

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District held on Friday, 02 July 2021 at 10:30 a.m.
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas, Co Kildare**

Members Present: Councillor B Wyse (Cathaoirleach), Councillors T Durkan, A Farrelly, A Feeney, D Fitzpatrick, P Hamilton, P McEvoy, N Ó Cearúil, P Ward and B Weld.

Officials Present: Ms S Kavanagh (District Manager), Mr J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr S Aylward (District Engineer), Mr P Mulhern (Energy Efficiency Officer), Mr O Brady (Administrative Officer), Ms S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Mr S Higgins (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CM01/0721

Declaration of Pecuniary or Beneficial Interests

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

CM02/0721

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 04 June 2021 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 04 June 2021 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM03/0721

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer stated a report had been circulated to the members detailing a summary of essential works which had been undertaken in the past month. He confirmed that crews are currently undertaking routine maintenance including

opening inlets, clearing drains and gullies, patching and sign clearance. The verge cutting at strategic junctions and locations throughout the municipal district has commenced and is ongoing. They have also commenced the preparatory works on the remaining Restoration Maintenance schemes including patching, cleaning and opening inlets.

Councillor Fitzpatrick enquired about funding received and mentioned the design of a pedestrian crossing at Allenwood School.

The District Engineer said no funding has been received this year from the National Transport Authority (NTA) and the Municipal District Office's resources were fully utilised and at full capacity with the current workload.

CM04/0721

Remaining Balance for LPT Schedule of Works 2021

The Cathaoirleach asked the members to consider the allocation of an amount towards the memorial for the Mother and Baby home, agreed at full council.

Councillor McEvoy advised that work is currently ongoing in relation to this and it was hoped that there will be a budget recommendation made in the Autumn. The members agreed.

The District Manager advised that the Municipal District LPT Co-ordinator had circulated a report on the current LPT projects to the members in advance of the meeting and that the allocation to be agreed upon was €61,065 broken down as follows; Community: €13,507, Parks: €6,104 and Roads: €41,456. The District Manager also advised that she would circulate a revised Schedule of Municipal District Works to the members and that if they had any projects in mind, to contact her or the LPT co-ordinator with them. Councillor Ó Cearúil asked how could members promote their LPT work. The District Manager said that she had raised this with the new Communications Team and suggested that an infographic would be a good method to explain how the funding was used locally. Councillor Hamilton asked that €15,000 of an approximate €20,000 be reallocated from cycle design to the Meadowbrook project.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by all members present that the allocation of the remaining monies and the reallocation upon Councillor Hamilton's request be approved as outlined. See appendix 1 attached.

CM05/0721

Capital Programme 2022-2024

The District Manager noted that last year's agreed Capital Programme was circulated ahead of this month's meeting. The District Manager recapped how development levies for each municipal district were collected and distributed amongst all municipal districts except for the development levies for recreation and parks which was kept within each respective district. The capacity of the development levies was dependent on the levies collected in any particular year and were divided up by priority.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Derrinturn and Carbury had allocated budgets of €150,000 each for playgrounds and due to the size of these locations two playgrounds were not warranted. It was suggested that the funding for Carbury be transferred to the Derrinturn Playground budget thus increasing its budget to €300,000 instead of the allocated €150,000.
- Road noise on the ring road near Capdoo had increased since the Sallins ring road opened. Could the land bank be redesigned to reduce the sound of the increase in traffic?
- A community centre in the town of Maynooth should be considered.
- The council could work with the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) to make use of the vacated Maynooth Post Primary school to create a community crèche/centre facility.
- To add the Laraghbryan West Maynooth Realignment Works to the programme, as also suggested in Councillor Durkan's motion to be considered later.

The District Manager advised that if a big project was proposed and agreed, that funds would be set aside to get it started. The District Manager requested that the members revert back to her via email with any proposals that they would like to put forward.

CM06/0721

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 18 and 21 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Item 16:

Junction at Cock Bridge, Donore

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the council examine the junction at Cock Bridge, Donore to close one of the arms at this junction from Robertstown in the interest of road-user 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 Municipal District Office will examine the location with a view to including it as an application for Low Cost Safety funding in 2022. Subject to securing funding a design and the statutory process can be progressed in Quarter 1 or Quarter 2 2022 with construction in Quarter 3 or Quarter 4 2022.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Accidents are likely to occur due to the current design of the junction.
- The flow of traffic would be improved if one arm of the junction was closed.

The District Engineer confirmed that subject to a low cost safety funding allocation, that it could be considered.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Wyse and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

Item 23:

Old Machinery Yard in Broadford

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

Can the council confirm if it has plans to hand over the old machinery yard in Broadford to the local community to develop amenities around the junction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans at present in relation to the roads depot in Broadford. The Transportation Department will investigate the best use of this important resource.

The Senior Engineer confirmed that the machinery yard is not currently in use and could be looked at if a proposal was put forward.

The report was noted.

CM07/0721

Request for update from Developer of Hawthorn Manor

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

That this council requests, in the immediate interest of child safety, that Building and Development Control request an update from the developer of Hawthorn Manor in Coill Dubh regarding the expected completion of the wearing course on the main driveway in the estate and the final landscaping of the open space adjacent to the L7073 road.

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 the developer is engaging with the council regarding the completion of the estate to the required taking in charge standard. The council have inspected the estate and are drafting a snag list of surface defects which the council

will issue shortly to the developer. The wearing course can only be completed after the CCTV survey of the drainage network is issued and reviewed by the council.

Councillor Wyse stated he had met with the local residents and their concerns prompted this motion. He noted that the provision of signage was being investigated. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wyse, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted.

CM08/0721

Section 38 Proposed Traffic Calming and Priority System on L50213

The members considered under the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Section 38 the proposed traffic calming and priority system on L50213 at St. Brigid's National School, Ticknevin, Carbury, Co. Kildare.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by all members present that the Section 38 proposed traffic calming and priority system on L50213 at St. Brigid's National School, Ticknevin, Carbury, Co Kildare be approved.

CM09/0721

Site Meeting with Irish Water

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council organises a site meeting with Irish Water and members of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District to discuss the condition of roads in Clane since the recent works.

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 these works were carried out in 2020 on behalf of Irish Water and involved the installation of a new sewers. These works were completed under a road opening licence issued by Kildare County Council in line with the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads. The Municipal District Office is liaising with the contractor on agreed reinstatement details and programme. In line

with the guidelines the licence holder is required to repair any damaged sections in a like for like basis, this includes road surface, footpaths, kerbing and lining. If any additional works are required the costs are to be borne by Kildare County Council and subject to procurement guidelines. It was intended to have the reinstatement works completed in August 2021 prior to the school return and road closure notifications will be published next week. The Municipal District Office would continue to engage with the contractor to ensure Kildare County Council gets the best value from these reinstatement works. If the members so wish the Municipal District Office will seek a site meeting with the contractor and water services.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Could the members be notified and included if a meeting with Irish Water was held?
- There is a very unpleasant smell coming from the sewers near Central Park Ballinagappa Road.

The District Engineer confirmed that he had meetings with the contractor. He explained that the council were waiting on a final proposal and that it was needed for the work to progress. He also confirmed that the Municipal District Office would be contributing funds to this work and that he would keep the members up to date. He also noted that the manhole covers were to be replaced by the contractor to prevent the smell.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM10/0721

Bicycle Shelters for Primary Schools in Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council provides bicycle shelters for primary schools in Maynooth to help promote cycling among young people.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Road Safety and Cycling Officer Declan Keogh will discuss this with the Sustainable Transport Team regarding sourcing funding or alternative options for school cycle shelters.

The following points were raised by the members:

- It would be positive if the council could look at supporting schools with bike shelters.
- With boys and girls national schools being built in the local area, the upgrade of bike shelters was welcomed.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Hamilton and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM11/0721

Upkeep of Sight-lines at Junctions and Crossroads

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council ensures that sight-lines are up-kept at junctions and crossroads across this municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Municipal District Office commenced the verge cutting at junctions in the municipal district on 14 June and are currently progressing through all strategic locations.

Councillor Ó Cearúil noted that due to the recent good weather that there was a lot of growth and this would have affected the sight-lines at junctions and crossroads across the municipal district.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Weld and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM12/0721

Review of the Street Furniture/Poles in Kilcock

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

That the council undertake a review of the street furniture/poles on paths in Kilcock with a view to undertaking repairs and/or painting due to their current poor state.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ward 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 is currently surveying all signage in the municipal district with the intention of commencing a sign replacement/improvement programme in Quarter 4 2021 subject to available funding. Dependant on the costs involved this may be a multi annual programme.

Councillor Ward noted the report and noted that there was a big signage programme but that the Kilcock area needed new signs. He stated that a lot of the poles in the area were discoloured and crooked and were in need of being painted or repaired and the work carried out on the poles in Maynooth was a good example of this kind of work.

The District Engineer confirmed that this would be added to the list for the work by the end of year.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM13/0721

Review of Road Markings in and around Kilcock

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

That the council undertake a review of the road markings in and around Kilcock in order to list them for repainting soon.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ward 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 is currently surveying all lining in the municipal district to identify locations where renewal is required. It is the

intention to commence a line renewal programme in Quarter 3 or Quarter 4 2021 subject to available funding. Dependant on the costs involved this may be a multi annual programme.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Wyse and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM14/0721

Provision of Additional Temporary Public Toilets

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council put in place a plan to provide additional temporary public toilets to support the 'outdoor summer' in key outdoor gathering points in the municipal district, using the government funding made available for this purpose.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Transportation Department has undertaken some research with our local colleagues regarding the options available, the associated costs and the 'demand' for additional services.

Temporary toilet blocks, similar to those installed in Grafton Street and Wolfe Tone Square in Dublin have an estimated installation cost of €70,000 per block. These block units are connected to the public mains and sewer facilities providing male/female services and are open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. in most instances. There are significant additional costs associated with security and cleaning of the facilities with an annual cost estimated at €250,000 - €300,000 for a block unit.

Public Buildings have also been made available in towns across counties providing 'toilet facilities only' while the main building is closed due to public health restrictions. Costs associated with this scenario are minimal as the staff are present in the building, the facilities are in place and cleaners on site. Our colleagues confirmed

that usage of these facilities was at the lower end in terms of daily numbers and in some towns public buildings were not accessed at all.

Dublin City Council recently tendered for a pilot project which would see the installation of 'retail units with toilet facilities' made available at locations across the city. These are designed to be pop up facilities, the likes of which we have seen across Kildare but with the additional requirement of toilet facilities which are serviced and managed by the retailer. Successful applicants will generally be providing coffee/food facilities, they are connected to public mains/sewerage for free and are free of all charges for the five years they are in situ.

250 portaloos were also provided by a Dublin authority prior to the opening of outdoor dining. They were regularly used and the numbers were high in the week prior to pubs/restaurants/coffee shops opening for outdoor dining. After that date, the numbers reduced significantly to the point where 170 portaloos were immediately removed. Based on the continued reduction in the usage numbers, it is expected that the remaining units will no longer be required once indoor dining facilities have reopened on 05 July.

We are informed the provision of the above services, albeit on a temporary measure, has been met with a mixed reaction from the public and residential/business communities. Public health concerns associated with COVID-19, sees a reluctance by the public to use such services, if they are not regularly cleaned and do not have appropriate hand washing facilities provided. Local authorities, which have provided additional temporary facilities, has seen the demand decrease with the reopening of outdoor dining and it is expected that demand will decrease further once indoor dining reopens on 05 July.

Kildare County Council has previously provided public conveniences in Kildare, Newbridge, Naas and Athy. Members raised concerns in 2015 regarding the cost of providing the service compared to the use of the facilities and income derived from each unit. In 2017, the contract with the service provider was terminated, with the agreement of elected members, 12 months in advance of it's expiry date.

Considering the options set out above and implemented by other local authorities, the COVID-19 health guidelines and possible reluctance of the public to use the facilities, the provision of toilet facilities in our public buildings could provide a solution as demand continues to decrease.

The following points were raised by the members:

- A similar motion was previously debated at the May Full Council meeting.
- The provision of temporary toilets for people with disabilities should be considered.
- When the university students return in September it would add a new dynamic.
- A pilot of temporary toilets in Maynooth would be welcomed.

The Senior Engineer confirmed that talks have been held with the Director of Services on this topic. Permanent toilets were previously installed but removed after the cost of maintenance and upkeep was deemed too high. A pilot in Maynooth was being considered. He also advised that suitable locations and funding for the temporary toilets needed to be identified.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM15/0721

Provision of Pedestrian Crossing at Coill Dubh Village

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That the council consider providing a pedestrian crossing between the village of Coill Dubh and the Credit Union.

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 request has been added to a list of similar types of requests for pedestrian crossing that require assessment in the county. These will locations be assessed in the coming months to determine if a pedestrian crossing is

warranted/what type could be provided etc. – it should be noted that there is no current funding allocated for the provision of new pedestrian crossings in the county.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Pedestrian crossings are needed in a number of areas across the municipal district and these crossings were being asked for by residents and schools.
- The safety of the children and young people was paramount.
- Members have repeatedly been told that there was a lack of funding and enquired if funding could be provided under a heading of pedestrian crossings from the Capital Programme or in the annual Budget?
- A healthcheck of Coill Dubh could also highlight the need for a pedestrian crossing.

The District Engineer confirmed that any requests are sent to the Traffic Section to see if they would be deemed appropriate. Funding is then sought from the NTA.

The Senior Engineer advised that the Traffic Section would have to assess whether the crossing is warranted as this was not always the case. The Traffic Section examine speed, level of traffic and number of pedestrians at the location.

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

CM16/0721

Road Realignment Project at Laraghbryan West, Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council add the road realignment project at Laraghbryan West, Maynooth to the capital roads programme, given the number of accidents at this location and the fact that the land required for this road realignment was purchased by Kildare County Council more than 20 years ago.

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 this item would be considered by the Transportation Directorate as requested.

The following points were raised by the members:

- This project was started many years ago but the M4 project derailed it.
- There have been numerous accidents in this area, due to the blind bend.
- More needs to be done regarding road safety at this location.
- The land needed for the project was and has been in the council's ownership for years.
- Has the council considered an anti-skid surface?

The Senior Engineer noted that motorists have been ignoring the speed signs and have been travelling at dangerous speeds in this area. The area has a number of speed signs to indicate the speed that should be adhered to. The realignment proposition will go to the design team.

The District Engineer advised that an anti skid surface is not encouraged as speeding continues and gives drivers a false sense of security.

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

CM17/0721

Traffic Calming on L2002 near Parkview Clane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council examine opportunities to calm vehicular speeds entering the built-up area on the L2002, near Parkview, Clane.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the road referred to is the L2004, Millicent Road Clane. The location has been examined and the roadway is narrow with a footpath installed

in recent years. This footpath has assisted in reducing traffic speeds and during our inspections no speeding was observed. The introduction of traffic calming measures is only considered if the 85 percentile speed exceeds the speed limit. This is very unlikely at this location but to confirm the speed this location will be included in the list for a traffic survey in 2022 subject to available resources.

Councillor McEvoy stated the speed on this road was still a legitimate concern and he would be interested to see the results of the traffic survey.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM18/0721

Restoration Works at Entrance of Abbeycourt, Clane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council take account of the issue of vehicular parking near schools, high levels of passing pedestrians and the double-yellow lines and yellow box road markings in their plans for completing restoration works to the entrance of Abbeycourt, Clane.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the restoration works referenced are the completion of the sewer installation works carried out in 2020 on behalf of Irish Water. These works were completed under a road opening licence issued by Kildare County Council in line with the Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads. The Municipal District Office is liaising with the contractor on agreed reinstatement details and programme. In line with the guidelines the licence holder is required to repair any damaged sections in a like for like basis, this includes road surface, footpaths, kerbing and lining. If any additional works are required the costs are to be borne by Kildare County Council and subject to procurement guidelines. It is intended to have the reinstatement works completed in August 2021 prior to the school return and

road closure notifications will be published next week. The Municipal District Office will continue to engage with the contractor to ensure.

Councillor McEvoy asked was it possible to use the €10,000 allocation from the safety and road initiative towards these works.

The District Engineer advised that the Municipal District Office were trying to get as much as they could completed ahead of schools returning.

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

CM19/0721

Signage at Doctor's Lane Car Park

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council confirm when signage will be put in place at the Doctor's Lane car park in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans to install any additional signage in Maynooth in advance of the final design for Maynooth Town Centre Renewal scheme.

Councillor Feeney noted that cars have been parking in this car park in recent weeks and that the car park would assist businesses.

The District Engineer advised that he was unaware of any signage to go up. He noted that this was a private car park and that the council do not generally sign post this kind of car park. He advised that he would bring this back to the Planning Department.

The report was noted.

CM20/0721

Update on Special Speed Limit Sign near Timahoe National School

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

Can the council provide an update on the repairs to the special speed limit sign on the approach road to Timahoe National School from the south, which is currently not operating?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that works on the Periodic School Warning sign were completed by our maintenance on the 18 June 21 – the repairs included the provision of a new battery/repairs to solar panel etc. If the member requires any updates/or wishes to report any issues in relation to traffic signals or driver feed back signs he may wish to contact Traffic Management Section staff at trafficlights@kildarecoco.ie.

The report was noted.

CM21/0721

Updates on Mangan's Cross, Timahoe

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

Can the council provide an update on the improvements to be carried out at Mangan's Cross, Timahoe?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the design is currently being finalised with the intention of commencing the public consultation process this month and seeking members approval at the September municipal district meeting. Subject to approval the works will be completed in Quarter 4 2021.

The report was noted.

CM22/0721

Bollards on the Straffan Road, Maynooth

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

Can the council confirm when the previously agreed bollards will be installed along the sections of the cycle lanes level with the road on the Straffan Road, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that these are scheduled to be installed in Quarter 3 2021.

The report was noted.

CM23/0721

Update on Housing Waiting List for this Municipal District

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

Can the council provide an update on the housing waiting list for this municipal district and whether and by how much it has increased or decreased per year commencing July 2019 to date?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Summary of Social Housing Assessments is carried out on an annual basis and details in relation to the numbers on the Housing Waiting List by county can be accessed on the Housing Agency's website. The latest report could be accessed at the link here : <http://www.housingagency.ie/sites/default/files/2021-03/SSHA-2020.pdf>

While information was compiled at county level and was compared to the previous year, this information was not provided or available at Municipal District level.

The Housing Department recorded information on the number of applicants who have identified a first preference for the Clane-Maynooth MD, which is set out below:

Year	Number of First Preferences for Clane-Maynooth MD
2019	851
2020	983
2021	1,126

The report was noted.

CM24/0721

Healthcare Facilities in Maynooth

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

That as part of the review of the County Development Plan and having regard to relevant statistical information available, the council considers if there are adequate GPs and Dentists in Maynooth for the existing population and for future population growth.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that there is no mandatory requirement for land use plans to make specific provision for GP and dental services. While all CDP and LAPs support the provision of healthcare facilities to support growth, through the identification of suitable lands for such uses (i.e. Community & Education Zoning), the CDP cannot compel its provision otherwise.

Councillor Ó Cearúil expressed concern that people in Maynooth cannot sign up for local Dentists and GPs. He also noted that if the council were approving planning for developments, that services should be considered as they were currently very limited.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by the members present that the report be noted.

CM25/0721

Flood Alleviation Measures for Mullen Park, Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council confirm if all the flood alleviation measures conditioned in Planning Applications (18/761 and 18/762) for Mullen Park, Maynooth have been put in place, now that all of the foundations for the housing have been laid?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the surface water drainage network pertaining to the Mullan Park Development was still under construction.

The report was noted.

CM26/0721

Report on Improvements Made to Planning Clinics

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse.
Can the council provide a report, in respect of this municipal district, on any improvements made to the planning clinics in recent years, having regard to Section 4.2 of the Sustainable Rural Housing Planning Guidelines, which relates to improving services to applicants?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the purpose of pre planning meetings as set out under Section 247 is to provide advice to applicants on policies and objectives as set out in relevant statutory plans. Pre Planning meetings as set out in Section 247 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) are not an assessment of a proposed planning application and cannot be relied upon as a determination, this is only achieved through the formal planning application process. The Council held a monthly clinic in respect of rural housing applications for the last number of years however since the start of the Covid pandemic the Council has facilitated individual meetings by MS Teams/telephone and email as appropriate, all of which are minuted and may be considered a formal Pre Planning Consultation. It is considered that the advice and assistance to applicants has increased as a consequence of this shift in how pre planning meetings are dealt with. The Planning Department has also prepared a Rural House Design Guide which was discussed at a meeting of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee and will be published later in the year as part of the Draft County Development Plan.

The report was noted.

CM27/0721

Plans to Redevelop of Courthouse Square in Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council clarify what plans are in place for the redevelopment of Courthouse Square in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that plans to develop Courthouse Square will be subject to the development of a design following the completion of the Maynooth masterplan process (due to commence Quarter 4 2021).

The report was noted.

CM28/0721

Funding for Outdoor Dining, Extra Bins and Toilet Facilities

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council confirm what level of national funding has been applied for and received by Kildare County Council relating to outdoor dining, provision of extra bins and toilet facilities in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District?

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications has recently (21 June) provided details of a grant allocation of €150,000 to Kildare to support anti-litter efforts under the Litter Infrastructure Support Scheme. Claims under this scheme were to be submitted to the Department by the 29 October 2021.

Kildare County Council's Finance Dept would be submitting a claim and certification documentation on behalf of the council in due course.

Note – the provision of additional public toilets is expressly forbidden under this scheme, but may be fundable through other supports available from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that €40,000 in funding was received under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Accelerated COVID-19 Measures for the temporary provision of parklets/ benches and other equipment to facilitate outdoor dining in Maynooth. Plans were currently being drawn up to provide a temporary outdoor dining area to include social distancing markers in the Harbourfield.

The report was noted.

CM29/0721

Update on Public Realm in Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy.
Can the council update the committee on progress towards improvements to the public realm in Clane?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that an initial meeting was held between the Public Realm team and the Area Engineer in respect of this project. Design work will commence on this project later in the summer when additional resources are assigned to the Public Realm Team. Plans will include the provision of wider footpaths where appropriate, pedestrian crossings, and subject to site suitability street tress will also be incorporated into the design.

The report was noted.

CM30/0721

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 32 on the agenda be taken at the end of the meeting. All the members agreed.

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 33 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Update from Irish Water re Allenwood Wastewater Agglomeration

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse.
That this council requests, for the purposes of forward planning, an update from Irish Water regarding the current available capacity of the Allenwood wastewater agglomeration and the current timeline for the rectification of the Allenwood North section of the system and the projected impact that this work will have on the available capacity of the system as a whole.

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

A report was received from the Water Services Department informing the members that Irish Water has issued the following update on this matter ;

‘On the Allenwood North section of the network, the council can confirm that negotiations have been successful between the landowner and IW on the proposed sale of additional lands , and the completion of the sale is now in progress. These additional lands will allow infrastructure be installed at the site that will allow the sewerage to be pumped from this part of the scheme to the Allenwood WWTP. This will then allow the current operation of tankering of the sewerage from this location to be ended. It is hoped that the sale of the lands, and the infrastructure works at Allenwood North can be completed in 2021. These works whilst allowing the tankering operation to cease , will not in themselves increase the capacity of the overall Allenwood Agglomeration as currently in place.

With regards to the Allenwood WWTP and Agglomeration the design capacity is for 1500 PE and at the most recent assessment the current load at the WWTP was 1254 PE. Therefore there is currently headroom of 246 PE at this WWTP.’.

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

CM31/0721

Extension to Cloncurry Cemetery

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld.
That the council provide an extension to the cemetery at Cloncurry.

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

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the council is actively pursuing an extension to the existing cemetery at Cloncurry which will be subject to overall feasibility and cost evaluation.

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

CM32/0721

Removal of Boundary Wall in Derrinturn Cemetery

The Cathaoirleach confirmed that Councillor Fitzpatrick had sent a written request asking that he would move his motions.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the original boundary wall in Derrinturn Cemetery be removed on the left hand side as you enter.

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

A report was received from the Climate Action, Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the Director of Services has met with a representative from the Cemetery Committee on this and has agreed to consider this request subject to feasibility and cost assessments.

The Cathaoirleach confirmed that Councillor Fitzpatrick had met with the Director of Services and the Parish Priest on this matter and that all parties would work together.

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

CM33/0721

Information/Cultural Tourist Centre

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council develop the historic Geraldine Hall, Maynooth as an Information/Cultural Tourist Centre.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that this matter can be investigated to establish current ownership/usage of the building.

The condition of the building would also have to be examined to determine what costs (if any) were required to bring it into use as proposed in the motion.

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

CM34/0721

Fencing between Greenway and Adjacent Estates

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council erect fences between all housing estates and the Royal Canal Greenway in Kilcock to stop damage to tree planting and landscaping in each respective estate.

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 the Royal Canal Greenway project is substantially complete and there is no funding available to carry out any additional works.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Can the council go back to Waterways Ireland to open a channel of communication for funding and to revisit and address this issue?
- The issue of safety for children has been raised by local residents.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that she would communicate the request to make contact with Waterways Ireland, to the Roads Department.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members present that the report be noted and the Meetings Administrator would communicate the request to make contact with Waterways Ireland to the Roads Department.

CM35/0721

Child Safety Gates in Prosperous Town Park

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

Can the council update members on the installation of child safety gates in Prosperous Town Park?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the council have received a quote from a local Contractor for a 1.6m high fence, which would be installed in front of the existing low wall, with a single gate, allowing access for pedestrians and for grass cutting. The council are happy with the quote (€2,500 excl. VAT), and are waiting for confirmation on installation dates.

The report was noted.

CM36/0721

Playground in Coill Dubh Village

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly. Can the council inform members of the steps required to progress a playground in Coill Dubh Village?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that a suitable site for a playground would have to be identified. The site would have to be 1000sq.m minimum and provide passive supervision. A budget to deliver the playground would also be required. Work on the project could only be considered after existing commitments outlined in the Parks Section Works Programme are delivered first.

The report was noted.

CM37/0721

Responsibility for Tree Removal from Rivers and Streams

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council clarify whose responsibility it is for tree removal when trees from public land fall into rivers and streams in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Parks Section are responsible for trees that fall into

rivers and streams from amenity land. Depending on the function of the public land outside of these areas the Roads Area Office, Environment Department or Housing Department would have responsibility for tree removal.

The report was noted.

CM38/0721

Delivery of new library in Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council update the members on progress towards the delivery of a new library in Clane?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members: Clane Library Capital Project



- As per objectives in the Kildare Library Development Plan, Kildare County Council has purchased Unit 8 and Unit 9, The Village Centre, Clane for the purpose of developing a new library for Clane.
- The location for a new library is an excellent one, just off the Main St in a small retail centre and next to the Catholic Church. It is within walking distance of local schools and has public parking.
- The Library Service has worked with Kildare County Council Architects on draft plans for a single storey library, area 583m² which will include:
 - a multi-functional event and exhibition space
 - a maker space/meeting room

- sensory garden space
 - sensory pod
 - public access PCs
 - study spaces
 - adult, young adult and children's libraries
- It is planned that the new library will also function as a My Open Library.
 - The tender for an Architect Led Design Team has been advertised on eTenders June 2021
 - Following the appointment of the Design Team the council will begin the public consultation and Part 8 Planning application, followed by the tender for the Construction Contractor.

The report was noted.

CM39/0721

Energy Efficiency Presentation

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr P Mulhern, Energy Efficiency Officer to the meeting and asked for the members agreement to submit any questions after the meeting.

The members agreed.

Mr Mulhern delivered a presentation to the members highlighting the following points:

- He explained his role as Kildare County Council's Energy Efficiency Officer.
- He outlined Kildare County Council's Energy Reduction Commitments including: 50% Energy Efficiency Improvement, 50% Emissions Reductions, Public Sector bodies commit to Climate Action Mandate to support climate reform, Decarbonisation Strategy and that all public buildings to achieve a B BER rating.
- He described Kildare County Council's current Energy Efficiency projects including: the Energy Bureau, the Energy Management Team, Analysis of top energy users, Climate and Energy Week and the Sustainable Energy Communities.
- He informed the elected members of their role in the communicating and promoting of these projects.

- The members could work directly in the projects, in the development of the partnerships and garnering support through their networks.

The members raised the following points in response to the presentation:

- Energy Efficiency was a serious national challenge
- By 2030 there would be double the consumption of carbon compared to current levels.
- Electric grid requirements would also double for the county of Kildare.
- Kildare County Council had a fantastic base of knowledge from the Climate Action Regional Officer, the Climate Action Officer and from the Energy Efficiency Officer.
- The move to electricity as a more sustainable fuel needed to be encouraged.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr Mulhern for his very informative presentation and wished him well in the role.

The meeting concluded.