

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal**

**District Meeting held on Friday, 07 February 2020 at 10:30 a.m.**

**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 and B Wyse.

**Apologies:** Councillors N O’Cearúil and P Ward.

**Officials Present:** Ms S Kavanagh (District Manager), Mr S Aylward (District Engineer), Mr G Halton (Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Wallace, (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms C Barrett (Chief Fire Officer), Ms P O’Rourke, Ms C O’Grady (Executive Parks Superintendents), Ms S Fitzpatrick (Administrative Officer), Ms A Gough (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary).

**CM01/0220**

**Suspension of Standing Orders**

The Cathaoirleach proposed to suspend standing orders for thirty minutes to facilitate an in committee meeting of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee which was taking place.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Weld and agreed by all members present that standing orders be suspended for thirty minutes until 10:30 a.m.

**CM02/0220**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 10 January 2020 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, 10 January 2020 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**CM03/0220**

**Matters Arising**

**CM02/1219 CM02/1119, CM02/1019, CM15/0719 Part 8 for Cycle lane and Footpath, Celbridge Road, Maynooth**

Councillor Durkan asked for if there was any progress with the design for the footpaths and cycle lanes for both sides of the Celbridge Road. The District Engineer stated that the matter had been referred to the Roads Design Section and a response was awaited.

**CM02/1219 CM03/1119**

**Bend on the Dunboyne Road**

Councillor Durkan asked if there was any progress in relation to improvement works at the bend on the Dunboyne Road. The District Engineer stated that maintenance works were yet to be carried out on the road.

**CM36/1219**

**Traffic Lights at Allenwood Cross**

Councillor Wyse asked the following questions in relation to installing a full set of traffic lights at Allenwood Cross:

- What progress could be made in relation to installing a full set of traffic lights?
- Could a copy of the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) report be circulated to ascertain how the costings had been calculated?
- What funding options were available and where could the members apply for funding?
- Could the matter be progressed over the next month?

Mr Aylward stated that he would ask the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) for a more detailed report for the next meeting.

**CM04/0220**

**Municipal District Road Works**

The District Engineer informed the members that crews had carried out road edge repairs and junction improvement works on Moat Commons Road, Clane, pipe reinstatement and road repairs at Clonfert and the installation of an additional traffic light at Straffan Road and Meadowbrook Road Junction (completed the previous Tuesday). He gave an overview of works which were scheduled to be carried out at Kilcock Road and Manor Mills, Curryhills, Prosperous, Rathcoffey, Cocks Bridge and Shee Bridge, Rockfield Estate (would commence in the next couple of weeks) and Kingsbry Estate (had commenced the previous Wednesday). He informed the members that the regional and local road grant allocations from both the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) and Kildare County Council had been allocated during the past month. The allocation for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District was as follows:

| <b>Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS)<br/>Non-National Road Grant Allocations</b> |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Grant Type</b>   | <b>Allocation</b>    |
| Restoration Improvement   | €2,221,290.00        |
| Restoration Maintenance   | €666,930.00          |
| Discretionary Maintenance   | €682,416.00          |
| Drainage works  | €101,190.00          |
|   | <b>€3,671,826.00</b> |

| <b>Kildare County Council Own Funds Allocations</b> |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Grant Type</b>                                   | <b>Allocation</b>    |
| Footpaths   | €79,000.00           |
| Traffic Calming                                     | €25,000.00           |
| Signage   | €25,000.00           |
| Discretionary Maintenance                           | €1,349,535.00        |
|   | <b>€1,478,535.00</b> |

The following questions were asked by the members:

- Was overlay work planned for Moat Commons to include speed ramps and would road markings be emphasised to indicate the fact that section of road was a shared space
- When would work commence on the final section of the Moyglare Road and Leinster Street along Mill Street?
- What portion of the budget was allocated specifically for the provision of cycle lanes?
- Were cases which had previously been in the Kildare-Newbridge remit being prioritised since the budget had transferred over in January (Allenwood, Ballyteague, Robertstown and Kilmeague)?
- Concerns were raised with regard to the appropriate speed limit for certain roads was not necessarily in keeping with the speed limits being imposed
- Could the council emphasise with Irish Water when laying pipework, that it was vital the pipe capacity would manage additional water and sewage systems brought on line with further development?
- Was there any further update on Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) funding?

The District Engineer confirmed the following points:

- The District Engineer stated that the speed ramps would remain in Moat Commons and the overlay work would be carried out from the joint of the road to the junction
- The District Engineer would ask for an update in relation to the design for Mill Street
- A speed survey would be carried out when works had been completed
- The road had been deliberately narrowed to reduce and deter speeding
- The member's concerns would be taken on board
- There was no specific funding for cycle lanes
- The Municipal District Office had a list of five LIS schemes but there was no news on funding at this stage

**LPT Schedule of Works 2020**

The members considered the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2020 (including the agreed list of roads projects).

The District Manager confirmed the following:

- The report needed to be laid out in the appropriate format and if the agreed headings were forwarded to her she would circulate a draft list of the agreed projects to the members
- Each municipal district now had an appointed representative to update the members on a quarterly basis on the LPT projects including how much had been spent on each item
- Mr McDermott had been assigned to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District and would be updating the members quarterly once the agreed list of projects had been signed off

**Resolved** It was agreed by all members present that this item would be adjourned until the March meeting.

**CM06/0220**

**Newtown Hall and Limetree Hall Estates**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton.  
Can the council clarify when the road surfacing and completion of all cycle paths will be done in both Newtown Hall and Limetree Hall, Maynooth and what other obstacles remain outstanding to taking both estates in charge?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that:

**Newtown Hall:**

The wearing course had been completed in the Newtown Hall development the previous week and the Development Control Inspectors planned to review this work in the coming days. There were a number of traffic calming measures which are outstanding and details of these will have to be agreed with the Roads Design Section. There were still outstanding

snag list items on the storm lines and the pump station. There were also surface defects which would need to be addressed. At present the council did not have a formal request for the estate to be taken in charge. There was a management company currently in place for the whole estate. Before any taking in charge could be progressed the responsibility of the management company would have to be reviewed to cover the apartments only.

**Limetree Hall:**

There were still some outstanding issues on the CCTV survey to be addressed and the manholes had yet to be snagged. The wearing course and ramps were yet to be completed. Landscaping and footpaths through the green area also needed to be completed. Once all of these works had been finalised the Development Control Inspectors would be in a position to issue a final snag list on the surface defects. All of the taking in charge documentation would then have to be submitted by the developer and Irish Water would have to be consulted and their agreement sought. As with Newtown Hall the council had not received a request to take this development in charge.

The report was noted.

**CM07/0220**

**Meadowbrook Estate**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney.  
Can the council confirm if the process for the taking in charge of the Meadowbrook Estate in Maynooth is near completion?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a CCTV contractor was currently on site completing the survey information required. Once this survey had been completed it would need to be reviewed within the Development Control Section. The Development Control Inspector had met with the Municipal District Engineer in the estate to review surface defects. It was estimated that expenditure in the region of €300,000 was required to bring the footpaths etc up to modern taking in charge standards. This figure did not include/allow for any issues which might arise from the CCTV survey, leak detection and water audit. An audit of the public lighting would also be required.

The report was noted.

**CM08/0220**

**Briefing from Local Link**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Alan Kerry, Transport Manager of Local Link, Kildare South Dublin to the meeting.

Mr Kerry informed the members of the following points:

- Local Link Kildare South Dublin currently operated 291 scheduled trips on 45 routes which created over 2,000 passenger trips a week
- In 2019 13,058 service trips were provided which was an increase of 4.7% compared to 2018
- Local Link Services covered 559,839 kilometres on the roads of Kildare and South Dublin.
- 109,027 passengers availed of Local Link scheduled services in 2019 which was an increase of 17.8% compared to 2018
- In 2019 Local Link offered 3 daily services to Maynooth University
- 47 groups and individuals had received funding for transport from the Annual Once Off Social Fund (€12,000) - the average subsidy per trip was €60 which allowed participation in social and recreational activities.
- Applications were usually open from June to October
- Applications were currently being considered for the 4RR services which included routes from Celbridge to Naas via Sallins Train Station, Athy to Carlow, Allenwood to Naas via Sallins Train Station and Route 880

The members raised the following points:

- Considering there were only five members of staff in Local Link, the volume of work they produced was excellent
- Synergies with the Health Service Executive (HSE) in relation to the free travel pass would be helpful
- It was heartening to see an increase in services and good to see that Ardclough was included on the time-table

- It would be helpful to know what the statistics were for car movement on particular bus routes
- Had there been any discussion between Local Link and the Department of Roads, Transportation and Public Safety in relation to integrating Local Link Services with the Roads wall map
- Bus services to train stations were welcome and far better than providing additional car parking spaces
- The student feedback from Maynooth University was welcomed
- The Bookabus service had proven to be a very popular and professional service
- Overall it was felt that Local Link were doing outstanding work

Mr Kerry stated the following points:

- Local Link had received positive feedback from users of the Maynooth University Service
- It was asked that the members liaise with Local Link before they spoke to members of the public in relation to applications for funding for transport services
- A submission had been submitted to the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) requesting the development of local links services in rural areas to be a statutory responsibility and a copy of this submission would be circulated to the members
- A local passenger transport plan was critical to ensure all areas were being serviced appropriately in rural areas
- Ardclough was included in the schedule of high frequency services into Naas but Straffan had not yet been included
- No discussions had taken place between Local Link and the Department of Roads, Transportation and Public Safety in relation to integrating Local Link Services with the Roads Department's mapping

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr Kerry for his comprehensive presentation and wished him continued success.



**CM09/0220**

**Road Markings at Clocha Rince National School**

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

That the council repaint the road markings designed to reduce speeds and improve safety at Clocha Rince National School and on the approach roads to Clocha Rince National School as a matter of urgency.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Wyse 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 would inspect the lining in the area and arrange for any reinstatement as required.

Councillor Wyse asked if it was possible to repaint the existing road markings with rumble strips. The District Engineer stated that he had inspected the area the previous day and works would be carried out over the coming weeks.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wyse, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the road markings designed to reduce speeds and improve safety at Clocha Rince National School and on the approach roads to Clocha Rince National School be repainted in the coming weeks.

**CM10/0220**

**Public Lighting on the R415**

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

That the council provide a feasibility report to the members on the possibility of installing addition public lighting on the R415, from Allenwood Cross to the entrance of Cushalla.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Public Lighting Section would visit the location of the requested new street light, and it would then be assessed using a priority system within the

Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS). Lighting schemes would be scored on various factors and placed within the KLIPS according to that score. The lighting within the KLIPS would be installed as and when funds became available and depending on where the request sat within the KLIPS. Currently there was no funding available in the 2020 public lighting budget to install public lighting at this location.

Councillor Wyse stated that he did not understand why a light had not been installed at this location and stated it was a necessity due to the darkness of the area.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wyse, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the report be noted and the Public Lighting Section visit the location to assess if a light is warranted at the location.

### **CM11/0220**

#### **Flooding/Drainage Issues at St Farnan's Park**

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

That the council investigates flooding/drainage issues on the corner of St Farnan's Park, Prosperous.

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 the Municipal District Office would investigate the area to ascertain the issue and clarify if any remedial action was required.

Councillor Farrelly asked that this item remain on the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wyse, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted and that the Municipal District Office investigate the area to ascertain the issue and clarify if any remedial action was required and that this item remain on the progress report.

**CM12/0220**

**Taking in Charge of Clonagh Lane**

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

That the council takes in charge Clonagh Lane.

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

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 will then inspect the road to ensure the taking in charge is appropriate and if the road is of good enough condition to take in charge. If the road meets the required criteria, a report will be prepared for the elected members who can then determine/agree if the road is to be taken in charge.

The following points were raised by the members:

- How could the residents be advised of the process
- It was a lengthy process which took years and the condition needed to be at a required standard for the taking in charge process to commence

The District Engineer stated the following:

- The application for the taking in charge of a road had to be processed via the Roads Administration Section once the residents request it in writing
- If successful the taking in charge of the road would be put before the members for approval

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

**CM13/0220**

**Disabled Parking Bays in Maynooth**

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

That the council lower a section of the footpath at disabled parking bays in Maynooth to allow access for wheelchair users.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Feeney 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 would examine the locations to investigate the feasibility of lowering the footpaths at these locations.

The District Engineer stated that he would discuss the matter further with Councillor Feeney after the meeting.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the Municipal District Office examine the locations to investigate the feasibility of lowering the footpaths at these locations.

**CM14/0220**

**Safety Measures on the Road from Clonwood Heights, Clane**

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

That the council implement the following safety measures on the road from Clonwood Heights, Clane, to the Prosperous Road, Clane through the Butterstream/Loughanure/Croakaun Commons area of Clane:

- An immediate reduction of the speed limit on this road which is currently 60km/h
- The reversal of the change of priority at the junction of upper Butterstream and Loughanure roads to its original position to reduce speeding at this juncture; or using a roundabout at this junction to accommodate all traffic
- An introduction of traffic islands or chicanes or other traffic calming measures including signage to reduce speeding

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the speed limit would be reviewed as part of the County Wide Speed Limit Review. The Municipal District Office was awaiting the results of a speed survey to ascertain if speeding was an issue on this road. The results of the survey would determine if any measures were required. The implementation of measures would be subject to available funding.

Councillor Feeney requested that this item remain on the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted and that this item remain on the progress report.

### **CM15/0220**

#### **Footpath from Rathcoffey GAA Club to the Petrol Station**

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

That the council consider providing a footpath from Rathcoffey GAA Club to the petrol station.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office would investigate the feasibility of a footpath at this location and revert with an estimated cost in the coming months.

Councillor Durkan stated that the footpath did not cover the full distance of the road which was a necessity for safety of residents given the huge increase in population in the area and the fact it was a very busy main road. He asked that the item remain on the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and the Municipal District Office investigate the feasibility of a footpath at this location and revert with an estimated cost and this item remain on the progress report.

**CM16/0220**

**Speed Limit in Parklands, Maynooth**

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

That the council reduce the speed limit in Parklands, Maynooth to 30km/h.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this had been referred on to the team who were completing the speed limit review. It could best be dealt with as part of that process.

The following points were raised by the members:

- This issue had been raised previously on several occasions
- The speed limit on the radar sign needed to be reduced to 30km/h
- The speed limit on other smaller routes needed to be reduced to 20km/h (the route to the square)
- It was accepted the speed limit review was ongoing but the members had been briefed on the review in 2018 and to date there was no fruition with the review
- It was requested that this item remain on the progress report

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Feeney that the report be noted and that this item remain on the progress report.

**CM17/0220**

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 15 and 20 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

**Item 15:**

**Road safety at Dag Welds Junction**

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

That the council address the issue of road and driver safety at the Dag Welds junction as a matter of urgency.

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 this matter had been referred to the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG).

The following points were raised by the members:

- Councillor Fitzpatrick referred to a report which had been issued at the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District September meeting in 2018 which stated that an outline costing for safety improvements at this junction had been prepared
- What had been done in relation to the outline costings?
- The Technical Assessment and Advisory Group (TAAG) was not fully staffed and there was nothing to be gained by referring this item to them
- It was the general opinion that the matter should have remained within the remit of the municipal district office to deal with
- The Dag Welds junction was one of the most dangerous crossing in the county
- Could the members see the extract of the report which was submitted to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) in relation to Dag Welds Cross
- Could a meeting be held with the two landowners who were willing to give land for the purpose of carrying out the necessary works at the junction
- It was asked that the municipal district office revert to the members in the next few months with a design and costings for safety improvements at the junction
- Could the matter be referred to the Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)
- It was understood that a decision was awaited from ABP but there was no reason not to proceed with a design and costings at this stage
- If the council spent money now a refund could be sought from ABP when the outcome of the oral hearing was known
- It was requested that this item remain on the progress report

The District Engineer stated that he had not seen the report which was submitted to ABP and stated he had noted the member's concerns and would liaise with the TAAG.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the District Engineer liaise with the TAAG team in relation to the report which had been submitted to ABP and an extract of the report which related to Dag Welds junction be circulated to the members and that this item remain on the progress report.

**Item 20:**

**Road Safety Concerns at Dag Welds Cross**

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

Can the council outline the steps it has taken to date in addressing the road safety concerns at Dag Welds Cross, and identify possible solutions (and approximate costs) to address same?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this matter had been referred to the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) under Councillor Fitzpatrick's motion. The queries raised in this question would be responded to as part of that process.

The report was noted.

**CM18/0220**

**Electric Car Charging Points**

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

That the council identify car charging points within the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District and start a programme to roll them out as soon as possible.

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 at present there was one designated Electric Vehicle (EV) charging point identified in the Clane parking bye-laws and none in Maynooth. It was advised that EV parking spaces be identified in parking bye-laws in order for them to be regulated. At present ESB were upgrading a number of existing EV charging points in



existence in County Kildare. The Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department were at present in the process of identifying the best course of action to commence a county wide programme to install EV charging points and may engage with ESB with regard to installing new EV charging points across the county. The provision of EV charging points fell under the remit of Kildare County Council's Climate Action Officer. This post had been advertised recently by the Human Resources Department.

The following points were raised by the members:

- There were no electric car charging points in the car park at Áras Chill Dara and when would they be available for use
- There was no incentive for people to purchase electric vehicles as charging points were not provided
- Could the matter be referred to the Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The District Manager stated the following points:

- Discussions were ongoing in relation to providing electric vehicle charging points
- The council had plans to provide charging points in the car park at Áras Chill Dara, the MERITS building and off street car parks
- Spaces were expected to be available in the car park at Áras Chill Dara in the coming months and they would be provided as part of the planning permission for the MERITS building
- The members points were noted and the matter would be referred to the Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services SPC

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the matter be referred to the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

**CM19/0220**

**Double Yellow Lines at the Entrance to the The Meadows**

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

That the council install double yellow lines at the entrance to the The Meadows, Cooleragh as residents are very worried that the emergency services may not be able to access their estate at times.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office would monitor this location to ascertain the extent of the problem and identify if remedial action was required.

The following points were raised by Councillor Weld:

- In particular at mass times and funerals residents were unable to enter/exit the estate because of parked cars blocking the entrance to the estate
- It was asked that the municipal district office monitor the situation and the matter remain on the progress report

The District Engineer stated he would monitor the situation.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the Municipal District Office monitor the situation and this item to remain on the progress report.

**CM20/0220**

**Car Parking Spaces in Coill Dubh**

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

That the council provide additional car parking spaces in and around the village of Coill Dubh as the public roads are getting blocked because of cars parking on them.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office would monitor this location to ascertain the extent of the problem and identify if remedial action was required.

The following points were raised by Councillor Weld:

- Residents could not park outside their houses because of cars parked along-side their entrances
- Councillor Weld would visit the site with the District Engineer

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Wyse that the report be noted and the Municipal District Office monitor this location to ascertain the extent of the problem and the District Engineer visit the site with Councillor Weld.

### **CM21/0220**

#### **Pedestrian and Cycle Way Between Prosperous and Sallins**

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

Can the council outline the steps necessary to deliver a pedestrian and cycle way between Prosperous and Sallins via Clane and possible avenues of funding for such a development?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the provision of such a facility would require the following broad steps:

1. Identification of policy objectives in the County Development Plan (CDP) which would support the provision of the facility and these would have to be checked for consistency with national and regional planning policy. It would also have to comply with the National Transport Authority's (NTA'S) strategy and their programme for rollout of that type of infrastructure.
2. A suitable sanctioning authority would then be identified to fund the project(s) in whole or in part.
3. A Preliminary Project Appraisal in accordance with the Capital Appraisal Framework and Public Spending Code would then be required.
4. If the Preliminary Project Appraisal receives approval and the sanctioning authority allocates funding, then a project could commence once Kildare County Council engineering resources are assigned and the project is given priority.
5. A consultant would then be procured as the council do not have inhouse design resources.

6. A project Execution Plan is then developed and the project moves through a seven-phase process to completion.
7. The main events are as follows:
  - a. Route selection including non-statutory public consultation
  - b. Statutory procedures (Appropriate Assessment Screening, Environmental Impact Assessment Report Screening, Natura Impact Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Compulsory Purchase Order, Benefit to Cost Analysis, Detailed Project Appraisal) which may lead to an oral hearing.
  - c. Serving Notice to treat and purchase lands.
  - d. Detailed approval of the scheme to allow commencement of construction process.
  - e. Tendering of Contract(s).
  - f. Revised Detail Project Appraisal, approval of tender report and appointment of the contractor(s)
  - g. Commencement of work.
  - h. Completion of the scheme.

There were numerous other aspects and reports but the above were what was visible to the public. At many points the sanctioning authority could delay or stop the progress of the scheme. Please note the above was only a broad outline of the process. The main sources of funding would be the NTA, the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) and Kildare County Council.

The report was noted.

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 21 and 22 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

**Item 21:**

**Maynooth Eastern Ring Road**

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

Can the council confirm the current status of the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road development?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the project team were currently working on the detailed design, compulsory purchase order, accommodation works agreement, Public Spending Code compliance and discussions with the landowners/possible developers.

Councillor Feeney asked for further detail in relation to the timelines for the development and Mr Halton stated he would check with the Roads Design Team and revert to her. The report was noted.

**Item 22:**

**Maynooth Orbital Route**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide a full update on progress on all sections of the Maynooth Orbital Route to include the Link Road between Moyglare Road and the Dunboyne Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this proposal could not be included in the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) Scheme located nearby, as the provision of such additional works would likely

require a re-run of the Part 8 process and the CPO. This would delay the MERR scheme programme and risk losing the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Funding (LIHAF). However, the project can be added to the list of projects to be considered. Please note the

prioritisation of projects will be examined as resources become available for additional projects. The developer, Cairn Homes has indicated the Link Road between the Moyglare Road and the Dunboyne Road should be completed and open to traffic by the end of April 2020.

Councillor Durkan sought clarification on the following items:

- An update on both sections of the road had been requested and the report did not answer the question asked
- Were the council at tender stage for the section of the road which had received funding from the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LHIAF)
- Had a planning application been lodged for the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route (MOOR)?
- Could an update on progress for work on the Straffan Road to the Kilcock Road be provided?

Mr Halton stated he would check with the Roads Design Team and revert to Councillor Durkan.

The report was noted.

### **CM23/0220**

#### **Traffic Calming at Robertstown National School**

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

Can the council provide an update on costing and design for traffic calming at Robertstown National School?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this matter had been referred to the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG).

The report was noted.

**CM24/0220**

**Public Light at the Bus Stop in Coill Dubh**

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to install a public light at the bus stop in Coill Dubh Village?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were no plans to install any additional lighting in Coill Dubh, however, the Public Lighting Section would visit the location of the requested new street light, and it would then be assessed using a priority system within the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS). Lighting schemes would be scored on various factors and placed within the KLIPS according to that score. The lighting within the KLIPS would be installed as and when funds became available and depending on where the request sat within the KLIPS. Currently there was no funding available in the 2020 public lighting budget to install public lighting at this location.

The report was noted.

**CM25/0220**

**Water Damage to House at Willow Lawns**

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

Can the council explain the reason for not taking action to prevent additional water damage to the fire damaged house at Willow Lawns, Kilmeague, by closing off the hole in the roof immediately after the incident occurred?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that this property was extensively fire damaged with serious structural fire damage to the roof structure. The council could not instruct any repairs or works on this roof as it was a dangerous structure scheduled for full demolition/removal. To carry out any works on or near this roof would be a serious risk. There were minor openings in the roof at present as a result of the original fire and these were allowing some water ingress. However, the attic area and the first floor of this property suffered serious water damage when the fire service initially attended the scene. The openings which remained could not be repaired safely until

the full roof structure was removed. A complete new roof would be constructed as part of the full renovation project planned for this property in the coming months.

Councillor Wyse asked if he could see the report which had been prepared by the engineer and Ms Fitzpatrick stated she would ask the engineer to contact Councillor Wyse directly. The report was noted.

**CM26/0220**

**Energy Master Plan**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton.  
Can the council provide an update on the approval of the Energy Master Plan applications to Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) for the Clane, and Maynooth Sustainable Energy Communities and the reason for the significant delay since the initial applications were made in March 2019?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that the Facilities Section were currently working with the Sustainable Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and their assigned mentor to progress the four Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC'S) currently in the application phase. Delays had been caused as Kildare County Council had developed a new model for SEC'S and it had taken time to fit this new model to existing procedures in place by the SEAI.

The report was noted.

**CM27/0220**

**Maynooth, Kilcock and Clane Local Area Plans (LAP's)**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.  
Can the council confirm what progress has been made in moving forward the Maynooth, Kilcock and Clane Local Area Plans (LAP's)?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic and Development Department informing the members that the council was currently undertaking Variation No.1 to the



County Development Plan (CDP) 2017-2023 in order to incorporate the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) and the National Planning Framework (NPF) into the County Development Plan. Following the adoption of Variation No.1 of the CDP work would commence on the previously advised Local Area Plan (LAP) Programme i.e. Naas, Athy, Kildare Town and Maynooth. It should be noted that the RSES outlines an objective (RPO 4.35) to prepare a cross boundary joint LAP with Meath County Council for Maynooth. The Kilcock and Clane LAP's did not expire until November 2021 and June 2023 respectively.

The report was noted.

### **CM28/0220**

#### **Parks Works Programme 2020**

Mr Wallace gave an overview on the Parks Works Programme for 2020 and circulated a report to the members.

Mr Wallace stated the following:

- The report listed areas where work would be carried and provided priority timeframes of these works
- Operational functions of the Parks Section took up the majority of time and resources and it was intended to work on the items on the Parks Work Programme when possible
- It was hoped to carry out some work on the community planting scheme in 2020 – the first step would be to identify suitable sites and get communities involved
- The response to Annual Tree Week had not been good
- The cost of a contractor would need to be considered given the lack of response from communities
- There were no additional resources available in the Parks Section to work on any further projects
- The matter could be referred to the Community and Cultural Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) with a view to getting the People Participation Network (PPN) and the Chamber of Commerce involved
- It might be possible to run two pilot tree planting schemes in 2020

- In relation to the roundabout at the M6 the council would be consulting with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) regarding the possibility of acquiring an artist to design a suitable piece of art for the roundabout

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms O'Rourke to the meeting. Ms O'Rourke gave an overview of the Open Space Management in County Kildare as follows:

- How public spaces were currently maintained and how the council would continue to maintain them in the future
- Areas of concern in relation to public opinion included pesticide/herbicide usage – glyphosate (a major issue), pollinator friendly work practice, climate change mitigation, water quality, tree coverage quality of open space facilities and the greater need for them
- Current environmentally friendly maintenance practices – meadows and hay crops, grazing on pastures (e.g. Carton Avenue) were cost effective and fruitful
- Reduced mowing and spot spraying and hand weeding together with working with the Tidy Towns and community groups would be helpful for bio-diversity
- Remove noxious weeds as it was not necessary to remove all weeds and use alternatives to pesticide
- Buy in was the key to success by way of education, activities for different age groups, policies and legislation plans to assist implementation was required together with research to provide scientific based solutions
- The plan for 2020 was to pilot trial areas in each municipal district and to maintain areas in an environmentally friendly fashion, reduce mowing regimes, maintain wildlife verges and progress with funding and procurement of scientific research
- Potential areas to be trialled in reducing grass cutting and spraying in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District were pound Park, Maynooth, Meadowbrook Link Road (grass area), Clane Ring Road and the Bawnogues, Kilcock
- Scoping exercises were required to identify gaps in research and funding of €50,000 would be needed for an initial scoping exercise to be undertaken
- The members help might be needed at a later date to allocate matching or additional funding to raise the necessary money needed

The following points were raised by the members:

- All members thanked Ms O'Rourke for her comprehensive presentation
- Education events for communities were needed in relation to tree planting
- The management of glyphosate was vital as use of it had been responsible for loss of 90% of bugs
- It was suggested that Ms O'Rourke's presentation be shown to the Maynooth Community Council
- The members had supported LPT funding for glyphosate trials
- The 50/50 approach for mowing was clever and environmentally beneficial
- Liaison with the Carton Avenue Community Group would be beneficial to get their support and communicate further to the community
- The members commended the staff of the Parks Section for the volume of work they had delivered given their limited budget and resources

The District Manager thanked Ms O'Rourke for her comprehensive presentation and stated it was very helpful to have the level of detail provided in the presentation. She thanked Mr Wallace, Ms O'Rourke and Ms O'Grady for their commitment and continued dedication to the work constantly delivered by the Parks Section.

### **CM29/0220**

#### **Allenwood Playground Project**

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

Can the council confirm what progress has been made on the Allenwood Playground project in recent months, and what are the current projected timelines for the Part 8 process?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that a draft design was submitted to the council prior to Christmas for the playground. The council intended to meet with the consultant who prepared the design in February to review the design. It was hoped to have a final design ready by April and then to proceed with a Part 8. However, this was contingent on other projects in other municipal district areas which the Parks Section were also trying to progress.

The report was noted.

**CM30/0220**

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 30 and 31 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

**Item 30:**

**Public Park Prosperous**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.  
Can the council provide an update on the public park in Prosperous?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the contract for the construction of the town park had been awarded and the contractor was preparing to commence work on site towards the end of February, however the precise start date was weather dependant. The tender for the playground equipment was currently being assessed. It was expected that the town park would be completed by July 2020.

The report was noted.

**Item 31:**

**Public Park Prosperous**

The members considered the following question in the name of Weld.  
Can the council provide the members with a progress report on the public park in Prosperous?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the contract for the construction of the town park had been awarded and the contractor was preparing to commence work on site towards the end of February, however the precise start date was weather dependant. The tender for the playground equipment was currently being assessed. It was expected that the town park would be completed by July 2020.

The report was noted.

**CM31/0220**

**Deputation from Maynooth Educate Together**

The District Manager informed the members that the Maynooth Educate Together National School had requested a class trip to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting in March. The purpose of the visit would be for the winning group of their Blue Star Programme to present their ideas on policies for the development of Maynooth to the members.

**Resolved** With the agreement of all members present the Maynooth Educate Together students will attend the March meeting to present their ideas on policies for the development of Maynooth to the members.

The meeting concluded.