



**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Meeting  
held on Friday, 06 October 2023 at 10:00 a.m.  
in the Boardroom**

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

**Apologies:** Councillor P Ward and Councillor Brendan Weld.

**Officials Present:** Ms. M Higgins (District Manager), Mr. C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. A Hickey (Assistant Engineer), Mr. J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Ms. S Barry, (Administrative Officer), Ms. J McNabb (Head of Economic Development and Enterprise), Ms. L Kennedy (LPT Co-ordinator), Mr. C O'Toole (Staff Officer, Environment), Mr. G Hooban (Executive Engineer, Building and Development Control), Ms. A Cassidy (Senior Staff Officer), Ms. S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Ms. D Egan (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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**CM01/1023**

**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.

**CM02/1023**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday 01 September 2023 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District



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meeting held on Friday 01 September 2023 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

### CM03/1023

#### Municipal District Works

The District Engineer gave an update on the Municipal District roadworks, informing the members of the following.

#### LPT Funding

The Municipal District Office is progressing the agreed LPT programme for 2022 and 2023. Members to confirm spend for 2023.

#### General Works

General maintenance has been continuing over the last 4 weeks. Gully cleaning and drainage maintenance will be commencing in the coming weeks with the crews.

<b>Restoration Improvement Schemes 2023</b>				
<b>Road Class</b>	<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Road Name and Townland Name</b>	<b>Length Road (m)</b>	<b>Status</b>
R	403	Brockagh	1,000	Completed
R	403	Prosperous Road Clane	750	Completed
R	415	Kilmeague	900	Completed
R	407	Sallins Road Clane	530	Completed
R	415	Allen	500	Completed
L	7081	Healys Bridge	900	Completed
L	70733	Bluetown	800	Completed
L	70761	Green Lane	800	Completed
R	402	Johnstownbridge	1,000	Awarded
R	401	Ballygibbon	500	Completed
L	5012	Kilmurray , Kilshanroe	1,000	Completed
L	1003	Martinstown	1,000	Deferred
L	1002	Tandargee	750	Completed
L	1002	Broadford	600	Completed
L	1013	Old Dunboyne Road	500	Completed
L	5039	Laragh Courtown (changed to Kilcock)	700	Completed
L	1017	Derryvarroe	1,500	Completed



## Restoration Maintenance Schemes 2023 Surface Dressing

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
R	R414	Barnaran	1,250	Completed
L	L41400	Drumsru	960	Completed
L	L1005	Knoccurr	1,800	Completed
L	L5015	Kinnafad	1,800	Completed
L	L5021	Island Road	2,000	Completed
L	L5008	Derryart	1,000	Completed
L	L5025	Drehid	1,000	Completed
R	R405	Celbridge Road	1,000	Deferred
L	L5035	Painstown	850	Completed
L	L5039	Clonfert	1,000	Completed
L	L5041	Ballycurraghan	1,250	Deferred
L	L5054	Ballygoran	2,000	Completed
L	L5053	Railpark	1,200	Completed
L	L5074	Ballynafagh	2,000	Completed
L	L1019	Corduff	1,320	Completed
L	L50131	Killyon	700	Completed
L	L5013	Dunfiarth	1,100	Completed
L	L89994	Clonagh	1,180	Completed
L	L5028	Ballycaghan	1,550	Completed
L	L5031	Ballycannon	1,150	Deferred
L	L1019	Blackwood	1,000	Completed
L	L1007	Ballyvoneen	1,050	Completed
L	L1010	Loughtown	1,250	Completed
L	L5070	Hodgestown	1,200	Completed

## Climate Action Schemes 2023

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
L	1017	Derryvarouge	3,500	Completed
L	5025	Timahoe West	1,000	Completed
L	5051	Rahan to Edenderry	1,000	Completed

## Former National Road Schemes 2023

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
R	148	Killeighter	1,500	Awarded



## Safety Improvement Schemes 2023

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
R	148	Killeighter Cross	NA	Design
R	407	Baltreacy Cross	NA	Design
L	5025	Drehid Cross	NA	Design

### Footpath Works Completed in 2023

- R157 Dunboyne Road Maynooth.
- Bridge Street Kilcock.
- Abbeyfields Estate Kilcock.
- Highfield Estate Kilcock.
- Cluain Aoibhinn/College Green Maynooth.
- R148 Church Street Kilcock.
- Footpath Repairs Coill Dubh.

### Contract 1

- Central Park Way, Clane.
- Churchfield, Clane.
- Ardnagappagh, Clane.
- Hillview, Clane.
- College Grove, Clane.
- Collegewood Park, Clane.

### Contract 2

- Lios An Rí, Clogherinka.
- Ashgrove, Derrinturn.
- Ashmount, Derrinturn.
- Graces Pk, Derrinturn.

### Contract 3

- An Crochan, Clane – Footpaths.
- Clonwood Heights, Clane – Footpaths.



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- Meadow Court Estate, Clane – Footpaths.
- The Cloisters, Clane – Footpaths.
- Collegewood Manor, Clane – Footpaths.

### Contract 4 2023

- Oatfield Park, Clane – Footpaths.
- Ottomy, Clane – Footpaths.
- Oak lawns, Kilmeague – Footpaths.
- Butterstream, Clane – Footpaths.
- Killybegs Manor, Prosperous – Footpaths.
- Maple Toft Close, Prosperous – Footpaths.

### Footpath works completed/onsite in last 4 weeks.

- R403, Clane – Footpath.
- Clonwood Heights – Footpath.
- Painstown Cross – Footpath.
- R148, Carton Maynooth – Footpath.

### Works planned for October.

- R407, Baltreacy Cross - Improvement to sight lines.
- Safety Improvement Schemes listed above.

The District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Footpath in front of Carton House completed today.
- Landowner at Chapel very co-operative in having the hedgerow moved back. The date for works to be agreed with due consideration to the animals.
- Resurfacing of the R148 – 3 Sections – towards Maynooth.
- Works to be carried out at Johnstown Bridge School, as this is a busy location works due to carried out during mid-term break.



**CM04/1023**

**Allocation of residual LPT**

The members considered the allocation of residual LPT.

It was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick that €40,000 residual LPT be allocated to Roads Section.

It was proposed by Councillor Ó Cearúil and Councillor Durkan that €2,000 residual LPT be allocated to Roads Section.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Hamilton and agreed by the members that the residual LPT listed above to be allocated to the Roads Section.

**CM05/1023**

**Christmas Pay Parking Arrangements**

The members considered the Christmas Pay Parking Arrangements in the Clane Maynooth Municipal District for 2023.

Councillor McEvoy said taking into account Climate Action and the National Plan to reduce the use of cars by fifty percent, it would look bad as a Public Authority to put in place free parking for Christmas.

Councillor Hamilton agreed in light of Climate Action, not to put in place free parking for Christmas.

Following a discussion by the members it was agreed that pay parking arrangements were not to be suspended in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District over the Christmas period for 2023 and normal parking arrangements to continue.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Hamilton and agreed by the members not to bring forward free parking for Christmas in the Clane Maynooth Municipal District.



**CM06/1023**

**Section 38 of the Roads Traffic Act, 1994 (as amended)**

The members considered the Submissions Report for the Section 38 of the Roads Traffic Act, 1994 (as amended), on the proposed installation of two new bus shelters at Firmount Cross, Clane and proposed installation of two new bus stops on the College Road/Aughamore, Clane. The report had been previously circulated to the members. It was agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**CM07/1023**

**Push button pedestrian crossing on the Newtown Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council progress the installation of a push button pedestrian crossing on the Newtown Road to improve safety at Maynooth Town Football Club.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that there is currently no funding allocation for the provision of new signal-controlled pedestrian crossings within the county. If a funding source is identified the location can be assessed to determine whether push button pedestrian crossing facilities are required/warranted. There is an existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point provided at this location.

Councillor Feeney said that she could not accept the report. The works were agreed in February 2023 and had taken into account safety measures and the sporting facility at this location. Also, it was agreed at that time for these works to be funded by both discretionary and unspent Local Property Tax. She also added it was inaccurate to say that there was an existing crossing provided, as the nearest crossing was one kilometre up the road and that did not serve the needs at this location. Works were agreed in June 2023 and were now unravelling.



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Councillor Hamilton supported the motion and said the automatic response, of no, surprised him adding he believed that half the money should be there. He added it was dangerous at the Football Club and it was a race track to the town. That with funding this could become part of a permanent solution.

Councillor Ó Cearúil agreed with Councillor Feeney and Councillor Hamilton adding the funds were put in place from LPT for these works. He said the vast majority of the responses on today's agenda were no, and he expected the response here would be replicated throughout this meeting. He also advised that we should request that the speed van be placed at this location again.

Councillor Durkan said this was the fastest road coming into Maynooth and €20,000 LPT resources had been put towards safety measures in Straffan.

The District Engineer said that he had met with Councillors at the location agreeing that it was an uncontrolled crossing, however there was tactile paving in place and the path was dished. He said that Active Travel had no funding to carry out these works but if the funding was in place these works could be advanced.

Councillor Feeney requested if LPT could be finalised.

The District Manager said funding was the barrier.

The District Engineer informed the members that the cost could be in the region of €30,000 to €35,000 initially. There was the unknown cost of the ESB connection, which could bring the total cost to in the region of €40,000. He said that clarity was needed on the amount of LPT available.

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





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It was agreed by the members that Item 8 Motion Councillor Feeney and Item 19 Question Councillor Ó Cearúil could be taken together.

### **CM08/1023**

#### **Footpath on the Boreen Road (L5068)**

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

That the council provides a footpath on the Boreen Road (L5068) from Straffan Cemetery to the north entrance of the K Club.

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

#### Item 19

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to provide a footpath on the Boreen Road (L5068) from Straffan Cemetery to the KClub North Entrance?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that there is not sufficient width available along this public road to install a footpath. Land would need to be purchased in order to provide a footpath. There is no funding available in the current budget for this request.

Councillor Feeney informed the members of the following:

- This was a busy road with no hard-shoulder and the only main approach to Straffan without a footpath.
- The footpath should be a priority for people's safety.
- Enquired as to whether the lands were in public ownership or perhaps a Compulsory Purchase Order might be required.
- This was a Slí na Sláinte Route.
- Referred to the observations of Mr. John Sweeney, Professor Emeritus Maynooth University, in relation to Climate Change.



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Councillor Ó Cearúil informed the members of the following:

- Enquired if the council could approach the landowner.
- Everything appeared to be dependent on LPT funding and questioned whether or not there were any other funds.
- Every report on the agenda was saying no, and the reason appeared to be that there were no LPT funds.
- The situation of funding was very frustrating and left the members hamstrung, with no ability to make progress in areas such as footpaths and lighting.

Councillor McEvoy informed the members of the following:

- Dublin City Council reduced its LPT funds and now they had no money to spend.
- Enquired if this location was part of Slí na Sláinte initiatives route.

The District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Examined the location and there was not sufficient space.
- There were two ninety degree bends and hedge to the road.
- The landowner had not been approached.
- It was frustrating as there were no funds in the budget.
- LPT funds were discretionary.

The District Manager informed the members in relation to Slí na Sláinte there were tight parameters but would look at all options but highlighted that the revenue budget was tight. It was a case of trying to get grants and LPT. A possible approach to the landowner could be considered and would try and progress that, but it was a case of a need for additional funding. The residual LPT to the Roads section could be added for this footpath.

Councillor Feeney said that she agreed with Councillor Ó Cearúil.

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



**CM09/1023**

**Permanent alleviation of the flooding on the L7073**

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

That the council prepare a cross-department strategy, with estimated timelines, for the permanent alleviation of the flooding which is occurring on the L7073 road between the entrances of Hawthorn Manor and Woodlands Park estates in Coill Dubh.

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

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that a footpath at this location was installed by the developer of Hawthorn Manor in line with the approved planning permission. The footpath has however resulted in the road not draining as it had previously. Road gullies have been therefore installed to capture the road drainage. These gullies are not functioning correctly. The Development Control Section will liaise with the developer to ensure the road gullies are connected into the storm water system at Hawthorn Manor and function appropriately.

Councillor Wyse informed the members he had raised this important issue before. He outlined there were fifty houses in this estate in Coill Dubh. There was a big puddle beside the footpath at Hawthorn Manor and that it was very annoying that this was continuing to occur. He said that children had no alternative but to go through this on their way to school. He did not agree that the developer was to blame as the council should have been watching what the developer was doing. The members bring these important issues forward and they need to be dealt with and brought further.

The District Engineer informed the member that this estate had not been taken in charge and these drains go back into the developer's property.

Councillor Wyse enquired if the council could put in a pump to pump out the water.

The District Engineer informed the members this could be done but at a cost of €1,000 per day to have a vector hoover pumping out the water.



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Mr. G Hooban informed the members they were following up on this as a matter of priority.

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

### **CM10/1023**

#### **Royal Canal Greenway upgrade**

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

That the council provide an update on the Royal Canal Greenway upgrade from the Intel campus to Maynooth addressing the issues involved and timeline to get the developer on site, and to provide projected start and completion dates for this project.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the council has mutually terminated the contract for Section 1 of the contractor (between Confey Bridge and Louisa Bridge). By concluding the legal agreement, the council can re-tender the completion of the contract, including some works outstanding on Section 1. The retender will be completed in Q4 2023 with construction to start Q1 2024. The contract is estimated to be 15 months.

Councillor Hamilton informed the members of the following:

- He was disappointed with the update.
- He knew there would be stalling but that the contract term was disappointing.
- Local People had expected this for 5 years.
- Could the members be given any details on the 4 major Projects at Celbridge Road, Millstreet, Royal Canal and Meadowbrook Beaufield Cycleway.
- Had the Capital Allocation of €2 million now been lost as it was unspent.
- Problems now with the developer.



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Councillor McEvoy enquired if a Solicitor could move this forward quicker.

Councillor Feeney said the members needed to be informed, they needed to be given updates. Projects were not being delivered and members were not informed about any details until they brought forward a motion.

Councillor Ó Cearúil agreed with Councillor Feeney and advised if he were to carry on like that in the Private Sector that it would not be acceptable. The announcement of projects, which then do not go ahead, has serious ramifications and causes so much frustration.

The Municipal District Engineer said there was no information about the developer and that this would have to go out to tender again. He advised there was very little low hanging fruit, the projects are 3, 4, or 5 million euro and that the funding comes from other agencies such as the National Transport Authority. He also outlined the Royal Canal Greenway was the number one project.

Councillor McEvoy also referred to the 4 Projects and he was meeting with the Community on Monday, enquiring also if Q1 was a realistic timeframe.

The District Engineer informed the members that it was hard to make progress. This project involves Waterways Ireland lands and National Transport Authority monies and that from Maynooth to Leixlip was difficult to construct. He also added that it was the first time that he had ever seen a contract terminated by mutual consent.

The District Manager advised the members that this was a priority project, it was in a good place, tendered and moved along and then an unforeseen challenge arose.

Councillor Hamilton said that he respected the honesty from the District Engineer and the District Manager and he was glad he had raised the issue.

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



**CM11/1023**

**Celbridge Road upgrade Project**

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

That the council honour the commitment given to the members to put the Celbridge Road upgrade project out on public consultation during October.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that commitments given by the Executive to members for National Transport Authority (NTA) funded projects are clearly dependent on NTA approval of the design proposals, in accordance with their Project Approval Guidelines. Whilst the NTA remain supportive of the scheme, they have requested further investigations of design interventions for the options selection stage of the project. The council has been asked to progress a more cost-effective design and we are currently reviewing alternative designs. Once the NTA commit to funding an agreed design, a confirmed timeline for public consultation can be agreed with the members.

Councillor Durkan informed the members he had first raised this matter in 2014 and that there had been highs and lows since. An alternative route was needed and the road was 850m in length. There was currently no alternative route as the Rail Park side was not viable. Students were being brought across the road, through a Housing Estate. He advised that the best route was the proposed route. This had been going on now for 9 years. There were 900 Students at this location. At each end of the Celbridge Road there was grass and hedges which needed to be cut and he had many reports of school bags being clipped by passing cars.

Councillor Ó Cearúil informed the members that the lack of progress of projects was frustrating. He listed the Roundabout Road, Swimming Pool and Community Centre outlining that a Project Manager was needed to manage these projects to identify where they were at and where the difficulties were, so as to facilitate good progress in order to get ahead of any potential risks.



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Councillor Hamilton advised that this project needed to be made a number one priority.

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

### **CM12/1023**

#### **Two bus stops at Kilmeague and the Downings, Prosperous**

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

That the council works with the National Transport Authority and service providers for the installation of two bus stops; one in Kilmeague with a shelter and one stop at the Downings, Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members of the following:

**Kilmeague:** Kildare County Council has previously contacted the National Transport Authority (NTA) about seeking new bus shelter installations, however the NTA advised the stops did not have sufficient daily service at that point to meet the NTA's threshold for installations. However, Kildare County Council has already issued another request to the NTA seeking that both sites be re-assessed again in this regard following the subsequent recent addition of a new bus service in the locality. We are awaiting an update from the NTA in this regard and if such stops are confirmed eligible for bus shelter installations, Kildare County Council intend to include them in our upcoming 2024 programme of works.

**Prosperous (Downings):** Kildare County Council will examine this location and revert back with our considerations.

Councillor Farrelly thanked the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team for the report and requested that this item could remain on the Progress Report.

The District Engineer informed the members he was not sure of the criteria requirements of the National Transport Authority but that he would meet with Mr. D Hodgins and come back to the members with an update.



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

### **CM13/1023**

#### **Car parking near schools on Prosperous Road, Clane**

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

That the council consider the pattern of car parking at the upgraded footpaths and pedestrian crossing near the schools on the Prosperous Road, Clane, and whether any further engineering interventions are required to take account of the needs of pedestrians and cyclists at school opening and closing times.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will carry out an inspection and from correspondence already received it seems cars are parking up on the new footpaths. It may be necessary to install bollards to prevent drivers from driving up on the footpaths. Scoil Bhríde on the Prosperous Road, Clane, is currently on round 2 of the Safe Routes to School Programme. Kildare County Council are currently awaiting the Outline Delivery Plan for Scoil Bhríde Primary School as part of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programme. A full design review will be completed at that stage by the Sustainable Transport Section.

Councillor McEvoy informed the members cars on the footpaths were not acceptable and that he appreciated An Garda Síochána could not be at this location all the time. He made reference to an Irish Times Poll in relation to idle cars on footpaths and how this behaviour needed to be called out. He had also read a news article which discussed car emissions near schools, and how it may potentially negatively impact children. He added we really had the wrong culture and we needed to change this car priority culture we had in Ireland. He asked if a bin which had been removed during the works could please be replaced. He also enquired at what stage the Safe Routes to School Programme was at Scoil Bhríde. Councillor Hamilton also said he supported the motion.





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The District Engineer advised that he understood the frustration but it was the parents that were parking on the footpaths. He agreed that enforcement could not be there all the time and he would enquire if there were any engineering measures that could be used. He said that bollards could be drilled in to prevent cars parking on the footpaths.

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

### **CM14/1023**

#### **Path between Mullen Park and Greenfield Drive estates, Maynooth**

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

Can the council provide any information as to when the connecting path between Mullen Park and Greenfield Drive estates in Maynooth will be open?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that Kildare County Council Roads Planning Section has been in contact with the Developer on this matter and we will update the Members further on any developments.

The report was noted.

### **CM15/1023**

#### **Road into Parklands estate Maynooth**

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

Can the council confirm when the road into Parklands estate Maynooth will be properly reinstated, following the development of the Bridge End estate?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that a number of road crossings were carried out in order to provide services to the new housing development. These road openings were subject to a licence and conditions in relation to reinstatement. The Municipal District office will ensure that the required reinstatement of these crossings is carried out.



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Councillor Feeney thanked the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section for the report adding that often a road development happened and the location was left in a shambles. In Maynooth the Council's work was undone and then badly patched up. This should not be happening and that it was a waste of time and engagement should take place with the developer.

The District Engineer informed the members that when road closures were requested that a bond was then applied which could be released at the end of the works, up to 2 years if the work was satisfactory and if this was not the case the clock was then set again. The report was noted.

### **CM16/1023**

#### **Upgrade the bus stop at the Skew (Shee) Bridge in Allenwood South**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse. Can the council provide an update on the plans by the National Transport Authority to upgrade the bus stop at the Skew (Shee) Bridge in Allenwood South?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council have previously reviewed a proposed upgrade design for this stop as provided by the National Transport Authority (NTA). We were not satisfied with the design submitted and accordingly sought amendments. Issues regarding safety for pedestrians and other road users were also raised by Kildare County Council due to the road bend nearby and road speeds observed. The stop is deemed to be included in the next phase of the NTA Dublin Commuter Outer Metropolitan (DCOM) upgrade works programme. Kildare County Council have already sought further information from the NTA on any new design proposals are still awaiting feedback on same.

Councillor Wyse accepted the report and encouraged feedback from the council and the National Transport Authority. He added that he understood the slow movement when dealing with different departments and bodies.

The report was noted.



**CM17/1023**

**LED PLEEP (Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project) in the Municipal District**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton.  
Can the council provide an update on status of rolling out the LED PLEEP (Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project) in the Municipal District and how impacts on wildlife and dark skies are considered in this roll out?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section informing the members that a Survey work on Regional Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) is scheduled to commence in Kildare County in November of this year followed by design in Q1 2024. It is expected that upgrading Kildare public lighting infrastructure and installation of LED lights will begin in Q3 2024 and the contract period is expected to last for eight months. All the light installations are being designed to the most recent standards which take account of the increased benefits of LED lanterns which give improved user experience for lower light levels. The lighting design takes account of the wildlife, the lanterns are designed to reduce light pollution by cutting down of light spill and direct the light to the ground with substantially reduced sky glow as a consequence.

Councillor Hamilton thanked the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Section for the report adding that he first brought this motion in 2019 at Plenary, in relation to the LED rollout for the County. He referred to the positive savings of €750,000 in mains energy costs.

Mr. J McGowan informed the members that this was not just an upgrade that it was a full Regional Project.

The report was noted.

**CM18/1023**

**Safety and Disability Audit of the community space, Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.  
Can the council confirm if it has plans to carry out a Safety and Disability Audit of the community space in Maynooth?



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A report was received from the Facilities Department informing the members that facilities have procured a specialist consultant to carry out compliance surveys on a number of council buildings including the Maynooth Community space.

The report was noted.

### **CM19/1023**

#### **Safety railings along the Royal Canal under Mullen Bridge Maynooth**

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to install safety railings along the Royal Canal under Mullen Bridge Maynooth?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that there are currently no plans to install railings under Mullen Bridge.

Councillor Durkan said that this was a pedestrian walkway and that he was not happy with the report. The railings were under Bond Bridge and that this was a pinch point for cyclists and that there was a danger of a pedestrian being knocked into the water.

The District Engineer said that this was not part of the Royal Canal and that pedestrians and cyclists were not encouraged at this location by the National Transport Authority.

Councillor Durkan referred to the path of least resistance being used in this instance. The report was noted.

### **CM20/1023**

#### **Pedestrian safety at crossroads in Prosperous**

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

Can the council outline the process of reviewing the crossroads in Prosperous in terms of vehicular and pedestrian safety, to include the traffic light sequencing?



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A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that safety timings at signal-controlled junctions such as inter-green times are based on the geometry and layout of the junction including the location of stop lines and separation distance to pedestrian crossings/clearance times etc. The timings for the various stages are based on the demands at various times of the day i.e., AM/PM Peak, Off Peak etc. Timings at junctions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. The Traffic Management Section shall liaise with the member to see if he has any specific concerns with regard to this junction.

The report was noted.

### **CM21/1023**

#### **Safe Routes to Schools Projects in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District**

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

Can the council update the committee on the Safe Routes to Schools Projects in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that Kildare County Council Sustainable Transport section recently met with the new liaison representative from An Taisce Safe Routes to School Programme to discuss the proposed scheme for Straffan National School and are currently developing the detailed design for the proposed Safe Routes to School Scheme for Straffan National School.

Councillor McEvoy informed the members that he had noticed at the Straffan School, cars parked against the rural hedge line, turning the school road into one lane. He made reference to the Park and Stride at Straffan GAA. He said that it was not acceptable to funnel children into this narrow space. He said that he had a lot of enquiries in relation to a programme from Clane residents and would like some clarity on this.

The District Engineer informed the members that he met the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team. He advised that he would speak with Mr. D Hodgins regarding this matter.

The report was noted.



**CM22/1023**

**Housing stock currently vacant in this Municipal District**

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

Can the council provide a detailed timeline for works on all council housing stock currently vacant in this Municipal District?

A report was received from Capital and Housing Maintenance informing the members that each month the members are provided with the vacant house report. This report provides information on the number of vacant properties in each municipal district and indicates the net addition in the month. The format of this report has been agreed by the Housing SPC. The report was noted.

**CM23/1023**

**Clane Town Centre First Project**

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

Can the council update the committee with an outline of the preparatory work for the Clane Town Centre First project?

A report was received from the Town Regeneration Officer informing the members that Clane has been chosen as the first town in Kildare to receive funding for the preparation of a Town Centre First (TCF) Plan under the Government's Town Centre First Policy. The Town Centre First policy aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community. Brady Shipman Martin have been appointed Consultants for the preparation of this plan and over the last number of months have carried out preparatory work including the preparation of materials for public workshops, preparation of material for primary and secondary schools engagement, surveys, desktop reviews, site visits, infrastructure audits, destination profiling and economic assessments etc. This TCF Plan will be driven by the local community and businesses as part of a Town Team who will be supported by the Town Regeneration Officer and technical expertise within the council. Several members have been appointed to the



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Town Team. It is hoped in the coming weeks to launch a survey and hold public workshops in Clane. The members will be informed as soon as these are organised.

The report was noted.

### **CM24/1023**

#### **Business Campus for Kilcock**

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

That the council gives a full update on the progress made on the proposed Business Campus for Kilcock.

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

A report was received from Head of Economic Development and Enterprise at the Local Enterprise Office informing the members that Kildare County Council's Enterprise and Economic Department commissioned Cunnane Stratton Reynolds Land Planning and Design Consultants to conduct a Business Campus Feasibility Study on lands in Kilcock currently in the ownership of Kildare County Council but not yet zoned industrial. The report has just been received by the department and will be available for information purposes at the meeting of Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Committee on Friday 06 October 2023. It must be noted that given the independence of the study this land use proposal has yet to be reviewed through the lens of Kildare County Council's planning department and as a proposal will still require all the necessary due diligence and evidenced based assessments, as normally required in the formation of all land-use plans prepared by and presented to the members of the Kildare County Council. The report will require circulation to the planning team and executive in the coming weeks for their review and guidance on the potential (or otherwise) to realise the objective of utilizing this particular landbank for industrial and business use.

Ms. J McNabb distributed hard copies of a report to the members and advised that the report had also previously been circulated. She informed the members of the following:

- Meeting was held in Kilcock with the consultants and the lands were reviewed.



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- Lands are suitable for industrial use but are not zoned.
- The landbank is owned by Kildare County Council.
- The next step is the planning process and that this would be a challenge.
- Study was based on expansion outside the urban area, taking into account that the lands were not zoned.

Councillor Durkan thanked Ms. J McNabb for the report and understood that the Planning Department would need to review the report. He said that there would be public consultation in relation to the LAP but that the time of the LAP is a little off.

Councillor Feeney thanked Ms. J McNabb and said that she would welcome the addition of premises for the provision of a childcare provider. There does not appear to be a childcare provider as part of the model. She said that she would continue to beat the drum for childcare providers in the area. She said that this report is positive and thank you for the engagement.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said that he did not want to appear negative, but enquired if a study had been carried out in relation to the demand for this Campus from businesses in the area.

Ms. J McNabb informed the members of the following:

- Works with Business Community on every Project.
- Everything has to be evidenced based.
- Mixed use is complicated.
- Can only look at what is there, rather than any other preferred location.
- This is an asset that is not being used and there is no money to look elsewhere.
- Additional industrial space for the Kilcock area.
- Countywide skills survey 2030, projecting the growth areas and investigating if the correct skills are in the correct areas.

Councillor Ó Cearúil suggested that awaiting that report may be preferable before other progress is made.





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Councillor Durkan informed the members that based on the sixty business people that attended the meeting and the further one hundred people who sent their apologies that this Business Campus is definitely needed.

Councillor McEvoy enquired if a Part 8 would be required.

Ms. J McNabb this would be needed if this was to go ahead. There is no secondary location.

Councillor Durkan said that he might have something and will discuss this after the meeting.

Councillor Hamilton said that it was clear that Kilcock needed support, however cars compact growth in the Town Centre and there were no plans for Sustainable Transport.

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

### **CM25/1023**

#### **Upkeep of the Moyglare Hall through Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.  
That this council works with all land owners and interested parties to develop a framework for the upkeep of the Moyglare Hall through road, the roundabout and surrounding areas.

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

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that Moyglare Hall is a mixed development consisting of conventional housing and apartments. No Taking in Charge request has ever been received by the Development Control Section. The development is currently being maintained by a management company associated with Mycete Homes Ltd. Mycete Homes Ltd has recently gone into liquidation. It is suggested that a majority of homeowners in the development request the development be taken in charge by plebiscite. On receipt and verification of such a request the Development Control



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Section would then undertake a thorough audit of the infrastructure in the development to ascertain its current condition and whether any remedial works are required to bring the development to an appropriate Taking in Charge standard.

Note: The apartments and common areas associated with the apartments must still be managed by a Management Company as required under the Multi-Unit Developments Act (MUD'S Act). This can be an owner's management company. The owners should liaise with the liquidator in this regard.

Councillor Ó Cearúil informed the members that he had brought up this issue of Moyglare Hall through road on a few occasions previously. He had spoken to Mr. J Hennessy in relation to this issue and that this estate was not taken in charge (TIC). The TIC process could take some time and pointed out that this was the biggest estate in Maynooth. There were two secondary schools with two thousand pupils and also three hundred primary school pupils in this area. He advised the members that there were four issues here as follows:

1. The health and safety of the residents and who had responsibility now that the developer had gone into liquidation.
2. Who had responsibility for the upkeep of the grass verges.
3. The roundabout was not in good condition.
4. Barriers needed addressing and some wall and metal barriers were falling down.

The residents had pride in their area. The difficulty now was the developer was no longer responsible and Kildare County Council had not yet taken the estate in charge. Dublin Bus were going through this estate and he questioned how many estates that were not Taken in Charge had a Dublin Bus going through them. That a strategy needed to be developed involving Kildare County Council, Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB). He said the taking in charge process took too long. This was planned to be a Ring Road for the town of Maynooth. He suggested reaching out to the developer and requested that an update be provided at the next meeting in relation to the developer and partners.



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Councillor Hamilton supported the motion and said the residents were nervous and that a residents outreach was needed.

Councillor Farrelly also informed the members that the residents were very worried and were being very pro-active. He enquired if a bond had been paid by the developer. This was a very busy estate with lots of traffic and school children and buses going through the estate. The estate looked in a shambles and he wanted to know what was the position now.

Councillor Durkan said this included a multi-unit development and that there had been difficulties here for ten years.

Mr G Hooban said he would enquire if the bond was available. He advised the members that a plebiscite request could be made by the residents. There would be requirements to be met to include CCTV and conveyancing matters. However he advised the members the council could intervene in relation to any immediate issues such as trees and public lighting. He advised that an update could be given next month.

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

### **CM26/1023**

#### **Back lane to the rear of 42 to 59 Coill Dubh**

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

Can the council confirm that the entirety of the back lane to the rear of house numbers 42 to 59 Coill Dubh is taken in charge and therefore can be maintained by the council?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Section informing the members that remedial works on the laneway in question were undertaken by the Kildare/Newbridge Area office in 2016. A commitment was also made to formally take the estate in charge. This Taking in Charge process was not finalised at the time. The Development Control Section will undertake to undertake the necessary investigative work to finalise this process.



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Mr. G Hooban informed the members that since the report was provided it had been established that this estate was actually Taken in Charge, Under Section 11 of the 1999 Roads Act.

Councillor Wyse thanked the Building and Development Control Section for the report and the subsequent update.

Councillor Durkan requested that the specifics of this item be recorded in the minutes. The report was noted.

### **CM27/1023**

#### **Dialogue or communications process with ESB Networks and/or Eirgrid**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council update on any dialogue or communications process with ESB Networks and/or Eirgrid to align plans for the growth of the town and increased use of sustainable electric energy for transport and heating with the capacity of the grid, network and substations serving the town?

A report was received from the Climate Action Co-ordinator informing the members that under the Draft Kildare County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 under Chapter 5, Decarbonising Zone, Action 5.2: "Liaise with ESB Networks to ensure prioritisation of the upgrade of the Maynooth electricity grid network to enable the required renewable energy generation capacity in the town, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving noise, soils and water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage". Therefore, ESB Networks and others would be invited to attend a steering group to inform the process.

Councillor Hamilton thanked the Climate Action Co-ordinator for the report and advised that a Steering Group had been set up.

The report was noted.



**CM28/1023**

**Increase opening and operating times of Maynooth Garda Station**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.  
That this council writes to An Garda Síochána requesting that they increase opening and operating times of Maynooth Garda Station.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator informing the members that with their agreement a letter can be issued to An Garda Síochána.

Councillor Ó Cearúil referred to the value of having a Joint Policing Committee (JPC). He informed the members that he had received a lot of complaints about the station's opening times and requests from people to see it open more often. People in the area had to go to Leixlip Garda Station instead, for example if they needed to get something signed. He also acknowledged the Superintendent had now opened the garda station more frequently. The Garda Station opening hours were sporadic and not adequate for a town the size of Maynooth. He suggested that opening between the hours of 3.00pm and 6.00pm Monday to Friday. He added that An Garda Síochána were operational 24/7, but a closed station created an image of An Garda Síochána not being active in the area. Councillor Ó Cearúil said that he appreciated the support of the members to write to An Garda Síochána.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members that a letter issue to An Garda Síochána.

**CM29/1023**

**Concrete obstruction on the top of Hartley Bridge in Ticknevin**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse.  
That the council makes a formal request to Uisce Éireann to immediately remove the concrete obstruction on the top of Hartley Bridge in Ticknevin, which is restricting the road width at this point and causing vehicle collisions.



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

A report was received from the Water Services Section informing the members they should contact Uisce Éireann directly with regards to this motion, this matter can be raised via their dedicated email support address at [localrepsupport@water.ie](mailto:localrepsupport@water.ie) or by phoning 0818178178, or raised at their next dedicated Councillors Clinic which is due to be held on the 23rd October 2023.

Councillor Wyse informed the members that a woman had met a car on this road and this concrete obstruction blocked her way. He stated that Irish Water had said that this was going to be left there.

Councillor Fitzpatrick informed the members that Healy's Bridge had gained width.

Councillor Wyse said that he was asking for the same.

Councillor Durkan said that Irish Water needed to be alerted to the issue and they needed to take action.

Ms. M Higgins advised the members that a letter could be written but also to use the Portal to enter an evidence piece into the Irish Water Clinics.

Councillor Farrelly said he did not find the Uisce Éireann clinics to be constructive, they were not effective and that he did not like wasting his time unless things changed. He suggested that the Municipal District office write to Uisce Éireann. He acknowledged that Uisce Éireann get thousands of requests, but this was an important issue.

Ms. Higgins advised that she would bring up the issue at an upcoming Uisce Éireann clinic which she would be attending and also advised that water was now with Uisce Éireann and that better communication with members would be raised.

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



**CM30/1023**

**Lyreen River nature conservation and flood abatement area in Maynooth Town**

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

That the council initiates planning for a Lyreen River nature conservation and flood abatement area in Maynooth Town to provide a guideline direction to protect this important environment, bringing together adequate flood abatement, natural soakage and space for nature, integrated in positive Urban Planning and Amenity Space, to act as direction for development in the area.

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

A report was received from Flood Risk Management Section informing the members that an option for a Proposed Flood Relief Scheme for Maynooth is contained in the Office of Public Works (OPW) Flood Risk Management Plans, which were adopted by the council in July 2018. The proposed scheme is identified as a Tranche 2 scheme by OPW. The council, together with OPW are currently progressing all Tranche 1 schemes for Kildare. All proposed schemes must consider natural water retention measures as an option to protect against flood risk and will take account of relevant best practice guidance in relation to design, environmental approval and land use where appropriate.

Councillor Hamilton referred to a 2018 report and that a lot had been learnt since then in terms of flooding and its impact on nature involving the old types of flood abatement. He advised that in the proposed Local Area Plan (LAP) there are storm gullies through communities. He asked if alternative flood management methods could be examined, rather than storm gullies through developments. He said the council need to have vision for this space.

Councillor McEvoy referred to the flooding event in Greece involving an area the size of Edenderry to Leixlip and down to Naas. The likelihood of severe flooding had increased.

Councillor Durkan mentioned that the Lyreen River was a tributary of the Rye River.



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Mr. C O'Toole advised that he would bring the comments of the members back to Ms. E O'Brien.

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

### **CM31/1023**

#### **Mains issue in Dunfirth Park, Johnstownbridge**

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

That the council works with Uisce Éireann to remedy a mains issue in Dunfirth Park, Johnstownbridge.

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

A report was received from the Water Services Section informing the members that they should contact Uisce Éireann directly with regards to this motion, this matter can be raised via their dedicated email support address at [localrepsupport@water.ie](mailto:localrepsupport@water.ie) or by phoning 0818178178, or raised at their next dedicated Councillors Clinic which is due to be held on the 23 October 2023.

Councillor Farrelly informed the members there were significant infrastructural issues and problems with lime at this location. He advised the members that the estate had been Taken in Charge (TIC). He said that the response the Residents had received from Irish Water was that this was an issue for the Local Authority.

Councillor Durkan enquired if an estate had been TIC were these issues the responsibility of Uisce Éireann.

The District Manager requested that the communication the residents had received from be Uisce Éireann made available.





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Councillor Farrelly advised that he would provide that letter and that it appeared that there had been a breakdown in communication.

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

### CM32/1023

#### Assessment of flood risk alleviation requirements in Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy.  
Can the council update the committee on work towards the assessment of flood risk alleviation requirements in Clane, following on previous work with the Office of Public Works?

A report was received from Flood Risk Management Section informing the members that an option for a Proposed Flood Relief Scheme for Clane is contained in the Office of Public Works (OPW) Flood Risk Management Plans, which were adopted by the council in July 2018. The proposed scheme is identified as a Tranche 2 scheme by OPW. The council, together with OPW are currently progressing all Tranche 1 schemes for Kildare.

Councillor McEvoy enquired about what date Tranche 2 would be due to start.

Mr. C O'Toole advised there was no set time and that Tranche 1 was currently being worked through.

The District Manager enquired if clarification on the time frame of Tranche 1 and 2 could be requested.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.