

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District Meeting held on Friday, 06 December 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: Ms S Kavanagh (District Manager), Mr C Buggie (District Engineer), Ms M Hunt, Mr K Kavanagh, Mr G Halton (Senior Executive Officers), Mr E Lynch (Senior Executive Planner), Mr S Wallace, (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms C Barrett (Chief Fire Officer), Mr M McLoughlin (Administrative Officer) Ms A Gough (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary).

CM01/1219

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 01 November 2019, the minutes of the Budget meeting held on Monday, 21 October 2019 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor Durkan that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District held on Friday, 01 November 2019 be taken as read.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor Ward that the minutes of the Budget meeting held on Monday, 21 October 2019 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM02/1119

Matters Arising

CM23/1019 Derelict Sites

The Cathaoirleach requested that an in committee meeting for an update on derelict sites be scheduled for 10 January at 9:00 a.m. All the members agreed.

CM02/1119 Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards 2019

The District Manager informed the members that Maynooth had been placed in the regional winners at the Bank of Ireland Awards the previous night. She commended the Maynooth Tidy Towns and Community Council Committees on their achievements and congratulated them on their Purple Flag award.

CM34/0919 Carton Avenue

Councillor Durkan stated that the possibility of installing vertical fencing rails had previously been discussed by the members. Mr Wallace stated that the council considered the three bar railings which were currently in place to be adequate. He stated that vertical railings would not be appropriate and the developer was proposing to plant hedges outside the existing railings. Councillor Durkan asked Mr Wallace to meet him on site to discuss the matter further.

CM03/1119 Bend on the Dunboyne Road

Councillor Feeney asked if there was any progress in relation to improvements with the lighting, signage and drainage on the Dunboyne Road. The District Engineer stated that he was not aware of any planned works by the council, but the developer might be planning some works. He stated he would liaise with Mr Aylward in relation to the matter.

CM29/1119 Oakwood Park, Derrinturn

Councillor Farrelly asked if there was any update on the health and safety standard specification in relation to the houses in Oakwood Park in Derrinturn. The members asked that a representative from the Housing Department attend the January meeting to provide an update on this matter.

Councillor Weld conveyed Mr Aylward's apologies for being unable to attend the meeting that day.

CM26/0719, MY02/0319,02/0918, 30/0718, 27/0218, 27/12/18, 35/0917

Wall surrounding Donadea Forest Park

Councillor Weld stated that he had previously requested that the District Manager write to the Manager of Coillte requesting that they attend a meeting to discuss the deterioration of the wall surrounding the park. Councillor McEvoy stated that the members had previously

discussed the possibility of a joint committee with the council, a community group and Coillte.

CM03/1219

Deputation from Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich and Maynooth Educate Together Parent's Associations

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Grimes-Doyle Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich, Mr Owen Conlon and Ms Neasa Hogan from Maynooth Educate Together Parent's Associations to the meeting. They presented a general overview of the parents and guardians concerns for over 750 children from the two national schools (Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich and Maynooth Educate Together) in relation to their children's safety using the R405, Maynooth.

The following points were raised by the presenters:

- The footpath was not wide enough in some areas for two people to walk side by side
- Future housing developments would further increase traffic on the road
- The results of a recent survey showed only 47% of students currently walk, scoot or cycle to school as they fear for their safety
- If the footpath was wider and a cycle track was in place 93% of children would walk, scoot or cycle to school which in turn would be highly beneficial to the environment

The members thanked Ms Grimes-Doyle, Mr Owen Conlon and Ms Neasa Hogan for their comprehensive and well researched presentation. They fully supported the view that works were badly needed on this stretch of road and raised the following points:

- A footpath was needed as soon as possible on both sides of the road similar to what was proposed for the Eastern Orbital Route
- This area was clearly a black spot where buses line up behind each other blocking sight lines for anyone crossing the road
- It was suggested the School Streets Scheme operating in Malahide could be looked at as a model for consideration
- A detailed design had been prepared and was ready
- A Part 8 public consultation was required to proceed, and some residents were objecting because it involved encroachment on their land

- Funding was needed to cover the cost of works
- It was felt that this work needed to be prioritized
- Park and walk spaces for people with disabilities would be needed but encouraging the change of car culture was vital

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms Grimes-Doyle, Mr Owen Conlon and Ms Neasa Hogan for their comprehensive and well researched presentation and assured them that they had full support of the members. He stated that they would work with the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department to get costings and a design brought before them as soon as possible. He asked for costings to be provided before the February meeting, one costing for one side of the road and another for both sides and asked that works be incorporated into works for the Eastern Orbital Route. The District Engineer stated that it would be difficult to give a costing for both sides of the road as it would be costed as a ball park figure per 200 metres.

CM04/1219

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer informed the members that all restoration improvement and restoration maintenance works had been completed and closed. Crews were currently undertaking drainage and routine maintenance works including opening inlets, clearing drains and gullies, patching and sign clearance. The Municipal District Office recently published a tender for various works including footpath repairs Rockfield and Kingsbry Estate, Kilcock Road, Manor Mills, Prosperous and Clane, drainage works Curryhills and repair of crash barriers at Rathcoffey. He stated the successful contractor had been appointed and had commenced works on 02 December.

The following questions were asked by the members :

- Was there a timeframe for the repairs to the crash barriers at Rathcoffey?
- Was it known why the footpath at McCarthys had been dug up?

The District Engineer stated the contract had been tendered for the crash repairs at Rathcoffey and a start date was awaited and stated he could not confirm why the footpath had been dug up.

CM05/1219

LPT Schedule of Works for 2020

Councillor Weld stated this item would remain on the agenda for the January meeting as the deadline for signing off on the schedule of works was March 2020. The District Manager stated that the figure for 2019 would not be known until the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) was completed. Councillor Weld stated that it was important the majority of the LPT money allocated for 2019 was spent during the current year.

Resolved It was agreed by all members present that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2020 be carried forward and listed as an item on the January agenda.

CM06/1219

Unspent 2019 LPT Funds

The members considered the transfer of all unspent 2019 LPT funds into 2020.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by all members present that the transfer of all unspent 2019 LPT funds into 2020 be approved.

CM07/1219

Cois na Mona Estate, Cooleragh

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

Can the council provide a report outlining the current status of the taking in charge of Cois na Mona Estate in Cooleragh and what progress has been made on this in the last year?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were no major surface defects in this estate. A CCTV survey was carried out by Kildare County Council in 2017, funded by the National Taking in Charge Initiative for residential estates (NTICI) Scheme. The survey identified approximately €8,500 ex VAT repairs works which are required. A level survey was carried out by the Development Control Section to the public foul sewer as there were concerns about the gradients. The public sewer was laid to a minimum gradient but was flowing. The developer was still active, and the Development Control Section was writing to the developer requesting them to complete the estate to the Taking in Charge (TIC) standard and provide the required TIC documentation.

The Development Control Section had also requested a lighting and water audit to be carried out.

Councillor Wyse stated that the residents of Cois na Mona Estate had been complaining about a foul smell in the estate and Ms Barrett stated she was not aware of any complaints about the smell, but she would speak to the developer about it.

The report was noted.

CM08/1219

Meadowbrook, Newtown Hall and Castle Dawson Estates

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton.
Can the council provide a report on the current status of the drain CCTV surveys and any issues identified for estates in Maynooth i.e. Meadowbrook, Newtown Hall and Castle Dawson, and provide an update on the plan to complete the taking in charge of these estates?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council had appointed a CCTV contractor to carry out a survey of the foul and storm lines in the Meadowbrook and Castle Dawson Estates. The CCTV contractor was currently on site in Castle Dawson and had yet to submit the completed survey. The CCTV contractor planned to commence the CCTV survey of Meadowbrook on completion of Castle Dawson.

In relation to the Newtown Hall Estate, the developers' initial CCTV survey had been reviewed, and a snag list was issued in January 2018. The developer submitted a further CCTV survey in September 2019 as a follow up to the January snag list. This second set of footage had been reviewed and a further snag list has issued.

The Taking in Charge (TIC) of the Castle Dawson Estate was dependent on the TIC of Newtown Hall, as the pump station which served the Castle Dawson Estate was under the control of the developer of Newtown Hall. The Development Control Section was working with the developer of Newtown Hall to ensure the completion of this estate to the required standard. No request had been received, to date, in the Development Control Section to take Newtown Hall in charge.

The report was noted.

CM09/1219

Parking Issues in Griffin Rath Hall

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan.
That the council provide a design solution for the parking issues in Griffin Rath Hall, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this could be examined in the context of the construction phase of the proposed MERR and the likely temporary impact of construction works on parking in the vicinity.

Councillor Durkan stated that some of the residents had contacted him on several occasions because cars had been parked everywhere in the estate. He stated that there were major concerns for emergency services accessing the estate and parking in the estate at night time and weekends was a huge problem. The District Engineer stated that he would meet Councillor Durkan on site to discuss the matter.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the District Engineer meet Councillor Durkan on site to discuss the matter.

CM10/1219

Pikes Bridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
That the council carry out an urgent review on the safety of Pikes Bridge, 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 the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Office undertook

improvement works in 2018 which greatly improved the safety. The Municipal District Office did not see any other issues with this junction.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that on the day he had submitted his motion another crash had taken place on the bridge. He stated some works had been done on the bridge in 2018 but works were needed and stated he would be happy to meet with the District Engineer on site to discuss the matter. The District Engineer stated that the width of the bridge restricted options and stated he would meet with Councillor Ó Cearúil on site to discuss the matter.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the District Engineer meet with Councillor Ó Cearúil on site to discuss the matter.

CM11/1219

New Road, Straffan

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

That the council connects the end of New Road, Straffan with the village and the bus stop with an extension of the footpath.

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 to extend the footpath along the west side of New Road to the junction of the New Road with the Clane Road would involve the construction of approximately 450 metres of footpath at an estimate cost of €40,000. These works would be undertaken subject to the elected members allocating funding.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that he appreciated the monetary cost of the required footpath works and suggested the matter could be discussed when allocating LPT for 2020.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the matter be discussed when allocating LPT for 2020.

CM12/1219

Cobblelock in Ashgrove, Derrinturn

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

That the council repair the cobblelock in Ashgrove, Derrinturn as a matter of urgency to prevent a serious accident.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that these areas had been repaired.

Councillor Weld stated he was happy with the report.

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

CM13/1219

Bollards from Donadea Towards Balltracey Cross

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

That the council install bollards on the hard shoulder of the road coming from Donadea towards Balltracey Cross as parking along same is continuously taking place which hinders the sight line towards Clane and is now a health and safety matter.

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 Municipal District Office was not aware of the issue but would monitor the situation to ascertain the extent of the problem. If vehicles were parking dangerously it should be referred to An Garda Síochána for enforcement.

Following a discussion the following points were raised by the members:

- Lorries parking on the hard shoulder were hindering the sight line towards Clane
- Numerous complaints had been received from road users regarding the dangers of illegal parking
- Would it be possible to paint the lane as a filter lane
- Would it be possible to put up signage to indicate no parking

- Could a kerb with posts be installed similar to the one at Ladychapel

The District Engineer stated that he would investigate the possibility of widening the kerb bank.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the District Engineer to investigate the possibility of widening the kerb bank.

CM14/1219

Private Roads in Allenwood South

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

That the council takes in charge the private roads in Allenwood South, as marked in orange on the map provided.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that for a road to be considered for taking in charge, the residents needed to make a formal application. The Roads Section would then inspect the road to ensure the taking in charge was appropriate and if the road was of good enough condition to take in charge. If the road met the required criteria, a report would be prepared for the elected members who could then determine/agree if the road was to be taken in charge or not.

Councillor Wyse asked if he could put in one application to cover the taking in charge of all the private roads in Allenwood South as there was 12 different sections of road. The District Engineer stated applications would have to be made separately for each piece of road as otherwise one objection for one piece could delay the whole process for all roads. He stated that the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) had been used in the past to bring roads up to the required taking in charge standard. The District Manager stated that there was a formal statutory process to go through which would involve a public consultation and invitation for submissions from the public. She stated that the taking in charge application would have to be requested by all residents on the roads in question.

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

CM15/1219

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 16 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Safety Improvements at the Old Bog Road and Cloncurry Cross

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

Can the council provide an update on the junction safety improvements to be carried out at the Old Bog Road and Cloncurry Cross?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office had applied for funding in 2020 under a Low Cost Safety Scheme to improve road markings at Cloncurry Cross. There were currently no plans to undertake works at the Old Bog Road but this could be reviewed in 2020.

Councillor Durkan asked if safety improvements to the Old Bog Road could be looked at again.

The report was noted.

CM16/1219

Table Top Ramp in Straffan

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

Can the council provide an update on when the table top ramp in Straffan will be repaired?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this item had been included in the list of works for consideration in 2020 subject to available funding.

Councillor Durkan asked if the area where the ramp was located could be dug out to address the subsidence and the ramp then be repaired. The District Engineer stated that he would discuss the matter with Mr Aylward.

The report was noted.

CM17/1219

Road Safety Issues at Downing's Cross

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly.
Can the council confirm its plans to address the road safety issues at Downing's Cross, Prosperous?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office currently had no plans to undertake any works at this location.

Councillor Farrelly asked if remedial works/signage could be considered for this area to prevent vehicles from speeding. The District Engineer stated that he would meet with Councillor Farrelly on site to discuss the issues.

The report was noted.

CM18/1219

Works on the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council provide an updated timeline for works on the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that in accordance with the programme of work for the MERR, it was anticipated that preliminary site works would commence before the end of 2020.

The report was noted.

CM19/1219

Main Access Road in Old Greenfield, Maynooth

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

Can the council provide an update on the road resurfacing for the main access road in Old Greenfield Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this section of roadway was currently not on any programme. The main access road would involve an inlay of approximately 500 metre length and the replacement of a number of ramps at an estimated cost of €75,000. These works could be undertaken if the elected members assigned funding.

Councillor Feeney asked how long it would take to carry out the works and the District Engineer stated that he would liaise with Irish Water in relation to a timeframe.

The report was noted.

CM20/1219

Footpath Works in Kilmeague Village

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

Can the council provide an update on the footpath works in Kilmeague Village?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that following further discussions with the local residents and their representative, a design of a mix of cobbles and a limestone pavement was agreed. A tender for the project was issued at the end of August and contracts were now signed. Works commenced on Monday 25 November and it was expected works would take 4 to 6 weeks to complete, subject to weather conditions.

The report was noted.

CM21/1219

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 24 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Chain of Office

The members considered a Chain of Office for use by the Cathaoirleach of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee.

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that this was a matter for the members to agree however, by way of background both the Naas and the Kildare-Newbridge Municipals Districts had a Chain of Office and the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District had recently voted to introduce one also. From a consistency point of view, Corporate Services would be supportive of the introduction of a Chain of Office in all the Municipal Districts, but this decision rested entirely with the members. The cost of procuring a Chain was approximately €750 and a budget was available within the Corporate Services budget for same. Attached was an image of the recently commissioned medallion for the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Chain.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made:

- It would be good for the chair to be acknowledged by way of a Chain of Office specific to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District
- As long as the price did not exceed €750 a chain was warranted

Resolved it was agreed by all members present that a Chain of Office for use by the Cathaoirleach of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee be approved.

CM22/1219

Strategic Projects and Public Realm

Ms Hunt circulated a quarterly report to the members detailing all updates on Strategic Projects and Public Realm. She advised the members as follows:

- Prosperous Town Park – contracts in respect of construction and equipment for the playground were to be signed in early 2020.
- Health Checks/Urban Design for Derrinturn, Johnstown Bridge, Straffan – desktop research was ongoing
- Kilcock Community Centre – the main contractor to be appointed and commence on site June 2020.
- Kilcock/Prosperous town branding and signage – tender to be issued once funding terms and conditions had been received.
- Maynooth Harbour Field Development – the Part 8 process was to commence in 2020.
- Robertstown Masterplan – the plan to completed in Quarter 1, 2020.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Was there a date for the commencement of works on Prosperous Town Park and was the car park included in the work
- It was important older applications were not bypassed by newer ones received
- What was the current status of Johnstown Bridge and Derrinturn Health Checks

Ms Hunt stated that contractors for the Prosperous Town Park would be appointed in January and then works would commence on site and stated the car park would be included in these works. She stated that in relation to Clane a design was needed before the next round of funding and stated she would speak with the engineer as there might be other sources of funding other than the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Ms Hunt stated that research had begun in relation to Johnstown Bridge and Derrinturn Health Checks and a public consultation would take place in Quarter 1, 2020.

CM23/1219

Strategic Housing Development (SHD) Application Capdoo and Abbeylands

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr McLoughlin to the meeting. Mr McLoughlin stated that the members were now familiar with their role in the Strategic Housing application and their comments would be noted and forwarded to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) with the Chief Executive's Report.

Mr Lynch gave an overview of the planning application made to An Bord Pleanála on behalf of Westar Investments Ltd. in respect of a proposed development at Capdoo and Abbeylands, Dublin Road, Clane, County Kildare for 305 residential dwellings (112 houses and 193 apartments), and a crèche. He stated that An Bord Pleanála were in favour of apartment blocks being 3-4 stories high in density and noted the Clane Local Area Plan (LAP) specified maximum density of 3 stories high. Mr Lynch stated that the deadline for public submissions was 18 December 2019 and the Chief Executive's report was due to An Bord Pleanála by 17 January 2020.

The following points were raised by the members:

- It was good to see the crèche was included in phase one
- The development was excessive and did not comply with either the Clane LAP or the County Development Plan (CDP) 2017-2023 which had set a target of 780 housing units (it was felt this was being ignored)
- There were already traffic congestion problems in the area and not enough schools or public transport to cope with the expected population growth this development would bring
- The building of the Linear Park was welcomed in the first phase but it was believed that the building of the park needed to be monitored to ensure it was built properly and did not have a negative impact on existing biodiversity by the River Liffey
- The the developer to be asked to get the traffic lights working at the junction of the R403 and Brooklands, as part of the development
- An Bord Pleanála were pushing for higher densities than what the members had already approved in the LAP
- The development would increase car movement in the already traffic congested town

- A large woodland area had been removed previously and there was no reference to this in the Environment report
- Biodiversity could be affected and should be managed by way of a planning condition
- The proposal to use the existing water system to serve the site was not acceptable
- Was the DMURS Guidance Manual being adhered to
- Had An Bord Pleanála considered restricting access for vehicles
- Had a schools capacity assessment been carried out?
- What plans were there to maintain the liner park in the future
- Was the National Spatial Strategy being ignored
- Could an update on KDA's be provided to the members and submitted as part of the submission to An Bord Pleanála

Mr Lynch stated that he would revert to the members with an update on the KDA's and the report would be submitted as part of the submissions.

CM24/1219

The Blueway

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

That the council asks Waterways Ireland to communicate and consult with the local authority and the elected members of this municipal district, in relation to any works on the Grand Canal and its banks, in preparation for The Blueway.

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

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that this project would be delivered by the council's Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team in collaboration with Waterways Ireland, Laoise County Council and various stakeholders. Once the terms and conditions of the Rural Regeneration and Development Funding (RRDF) had been received, the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team would meet with Waterways Ireland and Laois County Council, to discuss methodology and the approach required for the delivery of the Blueway. There would be a certain element of enabling works required to facilitate the Blueway and Waterways Ireland had commenced some bank stabilisation works. However, additional stabilisation work might also be required. A joint site inspection between Kildare County Council, Laois County

Council and Waterways Ireland would take place in early 2020 to assess what additional works along-side the construction of the Blueway might be required and this would be further developed during the detailed design stage. It was proposed to meet with other sections in Kildare County Council, including the Local Enterprise Office (LEO), the Heritage Officer and the Arts Section to start a dialogue and identify opportunities to enhance the experience along the Blueway which would form the basis of stakeholder and community engagement along the approved route during 2020.

Councillor Wyse stated that some dredging works had commenced and he was happy that contact had been made with Waterways Ireland.

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

CM25/1219

Quarry in Rinaghan

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

Can the council update this Municipal District Committee with the steps it has taken to deal with any potential unauthorised development at a quarry in Rinaghan?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Planning Authority had carried out a number of recent site inspections. There had been no quarrying activity taking place during any of these inspections to date. The report was noted.

CM26/1219

Shops Providing Take-Away Hot Drinks

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

That the council in partnership with the Local Enterprise Office consider a pilot 'incentivisation scheme' for any shops providing take-away hot drinks in Clane Village and surrounds.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Department for Communications, Climate Action and Environment had recently announced a number of proposed environmental levies to encourage more sustainable behaviour, including one on disposable cups. A period of public consultation had commenced and would remain open until 20 December 2019. Interested parties could engage in the process on the Department's website:

<https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/environment/consultations/Pages/Public-Consultation-on-the-Proposed-Introduction-of-New-Environmental-Levies.aspx>

At a local level, the Environment Section had provided the Maynooth Tidy Towns Group with a number of reusable cups for use as part of a promotion and pilot scheme within the town. In addition, it was noted that a large number of vendors already offered a discount for the use of such cups.

A report was also received from the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) informing the members that the LEO would be looking at a number of green initiatives in 2020 to support more sustainable business and community.

Following a discussion amongst the members the following points were made:

- A trial process in Clane was proposed for 16 shops, a 20 cent charge on each purchase comprising of a 10 cent cut for a fund and a 10 cent vendor match fee
- It was important to tackle the issue at a local level and engage with Tidy Towns, Community Councils, Business Associations and the Chamber of Commerce
- Tidy Towns were looking at waste reduction and it was a good idea for local businesses to gain from the process
- An agreement with traders not to issue plastic bags would help reduce waste

Mr Kavanagh stated that the Communications, Climate Action and Environment Department had recently announced a number of proposed environmental levies to encourage more sustainable behaviour, including one on plastic bags and disposable cups. He stated that a period of public consultation had commenced and the window for submissions would remain open until 20 December 2019.

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

CM27/1219

Green Waste From Housing Estates

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council confirm the situation regarding the council collecting green waste from housing estates after a clean up has been organised by residents?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that green waste was not collected by the Environment Clean Up Team. This waste had proved to be bulky and had resulted in the crews making several journeys to collect. Such material was suitable for local composting by residents. Advice and guidance was available from the Environmental Awareness Officer.

The report was noted.

CM28/1219

Trees in Staplestown Cemetery

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld.
Can the council provide a report on the trees in Staplestown Cemetery?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that a tree survey had been carried out by a tree surgeon. The immediate requirements would be prioritised and attended to in December. Additional work would be carried out on a phased basis over the coming months.

The report was noted.

CM29/1219

Magnetic Lock and CCTV Play Grounds

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

That the council install a timed magnetic lock and CCTV at all play grounds in the municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the council would examine the feasibility of timed locks on one of the new playgrounds in the municipal district. This would have to take account of installation and maintenance costs, health and safety and whether the system was practical or effective. The council had installed CCTV in Celbridge Playground previously and it proved ineffective for monitoring. To be effective it required a remote monitoring and operation. It was also difficult to identify individuals. The CCTV also became the target for vandalism. There were now General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) considerations which had to be considered which limited the use and effectiveness of it. Consequently the council did not consider it a worthwhile investment for playgrounds and did not have a budget to roll it out across the municipal district or the budget to operate it. Identifying locations with good passive surveillance and community involvement in the planning and running of playgrounds had been far more effective in controlling the use of these facilities.

Councillor Durkan proposed that his motion be amended, and the members considered the following amended motion in the name of Councillor Durkan:

That the council install a timed magnetic lock at play grounds in the municipal district.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made:

- There had been a number of occasions in Maynooth where rubber mats were used for various activities in the palygrounds and had been set on fire
- Anti-social behaviour was a problem together with littering in the playgrounds
- It was suggested that only playgrounds where there were problems be looked at

- There had been problems getting members of communities to hold the key for opening and closing some playgrounds and magnetic locks would help in these situations and alleviate the issue of opening and closing times having to be agreed
- It was asked that Maynooth be selected for a trial period for magnetic locks

The District Manager stated that it would not be practical to install magnetic locks in all playgrounds and stated with regard to anti-social behaviour there would be nothing stopping individuals from climbing over the fence. She stated the best solution would be to get the community involved. Mr Wallace stated he would get costings for magnetic locks for Maynooth and Councillor Durkan requested that the item remain on the progress report. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Farrelly that the report be noted and that costings for a trial period for magnetic locks for Maynooth Playground be sought and the item remain on the progress report.

CM30/1219

Piece of Art - Prosperous Town Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council consider a proposal from a group of young people to design a piece of art to be included in the detailed design of the Prosperous Town Park Development, and confirm if any funds are available to initiate such a project.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there was no funding available from the money the council received through the Town and Village Scheme. There was however some funding available, under the Per Cent for Art Scheme for the social housing development in Anne Street and an artist had been selected to work with a group of young people there. It was expected that some visual artwork would be created out of that. The Arts Service would be looking for a location for artworks when they were completed. The Arts Service would work with the community worker to identify young people to participate.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made:

- Councillor Farrelly was working with a community group from Prosperous who had attended the meeting
- The under 12 age group were interested in designing a piece of art
- Would it be possible to match funding with this group of young people?
- It was asked that transition year students of St Faran's School be included in the group for contribution to the design
- Public consultation coupled with young people and parents in addition to the art element would be beneficial
- The high level design for the town was commended
- It was asked if there was scope to fit the design for a piece of art in the detailed design or did an alternative route need to be looked at

Ms Hunt stated that she would consult with the Arts Officer and revert to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the report be noted and Ms Hunt consult with the Arts Officer and revert to the members.

CM31/1219

Childcare Provision in Maynooth

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

That the council carries out a review of childcare provision in Maynooth to assess if it meets the current and projected demographic growth of the town.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Community Department did not have the in-house information or expertise to carry out a review of childcare provision in Maynooth or to assess future needs. The council could, however, contact the County Childcare Committee if the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District members so wished and put this question to them.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made:

- Reports produced by the Childcare Committee showed there were 10 childcare providers in Maynooth and all were full to capacity until 2024

- Crèches were not being built in some developments even though it is a condition of the planning permission
- It was asked that the council enforce action where developers were in breach of the planning conditions
- Developers were saying there is no demand for creches in some areas
- Clane was the only town serviced appropriately in terms of childcare provision in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District
- Solid policies on crèches needed to be incorporated in the Local Area Plan (LAP) and the County Development Plan (CDP)
- Could Maynooth University or Tuath advise as to what the latest data was on the supply of crèches
- The matter should be referred to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and the Planning Section to review the matter when reviewing the CDP
- In cases where facilities are no longer required to serve as a crèche should they be used for a community facility/youth club rather than being lost to the community

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the matter be referred to the Planning Section for consideration when reviewing the CPD and also the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) for review of policy.

CM32/1219

Trees in the Estates in Maynooth

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

That the council undertakes to trim back trees obstructing public lighting in the estates in Maynooth as a matter of public safety.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Annual Programme of the Tree Works Programme involved the pruning and removal of trees where they were causing issues with public lights. The programme for 2020 had been tendered and there was unlikely to be flexibility to add to this. However, if there were particular locations which the councillor was concerned about the

council could consider these for the next programme. Pruning was not always practical or feasible depending on the tree species and its distance from a light. In these cases it was the council's preference to remove the tree.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made:

- Was core funding able to cover the cost of maintaining/removing trees generally or was there a need to allocate LPT funding
- It was important to plant trees a good distance away from footpaths to prevent uprooting

Mr Wallace stated that funding was covered under the Parks Work Programme and there was not always enough money to cover the works required. He stated that in relation to using LPT money in some cases not all members of the public wanted trees removed.

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

CM33/1219

Maynooth Community Space

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

Can the council confirm if Maynooth Community Space has been taken over by Kildare County Council and if so, what planning or consultation for the particular takeover took place with the current management of this facility?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Community Space in Maynooth had been taken over by Kildare County Council. The previous management were informed in person approximately a month in advance. This was followed up with emails to confirm the council would take over management, dates and times etc. The council requested the booking calendar to aid in the transition which had not yet been received.

The report was noted.

CM34/1219

Trees in The Downings, and Millrace Lawns, Broadford

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

Can the council provide a report stating the nature of the proposed maintenance works to the trees in The Downings, Prosperous and Millrace Lawns, Broadford, and an estimated date for completion of these works.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the works proposed for The Downings was to remove a tree where it was causing an issue with a footpath and prune trees adjacent to another house. A programme for pruning works in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District was currently out to tender. The council hoped to have the works completed by the end of March. It was proposed to remove the Poplars in Millrace which residents had expressed concern about. This would be done in early 2020.

The report was noted.

CM35/1219

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 14, 15, 22 and 23 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Skew Bridge, Allenwood

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

That the council install rumble strips at the junctions at the Skew Bridge, Allenwood and reduce the speed limit at the far side of the bridge from Derrinturn in the interest of road safety.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the speed limit would be assessed as part of the ongoing Speed Limit Review. It would be premature to undertake any speed reduction works until this was completed.

Councillor Fitzpatrick noted there was no mention of rumble strips on the report and requested that the District Engineer investigate the possibility of installing rumble strips at the junctions at Skew Bridge.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the District Engineer investigate the possibility of installing rumble strips at the junctions at Skew Bridge.

CM36/1219

Traffic Lights at Allenwood Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.
That the council install a full set of traffic lights at Allenwood Cross.

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

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 might determine what works and funding might be available to examine traffic and safety issues at this junction.

Following a discussion by the members the following points were made:

- There were 200 houses in the area and traffic congestion was a major problem
- A full set of traffic lights was needed at Allenwood Cross
- It was asked that the council identify funding to cover the cost of installing traffic lights
- The pedestrian crossing is too close to the junction and unsafe for school children
- The outcome of the Drehid Oral Hearing was awaited but it was noted that there was no mention of funding for traffic lights in reports for the hearing
- It was requested that the item remain on the progress report

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the item remain on the progress report.

CM37/1219

Footpath in Kilmeague

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.
Can the council confirm when the works will commence on the footpath in Kilmeague and what resolution has been agreed between the council and the local residents?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that following further discussions with the local residents and their representative, a design of a mix of cobbles and a limestone pavement was agreed. A tender for the project was issued at the end of August and contracts were now signed. Works commenced on Monday 25 November and it was expected works would take 4 to 6 weeks to complete, subject to weather conditions.
The report was noted.

CM38/1219

Traffic Counts at Butterstream, Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick
Can the council confirm if any traffic counts have been taken at Butterstream, Clane with a view to putting traffic calming measures in place?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that due to staff shortages the Municipal District Office had not been in a position to undertake the speed/traffic survey. Additional staff were due to start in 2020 and this would allow the Municipal District Office to allocate the necessary resources to undertake the survey.
The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.