

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal  
District held on Friday, 04 March 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 D Hodgins, Mr J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr Cyril Buggie (District Engineer), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Ms P O'Rourke (Climate Action Officer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr B O'Gorman, Mr E Fagan, Ms M McCarthy (Administrative Officer), Ms S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Mr S Higgins (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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The Cathaoirleach referenced the awful situation in Ukraine and remembered all the families and children who's lives were being affected by this war. He condemned what was happening and expressed his support for the people of Ukraine.

**CL01/0322**

**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.

**CM02/0322**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the draft minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 04 February 2022 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Feeney seconded by Councillor Durkan that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 04 February 2022 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

### **CM03/0322**

#### **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. The crews have also been dealing with some storm events and the clean up afterwards.

#### **General Works:**

#### **LPT Funding**

The Municipal District Office is progressing the agreed LPT programme, and awaiting the agreed works for LPT 2022

#### **General Works**

The line marking has been carried out at both Digby Bridge and Baltreacy Cross. National grant funding for roads in 2022 had been recently announced and below is the breakdown for this Municipal District.

#### **Restoration Improvement Programme of Works 2022**

<b>Road Class</b>	<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Road Name and Townland Name</b>	<b>Length Road (m)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost of Work</b>
R	403	Brockagh	1,200	€195,000
R	414	Lullymore	1,000	€175,000
R	415	Kilmeague to Allenwood	800	€168,000
R	403	Prosperous Main Street	1,000	€195,000
R	401	Ballindoolin	1,500	€262,500
R	403	Killina National School	1,000	€175,000
R	407	Main Street Clane	1,000	€210,000
L	70044	Mahers Way, Allenwood South	430	€69,875
L	5080	River Road, Allenwood	430	€43,000
L:	70056	Murphys Lock, Ballyteague	1,000	€100,000
L	7085	Kilmeague. Rectory Road	1,000	€150,000

L	7076	Robertstown Road, Kilmeague	450	€67,500
L	70052	Crosspatrick, Kilmeague	930	€102,220
L	5074	Ballynafagh Road, Prosperous	1,400	€168,000
L	1002	Broadford	1,000	€180,000
L	50051	Cadamstown Cul De Sac	650	€52,000
L	5036	Kilnamoragh South	800	€64,000
L	10133	Doctor's Lane, Maynooth	250	€37,500
		-	-	<b>€2,414,595</b>

### Restoration Maintenance Programme of Works 2022

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Estimated Cost of Work
		-	-	
R	403	Carbury Roundabout towards Derrinturn	1,350	€52,718
R	401	Carrick	820	€27,511
R	409	Downings Cross toward Dag welds	1,050	€36,383
R	403	Windmill Crds. Towards Allenwood	858	€29,722
L	5047	Ovidstown Straffan	1,200	€21,600
L	5041	Laragh Kilcock	1,500	€27,000
L	5065	Oldtown Road	1,200	€21,600
L	5013	Timahoe East (Brady Meats)	2,000	€40,500
L	5071	Hodgestown / Giltown	2,000	€45,000
L	1009	Donadea/Newtownhortland/Ballagh Cross	2,400	€54,000
L	5033	Cooltrim North/South	1,100	€19,800
L	5028	Ballycaghan (Duncreevan) to Kicock	2,100	€37,800
L	1006	Tee junction at Derelict pub Clogherinka toward Nan Brenan's	1,000	€25,650
L	5008	Tee junction at Derelict pub toward Clogherinka	1,250	€23,063
L	1002	Nan Brenan's toward Millpond cross	950	€26,933
L	5004	Mill pond junction toward Kilglass	1,000	€18,000
L	50212	Ticknevin, turn right over canal bridge toward bog	1,200	€20,520
L	7081	Annsboro towards Kilmeague	850	€30,388
L	7078	Mylerstown Cross to Cock Bridge	3,300	€75,735
L	6001	Longtown farm toward Hatters Cross	775	€29,644
L	70051	Ballyteigue recycling 2021	2,500	€52,875
L	70056	Derrymullen recycling 2021	1,400	€22,050
				<b>€738,489</b>

2022 Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works			
Road Number	Scheme Title	Scheme Description	LA Allocation
L7073	Woodlands, Coill Dubh	Replacement of current undersized 225mm outfall with a 450mm pipe for a distance of 300m	€100,000
R415	R415 Kilmeague	Upsize undersized road crossing with larger pipe and provide an appropriate outfall	€100,000
L1021	L1021 Cockeragh, Prosperous	Excavate deformed road and rebuild up to eliminate the road deformation	€100,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€300,000</b>

2022 Former National Roads			
Local Authority	Road Number	Proposed Works	LA Allocation
Kildare	R-148-19	It is proposed to carry out a structural inlay over the entire width of the road with a HRA surface course. (Section of road from Meath county boundary)	€280,000
Kildare	R-148-9 &10	It is proposed to carry out a structural overlay over the entire width of the road with a SMA surface course. (Section of road is on the outskirts of Kilcock)	€280,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€560,000</b>

2022 Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads		
Road No.	Location	Amount €
R409	Dagwelds to Cock Bridge	€17,000
R409/L7078	Cock Bridge	€30,000
L7078-L7081	Mylerstown Cross	€17,000
R403/L7073	Brockagh Cross	€15,000
		<b>€79,000</b>

Councillor Hamilton noted his appreciation of the €300,000 for the three schemes for the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works.

#### CM04/0322

#### LPT Schedule of Works 2022

It was proposed by Councillor Durkan and seconded by Councillor Hamilton that the Clane-Maynooth Schedule of Municipal District Works including Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 (including the agreed list of roads projects) be approved. The Cathaoirleach thanked Councillor McEvoy especially for the extra work that he had contributed in finalising the Clane-Maynooth Schedule of Municipal District Works including Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022.

# Kildare County Council

Budget	Project Type	Department	Nominator			€ 1,224,994.0
€ 1,224,994	2022 Allocation					
€ 250,000	Library Capital - Clane Area Library Fund (Year 1 of 3 Years)	Community			Department	Total
€ 30,000	Music Generation - Arts Officer	Community			Community	595,994
€ 25,000	Community Development Worker (Doreen Daly) - Discretionary allocations of €15,000	Community			Environment	39,500
€ 25,000	Tree Planting - Parks Dept	Community			Heritage	40,000
€ 25,000	Climate Action Fund - Climate Action Officer	Community			Planning	100,000
€ 25,000	Community Group Christmas Lights. Quotes for capital. Tenders for projects over €10,000	Community			Roads	428,000
€ 20,000	Bridget 1500 Implementation Plan - Library Services	Community			Economic Development	21,500
€ 15,000	Meadowbrook remediation works	Community	Hamilton			
€ 15,000	Landscaping for Walking/Cycling Projects	Community	McEvoy			€ 300,000
€ 15,000	Head's Up - Susan Bookle/Karl Duffy/Deirdre Bigly	Community			Councillor	Budget
€ 15,000	Garda Community Vehicle in Collaboratin with Celbridge-Leixlip MD	Community			Durkan	30,000
€ 12,000	Community Garden & Markets - Open call for proposals	Community			Farrelly	30,000
€ 12,000	County Home Memorial, Athy - Library Services	Community			Feeney	30,000
€ 12,000	Sports Inclusion Disability Programme - Syl Merrins' Team	Community			Fitzpatrick	30,000
€ 11,250	Decade of Commemoration - Kevin Murphy	Community			Hamilton	30,000
€ 10,000	Tree Cutting - Parks Department	Community			McEvoy	30,000
€ 10,000	Maintenance Pads & Batteries only for First Responder Groups with Defibrillators	Community			Ó Cearúil	30,000
€ 10,000	Men (& Women) Shed's Projects - Open call for applications	Community			Ward	30,000
€ 6,000	Lights for Maynooth Walking Trail at Moyglare Hall Maynooth	Community	Ó Cearúil		Weld	30,000
€ 6,000	Playground Equipment	Community	Weld		Wyse	30,000
€ 6,000	Birdwatch Ireland Kildare Branch Blackwood Lapwing Conservation	Community	Wyse			
€ 5,000	Wheelchair accessible swing, Prosperous	Community	Farrelly			
€ 5,000	Playground Communications Boards	Community	Farrelly			
€ 5,000	Wheelchair accessible swing for Prosperous Playground	Community	Wyse			
€ 5,000	Library Climate Action Programming - Library Services	Community				
€ 4,000	Accessibility for community building in Johnstownbridge	Community	Weld			
€ 3,500	Lights for Maynooth Walking Trail at Moyglare Hall Maynooth	Community	Durkan			
€ 3,244	JPC - Youth Diversion Programme	Community				
€ 2,000	Promote Cycling Event	Community	Durkan			
€ 1,500	First Responders extra bags for volunteers	Community	Feeney			
€ 1,500	Tidy Towns biodiversity project	Community	Hamilton			
€ 1,000	Community Grant - Maynooth Community Council	Community	Hamilton			
€ 1,000	Maynooth Covid-19 memorial project	Community	Hamilton			
€ 1,000	Maynooth Senior Citizens	Community	Ó Cearúil			
€ 1,000	Maynooth Men's Sheds	Community	Ó Cearúil			
€ 1,000	Maynooth ICA	Community	Ó Cearúil			
€ 10,000	Enterprise Project Feasibility Study, Kilcock	Economic Development	Durkan			
€ 10,000	Enterprise Project Feasibility Study, Kilcock	Economic Development	Ward			
€ 1,500	Maynooth Purple Flag	Economic Development				
€ 25,000	Tidy Towns Supplement	Environment				
€ 13,000	Glyphosate Elimination Trial	Environment				
€ 1,500	Maynooth Tidy Towns Heritage Trail	Environment	Feeney			
€ 25,000	Heritage Projects	Heritage				
€ 15,000	Biodiversity Action Plan Implementation	Heritage				
€ 100,000	Public Realm Team MD Projects	Planning				
€ 190,000	Footpaths in Housing Estates, Main Streets, Match with IPB funds	Roads				
€ 30,000	Public Lights Fund - Subject to Public Light Strategy	Roads				
€ 20,000	Road repairs, Ballyteague	Roads	Fitzpatrick			
€ 20,000	Footpaths in Kilcock	Roads	Ward			
€ 20,000	Community Carpark, Rathcoffey	Roads	Weld			
€ 15,000	Walking and Cycling Project works	Roads	McEvoy			
€ 15,000	Footpath, Cluain Aoihbhinn	Roads	Ó Cearúil			
€ 15,000	Resurfacing of Maher's Well Road in Allenwood South	Roads	Wyse			
€ 14,000	Meadowbrook/Boreen Footpaths	Roads	Feeney			
€ 11,500	Footpaths	Roads	Hamilton			
€ 10,000	Wheelchair car parking space and drop kerb in Prosperous	Roads	Farrelly			
€ 10,000	2x LED driver feedback signs (Locations TBC, Firmount/Dag Welds)	Roads	Farrelly			
€ 10,000	Lights for Maynooth Walking Trail at Moyglare Hall Maynooth	Roads	Feeney			
€ 10,000	Footpath, Allenwood	Roads	Fitzpatrick			
€ 10,000	Meadowbrook Footpaths	Roads				
€ 6,000	Footpath, Bohreen Carton Avenue	Roads	Ó Cearúil			
€ 4,000	Footpaths, Rockfield, Maynooth	Roads	Durkan			
€ 4,000	Footpaths, Castledawson, Maynooth	Roads	Durkan			
€ 4,000	Lodge Bog Boardwalk Bus Parking Bay	Roads	Wyse			
€ 3,000	Bike Shelter, Maynooth Gaol School	Roads	Durkan			
€ 2,000	Street Lights, Straffan	Roads	Durkan			
€ 2,000	Electronic speed sign at Pike's Bridge Road	Roads	Feeney			
€ 1,500	Ryebribe, Kilcock - Building Control	Roads	Durkan			
€ 1,000	Footpath 59 Maynooth Park	Roads	Feeney			

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Hamilton and agreed by all members present that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 (including the agreed list of roads projects) be approved.

**CM05/0322**

**Taking in Charge Status List**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly. Can the council confirm if it has updated the taking in charge status list provided to members in 2021 for this municipal district, and confirm if it has been circulated to members?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the bi-annual report to council was presented at the plenary meeting in December 2021. The data was set out by municipal district. It is intended that the next bi-annual report will be presented at the plenary meeting in July 2022.

The report was noted.

**CM06/0322**

**Update on the Sustainable Transport and Active Travel Team Projects**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr D Hodgins, Senior Engineer from the Traffic and Sustainable Transport.

Mr Hodgins delivered an update from the Sustainable Transport and Active Travel Team Projects to the members highlighting the following projects:

- Maynooth North-South Corridor (Mill Street).
- Royal Canal Greenway.
- Meadowbrook Cycle Track Scheme.
- Celbridge Road, Maynooth.
- Kilcock Road, Maynooth.
- Bond Bridge to Leixlip Cycle Track Design.
- BusConnects Bus Stops.
- VRU Improvements at crossings and junctions.
- Safe Routes To School.
- Cycle Parking at Town Centres, Schools and Sports Clubs.

Councillor Durkan stated that the Moyglare Road paths were in need of delineation for pedestrians and cyclists.

Mr Hodgins advised that the Moyglare Road was a shared facility and was successful and sufficient even at peak times when students are commuting along the road. He noted that pedestrians should be yielded to by cyclists. He said that there was no other solution at the moment, but that it would be kept under review.

### **CM07/0322**

#### **Accessibility issues in Maynooth**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council carries out an assessment of the Dublin Road in Maynooth from Doctor's Lane to Carton Retail Park to identify and address accessibility issues on this section of the town.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that as part of the ongoing Maynooth Transport Strategy, accessibility throughout the town will be considered. This will include the Dublin Road. As part of the accessibility analysis, barriers to permeability (walking) will be identified and new permeability links proposed. This will improve the walkability of the town and promote a shift to sustainable travel. The Maynooth Transport Strategy will also identify issues with the road network in the town and examine ways to decrease traffic issues in the town centre, including along the Dublin Road. This will be achieved through a strategic transport model which will examine various roads interventions to determine what will be required in Maynooth to reduce these traffic issues.

Councillor Feeney raised the following points:

- Wheelchair users were not in a position to use the road due to the lack of accessibility.

- The surface at Boyne Dental, Maynooth was not fit for purpose.
- She asked the District Engineer to visit and assess the footpath.
- Understood that a whole holistic approach would be on the way but appealed for an interim measure to be put in place.

The District Engineer advised that there was utility covers nearby. He noted that this was an isolated area and that the municipal district office would try and address this issue.

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

### **CM08/0322**

#### **Footpath on Leinster Street, Maynooth**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council extend the footpath on Leinster Street, Maynooth as far as the Health Centre.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Feeney 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 has no plans at present to extend this footpath. The surface is designed as a shared surface where pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles share the main carriageway. This design is used to facilitate the high footfall from the train station into the town centre particularly at peak times. Pedestrian activities are high and vehicle movements are of low speed, vehicle users should note the change in surface type/colour upon entering the street and recognise they are in a shared space and react by driving slowly (i.e. 30km or less speed limit).

The following points were raised by the members:

- The path only covers two thirds of the street and was a safety issue for people visiting the Health Centre by foot. Awareness of vulnerable road users and accessibility was of significant importance in this area.



- The road surface was well marked but a shared surface for pedestrians and cyclists would be welcomed.
- The road was prepared as a North/South corridor and the shared space habit never materialised.
- There was already signage in place and it was looked at previously as possibly something that could be improved.
- A standalone path could be an option as there was heavy footfall at peak times due to university students.
- Road stencils could be another viable option for this space to raise awareness of the shared space.

The District Engineer said that he was very familiar with this area and this path. He noted that extending the path could work against the flow of traffic on this street. He also said that at peak times cars had to crawl due to the volume of traffic and safety was not as much of an issue then as it was at others times of the day. He confirmed he would look into the suggestions of a shared surface and road stencils.

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

#### **CM09/0322**

##### **Footpath along Station Road (L1020) in Allenwood**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That the council prepare costings, plans and all other necessary documentation for the 400 metre section of footpath along Station Road (L1020) in Allenwood that is required to connect Allenwood Cross with Allenwood GAA, in preparation for a funding application to the NTA.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that subject to the members approval, the Sustainable Transport Team and the District Engineer will liaise and prepare a funding application to the NTA in relation to this matter..

Councillor Wyse raised the following points:

- The previous District Engineer had previously acquired a NTA project for similar work in the municipal district.
- If the plans were prepared for this work it would link up with other NTA projects.

All members agreed to support this motion and that the council progress with these works.

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

### **CM10/0322**

#### **Footpath along the R403 to connect Carbury Village with Derrinturn**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That the council prepare costings, plans and all other necessary documentation for the remaining 900 metre section of footpath along the R403 that is required to connect Carbury Village with Derrinturn, in preparation for a funding application to the NTA.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that subject to the members approval, the Sustainable Transport Team and the District Engineer will liaise and prepare a funding application to the NTA in relation to this matter.

Councillor Wyse raised the following points:

- There were a limited number of sections of paths left to be completed in the rural part of the municipal district and this stretch was an important one to link the two villages of Carbury and Derrinturn.
- A request could be made to the NTA to link up on this work similarly to the previous motion.

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

**CM11/0322**

**Traffic Calming between Firmount Cross and Clane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That traffic calming measures be put in place between Firmount Cross and the village of Clane because of the high number of pedestrians using this particular area.

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 the Municipal District office are not aware of any speed issues at this location. A range of traffic calming measures are already delivered on this road:

- 50km speed limit
- Speed Signage.
- Narrower carriage width

The following points were raised by the members:

- There had been numerous requests received from businesses for measures to be put in place to address the issue of speeding in this area.
- There had been reports of lorries travelling from Prosperous to Clane at speed and this had made cyclists feel unsafe using this road.
- The current traffic calming measure of ramps was not working as vehicles were speeding up to the point of the ramps. Could all the councillors be made aware of a site visit when it was agreed?
- The Drehid site had plans to be expanded and this would increase the number of HGVs on this road.
- School traffic was another factor for this road as students travelled from Prosperous to Clane for school.
- An Gardaí Síochána could be brought on board to help address this issue.

The District Engineer advised that he would look into this stretch of road regarding the issue of speeding and he noted that the installation of gateway signs or markings could help deter some motorists from speeding. He also agreed to a site visit.

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

### **CM12/0322**

#### **One Way System on Ticknevin Bridge**

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

That the council look at the possibility of introducing a “one way system” on Ticknevin Bridge.

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 Ticknevin bridge is over 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 District Engineer will discuss the options internally with other sections of transportation and revert back to the members.

Councillor Weld raised the following points:

- The Ticknevin Bridge was the only main artery for traffic to access this area. If anything were to happen to the bridge then there would be serious issues regarding traffic.
- The Caragh Bridge example could be a guide for what could be done to help the current problems at Ticknevin Bridge. Traffic lights could be installed to create a one way system.
- Large vehicles were causing the issues at this bridge.
- Could this item be kept on the progress report until it was addressed?

The District Engineer advised that as stated in the report, internal discussions were being held regarding the options for Ticknevin Bridge.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by the members present that the report be noted and a site visit be arranged with the engineer.

#### **CM13/0322**

##### **Sequencing of Traffic Lights**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That as the new LIDL junction is nearing completion, the council reviews the sequencing of traffic lights for traffic turning right from the Meadowbrook Link Road with the lights at LIDL, as the current sequencing is causing traffic congestion at the junction causing traffic tailbacks.

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 as part of the new junction works/upgrade the Lidl and Meadowbrook Link Road junction shall be revalidated for SCOOT-UTC (Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique – Urban Traffic Control) and MOVA (Microprocessor Optimised Vehicle Actuation control). This element of the works will involve reviewing timings and the off-sets between the junctions and progression from the Meadbowbrook junction through the Lidl junction etc. This is a complex area to control from a traffic point of view with progression on the Straffan Road and off the M4 inter-change a critical safety factor to be considered particularly in the a.m. peak.

Councillor Hamilton stated these were a complex set of junctions and that the congestion happens at anytime of the day and not only at peak times.

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

#### **CM14/0322**

##### **Road Layout on the Straffan to Maynooth Road**

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

That the council investigate the road layout on the Straffan to Maynooth Road (R406) to consider the consistent traffic issues from the nursing home to the roundabout at this location.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the ongoing Maynooth Transport Strategy will include a comprehensive strategic traffic model. This traffic model will identify interventions to reduce traffic queuing in and around Maynooth. This will include consideration of the Straffan to Maynooth Road (R406).

Another report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that In relation to the traffic issues on the Straffan Road from the nursing home to the roundabout, the issue is volume at peak times. The traffic exiting the motorway and the business camp have right of way at the roundabout, which results in peak time queues.

The following points were raised by the members:

- It was hoped that this road would be included in the Maynooth Transport Strategy.
- The issues along this road were not only peak traffic times.
- Near misses had been witnessed outside the nursing home entrance where vehicles crossed into the oncoming traffic lane.
- Where was the update for the nearby junction? In 2017/2018 there had been footpaths installed as part of the M4 upgrade.
- Residents in the area have found crossing the road difficult. The raising of the kerbs in this area could improve their safety.

The District Engineer advised that the Ballygoran Road turn was delayed by traffic leaving Maynooth. He noted that the junction at the M4 was a TII project. He said

that the height of the kerb would be looked at and the white line outside the nursing home would be brought back.

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

**CM15/0322**

**Yellow box at Churchview Lawns, Prosperous**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council install a yellow box at Churchview Lawns, Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office have no plans to install a yellow box at this location. A yellow box at this location is not in line with the traffic signs manual and thus not warranted at this location.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Could the council installing a smaller yellow box at the entrance of Churchview Lawns, Prosperous?
- Traffic was currently stopping in front of the estate when there was a tailback. This issue was not exclusive to peak times.
- Traffic turning right was unable to enter the estate and this caused a delay while they await a space to make the turn.
- The policy for yellow boxes does not seem right and there was many requests for them to be installed.

The District Engineer advised that they would look at the possibility of installing a quarter yellow box if deemed necessary.

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

**CM16/0322**

**Roads Surface at the Courtown Road roundabout**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward.  
That the council undertake the necessary repairs of the roads surface at the Courtown Road roundabout in Kilcock.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office carry out necessary repairs of roads when needed. Subject to the members approval, the Municipal District Office will consider this section of road when developing the Restoration Improvements programme in future years. The roads selected will be determined based on available funding, condition rating of the road and traffic volumes.

Councillor Ward raised the following points:

- The four ramps at the roundabout were the parts of the roads that needed attention.
- The ramps had started to deteriorate and they were a primary route for kids crossing the roads.

The District Engineer advised that he was aware of the ramps condition and that they would be retarmacadamed.

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

**CM17/0322**

**Review of Road Markings/Lines in Kilcock**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward.  
That the council review all the road markings/lines in and around Kilcock Town Centre and undertake works to renew those which are in a poor state.

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



A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office is identifying areas that require line marking throughout the Municipal District. Areas in Kilcock have been identified and a works list sent to our line marking contractor. This work will be carried out in the near future.

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

### **CM18/0322**

#### **Footpath from the Educate Together Maynooth to Obelisk Lane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council provide a footpath from the Educate Together Maynooth to Obelisk Lane on the R405.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office has no plans to construct a footpath in this location.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The installation of this path could join up the towns cycle routes, along with the East Orbital Route.
- This path was a missing link, it would be a safer route than what was currently in place.
- Could the council carry out a costing so that it would be prepared for an application for NTA funding? Could this work be carried out by the NTA?
- This work could be discussed with the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District as it would also connect to their municipal district linking the towns of Celbridge and Leixlip.
- This work could be considered for inclusion in the County Development Plan.

The District Engineer advised that he was aware of a previous request for a path by the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District to the NTA and it was rejected as it was not part of their plans. He noted that the NTA were concentrating on urban schemes but that they could return to this project in the future. He also said that high quality cycle lanes could be considered and costed and that this would be a different option for the NTA.

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

### **CM19/0322**

#### **Traffic calming measures on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council introduce traffic calming measures on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth in proximity to the GAA club.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office are not aware of speed issues at this location post previous upgrade works. A range of traffic calming measures were already delivered on this road:

- 50km speed limit
- Concrete Kerbing with footpaths.
- Narrower carriage width.

The following points were raised by the members:

- Speeding was a problem along this road and caused a safety concern for people visiting the GAA clubhouse. Local residents and school children were in danger from the vehicles travelling at above the speed limit.
- Unless cars were taking the turn into Moyglare Hall they were not slowing down along this stretch of road.
- Could the council prioritise a speed radar assessment of this area?

- The lights at Mariaville Estate had not helped decrease the issue of speeding.
- A pedestrian crossing close to the GAA club near Mariaville or the school could facilitate the slowing down of traffic.
- There were GAA pitches on both sides of the roads and a pedestrian or pelican crossing between the pitches could work as an active traffic calming measure.

The District Engineer advised that he would arrange for a speed radar to be installed in the GAA proximity to assess the speed of traffic over a seven day period.

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

#### **CM20/0322**

##### **Footpath from the Pit in Kilmeague**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the council construct a footpath from the Pit in Kilmeague to the last cottage.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick 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 have no plans currently to construct a footpath at this location.

Councillor Fitzpatrick asked if there was any funding available to carry out these works. The District Engineer confirmed that there was no funding currently available.

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

#### **CM21/0322**

##### **Funding for works at Killina National School**

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

That in light of works at Killina National School not being included in funding from the NTA, the council secures funding from another source to ensure that safety measures are improved around the school.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office can confirm this scheme is currently being considered through other funding sources for 2022.

The following points were raised by the members:

- There had been funding previously for the villages of Derrinturn and Robertstown from the NTA.
- How was the funding not secured for Killina too?

The District Engineer advised that the NTA had plans which would be subject to change and that the Senior Engineer was in contact with the NTA so hopefully Killina would be included in the future plans.

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

### **CM22/0322**

#### **Update on Ford Bridge**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse.  
Can the council provide an update on the repairs that are being carried out on Ford Bridge over the River Slate in Derrymullen, Littleton and Grangeclare West?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that contractors on behalf of Kildare County Council have carried out remedial works on Ford Bridge, Derrymullen. The works included vegetation removal, masonry repair and repointing, installation of concrete rubbing strips to seal the bridge and road resurfacing. These repairs were necessary due to

a partial collapse of some masonry from the wing wall on one side of the bridge and damage caused by water ingress. Traffic Management was in place during the works. The works have now been completed.

The report was noted.

#### **CM23/0322**

##### **Traffic Lights on Kilcock Road, Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council outline if it has plans to review the sequencing of the traffic lights on Kilcock Road, Maynooth as it appears the sequencing favours traffic coming from Kilcock causing congestion for traffic and pedestrians travelling from Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the three main junctions within Maynooth Town Centre – Straffan Road/Main Street, Main Street/Mill Street and Mill Street/Kilcock Road are all co-ordinated/linked and controlled via the Maynooth urban traffic control system SCOOT- UTC (Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique – Urban Traffic Control) . The main traffic flow within the town is North/South and East/West (which varies depending on time of day) through these three junctions. In order for progression through the town, and to create stacking space downstream the junctions have to be linked and priority given to the main traffic flow within the town. Pedestrians are facilitated at every cycle at each of the junction, the wait time can vary at various times of day depending on local conditions. The Traffic Management Section will be reviewing this as part of planned future works in the area.

Councillor Hamilton sought clarification on the delay of the traffic lights changing and was it a setting to allow traffic to clear. The Senior Engineer advised that he would get someone to ring the councillor regarding this query.

The report was noted.

#### **CM24/0322**

##### **Roads Policy Document**

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

Can the council confirm when it will provide the Roads Policy document to the members of this municipal district that indicates when ramps should be used for traffic calming, as previously committed to?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Guidance Document on the Selection and Implementation of Traffic Calming Measures is substantially complete and will be available before end of March 2022.

The report was noted.

### **CM25/0322**

#### **Restoration of Road Surfaces in Clane**

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

Can the council confirm if it has plans to restore road surfaces in Clane where subsidence and surface breakups are an increasing issue?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Main Street in Clane has been included in the programme for Road Improvement Works in 2022.

The report was noted.

### **CM26/0322**

#### **Road Safety on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth**

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

Can the council provide an update on the planned road safety measures for the Celbridge Road, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Celbridge Road, Maynooth Cycle Track Scheme is currently at Option Selection Stage and a draft report is being prepared for approval by the Sustainable Transport Section and the National Transport Authority. When this report is approved, the preliminary design of the preferred option layout will be progressed to a Part 8 Public Consultation process. Once the report is signed off,

the emerging preferred option will be brought to the municipal district members, similar to the previous presentation on Meadowbrook Road. This presentation will be arranged after we commence the Part 8 Process for the Meadowbrook Scheme in Quarter 2 2022.

Councillor Ó Cearúil sought clarification on what stage was the Part 8 process at and would it be completed this year. The Senior Engineer confirmed that the Part 8 was at the preliminary design stage and that it would be progressed to the Part 8 Public Consultation process this year. He noted that there were four other Part 8s to be completed ahead of this Part 8. He said that he would have firmer dates in three months time for the next update.

The report was noted.

### **CM27/0322**

#### **Traffic calming at Robertstown National School**

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

Can the council confirm when the proposed traffic calming measures at Robertstown National School will commence?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that funding has been approved recently through the NTA Schools Safe Programme. The consultants have prepared a design, and a Section 38 notice will be advertised and brought before the members soon. Works are programmed for 2022 obviously working in conjunction with the School Calendar.

Councillor Fitzpatrick sought clarification on whether the funding has been organised in its entirety and when would the works be carried out. He also enquired about the Section 38 process. The District Engineer advised that the NTA had fully funded the works and that they plan to begin in July and finish in August ahead of the return to school. He also outlined the Section 38 process from start to finish.

The report was noted.

**CM28/0322**

**Safety measures at Mylerstown Cross**

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

Can the Municipal District Office confirm if they have received funding for improved safety measures at Mylerstown Cross in light of the increased amount of accidents at the junction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office can confirm funding has been received through the Low-Cost Safety Schemes for Mylerstown Cross L7078/L7081. The scheme will be brought forward to Public Consultation and to the members through a Section 38 process later in the year. Subject to approval, the works will be completed in 2022.

The report was noted.

**CM29/0322**

**Vacant Properties in Kilcock**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That this council write to the owners of vacant properties in Kilcock (details provided), requesting an update and any future plans they have for same.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Vacant Homes Officer will write to the owners of these properties as requested.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The changing in legislation regarding vacant properties and homes helped the council in its work to procure more stock.
- Kilcock had suffered in recent years with many properties in the town becoming vacant. Prime buildings were left vacant and if they were not addressed and maintained, they could be susceptible to water damage.



- The council should write to the owners of vacant properties in Kilcock requesting an update and any future plans they have for same.
- There were some sensitive issues here and the members requested that they were kept up to date on this matter.

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

### **CM30/0322**

#### **Provision and Allocations of Housing in Maynooth**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council provide details of social and affordable housing provision and allocations in Maynooth over the past year.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that in 2021, a total of 17 social houses were allocated in Maynooth.

The new 'Housing for All' policy contains objectives relating to the delivery of affordable housing and regulations relating to this delivery stream are awaited. The council is also awaiting confirmation from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage of staff resources for affordable housing delivery. The members will be provided with an update on Housing for All delivery via the monthly Chief Executive report.

The following points were raised by the members:

- A lot of work was required in Maynooth regarding social housing. The council needed to start providing more social housing in North Kildare.
- Housing stock seems to be easier to put in place in the south of the county as the price of housing is cheaper. The public will not be in a position to get housing in Maynooth and were being forced to look to the south of the county as the prices were half that of Maynooth.

- Would be interested to see a comparison between Maynooth and other towns in the county such as Athy, Naas and Newbridge.
- A forecast of housing provision and allocations for the future would be helpful.
- Was the figure in the report for just social housing or affordable housing?
- There were developers shirking their Part 5 responsibility of providing a minimum percentage of social housing.
- There were a higher number social housing in the Allenwood and Derrinturn areas.

Mr O’Gorman advised the Housing Department did have a Housing for All plan for the county which included housing provision and allocations plans. He said that he would revert back to the members with the data requested. He noted that updates could be found on the housing provision and allocations within the monthly Chief Executive Report.

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

### **CM31/0322**

#### **Update on Works to Damaged Houses in Kilcock**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward. Can the council provide an update on the works currently underway to repair the three damaged houses in (details provided) Kilcock?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that works at the homes are being progressed currently. The blockwork is complete up to roof level and the roof structure is currently under construction.

Similar to other construction projects throughout the country, this project has been delayed due to Covid-related public health restrictions but it is hoped that works will be completed by early summer.

Councillor Ward sought clarification on how soon would people be in a position to take up residence in these properties and when could the allocations take place.

Mr O’Gorman advised that he was not aware of the timeline for these properties and that the allocation would also depend on the applications. He said that he would check with the section responsible for this work.

The report was noted

### **CM32/0322**

#### **Provision of Water and Drinking Fountains in Public Realm Projects**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council provide infrastructure for providing water and install drinking fountains in Public Realm projects in this municipal district e.g. The Harbour Field and the planned URDF developments for Main Street and Maynooth Square.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team will explore the potential of including drinking fountains in Harbourfield as part of the detail design process and explore the feasibility of providing water fountains at appropriate locations on Main Street and Court House Square as part of the URDF funded masterplan.

Councilor Hamilton raised the following points:

- A statement of commitment for the provision of water and drinking fountains in Public Realm projects would be appreciated, as this motion had been raised previously.
- The council had previously advised that these facilities would be included in these works.
- The issue of being able to refill water containers would return so the need to install pipework in the Harbourfield and Main Street, Maynooth should be looked at.

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

**CM33/0322**

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that Councillor McEvoy had to leave the meeting for a time, but would return and so he suggested that they take item 33 at the end of the meeting. All members agreed.

**CM34/0322**

**Masterplan for Carton Avenue, Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council provide an update on the Masterplan for Carton Avenue, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that in the delivery of the URDF funded masterplan for Maynooth, the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team will work with the Parks department in the development of appropriate and sensitive design interventions for Carton Avenue.

The report was noted

**CM35/0322**

**Update on the Progress of LAPs**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide an update on the progress of LAPs in the municipal district i.e. Maynooth and Kilcock LAPs?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that Kildare County Council are at the early stages of the background data collection and analysis in the review and preparation of Maynooth Local Area Plan with a view to publishing a Draft Plan later this year. The review of the Kilcock Local Area Plan is not programmed for 2022. A full schedule of LAP reviews will be published following the adoption of the County Development Plan.

The report was noted

**CM36/0322**

**Flood Relief Measures in Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council provide a report on the implementation of the flood relief measures between Brookfield Avenue, Meadowbrook and Parson Street, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that Kildare County Council works with the OPW on the delivery of flood schemes in the county. Work in the Maynooth area are identified and will be progressed as part of the overall programme. However a time scale has not yet been agreed and schemes will be prioritised based on risk and available funding.

Councillor Feeney asked were the works laid out in the 2017 plan by the OPW implemented? Mr Fagan advised that he would find out for Councillor Feeney and revert.

The report was noted

**CM37/0322**

The following items 37 and 38 on the agenda were taken together.

**Item 37:**

**Waste Water Treatment Plant at Ballagh Wood, Donadea**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld. Can the council provide a progress report on the waste water treatment plant at Ballagh Wood, Donadea?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that site investigations and an assessment of the soil polishing filter commenced on the 2nd February 2022 and work was completed on 4 February 2022. The Environment Section is awaiting submission of the Final Report on the outcome of this work and hopes to be in receipt of same by the first week in March 2022. The WWTP and soil polishing filter serves the six detached dwellings comprising "Ballagh Wood" estate. The discharge of treated effluent arising from the estate to groundwater is authorised by licence issued under Section 4 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act

1977, as amended. The conditions of the licence are binding on any person discharging, or causing or permitting the discharge of, effluent to which the licence relates. The council will be liaising with the residents once the final report is received and all options available will be presented.

The report was noted.

**Item 38:**

**Waste Water Treatment Plant at The Close Tirmoghan, Donadea**

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

Can the council provide a progress report on the waste water treatment plant at The Close Tirmoghan, Donadea?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that site investigations and an assessment of the soil polishing filter commenced on 6 December 2021 and work was completed on the 9 December 2021. The Final Report on the outcomes of this work has been submitted and reviewed. Significant issues with the WWTP and the soil polishing filter have been identified which are negatively affecting the on-site treatment and disposal of the effluent arising from nine detached dwellings comprising "The Close" estate. Significant volumes of extraneous water is infiltrating the sewer network and the WWTP itself causing hydraulic overload of the soil polishing filter. The characteristics of the soils within the soil polishing filter are also unsuitable for on-site attenuation and disposal and issues with the distribution system covering the polishing filter were also identified. The discharge of treated effluent arising from the estate to groundwater is authorised by licence issued under Section 4 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977, as amended. The conditions of the licence are binding on any person discharging, or causing or permitting the discharge of, effluent to which the licence relates. A list of actions and options is being prepared in advance of meeting with estate representatives.

The report was noted.

**CM38/0322**

**Tree Planting Projects**

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

Can the council outline the tree planting projects being undertaken in the municipal district in 2022?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Environment section are dealing with the distribution of saplings for National Tree Week (end of March) and all the Tidy Towns groups have been asked to submit planting sites where they can plant mini-woodlands (100-300 saplings per site).

All participants in the Green Kilometre competition have also been offered native saplings and these are currently being purchased for distribution.

Under the Woodland Creation on Public Land grant scheme, site selection is being undertaken. This requires sections in Kildare County Council agreeing to allow the sites to be used for the establishment of permanent native woodlands. This is proving to be challenging although a small number of sites have been identified. Other development sites should become available when specific masterplans are completed.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Department informing the members that tree planting carried out to date are as per the attached sheet. This includes planting for 2021 highlighted in grey which have just been completed due to Covid restrictions last year due to Covid and planting proposed for this year highlighted in yellow which we hope to complete in the next 4-6 weeks.

The reports were noted.

**CM39/0322**

**Laraghbryan Cemetery, Maynooth**

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

Can the council outline what preparations have been made for the expansion of Laraghbryan Cemetery, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that Laraghbryan Cemetery has sufficient capacity, at current usage rates, for a further ten years. In addition, a Coumbarium Wall has been provided at this location. The report was noted.

**CM40/0322**

**Dog Fouling on Public Paths**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council outline what measures it can take to address the continued problem of dog fouling on public footpaths in the municipal district?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that dog fouling signs are available to community groups. Stencilling can be organised at some locations by arrangement and if the councillor wishes to suggest some locations, these will be looked at.

The audio warning device will be deployed at a number of locations in the Municipal District, subject to funding being made available from the Department. The issue will also be communicated through social media channels to raise awareness.

Councillor Ó Cearúil sought clarification on whether there was any way to carry out prosecutions or to introduce deterrents. He suggested that Traffic Wardens or Litter Wardens could possibly issue dog fouling fines as part of their role. Mr Fagan advised that there would be difficulties prosecuting dog owners without proof and monitoring the situation had its challenges too. He also noted that issuing dog fouling fines was not within the remit of a Litter Warden.

The report was noted.

**CM41/0322**

**Parks Works Programme 2022**

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that the Parks Works Programme 2022 would be delivered by the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Mr S Wallace and that the Climate Action Officer Ms P O'Rourke would also be providing a



presentation on works proposed for reduced grass maintenance and use of glyphosate.

Mr Wallace introduced the new members of staff to the elected members, Ms E Moore and Mr D Flanney who had both joined the Parks section. The Cathaoirleach welcomed them both and wished them well in their new roles.

Mr Wallace informed the members that a report on the Parks Works Programme for 2022 had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting and that he would be happy to respond to any questions that the members had.

Councillor Hamilton said that the council needed more resources and funding to tackle the current biodiversity crisis. Councillor Ward sought clarity on the timeline for the Kilcock playground.

Mr Wallace advised that the original plan was to have it finished by the end of February but that this had been delayed. He said that it was hoped to have the contractor on site by end of March and that the works would be completed within three weeks.

Ms P O'Rourke then gave a presentation to the members on works proposed for reduced grass maintenance and use of glyphosate. She highlighted the timeline and targets for these works from 2019 to today and what was planned for the future. She explained the "Demystifying Circular Economy" concept to the members with respect to the project to create renewable gas from waste grass. She finished by clarifying which sites had been selected for the municipal district projects and what would be carried out at each site.

Councillor Durkan noted that there was a large area near Alexandra Walk in Clane that could be suitable for the renewable gas project. Councillor Hamilton said that Kildare was leading the country with respect to this work and noted that converting real waste into bioenergy crops was a carbon negative method which was very positive.

The reports were noted.

**CM42/0322**

**"Pirate Ship" in Clane Playground**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council examine opportunities to alter or replace the "Pirate Ship" in Clane Playground to reduce the issues of anti-social behaviour that arise from time to time.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Department informing the members that the equipment will be examined to see what is possible to reduce antisocial behaviour around it.

Councillor McEvoy raised the following points:

- Anti-social behaviour arose from time to time in this playground. There were young people who had been caught drinking beneath or spraying graffiti on the "Pirate Ship".
- The council should consider a low-cost intervention for this. Removing the seating from the "Pirate Ship" might be an option instead of closing the playground.

Mr Wallace advised that the Parks Section would look into removing the seating.

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

**CM43/0322**

**Status of Tree Preservation Orders**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council outline the status of tree preservation orders on the mature and historic tree specimen on Leinster Street, Maynooth adjacent to the proposed development sites?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Department informing the members that there are no tree preservation orders on the trees in Leinster Street. The report was noted.

#### **CM44/0322**

##### **Impact on Transfers of Burial Grounds to the Local Authority**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That this council make a submission on the draft Revised General Scheme of Monuments and Archaeological Heritage Bill and clarify if - Heading 27 (2): Burial Grounds - will impact on transfers of burial grounds to the local authority from community groups in the municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Local Authority Heritage Officers Network were invited to make a submission on the draft Revised General Scheme of Monuments and Archaeological Heritage Bill on behalf of the Local Authorities. Attached is the submission and cover letter that was sent, following input from the CCMA.

Councillor McEvoy raised the following points:

- The timeline to make a submission was quite short.
- There were groups with historic graveyards within their charge who wish to get the ownership transferred.
- Could clarification be sought from the Department if they were going to fund the works programme.
- With the agreement of the members this motion could be referred to full council for further discussion given the county mandate of the HMAAC and since there is time available to write to the clerk of the Joint Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Ms McCarthy advised that she would seek clarification from the Department if they were going to fund the works programme

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Weld and agreed by the members present that the report be noted, and the motion be referred to full council for further discussion given the county mandate of the HMAc and since there was time available to write to the clerk of the Joint Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The Cathaoirleach and all the members present agreed that the April meeting of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee would be held in person in the council chamber.

The meeting concluded.