

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District Meeting held on Friday, 04 October 2019 at 10:00 am
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas, Co Kildare**

Members Present: Councillor B Weld (Cathaoirleach), Councillors T Durkan, A Feeney, A Farrelly, D Fitzpatrick, P Hamilton, P McEvoy, N O’Cearúil, P Ward, and B Wyse.

Officials Present: Mr N Morrissey (A/District Manager), Mr S Aylward (District Engineer), Mr L Dunne, Ms E Wright, Mr K Kavanagh, Mr G Halton (Senior Executive Officers), Mr S Wallace, (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr E Fagan (Administrative Officer), Ms A Gough (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary).

CM01/1019

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District held on Friday, 06 September 2019 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Feeney seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District held on Friday, 06 September 2019 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

The Cathaoirleach conveyed Ms Kavanagh’s apologies to the members and welcomed Mr Morrissey as A/District Manager to the meeting.

CM02/1019

Matters Arising

Cycle Lane and Footpath on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth (CM15/0719)

Councillor Durkan asked when the Part 8 process for the cycle lane and footpath on the Celbridge Road would commence. Ms Wright stated that a draft design of the layout had previously been circulated to the members and their views had been invited in relation to the layout of the route, whether to proceed to a detailed design stage or maximise the existing footpath. Councillor Durkan stated that a drawing had been circulated to the members and asked if the members could agree to proceed with the Part 8 process. Councillor Weld

stated that it was not possible to proceed with the Part 8 process until technical issues had been investigated.

The A/ District Manager stated the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department would investigate further to establish the current stage of the project. Councillor Durkan stated that the members had been told there was funding available for this project and the A/District Manager stated that this project was not listed for consideration but he would check the funding element of the project. Councillor Durkan requested that the matter remain on the progress report.

Traffic Management for the Road Works on the Moyglare Road (MY09/0519, MY11/0419)

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that road traffic management on the Moyglare Road was not working.

Removal of trees and hedge at Rail Park (CM12/0919)

Councillor Feeney stated that the onus was not on the residents to reset the boundary as there was a fence on the other side of the trees which were in place before the estate was built. She stated that the trees could be removed by council staff and asked that the matter be revisited by the council. The District Engineer stated he would review the situation.

Yellow Box on the R403 (CM07/0919)

Councillor Farrelly noted that the report stated a yellow box was not merited and asked if this meant there were no grounds to install a yellow box. The District Engineer stated that he had sat for an hour and a half monitoring the junction and stated there was only one occasion where a yellow box would have been beneficial therefore there were no grounds to install a yellow box at this location.

Stream Running Alongside River Road in Allenwood South (CM22/0919)

Councillor Wyse stated that the report which had been issued by the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that this stream did not form part of a drainage district and was not within the remit of the Environment Department was incorrect. Therefore, responsibility for cleaning lay with the riparian landowner (i.e. adjoining landowners).

He stated that the Office of Public Work's (OPW's) website indicated the stream was part of the Rathangan drainage system. He requested that the minutes for the September meeting be amended to state it was later discovered the information given in the report for this item was incorrect. Mr Dunne stated that he had spoken with the Senior Engineer in the Environment Section and both maps (the council's map and the OPW's map) would be compared to ascertain the remit responsible for maintaining the stream. The Meetings Administrator stated that a footnote would be incorporated into the September minutes of the Clane-Maynooth meeting to reflect the fact the Environment Section would be investigating further into the matter and provide a report to the members at their November meeting.

CM03/1019

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer informed the members that restoration works on all four contracts had now been completed which included the R148 Clonard, the L5025 Drehid Cross to Timahoe Cross, L5021 Island Road and the R148 Summerhill Junction in Kilcock. He stated that lining works and the installation of lights at the Kilcock Junction had yet to be completed. The District Engineer stated that in relation to LPT no further works had been undertaken in the last month and crews were currently undertaking drainage, general maintenance, clearing drains and gullies, patching and sign clearance throughout the Municipal District.

CM04/1019

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 3, 11, 14 15 and 16 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Item 3

Review of the Traffic Lights in Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council carry out a full review of the traffic lights in Maynooth.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ó Cearúil and seconded by Councillor Durkan.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a full Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique (SCOOT)

revalidation had been carried out on the Urban Traffic Control (UTC) system in Maynooth in late 2017 early 2018. This was carried out as recommended under the Maynooth Traffic Management Plan and a report was issued to the Maynooth Municipal District members. If the members required a copy of the report they could email trafficlights@kildarecoco.ie

It was planned to carry out another review of the UTC system in Maynooth following the construction of the Moyglare Link Road/School Campus on the Moyglare Road when new traffic patterns in the town emerged. It would not be beneficial to review the UTC system until these works were completed. It should be noted that until infrastructural works as identified under the Maynooth Traffic Management Plan were implemented, the traffic situation would not improve in the Maynooth environs given the expansion of the town/increased traffic volumes etc.

The A/District Manager stated that the council had been acutely aware of the traffic congestion problems occurring in Maynooth over recent weeks and stated he sympathised with commuters in Maynooth. He stated that the council had responded to all questions and phone calls the previous week and an emergency meeting had taken place to discuss the issues. The A/District Manager stated that Maynooth was a thriving town with new developments, population growth and the start of the new college term had increased the number of vehicles coming into the town. He stated that the council were responsible for works on the Moyglare Road as part of Phase 5 of the North South Corridor project and stated this work would bring tremendous improvements for pedestrians and cyclists.

The A/District Manager stated that a number of issues had contributed to the recent traffic congestion in Maynooth:

- The contractor had not submitted a Traffic Management Plan to the council and the reduction to one lane of traffic had not been authorised. Mr Morrissey apologised for this oversight on behalf of the developer.
- The council had examined the sequencing of the traffic lights and were satisfied they were operating sufficiently
- On Wednesday 25 and 26 September SCOOT which controlled the traffic lights throughout the county had been switched off

- On 27 September there was signal failure which affected communication back to the SCOOT system which resulted in further problems with the traffic lights

He stated that works were planned for the traffic lights behind Lidl as part of a planning condition and a Part 8 consultation process had been approved by the members to have works completed on the first section of Millicent Bridge. The A/District Manager stated that the council were aiming to have the CPO for this project published before Christmas. He stated that it was aimed to have contracts in place for works on the Straffan to Leixlip Road in early new year. He stated that Cairn Homes would deliver the new Inner Relief Street from Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road. The A/District Manager stated that this new road would provide a release valve for traffic coming into Maynooth on the Moyglare Road especially with the new school scheduled to open in 2020. He stated that a section of the Ring Road and Dunboyne Road for the Part 8 for the Maynooth Northern Outer Orbital Route was still under judicial review and planning for lands north of Maynooth may deliver that particular piece of land quicker.

Councillor Ó Cearúil thanked Mr Morrissey for his comprehensive update and stated it would be beneficial for the members to receive regular updates. He stated that he was not happy with the fact that a full review of SCOOT would not be carried out until the Link Road was completed. Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that he had received numerous complaints from commuters. He stated that vehicles using the Meadowbrook Link Road turning out either left or right to join the motorway were breaking the traffic lights and members of the Fire Service were unable to get to the Fire Station when called out to deal with emergencies. Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that the council, Maynooth University, Irish Water and other stakeholders needed to establish a joint approach to tackle the problem.

Councillor Wyse stated that it was his understanding there would be flag men on sight to manually direct the traffic at peak times instead of relying on automated lights which had blocked the whole town up. Councillor Durkan stated that the whole concept of how roads and traffic management were designed needed to be examined. Councillors Hamilton and Feeney agreed that the decision to defer the closing of Parson's Street was welcome. Councillor Feeney asked if the council could discuss the possibility of opening the pedestrian entrance to Moyglare Hall. Councillor McEvoy stated that other European towns had introduced cycle buses to collect children to take them to school. He stated that non car based projects were needed to reduce car movement.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that collectively all issues had been covered and asked the A/District Manager if he would be able to attend the public meeting on Monday 07 October. The A/District Manager stated that the public meeting was a matter for the organisers to arrange.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted.

Item 11

The Square, Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council confirm what is the current status of works to be carried out on The Square, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Office had engaged with the Public Realm Team to identify how best to proceed with a design for The Square, Maynooth. This design would be expanded to include Main Street and lanes in the town centre to ensure a consistent approach to all street improvements in the area.

Councillor Ó Cearúil asked if there was a time-frame for completion of the works and the District Engineer stated that works on The Square and Main Street had been deferred until next year.

The report was noted.

Item 14

Moyglare Hall

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney.
Can the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department confirm the position that given the opening up of the through road in Moyglare Hall imposes new conditions on the existing residents of Moyglare Hall constructed under 02/2491, 10/551 and 09/978, what plans do the council have to consult these residents where a retrofit situation arises due to the requirements of DMURS?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department was satisfied that the through road complied with DMURS. The Moyglare Hall Estate was not in charge and the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department had no plans to consult with residents.

The report was noted.

Item 15

Traffic Light Timing on the Straffan Road

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

Can the council confirm what studies have been completed on traffic light timing and synchronization on the Straffan Road Maynooth and if any have been completed, have any conclusions and recommendations been made, and actions planned to address the significant traffic disruption during rush-hour, particularly between the new lights at the Meadowbrook junction and the lights at the Lidl junction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the traffic signals at the Meadowbrook/Lidl junctions operated under both SCOOT (Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique) and MOVA (Microprocessor Optimised Vehicle Actuation) control depending on the prevailing traffic conditions. Both systems had built in intelligence that optimised the efficiency of the junctions in real time. When a junction was installed the control system is validated to ensure the traffic signal controller was receiving the correct inputs from detectors/signals etc. and the junction was monitored over a period of time to ensure sequencing/staging/cycle times were correct. The ongoing works at Mill Street/Moyglare Road were having a knock on effect on the Straffan Road, particularly in the morning peak. The Traffic Management Section continually monitor the junctions in the town in order to maximise the efficiency of the operation of the traffic signals within the town.

The report was noted.

Item 16

Works at Mill Street Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.
Can the council provide an update in relation to the road, footpath, cycle lane and bridge improvement works at Mill Street Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were a number of technical issues to be addressed particularly with respect to the pedestrian bridge. The issues were being examined by the Roads Design Team.

The report was noted.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the people of Maynooth, the Director of Service for Roads, Transportation and Public Safety, The District Engineer, the Maynooth Municipal District Office Staff and all Roads staff for their commitment and assistance in dealing with these issues.

CM05/1019

Road Leading to Pyke's Bridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
That the council examine the road leading up Pyke's Bridge to assess the possibility of a footpath to link up with the footpath along the canal, between the R148 and R405.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ó Cearúil and seconded by Councillor Feeney.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) would deliver a connection to the canal as part of the scheme design. The MERR Design Team could provide further information to the members if required.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that he would be happy to meet someone on site and asked if the installation of a footpath was part of the design. The District Engineer stated a footpath was included as part of the design.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Feeney that the report be noted.

CM06/1019

Safety Audit of Firmount Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly.
That the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department undertakes a safety audit of Firmount Cross on the R403/L2002.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Farrelly and seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council had no plans to carry out a safety audit at this location. Safety Audits would only be carried out when works were progressed, or planned details of a revised junction layout were available.

Councillor Farrelly stated that a number of people had been involved in collisions at Firmount Cross and asked if the area could be monitored. Councillor McEvoy asked if this area would be examined as part of the Drehid expansion. The District Engineer stated he would meet Councillor Farrelly on site to discuss the matter further. The A/District Manager stated that the outcome of the oral hearing in relation to Drehid was still awaited. Councillor Weld asked if this junction would warrant a roundabout and asked that the item remain on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted and the District Engineer meet Councillor Farrelly on site to discuss the matter further and that the item remain on the progress report.

CM07/1019

Footpaths in Derrinturn Village

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

That urgent repairs be carried out to the footpaths in Derrinturn Village.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Weld and seconded by Councillor Durkan.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Engineer would inspect the footpaths in Derrinturn in the coming months to ascertain what areas required attention. Repairs would be carried out on a priority basis subject to available funding.

Councillor Weld asked that a review of Derrinturn be carried out within the next six weeks and asked that the members be informed of the outcome. He asked if the members could meet with the District Engineer to discuss the outcome and stated there were issues in relation to flooding which could be looked at as part of the repair work. Councillor McEvoy supported the motion and stated that the members had increased LPT base rate in order to yield additional funding and stated it would be helpful to review footpaths in small urban towns.

The A/District Manager stated that the footpath programme was a good idea. Councillor Weld stated if the members had issues with footpaths they should send an email into the Municipal District Office.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted.

CM08/1019

LPT Projects Progress Report

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan.
That all LPT projects agreed in this municipal district are automatically added to the progress report and remain in place until complete.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Durkan and seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that as works were progressed, they were included in the monthly road works report. The District Engineer would agree with the members how best to complete the progress reports in the future.

A report was also received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Community and Cultural Development Section had no difficulty in indicating which LPT awards had been paid out (i.e. application received, bank details in order etc.). While the Community Section did request submission of full receipts for monies paid out, they would not be able to confirm when any specific project was complete. A further report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that Tidy Towns LPT monies had been paid.

A further report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that at the recent plenary meeting of council, the members approved Guidelines for the distribution of retained Local Property Tax. As part of these guidelines, the Municipal District Manager was required to provide a cumulative quarterly report, for noting, on the status of LPT projects, for the Municipal District Committee. The format of this report would be agreed with the Finance Committee. The information presented in this format would enable the members to monitor the progress on all LPT projects relevant to their Municipal District.

Councillor Durkan stated that a number of projects had not been completed and stated money was still available for these works which had not yet been drawn down. He stated that when the members put forward projects they expected commitment from the council that

the works would be completed. He suggested another progress report was created to deal specifically with these projects or they be added to the current progress report. Councillor Durkan stated that in some cases works had been done but not to a high standard. Councillor McEvoy supported the motion.

The A/District Manager stated that going forward a quarterly report would be issued by the District Manager. Councillor Durkan asked when the members would receive the first report and the A/District Manager stated it would be at the end of the year. He stated he would discuss the matter with the District Engineer and an update would be provided at the November meeting. Councillor Durkan stated the report would have to go back as far as 2014. The A/District Manager stated the District Engineer would list the items and revert to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the report be noted and the District Engineer provide an update at the November meeting.

CM09/1019

Car Parking at the church in Rathcoffey

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the car parking situation at the church in Rathcoffey is improved as a matter of urgency in the interests of road safety.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Durkan and seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council did not own any land in the area to provide a footpath. The council was however aware of a live planning application to provide a car park, which must go through the statutory process.

Councillor Ward stated that he accepted the report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted.

CM10/1019

Street Poles on New Road, Kilcock

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

That works be undertaken to improve the poor appearance of a number of street poles on New Road in Kilcock.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there was currently a sign replacement programme ongoing on the New Road in Kilcock which would be completed before year end.

Councillor Ward asked what the replacement programme entailed and asked if the utility provider responsible for maintaining/replacing the poles could be contacted.

The District Engineer stated that as far as he was aware it was the ESB who maintained the poles and stated he would contact them.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the report be noted and that the District Engineer contact the ESB in relation to the maintenance/replacement of the poles.

CM11/1019

HGV access through Straffan Village

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.

Can the council clarify the situation regarding HGV access through Straffan Village?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were no restrictions for HGV's through Straffan Village. The report was noted.

CM12/1019

Pedestrian Barriers at the Crossroads in Prosperous village

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

Can the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department provide a costing for three pedestrian barriers at the crossroads in Prosperous village?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer would meet Councillor Farrelly to examine the issues. The Municipal District Office had concerns regarding the installation of barriers as they may present additional safety issues.

The report was noted.

CM13/1019

Raised Ramped Platforms at The Drive and The Avenue

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

Can the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department confirm will the raised ramped platforms be put in place at the junction of The Drive and The Avenue, and The Green and The Avenue in accordance with the planning permission that issued under PL.09.243724 - 14/73, prior to the carrying out of the Stage 3 Road Safety Audit on the through road in Moyglare Hall, Maynooth, which will not be opened up until the audit is carried out?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department would liaise with the Planning Department and Development Control Section to ensure the road-related planning conditions were complied with. The road safety audit would be required to be completed prior to the opening of the road.

The report was noted.

CM14/1019

Junction at Allenwood Cross

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

Can the council outline what progress has been made in identifying and sourcing funding for the proposed signalised junction at Allenwood Cross, as recommended by the Technical Assessment and Advisory Group?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there was no funding identified or sourced for any works at Allenwood Cross. The Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department was awaiting the outcome of An Bord Pleanála's, Drehid Oral Hearing (which concluded on 13 March 2019) which may determine what works and funding might be available to examine traffic and safety issues at this junction.

The report was noted.

CM15/1019

Electric Car Charging Points

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

Can this Municipal District Committee receive an update on the provision of electric car charging points within this municipal district to include the future plans, delivery dates and locations of these points?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment Mr Richard Bruton T.D. announced a capital funding scheme to support the roll out by local authorities of charge points for electric vehicles (EV's) (the provision of 200 EV charge points nationally per year over a five-year period). The Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department was awaiting further information and the terms and conditions of the funding scheme, anticipated to be announced in the coming weeks. The members would be kept informed. The current Kildare County Council policy was for the installation of electric vehicle charge points at public off-street car parks. It was anticipated that the new Transport Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) would examine the issue of electric vehicle charge points, turnover, parking charges, the integration of on-street charge points with

street lighting in a single lamp post and other issues anticipated to arise from increased demand.

The report was noted.

CM16/1019

Number of Houses Insulated

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

That the council give an update on the number of houses which have been “insulated” in this municipal district and what future plans have the council for same.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Weld and seconded by Councillor Durkan.

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the total number of units which had been upgraded as part of the energy programme since 2016 in the Maynooth Municipal district was 260 units. The remaining number of units which had been identified within this Municipal District was 7 units and it was envisaged that these units would be completed in 2020.

Councillor Weld stated that he was seeking clarification as his understanding was that the previous council had given commitment to ensure all houses were insulated given the fact the report stated there were still houses which had not yet been insulated. He asked why houses were not being insulated with residents in situ. Councillor McEvoy stated that there should be a co-ordinated system in place to ensure works were completed on all council properties. Councillor Weld stated that the members expected a representative from the Housing Department to be present at the meeting. The A/District Manager stated that there was a very good reason a representative from the Housing Department was not in attendance at the meeting and stated he would convey the members’ questions to the Housing Department and request them to prepare a report for the November meeting. Councillor Weld requested that the item remain on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the Housing Department prepare a report for the November meeting and that the item remain on the progress report.

CM17/1019

Fire Damaged Houses

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

Can the council provide a report to the members explaining why it takes so long to bring “fire damaged houses” back into the system?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the length of time taken by the Housing Maintenance Section to restore a fire damaged house was dependent upon the severity of the fire upon the structure of the house. The standard chimney fire damage cases and all non-structural fire damage cases are dealt with in a timely and efficient manner by Kildare County Council staff and their contractors taking into account procurement and the tendering process along with the consultation process with the insurance company. Normally these units were generally restored within a 3 to 4 month time frame if no difficulties arose with the ESB and the insurance company. Houses which had suffered serious fire damage, damage to the structure and fabric of the building required Kildare County Council to procure external consultants to carry out a structural assessment, prepare drawings and certify works upon completion. The serious fire damaged houses may also require a Garda /Forensics investigation, which also caused a delay in commencement of works. Kildare County Council appointed an external consultant on 19 September 2019 to work on five of their long-term fire damaged houses. Negotiations with the same consultant had taken place in relation to the 3 houses recently fire damaged in Kilcock.

In conclusion: The length of time taken to turn around a fire damaged house was dependent on the extent of the damage, Garda/Forensics investigations, consultations with the insurance company, procuring external consultants, tendering process and construction process.

Councillor Weld stated that one particular property had been left five months or more awaiting repair works to be carried out. He stated due to severe water damage the ceilings were falling in and stated he would bring the matter as a motion to the November meeting. The report was noted.

CM18/1019

Council Housing List

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

Can the council provide a report to the members explaining why so many members of the public have said “they have not received written correspondence” from the council and as a result have been removed from the council housing list?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that a Housing Needs Assessment was carried out each year, at this time many applicants were written to and were asked to confirm if they were still in need of housing. If this letter was not responded to, the Housing Department would attempt to contact applicants by telephone and may send a second letter. At this point applicants could be removed from the housing list for failure to respond to correspondence. It was the responsibility of each applicant to ensure their details were kept up to date on their housing file, including any change of address. An applicant can appeal the decision to be removed from the housing list and it would be investigated fully by the Housing Department.

Councillor Weld stated he was not happy with the report given the fact some of his constituents had sent in correspondence to the council outlining changes to their details and they had still been removed from the housing list.

The report was noted.

CM19/1019

One-off Housing Applications

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

That the Planning Department confirms the number of one-off housing applications received in 2017, 2018 and to date in 2019, within this municipal district and of these, how many were successful.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Farrelly and seconded by Councillor Weld.

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the National I-Plan system used by Kildare County Council did not facilitate the recording of data by development type and/or Municipal District. It would be an onerous, manual exercise to produce the statistics requested in the Notice of Motion, which

exercise would not be helped by changes in Municipal District boundaries over the period in question. County-wide figures for one-off housing developments were compiled by the council in reports required by the Central Statistics Office, and, if these were of assistance, could be provided to Councillor Farrelly. For the councillors' information, <https://myplan.ie> was a web map portal providing spatial information relevant to the planning process in Ireland. The site was an initiative of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in conjunction with local authorities, and includes a National Planning Application Map containing data on all planning applications received since 2010.

Councillor Farrelly asked if planning permission was being refused for one off housing applications. Councillors Durkan, Wyse, Weld, and Hamilton supported the motion and agreed a clear policy was needed which could be looked at when reviewing the County Development Plan (CDP). Councillor McEvoy stated that environmental impact was a vital factor in relation to new developments.

Mr Kavanagh informed the members that it was not the case that one off housing applications were not being granted by the council and stated all applicants were welcome to attend preplanning meetings. He stated that countywide figures would be provided to Councillor Farrelly in relation to one-off housing applications.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and that the Planning and Strategic Development Department provide a report to Councillor Farrelly detailing countywide figures in relation to all one-off housing applications received in 2017, 2018 and to date in 2019.

CM20/1019

Maynooth Local Area Plan (LAP)

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.
Can the council provide an update in relation to the Maynooth Local Area Plan (LAP) and a time line as to when it will go on public display?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the reviews of Local Area Plans (LAP's) within the County had been suspended pending the statutory variation of the Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) 2017-2023 to incorporate the requirements of the National Planning Framework (NPF) and

the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) which would be initiated in January 2020.

With regard to Maynooth, the members were reminded that Regional Policy Objective RPO 4.35 of the RSES states that “*a cross boundary Joint Local Area Plan shall be prepared by Kildare County Council and Meath County Council to provide a co-ordinated planning framework for the Maynooth area. The joint LAP shall identify a boundary for the plan area, strategic housing and employment development areas and infrastructure investment requirements and promote greater co-ordination and sequential delivery of serviced lands for development.*”

The report was noted.

CM21/1019

Rubbish Bins and Dog Waste Bins in Maynooth

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

That the council prepare an analysis plan for rubbish bins and dog waste bins on the main walking routes in Maynooth and Kilcock with the Moyglare Road, Straffan Road, Celbridge Road near the schools, Newtown/Rathcoffey Road in Maynooth and the Canal Greenway in Kilcock and old N4 entering Kilcock from the west, being of principal interest.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Durkan.

Mr Fagan informed the members that Mr Dunne had given an undertaking to meet with the Municipal District Engineer to discuss the matter.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made by Councillors Hamilton, Durkan, Ó Cearúil, Ward and Weld:

- There were urban areas where there were no bins for almost a mile and stated people were cleaning up their dog waste but leaving it behind as there was nowhere for them to dispose of it.
- Bins were full up early in the week leaving nowhere to put additional rubbish/waste at the weekends.
- On the Greenway from Maynooth to Kilcock bags of dog waste were thrown on trees.

- A suggestion was made for the council have a look at the type of bin Dublin City Council were currently using.
- Congratulations were conveyed to Maynooth and Straffan Tidy Towns.
- Domestic rubbish was constantly put in public bins and bins with smaller openings which limited the amount of rubbish entering them were useful in deterring domestic waste being placed in them.
- A motion was previously submitted by Councillor Ward asking for a review of the bins to be carried out and the Environment Section were to get back to him.
- It was suggested the members contact the Environment Section with suggestions and costings be provided in relation to how much resources would be required.
- The onness was on dog owners to dispose of dog waste appropriately and if a change in the law was needed to address this particular problem it should be looked into.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Hamilton seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and that Mr Dunne meet with the Municipal District Engineer to discuss the matter and costings to be provided to the members in relation to proposed options and resources needed to implement them.

CM22/1019

Public Utilities objective, PU3, of the County Development Plan

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

That the council provides a progress update on the Public Utilities objective, PU3, of the County Development Plan, for Allenwood and specifically, the update should outline what investigations have taken place in conjunction with Irish Water regarding the feasibility of upgrading the waste water treatment network in the Allenwood South area of the village.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Wyse and seconded by Councillor Weld.

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the deliverability and feasibility of upgrading the waste water treatment network in the Allenwood South area of the village was a matter for Irish Water and the elected member should contact Irish Water in this regard via the dedicated Local Representative Service Desk in compliance with Irish Water instructions and protocol. The

contact details were as follows: Email: localrepsupport@water.ie Ph: 1890 178178 or 01 7072854.

Councillor Wyse noted that one of the objectives in the Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) under the Economic Development Strategy was that the council work with Irish Water:

EO2: to work with Irish Water, to support the provision of water, wastewater treatment and waste management facilities to accommodate the future economic growth of the county and to seek to reserve capacity in water services infrastructure for employment generating uses. Councillor Wyse noted that the report stated it was a matter for Irish Water to deal with and stated he did not accept the report.

The A/District Manager stated that it was a countywide obligation for the council to align their objectives with Irish Water. He stated that the council had regular meetings with Irish Water and the decision had been made to move the function of upgrading waste water treatment networks to Irish Water. The A/District Manager stated objectives did not guarantee delivery and in this particular case it was out of the council's remit, but the members and the council could both make representations to Irish Water. Councillor McEvoy asked if the report could be amended to say that the council would work with Irish Water in relation to the issue. Mr Fagan conveyed his apologies for the bluntness of the report however, he reiterated that the procedure for seeking information on water services issues was via the dedicated Local Representative Service Desk and the Irish Water Clinics in compliance with Irish Water's instructions and protocol.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Wyse seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted.

CM23/1019

Derelict Sites

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

That the Environment Department deliver a presentation/update to members on the derelict sites within this Municipal District at the next municipal district meeting, to include all the steps undertaken since the last presentation to tackle these particular sites and what are the next steps to be undertaken.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor Durkan. A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the Environment Section would attend an in committee meeting either at the Clane-Maynooth November meeting (after the meeting) or before the December meeting to outline the current position.

Councillor Ward thanked the Environment Section for the report and asked if a report could be issued to clarify what had been done in relation to specific sites within the Municipal District and if any derelict site fees had been applied. He stated that he would appreciate a comprehensive report and welcomed an in committee meeting before the December meeting as it would give the Environment Section more time to prepare their report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the Environment Section arrange an in committee meeting before the December meeting to provide an up to date report on derelict sites in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District.

CM24/1019

Litter Fines

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly. Can the Environment Department confirm how many litter fines were issued in this Municipal District in 2017, 2018 and to date in 2019, and of those how many fines were paid or unpaid and if unpaid, how many cases were prosecuted through the courts?

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that there were 282 fines issued from 01 January 2017 to 27 September 2019 of which 161 were paid. All fines which were unpaid were examined to establish if they were suitable to go to court. In many cases the fines could not proceed to court and were deemed uncollectable for the following reasons:

1. The offender may be a minor,
2. Offender no longer at the address,
3. Incomplete name
4. Third party witness may not be prepared to go to court.
5. Incorrect registration number of vehicle etc.

In the period in question, 20 fines were referred to solicitors to issue summons for court one and one prosecution took place in court. There were currently 25 active files.

The report was noted.

CM25/1019

Old Quarry in Ballinderry

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

Can the council outline their obligations regarding the Waste Licence application for an old quarry in Ballinderry, Carbury, that is currently with the Environmental Protection Agency (Reg No. W0298-01), particularly in relation to the conducting of the Appropriate Assessment as defined by articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive?

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the waste licence application was a matter for the Environmental Protection Agency to determine.

A report was also received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the site in question was the subject of a Court Order which must be complied with. The Court Order did not require the undertaking of an Appropriate Assessment.

The report was noted.

CM26/1019

Courtown Little

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

Can this Municipal District Committee receive a comprehensive report on the progress of the provision of the flood alleviation works in the Courtown Little and surrounding areas in Kilcock and the next steps to be addressed in solving this problem?

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that a meeting was being arranged between Kildare County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the Office of Public Works (OPW) to discuss flood alleviation works in the Lyreen catchment. This meeting was expected to take place in October. The members would be kept informed of progress. It should be noted that the area in question

was not within a drainage district so did not form part of the council's drainage maintenance programme.

The report was noted.

CM27/1019

Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019

The members considered the submissions received on the Draft Kildare County Council Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019.

The A/District Manager stated that seven valid submissions had been received. He stated that these included extensions to the boundaries for Maynooth, Kilcock and Leixlip and the inclusion of Derrinturn, Johnstownbridge, Straffan and Ardclough in the Alcohol Bye-Laws. He stated that it was a matter for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District members to agree if they wished to include Derrinturn, Johnstownbridge and Straffan in the Alcohol bye-laws. If they agreed to the inclusions he informed the members that the Alcohol Bye-Laws would have to go on public display for a further four weeks.

In reply to the members queries the Meetings Administrator stated that the changes to Maynooth, Kilcock and Leixlip would also be included.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Draft Kildare County Council Alcohol Bye-Laws 2019 including Derrinturn, Johnstownbridge and Straffan go on public display for a four week period.

The meeting concluded.