

**Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting
held at 10.00am on Friday, 22 April 2022
on Microsoft Teams**

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

Officials Present: Ms E Wright (District Manager), Mr R Linnane (Municipal District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins and Mr S Deegan (Senior Engineers), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officers), Mr D Keogh (Road Safety Officer), Ms P Pender (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr P Makhuza (Executive Engineer), Ms A. O'Malley and Mr J Shannon (Administrative Officers), Ms P O'Brien (Senior Executive Officer), Ms E Donnelly (Assistant Arts Officer), Mr T Shanahan (Meetings Administrator), Ms C Dempsey (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Neville asked the Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Liston to manage the meeting as he was having technical issues. Councillor Liston agreed.

CL01/0422

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations from the members of pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001.

CL02/0422

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 25 March 2022 together with the progress report.

Councillor Cussen referred to item CL29/0621 'Trees in Pots' for Celbridge, Main Street on the Progress Report, she advised LPT funding had been allocated to fund this item and had been agreed by the Public Realm Department. She requested that the item be actioned as soon as possible, and that it be noted and remain on the Progress Report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 25 March 2022, of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL03/0422

Municipal District Road Works

The Municipal District Engineer updated the members and stated the outdoor crews were carrying out general footpath and road maintenance works in the municipal district area. These currently included jet-vacing of road gullies, mechanical sweeping of roads, road repairs with road patcher unit and general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received were triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate and that footpath repair works have now commenced in Castlevillage Estate in Celbridge.

Road Works Programme for 2022

Road Overlays - Restoration Improvement

- R405 West of Crofton's Garage (560m) -Tender Complete, Contractor appointed.
- L1014 Kellystown Lane (460m) -Tender Complete. Checking tenders
- R403 Shackleton Rd. to Ardras (1100m) - At tender stage.
- L5056 Glen Easton to Westfield (455m) - Preparing tender documentation.
- L1016 Dangan Corner to Lyons Rd (560m) - Preparing tender documentation.
- L5064 Kearneystown (400m) - Preparing tender documentation.
- L2008 Boston Cottages (1106m) - Preparing tender documentation.

Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance

Surface dressing is scheduled to commence on May 30th. Areas identified for surface dressing for 2022.

- Stacumney Lane
- Kilwoggan to Ballygowran

LPT Projects/Works.

- Footpath at Loughlinstown Road. (Discussions had commenced with landowners and utility companies)
- Shackleton Road Road Safety Review. Currently procuring the services of a road safety consultant.
- Riverforest (Captains Hill to Confey Community College) Road Safety Review. Currently procuring services of road safety consultant.

The members welcomed the report and raised the following points:

- Would resurfacing be carried out on the Shackleton Road as outlined in the recent press release?
- Was there any update on the cycle track at Callendars lane, Leixlip?
- Was there any update on the greenery at St Patricks Park, Celbridge?
- When would the wall at the Liffey bridge, Celbridge be repaired?
- What was the scope of the safety review at Riverforest?

The Municipal District Engineer responded with the following:

- The resurfacing of the Shackleton Road was delayed as the ESB and Irish Water needed to apply for a Road Opening License.
- The Callendars lane item was packaged with another piece of work and was gone out to tender.

- The contractor that was dealing with the greenery at St Patricks Park, Celbridge had applied for a road opening licensing, as his existing one had expired. He should have this early next week.
- The Roads Design Team would repair the wall at Liffey bridge, Celbridge. Mr Linnane would ask them for a timeframe as to when this would be repaired and revert to the members.
- The safety review covered the area from the school at Confey to the T junction at Captains hill.

CL04/0422

Schedule of Municipal District LPT Works 2022

The members considered the remaining LPT Schedule of Works 2022 allocations for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee.

Councillor Killeen stated she did not receive the referred to LPT information sent by the Cathaoirleach and requested he issue it again by email. The Cathaoirleach agreed.

The members required more clarity on allocations for playgrounds to assign amounts to Departments. This also stated they would require supplementary information from the Cathaoirleach, who had indicated he would provide same to the LPT Co-ordinator.

Ms Pender sought the members approval in relation to paying the following grants from the 2022 allocation (as opposed to 2021 LPT carried forward):

- The Leixlip Men's Shed €2107
- Dermot Earley Youth Leadership €1975.

The members agreed to these requests and approved the schedule of Municipal District LPT Works 2022. The Leas Cathaoirleach confirmed that once agreed, the Schedule would be published on the Council's website.(See appendix 1)

At the suggestion of the Leas Cathaoirleach, the members agreed to deal with items 7, 8 and 9 on the agenda collectively.

CL05/0422

School Warden at the Castletown Junction and the Green Lane

Item 7

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville.
That the council reinstate a school warden at the Castletown Junction and the Green Lane.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Liston.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that it was necessary to remove the Castletown Road junction of the Green Lane in Leixlip as a School Warden crossing point, due to a number of concerns. In particular, the increase in bad driver behaviour and aggression towards the warden, plus, the occurrences of a number of reported near miss incidents which puts the warden at risk. The junction was no longer deemed an appropriate place for a School Warden to operate at.

School children cross many unattended, uncontrolled crossing points and junctions on their route to school, similar to the one at Oaklawns, Leixlip. It should be noted that the nearest School Warden crossing from the GAA Pedestrian crossing was 73 metres, and the furthest one away was 186 metres from the GAA lights.

The two School Wardens continue to operate outside the schools, to facilitate and assist as a safe crossing point for primary school students. These functions were separate to the use of the pedestrian lights outside the GAA.

Councillor Neville was disappointed with the report and stated it was paramount that the safety of school children was considered as a priority and if the school warden could not be provided as a short-term solution, an alternative long-term solution should be put in place.

Mr Keogh, Road Safety Officer advised the members that the school warden was removed for reasons under the Health and Safety Welfare at Work Act and for the safety of the school warden.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

Permanent School Warden at junction of Castletown Estate and Green Lane Item 8

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell. That the council put in place a permanent school warden at the junction of Castletown Estate and the Green Lane.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that It was necessary to remove the Castletown Road junction of the Green Lane in Leixlip as a School Warden crossing point, due to a number of concerns. In particular, the increase in bad driver behaviour and aggression towards the warden, plus, the occurrences of a number of reported near miss incidents which puts the warden at risk. The junction was no longer deemed an appropriate place for a School Warden to operate at.

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The two School Wardens continue to operate outside the schools, to facilitate and assist as a safe crossing point for primary school students. These functions were separate to the use of the pedestrian lights outside the GAA.

Councillor Caldwell noted the report. He stated the 200 houses at Leixlip Gate would add to the number of children travelling to and from school and what was really required was two wardens not just one.

Mr Keogh advised the members that the road was not suitable for a school warden. He advised if the road layout was changed then the council could revisit it as a crossing point. The council had provided an alternative for school children crossing the road in the morning and afternoon as a trial alternative.

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

Meeting to Assess the Road Safety issues re access to the Local Schools.

Item 9

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen. That the council arrange a meeting between the road safety officer, the municipal district area engineer, myself, a small representative group (2 - 3 persons) from the nearby housing estates to assess the road safety issues pertaining to access to the local schools (Celbridge Road & Green Lane).

The motion was proposed by Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Liston. A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that The Municipal District engineer and the Road Safety Officer were available to meet the representative group of residents and all Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District councillors to do a walkthrough to assess school access road safety issues at the Celbridge Road and Green Lane entrances to Castletown Estate in Leixlip.

Councillor Killeen noted the report she advised it was a duty of the council to make the road safe. The safety aspect needed to be addressed urgently, in the form of a safety awareness day. She noted children would not be as cautious as adults when crossing a road. She also advised that she had written to the Chief Executive on the matter of resourcing the Safety Warden role.

Mr Keogh advised Councillor Killeen that the roll out of the safety awareness day was deferred because of COVID-19, however the council would revisit this now. He advised the members that the council had to ensure the safety of both its staff and the public.

Councillor Cussen referred to item 17 on the agenda, addressing the same issue. She queried was there anything positive the members and the council could do to encourage people to take up these school warden posts.

The District Manager advised she would be happy to meet with Councillor Killeen and other members. She stated that internal discussions were taking place about this issue but there was a low interest level in the position of Safety Warden, despite a HR recruitment campaign. She stated the council had provided an alternative crossing in the interim, and the council would look at long term solutions and possible funding options. The District Manager also noted that dangerous driver behaviour was a Garda issue, and their involvement was needed also.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Liston and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

CL06/0422

Update on Roads Design Projects

The Leas Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr S Deegan, Senior Engineer from the Roads Design team.

Mr Deegan gave an update to the members in relation to the Road projects and planning for 2022. He highlighted the Celbridge Hazelhatch Link Road and the Bridge project within the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

The members welcomed the report and raised the following points;

- Who was responsible for overgrowth/rubbish in the River Liffey?
- Could the presentation be sent to the members after the meeting?
- What was the timeline for the repair of the Liffey bridge, Celbridge?
- Do the Strategic Housing Developments feed into the foot paths and cycle lanes?
- Was Cope bridge on the list of projects, as it would be connected to the Dart+ West Project?

Mr Deegan responded with the following;

- Vegetation issues associated with a Bridge was the responsibility of the asset owner, which was *usually* the Municipal District Office in the first instance for a *Road Bridge*. It was noted though that many other bridges in Kildare were in the ownership of Irish Rail and Waterways Ireland
- Overgrowth / rubbish in the Liffey was a matter for the Riparian Owner, not the MD Office.
- Mr Deegan would send the presentation to the members after the meeting.
- He did not have a date yet for the repair of the Liffey bridge as it needs to go through a financial work order.
- The Strategic Housing Developments consult with the Strategic Transport Team with regards to feeding into footpaths and cycle lanes.
- Cope Bridge had an Irish rail order in place, the Roads Department were looking at the best approach to deal with this, the Planning Department would also feed into this process.

All members agreed to deal with items 15 16 and 26 next.

CL07/0422

Greenway Start Date.

Item 15

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.
Can the council provide an update on the Greenway start date and progress on the sign off from Waterways Ireland?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council had not reached agreement with Waterways Ireland regarding a Temporary Works License and development bond for the construction work. Discussions were ongoing and would continue in this regard. The council did not receive confirmation that the rates in the original tender would be held by the selected contractor before the tender validity period expired.

Therefore, the scheme must be re-tendered in accordance with national procurement legislation. It was expected that this process would commence shortly after Easter. The report was noted.

Repair works for Kelly's Lane Bridge

Item 16

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.
Can the council provide an update on the repair works for Kelly's Lane Bridge?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a visual inspection and structural report on the condition of the Kelly's Lane Bridge had been carried out by our consultants and a task order for the repair works had been developed. The Roads Project Team were in the process of appointing a contractor from our bridge framework to carry out the required repair works. The Roads Project Team were working in conjunction with the Municipal District office to schedule the works and a further update can be

provided once a contractor was appointed and a programme for the completion of the works was agreed.

The report was noted.

Sewage Issues at the Leixlip Library

Item 26

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That the council put a solution in place for the sewage issues at the Leixlip library and Leixlip youth and community centre.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the main sewer line had been checked and there was no issue with blockages there.

A report was also received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Libraries services have checked the line from their premises to the main sewer and confirmed that there was a problem a few months ago which had been resolved. They also spoke with Leixlip Youth and Community Centre who confirmed that they had a problem with a blocked pipe about six weeks ago. They had a company call out to unblock it and there have been no problems since. The report was noted.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

All members agreed to deal with items 6,10,11,12,13,14,17,18,19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 32, 34,27,28,29,25,30 and 31 next.

CL08/0422

Proposed Double Yellow Lines

Item 6

The members considered the the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Section 38 – Proposed Double Yellow Lines/Parking Restrictions at Glen Easton, Leixlip, Co. Kildare.

A report was previously circulated to the member from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Killeen agreed by the members the Proposed Double Yellow Lines/Parking Restrictions at Glen Easton, Leixlip, Co. Kildare were approved.

CL09/0422

Streetlights Along Silleachain Lane

Item 10

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell. That the council install streetlights along Silleachain Lane between Avondale and Glendale.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Liston. A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that There was no funding within the current (2022) revenue budget for the installation of any additional public lighting. The request for lighting at this location would be kept on the KLIPS register and would be reviewed when funds become available.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

CL10/0422

Disability Parking Bay

Item 11

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen
That a disability parking bay be provided near the entrance to Castletown House grounds at the top of Main Street, Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the entrance to Castletown House was not in the ownership of the Council. The provision of disabled parking can be looked at during the Parking Bye law Review in Celbridge with the area around “The Slip” as a possibility for provision of disabled parking.

The members noted the report and raised the following points;

- There was no disability parking bay in that immediate location of Celbridge and one was required. An ideal location needed to be identified, that took into consideration considering mobility issues and Health and Safety.
- Councillor Galvin noted that the Slip may not be suitable due to the incline at the location.

The District Engineer advised that the area would be reassessed for suitability.

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

CL11/0422

Leixlip Confey Train Station (Cope Bridge)

Item 12

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen.
That the council outline what engagement had been undertaken so far with the project team for the planned upgrade to Leixlip Confey train station (Cope Bridge) in respect of the Dart+ Project, report to include the options for alternative routes

planned including the use of a temporary bridge to facilitate traffic and the anticipated timelines for works with costings.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Galvin

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council's Roads Planning Section have now agreed indicative design details with Irish Rail for the upgrading of Cope Bridge which would include the provision of cycle tracks and footpaths on both sides of the bridge. The indicative design details would be included in the Rail Order for the Dart+ West Project that would shortly be submitted by Irish Rail to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

In response to a question from Councillor Killeen regarding alternative routes during works, Mr Deegan advised this would depend on how access at the bridge was managed and this was not yet clear but the Rail Order required consultation with the Council and it would be addressed in that process.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

CL12/0422

Improvements for Active and Safe Travel, Greening and Public Realm

Item 13

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston That the council develop and submit a request to the NTA for the narrowing of the Shackleton Road and associated improvements for active and safe travel, greening and public realm improvements.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Coleman

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that at the municipal district meeting in March 2022, a summary of the work programme for the Sustainable Transport Section was presented by the Senior Engineer and discussed with all members. As explained, the programme for 2022 does not include the design or implementation of works along Shackleton Road in Celbridge but that it was intended to include a review of existing cycle infrastructure in future work programmes for the team, subject to funding.

The members noted the report and raised the following points;

- This was an opportunity not just to implement cycle lanes but to make it an attractive public realm space as it was before.
- Could a conversation be started with the NTA to get this on the 2023 work programme.
- As the road was now wider, drivers were driving faster, this was a health and safety concern as there were so many schools and houses in the area.
- The members stated this should be a 30km zone not a 50km zone and understood it was the members that vote for the speed limit zones.

Mr Hodgins noted the members concerns stating he had already advised the NTA he would like this to be considered for the work programme 2023. He was optimistic this funding would be made available by the NTA to the council for next year.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

CL13/0422

Access Route to Council Owned Lands at Donaghcumper

Item 14

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Galvin
That the council seek to secure an access route to council owned lands at Donaghcumper.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Coleman. A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that any potential access to Donaghcomper would have to be discussed with the adjoining landowners to see what was feasible. If a route could be identified there would also be a requirement to develop a plan for the lands and works to make them useable for the public.

Councillor Galvin noted the report, she advised this was a very valuable piece of land owned by the council and it should be developed into a park or could be used for reforestation or an adult gym. She would like this added to the progress report.

Ms O'Brien advised that the land was owned by NAMA, but the council would endeavour to advance negotiations to get an access route to Donaghcomper.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members, the report was noted.

CL14/0422

School Wardens

Item 17

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen. Can the council identify how many vacancies there were in the current provision of school wardens throughout the municipal district and on an ongoing basis and what plan was in place for a substitute where a school warden was unavailable?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Permanent School Warden personnel were a dwindling resource. Despite recruitment campaigns, the net number of school wardens employed by the council was still reducing. This would inevitably have an impact on the level of service provided by the council in previous years and makes it impossible to fulfil all their duties. There was one vacancy in the municipal district area and the

council's Human Resources Department had confirmed that a recruitment campaign would be run later in 2022.

The report was noted.

CL15/0422

Cyclists at the Islands on Main Street, Celbridge

Item 18

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston. Can the council confirm what measures can be taken to address the safety issues faced by cyclists when they were overtaken by motorists at the islands on Main Street, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the function of the centre islands on the Main Street in Celbridge was to provide safe refuge for pedestrians crossing the main street. There was no provision for motorists to overtake cyclists at these locations. There were ample clear road markings and vertical "keep left" bollard signs to direct motorists to maintain a position in the driving lane. The total distance where there was no provision for overtaking was 80 metres. This was not a significant distance for a vehicle to travel behind a cyclist without overtaking in a low-speed setting. Any vehicles overtaking cyclists in these areas was poor driver behaviour and was an enforcement issue for An Garda Síochána.

In response to a clarification from Councillor Liston, the District Engineer confirmed that the use of marked chevrons at the location is consistent with how this safety issue is communicated to drivers in all such locations.

The report was noted.

CL16/0422

Improvements and Upgrades to Current Cycle Routes in Celbridge

Item 19

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston
Can the council confirm what were the planned maintenance, improvements and upgrades to current cycle routes in Celbridge in 2022 and associated funding sources?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office cycle lane maintenance schedule includes mechanical sweeping of surfaces and the repair to surfaces, markings, and associated cycle lane furniture where damaged.

At the municipal district meeting in March 2022, a summary of the work programme for the Sustainable Transport Section was presented by the Senior Engineer and discussed with all members. As explained, the programme for 2022 does not include changes to the facilities for cyclists in Celbridge Town but that it was intended to include a review of existing cycle infrastructure in future work programmes for the team, subject to funding.

Councillor Liston noted the report and sought clarification on the current cycle lanes and would they be repainted. The Municipal District Engineer advised that faded cycle lanes would be repainted.

The report was noted.

CL17/0422

Newtown House in Riverforest, Leixlip

Item 20

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

Can the council provide an update on the proposal to develop the area around Newtown House in Riverforest, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Housing Department would prioritise this project for four units in the coming weeks and the Part 8 process would be launched in Quarter 2. The members would be kept fully informed of progress on the development of area around Newtown House
The report was noted.

CL18/0422

Update on Public Realm Projects

Item 21

Ms M Hunt informed the meeting that a report on all projects had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting and that she would be happy to respond to any questions that the members had. Ms Hunt also advised the members that the Wonderful Barn was now a stand-alone project.

The members thanked the public realm team on their substantial work to date and raised the following points;

- Would the Celbridge town renewal plans be finalised this month?
- What project list was the outdoor exercise equipment on?
- What was the timeline for the Ardclough Village Renewal Plan to be published?
- How was the screening carried out and what considerations were involved?

Ms Hunt responded with the following;

- The Celbridge town renewal plan needs to go undergo the screening process, this was not required previously. This is a similar environmental screening process as would apply to most Part 8 proposals.

- The outdoor exercise equipment was now on the Parks list of projects.
- She could not give a timeline with regards to Ardclough as it was dependent on funding.
- The screening process must be outsourced as this was performed by consultants who would have expertise in this area.

The report was noted.

CL19/0422

Upkeep of Parklets

Item 22

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell. Can the council confirm who was responsible for the upkeep of Parklets provided by Kildare County Council in Leixlip and Celbridge?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the upkeep of the parklets was a joint effort between the Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR) team and the Area Office. SPPR would review the parklets in Celbridge and Leixlip before Easter and would make the necessary maintenance requirements with the assistance of the area office. The Tidy Towns teams in both Celbridge and Leixlip would also be consulted with regard to any assistance that they could offer.

In response to a clarification from Councillor Caldwell, Ms Hunt clarified that her team did not want to assume that Tidy Towns would take on the role in this matter but wanted to consult them first. It was noted this work is done by Tidy Towns in Naas and Newbridge.

The report was noted.

CL20/0422

Planning Compliance

Item 23

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

Can the council confirm how many planning compliance issues have been raised in our municipal district per town in the years 2016 to date?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that Planning compliance issues may be raised with developers by way of formal planning enforcement action. However, unauthorised development investigations were not categorised by type and were also not recorded by municipal district area, so it was not currently possible to provide the figures with the detail requested within the Celbridge Leixlip Municipal District area.

A tender to procure a new IT system was currently being developed which would enable reporting by category and municipal district area. The table below sets out the countywide position in respect of all Planning Enforcement investigations 2017 to 2021:

	New Cases	Warning Letters Issued	Enforcement Notices Served	Legal Proceedings	Files Closed
2017	158	270	107	18	567
2018	181	359	154	34	144
2019	238	356	184	33	162
2020	268	360	159	22	136
2021	268	434	81	10	150

The report was noted.

CL21/0422

Progress on the Schools' Campus, Celbridge

Item 24

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

Can the council provide an update on progress on the schools' campus, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the construction of new school buildings for St Raphael's Special School, Celbridge Community School and St Patrick's National School were included on the Department's school building programme. It was intended that the new schools would be located on a site being acquired at Donaghcumper, Celbridge as part of a campus development. The campus development would be progressed by National Development Finance Agency (NDFA) that was supporting the Department of Education by delivering an element of the Department's school building programme, the Devolved Schools Building Programme 2, on its behalf. The Department had agreement in principle for the acquisition of a site to accommodate the three school campus at Donaghcumper, Celbridge. The acquisition process was at an advanced stage. The Department was currently engaging with the developers to finalise the details of the Heads of Terms. In tandem with the site acquisition, the Department was working on the accommodation briefs for the three schools which was part of the preparatory work associated with the architectural planning process. There was further preparation work still to be completed by the Department before the NDFA commences the process to appoint project management and design team for the project. The Department was committed to advancing the campus development as quickly as possible and would keep the schools advised of progress in this regard.

In response to a request for clarity on progress over the last 4 months, Ms Hunt advised she would ask her colleague Ms Granville, Senior Planner to reply to Councillor Galvin on this.

The report was noted.

CL22/0422

Purchasing a Site from the Scouts at the Liffey on the Ardclough Road Item 32

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

That the council consider purchasing a site from the Scouts alongside the Liffey on the Ardclough Road.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Killeen

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that this project had not been included in the current capital programme and Kildare County Council currently does not have the funding for a project of this scale.

The council was currently reviewing other more suitable sites in the Celbridge area for potential recreation use which could be used by local community groups.

Ms Hunt advised she would check the Local Area Plan to ascertain was this a protected view as it looked out on the weir.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Galvin seconded by Councillor Killeen and agreed by the members, the report was noted and Ms Hunt to check the Local Area Plan to ascertain was this a protected view and revert to the members.

CL23/0422

Update on the Re-Opening of the Abbey Playground

Item 34

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin.
Can the council provide an update on the re-opening of the Abbey playground?

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Regional Director for St John of Gods was contacted in March regarding the reopening of the playground following the removal of COVID-19 restrictions. She had indicated that she would contact estate management regarding the reopening and would revert. To date there had been no

further update. In the last week the council have contacted the Regional Director again regarding the matter.

The report was noted.

CL24/0422

Registered Permit Holders

Item 27

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen. That Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be used to pilot an awareness campaign, in relation to Only Using Registered Permit Holders for disposal of refuse/unwanted items, to explain how to check and who to check with before availing of these services.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that The Environment Department would be pleased to work with the Municipal District members in progressing such a campaign, primarily through social media, aimed at raising awareness and encouraging compliance with the relevant rules and regulations.

The members welcomed the report and raised the following points;

- The members asked how many households check where this refuse goes and hence it could end up on the side of the road.
- The council should do an awareness campaign this would empower the public to do the right thing. That way they could think, check and engage with the refuse collector.
- When the refuse collector was advertising, they should have their permit number displayed.

Ms O'Malley advised she would work with the members and Councillor Cussen could contact her directly to discuss the process further.

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

CL25/0422

Geothermal Energy Resources

Item 28

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston. That the council outline how it expects the significant geothermal energy resources in Celbridge to be used for home and commercial heating, and any new planning policies that need to be considered to ensure the effective leverage of this resource through the Celbridge LAP 2024 – 2029 in the context of the recent consultation on the Draft Policy Statement on Geothermal Energy for a Circular Economy.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm and the Climate Action Department informing the members that the Government's final Policy Statement on Geothermal Energy had yet to be formalised and published, following the recent public consultation which included Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment of the Draft Policy. In the interim, Kildare County Council was preparing a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) / Climate Action Plan (CAP) that may consider the geothermal potential of the county. The SECAP/CAP, and the policies of the Government, would inform the review of all of our Local Area Plans including that for Celbridge, in consultation with the Elected Members, to facilitate the transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society.

Councillor Liston noted the report and queried what appropriate updates were being made to policy documents in this regard and what could be done now. Ms Hunt advised she would speak to Ms Granville and revert to the members with an update via the Progress Report.

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

CL26/0422

Overgrowth/Rubbish in the River Liffey, Celbridge

Item 29

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen
Can the council confirm what actions were to be taken in relation to overgrowth/rubbish in the River Liffey, specifically from the pedestrian bridge to the end of rear Main Street, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that The River Liffey was not part of a drainage district, and, as previously advised, the council does not have the authority to enter land outside of the drainage districts. The lands near the river were the responsibility of the respective riparian owners. The report was noted.

CL27/0422

Update on Derelict Sites in the Town Centres of Leixlip and Celbridge.

Item 25

This presentation was rescheduled and would be given by the Environment Department at the next Celbridge-Leixlip meeting in May.

CL28/0422

Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards

Item 30

The members considered the Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards.

The members noted the reports were already circulated. Cllrs Killeen and Caldwell queried whether the unspent balance of €15,958 could be distributed later in the year.

Mr Shannon advised that staffing resources in the Community, Cultural and Development Department were limited and that they looked at the applications as they come in, and work to a tight time frame with regards to assessing them and distributing the funds. In response to questions, he advised they could revisit the application form to consider whether a section could be put in to declare the applicant was a registered charity.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members the Community grants, were approved. (See appendix 2)

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members the festival grants, were approved and the resident's association grants were noted. (See appendix 2)

CL29/0422

Arts Awards and Bursaries

Item 31

The members considered the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2022 for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District.

The member noted the reports were already circulated.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Coleman and agreed by the members the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2022 were approved. (See appendix 3)

CL30/0422
Allotment Usage

Item 33

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen.
Can the council confirm how allotment usage was monitored as we were aware there was a shortage of allotments in our municipal district?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department. informing the members that There were one set of allotments in the Wonderful Barn. These were fully allocated. These were inspected monthly and regarding any which aren't being used, the user was notified regarding their future use. The management and administration of these was considerable and there was no scope within the staff resources available to the Parks Section to consider providing any other allotments in the Municipal District.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.