

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District held on Friday, 09 April 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
On Microsoft Teams**

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

Officials Present: Ms S Kavanagh (District Manager), Mr J Boland (Director of Service), Mr J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr S Aylward (District Engineer), Ms M Hunt, Mr K Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officer)s, Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms K Keane, Mr B O’Gorman (Administrative Officers), Mr D Wyer (Environmental Awareness Officer), Ms AM Burke (Executive Engineer), Ms L Russell (Arts Officer), Ms O Talbot (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CM01/0421

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 05 March 2021 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 05 March 2021 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM02/0421

Matters Arising

CM03/0321 CM08/0221

Circulation of a Copy of Kildare County Council’s Traffic Calming Policy

Councillor Wyse asked if a copy of Kildare County Council’s Traffic Calming Policy could be circulated to the members. Mr McGowan stated that the document referred

was a technical document used by Kildare County Council technical staff when assessing requests and it was a decision of Senior Management whether this document could be viewed by the public.

CM30/0321

Oakwood Park, Derrinturn

Councillor Wyse asked if any engagement between the council and local residents had taken place in relation to the construction of the boundary wall between Oakwood Park and Radharc na hEagalis. Ms Hunt stated that she would liaise with Ms Ui Fhatharta, Senior Planner and revert to Councillor Wyse with an update.

CM03/0421

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 were currently undertaking routine maintenance works including opening inlets, clearing drains and gullies, patching and sign clearance and that a copy of the Roads Works Programme 2021 had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

CM04/0421

Remaining Balance for LPT Schedule of Works 2021

The Cathaoirleach proposed this item be deferred to the May meeting and advised the members to contact the District Manager with their recommendations for the allocation of the remaining monies for the LPT Schedule of Works 2021 which had yet to be allocated.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the allocation of the remaining monies for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Schedule of Works 2021 be deferred to the May meeting.

CM05/0421

The Cathaoirleach requested that the motion to deal with Urgent Business and items 20, 35, 36 39,40 and 41 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Emergency Motion:

The members considered the following joint motion in the name of Councillors Durkan, Farrelly, Feeney, Fitzpatrick, Hamilton, Ó Cearúil, Ward, Weld and Wyse. That the council resolve the issue of litter in public areas throughout the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District given COVID-19 Legislation and the Alcohol Bye-Laws to the satisfaction of the members and the public by providing 1,100 litre commercial bins where necessary while paying particular attention to areas with high levels of pedestrian/cyclist traffic to include but not limited to playgrounds, parks, harbours, greenways, public walkways, town squares and any other public amenity spaces.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the the Parks Section carry out regular cleaning and inspections of playgrounds in the municipal district. This involves safety inspections of the sites, removal of waste from bins, the site and any landscape maintenance that might be required. This varied from once a week for the Bawnogues, twice a week in Prosperous and three times a week in Maynooth and Clane. Part of the grass maintenance of parks, open spaces and roadways also involved litter picking. This was carried out on a fortnightly basis in conjunction with the grass cutting.

In addition to this the council also provided occasional additional visits to deal with specific safety or maintenance issues that occurred. These occasional visits had increased in the last year as result of increased use of the facilities during the various lockdowns.

The council did not have the resources to increase this frequency or provide additional waste collection facilities and would not be in favour of providing additional bins or commercial bins. This would increase waste disposal costs and could also

promote illegal dumping. A more sustainable approach needed to be adopted to control waste and rather than increase opportunities for the public to dispose of the waste they generated it should be decreased and a 'Leave no trace' approach adopted. The general public needed to appreciate that they were responsible for the waste they generated and therefore the appropriate disposal of it.

A report was also received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that problems relating to significant littering had become very pronounced in recent times and had coincided with the current COVID lockdown. These issues were not confined to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District and were indeed widespread. To date, staff had dealt effectively with the resulting clean-ups though there could be a lag at specific locations, sometimes at weekends. Indeed, the members would be aware of Maynooth's exceptional performances in the National IBAL league in recent years.

Specifically, in relation to Maynooth, the Harbour Field had been particularly problematic and had been the subject of ongoing representations. The Environment Section had also viewed the video evidence and it was truly appalling. Therefore, one fully understood the frustrations of the elected members as well as the wider community, particularly the Tidy Towns Group.

Regrettably, there were no easy answers here and there were a number of aspects to be considered:

In the first instance, consideration really needed to be given to providing large commercial style bins in locations such as this. Inevitably, this would only add to the existing problems, would lead to fly-tipping and disposal of domestic waste on a significant scale as well as encouraging social gatherings at a time of lockdown.

In addition, the merits of providing such bins at a range of locations really needed to be considered in a broader context. Aside from the costs and logistical aspects (particularly in relation to servicing), the members really needed to be mindful of the

message that such an action would convey, particularly at a time when sustainability/climate action was to the fore. Though well intentioned, this was hardly the correct response and would likely only reinforce existing problems.

The council was currently spending in excess of €4 million annually on street cleaning and litter management. This was a very significant sum and its opportunity cost also really needed to be considered. Notwithstanding the scale of the spend, the council was in receipt of ongoing requests to provide additional street cleaning and public bins at numerous locations throughout the county. This was not sustainable, nor could such be accommodated within existing budgets. On the contrary, the emphasis really should be on the phased removal of public bins and challenging existing societal mores in relation to littering and fly-tipping.

It was fully appreciated that this was not an easy position to take. It was also fully understood the pressures on the elected members, but calling for more and more as well as bigger bins would only exacerbate the existing problems.

In addition, there was also the issue of encouraging public congregation during a time of lockdown. In this context, the council had been liaising with the local An Garda Síochána who had a statutory role in relation to COVID-19 restrictions as well as the Alcohol Bye-Laws. There was also ongoing liaison with the Municipal District Engineer with a view to providing some reasonable and more proportionate additional arrangements for The Harbour Field when resources and circumstances allowed.

The council would also like to acknowledge the ongoing assistance of the Tidy Towns Group. It was accepted that the scale of littering was indeed beyond the resources of any voluntary group. A local shopping outlet had also been helpful with clean ups and this was further acknowledged.

A further report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office had no

additional resources to assign to street cleaning without compromising the existing litter management plan.

The current litter picking and bin emptying service provided in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District was as follows:

Bin emptying Maynooth:

- Undertaken by the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Office in the towns of Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth. This service was currently at capacity and could not accommodate any more bins without reducing the service elsewhere.
- Street cleaning litter service – 4 permanent operatives.
- One operative litter picked and emptied bins in Clane - Monday to Friday.
- One operative cleaned bins and picked litter in Maynooth - Monday to Friday.
- Two operatives in Maynooth each weekday morning and half day Saturday who undertake a set route for litter picking/cleaning.
- Each weekday afternoon between Clane, Kilcock and Prosperous emptied bins and litter picked.

This service was supplemented by the Road's crew operatives, of which there were only four in Maynooth, when circumstances allowed as follows:

- 2 operatives every second Saturday morning in Kilcock emptied bins and litter picked.
- 3 operatives 2 hours Monday Morning emptied bins and litter picked Kilcock.
- Occasionally the Road's crews were utilised to supplement the four street cleaning crews and provided cover for leave.

The 4 operatives in the Road's crew in Maynooth were required for their primary role of roads operation and maintenance and could only be utilised on street cleaning operations when workflows allowed.

Without a reduction to the current service bin emptying and street cleaning service provided throughout the Municipal District requests for additional services could not be sanctioned.

The following points were raised by the members:

- There had been an increase in litter pollution throughout the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District since the start of the pandemic.
- Signs had been erected in recent weeks to remind people to dispose of their litter appropriately.
- It was felt that if existing bins had capacity to take litter and additional bins were provided more people would dispose of their litter appropriately.
- Over recent weeks the litter pollution on The Harbour Field and the Greenway had escalated and it was felt that the situation would deteriorate further once level 5 restrictions were eased.
- It was unfair to expect Tidy Town Groups to continue to deal with the volume of rubbish the municipal district was now subject to.
- The members commended the Tidy Town Groups for the outstanding work they continued to do.
- It was felt local groups and communities were being let down by the elected members and the council executive.
- It was unfair to ask people to dispose of their litter if no bins were available to them.
- Was it possible to pilot the installation of additional larger bins by private contractors which could be padlocked? – costing had been investigated and it cost €19 to lift a 1,100-litre bin.
- Statistics on the overall use of bins in the municipal district would be helpful as this would highlight the ones not being used – these could be moved to service a problematic area.
- A partnership approach to tackle the problem was needed.
- An advertising/publicity campaign was needed to advise people that they were responsible for disposal of their litter.

- This was a nationwide problem and the responsibility was on the members and the council to develop an interagency approach with An Garda Síochána, Tidy Town Groups, and other community groups.
- The members voiced their support for Senator Wall and Senator Byrne who both had bills going through the Oireachtas proposing changes to the current legislation regarding the use of CCTV and GDPR legislation.
- Additional resources needed to be found to help with this problem.
- It was requested that the motion be referred to the next meeting of the full council on behalf of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee.
- It was requested that the motion be referred to the Environment and Water Services Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

Mr Boland, Director of Service confirmed the following points:

- There was no doubt that the litter problem was as significant national issue which had worsened in recent times notwithstanding all the local initiatives.
- The council was inundated with requests from all municipal districts to provide additional bins as well as sweeping services – this was not sustainable particularly from a financial perspective (in this context the council was spending in excess of €4 million annually on this service – and a breakdown of this could be provided).
- In the council's view an impetus was required at national level, similarly in intensity to the Drink Driving Campaign.
- It was fully accepted that the scale of the problem in Maynooth was beyond the capacity of the Tidy Town's Group.
- The council strongly supported the Tidy Town's Groups countywide in terms of: grant funding, materials etc. as well as training/mentoring through the Tidy Town's Forum. In addition the county had performed really well in the IBAL Litter League, particularly in Maynooth, Kildare Town and Naas.
- Strong reservations were expressed regarding the encouragement of public congregation during lockdown the role of An Garda Síochána was referred to in dealing with this matter.

- It was agreed that as outlined by Councillor Weld that the issue was also pervasive in rural areas. Again, for its part, the council were providing ongoing assistance in terms of community clean ups. The Environment Section were providing two full time crews who were engaged in the collection of fly tipping countywide.
- Certainly the Environment Section would work with the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District as well as other departments in trying to provide some reasonable and proportionate additional arrangements for The Harbour Field.
- The report issued by the Director of Service, Environment and Water Services was referred to which cautioned against the additional measures cited in the motion particularly in terms of leading to additional fly tipping as well as encouraging the disposal of domestic waste.

Mr Wallace confirmed the following points:

- Council initiatives in the last 12 months had included increased clean ups in playgrounds and managing the opening and closing of playgrounds (between €5,000 and €7,0000 had been spent by the council on the opening and closing of playgrounds in the last 6 months).
- There had been a large congregation gathered in the Harbour Field last Wednesday and the council had helped with the clean up.
- People needed to be mindful of Climate Change when considering the options for the disposal of litter.
- A large volume of work needed to be undertaken to help change people's attitude.
- Two major clean-ups had been carried out by the council in the Harbour Field in the last seven days.
- The Parks Section was happy to work with the members to help resolve the problem.

The District Engineer confirmed the following points:

- The bins were emptied in Maynooth Monday to Saturday and not Monday to Friday as stated in the report that had issued.
- The Municipal District Office was at full capacity and if more resources were assigned to Maynooth it would mean that other areas would fall short of resources.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Ward agreed by all members present that the report be noted, the motion "that the council resolve the issue of litter in public areas throughout the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District given COVID-19 Legislation and the Alcohol Bye-Laws to the satisfaction of the members and the public by providing 1,100 litre commercial bins where necessary while paying particular attention to areas with high levels of pedestrian/cyclist traffic to include but not limited to playgrounds, parks, harbours, greenways, public walkways, town squares and any other public amenity spaces" be referred to full council on behalf of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee." A timeline for the installation of large bins (1,100 litre commercial bins) throughout the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District to be given to the members and the motion be referred to the Environment and Water Services SPC.

Item 20:

Street Cleaning Budget for 2020

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse. Can the council provide a detailed breakdown of the street cleaning budget for 2020, showing the total amount spent in this municipal district, broken down by town and village?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the budget allocation for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District for the provision of the street cleaning and bin emptying service in 2020 was €358,889.

The overall spend in the provision of the service in 2020 was €469,523, this figure could not be broken down per town/village as requested but a breakdown of the service provided was as follows:

Maynooth

- Primary bin emptying Monday to Saturday.
- Litter picking and footpath sweeping Monday to Saturday.

Kilcock

- Litter picking and bin emptying Monday, Wednesday and every second Saturday.

Clane

- Litter picking Monday to Friday
- Bin emptying Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Large Road Sweeper

- Monday – Allenwood, Clane, Kilmeague, Maynooth.
- Tuesday – Coill Dubh, Newtown, Staplestown, Tirmoghan.
- Wednesday – Broadford, Clogherinkoe, Derrinturn, Johnstown, Kilcock and Ticknevin.
- Thursday – Clane, Prosperous, Robertstown.
- Friday – Maynooth, Straffan, Rathcoffey.

This was the generic plan but was subject to change as local conditions and weather dictated. The spend included all costs associated with the service including personnel, plant, disposal, and ancillaries.

The report was noted.

Item 35:

Bye-Law for Dog Owners

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

That this committee considers introducing a bye-law related to dog owners so that the onus is on them to carry clean up equipment and dispose of their dog's waste appropriately within the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District.

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

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that Litter meant any type of rubbish left lying in an open or public place. It included everything from fast food wrappers to dog fouling to unwanted furniture. The litter laws stipulated that it was an offence to let a dog under your control foul a public place and so there was already an onus on dog owners and/or persons in charge of the dog to remove and dispose of their dog's waste in a suitable, sanitary manner. 'Public places' included public roads and footpaths, areas around shopping centres, school grounds, sports grounds, and the immediate area surrounding another person's house.

Leaving litter in a public place was an offence that could result in an on-the-spot fine of €150, or a maximum fine of €3,000 if convicted in the district court. Local authority wardens and the An Garda Síochána could issue on the spot fines. As reported at previous municipal district meetings, it was challenging to identify and link evidence of dog fouling to the dog owner. The council's wardens relied on people reporting dog fouling incidents to act as a witness for the matter to proceed and there was often a reluctance among members of the public to go to this level. There was also the realism that instances of dog fouling could occur outside of the times when wardens were on duty.

In short, dog owners should clean up after their dog in public places. Any public bin could take the waste. There was no excuse to leave their dog's mess behind.

Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Act specifically referred to dog waste – copied below for reference:

22. (1) Where faeces has been deposited by a dog in any place to which this subsection applies, the person in charge of the dog shall immediately remove the faeces and shall ensure that it is properly disposed of in a suitable sanitary manner.

(2) Subsection (1) applies to a place that is —

- (a) a public road,
- (b) land forming part of a retail shopping centre,
- (c) a school ground, sports ground, playing field or recreational or leisure area,
- (d) a beach,
- (e) the curtilage of a dwelling the occupier of which has not consented to the presence of the dog in the curtilage, or
- (f) such other place as may be prescribed.

Councillor Weld stated that the report did not answer the question he had asked which was the introduction of Bye-Laws related to dog owners so that the onus was on them to carry clean up equipment and dispose of their dog's waste appropriately. He stated a plan of action needed to be implemented to educate preparators of the seriousness and the consequences of not picking up their dog waste. It was agreed by all members that this item be referred to the Environment and Water Services Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

Mr Kavanagh confirmed the following points:

- Dog waste was already covered under the Litter Pollution Act.
- The council had run campaigns on local radio and social media increase public awareness of the seriousness of the problem.
- The matter would be referred to the Environment and Water Services SPC.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed by all members present that the report be noted and this matter be referred to the Environment and Water Services SPC.

Item 36:

Litter Collection at Key Black-Spot Areas of Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council increases litter collection at key black-spot areas of Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office undertook the street cleaning and bin emptying service on behalf of the Environment Section in line with the agreed Litter Management Plan. The budget allocation for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District for the provision of the street cleaning and bin emptying service in 2020 was €358,889. The overall spend in the provision of the service in 2020 was €469,523, and a breakdown of the service provided was as follows:

Maynooth

- Primary bin emptying Monday to Saturday.
- Litter picking and footpath sweeping Monday to Saturday.

Kilcock

- Litter picking and bin emptying Monday, Wednesday and every second Saturday.

Clane

- Litter picking Monday to Friday.
- Bin emptying Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Large Road Sweeper

- Monday – Allenwood, Clane, Kilmeague and Maynooth.
- Tuesday – Coill Dubh, Newtown, Staplestown and Tirmoghan.
- Wednesday – Broadford, Clogherinkoe, Derrinturn, Johnstown, Kilcock and Ticknevin.
- Thursday – Clane, Prosperous, and Robertstown.
- Friday – Maynooth, Straffan and Rathcoffey.

This was the generic plan and was subject to change as local conditions and weather dictated. The spend included all costs associated with the service including

personnel, plant, disposal, and ancillaries. The Municipal District Office had no available resources, financial or personnel, to expand the service currently provided without curtailing services elsewhere.

Councillor Ó Cearúil raised the following points:

- It was noted that the collection of bins in Naas was seven days a week compared to Maynooth which was six days a week.
- The council needed to help the Tidy Town's Group out more.
- A collaborative approach was needed and engagement with the Community Employment Project and the Tidy Town's Groups was vital.

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

Item 39:

Collection of Bins in Clane and Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council confirm how often the bins are collected in Clane and Maynooth and for comparative purposes, how often they are collected in the towns of Naas, Newbridge, Athy, Leixlip, Celbridge and Kilcock?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office undertook the bin emptying service on behalf of the Environment Section in line with the agreed Litter Management Plan.

A breakdown of the service provided was as follows:

Maynooth - bin emptying Monday to Saturday.

Clane - bin emptying Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Kilcock - bin emptying Monday, Wednesday and every second Saturday.

Leixlip - bin emptying Monday to Saturday.

Celbridge - bin emptying Monday to Saturday.

Newbridge - bin emptying Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Athy - bin emptying Monday to Saturday.

Naas - bin emptying Monday to Sunday.

The report was noted.

Item 40:

Waste Management Support Maynooth Harbour Area and Royal Canal Path

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council provide an update on weekend waste management support for the Maynooth harbour area and Royal Canal path, to address the increasing spring and summer social activity in the area while restrictions remain and good weather draws increasing crowds?

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office undertakes the street cleaning and bin emptying service on behalf of the Environment Section in line with the agreed Litter Management Plan. The budget allocation for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District for the provision of the street cleaning and bin emptying service in 2020 was €358,889. The overall spend in the provision of the service in 2020 was €469,523, and a breakdown of the service provided was as follows:

Maynooth

- Primary bin emptying Monday to Saturday.
- Litter picking and footpath sweeping Monday to Saturday.

Kilcock

- Litter picking and bin emptying Monday, Wednesday and every second Saturday.

Clane

- Litter picking Monday to Friday.
- Bin emptying Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Large Road Sweeper

- Monday – Allenwood, Clane, Kilmeague and Maynooth.
- Tuesday – Coill Dubh, Newtown, Staplestown and Tirmoghan.
- Wednesday – Broadford, Clogherinkoe, Derrinturn, Johnstown, Kilcock and Ticknevin.
- Thursday – Clane, Prosperous and Robertstown.
- Friday – Maynooth, Straffan and Rathcoffey.

This was the generic plan and was subject to change as local conditions and weather dictated. The spend included all costs associated with the service including personnel, plant, disposal, and ancillaries. The Maynooth Harbour and Royal Canal Path were not included in the Litter Management Plan and as such were not generally tended to by the Municipal District Office. The Municipal District Office had no available resources, financial or personnel, to expand the service currently provided without curtailing services elsewhere.

The report was noted.

Item 41:

Materials Gathered by Community Groups from Public Roads

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council advise this Municipal District Committee on the volumes of materials gathered by community groups from public roads in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District, including the Green Kilometre initiative?

Mr Wyer confirmed the following points:

- The council had engaged with various groups and the Green Kilometre Scheme had been very successful.
- 100 individuals joined up to date and 7 tons of waste had been collected to date and 25 tons had been hand picked in March alone.
- 700 litter pickers had been distributed countywide.
- Carbury and Derrinturn had collected four tons on litter in February.
- Friels in Straffan had collected a colossal amount of waste.

- The great work of the Maynooth Tidy Town's Groups and other towns was acknowledged.

The report was noted.

CM06/0421

Transfer of Wastewater by Tanker

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

Can the council provide a list of locations in this municipal district where wastewater is being transferred by tanker on a regular basis in order to be processed, and the associated annual costs of carrying these transfers out?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were no estates in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District which required wastewater being transferred by tanker on a regular basis in order to be processed.

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that any queries around tankering from Irish Water Wastewater Treatment Plants and the associated cost would need to be raised directly with Irish Water. The Councillor should contact the Irish Water Local Representative Service Desk for further assistance. There was a dedicated phone line for elected representatives, 1850 178 178 which operated from 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday with a dedicated email address localrepsupport@water.ie.

The reports were noted.

CM07/0421

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 6 and 28 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Item 6:

Shared Walking and Cycling Space Linking Maynooth to Celbridge

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

That the council applies to the National Transport Authority (NTA) for funding for a shared walking and cycling space linking Maynooth to Celbridge.

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 was currently in the process of implementing its Programme of Works for the approved Sustainable Transport Measures Grants (STMG's) from the National Transport Authority (NTA). This took priority for the NTA in 2021. With regard to this link, the most direct connection between Maynooth and Celbridge was the R405. However, a large portion of this road was not listed within the NTA National Cycle Plan which would affect funding opportunities in this instance. However, Kildare County Council would forward this motion/proposal to the NTA for their attention and consideration.

Councillor Feeney welcomed the report and asked that the motion be referred to the NTA.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Cearúil and agreed by all members present that the report be noted and the motion be referred to the NTA.

Item 28:

Review of the County Development Plan (CDP)

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That this council liaises with the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee to consider a joint approach to the review of the County Development Plan (CDP).

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

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree on.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that due to the rapid population growth in Kildare it was important that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee and the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee looked at how towns in the north east of the county were being developed. He stated this would be vital to gain maximum benefit for land use for both areas.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Ward that the report be noted and that this council would liaise with the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Committee to consider a joint approach with the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District when reviewing the County Development Plan (CDP).

CM08/0421

Disabled Parking Bay at the Primary School in Johnstownbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That the council provide a progress report on the provision of a disabled parking bay outside the Primary School in Johnstownbridge.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that when restrictions allowed the Municipal District Office would arrange a meeting with Councillor Weld to discuss the requirements of a disabled parking space at this location.

Councillor Weld stated he was happy with the report.

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

CM09/0421

Switch on of New Traffic Lights on the Moyglare Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council switch on the new traffic lights on the Moyglare Road given the amount of pedestrian and vehicular traffic going towards the two new schools.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the new traffic lights on the Moyglare Road were scheduled to be switched on when the new link road between the Moyglare Road and the Dunboyne Road was opened to traffic by the developer. The council understood this should happen in Quarter 3, 2021 but this would be subject to the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions and opening of construction sites. Kildare County Council's Roads Planning Section would continue to work with the developer on this issue.

The following points were raised by the members:

- It was noted the report stated the road opening and switching on the traffic lights was scheduled for Quarter 3, 2021 and given that the opening of the schools would add an over an additional 1,000 students, the timeframe was not beneficial.
- Could the council ask the developer to open the road and switch on the lights as soon as possible?

The District Engineer stated that he would convey the members comments to the Road's Planning Section and ask them to provide a response for the May meeting. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and the District Engineer convey the members comments to the Road's Planning Section and ask them to provide a response for the May meeting.

CM10/0421

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 9 and 14 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Item 9:

Removal of Sign Poles in Prosperous

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council removes a number of defunct, and potentially hazardous sign poles in Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office intended to undertake a review of the signage in Prosperous during Quarter 2, 2021. This would identify what signage could be removed and what signage needed replacing. It was expected these works would be undertaken prior to year-end subject to available resources.

Councillor Farrelly requested that this item remained on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly, seconded by Councillor Ward that the report be noted and this item to remain on the progress report.

Item 14:

Review of Disused Road/Street Signs in and Around Kilcock

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

That the council conduct a review of disused and dilapidated road/street signs in and around Kilcock with a view to removing them from the streetscape.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office intended to undertake a review of the signage in Kilcock during Quarter 2, 2021. This would identify what signage could be removed and what signage needed replacing. It was expected these works would be undertaken prior to year-end subject to available resources.

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

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Farrelly that the report be noted and this item to remain on the progress report.

CM11/0421

Potential Funding for Road Works Ballyteague

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council identifies any potential funding pathways for the necessary road works to take place in the Ballyteague area in 2021.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that these roads were considered for inclusion in the 2021 Restoration Improvement Programme. The final programme was determined by the funding available, condition rating of the road and traffic volumes. Unfortunately, they were not included in the final list of 24 projects for 2021. These roads would remain under consideration for future roads programmes or if additional funding became available under the Restoration Improvement Grant Scheme. As always, the Municipal District Office would apply to any funding sources which would assist in the delivery of the operations and maintenance programme of the municipal district subject to available resources to undertake the works. One such scheme was the Community Involvement Scheme where the local community made a financial contribution of 15% towards the road repairs. If the community were to participate in such a scheme it might expediate the works.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Could costings for the works and more information as to how the community could get involved be provided to the members?
- Could a plan for the next few years for the list of roads scheduled for works to be carried out on be provided to the members?

The District Engineer confirmed the following points:

- Works for a 3km stretch of road would cost €220,000.
- There was a three year plan but it did fluctuate depending on the deterioration of certain roads quicker than others.

- The Municipal District Office was working through funding streams as best they could.

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

CM12/0421

Plan for the Upgrade of the R148 Dublin Road, Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council prepares a high-level and strategic plan for the upgrade of the R148 Dublin Road, Maynooth from Avenue Restaurant to the Tesco Roundabout to create a modern streetscape connecting positively into the Main Street upgrade design, supporting pedestrians and cycling.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the application submitted in May 2020 to the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) in respect of Maynooth had recently been approved for funding. As part of this project the R148 Dublin Road from the Avenue Restaurant to the Tesco Roundabout was included in the study area. The Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team would work closely with the Traffic and Sustainable Transport Team in the development of a pedestrian and cyclist friendly streetscape for this area to include connectivity to the Main Street as part of the overall Masterplan for Maynooth.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Appreciation was conveyed to the Public Realm Team for the outstanding reply and the commencement of the project was welcomed.
- That the local businesses be contacted in relation to the revamp of the streetscape.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted and the council contact the local businesses in relation to the revamp of the streetscape.

CM13/0421

Additional Street Light Capdoo Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council consider installing an additional streetlight between Pole 4, Capdoo Park to illuminate the route to the pedestrian connection to Capdoo Lane.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Public Lighting Section would visit the location of the requested new street light, and it would then be assessed using a priority system within the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS). Lighting schemes would be scored on various factors and placed within the KLIPS according to that score. The lighting within the KLIPS would be installed as and when funds became available and depending on where the request sat within the KLIPS.

Councillor McEvoy accepted the report.

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

CM14/0421

Vehicular Speeds on the R407 near Aughamore and Loughbollard, Clane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council measure the vehicular speeds on the R407 near Aughamore and Loughbollard in Clane, due to the requests received for temporary speed feedback signage.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office would include this area in the list of locations requiring a traffic and speed count. These were currently not being undertaken due to COVID-19 restrictions as they would not give a true reflection of traffic movements. Once restrictions eased and traffic flows return to normality the surveys would commence again.

Councillor McEvoy accepted the report.

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

CM15/0421

Traffic Lights at Allenwood Cross

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

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that an inspection was previously carried out to determine whether traffic signals were required at Allenwood Cross based on traffic and pedestrian demands and in accordance with Traffic Management Guidelines. In brief the report concluded that “the facilities currently provided in Allenwood were considered reasonable and generally comply with traffic management recommendations, however the provision of a signalised junction was recommended in the medium to long term for the village.” No funding had been identified or technical resources allocated to advance this project.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Traffic Lights for Allenwood Cross were previously approved by the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG).

- The development of over 200 houses and the additional traffic this would bring to Allenwood, warranted traffic lights.
- Due to the proximity of the zebra crossing to the crossroads it did not give drivers ample time to stop.
- Were the zebra crossings compliant with Kildare County Council's Traffic Calming Policy?
- Could the fact that the zebra crossings had no belshia beacons be looked at?
- It was requested that this item remain on the progress report.
- Could a copy of Kildare County Council's Traffic Calming Policy be circulated to the members?

Mr McGowan confirmed the following points:

- The members concerns would be conveyed to the Traffic Management Section and ascertain if any alternate solution other than traffic lights would be suitable at this location.
- The level of traffic at this location did not warrant a controlled signal but the installation of a zebra crossing could be considered.
- The Traffic Calming Policy document was a technical document and it would be a management decision as to whether this could be circulated to the public.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Feeney that the report be noted, Mr McGowan to convey the members concerns to the Traffic Management Section to ascertain if any alternate solution other than traffic lights would be suitable at this location and this item to remain on the progress report.

CM16/0421

Upgrade of the Maynooth to Leixlip Section of the M4

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council provide an update on the upgrade of the Maynooth to Leixlip section of the M4?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that This project is currently in Phase 2 – Options Selection:

- The purpose of Phase 2 was to examine a number of feasible alternative options to determine a Preferred Option which could address the project objectives.
- Public consultation would commence in 2021 with the long list of options being considered and this would likely be a virtual event given the current situation with COVID-19 restrictions.
- The project website <https://maynoothleixlip.ie/> was now live but was currently not searchable as the website had not yet been indexed by Google. This would be updated soon and would be available via the normal google search.
- Next Steps/Update – the public and elected members would be informed in advance of public consultation events later this year.

Councillor Feeney asked would there be any interim decision in relation to resurfacing the road and the District Engineer stated he would liaise with the Road's Design Team and ask them to revert to the members.

The report was noted.

CM17/0421

Traffic Calming Measures at Ticknevin National School

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

Can the council provide a progress report on the provision of traffic calming measures at Ticknevin National School?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the initial design was completed and was currently under review with a finalised design to be approved in the coming weeks. It was hoped to present the design to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee for Section 38 approval in the coming months.

The report was noted.

CM18/0421

Pedestrian Crossing for Johnstownbridge Village

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld.
Can the council provide a progress report for the provision of a pedestrian crossing for Johnstownbridge Village?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this location was listed for assessment as to whether a pedestrian crossing was warranted. This was one of a number of assessments which had to be undertaken in the county which required traffic and pedestrian counts. Due to the current level 5 restrictions it was not possible to undertake these counts as they might not be reflective of normal patterns. It should be noted that no decision had been made in respect of a pedestrian crossing at this location and no funding had been allocated.

The report was noted.

CM19/0421

Maynooth Eastern Relief Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council provide the members with the latest update on the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road and projected completion date(s)?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the detailed design of this scheme was currently being advanced including drainage design and utility provision along the scheme. Kildare County Council was working in parallel with Irish Water to deliver a scheme which included both transportation and water services infrastructure. Discussions were ongoing with Irish Water to agree a State Body Agreement in relation to the provision of Irish Water's water services as part of the main contract. Negotiations were ongoing with the principle Local Housing Infrastructure Funded (LIHAF) landowners on the scheme. The council's valuers and solicitor were working through the particulars of each landowner negotiation. The preparation of the Compulsory Purchas Order (CPO) documents was almost complete.

Discussions were ongoing with CIE/Irish Rail with respect to meeting the requirements of Irish Rail's Safety Management Standards and obtaining approvals for the detailed design of the bridge over the Royal Canal and Dublin to Sligo railway line. Discussions were also ongoing with a "Commission for Railway Regulation Notified Body" which carries out an independent check of the bridge design to ensure it was in compliance with regulations. The council had also applied to Waterways Ireland for a Bridge Agreement and was awaiting the outcome of this application.

As could be seen from the above, the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) was a complicated scheme involving numerous landowners stakeholders and State Bodies. It was expected that landowner negotiations would continue to Quarter 3, 2021 and that the CPO process would follow on in Quarter 4, 2021. It was expected that the CPO process will be completed in Quarter 2, 2022. Subject to approvals, the main contract tender/procurement process will commence in Quarter 2/Quarter 3, 2022 with the contract commencing in Quarter 1, 2023 and running for 18 months.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated he was of the understanding that as part of a planning condition the road and bridge had to be built prior to any houses being developed. Ms Hunt stated she would convey Councillor Ó Cearúil's query to Ms Granville, Senior Planner and ask her to revert.

The report was noted.

CM20/0421

Footpath at the Junction of R403 Celbridge Road and L5078 Capdoo Lane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council advise the committee on requests for improvements to the footpath at the junction of R403 Celbridge Road and L5078 Capdoo Lane, Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this location was included on a list of areas for examination by the Municipal District Office in 2021. Subject to available resources it was expected to examine the location in Quarter 3, 2021.

The report was noted.

CM21/0421

Installation of Street Light at Mylerstown Cross

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to investigate the possibility of installing a street light at Mylerstown Cross?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were no plans to install any public lighting at this location. The installation of street lighting to illuminate such rural settlements was not economically or environmentally sustainable, would compromise the physical, environmental, natural and heritage resources of the county. The provision of street lighting at this location would have a negative impact on the rural character of the local landscape.

Councillor Fitzpatrick asked how much it cost to erect a street light and Mr McGowan stated he would add this item to the list for costings to be calculated.

The report was noted.

CM22/0421

Revised Standing Orders for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee

The members considered the revised Standing Orders for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed by all other members (8) present that the revised Standing Orders for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee be adopted.

CM23/0421

House Purchases and Allocations

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council confirm how many houses have been purchased and allocated by Kildare County Council or any of the approved housing association in the Clane-

Maynooth electoral area in the past year, and what future plans are in place to purchase large numbers of units to alleviate the current housing situation?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Ninety- seven properties were allocated to tenants by the council in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District area in 2020.

Social housing units delivered since January 2020 or with Departmental approval were detailed in the table below:

Type	No of Units	Status
AHB Acquisition/Turnkey	39	Delivered
AHB Mortgage to Rent	7	Delivered
Home for Life Mortgage to Rent	1	Delivered
KCC Leasing	6	Delivered
KCC Direct Acquisitions	32	Delivered
AHB Acquisition/Turnkey	177	Approved

In addition, the council delivered 12 units at Anne Street, Prosperous in 2020 and were progressing the delivery of 65 units at Old Greenfield, Maynooth, 10 units at Coill Dubh and 5 units at Carbury. 77 units would be delivered under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) at Nancy's Lane, Clane. The number of properties delivered by the council (and Approved Housing Bodies (ABH's)) were provided to the elected members each month in the Chief Executive's Report and were also broken down by municipal district area in the report. The weblink to end of year 2020 (January 2021) report was below:

<https://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/YourCouncil/YourElectedCouncil/FullCouncil/CurrentMeetings/ChiefExecutiveReports/Chief%20Executives%20Report%20January%20Meeting.pdf>

Members were updated in the Chief Executive's Report as various projects progressed through Departmental approval stages.

Councillor Durkan asked if there was an update on the scheme for delivering housing at Greenfield, Maynooth and Mr O’Gorman stated that he would liaise with the relevant team in the Housing Department and revert to the members.

The report was noted.

CM24/0421

Damaged Properties Highfield Estate, Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward. Can the council provide an update as to the works undertaken and expected timescale for the completion of a number of damaged properties in the Highfield Estate, Kilcock?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that three properties at Highfield Park, Kilcock suffered severe fire damage in late 2019. Once investigations were complete and the properties were handed back to the council, the properties were made safe and secured. Some demolition work was undertaken. Due to the structural nature of the damage sustained, structural engineering consultants were procured to conduct detailed surveys and to prepare tender documentation.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions in 2020 those surveys did not take place until late 2020. Tender documents were now being prepared and the project was expected to go to tender in April 2021. Once a contractor had been appointed it was expected that works on site would take between 6-7 months. Therefore, the project was expected to be completed in late 2021 or early 2022.

The report was noted.

CM25/0421

Public Realm Projects

The Cathaoirleach requested that items 26, 27, 30, 31 and 32 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

Ms Hunt informed the members that a report on all projects had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting and confirmed the following points:

- The online survey for the Kilcock Town Branding had been launched the day before the meeting.
- The survey for the Prosperous and Clane Town Branding would be launched later in 2021.
- Once COVID-19 restrictions allowed construction of the Bawogues Multipurpose Community Centre could commence.
- The public consultation for the Part 8 for Maynooth Harbour Field would commence at the end of April.
- Main Street Clane accessibility improvement project Ms Hunt and the District Engineer would be working on together and would consult with Clane Abbey Community Centre.
- The consultant for Derrinturn Healtcheck would give a briefing to the members at their May meeting.
- Briefings for Allenwood, Robertstown, Kilmeague and Coill Dubh would be given to the members in Quarter 3-4, 2021.

The following queries were raised by the members:

- The Grand Canal Greenway project was not listed on the report.
- Had any feedback been received as to why the application for Robertstown was unsuccessful?

Ms Hunt advised the members that the Grand Canal Greenway project would be listed on the future reports for Public Realm Project updates and stated she had sent several emails requesting feedback on the refusal of funding for Robertstown and she would follow up on it again.

Item 27:

Part 8 Harbour Field, Maynooth

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

That the council commences the Part 8 public consultation process for the Harbour Field, Maynooth now that funding has been allocated.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team was finalising the Part 8 documentation for the Harbour Field Park Project. The estimated Part 8 launch date was mid to late April 2021.

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

Item 30:

Harbour Field Development Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council update the members as to the status of the Harbour Field development in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team was finalising the Part 8 documentation for the Harbour Field Park Project. The estimated Part 8 launch date was mid to late April 2021. The report was noted.

Item 31:

Public Realm Projects for Straffan and Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide an update in terms of current and future Public Realm Projects for Straffan and Kilcock?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that an initial online public consultation was

completed in 2020 in respect of Straffan and the urban designer led team had incorporated those findings into a Draft Town Renewal Plan (TRP) for future consideration by the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee and the public. Following completion of on-site surveys (once the current restrictions were lifted), and incorporation of same into the Draft TRP, a briefing and presentation to the members would be organised for a date to be agreed in May.

In relation to Kilcock, funding was approved from various sources for town branding projects in Kilcock, Prosperous and more recently Clane.

Due to the number of projects being progressed by the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team on a countywide basis, it was proposed to launch the Kilcock Town Branding public consultation in late April, with Prosperous and Clane Town Branding consultation being launched in Quarter 4, 2021.

The report was noted.

Item 32:

Prosperous Town Branding Project

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly.
Can the council provide an update to the members on the timeline for the Prosperous Town branding project?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that funding was approved from various sources for town branding projects in Kilcock, Prosperous and more recently Clane. Due to the number of projects being progressed by the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team on a countywide basis, it was proposed to launch the Kilcock Town Branding public consultation in late April, with the Prosperous Town Branding consultation being launched in Quarter 4, 2021.

The report was noted.

CM26/0421

Permeability Strategy North East Quarter of Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council prepare a permeability strategy for appropriate connection to Carton Avenue for the North East quarter of Maynooth (to include Carton Square, Pebble Hill, Lyreen Park and Castlepark) based on a sensitive design that recognises and protects the heritage and natural amenity of Carton Avenue, while supporting connected communities towards our active transport and decarbonising goals.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the application submitted in May 2020 to the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) in respect of Maynooth had recently been approved for funding. The area outlined in this motion was part of the wider context area for analysis within the URDF funded project. The Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team would work closely with the Traffic and Sustainable Transport Team to ensure that any permeability strategy developed would be incorporated into the overall Masterplan for Maynooth.

A report was also received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that this matter would be considered as part of developing a masterplan for the amenity lands along Carton Avenue.

Councillor Hamilton asked for the members support for design to be drawn up for a permeability strategy for appropriate connection to the North East quarter of Maynooth and this was agreed by all members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil and agreed by all members present that the report be noted and a design to be drawn up for a permeability strategy for an appropriate connection to the North East quarter of Maynooth.

CM27/0421

Number of Local Area Plans (LAP's) Due for Review

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly. Can the council provide an update to the members on the number of Local Area Plans (LAP's) within the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District which are due for review during the lifetime of this Municipal District Committee, and where appropriate a timeline for same?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the following Local Area Plans (LAP's) were within the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District area:

- Maynooth LAP 2013-2019
- Kilcock LAP 2015-2021
- Clane LAP 2017-2023

The members would be aware that the review of the Maynooth LAP was on the Forward Planning Team's current work programme. Background research for the preparation of the Maynooth LAP, specifically the preparation of a Transport Strategy in accordance with the requirements of RPO 8.6 of the RSES for the Eastern Midlands Region in addition to the Social Infrastructure Audit and Infrastructure Assessment in accordance with Appendix 3 of the National Planning Framework. On completion of the first draft of the Transport Strategy for Maynooth a programme and timeline for the review would be presented to the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee.

It should be noted that the current public health restrictions might inhibit the assessment and recording of accurate traffic, pedestrian, and cycle movements. The review of the Kilcock and Clane LAP's would be scheduled on completion of the preparation of the County Settlement Strategy in the context of the Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) 2023-2029 with associated Local Transport Plans and other necessary supporting assessments.

The report was noted.

CM28/0421

Connection from Healy's Bridge to Robertstown Village on the Blueway

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

Can the council confirm which section of canal bank is to be used on the Blueway, to connect Healy's Bridge to Robertstown Village?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that Healy's Bridge was on the Grand Canal, this bridge was also known as Bonyng Bridge.

Bonyng Bridge to Robertstown:

The Greenway would run on the northern bank under Cock Bridge and under Bonyng Bridge and then west of Bonyng Bridge. A new bridge was proposed to take the Greenway back to the southern bank and the existing grass towpath which would be upgraded to a compacted stone and dust surface. It was considered vital, during the route selection process that the Greenway arrived in Robertstown on the southern bank. This ensured that users of the amenity were directed into the village. This represented a unique opportunity for Robertstown, as the village was located on the midway point of the route through Kildare and was also close to the intersection with the Barrow Blueway.

The report was noted.

CM29/0421

Study of Trees in and Around the Cemetery in Kilcock

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward. That the council undertake a study of the trees in and around the cemetery in Kilcock.

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

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the council had commissioned a report into the current condition and best management practices for trees located at Boycetown Cemetery, Kilcock by a professional arboricultural company. There were 90 individual trees in the cemetery, predominately of lawson cypress. The likely outcome was that significant remedial works would be required which would include the removal of a number of these trees. The council would organise for the works to be formally tendered with priority to be given to trees requiring urgent management.

Councillor Ward thanked the executive for the report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Councillor Ó Cearúil that the report be noted and the council to organise for the works to be formally tendered with priority to be given to trees requiring urgent management.

CM30/0421

Extension at Allen Graveyard

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the council commence work immediately on the extension at Allen Graveyard given the graveyard is almost at full capacity.

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

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that the cemetery at Allen was not yet at full capacity and the council would continue to monitor the situation in the coming months.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Ward that the report be noted and the council continue to monitor the situation in the coming months.

CM31/0421

Flooding Works in Courtown Little/Laragh Kilcock

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

Can the council provide a comprehensive update regarding the flooding works in Courtown Little/Laragh Kilcock to include any developments in including these works in the wider Lyreen catchment area?

A report was received from the Water Services and Environment Department informing the members that a meeting was held with representatives from the council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the Office of Public Works (OPW) to discuss flooding issues in the Lyreen catchment. A commitment was given by all parties to share information gathered on past events and to develop a plan for future study.

The most suitable route to carry out the study is to include it as part of the proposed Maynooth Flood Relief Scheme. This scheme was included in the OPW Flood Risk Management Plans and was listed as one of the schemes prioritised within Kildare. The progression of the scheme and any associated study was a medium term aim for the Flood Risk Management Programme. The initial consultant's report is being revisited to see if any measures (which would not impact the delivery of the larger scheme) could be taken in the short-term at Courtown Little. These measures might include Individual Property Protection.

The report was noted.

CM32/0421

Parks Works Programme 2021

Mr Wallace informed the members that a report had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting and asked if anyone had questions.

The following queries were raised by the members:

- It was requested that going forward the various Resident's Associations who applied for grants were notified by the council the glyphosate should not be used.
- Was there a timeline for the tender and construction of Allenwood Playground?

- The Parks Section was congratulated on their outstanding work and involvement with communities on the spray, no mow and low mow initiative.

Mr Wallace confirmed the following points:

- In relation to notifying the grant applicants regarding the use of glyphosate, Mr Wallace would clarify this matter and revert to the members.
- It was hoped to progress to tender stage for the Allenwood Playground before year end but this would be dependent on available resources.
- The council had been looking at using 2001 grazing mowers but dog fouling issues had hindered this option.

CM33/0421

Kildare 2021 Arts Act Grant Scheme, Bursaries and Awards

The members considered the Kildare 2021 Arts Act Grant Scheme, Bursaries and Awards.

Ms Russell stated that a copy of the bursaries and awards had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. She stated there had been a very good countywide distribution of funding overall.

The members thanked Ms Russell and her team, the external panel and PR contributions for their hard work and commitment involved in the assessment and decision-making process for the applications.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Kildare 2021 Arts Act Grant Scheme, Bursaries and Awards be approved (see Appendix A attached).

CM34/0421

Public Lands Adjoining Carton Avenue

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council use a section of the available public lands adjoining Carton Avenue as a dedicated biodiversity meadow.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there was already a section of the grass along the avenue which was a dedicated biodiversity meadow. The addition of any other areas would be considered as part of the preparation of a masterplan for the amenity lands along Carton Avenue.

Councillor Feeney asked if there was a timeline for the completion of the Masterplan for the amenity lands along Carton Avenue. Mr Wallaced stated that initial archeology work had been completed and until further progress was made, in the interim the masterplan would remain listed on the Parks Works Programme.

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

CM35/0421

Open Space in the Village of Allenwood

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That the council outlines any progress made and any future plans to address the lack of open space in the village of Allenwood, which was identified by the Kildare Open Space Strategy in 2011.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that any shortage of open space in Allenwood would have to be considered as part of the preparation of the County Development Plan (CDP) and the revision of the Open Space Strategy which was currently underway.

Councillor Wyse welcomed the news that open space for Allenwood would be considered as part of the CDP preparation and the revision of the Open Space Strategy.

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

CM36/0421

Fencing off of Stream Between Ballyshannon Manor and Grattan Park Estates

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

That the council fences off the stream between Ballyshannon Manor and Grattan Park estates in Derrinturn, in order to make the green spaces in those estates safer for children to play in.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that this location would be examined to see what work was necessary but there was no provision within the Park's Budget to finance a fence.

Councillor Wyse stated he would work with Mr Wallace and his team to see what options were available in terms of erecting a fence in the green spaces.

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

The meeting concluded.