

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District held on Friday, 05 November 2021 at 10:00 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, P Hamilton, P McEvoy, N Ó Cearúil and B Weld.

Apologies: Councillors D Fitzpatrick and P Ward

Officials Present: Ms M Higgins (A/District Manager), Mr J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr S Aylward (District Engineer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms A M Burke (Executive Engineer), Mr D McDermott (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr B O’Gorman, Mr E Fagan, Ms M McCarthy (Administrative Officer), Ms P O’Rourke (Climate Action Officer), Ms C O’Flynn (Climate Action Graduate), Ms S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Mr S Higgins (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting and conveyed apologies on behalf of Councillor Ward who was unable to attend the meeting that day.

CL01/1121

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.

CM02/1121

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal

District meeting held on Friday, 01 October 2021, the minutes of the Draft Budgetary Plan meeting held on Monday, 18 October 2021 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 01 October 2021, the minutes of the Draft Budgetary Plan meeting held on Monday, 18 October 2021 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM03/1121

Matters Arising

Councillor Feeney confirmed that she wished to reallocate €15,000 of her discretionary LPT funding as outlined below:

Roads:

- Back lane section at Old Greenfield improvement (starting behind house no. 757)- €7K

Community:

- Presentation Girls School 'Music for All' Initiative- €1K
- Straffan Heritage Badges (Straffan Community Council)- €1K
- ICA Maynooth Newsletter- €1K
- GAA Maynooth 'Gym for All' Initiative- €5K

Resolved: On the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wyse and agreed by the members present that Councillor Feeney's discretionary LPT be re-allocated as discussed.

The Cathaoirleach noted that Councillor Feeney had requested that to mark and support International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3rd, that the runway lights at Courthouse Square Maynooth be turned purple. He confirmed that currently these lights could not be changed but mentioned that the area was being considered for improvement and that it should be looked at as a potential place for this kind of function in the municipal district.

Councillor Durkan confirmed that Maynooth University and St Patrick's College had both agreed to turn lights purple on their grounds to show support for International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Councillor Feeney said that it would be great to have a public space with this functionality and asked that consideration be given to upgrading the lights in the Courthouse Square, Maynooth for this purpose.

CM15/0921

Request to write to the NTA requesting them to attend the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting

Councillor Durkan asked whether there had been a typo in the response given, he stated that the distance was no more than 800 metres while the given distance was 15 kilometres. He also noted that the NTA had not agreed to meet or to come to a meeting.

Mr McGowan advised that it was an numerical error in the response and that the NTA had not committed to meeting the members.

CM27/0521

Report on primary and secondary school's capacities

Councillor Farrelly was concerned that figures were not kept by the Department of Education.

Councillor Feeney requested that the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road Project item be kept on the Progress Report going forward. Councillor McEvoy advised that the Protocol Committee agreed not to have items on the Progress Report unless an update was given. The Cathaoirleach said that he supported keeping items of importance on the Progress Report and that this item qualified. Councillor Ó Cearúil suggested that this remain on the Progress Report as a standing item.

CM04/1121

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 have continued with general maintenance over the past month

with a strong emphasis on drainage maintenance which included gully cleaning and water cut openings throughout the district.

He confirmed that as requested by the elected members, the Transportation Section had arranged for the installation of portaloos in the Harbour Field earlier in the month. Unfortunately these were vandalised and burned down within four days of being installed.

Councillor Hamilton stated that the burning of the portaloos was shocking. He said that Waterways Ireland have the facilities for these kind of toilets. The Cathaoirleach noted that An Gardaí Síochána had investigated this incident.

Councillor Hamilton also stated that in relation to the increase of permeability links that the area office should have oversight on this project and that the members should have been consulted. Councillor Ó Cearúil agreed that there had been a lack of communication between the Sustainable Transport Section and the members.

The District Engineer advised that the permeability links were a project for the Sustainable Transport Section. He also advised that they had applied where possible for extra funding and resources and they now have more staff in place. He said that he would bring the members feedback to the Sustainable Transport Section.

CM05/1121

Update from Coillte on Donadea and ongoing works

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Mary Clifford, Coillte South-East Estate Manager to the meeting.

Ms Clifford delivered a presentation to the members highlighting the following points:

- She explained Coillte's Mission Statement and how Coillte are trying to achieve a balance between the areas of Economic, Environmental and Social in their work.
- She explained her role as Coillte's South-East Estate Manager.

- She outlined the issue of access at Donadea Forest Park and the steps that have been taken and that are planned to improve access. These steps included reconfiguring the entrance to Donadea Forest Park, a barrier further into park, a cashless barrier, improved internal queuing, a double lane entrance, a full road upgrade and car park resurfacing.
- She summarised the works within Donadea Forest Park. The cashless barrier project was already in place, an overhaul of electrical systems would need to be carried out and new lighting put in place. Dry loos were to be installed and a car park upgrade had been scheduled.
- She advised that the Donadea Forest Park estate walls are an issue of focus for Coillte but that they do not have the funding/resources to fix the entire boundary walls. She said that investment from Kildare County Council would be welcomed by Coillte.
- She gave a brief overview of of Aylmer House in Donadea and the works surrounding the historic landmark. She advised that a survey of works was carried out in 2020 and that a Historic Structure fund had been received of €40,000 which Coillte had supplemented with another €63,000. She also advised that new timber sheeting was to be installed to the refurbished timber roof structure to support a zinc roof laid to finish the project.
- She also gave a brief overviews of Coillte's works in Mooreabbey, Killinthomas, Dunfirth and Mullaghreelan.
- She highlighted the ongoing issue of dumping at Coillte properties in County Kildare. She advised that Coillte are working alongside Kildare County Council and their litter wardens. They are focused on tackling this problem in many areas e.g. Clonkeen-Ticknevin.
- She concluded by confirming she would be the Coillte point of contact for Kildare County Council and was looking forward to a relationship involving collaboration, support and engagement.

The members raised the following points:

- There are some other forestry areas not mentioned which are recreational such as Rahin Woods and Ballyteague.
- At Ballyteague, the public access point is not wheelchair accessible.

- A number of the councillors have previously tried to engage with Coillte representatives on a variety of occasions and with staff turnover this has become a very difficult task.
- Councillors have been calling for Coillte to carry out works on the boundary wall for a long time. Commitments were previously given by Coillte that a 3 metre wooden fence would be installed to protect the wall. The residents in the area are frustrated with the lack of progress and concerned about the wall becoming unstable.
- The Heritage Officer of Kildare County Council has been in constant contact with Coillte about Donadea Forest Park, especially in relation to the boundary wall.
- The improvements around the access issues are most welcome
- Could the membership cards be more readily available to the public? With the introduction of the QR code could this be included on a card to aid the ageing population?
- Was there any plan to improve the flow of traffic exiting the park?
- The reintroduction of quarterly or biannual meetings with Coillte would be welcomed.
- An online meeting in the next few weeks between Coillte and the councillors should be considered to develop a strategic plan.
- The strategic plan could extend to a county wide level.
- Would the new dry loos which were to be installed be wheelchair accessible?
- Could the councillors see a copy of Coillte's financial statement?

Ms Clifford confirmed the following points:

- The barrier at Dunfirth forestry was a longstanding structure. If it were to be replaced and wheelchair access provided, then motorised bikes and small quad bikes could enter the premises.
- A lot of the bog has been destroyed in the Hortland area, there has been a number of spots where bottles have been dumped which affects the local habitat.
- The membership cards were being phased out and replaced by QR codes that can be shown to the scanners on phones or on print outs. The idea of

creating a card with QR codes on them would be brought back to the Recreation team.

- A roundabout has been included in the plans alongside the inclusion of the idea of increasing the single lane to a two lane system on the way in.
- The communities input is welcomed for ideas and plans for Donadea Forest Park.
- Councillors are encouraged to contact Ms Clifford via her email address as she would be their point of contact rather than the foresters who move on.
- Additional entrances around Donadea would be blocked off for vehicular access and local residents were encouraged and welcomed to use these.
- All the orange locations on the presentation are resources in County Kildare.
- The toilets would be wheelchair accessible.
- Most forest parks were pay in but there is no charge for groups like charities, schools and GAA clubs or for events like fun runs.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms Clifford for her presentation and wished her well in the role. The District Manager also thanked Ms Clifford for her very informative presentation.

CM06/1121

Wastewater Treatment Plants at The Close, Tirmoghan and Ballagh Woods

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld.
Can the council give a progress report on what remedial action is taking place with regards to the Wastewater Treatment Plants at (1) The Close, Tirmoghan and (2) Ballagh Woods, Donadea?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is currently no mechanism in place with Irish Water to take either of these estates in charge as they are both served by private wastewater treatment plants. Both estates are under the control of Management Companies who are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the treatment systems. The Management Companies involved should liaise with the Environment Section with regard to any proposed remedial works. Development Control are

investigating the possibility of making Bond monies available towards any remedial works agreed between the Environment Section and the Management Companies.

Following a request for clarification from Councillor Weld and the fact that the council had been informed of the issues back in March and had only recently visited the area, Ms A Burke confirmed that they had visited the site and it appears that the filter bed in both estates have failed. She advised that the council were due to appoint a consultant and that they would share the findings on receipt with the residents and the management company.

Mr C Flynn stated that the council cannot forget the legality of the issue. Residents are legally responsible for the waste disposal system but the council are happy to work with the residents to try and resolve this issue.

The report was noted.

CM07/1121

Christmas Pay Parking Arrangements

The members considered the pay parking arrangements for the Christmas period. A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this was a matter for the members to agree on. To note, there was no suspension of Pay Parking in Maynooth in 2020. Normal parking enforcement continued over the Christmas period.

Following a discussion by the members it was agreed that pay parking arrangements were not to be suspended in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District over the Christmas period for 2021 and normal parking arrangements to continue and the thirty minute grace period should be highlighted to the public.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil and agreed by all members present that pay parking arrangements not be suspended in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District over the Christmas period for 2021 and normal parking arrangements continue and the thirty minute grace period be highlighted to the public.

CM08/1121

Unnamed Bridge beside Maynooth Castle

The members considered the following joint motion in the names of Councillors Feeney, Ó Cearúil and Hamilton.

That the bridge beside Maynooth Castle and the entrance to St Patrick's College, currently unnamed, be named Droichead Ua Bhuachalla/Buckley's Bridge in honour of Domhnall Ua Buachalla.

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 having consulted with Kildare County Council Bridge Engineer the Transportation Department can confirm the bridge identified is officially known as "Collegeland Bridge". This bridge has been referred to by name in recent inventory gathering and inspection reports carried out by our engineer. It is considered that an amendment or alteration to the current name would create unnecessary inconsistencies.

The following points were raised by the members:

- A history trail walk with Maynooth Tidy Towns was recently held and no one present, including local historians, were aware of the name of this bridge.
- The name of the bridge at this location was unknown until now.
- The townland name of the area is "College Land".
- The motion seeks to rename the bridge and the name proposed would be a fitting name.
- Councillor Ó Cearúil gave a background and overview of Domhnall Ua Buachalla's work and his life. He described Ua Buachalla locally as a county councillor to Maynooth/Kildare and nationally as a member of the leaders who signed the Constitution of Ireland and a member of the first Dáil.
- A historical check should be carried out before a renaming of the bridge goes ahead.

The District Manager advised that through the Civic Memorial Policy a technical committee would carry out a historical and background check on the name of the bridge in question.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by the members present that the name of the bridge be checked by the Civic Memorial technical committee and that the report be noted.

CM09/1121

Request to NTA for cycle-path planning for Kilcock

The members considered the following joint motion in the name of Councillors Hamilton and Ward.

That the council make appropriate representations to the National Transport Authority (NTA) to request that cycle-path planning for Kilcock is included in the next revision of urban cycle-path planning for the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) or other appropriate region/authorities.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members the Sustainable Transport Team will discuss this item with the NTA and report back with an update at a later stage.

The following points were raised by Councillor Hamilton:

- Kilcock was not previously included in the last NTA plan for the urban cycle-path planning of the Greater Dublin Area.
- The growth of Kilcock, especially noticeable along the road from the bridge to the motorway, has created an increased need for this kind of planning in the area.

Mr McGowan advised that he would contact the NTA on behalf of the councillors on this matter.

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

CM10/1121

Bus from Enfield to Tullamore stop in Johnstownbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That the council contact Transport for Ireland requesting that the bus from Enfield to Tullamore stop in Johnstownbridge and that the council liaise with Transport for Ireland regarding a suitable site for the bus stop.

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 the with the members agreement, the Sustainable Transport Team will contact Transport for Ireland (TFI) outlining the above request.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Residents currently have to drive and park in Enfield to avail of this bus service.
- Can a meeting be set up with the Senior Engineer for Traffic and Sustainable Transport?

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Wyse and agreed by the members present that the report be noted and Transport for Ireland be contacted in relation to the bus service from Enfield to Tullamore and a bus stop in Johnstownbridge.

CM11/1121

Wheelchair parking spaces outside Scoil An Linbh íosa

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council install two wheelchair parking spaces outside Scoil An Linbh íosa, 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 installation of disabled parking spaces needs to be warranted for the use of the community. The Municipal District Office will liaise with Scoil An Linbh íosa to determine if there is a need for them at this location. If they are warranted a suitable location will be identified and they will be installed when funding is available.

The following points were raised by the members:

- What grounds would warrant wheelchair parking spaces outside Scoil An Linbh íosa, Prosperous and what would be the next step in the process to provide these?
- Are two wheelchair parking spaces warranted?
- Can this item be placed on the progress report?

The District Engineer advised that they must identify the need for wheelchair parking spaces. He noted that parking is a valuable resource and if the spaces are warranted that a location would need to be identified and funding identified. This project would be looked at in early 2022 subject to resources.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by the members present that the report be noted and this item remain on the progress report so that further investigations can be carried out to determine if the two spaces are warranted at this proposed location.

CM12/1121

Clane/Barberstown Road Junction at Richardstown Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council assess the safety of the Clane/Barberstown Road Junction at Richardstown Cross.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council intends to develop a county wide priority list of junctions that require improvement due to safety concerns. It is hoped that these priority junctions will be examined in 2022 and a consultant appointed to assist in the development of preliminary designs for each junction. Once this is complete, planning consent will be sought to implement the schemes and they will progress to the delivery phase thereafter. This will be subject to funding and resources constraints.

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

CM13/1121

Road design into Moyglare Hall and Maynooth Education Campus

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council carry out a review of the road design into Moyglare Hall and Maynooth Education Campus paying particular attention to pedestrian safety, traffic island location and zebra crossings.

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 Kildare County Council will consider the road design at Moyglare Hall and the Maynooth Education Campus as part of the Maynooth Transport Strategy which is currently being developed.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The location was visited with the District Engineer and the issue of safety at this junction was observed at the peak times.
- The principals of the two schools and members of the GAA club have raised concerns about the traffic at the exceptionally busy times.
- Buses that approach on the Meath side take up the full road when they take their opportunity to turn and could another meeting with the District Engineer be organised to look at this issue.
- Analysis is needed of the roundabout and its use.

- The pedestrian crossing could be placed in a more suitable area.
- The sightlines from Kilcloon are currently being affected by the trees that need to be trimmed.

The District Engineer advised that the two pedestrian crossings are in appropriate locations which were approved. He stated that there was no requirement for another to be installed. He noted that parents of students in the two schools were creating an issue by parking around the roundabout and that the public have to take responsibility for their safety and the safety of other road users and pedestrians in the area. He also noted that the buses which use this road and turn at the junction should slow down. He said that he would place this back on the Maynooth Transport Strategy to provide a holistic view of the junction.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members present that the report be noted and another site meeting be organised with the District Engineer and that the report be noted.

CM14/1121

Update on the Capacity Analysis Carried out on the M4 Motorway

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council provide an update on the capacity analysis carried out on the M4 Motorway to include interchange improvements, noise reducing tarmac, provision of a bus lane and or a third lane option in this municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the “Maynooth to Leixlip Project” is in options selection phase. The project team are currently appraising a long-list of potential options. The outcome of this appraisal is to identify a short-list of options. This outcome (short-list) is anticipated to be available in Q1/2 2022, following which a virtual public consultation event will be held. This would address most of the queries list in regard

to this motion. At this point information would also be shared on the project website (<https://maynoothleixlip.ie/>).

The options selection process is focused upon the appraisal of options to eventually identify the preferred option. Details such as surfacing would typically be decided upon following the identification of the preferred option in the later design phases.

The following points were raised by Councillor Durkan:

- The Kilcock to Maynooth part of the M4 needs to be resurfaced.
- The noise from the motorway is amplified during the rain.
- The residents of Griffinrath are living with this issue on a daily basis and it occurs in all weathers.
- This is an ongoing issue since 2017 and funds were promised previously to carried out remedial works on this part of the motorway.

Mr McGowan advised that a consultant is working on this issue and that it is too early to say what is the source of the problem. He noted that some resurfacing has taken place but that more work would be held off until the report has come back from the consultant.

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

CM15/1121

Redesign and Costing for the Pedestrian Area in Kilcock

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

That the council provide a redesign and costing for the pedestrian area outside the butcher's shop in Kilmeague and on the walkway from Willow Lawns down to the main footpath to the village.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Wyse 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 has included the area outside the butchers in the locations for assessment in the coming months to

determine the extent of works required and a costing of same. Subject to available funding these works will progress in 2022.

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

The Cathaoirleach noted that Councillor Fitzpatrick was not present to speak on his motion and moved onto item 16.

CM16/1121

Segregated Cycle Infrastructure on the Ballinagappa Road, Clane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council examine the feasibility of segregated cycle infrastructure on the Ballinagappa Road, Clane, with linkages to adjoining roads, as appropriate.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the improving the cycle facilities along Ballinagappa Road would be examined in the context of improved access to the schools on the R403 Prosperous Road. The provision of a safe and segregated access to the cluster of schools from the residential NW of Clane has long been identified and the Sustainable Transport Section will discuss adding the area to the schedule of works with the NTA.

The following points were raised by Councillor McEvoy:

- Appropriate cycles lanes should be installed which take pedestrians into consideration.
- The cycles lanes would create more options and reduce the pressure on cars and vehicular traffic.

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

CM17/1121

Restoration of the amenity in Clane Town Centre

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council outline options to restore the amenity in Clane town centre with the intensification of traffic through Main Street, including HGVs, and mitigate risk to pedestrians and cyclists on surrounding local roads from the increased numbers of cars avoiding congestion in the town.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is no funding or resources available to undertake a Clane Town Centre study. The request would need to be reviewed as part of any future Traffic Management Plan for Clane.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Since the new Sallins Ring Road has opened there was no comparison in the level of truck traffic currently travelling through Clane. There was a great need for the council to manage the points of conflict
- The public cannot be expected to cycle with the high level of trucks going through the town.
- The situation would be exacerbated if Bord na Mona look to increase the size of the Drehid site. Increased warehousing in the area also increases the pressure on the traffic in the town.
- Can the councillors see the traffic counts for Clane town?
- If the Capdoo Bypass was completed this would have a positive knock on effect for Clane town.

Mr McGowan said that this issue would be addressed in time and that the peak traffic has not appeared to have increased. He advised that until the Kilcock link road was opened, HGVs would continue to use the town.

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

CM18/1121

Road Safety Assessments/Traffic Counts on L1023 Ballinagappa Road, Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly.
Can the council confirm if any road safety assessments/traffic counts have taken place on the L1023 Ballinagappa Road, Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office has not undertaken any traffic counts on this roadway but has observed it visually on a number of occasions and no concerns were observed.

The report was noted.

CM19/1121

School Warden for both primary schools on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney.
Can the council provide an update on the assigning of a school warden to serve both primary schools on the Celbridge Road Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Transportation Department can confirm that a School Warden commenced duty on 01 November at Celbridge Road, Maynooth location.

The report was noted.

CM20/1121

Update on the National Transport Authority (NTA) Funded Projects

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.
Can the council provide an update on the National Transport Authority (NTA) funded projects to include the timeline and project completion date in relation to the upgrading of Celbridge Road, Kilcock Road, Mill Street and Meadowbrook Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the cycle track schemes from Celbridge Road, Kilcock

Road and Meadowbrook Road are all at the preliminary design stage. It is planned for these schemes to be the subject of a statutory Public Consultation process in 2022. Depending on the outcome of this process, the schemes will be brought to detailed design and construction, subject to NTA continued funding.

A segregated cycle track along Mill Street is at the detailed design stage. The Council is tendering for a consultant to progress this scheme to construction, which is expected to start in 2022, again subject to the necessary funds being made available.

The report was noted.

CM21/1121

Update on the Maynooth Orbital Route

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide an update on the Meath and Eastern sections of the Maynooth Orbital Route to include construction start dates and the opening date of the Straffan Road to Celbridge Road section?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is no update on the timelines for the Maynooth Orbital Route which is being managed by Meath County Council and is a developer driven project. The opening date for the Straffan Road to Celbridge Road Section is being delivered by a developer and will be a matter for the developer. Kildare County Council are at detailed design stage for the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road and the next phase will be the CPO process subject to approvals and resources. Discussion around the start of construction for the scheme are premature at this point pending the completion of the CPO process.

Councillor Durkan asked could the councillor be provided with a timeline for this road?

The District Engineer said that he would bring this up with the Roads Planning section. Mr McGowan advised that the developer was the lead on this project. The report was noted.

CM22/1121

Bus Stop at Dreenane (Windmill) Cross in Derrinturn

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse. Can the council provide an updated timeline from the NTA for the relocation of the Dublin bound bus stop at Dreenane (Windmill) Cross in Derrinturn, which was previously scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2021?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this stop was approved to be relocated along the existing footpath on the other side of the junction and closer to the outbound bus stop. This was communicated to the Bus Operator in early 2021. An update has been sought in October and we are awaiting confirmation from the NTA that the proposal is going ahead.

The report was noted.

CM23/1121

Cycle Lanes in the Newtown area of Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council confirm what progress has been made with cycle lanes in the Newtown area of Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Sustainable Transport Team is preparing preliminary designs for segregated cycletracks on Meadowbrook Road and Beaufield Close as part of the Maynooth Town Cycletrack Network. Prior to public consultation, they will be discussed with the municipal district members.

The report was noted.

CM24/1121

Safety Measures on the Celbridge Road

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

Can the council confirm when safety measures on the Celbridge Road will be implemented?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the cycle track schemes along Celbridge Road is at the preliminary design stage. It is planned for this schemes to be the subject of a statutory Public Consultation process in 2022. Depending on the outcome of this process, the scheme will be brought to detailed design and construction, subject to NTA continued funding.

The report was noted.

CM25/1121

Pedestrian Crossing on the Ballinagappa Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council outline progress towards improving the pedestrian crossing on the Ballinagappa Road near Main Street, Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office recent installed the ducting for a signalised pedestrian crossing as part of the Irish Water resurfacing works. These ducts will facilitate the installation of the signalised crossing when a funding source has been identified.

Councillor McEvoy asked had there been any update on the lights?

The District Engineer said that funding would have to be identified for next year if the NTA looked at the Ballinagappa Road. He noted that LPT funding had been set aside and said that all funding would be welcomed.

The report was noted.

CM26/1121

Long Term Leasing

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

Can the council confirm the number of homes acquired in 2021 through Long Term Leasing in this municipal district, and the general location for the same, and to outline it's targets for Long Term Social Leasing in 2022?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the to date in 2021 two leased units have been delivered in 2021, both in the Clane area, one property is being leased by an Approved Housing Body and the other is a Mortgage to Rent property. Kildare County Council has received a leasing target of 262 for the county for 2022.

The report was noted.

CM27/1121

Alcohol Bye-law Signage in Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council confirm what is the plan for alcohol bye-law signage in Maynooth, and when will signage be put in place?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that please be advised that joint signage for alcohol bye-laws and littering was delivered to the Maynooth Municipal District office, where the Municipal District Engineer has arranged for them to be installed at appropriate locations.

The report was noted.

CM28/1121

Illegal Halting site at Kilmurray, Johnstownbridge (Enfield)

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That the council inform the members on what enforcement action has been taken to date by Kildare County Council against the illegal halting site at Kilmurray, Johnstownbridge (Enfield).

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

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Planning Authority does not comment on specific cases. However, all complaints received are investigated in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and appropriate enforcement action is taken where unauthorised development is found to be occurring.

The following points were raised by Councillor Weld:

- This issue at the halting site was an ongoing problem. A septic tank had been installed on the site without the permission of the council.
- The residents of the area feel intimidated by the habitants of the site.

Ms M McCarthy said that she would contact Councillor Weld directly on this issue.

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

CM29/1121

Process Relating to Strategic Infrastructure Development

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

That the council outlines the process relating to Strategic Infrastructure Development that ensures that formal recommendations by the elected members of the Clane Maynooth Municipal District, may be proposed and attached by resolution, to the report submitted by the Planning Authority of Kildare County Council to An Bord Pleanála, as set out in Section 37E(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

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

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the strategic infrastructure provisions of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) came into effect on 31 January 2007. There are different types of strategic infrastructure development specified in the Act of which those listed under Schedule 7 are referred to the elected members for their views.

Where a Section 37 (E) application for permission is made, the planning authority must submit a report to An Bord Pleanála within 10 weeks of the making of the application to the Board. The reports sets out the views of the authority on the effects of the proposed development on the environment, the likely effects on any European sites where relevant and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Before submitting the report to the Board, the Chief Executive of the planning authority must submit a copy of the report to the members of the planning authority seeking their views and must append any recommendations made by them, by resolution, to the report together with the administrator's record.

The members are advised that this process does not relate to applications under strategic infrastructure development relating to gas, electricity, State and railway order infrastructure.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The members were not advised on the Strategic Infrastructure Developments.
- What was the purpose of excluding the members from this process?
- Can the council explain the Strategic Infrastructure Development to the members?

Ms M McCarthy advised that these reports go directly to An Bord Pleanála but that members could still submit their own views or recommendations.

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

CM30/1121

Climate Action initiatives and funding towards Climate Innovation Fund

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms P O'Rourke, Climate Action Officer and Ms C O'Flynn, Climate Action Graduate to the meeting.

Ms P O'Rourke updated the members on the climate action initiatives currently being undertaken and informed them that €25,000 LPT funding was being sought from each municipal district.

The Cathaoirleach congratulated them on the Energy Week which was held on 26 to 29 October. Councillor Farrelly asked was there a possibility for a program for climate justice and climate action.

Ms O'Rourke advised that they were working alongside the Age Friendly Programme and that this suggestion would be taken into consideration.

Councillor McEvoy praised the Climate Action team for their work and the talks held during Energy Week.

Councillor Hamilton said that while working as part of the Climate SPC he was well aware of all the brilliant work that Ms O'Rourke and the team had been carrying out and that he would like to create a support fund assist the Climate Action team. He said projects such as cargo bikes for the delivery of goods and community energy projects could be looked at.

CM31/1121

Waste Water Overflowing into Residential Areas of Allenwood North

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse. Can the council's Environment Department confirm that it is aware of waste water overflowing into residential areas of Allenwood North, and confirm that tankering is now taking place on Sundays to alleviate this issue?

A report was received from the Environment, Water Services and Climate Action Department informing the members that Water Services are not aware of any recent instances of wastewater overflowing in Allenwood North. There is an ongoing issue in this area related to an Irish Water vacuum sewerage system which can be negatively affected during periods of heavy and prolonged rainfall. In order to mitigate any impacts on property owners in the Allenwood North area, tankering is carried out

daily from Monday to Sunday i.e. 7 days/week. The issues in this area have been raised with Irish Water at a Senior Level on a number of occasions and Kildare County Council will continue to pursue a solution for same.

The matter was also referred to the Irish Water Local Representative Service Desk and their reply is set out below;

‘Thank you for your communication regarding Allenwood North wastewater overflowing.

IW can confirm that tankering is allowed for and taking place on a 7 day a week basis at Allenwood North, and will continue to be required until the new temporary pump station is constructed and operational at the site of the existing Wastewater Buffer Tank at Allenwood North. IW will forward the details of the household at Eircode XXXXXX where the Councillor reports that the wastewater overflows in the yard if the system fills up, to KCC Wastewater Operations Staff, in order that this query can be investigated.

Once we have a report from KCC Wastewater Operations Staff, we will revert to the councillor. With regards to the comments about purchasing the land we would share the councillor’s frustration, as we have reached agreement on the sale since June 2021, but unfortunately the landowners solicitors appear to be encountering delays in providing some documents. IW and KCC Ops had expected to be on site at this stage, but unfortunately that has not happened, but we can confirm that the delays are in no way down to Irish Water. It is still hoped that this transaction can be completed before the end of 2021.

Thank you for contacting Irish Water.

Yours sincerely,

Local Representative Support Desk

T: 0818 178 178 | Minicom: 1890 378 378

E: localrepsupport@water.ie

W: www.water.ie ‘.

The report was noted.

The Cathaoirleach noted that Councillor Fitzpatrick was not present to speak on his motion and moved onto item 33.

CM32/1121

'Communication Boards' in Playgrounds

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council initiate the implementation of 'Communication Boards' in the playgrounds in this municipal district. Funding of €5,000 has been allocated through the 2021 LPT Allocation for these.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the council have been in discussions with Speech Therapists in relation to the design and layout of a Communications Board for playgrounds. The council are currently waiting on a draft of the sign from them. Once this is received the council will be procuring the signs. However based on the type and size of signage other local authorities have put in, the LPT allocation may not be sufficient to provide the signs for all the playgrounds in the municipal district. The following points were raised by the members:

- Consideration should be given to groups that are not currently included. Many groups come with different perspectives and the signs installed should be up to the standard of those that are in place for road safety.
- The signs installed in the playgrounds could include contact information for community groups.
- A number of playgrounds may need to be selected for these signs.

Mr Wallace advised that a number of conversations have been had with Speech Therapists and that the signs discussed would be suitable to cover a number of sites. He said that the members could send on the groups names that they had in mind. He advised that he was currently awaiting more information from Meath County Council who were carrying out a similar project.

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

The Cathaoirleach noted that Councillor Fitzpatrick was not present to speak on his motion and moved onto item 35.

CM36/1121

Community Space in Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council provide an update regarding the re-opening and future management of the Community Space in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Facilities and Community are currently working on opening Newbridge Town Hall to the public for one event before Christmas. If this event is successful, it is hoped to open other Halls throughout the county in the new year in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines that are in place.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.