



**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal  
District Meeting held on Friday, 03 March 2023 at 10:00 a.m.  
In the Council Chamber**

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

**Officials Present:** Ms. M Higgins (District Manager), Mr. C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr. A Hickey (Assistant Engineer), Mr. J Hennessey (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms. A Burke (Executive Engineer), Mr. G Conlon (Senior Executive Officer), Ms. P Pender (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr. C Galvin (Senior Engineer), Ms. S Bookle (LCDC Co-ordinator), Ms. Paula O'Rourke (Climate Action Co-ordinator), Mr. S Wallace (A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer), Ms. S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Ms. D Egan (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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**CM01/0323**

**Declaration of Pecuniary or Beneficial Interests**

There were no declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

**CM02/0323**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 03 February 2023 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 03 February 2023 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.



**CM03/0323**

**Municipal District Works**

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that the crews have continued with general maintenance over the past month with a strong emphasis on road repairs and maintaining sightlines at junctions as well as vactoring of road gullies.

**LPT Funding**

The Municipal District Office is progressing the agreed LPT programme for 2022 and awaiting the 2023 scheme list.

**General Works**

Routine Maintenance is being carried out by the crews with the gullies in the Municipal District being cleaned and two suction sweepers employed to sweep up leaves. Hedge cutting was taking place in the Municipal District until the end of February. Road markings have been carried out at Firmount Cross and at Hewston School in Clane. Bus bays have also been renewed outside the schools in Clane on the Prosperous Road. The footpath outside the Girls National School in Maynooth has been renewed and pencil bollards installed.

Footpath repairs have been carried out in Maynooth and Kilcock. Footpath tenders are currently being assessed for more works in Q1/Q2 2023. National grant funding for 2023 has been announced and is currently being detailed out by the Municipal District Office. It is hoped to circulate this in advance of the Municipal District meeting.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that these works are to the end of March and for the members to please advise of any other works as we get to the summer.

The Municipal District Engineer also informed the members that he had circulated to them, the National Grant Funding 2023, outlining allocations for the Restoration Improvement and Maintenance Schemes 2023, with a corresponding Map. The District Engineer then informed the members of the following:

- Restoration Improvements are marked in blue on the Map.
- €2.5million allocation for 2023, which is €100,000 increase on 2022.
- Costs have increased by 20%



- €500,000 on R148 West of Kilcock, resurfacing.
- €400,000 at Derryvarroge in relation to Climate Action and bog movement.
- If a decision could be made on LPT monies, that this will further enable works to be carried out.

**CM04/0323**

**LPT Schedule of Works 2023**

To agree and approve the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2023.

On the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, that the Statutory Orders be suspended and the Municipal District Meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes, to allow for a private session of the members. The Municipal District Meeting recommenced and agreed a date and time for a Special Meeting to be held to discuss the allocation of the LPT 2023.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed by the members, to reconvene a Special Meeting to be held on Friday 31 March 2023, at 10am for the purpose of agreeing and approving the LPT Schedule of Works 2023. It was further agreed that Ms. Marian Higgins (District Manager), would provide the required Statutory Notice, a week before the agreed date of the Special Meeting.

**CM05/0323**

**Footpath through Bond Bridge Estate to Grand Canal**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That the council contact the developer of Bond Bridge housing estate in Allenwood requesting that the footpath through this estate to the Grand Canal, which will safely link Allenwood Village with the future Greenway, and which is shown on the plans for this estate in the granted planning application, be put in place as part of the current phase of development and before the repayment of any part of the development bonds.

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



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A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that they will liaise with the developer in this development to request they expedite the delivery of the footpath.

Councillor Wyse raised the following:

- People had to walk out into the middle of the road due to lack of a footpath.
- Needed to consider this link to the Grand Canal as this would be part of the Greenway over the next few years.
- The Developer had mentioned this footpath in his planning application and it now looks like the Developer was not going to continue.
- It was simple to install this link.
- Spoken about this issue with Ms. A Burke, Building and Development Control.
- Community and Tidy Towns were willing to work together on this issue.

Councillor Fitzpatrick raised the following, that it was good for Allenwood Village that the footpath continue to the canal.

Ms. A Burke, Building and Development Control, informed the members that the developer was still active on site and that she was happy to liaise with the developer regarding compliance with the conditions in his planning permission.

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

### **CM06/0323**

#### **Royal Meadows Estate Kilcock**

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

That the council commence works to make good and repair some outstanding matters (footpaths/tree cutting) in Royal Meadows Estate, Kilcock with the residue of the bond in place after the completion of the taking in charge process.

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



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A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that they have undertaken remedial works to the below ground sewers in this estate to bring them to a taking in charge standard. Buried manholes have also been raised and brought back to a serviceable level. Once all financial commitments towards the taking in charge process have been complete, the remaining bond balance is to be transferred to the Municipal District office. The Municipal District office will action any outstanding items accordingly.

Councillor Ward requested confirmation from Ms. A Burke, Building and Development Control, that the remaining Bond balance would be made available to the Municipal District Office, to carry out outstanding works. Councillor Ward also enquired in relation to the estimated time frame for this to take place.

Ms. A Burke, Building and Development Control informed the members that this should happen in the next month as there were currently still works being carried out on underground lines.

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

### **CM07/0323**

#### **Newtown Hall Estate Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton.  
Can the council provide an update on progress being made with the developer of Newtown Hall Estate, Maynooth regarding the installation of the speed reducing measures required in the planning permission?

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that the speed reduction measures have recently been implemented within this estate. Kildare County Council continues to work with the developer to expedite the delivery of remaining infrastructural issues and progress the taking in charge process.

The report was noted.



**CM08/0323**

**Brooks Mill Estate Prosperous**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly.  
Can the council confirm if Brooks Mill, Prosperous is in the process of being taken in charge?

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that there is currently no taking in charge request submitted for this estate. The wearing course for Phase 1 of the development is outstanding. Development Control will engage with the developer with a view to expediting the delivery of the wearing course and progressing the taking in charge process.

The report was noted.

**CM09/0223**

**Hawthorns Estate Kilcock**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward.  
Can the council provide an update on the taking in charge of the Hawthorns Estate, Kilcock?

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that all infrastructure within this estate is completed. Development Control have been in contact with the developer and are awaiting submission of the Taking In Charge Documentation to commence the process.

Ms. A Burke, Building and Development Control informed the members that a list of requirements would need to be met by the developer and that once the official documents were received the process could be progressed.

The report was noted.

**CM10/0323**

**Footpath at Rathcoffey GAA**

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



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That the council install a footpath from Rathcoffey GAA to the local shop for health and safety reasons.

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

A report was received from Roads, Transport and Public Safety Department informing the members that in order to construct a footpath from Rathcoffey GAA to the local shop agreement will have to be reached with the affected landowners. The distance of footpath required is approximately 300 metres and would cost in the region of €100,000 plus public lighting and accommodation works to affected boundaries. There is no funding available in the budget for 2023 for these works.

Councillor Weld raised the following:

- Disappointed with the report.
- Pedestrians had to walk on the main road to cross to the shop at the Painstown Junction.
- The grass verge was cut up and was very mucky.
- People were saying that someone was going to get hurt.
- Could a kerb and hardcore be put in.
- May have to get a solution himself.

Councillor Durkan raised the following:

- That he had brought this issue up before.
- That there was agreement with the landowner and the National Transport Authority (NTA) Active Travel Fund to put in a footpath to the GAA Club. Enquired if someone could give him an update on this matter.

The Municipal District Engineer raised the following:

- It was not due to a lack of desire that these works had not been done.
- The project had not received funding from the NTA. We will apply again this year to them for funding.
- Funding for 100 metres on the main road that is needed.
- Better to do the full footpath rather than any minimum or temporary works.



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

**CM11/0323**

**Road Repair from Ticknevin Bridge to National School**

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

That the council repair the road L5021-3 from Ticknevin bridge to the National School and provide a number of 'pull ins' along the route.

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

A report was received from Roads, Transport and Public Safety Department informing the members that routine maintenance will be carried out on this road and if possible, pull ins will be provided if sufficient width is available.

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

**CM12/0323**

**Pedestrian Safety Measures**

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

That the council give immediate consideration to reviewing road traffic and pedestrian safety measures on the Newtown Road, Maynooth from the M4 motorway bridge to the entrance/exit of the Maynooth Town Football Club, including measures to slow down traffic approaching the club entrance/exit, and the provision of a pedestrian crossing to facilitate safer crossing to the footpath opposite the entrance/exit.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office would be in favour of a push button pedestrian crossing being provided near the entrance to Maynooth Town Football Club to allow pedestrians cross the road safely as there is only a footpath on one side of





the road. However, there is currently no funding source for the provision of new pedestrian crossings in the county.

Councillor Feeney raised the following:

- Thanked the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department for the report and for the meeting on site.
- Disappointing that there were no funds.
- Newtown Road was a very busy road, and children exiting the Football Club.
- Appealed for funds from the Active Travel Fund or from the LPT.
- The NTA should be approached for funding.

Mr. D Hodgins, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management, informed the members of the following:

- There were vulnerable road users right across the county.
- There was no facility for discretion by them on signalised junctions or to be able to move monies to certain schemes.
- Some works were low cost and some were high cost.
- This was on the bus route and that there was a lot of merit in it.
- If funds were available, that they would be happy to do the works.

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

### **CM13/0323**

#### **Bus Stop at North Kildare Club**

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

That the council work with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to install a bus stop at the North Kildare Club between Maynooth and Kilcock.

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



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A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council will engage with the National Transport Authority regarding the matter.

Councillor Ó Cearúil noted the following:

- Surprised that there was no Bus Stop at this location.
- Need to follow up with the National Transport Authority in 2/3 months.
- This issue should be prioritised.

Councillor Durkan noted that there was already a kerb and platform at this location and that all that was needed is a service and a sign.

Mr. D Hodgins, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management, informed the members of the when there was already an existing service at a location, it could be more difficult to insert an additional stop on a route.

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

### CM14/0323

#### Safety of Kilcock Road R148

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.  
That the council improve the safety of the Kilcock Road R148, particularly at the North Kildare Club.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will meet with Councillor Ó Cearúil on site to assess the issues.

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



**CM15/0323**

**NTA-funded Safe Routes to Schools**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy.  
That the council provide an update on the process for the National Transport Authority (NTA) funded Safe Routes to Schools for Scoil Bhríde and Scoil Phádraig, Prosperous Road, Clane.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the below steps are the process, and it is currently with the National Transport Authority to complete the delivery plan.

- NTA engage with the schools and produce a delivery plan.
- The delivery plan is then issued to Kildare County Council who take it through the design stage and approvals with the NTA. Kildare County Council then tender and deliver the scheme all subject to funding.

Councillor McEvoy noted that he would appreciate if he could be advised of anything that could be done by the Community.

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

**CM16/0323**

**Signage for cyclists and walkers**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy.  
That the council consider signage to advise of cyclists and walkers sharing the single lane road through Capdoo, Clane (L5078).

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



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A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will arrange for appropriate signage to be provided to advise drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

The members raised the following:

- Insensitive drivers were driving through these roads.
- Some drivers were not adhering to the rules of the road.
- This road was a link to a nearby Industrial Estate.
- Can these signs be ordered in conjunction with any other signs needed in the Municipal District.

Mr. D Hodgins, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informed the members that the Department of Transport is reviewing signage and if a pilot scheme was proposed in County Kildare this location could be examined to determine if it was suitable for the erection of this type of signage for rural roads.

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

### CM17/0323

#### Delegation of residents from L70781

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

That the council consider meeting a delegation of residents from the L70781 to discuss issues regarding road layout and maintenance.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Farrelly, and seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick.

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will meet with Councillor Farrelly to investigate the issues.

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



**CM18/0323**

**Safety barrier Emerson Court**

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

That the council install a pedestrian safety barrier in Emerson Court, Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will meet with Councillor Farrelly to get the detail and location of this request.

Councillor Farrelly outlined that there was a dip in the road as children cycle down and that he would like to meet with the Municipal District Engineer to show him the reality of the issue.

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

**CM19/0323**

**Repairs to the Clonfert North Road**

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

That the council undertake urgent repairs to the Clonfert North Road near Clonfert Equestrian Centre (Details provided).

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will arrange for routine maintenance to be carried out at this location.

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



**CM20/0323**

**Filter lane on Straffan Road Maynooth**

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

That the council extend the right turning filter lane on the Straffan Road, Maynooth at the Meadowbrook Road Junction.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Durkan, and seconded by Councillor Feeney.

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the right turning filter arrow is demand dependent and will extend the green time when a greater volume of traffic is present. The Traffic Management Section shall review the operation and timings for this phase to ensure there is adequate time allowed.

The members raised the following:

- There is an issue with traffic capacity at this Junction.
- Issues with people making U turns at Esso and going back down to the junction.
- Can the square hatching be removed.

The Municipal District Engineer, informed the members that they will get this work done from a maintenance point of view and would also examine the timing of the filter light.

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

**CM21/0323**

**Bus Bays at Girls National School**

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

That the council install two additional bus bays at the Girls National School, Maynooth.

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



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A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council will contact the school firstly to obtain further information on their requirements for the new bus bays and will then assess further thereafter to address the matter.

The members raised the following:

- This was a serious Climate Change issue and that there was a need to encourage the use of buses.
- The request for two additional bus bays had come from the School.
- Could bollards be removed to put in the bus bays.
- Could all the bus bays be kept together.
- Primary School children needed to be able to get onto the buses and back home safely.
- Could the situation on the Dunboyne Road also be looked at, there was a busy corner there on Main Street.
- Could there be a reconfiguration of the Dublin Road, which was a pinch point at the corner, a new re-design at Haven Hire.
- Alleviating traffic had been discussed at previous meetings and that there was a need to look at a modal shift.

Mr. D Hodgins, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management, informed the members that this school was on the safe routes to schools list, but the School declined that offer. However, if they are happy to go back on the list that they will speak to them.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Aware of the School's concerns having met with the Principle previously.
- May have to move back the layout to create space.
- Will install bus pull in bays on the same side as the school, which should cut down on pedestrians crossing the road unnecessarily.
- There is a School Warden in place.
- Will also look at the Dunboyne Road.



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

**CM22/0323**

**Resurface of Doogary Crossroads and the L7081**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.  
That the council resurface the road linking Doogary Crossroads and the L7081.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Department informing the members that this road is not part of the road works programme for 2023 but will be considered should funding be available after planned programme works are tendered.

Councillor Fitzpatrick outlined that these works should be encouraged. Funding needs to be made available to finish out these works. This is a popular walking route on a highly populated road.

The Municipal District Engineer, informed the members that remaining monies will be re-allocated to get this road done.

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

**CM23/0323**

**Maintenance works Doyle Wood Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.  
That the council carry out essential maintenance works on Doyle Wood Road in Allenwood South.

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





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A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that Doyle Wood Road is not on the road schedule of roads in charge of Kildare County Council.

Councillor Fitzpatrick noted that this was an ongoing issue and that a Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) was carried out back some time ago. He also enquired if a road could be taken in charge, if works had been carried out through an LIS.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) there has to be a 15% local contribution and then 85% department contribution.
- Previously in Kildare a request had to be made for a road to be taken in charge, but now if works have been carried out on a road under an LIS, then taking in charge is no longer allowed.

Councillor Wyse noted that there was an attempt to put in gravel but it washed out. Can we use goodwill to get this done for now.

Councillor Durkan asked could a more detailed search be carried out to ensure that this road had not been taken in charge, as previously they had been advised that Gilltown Lane, Donadea was not in charge but a copy of the minutes from an MD meeting in 1982 showed that it had been taken in charge by the Council.

The Municipal District Engineer advised that from a report from the residents on the road, that this road is not taken in charge. Also, there would be an issue with IPB Insurance if the council were to go onto a road that is not taken in charge. The road would have to have been either taken in charge or part of a LIS in order to be able to work on it.

Councillor Fitzpatrick advised he would speak to the Municipal District Engineer's Office to see if a solution could be agreed.

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



**CM24/0323**

**Double yellow lines at entrance to 'Central Park' Clane**

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to reinstate double yellow lines at the entrance to 'Central Park' Clane where all day parking is taking place and causing a hazard?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Office will contact Irish Water and request that any lines removed as part of their works be reinstated as a matter of urgency.

Councillor Weld advise that this request for the double yellow lines to be reinstated came from the residents. That the council have a responsibility under Health and Safety to put in the yellow lines.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that Irish Water were responsible for roadworks in the area and that he would investigate the issue.

The report was noted.

**CM25/0323**

**Update on planned upgrades in Straffan**

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

Can the council provide an update on planned upgrades in Straffan, including the provision of footpaths, on the Boreen Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Office has no plans to carry out any works in this area as part of the road works programme for 2023.

The report was noted.

**CM26/0323**

**Inner relief road through Capdoo, Clane**

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

Can the council provide an update on the schedule for the opening of the inner relief road between R403 and R407 through Capdoo, Clane?



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A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that this is a developer driven road objective. Works are due to commence on site in March 2023. No timeline can be provided at present.

Councillor McEvoy advised that this is a Community Incentive Scheme, that there are different stake holders involved and that they are trying to work it out. That the council are co-funding a lot of this. He requested that information be shared on this when it becomes available.

The report was noted.

### **CM27/0323**

#### **Transport Strategy for Clane**

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

Can the council provide an update on a time frame for the development of a Transport Strategy for Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Transportation Department in consultation with the Planning Department will develop a Transport Strategy for Clane at an appropriate juncture in the Local Area Plan process when required.

Councillor Farrelly itemised issues of HGV's, pedestrians and cyclists and that he was hoping for a time frame for a Transport Strategy, that a time frame was needed.

Mr. D Hodgins, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informed the members that the Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) report occurs before a Local Area Plan is commenced - this Transport Study is used as an input to the Local Area Plan.

The report was noted.

### **CM28/0323**

#### **Large trucks parking in Housing Estates**

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

Can the council outline the procedures for the curtailment/enforcement/control of the parking of large commercial trucks in housing estates in the municipal district.



A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that depending on the location, parking restrictions can be considered under the parking bye-law review if in an appropriate location close to the town centre. The other option is to introduce double yellow lines in accordance with Section 38 of Road Traffic Act 1994. However, this would apply to all vehicles.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Bye-laws were needed to restrict parking and that there was no such ban in Kildare.
- Lines need to be put on the ground or restrict full parking of vehicles of certain weight but this would have to go through a Public Consultation process.

The report was noted.

### **CM29/0323**

#### **Sightlines at Maynooth Education Campus**

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

Can the council confirm what measures it intends to put in place at the grass verge on the Moyglare Road to improve sight lines at Maynooth Education Campus?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Section informing the members that the Municipal District Office has arranged for the hedgerow to be cut back before the end of February and will also contact the landowner to remind them of their responsibility to maintain the hedgerow.

The report was noted.

### **CM30/0323**

#### **Works on the L7084 Kilmeague**

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

Can the council confirm if it has plans to carry out works on the L7084 in Kilmeague?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans to resurface this road in 2023.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that the Municipal District Office could investigate the issue.

The report was noted.



**CM31/0323**

**Grand Canal Greenway**

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

That the council provide a report outlining work to be commenced on the section of the Grand Canal Greenway from Sallins to Edenderry through Robertstown, Lowtown, Allenwood, Killina and Ticknevin following the allocation of €400,000 grant funding by Transport Infrastructure Ireland and provide estimated timelines for the completion of this work.

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

A report was received from Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing the members that the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team secured €96,850.00 from the Greenways-Carbon Tax Funding Round 2020 held by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, for a Detailed Business Case, Enabling Procurement and Detailed Design, subsequently this allocation was increased to €213,119.00 following the procurement process for a consultant, to undertake the detailed design. Management of the fund was transferred to Transport Infrastructure Ireland, as the Approving Authority in late 2021. Kildare County Council have provided the Detailed Business Case and an estimated budget of over €10 million for construction of Phase 2. We have not yet received the allocation for Phase 2 for 2023.

Kildare County Council is working closely with Waterways Ireland, as the main stakeholder and owner of the towpath to ensure their requirements are satisfied, particularly in relation to environmental constraints.

There are several preconstruction ecology surveys required, including a Winter Ecology survey, which is currently under way and will be complete by the end of March. Spring/Summer Ecology Surveys are also required, and these will be undertaken in May 2023. Having secured a temporary works license from Waterways Ireland, site investigations are due to commence in March 2023 and complete April 2023.

The ongoing design process has identified the need for 2 new structures – a new bridge at Lowtown and an additional bridge at Bonynghe Bridge, both will need Part 8.



The project has been split into 4 construction contracts as outlined below:

- Phase 2A Sallins Road Crossing – Tie in the new pedestrian Bridge on north side of existing Sallins Bridge to south side towpath
- Phase 2 B Clonkeen to Ticknevin (To be completed by Waterways Ireland)
- Phase 2C Ticknevin to Sallins
- Phase 2D Lowtown and Bonyngge Bridge

The members raised the following:

- This is the only Dublin to Sallins route.
- Waterways Ireland doing works through Part 8's.
- The works needed to be done now as a change in Government could come.
- The €400,000 Sallins to Clonkeen is not near the €10 million spoken of.
- Allenwood South - Greenway is needed to cycle to the village.
- Need more regular updates.
- Do not see anything about the Part 8 on the report.
- Phase 2C Ticknevin to Sallins should be the first phase to be delivered.

Ms. P Pender, Strategic Projects and Public Realm informed the members that the Programme Manager was due to attend today but was not yet here as the items ran early. That surveys are carried out at specific times and that the phasing can be circulated to the members. Updates will also be provided to the members at monthly meetings.

Councillor Fitzpatrick outlined that this is the biggest project in the Municipal District and suggested that this item remains on the Progress Report so that it is then in an open forum.

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

### **CM32/0323**

#### **Funding as part of the Barrow Blueway Project**

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

Can the council clarify if funding was made available as part of the Barrow Blueway Project for the planned pedestrian safety works around Littletown (Harberton) Bridge and the



upgrading of the lane from Lowtown Marina to this bridge, being the link to the future Grand Canal Greenway from the Blueway, and if so, when those works are planned to commence?

A report was received from Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing the members that the planning permission provided, and funding was received for an unbound surface (quarry dust) from Lowtown - Chainage 0 to Chainage 400 and from Chainage 400 to Chainage 1400 (Herberton Bridge). The existing road section is to be surface dressed. Kildare County Council have completed the tender process for the road crossing works including this section and are in the process of awarding the contract. Kildare County Council are awaiting documentation from the successful contractor ahead of issuing the Letter of Acceptance. All Road Crossing Works are to be complete by the end of 2023. The contractor proposes breaking down the 46km route into 3 sections and having a crew working in each section. It will be up to the contractor as to when the section this motion relates to gets delivered.

The report was noted.

### **CM33/0323**

#### **Fire Brigade/Council Site Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney.  
Can the council provide an update on plans for the community use of the vacated fire brigade/council site near the Harbour in Maynooth?

A report was received from Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing the members that the Business Case which forms part of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) application, is currently with the Department for approval. Once approved the site referred to will be incorporated in to the Maynooth Town Renewal Master Plan. Unfortunately, there are no timelines available as to when the business case will be approved by the Department.

Councillor Feeney advised that this site was valuable to the community and enquired if a timeline could be provided.



Ms. P Pender, Strategic Projects and Public Realm informed the members that there was no timeline available but the council were monitoring the situation.  
The report was noted.

**CM34/0323**

**Planning Permissions Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.  
Can the council provide a breakdown of the number of houses that have been granted planning permission in Maynooth that are yet to be built?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that this information will take time to accumulate. Planning Permissions have a lifespan of five years before expiry. Permissions granted in that period exceed 5,500 by Kildare County Council with a further consideration of permissions granted by An Bord Pleanála, Strategic Housing Developments (SHD). Some of the permissions granted in this period could still be under appeal so will need to be excluded pending decision. Those remaining need to be broken down by Municipal District Area and collated against Building Control Management Systems to determine what has commenced and further examined to determine what has been completed. There is no pre-written report in any Planning Systems to answer this and a specific resource will be required to trawl through all of the various sources of information to answer this specific question. The Planning Department will revert at the next Municipal District Meeting with the relevant statistics.

The report was noted.

**CM35/0323**

**Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.  
Can the council provide a full break down of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) application for Maynooth and timelines in relation to funds being drawn down and work commencing?

A report was received from Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing the members that the amount of Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) funding sought for





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the Maynooth Town Renewal Plan is €2,574,375. A revised business case was recently submitted to the Department, following a request to consider the impact of inflation on the costs. The business case has not yet been approved by the Department. Therefore the council are not yet in a position to provide timelines for drawdown of funds and commencement of works.

The report was noted.

### **CM36/0323**

#### **Kilcock Local Area Plan**

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

Can the council provide an update and timeline for delivery on the new Kilcock Local Area Plan?

A report was received from Forward Planning, Policy, Heritage and Conservation informing the members that the Elected Members will be aware that the Planning Department have agreed a Local Area Plan work programme which includes Kildare Town, Maynooth and Newbridge Local Area Plans. It is not possible at this stage to provide details on the commencements of other Local Area Plans.

Councillor Durkan enquired about the following:

- Could the work load be timed and planned out so that there were not so many plans working together.
- County Development Plans and Local Area Plans could take two to three years to come into being, is it possible to lengthen out the life of a Local Area Plan or make changes to the times that they all meet.

Mr. G Conlon informed the members that:

- With regard to changing timelines that the council could only work within the legislation. The legislation sets out a specific period of time that a council can extend the life of a LAP, which is an extension of not more than 2 years.

The report was noted.



**CM37/0323**

**Air Quality Maynooth Clane Kilcock**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council produce a report on air quality measurement and data available in Maynooth, Kilcock and Clane, with a particular focus on; major traffic junctions, rush hour periods, and areas where significant solid fuel burning is taking place to provide an up-to-date and accurate picture of the air quality risks in our towns.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that currently the only monitors available to measure air quality are in Naas, Newbridge, Celbridge and Leixlip. There are no monitors in these other towns and the Environmental Protection Agency would have to be consulted with regard to their future plans to install monitors. The Environmental Protection Agency maintain the data from these existing monitors and it is available to view on their website.

Councillor Hamilton outlined that based on the report he was shocked that there was no monitoring in the three big towns. The monitoring is not in high risk areas. Enquired as to what is the role of Kildare County Council and wants to understand what the council can do.

Mr. C Galvin, Senior Engineer, Environment Department informed the members that:

- Report was provided by the Health Service Executive's Senior Environmental Health Officer.
- There were a number of Environmental Protection Agency Networks across the country.
- Leixlip, Celbridge, Newbridge and Naas are currently monitored.

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



**CM38/0323**

**Cleaning of Slate River**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward.  
Can the council confirm if there are plans for the cleaning of Slate River during 2023?

A report was received from Environment Department informing the members that the River Slate is inspected at multiple times throughout the year. Maintenance of the River Slate was carried out in 2020 and 2021 and currently is scheduled for 2024. If inspections identify critical areas, within a drainage district, due to for example, exceptional instream growth or blockages that are causing a risk to property, they will be prioritised within the seasonal window of July to September. Maintenance works are subject to environmental and health and safety constraints.

Ultimately, resources and risk to property are the guiding factors for maintenance, as opposed to aesthetics. It's often the case that although there may seem to be growth in a watercourse, it doesn't necessarily pose a risk in a flood event.

The report was noted.

**CM39/0323**

**Regulations for smoky coal and solid fuels**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton.  
Can the council confirm what regulations and enforcement measures are in place regarding the supply of smoky coal/smoky solid fuels in Maynooth, Kilcock and Clane?

A report was received from Environment Department informing the members that the sale and supply of fuels in this country is regulated by the Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels regulations 2022). This was enacted at the end of October 2022 and effectively extends low smoke zones throughout the whole county so all merchants and retailers are bound by them. Inspections of coal yards and retailers are carried out by the Environmental Health team. Of all inspections carried out in 2022 only one retailer was found to be non-compliant resulting in a verbal warning. This retailer is now in full compliance.



Mr. C Galvin, Senior Engineer, Environment Department informed the members that:

- Local Authorities had powers under the Pollution Act to carry out inspections and that all sites were visited last year.
- There were no longer smokeless zones, it was now countrywide.
- Not illegal to burn smoke fuels, but it was illegal to sell smoke fuels.
- Multiagency powers were employed with the involvement of the HSE, Customs and Gardai, targeting people transporting fuels.
- The regulations should begin to bear fruit next year.
- Aiming for a time when people were unable to purchase smoke fuels. It would take a year or two to see this come through.

Councillor Hamilton thanked Mr. C Galvin and requested that they speak off line again.

The report was noted.

### **CM40/0323**

#### **Local Economic and Community Plan**

To receive a briefing on the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2028

The members made the following comments:

- Councillor Farrelly gave his commitment and that of the Municipal District to the Plan. He asked would a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis be carried out, similar to that used by Wicklow County Council for their plan.
- Councillor Wyse said that he was not aware of this and that it was great to have these plans that are data driven. He asked what information will the All Island Research Observatory (AIRO) provide, apart from census data.
- Councillor Hamilton asked could a podcast be used to engage the public in the process, similar to that was used for the County Development Plan.
- Councillor Feeney outlined that it was useful to be able to identify and prioritise resources. That consultation was key.



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- Councillor Fitzpatrick advised as we reach full employment, deficits within our county become more apparent, as is the case with North West Kildare.
- Councillor Hamilton outlined that North West Kildare is as challenged as Newbridge and Athy.

Ms. S Bookle, Kildare Local Community Development Co- Ordinator informed the members of the following points.

- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis will be used in the plan.
- A regional monitor to be delivered by AIRO. Update should be available at the end of March. Data sets will be used from other sources such as HAP.
- Official data from census 2022 would not be available until September 2023.
- The resources available may not be able to deliver a podcast but they were examining all opportunities available to them to engage the public with the process.
- Members should send on any data or information to her that they felt was relevant. She also asked the members to get the word out among their constituents regarding engaging with the plan.
- Deprivation figures are very high in Athy and had needs that were stark on the last census. These issues had helped them secure funding.
- The North West Kildare initiative would become clearer.

The report was noted.

### **CM41/0323**

#### **Parks Works Programme 2023 and Open Space Management in County Kildare**

Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer, informed the members that he had circulated the Parks Works Programme and queried if the members had any questions.

Councillor Wyse enquired about Allenwood Playground not being on the list. Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer advised that he would look at that.

Councillor Ward enquired about the time frame for the Bawnogues Playground and if the Skate Park would be included. Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer advised that the finalised design was back and that he would meet with Public Realm with



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regard to this. He also stated that he did not think that the Skate Park was part of this but may be included later, in the same vicinity.

The Municipal District Manager, thanked Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer stating that he had been a lone warrior, working with limited resources in a county with a large population and development growth and with a remit that has ballooned.

Ms. P O'Rourke, Climate Action Co-ordinator gave a presentation on Open Space Management in County Kildare.

Councillor Feeney thanked Ms. P. O'Rourke for her evidence based research and requested if the presentation could be circulated to the members.

Ms. M Higgins complemented Ms. P. O'Rourke and congratulated the Parks Team on being shortlisted for the Innovation Awards. She also added that the Parks Team had been working on grass to gas for years and had produced an Evidence Based Project which would bear fruit.

The report was noted.

### **CM42/0323**

#### **Tool Library Service**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney.  
That the council investigate the possibility of offering a tool library service in the municipal district and/or enabling relevant community groups to more easily perform repairs or home upgrades.

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

A report was received from the Acting County Librarian informing the members that the library service has received requests from councillors regarding tool lending libraries previously and the reasons for not pursuing this are outlined here:

- Insurance – concerns that Kildare County Council could be liable for any injury or accident arising from lending power tools.



- Procurement, cataloguing, maintenance and troubleshooting of these tools is not something to which the library service could provide resources/expertise on an ongoing basis.
- Storage – library spaces are at capacity and storage of power tools is not feasible in our buildings.
- Fair competition – there are commercial businesses operating in many towns that provide tool hire services who could have concerns if libraries lend these for free. This was previously an issue with libraries lending DVDs in competition with local companies such as Xtravision for example.

Although tool lending is not currently a service the council can offer, Kildare Library Service continues to work to support Climate Action in many other ways through information provision, hosting free and inclusive classes and workshops and the development of new initiatives aimed at all age groups in our communities. For example, the library service continues to lend Home Energy Saving Kits through all our branches - the kit allows the user to get a better understanding of the energy usage in the home, problem areas that may need your attention and ways to improve energy efficiency. The library service worked with the Energy Team from Dunleer to provide energy saving talks in January this year. Libraries are currently working with them again to schedule information sessions on home upgrades and grants in 2023. Libraries are planning to hold a bike repair clinic in Naas this Spring to investigate if it is feasible to extend this to other Municipal Districts. Maynooth Library currently hosts a monthly clothes swap and repair shop and are also piloting a seed library project through libraries in North Kildare.

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

### **CM43/0323**

#### **Landscaping works for Nancy's Lane**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy.  
Can the council provide an update on the programme of landscaping works for Nancy's Lane, Clane?



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A report was received from Economic, Community and Cultural Development informing the members that hedge and tree planting have been carried out along the lane. Further work is planned subject to funding to carry out selective pruning to the original hedge to rejuvenate it in the Autumn and further infill planting where necessary.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.