

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District held on Friday, 04 February 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
On Microsoft Teams**

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

Officials Present: Ms M Higgins (A/District Manager), Mr J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr Cyril Buggie (District Engineer), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Mr C Sweeney (Programme Manager), Mr B O’Gorman (Administrative Officer), Ms S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Mr S Higgins (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CL01/0222

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.

CM02/0222

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the draft minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 07 January 2022 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 07 January 2022 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM03/0222

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, sign cleaning and road repairs.

In the past month the municipal district office has progressed the following works:

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General Works:

LPT Funding

The Municipal District Office is progressing the agreed LPT programme, please see attached LPT update sheet.

The following were completed in the past month

- Installation of pedestrian barrier at Carton Grove
- Road Repairs Rathcoffey
- New & Replacement Bollards Straffan

General Works

Other general works carried out in last month included

- Continuation of the cycle path on the Meadowbrook link Road to connect to the Straffan Road.
- Road Repairs Meadowbrook Road
- Footpath/Cycle path repairs Meadowbrook Link Road
- New Fence on link walk Rye Bridge Estate Kilcock
- New Tidy Towns Signage Maynooth
- New drainage gullies Straffan

The sustainable transport team progressed the new pedestrian crossing on the Kilcock Road, Maynooth.

Councillor Hamilton said that the Maynooth Tidy Towns Association had carried out some planting and that the council should make contact with them.

The District Engineer advised that he had made contact with the Maynooth Tidy Towns Association to prevent any crossover or cancelling out of each others work.

Councillor Weld noted that there had been another incident at Baltracey Cross and he asked when would the table top ramp be painted.

The District Engineer advised that the contractor had completed the lining at this crossroads and that he would follow up on the red painted surface which was to be installed.

Councillor Durkan said that Balraheen junction should be considered for the safety improvement scheme, he noted that a number of incidents had occurred at this junction. He asked if the work could be carried out in a swift manner similar to the work that had been completed at Sweeney Cross in Rathcoffey.

Councillor McEvoy asked if the works at Digby Bridge would be continued in light of the handover between the previous and new District Engineer.

The District Engineer advised that Balraheen would be considered for junction improvement and he assured the members that any projects that were planned for works previously would be completed.

Councillor Wyse asked if Bond Bridge road to Allenwood would remain closed for the three weeks? The District Engineer said he did not believe so, but that he would follow up and revert to the councillor.

CM04/0222

LPT Schedule of Works 2022

It was proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 would be deferred to the March meeting for consideration.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by all members present that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Local

Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 be deferred to the March meeting for consideration.

CM05/0222

Taking in Charge of Royal Meadows, Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward.
Can the council provide a comprehensive update on the Taking in Charge of Royal Meadows, Kilcock to include the recent steps taken to progress this TIC application?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Development Control has secured the release of the bond monies from the bond provider and it is envisaged this will be released in the coming week.

Development Control have also been engaging with Irish Water in order to finalise the Site Resolution Plan as required under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Kildare County Council and Irish Water which details the process for the Taking In Charge of the Water Services Assets. The scope of works required by Irish Water has been agreed under a Draft Site Resolution Plan. The scope of works includes for one robotic liner repair to an underground pipe, deep suction cleaning of a number of foul lines and raising of buried manholes. There are also six wayleaves or easements over foul sewers through private gardens required. Development Control has been in contact with all six landowners in question seeking confirmation as to whether an easement may already exist on the deeds. If not, wayleaves will need to be put in place.

Tender documentation is currently being drawn up by Development Control seeking quotations for the underground repairs to services, both foul and storm lines. It is envisaged this pricing document for the underground repairs will be sent out shortly for pricing.

Quotations for the provision of two additional public lighting columns at either end of the walkway from Village Green to Fairgreen have been sought from the public

lighting section. Quotations to remove three trees that are blocking public lighting columns and lifting public paths have been sought from the Parks Department. Once the Site Resolution Plan has been finally agreed with Irish Water, Development Control intend on advertising the Royal Meadows estate for taking in charge. The report was noted.

CM06/0222

Resurfacing of Back Lanes in Coill Dubh Village

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That the council confirm what plans are in place to resurface a number of back lanes in Coill Dubh Village.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are currently no plans to resurface the back lanes in Coill Dubh Village. While the back lanes are in the ownership of Kildare County Council, they are not on the roads schedule and as such can not be assigned funding from the restoration improvement grant. If the members wish to assign LPT funding towards the resurfacing of the lanes, then this can be considered as part of the 2022 works programme.

The following points were raised by the members:

- A number of lanes in Coill Dubh Village had serious flooding issues.
- Some of the houses in the village were designed in such a way that the back lanes are heavily used and would be the main point of entry for emergency services if they were required.
- A scheme or a works programme should be considered for the municipal district to tackle this issue.
- Could a costing for this work be carried out?
- This issue should be placed on the progress report until the costing and funding is organised.

- The Chairman of the residents association should be present when the engineer visits the site.

The District Engineer advised that he would meet Councillor Weld on site to assess the exact extent of the issue, and he would organise a survey to be carried out.

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

CM07/0222

Site Lines and Visibility at Dag Welds crossroads

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

That the council indicate what plans they have to improve site lines and visibility at Dag Welds crossroads.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council has commenced work on development of a county wide priority list of junctions that require improvement due to safety or other concerns. 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 resource constraints. This programme will apply to junctions only where Municipal District works have been exhausted and where it can be shown significant issues still persist in terms of safety.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The issue at Dag Welds crossroads was ongoing and the residents have been raising this for years.
- Had the council the expertise to deal with this issue?
- Landowners have concerned over potential accidents and have made themselves available to the council for discussion regarding this junction.

- There had been talk of a consultant being brought in previously and more funding would then be required to complete the works.
- Could the council advise what is the priority system with regards to addressing crossroads as clarity was needed for the councillors and for the citizens living in the area.
- Prioritisation of this junction for the municipal district should be considered.

The Senior Engineer advised that Dag Welds crossroads was one of half a dozen to be looked at. He noted that the cost of improvements was outside the low cost improvements scheme and that funding would have to be sought for as this work would probably cost a number of hundred thousand euros. He also noted that five junctions would be taken as part of the countywide plan to address crossroads. He said that when the consultant visits Dag Welds crossroads, they would assess the junction, the speeding and any accidents that have occurred. He stated that it was hoped that a proposal would be presented to the councillors by the end of 2022 and that this would include the project cost.

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

CM08/0222

Resurface the Road from CoilÓg Equestrian Centre to Ballyteague

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the council resurface the road from CoilÓg Equestrian Centre to Ballyteague as part of it's roads restoration programme for 2022.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this road will be assessed for resurfacing in 2022 and if warranted and subject to funding will be added to the road works programme for 2022.

Councillor Fitzpatrick said that this was one of the worst road surfaces in the municipal district and that he looked forward to meeting the District Engineer on site and he hoped it could be completed this year.

The District Engineer said that could meet Councillor Fitzpatrick on site and noted that the funding for the year had not yet been received but that the road would be assessed for work.

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

CM09/0222

Traffic Safety Options at Ticknevin Bridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That the council assess and provide options for improving traffic safety at Ticknevin Bridge, where visibility and road width are limited at present.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Ticknevin Bridge spans the Grand Canal and as such, would be an OPW asset. Both approaches have a number of roads and it may be possible to look at closing off some of these in order to control the traffic flows. The Municipal District Engineer will discuss the options internally with other sections of transportation and revert back to the members.

Councillor Wyse asked was the Grand Canal under the remit of OPW or Waterways Ireland.

The District Engineer advised that it was under the remit of Waterways Ireland.

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

CM10/0222

Suitable Site for a Bus Terminus in Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council initiates a process to identify a suitable site for a bus terminus in Maynooth to support the significantly increased volume of public and private bus transport, and to enable additional bus volumes to support more sustainable transport planning.

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 that the Council is currently in the process of conducting a Transport Strategy for Maynooth. One of the key strands of this strategy will be how to improve public transport in the town. This will include analysis on a suitable site for a bus terminus / bus hub in Maynooth. The transport strategy will also include an analysis on what bus services will be needed in Maynooth in the future to accommodate growth of the town in a sustainable manner. The Transport Strategy is a non-statutory document. However once this strategy is complete, the transport measures contained therein will feed into the next iteration of the Maynooth Local Area Plan.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The report given was a positive response, towns in the EU which were half the size of Maynooth have their own bus terminus.
- There had been incidents where spaces designed for two buses to park opposite the Glenroyal Hotel had been used by six buses which crowded the area.
- The need to create bigger spaces for bus parking in the Maynooth Town was evident.
- A new terminus could be included in the Transport Strategy, the Maynooth Local Area Plan or the County Development Plan.
- There was already two small bus terminus in Maynooth, one of which was on the Straffan Road.

- The council should re-engage with Dublin Bus and encourage them to park at the terminus free of charge, this could increase the bus service to Maynooth Town.
- There were landowners that could be reengaged with on a new terminus location as a third location could spread the traffic and congestion issues of buses passing through the town.

The District Engineer noted that this report had come from the Sustainable Transport Team and the Senior Engineer advised that he would take back the members comments to the relevant team.

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

CM11/0222

Road Subsidence issues at Ballygoran, Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council resolve the road subsidence issues at Ballygoran, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this is a matter for Irish Water to address as the issue is an Irish Water manhole. The Municipal District Office has raised it with Irish Water for urgent attention and will follow up again seeking details of when remedial action will be taken.

Councillor Durkan stated there were ongoing issues of waste overflowing from the manhole due to the road subsidence and there was a leak out of the foundation of the manhole. He noted there had also been a dumping issue in the area which the Environment Section could tackle, as this could have another major impact on the waste problem.

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

CM12/0222

Safety Audit of the Junction Layout at Pikes Bridge, Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan.
That the council carry out a safety audit of the junction layout at Pikes Bridge, Maynooth.

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 has commenced work on development of a county wide priority list of junctions that require improvement due to safety or other concerns. 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 resource constraints. This programme will apply to junctions only where MD works have been exhausted and where it can be shown significant issues still persist in terms of safety.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The installation of kerbs could be considered to create a safer approach to the junction. Currently motorists had to look out their rear windows for a safe egress.
- This junction was unlit and so was hazardous at night-time.
- Could the proposed redesign of the junction be provided to the members?

The District Engineer advised that the plan was for the Royal Canal Greenway to pass underneath Pikes Bridge and the area would be redeveloped to incorporate this change, and that the junction would also be addressed during these works. There would be a contractor appointed to carry out these works. It was hoped that this would be carried out in the coming months.

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

CM13/0222

Speed Sign on the Pikes Bridge Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council install an electronic speed sign on the Pikes Bridge Road R405 given the increased volume of traffic on this road.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this road will be assessed for resurfacing in 2022 and if warranted and subject to funding will be added to the road works programme for 2022.

Councillor Feeney advised that the road listed in the motion should have been the L5053. She stated that the residents held a go slow/slow down day and the Gardaí Síochána supported this idea and had taken pictures of the event.

She stated that an electronic speed sign could be a great deterrent for motorists who travel above the speed limit and a speed survey would be welcome to assess if the road limit was safe.

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

CM14/0222

The following items 14, 15, 16 and 24 on the agenda were taken together.

Item 14:

Public Lighting on Connaught Street, Kilcock

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward. That the council undertake a public lighting review of Connaught Street, Kilcock especially the area leading to the new estate of Ledwill Park.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Public Lighting Section will visit the location and review the public lighting as requested, any requirement for additional lighting will be assessed using a priority system within Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS). Lighting schemes will be scored on various factors and placed within KLIPS according to that score. The lighting within KLIPS will be installed as and when funds become available and depending on where the request sits within KLIPS. Any lighting installation from Connaught street to Ledwill Park would be premature pending the completion of the footpath at this location.

Councillor Ward stated the public lighting along this street was one of the primary issues in the area and asked that an examination to include the public lights be carried out along the section of the street that is currently unlit. He noted local residents at Ledwill Park could not safely walk to the train station in the dark, due to this unlit section of the street.

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

Item 15:

Review the Section of Road on Connaught Street

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward. That the council review the section of road on Connaught Street between the recently upgraded section near the town and the new section developed by the builders of Ledwill Park, where only one car can pass on this section and there are no footpaths available to pedestrians. (See attached)

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the delivery of this development is the responsibility of the developer at Ledwill Park Kilcock, Glenveagh Properties. The Developer has carried out road improvement works at a section of Connaught Street at the site frontage but there is a section of Connaught Street from these works to the Train Station that should also be upgraded as part of the planning permission. It is the

council's understanding that the Developer is agreeable to carry out these works but there are third party lands involved and no agreement was reached to enable these works to be carried out. A request has been forwarded to the Planning Compliance Department to contact the developer Glenveagh and advise them that they are not in compliance with their planning permission. If the Developer cannot deliver the works on Connaught Street through the planning permission then Kildare County Council may have to deliver these road improvement works plus the balance of works to the train station as part of a bigger road project where third party land would have to be acquired by CPO which is costly and takes time to deal with.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The 200 metre section of road on Connaught Street approaching Kilcock was in dire of work due to the lack of public lighting, the poor road and the absence of a footpath.
- The works were currently hampered by the need for the developer to meet the third party mentioned in the report.
- The CPO process mentioned in the report had merit and problems, and was a lengthy process which would not address the ongoing issue soon enough.

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

Item 16:

Footpath on Connaught Street

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council provide a footpath on Connaught Street from Ledwill Park in Kilcock.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the delivery of this development is the responsibility of the developer at Ledwill Park Kilcock, Gelnveagh Properties The Developer has carried out road improvement works at a section of Connaught Street at the site frontage but there is a section of Connaught Street from these works to the Train

Station that should also be upgraded as part of the planning permission. It is the council's understanding that the Developer is agreeable to carry out these works but there are third party lands involved and no agreement was reached to enable these works to be carried out. A request has been forwarded to the Planning Compliance Department to contact the developer Glenveagh and advise them that they are not in compliance with their planning permission. If the Developer cannot deliver the works on Connaught Street through the planning permission then Kildare County Council may have to deliver these road improvement works plus the balance of works to the train station as part of a bigger road project where third party land would have to be acquired by CPO which is costly and takes time to deal with.

The following points were raised by the members:

- How could planning permission be granted without all the details agreed upon?
- The Developer had been agreeable to carry out the work but the section of the road remains unfinished.
- How much land was affected by this delay and could a costing be done for this work.
- The Climate Action aspect also needed to be considered. Pedestrians and cyclists were being affected and forced to using motorised avenues of travel when it could be avoided.
- Could the development bond be used to buy the lands to speed up the process of addressing this issue?
- A comprehensive answer from the Planning Department was needed. Progress report on the mediation between the developer and the third party was also necessary.

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

Item 24:

Footpath and Cycle Path at Ledwill Park on Connaught Street, Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council outline the options and an estimate of the costs to complete the connection of footpath and cycle path from the new developer-led sections at Ledwill

Park on Connaught Street, Kilcock to complete a safe connection on this dangerous stretch of the road to the village, train station and other services?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the delivery of this development is the responsibility of the developer at Ledwill Park Kilcock, Glenveagh Properties. The developer has carried out road improvement works at a section of Connaught Street at the site frontage but there is a section of Connaught Street from these works to the Train Station that should also be upgraded as part of the planning permission. It is the council's understanding that the developer is agreeable to carry out these works but there are third party lands involved and no agreement was reached to enable these works to be carried out. A request has been forwarded to the Planning Compliance Department to contact the developer Glenveagh and advise them that they are not in compliance with their planning permission. If the developer cannot deliver the works on Connaught Street then Kildare County Council may have to deliver these road improvement works plus the balance of works to the train station as part of a bigger road project where third party land would have to be acquired by CPO which is costly and takes time to deal with.

The District Manager advised that she would be raising this issue herself as a matter of urgency. Ms Hunt said that she had noted the comments and questions of the members and that she would look into the permissions and conditions of the planning permission for this area. The Senior Engineer stated that the landowners/third party were not engaging with the developer and he noted that the CPO scheme was a long winded process.

CM15/0222

Parking along the L1023 Ballinagappa Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council evaluate the need for parking along the L1023 Ballinagappa Road, Clane (opposite the former Health Centre) and the impediment to cyclists approaching Main Street.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Sustainable Transport Section will examine this section of Ballinagappa Road in 2022 in the context of the supporting infrastructure element of the Safer Routes To School Project.

Councillor McEvoy raised the following points:

- There were five or six parking spaces along this stretch of road. This meant that when the space were filled that there was about a metre space between the parked cars and the centre of the road.
- Cyclists were being forced onto the road between the parked cars and the traffic.
- A redesign of the junction could be a solution to slow down cars while also providing space for cyclists.
- There were two sites with planning permissions along this road and the volume of traffic in time would increase as a result of these developments.

The Senior Engineer noted that the Sustainable Transport team would be the most fitting section to deal with this request and that they have planned to host briefings bi-annually with the members.

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

CM16/0222

Width of Main Street Clane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council investigate the width of Main Street Clane, with regard to improving the traffic flow issues at the junction with Ballinagappa Road.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department and the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Strategic Projects & Public Realm team are delighted to advise that funding of €100,000 has been awarded by the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) for the development of a Masterplan for Clane under the Town Centre initiative.

The Town Centre Masterplan funded through this initiative will provide an accurate assessment of the challenges faced by Clane with a tailored response to match. This Masterplan can also be known as a vision plan, actions plan, framework or strategy which will build on the 2018 Clane Healthcheck which was funded by LPT from the Clane Maynooth Municipal District.

While the Masterplan process can include a preliminary examination of traffic flows, footpath and carriage way widths, pedestrian and cyclist movements so as to inform the final Masterplan, a full Traffic Management Study will need to be completed prior to examining any proposals for junction improvements or roadway changes. Due to existing work commitments in the Roads Department, the timeline for the commencement of a Traffic Management Study cannot be identified at this time.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The junction mentioned was a pinch point for traffic leading onto the Celbridge Road.
- An increase in the flow of traffic needed to be considered, there was a concern that two vehicles couldn't pass each other if they were bigger than the average car.
- The inclusion of the assessment within the Masterplan was noted but it was a lengthy process which would not deal with the matter in the near future.
- The request of the motion was to establish the current width of the road and Councillor Farrelly suggested meeting the District Engineer on site
- The number of large vehicles had increased due to the Drehid Landfill site.
- Movable barriers in place of the parking spaces could be an option to deter motorists from speeding.

Ms Hunt advised that this section of the Main Street would be looked at as part of the Masterplan for the town.

The District Engineer advised that he was happy to meet on site and noted that he was not in favour of removing the car parking spaces as it could encourage speeding. He said that he thought there was sufficient space and it was a positive traffic calming measure that the traffic was slowed by the occupied parking spaces.

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

CM17/0222

Parking Bays for Disabled Drivers

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That this council requests that parking bays for disabled drivers be installed at the car park at Leinster Street, Maynooth.

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 the car park at Leinster Street, Maynooth is a private car park and is outside the remit of Kildare County Council. This matter has been referred to the Planning Department for a report on the conditions of the planning permission.

The following points were raised by the members:

- There were no designated parking bays for disabled drivers at the funeral parlour or the health centre in the car park at Leinster Street, Maynooth.
- There had been a planning conditions at one time which included the need for parking bays for disabled drivers. Was it a possibility to approach the owners of the car park in a reasonable manner to remind them of the conditions?
- Had the car park been sold in the interim?

- There had been a number of complaints regarding clamping practices in this car park and it was noted that this car park was private and not an APCOA car park.
- It was noted that the planning application for this location had included 8 parking bays for disabled drivers but they had not been installed.

Ms Hunt advised that the previous planning permission had been temporary and had expired.

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

CM18/0222

Bus Shelter in the Village of Kilmeague

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the council look at the possibility of erecting a bus shelter in the village of Kilmeague.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Sustainable Transport Section will forward the request to the NTA for consideration.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated there were new bus shelters being installed in other areas, and could the old shelters be reused in locations such as the village of Kilmeague. He asked if a trial in Kilmeague could be carried out first, then other areas such as Robertstown could be considered.

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

CM19/0222

Reopening of the Caragh Bridge

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

Can the council provide a comprehensive report on the timeframes for the reopening of the Caragh Bridge in light of the amount of road users that use this bridge from the North West of the county?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the bridge consultant has provided a report on the damage to Caragh Bridge. A Conservation Architect has been appointed by the Council to prepare an application to the National Monuments Service (NMS) for Ministerial Consent to carry out the remedial works on the bridge as Caragh bridge is a National Monument (KD019-012). The application and it's review by the NMS will take a number of weeks but it is envisaged that consents will be in place by early March to allow a contractor commence the necessary repair works to the bridge. The report was noted.

CM20/0222

Traffic Lights at Allenwood Cross

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

Can the council confirm if there are any plans to install a set of traffic lights at Allenwood Cross?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council has commenced work on development of a county wide priority list of junctions that require improvement due to safety or other concerns. 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, where required, will be sought to implement the schemes and they will progress to the delivery phase thereafter. This will be subject to funding and resource constraints. This programme will apply to

junctions only where Municipal District works have been exhausted and where it can be shown significant issues still persist in terms of safety.

Councillor Fitzpatrick asked for clarity from the council regarding the approval for the installation of lights at Allenwood Cross and asked when would the expected report be available.

The Senior Engineer stated that he was not convinced that traffic lights were the solution to the issues of traffic at this junction. He said that a lot more options should be considered when approaching this issue. He noted that if it was warranted, then priority would be given to this work and that the report would be back by the end of 2022.

The report was noted.

CM21/0222

Opening of the Relief Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council confirm plans and timeline for the opening of the relief road section from LIDL through Mullen Park to the Celbridge Road and detail any obstacles to the completion of this connection?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the opening of the relief road section from LIDL through Mullen Park to the Celbridge Road is dependent on the completion of the Straffan Road Junction Works and the Mullen Park Development Works, where the Developer Kelston Homes has indicated that the Straffan Road junction works should be completed by the end of Quarter 1 2022 and the Link Road through the Mullen Development should be completed by early 2023.

Councillor Hamilton sought clarity on whether the timeline mentioned in the report was binding?

The District Engineer said that he expected that the works would be completed and the road opened in 2023.

The report was noted.

CM22/0222

Footpath from Rathcoffey GAA Club to Painstown Service Station

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.
Can the council provide an update on the provision of a footpath from Rathcoffey GAA Club to Painstown service station?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council has applied for funding for this footpath under the low cost accident improvement scheme from the department in 2022. This funding has not been advised yet but should this funding be approved then this project will be advanced in 2022. The members will be advised once Kildare County Council receives notification of the grant.

Councillor Durkan sought clarification on the timeline regarding the receipt of the funding. The District Engineer advised that the funding would be part of the national allocation which was yet to be received but that the members would be made aware once it had been.

The report was noted.

CM23/0222

Progress on the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council confirm what progress has been made with the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road forms one section of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route from the R148 Dublin Road to the R405 Celbridge Road. The Maynooth Eastern Ring Road is currently at detailed design stage where significant progress has been made in terms of engaging with all relevant stakeholders to close out the detailed design. The project will next progress to the Statutory Process Stage including the compulsory acquisition of lands (CPO stage), subject to approvals. Construction works will be predicated on the successful

conclusion of the CPO process and subsequent approvals from the relevant authorities.

The report was noted.

CM24/0222

Update on the Retrofitting Programme in the Municipal District

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council update the members on its Retrofitting Programme for its housing stock in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Housing Department is currently completing works under the Midlands Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme (MEERP) at twenty-one (21) homes in the Ashgrove estate, Derrinturn. These works are substantially complete (19 units) and will be finalised during this quarter (Q1, 2022).

Councillor Feeney asked if there would be anymore housing stock for the Retrofitting Programme. Mr O’Gorman advised that the council had plans carry out work on more housing stock in the scheme and he noted that the council would carry out work on houses that would have an immediate impact. He said that updates would be provided at the Housing SPC meetings and on the monthly Chief Executive’s report.

The report was noted.

CM25/0222

Housing Allocation at Nancy's Lane, Clane Development

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly. Can the council confirm if all homes in the Nancy's Lane, Clane development have been allocated?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that homes in the new Nancy’s Lane development are currently being allocated by the Housing Allocations Team to approved housing applicants.

The Team first offer the property to a person on the waiting list for which the property is suitable, that person has to be given a short period of time to reply, the required background checks must then be undertaken and finally, if all is in order, the property is allocated to the applicant. Some properties at the scheme were also advertised on the Choice Based Letting (CBL) system.

The report was noted.

CM26/0222

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that the representative from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department had to temporary vacate the meeting and would return in due course. He suggested that the items under this directorate be dealt with at the end of the meeting. All members agreed.

CM27/0222

Letter to Irish Water to Prioritise the Approval of the Connection Request

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That this council requests Irish Water to prioritise the approval of the wastewater connection request for the remaining 59 units of the new Grand Canal Wood estate in Allenwood, in order to allow the transfer of lands to the adjacent primary school to proceed.

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

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that if the members are in agreement a letter can issue to Irish Water as requested.

The following points were raised by the members:

- There was over two acres of land to be given to the local primary school.
- A letter from the Municipal District Committee could help expedite the transfer of lands.
- A meeting with the Principal, the Developer and the Chair of the School Committee had been held and there would be no difficulty in the transfer of lands between these parties once the water connection issue was sorted.

- This was the first planning permission in Allenwood and it still has not had its water connection issue resolved.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Wyse, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by the members present that the report was noted and that the letter issue to Irish Water as requested.

CM28/0222

Allenwood Community Playground Project

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse.
Can the council provide an update on the current status and projected timelines for the Allenwood Community Playground project?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that a tender for the initial site clearance of scrub to facilitate the playground has been completed and the work is due to be carried out in February. Work on the tender for the playground has started and it is hoped to issue this in early March. It is hoped to have a contractor in place by end of June. Commencement for construction is dependent on the works programme of the successful contractor and the lead time for play equipment and materials. Lead times are currently 12-16 weeks. It is hoped that all the elements included in the design ie playground, muga and pump track can be delivered within the budget available but this will be dependent on the tender prices.

The report was noted.

CM29/0222

Community Centre for Robertstown

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld.
Can the council inform the members what plans they have to work with the local community regarding the provision of a community centre in Robertstown?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Community Section has been working with the Robertstown Community Amenity Association CLG on the proposed development of

the amenity area at Robertstown as well as other projects. The initial design phase of this project has been completed with the key requirements set out below. The RCAA hopes to apply for planning for phase 1 of this development in March 2022.

- Must be available for use by Robertstown National School.
- Must allow pedestrian access from the school / footpath on the opposite side of the road
- Must incorporate landscaping and planting scheme in keeping with the surroundings
- Carpark
- A green-field pitch/multi-use games area.
- Nature campus/Eco park
- Associated landscaping, boundary treatment, car park, access (including canal access to Barge), site works and utilities
- A bespoke, innovative design for a community facility that can be utilized as focus point for various community groups, services and activities.

Councillor Weld sought clarification on where the funding for the rest of the works would come from. The District Manager advised that groups could apply for grants through SICAP, LCDC and the Leader Partnership. Councillor Weld asked how confident were the council that the grants would be received and if they were short where would the funding be found. The District Manager confirmed that the council would support the grant applications and that the conversation regarding other funding would be had if the applications were unsuccessful.

The report was noted.

CM30/0222

Business Incubator Hub for Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide an update in relation to the provision of a business incubator hub for Kilcock?

A report was received from the Kildare Local Enterprise Office informing the members that the economic and enterprise unit are currently finalising the Draft Hub Strategy for the county and will present it to full council at the end of Q1/early Q2 2022 for adoption by the members. The strategy will adopt an evidence-based approach to hub development and investment in the county. The development of the strategy includes mapping existing and planned capacity against population/demographic data, identifying areas in the county that are not served by a hub, and areas where demand for a hub can be identified in order to provide rationale for future development. This document will also inform future hub development in the county. In relation to Kilcock, there have been no further developments with regard to the provision of a business incubator hub in the town however the council continue to provide advice and support to those may be interested in developing a hub there.

Councillor Durkan sought clarification on what could the councillors do to support these businesses? He also proposed that a deputation from the Kilcock Business Association could present before the committee for support and asked could this be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr C Sweeney advised that the Draft Hub Strategy would be published at the end of Quarter 1 or at the beginning of Quarter 2, this strategy would be a countywide plan. He suggested that a meeting could be arranged with himself and the Head of Enterprise for Kildare.

The Meetings Administrator advised that she would look into the proposal of the deputation from the Kilcock Business Association and revert back to Councillor Durkan.

The report was noted.

CM31/0222

Swimming Pool in Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council provide an update on the planned provision of a swimming pool in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that an update of the appeals process was requested from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media on Monday 10 January. The response below was received on Tuesday 11 January:

“In relation to your request for an update on the appeal the position as per the below email remains the same, a decision on the outcome of the review is yet to be finalised. It is expected that the review will be completed shortly. The response pertaining to the appeal will be issued directly to the project lead.

Please note once the review is complete the scope for awarding new grants to projects which missed out under the first set of allocations and the timing of any new call for proposals will be considered.”

Members will be informed when a response pertaining to the appeal process is issued.

The report was noted.

CM32/0222

The Cathaoirleach suggested to everyone present that a comfort break of 5 minutes. All members agreed

CM33/0222

Part 8 Harbour Field Park, Maynooth

The members considered the Chief Executive's Part 8 report on the proposed redevelopment of Harbour Field Park, Maynooth.

Ms Hunt briefed the members on the proposed redevelopment of Harbour Field Park, Maynooth. She described the work which the Public Realm team had carried out which included a healthcheck and a town renewal plan for Maynooth. She noted that the Harbour Field Park was the location of the highest interest to the public for redevelopment. She said that there had been over 800 submissions received at the pre Part 8 stage and that the public consultation process had been very successful.

She also noted that when the Part 8 had gone to public viewing and that a further 110 submissions were received and they had been largely positive.

The members raised the following points:

- They thanked all the members of the public who submitted views on the Part 8 and the number of submissions received shows that proper public consultation works.
- It was suggested to have the basketball courts placed at 07 on the design provided.
- Was the diagonal pathway through the middle of the park necessary? If it were removed larger field games could be organised.
- To ensure that the famine wall/Fitzgerald wall be kept and maintained.
- Would the old park equipment be reused and recycled at another playground?
- There had been several motions previously regarding the inclusion of water drinking fountains.
- A canal boardwalk would be ideal for the Harbour Field Park.
- Any sun loungers would be a lovely inclusion but could be subject to vandalism.

Ms Hunt advised that basketball courts were included within the Part 8 and that the placement of the courts would be chosen when the detail/design was being completed. She noted that the diagonal pathway was a desire line and if it were removed that the public would probably walk across the park in a similar fashion. She confirmed that the famine wall would be kept and maintained. She also advised that the playground equipment would be assessed and then reused if it was safe and suitable.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by all members to proceed with the redevelopment as recommended in the Chief Executive's Part 8 report for Harbour Field Park, Maynooth.

CM34/0222

Proposal for Maynooth to be part of the Historic Town Initiative

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

That this council proposes Maynooth as part of the Historic Town Initiative.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the County Kildare Heritage and Conservation Offices are currently considering the criteria for the Historic Town Initiative (HTI) with a view to identifying which town(s)/project(s) are most suitable for the HTI application for 2022. As only one HTI application can be made per Local Authority/County it is important that a town and project which best meets the specific criteria of the scheme is proposed. The HTI is a highly competitive and often oversubscribed process with only 7/8 successful towns/projects each year.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The council had not agreed a town to be submitted as part of the Historic Town Initiative. Maynooth should be proposed as it had been one of the oldest cities in Ireland. It also had notable historical sites such as Fitzgerald Wall, Conolly's Folly, Carton House and Maynooth University.
- Maynooth had previously been the capital of Ireland.
- This would send a strong message of support for Maynooth and promote another town apart from Kildare Town for its heritage in the county. This could be included as part of Ireland's Ancient East.
- The works involved in this project would require architectural conservation and climate action would also need to be considered.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members present that the report be noted and that Maynooth be proposed as part of the Historic Town Initiative.

CM35/0222

Meath County Council's involvement with the Maynooth Local Area Plan

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

Can the council clarify Meath County Council's involvement with the Maynooth Local Area Plan?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Regional Policy Objective (RPO) 4.35 of the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy for the Eastern Midlands Region requires the preparation of a Joint Local Area Plan (LAP) by Kildare County Council and Meath County Council. The RSES states that the purpose of the joint LAP is to provide a co-ordinated planning framework for the Maynooth area. Kildare County Council are at the early stages of the background data collection and analysis. Arrangements with respect to the roles and responsibilities of each local authority in the statutory plan making process will be clarified over the coming months. Details of same will be discussed with the Elected Members.

The report was noted.

CM36/0222

Public Realm project for Prosperous

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly. Can the council update members on the status of the Public Realm project for Prosperous?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Public Realm project for Prosperous is the development of Town Branding and Gateways. A similar project commenced in Kilcock and one is due to commence in Clane. A tender for consultancy services to assist with the Clane and Prosperous Town Branding projects will be advertised during Quarter 1 2022, with work on both projects commencing in tandem with the Kilcock project.

In relation to the Prosperous Town Park project the fence and gate for Prosperous Town Park is currently in manufacture and will be installed by the end of February.

The report was noted

The meeting concluded.