but this process is now not being recognised by TE and the council was currently investigating other legal options. It was not legally straightforward.

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

#### **CL17/0325**

#### **Reopening Pathway**

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

That the council and Iarnród Éireann reopens the pathway from Loughnamona to the Louisa Bridge Car Park.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell and seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey.

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the pathway between Lough na Mona and Louisa Bridge car park was not an official pathway. It was not closed by Kildare County Council and the issues would need to be discussed with CIE. The members raised the following.

- asked if the council could get their portion done this year, therefore people could then continue to use the pathway, that a clear desire line was there.
- Could a letter be written to the Iarnród Éireann on this matter?

Mr Wallace explained that there was no simple solution, that there were very significant level changes and a wide ditch and that a bridge was required but there was no provision for pedestrians in the carpark. He advised discussions were held with the Iarnród Éireann last





year, but no solution was expected before the end of this year. Any solution identified would need to progress to design and construction stages. There could also be issues around safety and insurance, also. Further engagement with Iarnród Éireann would be best.

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey and agreed by all members that the report be noted and a letter issue to Iarnród Éireann, regarding the motion.

### **CL18/0325**

#### **St Catherines Park**

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

That the council installs toilet facilities in St Catherines Park, given that there are a number of clubs now using the pitches across multiple codes.

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

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that there were no plans or funding to provide toilet facilities in St Catherines Park. There were already dressing room and toilet facilities on the opposite side of the boundary with Fingal County Council which had previously been available to the clubs. The council will check the current status of these with Fingal and update the members

Councillor Brooks expressed his dissatisfaction with the report noting that a number of groups use this facility and asked if funding could be explored for this.

Councillor Killeen supported the motion explaining that the dressing rooms and toilet facilities referred to tend to be locked and can't be accessed. The current situation was unsatisfactory especially as more housing was expected within the Master Plan.

Mr Wallace agreed to contact Fingal County Council regarding the facilities, he had no objection with facilities at Catherine's Park side in principle, but this would take time to investigate and would need funding.

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



## **CL20/0325**

### **Social and Affordable Housing**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brooks  
That the council outlines the plans for social and affordable housing in Leixlip for this year.

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

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that on lands where there was a 20% Part V requirement at least 10% of the Part V provision must be used for social housing units and the remainder can be used for affordable housing, which can be affordable purchase, cost rental or both.

The Part V affordable purchase scheme at Herford Park, Leixlip was launched on 4 March and was currently open for applications.

The Kildare County Council scheme at Ardclough Road, Celbridge includes 10 affordable units, the preparation of the works tender has commenced.

Ms Barry noted that Hereford Park, Leixlip was still open to applicants, updating the members that to date the council had received 388 applications of which 165 were complete.

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

## **CL21/0325**

### **Age-Friendly Housing**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heather  
Can the council outline its plans to provide age-friendly housing in Celbridge?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that there was an age friendly scheme due for delivery in Leixlip at the ESB site and Newtown, Leixlip.

Schemes at Ardclough road and Oldtown Mill, Celbridge would also include age friendly units.

Kildare County Council had recently supported an Approved Housing Body to deliver age friendly Accommodation in Celbridge.

Under the current County Development Plan 20% of all new housing developments with delivery of 10 units or more were required to be Universally Designed (UD). Most of these UD dwellings were suitable for older people or people with mobility issues.

The Allocations Scheme allows the council to prioritise allocations based on age, this was regularly implemented.

Significant stock of suitable units is being delivered by the council and Approved Housing Bodies, via ground floor apartments and apartments with lifts.

The specifications for both council and Approved Housing Bodies properties have been updated to include removal of baths and inclusion of level access shower units on all ground floor units to make units more sustainable and accessible.

The report was noted.

## **CL22/0325**

### **Derelict Sites**

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

Can the council provide an update on its work on dealing with derelict sites in our Municipal District over the last 12 months?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the table below showed the latest update on the properties registered on the Derelict Sites Register in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District

<b>File No.</b>	<b>Address of Derelict Site</b>	<b>Comments</b>
DS-2016-Celbridge 02	4 Abbeylane, Abbeyfarm, Celbridge, Co Kildare	Compulsory Acquisition complete and refurbishment works expected to commence in Q2 2025
DS-2017-Celbridge01	Bungalow, Primrose Hill, Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge	The Derelict Sites Team is engaging with the property owner. There are plans to develop the site.
DS-2021-19	33 Main Street, Leixlip	An Oral hearing in relation to the CPO of this and the adjacent properties took place in January 2025, awaiting a decision from an Bord Pleanála.
DS-2023-06	1 & 2, Ralph Square, Leixlip	CPO on hold after commitment from the owner to develop the site. A Planning application has been submitted pl.ref: 24/60961

DS-2023-18	Ralph Square, Leixlip (Commercial Unit)	The property was sold in 2023 after communication with the previous owner. Planning permission for a guest house granted on 13/12/2024 pl.ref: 24/60711. The Derelict Sites Team will continue to monitor progress
DS-2018-Celbridge01	Property 1, Hazelhatch Train Station, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	Details of future plans for the site submitted to KCC, Derelict Sites team monitoring
DS-2018-Celbridge02	Property 2, Hazelhatch Train Station, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	Details of future plans for the site submitted to KCC, Derelict Sites team monitoring
DS-2018-Celbridge03	Property 3, Hazelhatch Train Station, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	Details of future plans for the site submitted to KCC, Derelict Sites team monitoring

The Vacant Homes/Derelict Sites team had investigated 25 properties in the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal district over the last 12 months and CPO under the Housing Act commenced in 2024 on 2 vacant properties in St. Patricks Park, Celbridge and Willow Crescent, Celbridge.

The team would continue to monitor progress and engage with property owners offering advice and information on the various schemes available to address vacancy and dereliction. The report was noted.

### **CL23/0325**

#### **Parochial House**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Trost  
That the council commence preparing a plan for the use of the Parochial House Celbridge pending the closure of the Title/Charities Regulator challenges.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Trost and seconded by Councillor Caldwell.  
A report was received from the Public Realm Section informing the members that a design concept had been established for this site and is included in the Celbridge Town Renewal Plan. Other than the purchase of the site, no funding had been identified to progress the project, for which the Library is only one element. It would be premature, and not without risk, to proceed to detailed design without confirmation of sale.  
Councillor Trost was unhappy with the report, he felt the council should be starting to plan and prepare. Members also asked:



- where the funding would be coming from and if there was anything the members could do to support.
- if there was a consultation process carried out at the Preliminary Design stage regarding the residential element.

The District manager shared the member's frustrations but noted that it would be premature and not without risk to commit resources to this. However, when the ownership is resolved in the Council's favour, the project can then appear on the Capital Programme, and it becomes possible to seek other funding channels. She advised that Celbridge Renewal Plan included a library and ancillary buildings, as well as 21 Residential units for Age Friendly Housing. However, for the project to progress, post ownership, the members would again be consulted, along with the public, through the Part 8 Planning process.

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

#### **CL24/0325**

##### **Castletown Joint Working Group**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heather  
That the council writes to The Office of Public Works (OPW) to encourage it to reconvene Castletown Joint Working Group the as a matter of urgency.

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

A report was received from the Transport Section informing the members that the Working Group was established by the Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform with responsibility for the Office of Public Works. It was a matter for the Members to decide if they wish to write to the OPW.

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all member that the report be noted and a letter issue to the OPW.

#### **CL25/0325**

##### **Úisce Eireann**

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

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That the council requests Úisce Éireann to urgently progress the installation of the upgraded water pipelines at Hazelhatch Road, as promised for Quarter One of this year, in light of the ongoing repeated serious water supply outages at Primrose Gate and Hazelhatch Park in Celbridge.

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

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

Councillor O'Rourke explained that Uisce Éireann had sent teams out to reset and readjust valves, but the issue lies with inadequate pressure. She felt that no clarity was being received, or any time frame provided by Uisce Éireann.

The members raised the following,

- Councillor Heather understood that it would be Q3/Q4 for works to be carried out but would like confirmation
- Similar issues were being reported in Callenders Mill with regards water pressure
- Could Uisce Éireann be invited into the next meeting to discuss these ongoing issues.

The Meetings Administrator agreed to email Uisce Éireann regarding the specific motion but advised that an invitation for a meeting on all issues in the MD was not in order as a proposed amendment, but the members could submit a separate motion next month, should they wish.

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all member that the report be noted and Úisce Éireann be contacted via their dedicated email in regards this motion.

## **CL26/0325**

### **Crodaun Strategic Housing Development**

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

That the council ensures that the 2.068-hectare public park at the Crodaun Strategic Housing Development is provisioned as per the plans and that it is provided as soon as possible.

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



A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that the Celbridge Local Area Plan identified public open space to the north the town centre which comprises of an identified Key Development Area - KDA4 Crodaun providing for both open space and residential development.

Permission was granted for this development under planning reference number 20307100. This development was identified as Kilwoghan Woods and was a live site currently under construction. Condition 6 of the SHD planning permission requires that the open spaces be landscaped etc and be completed before any of the dwellings are made available for occupation.

Councillor Heather noted the importance of green spaces in residential developments. Developers were not providing this despite being a condition of their planning requirements. Ms McCarthy agreed to discuss this further with the relevant Section, and see what stage the development was currently at, she agreed to revert to the members.

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

### **CL27/0325**

#### **St Patrick's School**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey  
Can the council provide an update on discussions with the NTA regarding the safe way to St Patrick's School on Hazelhatch Road and timeline for taking in charge of the Primrose Gate Estate?

A report was received from both the Transport Section and Building Control Section informing the members that there were no ongoing discussions with the NTA with regard to this issue. The Department of Education and the Board of Management had been asked to address access issues as part of their Retention Planning Application.

Development Control continues to liaise with the Owner Management Company (OMC) for Primrose Gardens and were currently reviewing a proposal relating to the areas to be Taken in Charge (TIC) and transferred to the Kildare County Council.

Following a clarifying question, the District Manager confirmed that the Development Control team had met the OMC on the matter and would continue to engage.



The report was noted.

### **CL28/0325**

#### **Feasibility Study**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Rourke  
Can the council provide a report from JBA Consulting who were commissioned in January to carry out Phase One of the feasibility study to assess and evaluate the lands between Leixlip and Celbridge, for potential development of the Liffey Valley Park Strategy, including the recently acquired lands at Donaghcumper?

A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) funded Kildare County Council to prepare a Feasibility Study for the provision of a Liffey Valley Park between Leixlip and Celbridge, extending over approximately 6.35km between St. Catherine's Park, Leixlip to Celbridge Bridge – as previously advised the study does not specifically address the lands at Donaghcumper. A stakeholder event was held by the Kildare County Council Forward Planning Team on the 14 January 2025, where all Elected Members of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District were invited to attend. Work was now underway on the development of project options following this consultation. No detailed reports were available at this stage. Public Consultation on the baseline and options will be undertaken on 8 April 2025 at the Celbridge Library between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Following the outcome of the public consultation the Draft Feasibility Study would then be prepared. The target for publication of the Feasibility Study is September 2025.

Councillor O'Rourke noted that the report was very helpful.

Ms McCarthy advised the members that they would receive notification of briefing in due course.

The report was noted.

### **CL29/0325**

#### **Confey Cemetery**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell  
That the council urgently identifies a site in Confey for a new burial ground.





The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell and seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey.

A report was received from the Director of Community Climate Environment and Water informing the members that as reported at the January Municipal District meeting, the council was seeking potential other sites in the Confey area. The members would be updated on any progress.

Councillor Caldwell explained that this has already been an urgent issue for some time and a very sensitive topic. He said he is aware that even if land was to be found, the council will still require a considerable length of time for it to be developed

The members raised the following,

- That the council needed to treat this situation as a matter of urgency, as there would soon be no provision available for people.
- The members were aware that surrounding lands have springs so were unsuitable.
- It was asked for this item to be placed on the Progress Report.

**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Panaite Fahey and agreed by all the members that the report be noted and for this item be placed on the Progress Report.

#### **CL30/0325**

##### **Wall at Confey Cemetery**

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

A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the council had included works to the wall in its programme of works for this calendar year. The level of works would depend on the availability of funding.

The report was noted

#### **CL31/0325**

##### **Civic Amenity Centre**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Panaite Fahey

Can the council provide an update on the civic amenity centre in Celbridge?



A report was received from the Environment Section informing the members that the civic amenity centre in Celbridge was discussed with Councillors at the Capital Projects meeting on 14 March in context of funding and Capital Projects within the Municipal District area. The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.