

**Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting
held at 10.00am on Friday, 25 March 2022
on Microsoft Teams**

Members Present: Councillor J Neville (Cathaoirleach)
Councillors V Liston, 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, (Senior Engineer), Ms M Hunt and Mr K Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officers), Ms P Pender (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms Edwina Moore (Executive Engineer), Mr E Fagan (Administrative Officer), Ms C Whelan (A/Administrative Officer), Mr P Makhuza, (Executive Engineer), Mr E Lynch (Senior Executive Planner), Ms P O'Brien (Senior Executive Officer), Mr D Flannery (Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr T Shanahan (Meetings Administrator), Ms C Dempsey (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CL01/0322

Declarations of Interest

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

CL02/0322

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 18 February 2022 together with the progress report.

The Cathaoirleach asked if the progress report could be listed as a separate item on the monthly agenda, to ensure it was not overlooked.

Councillor Cussen referred to item CL26/0621 'Trees in Pots' for Celbridge, Main Street on the Progress Report, and requested that the item be actioned as soon as possible, and that it remain on the Progress Report.

Councillor Galvin referred to item CL02/0121 & CL22/0720 Multi-age playground on South side of Liffey in Celbridge. She would like the media to be aware that Dr Barron was carrying out the initial background work on the consultation with young people in Celbridge.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 18 February 2022, of the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CL03/0322

Municipal District Road Works

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

Footpath repair works in Glendale estate was now completed.

Castlevillage Estate in Celbridge was the next estate where footpath works were to be carried out.

Hedge cutting works ceased on the 28 February.

Road works programme for 2022

Road Overlays - Restoration Improvement

R405 West of Crofton's Garage (560m) -Tender Complete, Contractor appointed

L1014 Kellystown Lane (460m) At tender stage.

R403 Shackleton Rd. to Ardras (1100m) Preparing tender documentation.

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

Two areas have been identified for surface dressing for 2022

- Stacumney Lane
- Kilwoggan to Ballygowran

LPT projects/works.

- Footpath at Loughlinstown Road.
- Shackelton Road Road Safety Review. Currently procuring services of road safety consultant.
- Riverforest (Captains Hill to Confey Community College) Road Safety Review
Currently procuring services of road safety consultant.

The members welcomed the reports and raised the following queries:

- With regards to the Riverforest Road Safety Review, what is the indicative timeline when the safety assessment may be completed?
- The disability bays at Captains Hill needs to be finished off.
- The members praised all those involved in arranging the St Patricks day parades in Celbridge and Leixlip, especially the Community Council and the council staff on the clean ups that happened as soon as the parades finished. They stated it was great to see the Ukrainian families being welcomed into the community also.
- They queried how could they get the Shackelton Road on as an NTA Scheme, as there were 6 housing estates and no speed control the length of the road.
- What would be included in the Shackelton safety review?

- The members commended the ceremony of remembrance and reflection on Sunday 20 March at the Áras Chill Dara honouring those who lost their lives to Covid-19 in County Kildare and paying tribute to the work and support of everyone who contributed to facing challenges throughout the pandemic.

The Municipal District Engineer responded by stating:

- The tender process for Riverforest should take 5 weeks, then 2/3 weeks after that they should be able to appoint a consultant. Mr Linnane would come back to the members with a recommendations report from the safety review. He advised there should be no physical work as it was just a safety review. The assessment needs to be carried out when the schools were in full flow, so this would likely be September.
- The Municipal District Engineer advised they were looking at dropping the footpath at Captains Hill, but also needed to be mindful of utilities in the area. There were some issues raised in audits and they were looking at solutions.
- The Shackleton Road safety review would include a review on;
 - Volumes,
 - Speed,
 - Cycle, vehicle and pedestrian movement.
- He advised the members to consult the Sustainable Transport and Active Travel Team regarding what funding may be available re the Shackleton Road.

CL04/0322

Schedule of Municipal District LPT Works 2022

The members considered the Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2022.

The Schedule of Municipal District LPT Works 2022 was proposed by Councillor Cussen and seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

Councillor Killeen stated she did not receive the relevant LPT information sent by the Cathaoirleach and requested the Cathaoirleach issue it again to them all by email.

The Meetings Administrator requested that the relevant LPT documentation be distributed to the Meetings Team for the purpose of the minutes, and to Ms P Pender as LPT co-ordinator for the committee. The Cathaoirleach agreed to circulate the LPT report to the relevant persons following the meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members, that the Schedule of LPT Municipal District Works 2022 be approved.

CL05/0322

Taking in charge of Beech Park, Leixlip.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman. That the council provide an update to the members on the taking in charge of Beech Park, Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that all infrastructure was complete. This estate was under a Management Company. The TIC submission was received from the developer on the 04/10/2021. Development Control reviewed the submission and contacted the Developer to request further information. The Developer has not yet sent the requested further information. Development Control were preparing a Snag List. Irish Water Application would be prepared and submitted to Irish Water when the Council were satisfied with both the TIC documentation, and the required remediation works to bring the estate to a TIC standard.

Councillor Coleman noted the report, he said health and safety with regards to public lighting was a big issue and outlined that some estates were maintained even though they were not taken in charge.

Mr Makhuza advised that Development Control had reviewed the TIC submission and await further information from the developer, this area needed to be investigated

and an agreement must be reached as to what land could be taken in charge as there may be an overlap between private and public land. Utilities underground also need to be considered. As the public lighting issue was a health and safety concern Mr Makhuza would contact Development Control to see could they fund the turning on of the lights. If it could not be done under this Department's budget, he could look at the bond agreement or the council budget or lastly the LPT budget to see could it be funded from there.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members the report be noted and Mr Makhuza would look at getting the light turned on in Beech Park and update the members on TIC submission once information was received from the developer.

CL06/0322

Update on the Sustainable Transport and Active Travel Projects.

Mr Hodgins updated the members on the Sustainable Transport Team projects for the municipal district. Some of the main schemes relevant to the Celbridge-Leixlip district were as follows;

- Green Lane Cycle Scheme
- Royal Canal Greenway
- Celbridge Bridge
- Leixlip – Maynooth Interim Cycletrack Scheme
- VRU Improvements at crossings and junctions
- Safe Routes to School
- Cycle Parking at Town Centres, School and Sports Clubs

The Greenlane Cycle Scheme, Part 8 was launched on 22 March and the Celbridge Bridge scheme was very close to starting the Part 8 process. The council would be seeking submissions from the public through the Consultation Portal on all Part 8's. Expressions of interest would be sought for the Cycle Parking at Town Centres, School and Sports Clubs.

The Green School initiative was run in conjunction with An Taisce. The Sustainable Transport Team hoped to improve existing facilities for vulnerable road users.

Mr Hodgins discussed the increase in inflation effecting the price of materials such as timber and steel. He confirmed the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) were to issue guidelines in relation to this problem, which will be shared with members when possible.

The members welcomed the reports and updates and raised the following queries;

- There were gaps in cycle routes e.g., from the Wonderful Barn up to Maynooth, would mapping take place?
- When would the School Street programme commence?
- The proposed pedestrian/cycle bridge in Celbridge Town has already got Part 8 approval, does this still stand? How do the public consultations and separate projects on Liffey crossings in Celbridge interact/co-ordinate?
- There was a new development on the Shackelton Road, the safety aspect was not very good as the path was too low, the width of the road invites speeding, could the council increase height of the path?
- What was the proposal for Captains Hill, there were already 4 parking spaces removed?
- Clarify councils role regarding the Hazelhatch to 12th lock Grand Canal Project and also on contact with the NTA on a path from Maynooth to Celbridge.

Mr Hodgins said it was refreshing to be able to tell the NTA about the support sustainable transport had from the elected members. The main concerns when considering all schemes was the need for action in the Climate Emergency realm, and improvements for vulnerable road users whilst retaining access for goods vehicles and necessary car journeys.

- The national cycle manual draft was due to be sent to the council next month, once reviewed, it would be circulated to elected members.

- There had been gaps for quite some time, but there is confidence that projects over the long term will bridge these and this is a priority.
- The concept with cycle lanes was that they should be segregated from the pedestrian footpath with a height differentiation, so that cyclists and pedestrians feel safe.
- Mr Hodgins fully supports the School Street program, he could not give a commencement date, at this time.
- Mr Hodgins did not have the green light yet to commence Part 8 process for Celbridge Bridge, but he anticipated it would be in May and he would give a briefing to the elected members before it launched.
- The Sustainable Transport Team has been liaising with other local authorities regarding the Cycle Parking at Town Centres, School and Sports Clubs and was hoping to replicate what they did with the process.
- On the Shackleton Road the council would review existing facilities and ascertain what upgrades could be made and will consult the NTA and inform members in a future update.
- Mr Hodgins confirmed no design has been completed for the junction at Captain's Hill and the reallocation of space was a challenge as there has been a bias toward on street parking. He would check with internal departments, including the Public Realm Team.
- Mr Hodgins would check if prior Part 8 approval had been granted for a pedestrian/cycle bridge in Celbridge Town and revert to Councillor Cussen directly with this information. He stated that there was collaboration between teams on the Liffey crossings proposed for Celbridge but that one project is not contingent on the other.
- He undertook to revert to the members also regarding Hazelhatch to 12th lock Grand Canal Project and to contact the NTA regarding links between Maynooth and Celbridge.

The District Manager added that one of the Climate Action objectives was for Local

Authorities to examine roads in the county and identify where space could be given over for use by pedestrians and cyclists. The District Manager also advised that she was a member of two National working groups: one related to a review of the Speed Limit Guidelines (Department of Transport and Road Safety Authority) and the second related to the National Cycle Network being developed by TII, therefore the concerns of the members regarding safe development of cycle and pedestrian facilities were being well represented in these forums.

CL07/0322

Reduction of speed of traffic outside our local schools

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell. That the council consider ways to reduce the speed of traffic outside our local schools especially Scoil San Carlo on Captains Hill Road.

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that multiple measures have been put in place to address vehicular speed outside all the schools in the municipal district. At Scoil San Carlo the following measures have been put in place on both approaches to the school entrance:

- Statutory school ahead warning signage with flashing amber beacons.
- School ahead symbol road markings.
- On street SLOW road markings.
- Yellow bar road markings.
- Statutory school ahead warning signage for vehicles entering and exiting Avondale estate.

It was also proposed to install antiskid surfacing on both approaches to the signal-controlled pedestrian crossing adjacent to Scoil San Carlo.

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

CL08/0322

Bus service from Riverforest to Dublin City Centre.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell. That this council writes to Bus Connects asking them to reinstate the bus service from Riverforest to Dublin City Centre.

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that with the agreement of the Members, a letter would issue to Bus Connects. However, we do note, according to Transport for Ireland's Website, that since November 2021 there was a route from River Forest to Earlsfort Terrace provided under the C-Spine. Route 66X was cancelled but was replaced by Route X31. See link [C-Spine - Transport for Ireland](#)

The members noted that this was raised at the January 2022 Celbridge- Leixlip Municipal District meeting under 'CL19/0122 - Meeting with Dublin Bus'. Correspondence issued to the relevant authority requesting a meeting with Dublin Bus.

The Meetings Administrator advised that once a response was received to the original letter and this correspondence it would be shared with the members. He would request a follow up on both letters and it would be kept on the Progress Report.

The District Manager advised that she and Mr Hodgins met with the NTA on 24 March and they would update the members on what the NTA come back with following that meeting and that they would look at recalibrating services.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members, the report was noted, and the Meetings Administrator would follow up on both letters and keep it on the progress report.

CL09/0322

Flooding on the road at Scoil na Mainstreach, Celbridge.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman. That the council carry out works to alleviate the continued flooding on the road at Scoil na Mainstreach, Celbridge.

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the civil works required to address the localised on-road flooding issue at Scoil Na Mainstreach was planned to be carried out during the Easter break to minimise disruption to the school.

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

CL10/0322

Public lighting at the new path between Barnhall Meadows and Rinawade.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That the council explore the possibility of installing public lighting at the new path between Barnhall Meadows and Rinawade.

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

A report was received from the Roads Design, Planning and Projects Team. informing the members that the developer for Barnhall Meadows has been conditioned in his planning permission to submit details of public lighting for all pedestrian and cycle accesses. The condition relates to three pedestrian and cycle

access points between the development and Rinawade which includes public lighting. Public lighting has to be provided at the access points as stated in Condition 5 (a), by the Developer.

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

CL11/0322

Glen Easton Estate in Leixlip.

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

That the council carry out a review of the entrance/exit outside the phase two of Glen Easton Estate in Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office were not currently aware of any issues at this junction. A preliminary assessment of this junction could be carried out by the Municipal District Office.

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

CL12/0322

Safe crossing of children at the triangle in Ardclough

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

That the council implement a solution to ensure the safe crossing of children at the triangle in Ardclough, away from the junction

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a temporary solution is currently being explored by the Municipal District office to provide an interim crossing point for school children to

use. The Ardclough Urban Design Village Renewal Plan, currently being drafted by the council Public Realm team, provides a safe route for pedestrians to travel from the triangular green in Ardclough to the footpath that leads to St Anne's Primary School.

Councillor Liston noted the report and questioned what could be done in the medium term to ensure the safe crossing of children. The Municipal District Engineer advised that they may be able to do something in front of the church, but they needed to contact the relevant person in the church to discuss further.

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

CL13/0322

English Row, Celbridge

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

That the council install a wider footpath at the corner of English Row, Celbridge around the corner from the bridge, just before the pedestrian crossing.

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

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the footpath width currently at this location was 1.8m from building edge to kerb edge with a minimum passing width of 1.5m. There was no evidence of issues with pedestrians having difficulty traversing this footpath at this location due to the passing width. The footpath width was sufficient at this location for pedestrians to pass safely.

Councillor Liston noted the report and said this was an opportunity to do something pleasant to improve pedestrian facilities from the slip road going down to the river, and perhaps planting could be considered in this area.

The Municipal District Engineer advised that during the short term there was little the Municipal District Office could do, however a Part 8 process would be launched soon on the Celbridge Bridge and as this was close by, there may be an opportunity to do something with this area also.

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

CL14/0322

Signage on the Loughlinstown Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen. Can the members be advised on who was responsible for providing new signage on the Loughlinstown Road that may be identified as required as per the Speed Limit Review proposed outcomes, for example "Slow Down Nursing Home Ahead"?

A report was received from the Speed Limit Review Team informing the members that It was anticipated that the Kildare Speed Limit Review would be presented to Full Council at the May meeting for consideration and adoption of proposed Speed Limit Bye Laws. If the Bye Laws were adopted, as part of the associated Signage Contract, warning signs on the Loughlinstown Road, Celbridge beside the Elm Hall Nursing Home could be provided.

The report was noted.

CL15/0322

Dropping of the cycle-lane kerbs at Callendars Mill

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston. Can the council confirm when the dropping of the cycle-lane kerbs at Callendars Mill in Celbridge would be implemented?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation & Public Safety Department informing the members that some works have been carried out recently by the MD

outdoor crews on the drop kerbs in Callendars Mill. Some additional works were to be carried out in the coming weeks.

The report was noted.

CL16/0322

Shackleton Road Pedestrian/Cyclist Speed Control NTA Scheme

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

Can the process for the Shackleton Road Pedestrian/Cyclist Speed Control NTA Scheme be outlined to the Celbridge-Leixlip members?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation & Public Safety Department informing the members that The Municipal District office was not aware of a Pedestrian/Cyclist Speed Control NTA Scheme for the Shackleton Road. The Municipal District office was currently carrying out a procurement process for the services of a road safety consultant to carry out a review of the Shackleton Road from the Maynooth Road junction to the junction with the R403. This review/study was identified for LPT funding from the 2021 list of projects.

The report was noted.

CL17/0322

Footpath on Main Street, Leixlip

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

Can the council provide an update on the works scheduled for the footpath on Main Street, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation & Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District resources were carrying out routine maintenance and repairs on the footpaths on the main street in Leixlip as

required. There was currently no specific funding allocation or significant works scheduled for footpath renewal / replacement on Leixlip Main Street.

The report was noted.

CL18/0322

Road Safety Audit Stage 3

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman. Can the members be informed on the outcome of the Road Safety Audit Stage 3 on the completed permeability link from the Castlewellan Estate to the road serving Aldi?

A report was received from the Roads Planning & Projects Team informing the members that the Roads Planning Section and Development Control Section examined the Roads Safety Audit carried out by Bruton Consulting Engineers Dates 02/06/21 in relation to the permeability connection from Castewellan Park to Aldi, Celbridge and had no objection to the access connection – based on the Road Safety Audit Stage 2. In view of complaints raised by some residents, a further Roads Safety Audit Stage 3 (when the permeability link was opened) was sought. It appears that the developer completed the development, including the pedestrian link at Aldi, in accordance with their Planning Conditions (16-260 & ABP PI09.247364). The developer has not, as of yet, submitted a Roads Safety Audit Stage 3 albeit this was sought on 16 June, 2021. The Roads Planning Team have contacted the developer and requested him to submit the required Safety Audit by return.

Councillor Coleman advised that the footpath at the far side of the path near Aldi car park was damaged and enquired was this section part of the safety Audit. The Municipal District Engineer assumed that it was, but stated he would meet Councillor Coleman to examine the exact location Councillor Coleman was referring to.

The report was noted.

CL19/0322

Removal or replacement of the “Kissing Gates” in Castletown House

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.
Can the council confirm if an update has been received from the OPW in relation to the removal or replacement of the “Kissing Gates” in Castletown House to facilitate access by wheelchair users to the path leading down to the river?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Office of Public Works has referred the Member’s request to the Estate Manager and foreman for Castletown House and has requested them to respond directly to us. No response has been received to date. This matter has been referred to the Conservation Officer in Planning to check if the kissing gates form part of the protected structure status of Castletown House and if this were the case, an alternative access would have to be considered.

An additional report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that Castletown House was one of the finest 18th century Palladian style mansions in Ireland and was of National and European importance. The house and its attendant grounds including all structures within its curtilage were protected by virtue of their inclusion on Kildare County Councils Record of Protected Structures under Ref; B11-13 (Castletown House, Temple, Batty Langley Lodge, Entrance Gates, and avenue (and interiors)), B11-14 and B11-847 also refer. The building was also listed on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.

It was advised that where there were proposals to either replace or remove “Kissing Gates” within the curtilage of Castletown House, that OPW contact Kildare County Councils Architectural Conservation Officer to discuss proposals. Any interventions would require advance agreement either through a Section 57 or with the written consent of the Planning Authority

The reports were noted.

CL20/0322

Repairs to the footpath at the Wonderful Barn, Leixlip

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.
Can the council confirm if it has plans to carry out repairs to the footpath at the Wonderful Barn, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the paths would be assessed to see what repairs were required and the works incorporated into the Park works programme.

The report was noted.

CL21/0322

Surveys on road safety at Riverforest

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen
Can the council confirm what surveys on road safety have been conducted in Riverforest from the Library to the secondary school particularly at peak times to register the issue with safety and the roads being blocked, with a view to finding a resolution?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office was currently carrying out a procurement process for the services of a road safety consultant to carry out a review of the road in Riverforest from the junction with the Captains Hill and Confey Community College. This review/study was identified for LPT funding from the 2021 list of projects. Report would be provided by Municipal District office.

The report was noted.

CL22/0322

Strategic Housing Development (SHD) application by Glenveigh Homes

Mr Lynch delivered a presentation from the Planning Department on a Strategic

Housing Development (SHD) application by Glenveigh Homes for 152 no residential units at Shackleton Road, Ballymakealy Upper, Celbridge, Co. Kildare. He confirmed the APB reference was TA09.312958 and that the vision was that this new residential area would integrate with its surroundings whilst having its own unique character and a strong sense of place.

The members noted the report and raised the following issues;

- The census data used was from 2016 and was not up to date with the ever-increasing population, which would affect childcare provision.
- The open spaces were not really play areas for children and not very safe or child friendly.
- The cycle routes and footpaths at the entrance were not clear enough on the map, this needs to be revisited to ensure they were safe and perhaps the building needs to be further set back.
- It seems that the layout of the housing estate was back to front and social infrastructure was inadequate.
- The members were disappointed that this was the only opportunity they had to feed into the Chief Executives report, as the report needed to be with An Bord Pleanála by 3 May, 2022. They would have liked a day or two grace to consider this SHD further and discuss it amongst themselves or have a separate meeting with the Planning Department
- Perhaps a park and stride could be considered for the area, as the development offers the last opportunity for off street parking for schools related traffic.
- The landmark buildings were not very aesthetically appealing.
- The members would like the developer to address the issue of a pedestrian crossing now so it was not up to the council to pay for this later.
- That concerns the members had about the potential for a material contravention arising from this proposal, when combined with others, be addressed.

Mr Lynch noted the members comments and advised there were two open spaces at the south-west and north-west of the estate but the estate was dominated by areas required for parking spaces.

Mr Lynch confirmed that formal consideration of whether a material contravention arises can only be based on permitted developments, and that as no application was yet made regarding Ballyoulster lands this issue does not yet arise, but will be monitored.

Mr Lynch reiterated the deadline dates that the Chief Executives response to An Bord Pleanála was due by the 3rd May 2022.

Mr Lynch suggested that the members make a submission by 20 April 2022 and that this could be in the format of one submission from the members as a group.

CL23/0322

Section 254 licence

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman. Can the council confirm how many businesses applied for a Section 254 licence in this municipal district for 2021?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the following table outlines the number of businesses that applied for Section 254 licences in 2021 and the outcome of the application:

Section 254	Applied	Granted	Refused	Pending
Outdoor Dining	4	1	1	2
Scaffolding	2	2	0	0
Finger Posts	1	0	1	0
Broadband	3	2	1	0

The report was noted.

CL24/0322

Town Renewal Plan for Leixlip and Celbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen.
Can the council provide an update on the Town Renewal Plan for Leixlip and Celbridge and timelines for activity for 2022?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing the members that following assessment of the recent public consultation and completion of the urban design analysis, the design team were progressing completion of the Town Renewal Masterplans (TRMP) for Celbridge and Leixlip. It was envisaged that the draft TRMPs would be presented to the Celbridge-Leixlip MD in late April with publication of the final drafts in during Q2 2022.

Once the Town Renewal Masterplans have been finalised and published, funding bids for the delivery of the various projects identified in each TRMP would be developed as the relevant funding streams open for applications.

The members sought clarification on whether this presentation would take place at April's meeting or later. Mr McLoughlin undertook to clarify this and revert to them. The report was noted.

CL25/0322

Mattress amnesty day

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen.
That the council allocate €1500 for the staffing required to host a mattress amnesty day in this municipal district, thus allowing them to apply to the Department for funding (similar to the Christmas tree recycling scheme) to cover the cost of disposing of the mattresses collected.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that a commitment has been given in the past to try to facilitate such a collection in the North of the County and I would do my best to follow through on this. There were a number of challenges however, particularly as there was not a registered civic amenity site / or similar authorised facility (i.e. similar to Kilcullen/Athy). It would therefore be necessary to identify a collection point, and this should not be underestimated from the perspective of logistics (including traffic management/health and safety etc) and I would liaise with the Municipal District engineer on this. The issue of funding also needs to be considered as it was a costly process. The cost of deploying council staff was not so significant in this context. The big costs would relate to the disposal of the mattresses (including transport, shredding, final disposal etc). In the past, this has cost circa €20k net of grant funding though this figure could possibly be doubled for a location which was not a designated civic amenity site .The Council has applied and received grant funding of about 50% of this cost in the past though, in truth, there may be a view emerging that such activity does not really constitute waste reduction and, therefore, there was no guarantee that any grant would be available.

In summary, the Council would try to progress the initiative suggested in the motion but this, in turn, would be contingent on overcoming logistical and financial challenges. I would keep the Municipal District members informed on developments.

The members noted the report stating they were disappointed this still had not happened in the north of the county and that they were relying on Fingal and Meath County Council to get rid of large bulky items. They sought the support of the council with this item.

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

CL26/0322

Extension to Confey Cemetery

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell.
Can the council provide an update on the extension to Confey Cemetery?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Council has identified a site for a new cemetery on the Confey area which was likely to be suitable. This would be subject to finalising its acquisition as well as planning considerations including a Part 8 process in due course. Realistically, a circa 3 year time frame was envisaged, all going well. There was sufficient capacity in the existing cemetery in the interim. A possible extension to the current cemetery was not considered to be feasible at this time in light of the high-water table in the immediate area.

The report was noted.

CL27/0322

Parks Works Programme 2022

Mr Wallace advised the members that the Parks Works Programme 2022 was before them for noting and that the Climate Action Officer Ms P O'Rourke would also be providing a presentation on works proposed for reduced grass maintenance and use of glyphosate.

Mr Wallace introduced the new members of staff to the elected members, Ms E Moore, Ms P O'Brien and Mr D Flanney who had all joined the Parks section. The Cathaoirleach and members welcomed them and wished them well in their new roles. Mr Wallace informed the members that a report on the Parks Works Programme for 2022 had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting and that he would be happy to respond to any questions that the members had.

Ms P O'Rourke then gave a presentation on works proposed for reduced grass maintenance and reduced use of glyphosate. She highlighted the timeline and targets for these works from 2019 to date and what was planned for the future. She

finished by clarifying which sites had been selected for the municipal district projects and what would be carried out at each site.

The members raised the following points;

- They were happy to see the reduction in glyphosate, new Resident groups and existing Resident groups need to be brought up to speed on this as soon as possible.
- Where would the council find the funding for more research in relation to this area and the renewable gas pilot?
- When will Castletown Woods conservation plan progress?
- They were disappointed that St John of God playground was still closed, they also enquired was it always going to be a leased playground.
- In relation to the Wonderful Barn Conservation plan, they queried when was the members going to have funding to procure a design consultant?
- They were happy to see the steering group set up for the Celbridge outdoor youth facility
- When would the members see sight of the tree planting programme and when would they expect it to start?
- Will an online tree scheduling system be developed and a schedule published.
- As there were research experiments being carried out in Kinsealy on flora and fauna, could the council check the price of these and make comparisons.

Mr Wallace responded to the members queries as follows:

- He wrote to St John of Gods 2 weeks ago about the playground and he hoped to receive a response from the property team as soon as possible.
- It was difficult to give timelines on projects as it depended on what other future projects and daily workloads were presented to the Parks team and that was difficult to predict.

- Castletown Woods plan likely to be tendered by year end.
- He hoped to have a report at the end of June from Dr Barron on the youth facility.
- With regards the communications boards for playgrounds, he advised that other local authorities use a specific app and there may be copyright issues regarding this. The council were in the process of getting quotations from graphic designers and they hoped to have the signs printed by the end of the summer.
- He advised that the Silleachain Lane clean-up was imminent.
- He anticipated that the redesign for Leixlip playground would start at the end of April / May.
- The tree schedule was on the list of projects, but Mr Wallace was going to need a staff member to manage this programme as it was a large body of work and stated he would submit details to members once he had this. An online system could not be developed until he has a resource to do this and manage it.
- The Public Realm Team were working on the Wonderful Barn project and the Parks Department were assisting them with this.
- He advised there was €60,000 allocated to playgrounds in the county, €21,000 was allocated to Celbridge-Leixlip €7,000 per playground, this funding went towards regular maintenance and safety inspections in existing playgrounds.

The District Manager advised that Phase 1 of Wonderful Barn was gone out to Architectural consultants for tender and she anticipated it would be turned around quickly.

Ms O'Rourke responded with the following

- The Parks Department were tying in with residents and community groups with regards to open spaces and reduction in use of glyphosate.

- The council would like to do research in the area of carbon and hedgerows with Maynooth University, Teagasc and hopefully get funding for this.
- They also plan to look at erosion in areas of landscapes, bogs being one example.

The reports were noted.

CL28/0322

Suspension of Standing Orders

At 1.00 pm the Cathaoirleach informed the members that to continue with the meeting, a suspension of standing orders was required.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members that standing orders be suspended for ten minutes.

CL29/0322

Celbridge Age Friendly Town project

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen. That the Celbridge Age Friendly Town project be finalised and launched.

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

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the original date for completion of the Celbridge Age Friendly Town project was in 2020. Due to Covid-19 this was deferred to 2022. The Celbridge Age Friendly audit has been completed and the council would be launching the program in Q3 2022.

Councillor Caldwell noted the report and stated he would like to see this project moving at a faster pace.

Ms O'Brien advised Councillor Caldwell that Ms Cashin, Community Worker was leading this project and would be linking in with the members and that she expected this to be imminent.

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

CL30/0322

Leixlip Age Friendly Walkability Audit

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen.
That the Leixlip Age Friendly Walkability Audit be carried out

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

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the council aim to commence the Leixlip Age Friendly Walkability Audit in 2023. The focus for 2022 was the development of the Kildare Age Friendly strategy. The Council recently completed a walkability audit of Leixlip library in which our older persons council made recommendations to the library service for inclusion in the audit report. Following this report, Leixlip Library would be launching the library as an age friendly library, once this was sanctioned by Age Friendly Ireland.

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

CL31/0322

Rejuvenation of the Leixlip Spa area

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen.
That the council allocate €10,000 to commission a design for the rejuvenation of the Leixlip Spa area to complement the Greenway development.

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

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that in the current Capital programme €40k has

been allocated to carry out works to Leixlip Spa in 2023. Any works required to commission a design would have to be considered in the context of the Parks Works Programme and projects already committed to. Additionally, any design works proposed would have to be discussed with the National Parks & Wildlife Services because of the site designation as a Special Area of Conservation and with Waterways Ireland due to the site being adjacent to the canal.

Mr Wallace advised this may not progress until next year as there was a problem with Japanese knotweed. He stated he would be able to support it next year once the funding was available.

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

The meeting concluded.