

# Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Meeting held on Friday, 07 July 2023 at 10.30 a.m. on the Barge, Robertstown, Naas, Co. Kildare.

Members Present:	Councillors T Durkan (Cathaoirleach), A Feeney (Leas Chathaoirleach), D Fitzpatrick, N Ó Cearúil, P Hamilton, P McEvoy, B Weld and B Wyse.
Apologies:	Councillors A Farrelly and P Ward
Officials Present:	Ms. M Higgins (District Manager), Mr. C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. John McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr. A Hickey (Assistant Engineer), Mr. S Wallace (A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer), Ms. R Jackson (Administrative Officer), Mr. B O'Gorman (Administrative Officer), Ms. L Kennedy (LPT Co-ordinator), Mr. J Hennessy (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms. Annette Keaveney (A/Senior Executive Engineer), Mr. B McGrath (Meetings Administrator), Ms. D Egan (Meetings
	Secretary) and other officials.

#### CM01/0723

#### **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.

#### CM02/0723

# Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 02 June 2023 together with the progress report.



**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by the members, that the minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 02 June 2023 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

## CM03/0723

#### **Municipal District Works**

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members of the following:

## LPT Funding

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

#### **General Works**

Surface dressing has been taking place in the district since Monday the 03 July and is anticipated to be completed by Wednesday 12 July weather depending.

Grass cutting at junctions to maintain sightlines has been carried out over the last few weeks and will be continuing as required.

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



<b>Restoration Maintenance Schemes 2023</b>				
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	Design
L	L5015	Kinnafad	1,800	Completed
L	L5021	Island Road	2,000	Completed
L	L5008	Derryart	1,000	Completed
L	L5025	Drehid	1,000	Design
R	R405	Celbridge Road	1,000	Design
L	L5035	Painstown	850	Design
L	L5039	Clonfert	1,000	Design
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	Dunfierth	1,100	Completed
L	L89994	Clonagh	1,180	Completed
L	L5028	Ballycaghan	1,550	Completed
L	L5031	Ballycannon	1,150	Design
L	L1019	Blackwood	1,000	Design
L	L1007	Ballyvoneen	1,050	Completed
L	L1010	Loughtown	1,250	Design
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	Onsite



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

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Tarmacadaming improvements continue.
- That there was one Contractor working through the programs.
- Works continued to take place during August while schools were closed.
- This would then complete all the surface dressing for the year.

The Municipal District Engineer congratulated Maynooth for obtaining first place in the Tidy Towns Awards, commending everyone in Maynooth and also mentioned the input from other organisations such as Irish Rail and Waterways Ireland.

Councillor Fitzpatrick added that he would like to commend the Municipal District Engineer for the works in Kilmeague, Allenwood and other areas. That these works were testament of the amount of work being carried out in rural Kildare. He also informed the members that a letter had been written to Waterways Ireland by the Meetings Administrator, on foot of a motion from the Municipal District Meeting on 02 June, inviting them to attend a Municipal District Meeting.

# CM04/0723

# Approve reallocation residual Local Property Tax

The members considered the reallocation of residual Local Property Tax that had not been drawn down in the Municipal District.

Ms. L Kennedy, LPT Co-ordinator suggested that a meeting could be arranged with members to discuss pertinent matters before the September Municipal District Meeting.



It was agreed by the members to defer this item until the next Municipal District meeting, on Friday 01 September at 10.00am. This was to afford the members the opportunity to meet before this date, to discuss this issue.

## CM05/0723

## Yellow box at the entrance to Manor Court Estate, Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council install a yellow box at the entrance to Manor Court Estate, Maynooth. The motion was proposed by Councillor Feeney and seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil.

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District office will inspect this location in line with Kildare County Council road lining guidelines and mark if required.

Councillor Feeney welcomed the report, outlining that the traffic was bad at this location. That it was difficult for the residents to get in or out of their estate.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that the road had been reduced from two lanes to one lane. He understood the concerns and would investigate the location.

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

#### CM06/0723

#### Public Bins in Straffan Village and School

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council include the public bins in Straffan Village and School as part of its weekly bin collection.

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



A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that there is currently no capacity in the current bin collection route to add any more bins. Also, there is no budget in 2023 to expand the collection service. Councillor Feeney acknowledged the report and informed the members that there was currently only one volunteer to empty the bins. If that person was not in a position to continue to empty the bins, what would the plan be. She needed to bring this to the attention of the Chair and Colleagues when looking at the Budget.

The members raised the following:

- Similar issue at picnic benches in Allenwood. Bins were continuously full and that the local volunteers did not have the capacity to deal with this. One empty of the bins per week there would be great.
- In relation to the issue in Straffan that it would be preferable to look at the 2024 allocations and then to look more broadly on the issue at Allenwood.
- Significant cost involved in escalating up on bin collections.
- There was supposed to be a review of bin service and that more information was needed to inform the Budget process.
- An analysis needed to be carried out.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that there was currently a six day emptying service. The Tidy Towns had put in bins and that Kildare County Council emptied them. Maynooth bins were still being emptied by the Celbridge/Leixlip crew, this has been the position since the Municipal Districts changed and that Celbridge/Leixlip Municipal District Office billed the Clane Maynooth Municipal District Office for this service.

The Municipal District Engineer also informed the members that there had been a heated debate at a previous Environment SPC on Policy and the number of bins per capita. At that meeting Councillor Doyle had signed off on the matter. He suggested writing to the Environment SPC and asking for an update.



**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by the members that the report be noted and an update of the pertinent matter be requested from the Environment SPC.

### CM07/0723

# Analysis of Pedestrian Crossings on Clane Relief Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council conducts an analysis of the pedestrian crossings on the Clane Relief Road and reports to members on the options available for the increased delivery of same, notably in proximity to roundabouts.

As Councillor Farrelly was not in attendance at the meeting, his motion was proposed with his permission and on his behalf by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Hamilton.

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that an assessment shall be carried out on pedestrian crossing points on the Clane Relief Road. The assessment shall be based on current guidelines with regard to the frequency and type of pedestrian crossings provided on this section of carriageway. It should be noted that there is currently no available funding source for the provision of, or upgrading of pedestrian crossings in the County.

Councillor McEvoy mentioned for the record that this issue was brought forward twice before for Sallins. A Traffic Assessment was carried out for Clane and could these statistics be referred to. He also added that this would of course generate more traffic.

Mr. J McGowan informed the members that when Capdoo was done that this issue would then be looked at.

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



#### CM08/0723

## Table-top ramps in Prosperous Town

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council considers a phased programme of works to install more table-top ramps to further increase safety and reduce speed in the town of Prosperous, following the recent installation of two table-top ramps in the town.

As Councillor Farrelly was not in attendance at the meeting, his motion was proposed with his permission and on his behalf by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Wyse.

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the council will consider this request as part of any road resurfacing works.

Councillor McEvoy said that potential increased capacity at the Bord na Mona facility would in turn increase vehicular movement and that footfall had increased in line with the growing population. That we needed to be aware also of the impact on pedestrians if this was to proceed.

The members raised the following:

- In consideration of Emergency Services the council were reticent about putting in speed ramps.
- Aware of lorries in this area, speeding and drivers using their mobile phones.
- Speed limits needed to be looked at, that there was a need for new Guidelines.
- Needed to be Policy cohesion at a National level.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that it may be possible to do these works next year or the year after. Table top ramps had been installed at Clownings and at the Petrol Station. This would be looked at as part of resurfacing works but that had to be in line with specifications.

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



## CM09/0723

# Reduce Speed Limit on the Moyglare Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council reduce the speed limit from the county boundary on the Moyglare Road to the Maynooth Education Campus to 50km/h to fall in line with the rest of the road and in the interest of safety.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that as part of the countywide speed limit review, the speed limit on Moyglare Road (L1012-0) between the county boundary and the junction with the Kilcock Road (R148) was proposed to be reduced to 50 kph. The process ended in July 2022 when the Full Council voted to reject the Countywide Speed Limit Draft Bye Laws (Revision B), therefore the Executive does not have the legal powers to change the speed limit at this location. At the Full Council meeting on 24 April 2023, the issue was raised, and it was agreed that it would be prudent to await the review by the Department of Transport of the National Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland before recommencing the process.

Councillor Ó Cearúil did not accept the report. He said that since the speed limit was rejected that this was being used as a 'stick to beat us with' in this Municipal District and across the county. The speed limit outside a Primary and Secondary school was 80kmh and that this was not sensible or in the interest of the students. There needed to be bye-laws and this area needs to be viewed.

The members raised the following:

- There were 2,000 students in this area.
- There was clear need for speed limit changes.
- Enquired if they had agreement, and as priorities change, could changes be carried by a bye-law.
- The council could not be frozen in time, that would be obstructionism.



- Common sense needed to prevail at this location and at various other Black Spots.
- Having rejected the Speed limit Review, enquired about what was the legal process now.
- A legal framework was needed and that the rejection of the speed limit was a calamitous decision. The legal situation needed to be looked at as this was a safety matter.
- Parents were concerned and at the same time they were trying to encourage walking and cycling to school.
- Not just Moyglare, that there were issues at other locations for instance Laraghbryan which also had an 80kmh limit.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that this was not just an issue for Maynooth and that it was important that the legal framework was correct. If the speed limit was not enforceable that it would be thrown out of Court. He would bring this matter to Mr. D Hodgins and would follow up with the members before September perhaps in a week or two. The upshot was that there was no purpose in erecting signs or anything else until this was legally tight. He also added that in other counties that it could be seen that if councils were not informed on the correct legal standing that this could create even more problems.

Councillor Ó Cearúil emphasised how frustrating this was and that there was a difference between coercion and compliance. He outlined that if signs went up and this reduced speed then he would be happy. Safety over compliance was more important. Clarity was needed around the bye-laws when bringing this motion. If it meant six or seven bye-laws that he had no problem with that, that this was a safety issue. The members needed to be informed by Roads as to what was the legal process in relation to bye-laws and what could be done here. He then requested that for this item to remain on the Progress Report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil and seconded by Councillor Feeney. The report was not accepted by Councillor Ó Cearúil. It was agreed by the members that this item was to remain on the Progress Report.



# CM10/0723 Bus Stops along the W61

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council liaises with the parents and management of the secondary schools in Maynooth to assess optimum locations for bus stops along the W61 and work with the National Transport Authority to have these stops installed.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that locations for proposed bus stop locations are proposed by the National Transport Authority and agreed with the local authority. The Executive can engage with the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Transport for Ireland (TFI) on issues of concern taking into account the requirements of the Public Service Obligation contracts entered into by the bus operating company. Alternatively, feedback from the school communities can be relayed directly to the NTA/TFI.

Councillor Ó Cearúil informed the members of requests from parents, reporting issues in relation to the location of the Bus Stops on the Celbridge and Maynooth roads. Either the locations needed to be changed or additional stops needed to be installed.

Councillor Hamilton supported the motion and commented on the great connection to Tallaght. He also enquired about what the mechanism was to have the bus times coordinate better with school times, as the current bus times were 08.11am and 08.38am and these needed to be adjusted to better align with school times.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that this would be a question for the National Transport Authority as they set the bus times.

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



## CM11/0723

# Celbridge Road, Maynooth Upgrade Project

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council put the proposed Celbridge Road, Maynooth upgrade project out on public consultation this coming October.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the National Transport Authority (NTA) funded projects are required to be delivered in accordance with the NTA Project Approval Guidelines (PAGs) and when the process in relation to the option selection and preliminary design stages of the PAGs is approved by the NTA, the Project can proceed to statutory public consultation. The Sustainable Transport Section is working with the NTA to respond to their queries and bring the project forward in Q4.

Councillor Durkan emphasised the importance of this project for both school children and their parents. He also added that there were 750 students in two different schools in the area. Parents were marshalling these school children on a daily basis. He stressed that this needed to happen in the first part of Q4, in October.

Councillor Feeney welcomed the report adding that three years ago children and parents from that area gave a presentation in the Chamber to the members on Road Safety and that she supported the Public Consultation date of October.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that he would raise this issue with Mr. D Hodgins.

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



## CM12/0723

# Footbridges over Grand Canal near Robertstown

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

That the council provide an update on the proposed locations for the two new footbridges over the Grand Canal near Robertstown, for which updated planning permission will be sought as part of the Grand Canal Greenway project.

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

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing the members that Structure No. 3 is proposed for Lowtown, this provides for the Greenway to be taken off the public road and allows the Greenway users to come into Robertstown on the town side. Structure No. 5 is close to Bonynge Bridge – a bridge had been shown at Part 8 stage on the western side of the existing Bonynge Bridge, which required Greenway users to travel over the existing bridge and back down to the towpath on the northern side, where they would then cross over the new bridge to access the towpath on the southern side of the canal. The new bridge was omitted under the Part 8 Conditions. The design team provided two options to Kildare County Council Transportation Department, both of which required a stop-go signalised system on the bridge, to allow Greenway users to access the proposed towpath on the southern side of the canal. Neither of these options were acceptable to the Transportation Department. The proposal now is to provide a bridge on the eastern side of the existing Bonynge Bridge which provides access to the southern side of the canal and the proposed Greenway, without the need to have users crossing over the existing bridge.

Councillor Wyse thanked the Public Realm team for the report, he welcomed the footbridge which was great in that it went over the Main Road into the Village. However, more were needed due to the footfall of elderly people, children and pets and that this point needed to be made at Part 8.



He also enquired if it could be reconsidered for a stop/go system to be added at the footbridge.

Ms. A Burke informed the members that the Roads Department were not in favour of stop/go systems on rural roads but that when the members viewed the Part 8 that they would see that it was now safer. Ms. A Burke said that she would distribute the details of the locations of the foot bridges to the members.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wyse and Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Weld and agreed by the members that the report be noted and also that this item was to remain on the Progress Report.

## CM13/0723

## Warning signs to alert drivers

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward. That the Council install additional warning signs to alert drivers that the road beyond Parke Nursing Home is one way and not a link road to the R148 to Enfield.

As Councillor Ward was not in attendance at the meeting, his motion was proposed with his permission and on his behalf by Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Hamilton.

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District office will replace the old signs on this section of road with new signs in line with the traffic signs manual.

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



## CM14/0723

# Speed Review, Church Street, Kilcock

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward. That the council undertake a speed review of Church Street, Kilcock.

As Councillor Ward was not in attendance at the meeting, his motion was proposed with his permission and on his behalf by Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Hamilton.

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District office will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out.

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

## CM15/0723

# Masterplan for Carton Avenue Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council confirm the status of the Masterplan for Carton Avenue Maynooth?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that it is planned to tender for Consultants to prepare a Conservation Plan for Carton Avenue this year. This will then be used to inform the preparation of a Masterplan for Carton Avenue.

Councillor Feeney thanked the Parks Department for the report and that it was wonderful news, enquiring also as to what was the timeline for the Master Plan.

Mr. S Wallace informed the members that first step was the Conservation Plan by then end of the year and for the works to then take place in 2024. The report was noted.



# CM16/0723

# Grass verges on Moyglare Hall through Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council confirm that it will maintain the grass verges on Moyglare Hall through Road?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that Moyglare Hall is currently not taken in charge. If the estate is taken in charge the maintenance of the verges will remain the responsibility of the Residents Association or Management Company. The Parks Section does not have the resources to undertake grass maintenance in private estates.

The report was noted.

## CM17/0723

# Allenwood Community Playground

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse. Can the council provide the latest estimated timeline for the commencement of works on Allenwood Community Playground, and how long the works are estimated to take?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that works will commence on the playground in September. It is expected to take three months to complete.

Councillor Wyse enquired from Mr. S Wallace as to how confident he was of the November completion date.

Mr. S Wallace informed the members that contracts had been signed for these dates and unless there was a delay in the availability of equipment that these dates would stand. The report was noted.



## CM18/0723

# Capdoo Inner Relief road in Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld. Can the council provide an update on progress on completing the Capdoo Inner Relief road in Clane?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the design of the Capdoo Inner Relief road in Clane has now been substantially agreed with Kildare County Council and a legal agreement will be signed off shortly between Kildare County Council and the Developer, after which construction works should start on site in Q3 2023. A Resident Engineer will be supervising the works on site. The estimated contract period is between 12 to 18 months.

Councillor Weld said it was critical to have agreement with the landowner and this road was due to start in Q1. The Housing Development was nearly complete and we were now being told it would be Q3 before construction on the road would start. These works needed to be done as a matter of urgency.

Councillor McEvoy mentioned detailed drawings would have had to have been submitted before the commencement of any Housing Development. He enquired was there any information on the details of what was submitted and agreed.

Mr. J. McGowan informed the members that they would have to come back with the details.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that the detailed design needed to be agreed and signed, that there is just one small detail to be ironed out, but the developer is anxious to move forward and it should then be a ten to twelve month build time.

The District Manager enquired if a meeting could be arranged with the Roads Department and with Councillor Weld and Councillor McEvoy. Councillor Fitzpatrick enquired if all councillors could be invited to that meeting.

The report was noted.



# CM19/0723

# Extension of the inner relief road through Capdoo, Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy Can the council update the committee on the progress toward completing the extension of the inner relief road through Capdoo, Clane?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the design of the Capdoo Inner Relief road in Clane has now been substantially agreed with Kildare County Council and a legal agreement will be signed off shortly between Kildare County Council and the Developer, after which construction works should start on site in Q3 2023. A Resident Engineer will be supervising the works on site. The estimated contract period is between 12 to 18 months. The report was noted.

#### CM20/0723

## Stop/Go system at Ticknevin Bridge, Carbury

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld. Can the council confirm if it has examined the feasibility of installing a stop/go system at Ticknevin Bridge, Carbury?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the installation of a shuttle working signalised junction is not recommended at this location.

The report was noted.

#### CM21/0723

# Update on the progress with the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can this council provide an update on the progress with the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road?



A report was received from the Roads Design, Projects Team informing the members that further to the briefing given to the members at the Municipal District Meeting of Friday 2 June the An Bord Pleanála oral hearing for the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) was held on the 4 May 2023. Kildare County Council are awaiting the decision on the CPO Application from An Bord Pleanála. The members will receive a further formal roads projects update at the December Municipal District meeting. The report was noted.

#### CM22/0723

#### Repairs to the stone wall at Barberstown Roundabout

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council advise when repairs will be carried out to the stone wall at Barberstown Roundabout?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that this is a boundary wall and as such is the responsibility of the adjacent landowner. This wall was installed as part of accommodation works during the road upgrade works in 2006.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that he would follow up on this matter.

The report was noted.

#### CM23/0723

# Maynooth Orbital Route from Straffan Road to Moyglare Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council advise if any early stage site evaluations, design plans and or route selection have taken place for the Maynooth Orbital Route from Straffan Road to Moyglare Road?



A report was received from the Roads Design, Projects Team informing the members that further to the briefing given to the members at the June Municipal District meeting, there is no project team working on the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route project. The project is included in the Maynooth and Environs Area Based Transport Assessment as a long-term objective however the alignment is indicative and no early-stage site evaluations, design plans and or route selection have taken place to date.

Councillor Durkan accepted the report commenting that there was a joint Local Area Plan with County Meath. Maynooth had a vast amount of Residential Development and that the topography of the land needed to be looked at, that foresight needed to be used. The report was noted.

#### CM24/0723

# Old lights and cabling between Robertstown National School and Village

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. Can the council advise when will the old lights and cabling between Robertstown National School and Village be removed?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that Kildare County Council are following up with ESB seeking a date for their removal. Kildare County Council have paid ESB networks to carry out these works.

Councillor Fitzpatrick understood that Kildare County Council had paid ESB Networks to carry out the works of removing these cables and on that basis he would have expected that these works would have been carried out. That these old lights needed to be taken down as they were a hazard and an eyesore.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that ESB Networks would not move on any works until they were paid first, that they would not engage if not paid. That he had been told that ESB Networks would do these works in the next three weeks. The report was noted.



# CM25/0723

# Council liaise with the Principal of Ticknevin National School

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That the council liaise with the Principal of Ticknevin National School to look at ways of securing fencing between the school and council land to render it safe for the schoolchildren.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the matter has been referred to the Technical Team (Architects) for report and guidance. The School Principal will be contacted directly to discuss.

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

# CM26/0723

# **Tenant in-situ Purchase Scheme**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council outline how many homes are in the process for the Tenant in-situ purchase scheme in the Municipal District, and how many others are actively being considered in the pipeline for this process?

A report was received from the Housing and Regeneration Department informing the members that the council has received ten (10) Expression of Interest forms from landlords in the Clane Maynooth Municipal District area under this scheme. Of these ten, the Housing Department is in the process of purchasing 4 of properties, 3 have found alternative accommodation or have been offered alternative accommodation by Kildare County Council. It is noted that one applicant was not on Kildare County Council's housing list, one property did not suit the needs of the household and one property was vacant so does not fall within the parameters of the tenant in situ scheme.



Councillor Hamilton informed the members that four homeless families had benefited and now had a place to live, but that 40 homes were still needed. He complemented the Housing Department for being so pro-active.

The report was noted.

#### CM27/0723

# Taking in charge of DC3219 Mainham Woods, Clane, Co. Kildare

The members considered the taking in charge of DC3219 Mainham Woods, Clane, Co. Kildare.

A report had been circulated informing the members that Mainham Woods, Clane is a development of 16 units granted planning permission under planning reference 02/1999. It is now proposed to take Mainham Woods, Clane, Co. Kildare in charge on foot of a request by Plebiscite which was received on 28 June 2016. A map outlining the area to be taken in charge was appended to this report.

The proposal to take in charge Mainham Woods, Clane, Co. Kildare, and associated map were on public display from 16 September 2022 to 14 October 2022, inclusive. The end of the statutory period for observations on the proposal was 28 October 2022. No submissions were received.

Development Control commissioned remediation works to public lighting and surface water gullies. Removal of Kildare County Council non-compliant rumble strips and the installation of a Kildare County Council compliant traffic calming speed ramp were commissioned. Remediation works were complete in Q1 and Q2 2023.

On the 14 October 2023 Kildare County Council received Úisce Eireann approval to proceed the taking in charge process. Under agreement E-KE-0124 the potable water and foul network infrastructure will be taken in charge by Úisce Eireann.

The Development Control Section: (i) is satisfied that the roads in this development are of general public utility, (ii) has considered the financial implication for the authority of the proposed declaration, and (iii) confirms that the estate is at a Taking in Charge standard.



Having regard to the above, it is recommended to the Members of the Clane Maynooth Municipal District, in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, to take in charge those areas of Mainham Woods, Clane, Co. Kildare outlined on the appended map.

Mr. J Hennessy was in attendance at the meeting and available to take any questions from the members.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Feeney it was agreed that DC3219 Mainham Woods, Clane, Co. Kildare be taken in charge.

## CM28/0723

## Taking in charge of DC3303 Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare.

The members considered the taking in charge of DC3303 Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare.

A report had been circulated informing the members that Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous is a development of 22 units granted planning permission under planning reference 96/1138. It is now proposed to take Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare in charge on foot of a request by Plebiscite which was received on 4 September 2015. A map outlining the area to be taken in charge is appended to this report.

The proposal to take in charge Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare, and associated map were on public display from 22 December 2022 to 30 January 2023, inclusive. The end of the statutory period for observations on the proposal was 14 February 2023. No submissions were received.

A site resolution plan to bring the development to a taking in charge standard was required. General civil works were commissioned in Q1 2023 and complete in Q2 2023.



On the 11 November 2022 Kildare County Council received Úisce Eireann approval to proceed the taking in charge process. Under agreement E-KE-0124 the potable water and foul network infrastructure will be taken in charge by Úisce Eireann subject to a site resolution plan. Remediation works to the foul and watermain infrastructure were commissioned in Q1 2023 and complete in Q2 2023.

The Development Control Section: (i) is satisfied that the roads in this development are of general public utility, (ii) has considered the financial implication for the authority of the proposed declaration, and (iii) confirms that the estate is at a Taking in Charge standard.

Having regard to the above, it is recommended to the Members of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District, in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, to take in charge those areas of Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare outlined on the appended map.

Mr. J Hennessy was in attendance at the meeting and available to take any questions from the members.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Wyse and seconded by Councillor Weld it was agreed that DC3303 Rathview, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare be taken in charge.

#### CM29/0723

# Minister for State for Heritage and Electoral Reform to visit Donadea

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That this Municipal District further its work with Coilte and invite the Minister for State for Heritage and Electoral Reform to visit Donadea during local engagements to review progress with allocations to the Historic Structures Fund or the Community Monuments Fund.

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



Councillor McEvoy said that €100,000 had been allocated for all costs at Donadea Forest. That there was great momentum for interfacing the walls around Donadea.

Councillor Weld said that it was a good idea to invite the Minister down to the site. The committee should write as a matter of urgency to the Minister and allow the Minister to decide on a date and time.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Weld it was agreed by the members that a letter be written to the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform and that Coilte be copied on this correspondence. It was also agreed by the members that this item remain on the progress report.

#### CM30/0723

#### Grand Canal Hotel, Robertstown

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Wyse. That the council confirm the heritage status of the old Grand Canal Hotel building in Robertstown and outline what options are available to the council to support the preservation and restoration of the building.

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

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that Robertstown Canal Hotel (former) is a protected structure (B13-30; NIAH ref 11806009). As this structure is in private ownership the onus is on the owners of this structure to apply for any available funding streams to assist with the preservation and restoration of this building. In this regard there are two funding streams of note, that are currently being run by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, namely the 'Built Heritage Investment Scheme' and the 'Historic Structures Fund'. The owners are welcome to contact the Architectural Conservation Officer of Kildare County Council for further advice and assistance.



Councillor Wyse mentioned Shannonbridge and Portobello as two similar locations as examples of the potential that this site of the Grand Canal Hotel could have for redevelopment.

Councillor Fitzpatrick added that he met the owner last week, offline as such and not by arrangement. He suggested that perhaps the council could talk with the owner to help him, as this would be a great loss to lose such a building if nothing was done. He was aware of a Planning Notice as far back as 2005 but no works commenced from this. He said that there must be schemes that could assist with the works that were needed and enquired if the Just Transition Fund would be such a scheme that could be involved. He suggested asking the council to put this building on the list of derelict sites.

Also over the last six months it had come to notice that anti-social behaviour was taking place at this site. There was a risk of fire damage occurring and it was important to monitor this issue and for the council to engage with the owner. He also enquired if the purchase of the building by Kildare County Council would be something that could be looked at.

The District Manager advised the members that this would of course involve a cost analysis but that this could be looked at.

Councillor McEvoy said that this building could potentially be eligible for grant aid.

The District Manager said that the council would consider that. She also requested that Councillor Fitzpatrick share the contact details of the owner so that the council could make the owner aware of the assistance through Grants and Schemes that may be available to him.

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



# CM31/0723 Moyglare Hall Estate, Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council provide an update on the taking in charge of the Moyglare Hall Estate in Maynooth?

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that there is no request on file from either the Developer or the majority of the homeowners to have the Moyglare Hall estate taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). No significant infrastructural works remain in the Moyglare Hall estate and Development Control continue to work with the Developer to progress the delivery of the required taking in charge documentation including CCTV surveys, as-constructed drawings, taking in charge maps and vesting maps.

Councillor Feeney said that the estate was completed in 2021 and that the residents were assured that the developer had submitted the taking in charge request in June 2022. Councillor Feeney then enquired what steps do the Residents Association need to take to progress this item.

Mr. J Hennessy informed the members that in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), that CCTV surveys, as-constructed drawings, taking in charge maps and vesting maps were needed. That plebiscite required a 51% Home Owner majority which the council were obliged to accept. The report was noted.

# CM32/0723

# Abbey Park Estate, Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council inform the committee if it has received a request for the Abbey Park Estate in Clane to be Taken in Charge?

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that



there is no request on file to have the Abbey Park estate in Clane taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Councillor McEvoy said that he accepted the report and added that the residents had many concerns.

The report was noted.

#### CM33/0723

#### **Cemetery Grants**

The members considered the proposed grant allocations for cemetery maintenance for 2023 which had been previously circulated.

	Cemetery/Graveyard	Total Grant 2023
	Allen Cemetery	€ 3,320
	Ardkill & Temple Dhú	€ 475
	Carbury Hill & C of I Graveyards	€ 535
	Cill lochtar Graveyard	€ 370
	Friary Graveyard	€ 1,010
	Cloncurry Graveyard	€ 295
	Grange William	€ 370
Clane-Maynooth MD	St. Joseph's Cemetery (Boycetown/Kilcock)	€ 1,485
	Kilshanroe	€ 430
	Laraghbryan Cemetery	€ 4,960
	Lullymore Cemetery	€ 1,010
	Mainham	€ 3,710
	Newtown Cemetery	€ 295
	Staplestown Cemetery	€ 800
	Crosspatrick	€ 430
	Derrinturn	€ 2,670
	Dunfierth	€ 370
	Broardford/Ballindrimna	€ 740
		€ 23,285

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld and seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by the members that the Cemetery Maintenance Grants 2023 for the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District be approved.



## CM34/0723

## Low wall between the old and new Graveyard in Derrinturn Cemetery

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. That the council remove the low wall between the old and new Graveyard in Derrinturn Cemetery.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department in forming the members that there are no plans to remove the existing wall between the old and newer part of the graveyard in Derrinturn. Aside from the financial cost involved, there is no tangible benefit in removing the wall.

Councillor Fitzpatrick said that on the basis of the report provided that he would follow up on this matter.

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

#### CM35/0723

#### Cadamstown Graveyard

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick. Can the council advice of any plans to tidy up Cadamstown Graveyard?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that there are no plans to carry out any works at this location. Financial assistance is available to the local committee should they wish to apply for a Cemetery Maintenance Grant.

Councillor Fitzpatrick said that he had spoken to the caretaker and that there was a sense from the locals of having been neglected in this regard. He would advise that they apply to the Cemetery Fund for assistance.

The report was noted.



## CM36/0723

# School places in the Municipal District

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council prioritises analysis and reports from imminent publications of Census 2022 data by the Central Statistics Office to inform urgent solutions to shortfalls of school places in the Municipal District, particularly in areas where population expansion has yet to align with investment in education capacities.

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

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that AIRO are contracted by the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) to analyse Census 2022 as soon as it becomes available in the coming months. This will highlight population growth and an assessment of population in 2022. However, Census 2022 does not provide information in relation to proposed planning developments which also impact on demands for schools.

Councillor McEvoy said that parent and public debate had taken place with Clane, Prosperous and Naas. The policy makers needed to have a clear understanding about the lack of school places and the ever growing population. There was a large rate of growth in most areas. He was speaking with a developer recently and that his response to the situation of the lack of school places was "do they need an education?". There needed to be cohesive planning on issues such as employment, infrastructure and services. There was also a knock on issue from transport in relation to emissions and that he welcomed the data which was due in the Autumn.

Councillor Weld said that the Department of Education had big challenges and that there could be a 10 year wait for a new school. There was huge pressure in North Kildare with waiting lists for school places. He had spoken to a Principal who had promised to take 30 children into an extra class, accommodating them in prefabs and that ten days ago he received an email from the Department informing him there would be no prefabs provided until December. The Department had the statistics and facts but that they were very slow to



act. On St. Brigid's weekend there was a promise made by the Department but nothing had been heard since.

Councillor Wyse agreed and said that the Department were not doing proper planning and foresight and that for example in Allenwood that there was an increase from 981 places to 1,686 while the Department's prediction was only an increase to 1,500 places.

Councillor Hamilton asked what was the path that the council could take, that there was chaos in the four different Municipal Districts. Students from the towns were being turned away some living just across the road from the school.

Councillor Fitzpatrick mentioned that he was chair of the Kildare West Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) and that the bulk of their Agenda was in relation to school places. There was a constant delay in granting temporary accommodation to facilitate pupils. There was now even a shop in Maynooth Town Centre being used as a school site.

Councillor Feeney said that there was a need to call out the inclusion of Clongowes as an option for pupils for a school place on School Application Forms, this was not acceptable. She had received emails from frustrated parents begging for supports for children with special needs and the need for more Special Needs Assistants, the Department of Education needed to be called out on this.

The District Manager informed the members that she would bring these comments to the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). She mentioned that there would also be the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP). There had been a huge population growth of young people in the county, and that North Kildare was a particularly huge challenge. Kildare had possibly the largest young population of all the counties. There was due to be a consultation with the LECP in the next six weeks.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Wyse and agreed by the members that the report be noted and for this item to remain on Progress Report.



## CM37/0723

## Development of current and or new schools sites

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council request a report from the Local Community Development Committee for the Clane/Maynooth Municipal District on any analysis carried out in relation to the future development of current and or new schools sites at primary and secondary level given the increasing population in the district.

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

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) have engaged AIRO in Maynooth University to analyse Census 2022 as soon as it becomes available. This will highlight population growth and an assessment of population in 2022. However, Census 2022 does not provide information in relation to proposed planning developments which also impact on demands for schools.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan and seconded by Councillor Hamilton and agreed by the members that the report be noted and for this item to remain on Progress Report.

#### CM38/0723

#### **Community Facility Carbury**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Wyse. Can the council provide a timeline for the completion of the ongoing work to convert the old Carbury Health Centre building into a community facility?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that Kildare County Council is working with the contractor to complete works as soon as possible over the coming weeks. There has been a delay due to the electricity connection however the contractor is confident that this will be resolved quickly. The report was noted.



## CM39/0723

## To retain services in Maynooth Town Centre

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Hamilton. That the council works with the HSE to assess plans and suitability for the current site in the centre of Maynooth, to retain services in Maynooth town centre both in the interim and as a part of the longer-term vision and planning for community and amenity services.

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

A report was received from the Director of Services, Climate, Community, Environment and Water informing the members that the Council is happy to work with the HSE to see how we can support them to provide services to the community in Maynooth and in North Kildare. However, it should be noted that the Executive has already started to consider how to optimise lands within its control in Maynooth to provide Community facilities, Housing and other ancillary supports. No commitment can be given to the HSE that will undermine this process.

Councillor Hamilton said there were several businesses open to opening services in the existing site. This could be a blend of Community, Amenities and Health Care. The HSE liked co-location and that Maynooth needed Health Services. He also requested for this item to remain on the Progress Report.

Councillor Feeney mentioned that the Fire Station site was soon to be vacated. It was important a Health Care facility was in a location where the people could walk to it.

The District Manager informed the members, the council engaged with the HSE on a continuing basis, however all relevant parties had to be taken into consideration. Public Realm were working on a Master Plan for this site.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members that the report be noted. It was also agreed for this item to remain on Progress Report.

The meeting concluded.