



**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Meeting
held on Friday 01 March 2024 at 10.00 a.m.
in the Council Chamber**

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

Apologies: Councillor P Ward

Officials Present: Ms. M Higgins (District Manager), Ms. A Cassidy (LPT Co-ordinator), Mr. C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. A Hickey (Assistant Engineer), Mr. J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Ms. E McGrath (A/Administrative Officer), Ms. P O'Rourke (Climate Action Co-ordinator), Mr. S Wallace (A/Senior Parks and Landscape Officer), Ms. R Jackson (Environment), Ms. Lorraine Kennedy (Administrative Officer), Mr. A Gaynor (Economic Development Officer), Ms. S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Ms. D Egan (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CM01/0324

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.

CM02/0224

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday 02 February 2024 the special meetings of Clane-Maynooth



Kildare County Council

Municipal District held on Friday 09 February 2024 and Friday 16 February 2024 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday 02 February 2024 the special meetings of Clane-Maynooth Municipal District held on Friday 09 February 2024 and Friday 16 February 2024 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM03/0324

Municipal District Road Works Programme

A report was received from the District Engineer providing an update on the Municipal District Roadworks.

LPT Funding

The Municipal District Office is progressing the agreed LPT programme for 2023 and 2024.

Roads Programme 2024

Notification of the funding allocation for 2024 was received last week from the Department of Transport. The Municipal District Engineers are currently in the process of drawing up the roads programme for each Municipal District.

General Works

General maintenance has been continuing since the last meeting. Gully cleaning and drainage maintenance is currently being carried out with the crews. The crews have been out with the hedge cutter, trimming back hedges near junctions and locations of concern for safety.

The street bins in Maynooth main street have been replaced with new bins funded in part by LPT. The picnic benches in the Harbour Field in Maynooth have been replaced. Footpath works have been completed in Prosperous. A contractor has been appointed to carry out footpath works and are currently on site.



Kildare County Council

The District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Footpath repair works were continuing and were currently taking place in Clane.
- Funding received this year for Road Restoration Scheme Grants Programme was the same as last year. The District Engineer would share the list with members and may also share with Full Council in March.
- Resurfacing works at Capdoo – right-hand side at Lidl and around the roundabout, right to Tesco and back to Lidl. Skipping the section at the traffic lights as this would be done by the Developer. Works would be carried out over 2 weeks during Easter School Holidays.

CM04/0324

Parks Works Programme 2024

The members received a presentation from Ms. P O'Rourke, Climate Action Co-ordinator in relation to Open Space Management – Alternative Maintenance and Biogas Dashboard.

- Timeline Highlights 2019 to 2024.
- Ms. Sophia Couchman, PHD Student, Maynooth University and was part of a collaborative project with Maynooth University, Trinity College, Teagasc, National Biodiversity Data Centre and Kildare County Council.
- All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2024 - Council Conference would be held on 13 June 2024 and Tickets were €20.
- National Biogas would like to use research data to update the public.
- Grass to Gas - €50,000 funding approved.
- GIS Data was renewed this year.
- Approval in the pipeline to agree the use of bio gas for new Climate Action Bus, which would travel around the county.
- Climate Action Plan supports delivery of up to 5.7 TWh (Terrowatt Hours) of indigenously produced biomethane by 2030.
- National Biomethane Strategy, Public Consultaion, closed 27 February 2024.
- National CAP 2024, Public Consultation would close on 5 April 2024.
- Top 5 Counties, Kildare was the lead County.



Kildare County Council

- Test sites at Wonderful Barn, Monread and Parc na nOg.
- Data collected through drone, satellite and ground based management data.
- Completed Data - Q2, Start Q3 2024.
- Awareness Awards – Ms. Leah Berry and Ms. Sophia Couchman – Athlone Institute of Technology.

The members raised the following:

- Thanked the team for presentation and commended their work.
- Maynooth were looking forward to supporting bio-diversity maintenance and Grass to Gas.
- Enquired if bio-diversity was being applied across the county.
- Enquired if there was a means to ensure a more coherent communication and dialogue.
- Graphics were a good means of demonstrating and promoting substantial matters to members of the public.

Ms. P O'Rourke advised that all grass cutting was in line with national guidelines. An area should be left in bloom when cutting or else there would be nothing left for pollinating.

The members received a presentation from Mr. S Wallace on the Parks Works Programme 2024 for their consideration.

The members raised the following:

- Parks Staff were exceptional and community orientated.
- Enquired in relation to ash dieback and a suggestion was made to write to the Department of Environment in relation to funding.
- Clarification requested in relation to re-designing of car park.
- Were there plans to improve the Harbour field playground as there were a lot of issues and a perception that it was just being left.
- Enquiry about playground for Derrinturn and if a site were identified in Carbury would that be an option.



Kildare County Council

- Bonds legislation needed to be strengthened to ensure developers did not ignore conditions.

Mr. S Wallace informed the members that ash dieback would be included on the Programme of Works and trees would be pruned or removed. The re-designing of the car park only related to boundaries and this was a common occurrence. He informed the members there were older playgrounds than Harbour Field and he was not aware of any safety issues. He advised weekly inspections were carried out in line with European Standards and independent safety checks. He added safety upgrades were carried out a number of years ago which were expensive. He requested if there were specific issues to let him know.

In relation to a playground for Derrinturn he informed the members there were issues identifying an appropriate site.

In relation to planning conditions he informed the members the Planning Department were looking at the areas of Bonds and also as part of Taking-in-Charge.

Ms. M Higgins thanked the Team for their excellent and collaborative work and referenced the dedicated and innovative committees adding that a lot of work went on behind the scenes. She added she was looking forward to the opening of playgrounds in 2024.

CM05/0324

Playground in Straffan

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

Can the council provide an update on the delivery of a playground in Straffan?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that no further progress has been made in relation to the delivery of a playground in Straffan. The position remains the same that progression of this would be subject to Straffan GAA club redeveloping their existing changing facilities. Additionally, Kildare County Council would need to identify a budget to deliver the playground and any work required to deliver the



Kildare County Council

playground will have to be considered in the context of other project commitments within the Municipal District and across the county.

Mr. S Wallace informed the members that the Public Realm Team had identified a site which was not in public ownership across from the GAA Club and it was now up to the Parish and the GAA.

Councillor Feeney enquired if this was an appropriate site, would the council be keen to develop.

Mr. S Wallace informed the members we would be keen to develop but that it would be subject to availability of appropriate funds.

The report was noted.

CM06/0324

Electric car charging points in Johnstownbridge

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

That the council identify suitable locations for electric car charging points in Johnstownbridge and specify where funding for these is typically obtained.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Wyse and seconded by Councillor Hamilton. A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that Kildare County Council is currently leading the region which is comprised of Louth, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare in the process of developing an EV Strategy in compliance with the guidance set out by Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland (ZEVI). All funding for the roll out of EV Charging infrastructure by public authorities comes from ZEVI and any future funding is contingent on having a strategy in place. The recently installed EV chargers in Maynooth were funded on a pilot basis by ZEVI.

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



CM07/0324

Traffic calming measures at Kilshanroe National School

The members agreed to take Item 5 and Item 6 together.

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

That the council consider the installation of speed ramps at Scoil San Treasa in Kilshanroe in addition to the existing engineering measures already in place here.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that this location was assessed and designed as part of the upgrade of the R402 scheme. The Municipal District Office will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out. The results can be shared with An Garda Síochána if speeding is an issue and enforcement is required.

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

That the council implement further traffic calming measures at Kilshanroe National School due to the concerns of parents and staff.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that this location was assessed and designed as part of the upgrade of the R402 scheme. The Municipal District Office will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out. The results can be shared with An Garda Síochána if speeding is an issue and enforcement is required.

Councillor Wyse informed the members of the following:

- A lot of complaints were received in relation to this issue.
- Could the installation of chicanes be examined.
- This was a very wide road.



Kildare County Council

- People were ignoring the signage.
- School Principal said he had serious concerns.
- A number of minor accidents had occurred at this location.
- Could measures to slow down traffic be investigated.

Mr. J McGowan said this location was designed and upgraded as part of the R402 realignment and over €300,000 had been spent. There were slow down and stop signs, a coloured surface and a controlled pedestrian crossing at the school. He informed the members that ramps were not recommended on regional roads. This issue would be a low priority but different measures could be looked at and if there were speed issues, could investigate what could be incorporated.

Councillor Weld enquired how long before a report would be available and requested that this item remain on the Progress Report.

The District Engineer informed the members that a speed survey would be carried out in a week or two when schools were on holiday. He would examine speed results and could look at incorporating build outs or pencil bollards to slow down traffic. He referred to Maynooth, where recently on the Celbridge Road these had been effective in slowing down traffic. He said that a speed test/survey would need to be carried out first.

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

CM08/0324

Double yellow lines in Silken Vale, Maynooth

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

That the council carry out a review of the existing double yellow lines in Silken Vale, Maynooth.

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



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that the Municipal District Engineer will discuss this with the pay parking section and advise the members of the process.

Councillor Feeney advised of issues near the Train Station where people were parking on double yellow lines at estates and blocking areas. She enquired if perhaps additional double yellow lines could be added or if anything else could be done to alleviate this issue for the residents of nearby estates.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said it was particularly an issue on Match Days, on Saturdays and Sundays and he would appreciate if anything could be done to benefit the residents.

The District Engineer said that parking on double yellow lines could warrant a S35 which would be enforceable. He said he would be reluctant to put in additional double yellow lines at Housing Estates. He advised if the people affected came forward through the Residents Association that he would consider a request.

Councillor Feeney thanked the District Engineer and said she would bring the comments back to the residents and would also bring this issue to the attention of the Joint Policing Committee.

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

CM09/0324

Safety review of the Newtown Road (R408), Maynooth

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

That the council carry out a safety review of the Newtown Road (R408), Maynooth and take measures to reduce speed and improve the safety of the road.

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



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that the Municipal District Engineer will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out and will engage with Councillor O’Cearúil in relation to this motion.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said that on the road from Bond Bridge to Parsons Hall there was an LED sign near Parsons Hall and there was a lot of speeding in that area. He said he would meet with the District Engineer onsite to see what measures could be put in place and it may mean another LED sign being installed at this location.

Councillor Hamilton supported the motion and informed the members that it was a straight run down the hill at this location and a vehicle had been recorded driving at 94km per hour in a 50km zone. He also added that a light was proposed at Maynooth Football Club and that funds were available.

The District Engineer said that the footpath was narrow, there were boundary walls and also a raised table at Woodlands. He said the members had funded a pedestrian crossing through LPT and works were due to commence in the next few weeks.

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

CM10/0324

M4 Motorway Interchange at Maynooth

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

That the council provide an update on the proposed new M4 Motorway interchange at Maynooth and the upgrading of the eastbound lane from Maynooth to Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the National Roads Office informing the members that a review of the Maynooth interchange is included in the scope of the M4 Maynooth Leixlip Project.



Kildare County Council

The project is currently finalising the Option Selection Phase which will identify the proposed emerging preferred options for the study area in the Options Selection Report. The Option Selection is due to conclude in Q2 2024.

The construction of the first phase of the bus priority measures (M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures), Junction 5 to Junction 6 eastbound is proposed to commence in 2024 which includes resurfacing the eastbound carriageway. Construction of the remainder of the scheme from Junction 6 to Junction 7 is intended to follow the first phase. (In accordance with the approved Part 8, this project delivers bus priority eastbound on the M4 from Maynooth to Leixlip). Further details of this project can be found on Kildare County Council consultation portal at: <https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/en/consultation/part-8-proposed-m4-bus-priority-measures-planning-ref-p8202220>

Councillor Durkan said that he welcomed the report as would the residents who have had to put up with the noise at what has become known locally in Maynooth as the Noise Triangle.

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

CM11/0324

139 Bus Service - Real-Time Information Systems

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

That the council engage with the National Transport Authority on the 139 bus service between Naas, Sallins, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth, Leixlip and Blanchardstown to encourage the addition of Real-Time Information Systems for improved arrival time predictions with the introduction of planned hourly services.

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 Transport Department will write to the National Transport Authority to consider the implementation of Real Time Information on the 139-bus service.



Kildare County Council

Councillor McEvoy said the 139 bus was successful and full a lot of the time. The narrative from the public, who do not use the bus service, was that the buses turn up late or did not show up at all. National Transport Authority real-time information would help build public confidence in the service. The 120 Bus Service did show up but could be delayed by traffic.

Councillor Durkan suggested the National Transport Authority be asked to add a stop on the route at Blanchardstown Hospital as a lot of residents in the locality would use the services of the Hospital.

Mr. J McGowan informed the members Mr. D Hodgins would be attending the April Municipal District Meeting and prior to that he would communicate with him in relation to the members requests.

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

CM12/0324

Transport Strategy in Clane

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

That the council update members on a timeline for the progression of a Transport Strategy in Clane.

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

A report was received from the Roads Projects Team informing the members that it is envisaged that this Strategy for Clane will commence once the Celbridge Leixlip Strategy is completed.

Councillor Farrelly enquired in relation to a timeline for commencement of the Transport Strategy for Clane.



Kildare County Council

The District Engineer advised he would ask that this information be circulated amongst the members after the meeting.

Councillor McEvoy spoke of creating an opportunity to present key findings and congestion was a real concern. To look at moving from car to bus travel, adding that a large number of local trips were not car dependent. He said there was a need to develop a narrative and for members to be kept informed. The strategy should also feed into the Local Area Plan.

Mr. J McGowan informed the members when a Transport Strategy was being prepared for Clane those points would be important adding that a ring road would also be an important part of the strategy.

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

CM13/0324

Public Transport services in this Municipal District

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

That the council invite all bodies providing public transport services in this municipal district to a meeting with members to discuss overall service provision.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that the provision of public transport services falls under the remit of the National Transport Authority. The National Transport Authority can be requested to brief the municipal district meeting if required by the members.

The members raised the following:

- Motion may be more relevant to Full Council.
- Services had come a long way over the years but capacity was still an issue.



Kildare County Council

- Enquired about what were the planned provisions for capacity.
- Suggestion to arrange a meeting with specific transport service providers.
- Management's perception on the issue would be welcomed.
- A push on driver recruitment was required.
- The 821 Local Link Service to co-ordinate with the council to provide an additional stop on that route.
- Leap Cards were available at any Post Office and this message needed to be carried locally.

The District Engineer advised the members that questions should be gathered together and sent to the National Transport Authority, as they were the controlling body.

It was agreed by the members that a letter be written to the National Transport Authority by the Transport Department from the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Farrelly, seconded by Councillor Hamilton and agreed by the members that a letter be written to the National Transport Authority.

CM14/0324

Signposts in the Municipal District

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

That the council examine the signposts in the municipal district and where new ones or upgrades are required, proceed to replace or repair in the interest of the road user and visitors to our municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that the Municipal District Office will assess the road signage and arrange for repairs/replacements to be carried out. It is important to note that the budget for signage in the Municipal District for 2024 is only approximately €20,000.



Kildare County Council

Councillor Fitzpatrick informed the members that at the top of his road at Parson's Cross signs were removed. He questioned whether the €20,000 budget for signage was enough.

Mr. J McGowan informed the members that as a priority signs were maintained and replaced around the county. Some signs could be turned the wrong way and some would need repair. He said the District Engineer would assess.

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

CM15/0324

Footpath from Hatters Cross

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

That the council cost and investigate the possibility of putting a footpath from Hatters Cross to the canal in the interest of connecting the village of Prosperous with the Blueway.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that the delivery of a footpath at this location would require a significant level of funding and the agreement of a number of landowners to facilitate the necessary setbacks required. The Project would not be feasible at the current time without the identification of resources and a funding source.

The members raised the following:

- Public had enquired about a link to the Canal Greenway and Blueway from Allenwood to Derrinturn.
- Noted that there was no funding.
- Looked forward to working to find funds.
- Bigger question than a motion at Municipal District level and a joined up strategy was required.



Kildare County Council

- Similar report was received back in November/December.
- Feasibility study should be carried out, may not be Hatters Cross, potential options could be investigated.
- Scenario of a Student from St. Farnan's living in Allenwood or Robertstown who would need to be able to cycle on a footpath or even a trail or track linking them to the Grand Canal Greenway. Maybe a trail or track could be considered as a stepping stone as it would not be as expensive.
- Enquiry made as to what a link would cost.

The District Engineer informed the members that the cost would be a seven figure sum. Boundaries would need to be moved and landowner agreement would be required. A lot of money would be needed and suggested enquiries be made to Public Realm in relation to the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund. He added, this link would not just benefit tourists. He would take the members comments back to the Team.

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

CM16/0324

Additional public lights between Cushalla Estate and Allenwood Cross

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

Can the council provide a costing for additional public lights between Cushalla Estate and Allenwood Cross on the R415 in Allenwood with a view to allocating Local Property Tax funding to this project to see the dark section of the footpath made safe here?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that a cost estimate for additional public lighting between Cushalla Estate and Allenwood Cross on the R415 was circulated by email to Councillor Wyse on 15 February 2024. The works will be assessed in accordance with the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS) to determine its priority.

The report was noted.



CM17/0324

Loose service covers

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

Can the council provide an update on the resolution of the loose service covers on the footpath between Bergin's shop and Dreenane Park in Derrinturn?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that service covers that are loose or faulty are reported to the service provider who is responsible for the upkeep of their infrastructure. Where there is an issue Kildare County Council can seek to escalate these with the service provider.

The report was noted.

CM18/0324

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road

The members agreed to take Item 17 and Item 18 together.

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

Can the council provide an interim update on the next immediate steps in the construction of the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) following the CPO approval by An Bord Pleanála in February – and pending the full Capital Projects update scheduled for the second quarter?

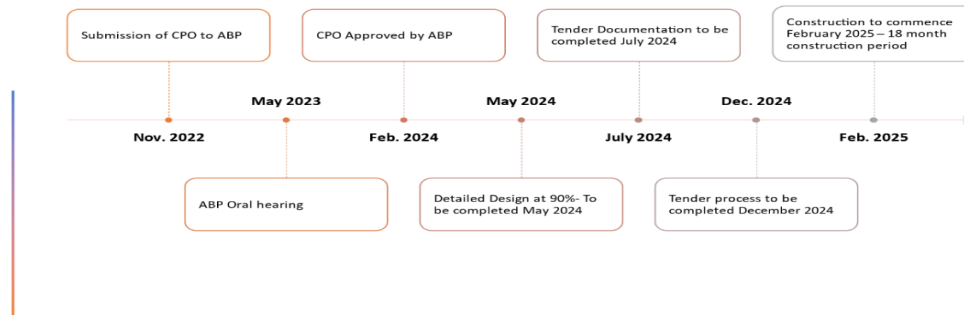
A report was received from the Roads Project Team informing members that the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road CPO has now been approved by An Bord Pleanála (ABP). The consultant team will now commence completion of the detailed design (Approx 10% remaining) and compile tender documentation with a view to going to tender around July 2024. We hope to complete the tender process by years end and commence construction by Q1 2025.



Kildare County Council

See below for timeline.

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road Timeline



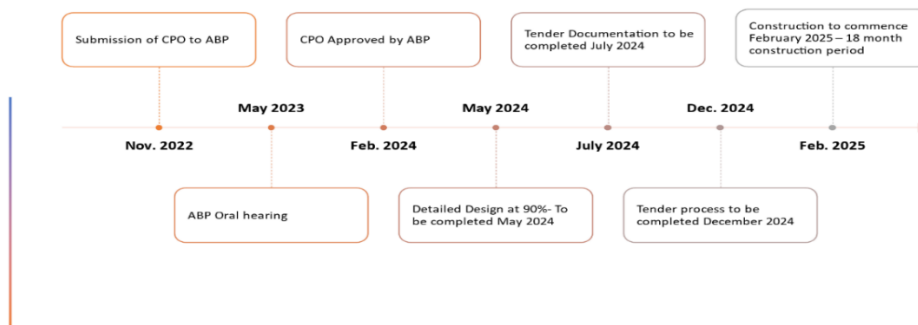
The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan.

Can the council outline a detailed time line and commencement date for works on the Maynooth Eastern Orbital Route given that An Bord Pleanála have now approved the compulsory purchase order?

A report was received from the Roads Project Team informing members that the Maynooth Eastern Relief Road CPO has now been approved by An Bord Pleanála (ABP). The consultant team will now commence completion of the detailed design (Approx 10% remaining) and compile tender documentation with a view to going to tender around July 2024. We hope to complete the tender process years end and commence construction by Q1 2025.

See below for timeline.

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road Timeline





Kildare County Council

Councillor Hamilton said this was a useful update and Mr. S Deegan was extremely helpful. This was the big question on the doorsteps and that the report helped all members. Seemed best case would be mid 2026 for completion.

Councillor Durkan said that Q1 2025 for commencement was good news as this was a long awaited project. The tarmac surface would also add to the noise reduction.

Mr. J McGowan informed the members Mr. S Deegan would attend a monthly municipal district meeting before June.
The report was noted.

CM19/0324

Improve crossing for pedestrians at Tesco Maynooth

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

Can the council provide an update on options to improve crossing for pedestrians and vulnerable road users adjacent to the roundabout at Tesco Maynooth, including options to replace existing crossings with more suitably placed crossing locations?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing members that there is a push button pedestrian crossing located outside O'Neill Park. There is also a pedestrian phase at the traffic signals outside Carton Grove/Carton Wood. These crossing points are the most appropriate for vulnerable road users to use as they stop the traffic and provide a pedestrian phase. There are no plans currently in place to relocate any crossing points nearer to the roundabout.

Councillor Hamilton said he was looking for assistance here and he had brought a motion nine months ago in relation to this issue. He said it remained on the Progress Report but the item had received no updates. He said there had been a big change in density, with 300 people in Carton Wood out to the West. Families with buggies were crossing at the roundabout. He requested that this issue be looked at.



Kildare County Council

The District Engineer informed the members there was a pedestrian crossing and traffic signals. He added that vehicles had priority at roundabouts and these should not be used for crossing. He would speak with Councillor Hamilton in relation to this matter.

Councillor Hamilton thanked the District Engineer and said there may be a way adding that the District Engineer's ideas were often good ideas.

The report was noted.

CM20/0324

Bike Storage trial in Maynooth

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

Can the council outline suitable urban bike storage options that can be investigated to identify what is required to progress a trial in Maynooth, including an update on any research done on successful solutions operating in Ireland?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that there were no resources available, to progress the development of a public bicycle storage facility at present. The Sustainable Transport Section is concentrating on the implementation and construction of a number of key active travel schemes and can research the topic once these are completed.

The report was noted.

CM21/0324

W61 Bus from Maynooth to W62 Tallaght route Hazelhatch

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

Can the council provide an update on the connection of the W61 bus from Maynooth to the W62 Tallaght route at Hazelhatch to complete the W6 route?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that the Transport Department will write to the National Transport



Kildare County Council

Authority to seek an update on the connection of the W61 bus from Maynooth to the W62 Tallaght route at Hazelhatch to complete the W6 route.

The report was noted.

CM22/0324

Safety at Kilcock Road (R148)

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

Can the council confirm what progress has been made to make the Kilcock Road (R148) safer, particularly with regards to speeding?

A report was received from Transport Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that additional signage, which will include driver feedback sign will be installed in the coming weeks west of Laraghbryan. Where speeding is an issue, this matter should also be raised by An Garda Síochána.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said he appreciated the report and added that at Carignan West, speed signs were now changed from 80km to 60km and it would remain to be seen how that would work. He also advised of speeding at a North Kildare Club and enquired if a 'Sports Club Ahead' sign could be put in place as there had been a few incidents in that area recently. He would appreciate if this could be looked at.

The District Engineer informed the members that text signs were avoided where possible. He would refer to the Traffic Manual and investigate sign options for approaching drivers at that location.

The report was noted.

CM23/0324

Royal Canal Greenway Project Maynooth to Leixlip

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

Can the council provide an update on all progress in relation to the Royal Canal Greenway project from Maynooth to Leixlip?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that a public procurement tender for the completion of the construction of the Project has been undertaken and it is expected that the process will be completed shortly and that works can recommence as soon as the contractor has been officially appointed (provisional start date April 2024).

Councillor Ó Cearúil said this was good news and this route was used frequently by walkers and commuters going to Intel or into Maynooth. He advised that the tow-path was in a bad state, added there were also wider issues involving Waterways Ireland, who were not answerable to the members and were difficult to deal with. He would appreciate if this could be looked at and maybe a deputation to Full Council and Municipal District would be appropriate. The Royal Canal and Greenway were key pieces of infrastructure and amenity and also used by people going to Dublin and Kilcock. He added it would be great to see Waterways Ireland engaging.

The District Engineer informed the members that west from Maynooth there were two train stations and it was his understanding there would be a Service Level Agreement (SLA) involving Local Authorities, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Waterways Ireland, around maintenance of Greenways.

The report was noted.

CM24/0324

Clane Inner Relief Road extension through Capdoo

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

Can the council provide an update on the Clane Inner Relief Road extension through Capdoo, with an outline of phases for completion and an estimate of when it may be transferred to the council for public use?

A report was received from the Roads Projects Team informing the members that the design of the Capdoo Link Road between the Celbridge Road and the Kilcock Road has now been substantially agreed by Kildare County Council and construction works should be



Kildare County Council

commencing on site by the Developer by Quarter 2 2024. A Resident Engineer will be supervising the works on site and the projected construction period is between 12 and 18 months but to be confirmed.

The report was noted.

CM25/0324

Betaghstown Cross

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

Can the council provide an update on planned works at Betaghstown Cross.

A report was received from Transport Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that funding has been approved under the safety improvements grants for 2024 from the Department of Transportation. The Municipal District office is working on a design to improve signage and road markings.

Councillor Farrelly said that notwithstanding the update on junctions due to be given next month by Mr. S Deegan, it was good to see a resolution for this issue and potential works due to begin. He enquired if an update could be given to local residents before works commenced as it would be good to interact with the people affected.

The District Engineer informed the members these were low cost safety improvement works and he would have no issues sharing the details with the people. He advised it was frustrating due to GDPR that when asked to fix an issue he would not have all the facts and would not be aware of the accident numbers or statistics, whereas previously he would have been able to speak with An Garda Síochána and be more informed. He advised the members an update could be given to the residents of the area.

The report was noted.



CM26/0324

Dag Welds Junction

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.
Can the council confirm if it has plans to carry out temporary safety works at Dag Welds Junction?

A report was received from Transport Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the road markings at Dag Welds junction are to be renewed in the coming week. Any other works will form part of the junction improvements programme once a proposal has been received from the consultants.

Councillor Fitzpatrick welcomed the report and short term repairs before long term works. He advised there had been several minor accidents recently. He also enquired as to what distance the road markings would cover.

The District Engineer advised these works would be weather dependant and were on the list of tasks for the contractor. He confirmed the distance would cover 300m on approach on each side of the junction.

The report was noted.

CM27/0324

Opening of Playground in Allenwood

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

Can the council confirm when the playground in Allenwood will officially open?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that it is anticipated the playground will be complete by the end of March and will be opened for use then followed by an official opening.



Kildare County Council

Councillor Fitzpatrick advised he was a member of the board of Allenwood Community Development Association Ltd. (ACDAL). He said he would like if an occasion could be made of the official opening of the Allenwood Playground.

Councillor Weld and Councillor Wyse said they were both looking forward to the occasion.

The District Manager informed the members that Mr. S Wallace was working on the opening and everyone would make sure there was a good launch on the day.

The report was noted.

CM28/0324

Harbour Field Maynooth

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

Can the council provide an update and timeline of works for the planned upgrading of the Harbour Field Maynooth?

A report was received from Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing the members that the Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR) team are finalising the tender documents to procure a Landscape Architect to bring the project to Detail Design and Tender stages, securing all necessary planning permissions/consents. SPPR are in receipt of Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) funding to progress with this element, aiming to publish the tender in early March. A future funding resource will need to be identified to progress to construction.

The report was noted.

CM29/0324

Clane Town Centre First initiative

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

Can the council update the committee on the progress towards the next public consultation on the Clane Town Centre First initiative?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that a public consultation will take place in Clane GAA on Tuesday 27 February 2024 from 7.00p.m. to 9.00p.m.

Councillor McEvoy informed the members the consultation had happened already. He advised that members of the public had been making enquiries of them and asked if members could receive a briefing.

Ms. E McGrath informed members the survey had gone live and she would communicate their requests to the Town Regeneration Team.

The report was noted.

CM30/0324

Primary Care Centre for Maynooth

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

That this council writes to the HSE to ask for an update on the progression of a Primary Care Centre for Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator informing members that a letter would issue to the HSE with the members agreement.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members that a letter be sent to the HSE.

CM31/0324

Business Campus for Kilcock

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

That the council provide a progress report on the proposed business campus for Kilcock.



Kildare County Council

The motion was proposed by Councillor Durkan and seconded by Councillor Farrelly. A report was received from the Economic Development Officer informing members that on foot of the feasibility study to examine the use of lands at Duncreevan Townland, Kilcock, (as completed by a consultancy firm in H2 2023) KCC submitted an application to the EU Just Transition Fund: Local and Regional Economic Strategies Support Scheme, as managed by Pobal. The application seeks to commission a master plan and technical support to achieve full planning, procurement, and a strategic business plan for the proposed development of the site as a 'Sustainable Growth Business Park'. Kildare County Council submitted the application on 23 January seeking funding of €815,000; Pobal anticipates its notification of decisions to occur in April.

Councillor Durkan said he was delighted with the outcome of the LPT Feasibility Study. This was a prime location at the Motorway Interchange and was not affecting the town of Kilcock.

Mr. A Gaynor informed the members that feedback in the concept note from Pobal was positive in relation to funding of €815,000.

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

CM32/0324

Boundary reinstatement from Railpark Estate to Bridge End Maynooth

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

Can the council provide an update on the boundary reinstatement between Railpark Estate and the recent development at Bridge End, Maynooth?

A report was received from Building and Development Control informing the members that the Development Control Section have contacted the developer of Bridge End, Maynooth, requesting that they expedite the completion of the boundary treatment. The developer has



Kildare County Council

confirmed that they will complete the works in advance of the development being put forward for taking in charge.

The report was noted.

CM33/0324

Management of Maynooth Community Space

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

That the council enter into a continuation of the management of Maynooth Community Space in partnership with the Maynooth Community Employment Project for the benefit of existing and newly formed community based groups, and with continued advisory support from an integrated and diverse local stakeholder group that will report to the municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development Department informing members that the management and bookings for Maynooth Community Space is overseen by the Facilities Team in Kildare County Council on behalf of the Community Section. A dedicated email is used for bookings of the community space and those interested in booking the space are required to complete a booking form. The community space is available to all groups and they are invoiced at the end of each month for usage. The Community Section is open to explore and work with the Maynooth Community Employment Project regarding the community space and welcome any suggestions.

The members raised the following:

- Opportunity to harness existing experience and expertise in existing community groups, all of whom had decades of experience.
- Maynooth University also had expertise in community development.
- Aware that social inclusion was close to the Director's heart.
- It was not just about the physical building.



Kildare County Council

- Good to hear community sector were open to exploring the idea of a possible Pilot Scheme.
- Council working with community was beneficial.
- Community space agreed at Manor Mills and then Maynooth, Carton.
- Support for two facilities beside each other.
- Explore ways for a co-operation system between the council and Community Employment Schemes.

Ms. L Kennedy informed the members the council were open to working with community groups. The booking system allowed for bookings to be made to use the facility during the periods Monday-Sunday for 3 hourly sessions.

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

CM34/0324

Ash Plots

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

That the council implement the policy of providing 'Ash Plots' in cemeteries in this municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing members that the Council's Cemeteries Byelaws provide for the provision of ash plots, i.e. grave spaces designated solely for cremated remains, in all our cemeteries. Conditions for sale of ashes plots are available on the council's website. A schedule of the relevant fees is also available on the website.

Councillor Weld said the policy was fine but requested the council liaise with caretakers. He advised that undertakers were under pressure as people were making enquiries from them. Recently in Mainham there was a difficulty identifying a plot and then there were



Kildare County Council

issues in relation to a headstone and plinth. There needed to be more organisation as people wanted those spaces.

Ms. R Jackson informed the members a meeting took place with caretakers last week and they were asked to come back with a list of possible locations for Ash Plots and would then see if funding could be sourced.

The District Manager said she appreciated the work caretakers carried out in communities and advised she had also met with them last week and had plans to link yearly with the caretakers.

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

CM35/0324

Columbarium Walls

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

Can the council provide a list of columbarium walls proposed for cemeteries in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the provision of Columbarium Walls is subject to available funding. Current proposals for the next tranche of Walls provide for Columbarium Walls to be made available at Newbridge, Leixlip and Athy. There is an existing Columbarium Wall in the municipal district at Laraghbryan, Maynooth. The council intends to go to tender shortly and, depending on the outcome of that tender, will be in a more informed position to consider Columbarium Walls at other locations. Please note that Ash Plots are available at council cemeteries within the municipal district.

The report was noted.



CM36/0324

Services provided by the Dog Warden

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

Can the council provide an update on the services provided by the Dog Warden to residents of this municipal district?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Irish Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (ISPCA) provides a dog warden service (employing two wardens) on behalf of Kildare County Council and its personnel work closely with other agencies including An Garda Síochána.

The council operates and maintains a pound for dogs seized, accepted or detained under any of the provisions of the Act. This facility, and the dog warden service, are based at Portersize Ballitore and can be contacted at Tel: (059) 8623388. This is the contact number for the county and not for specific municipal districts. Incidents can be reported directly to the warden at this number. If there are public places of particular concern to the councillor, the warden can be requested to carry out a regular patrol of these areas.

The warden's role and responsibilities include:

- Deal with queries and complaints from the public, court cases etc.,
- Investigate complaints from the public and An Garda Síochána in relation to dogs,
- Work in close co-operation with An Garda Síochána in relation to matters pertaining to control of dogs,
- Co-ordinate activities in relation to the control of stray animals and the operation of the pound.

The primary legislation in this area is the Control of Dogs Act 1986. The Department of Rural and Community Development has policy and legislative responsibility for the area of Dog Control in Ireland. Certain aspects of this legislation have been in place for a significant number of years and views have been put forward that changes are required.

Under the Act, a dog warden may take all reasonable steps to seize and detain any dog that appears to him to be a stray dog and he may enter any premises (other than a



Kildare County Council

residence) for such purposes. A member of the Garda Síochána similarly may also seize and detain any dog that appears to him to be a stray dog.

A dog warden has powers :

- where he has reasonable grounds for believing that a person is committing an offence to request the person's name and address'
- to seize and detain any dog in order to ascertain whether an offence is being or has been committed and may enter any premises (other than a residence) for such purposes,
- to enter any premises (other than a residence) for the purpose of preventing or ending an attack by a dog on any person, or the worrying of livestock,
- to request any person who owns, is in charge of, or is in possession of a dog to produce a dog licence within ten days of the date of the request.

All dogs must be kept under effectual control when in any public place i.e. street, road, park etc. Certain breeds must always be leashed, muzzled and accompanied by a person over the age of 16 years when in a public place. The owner of a dog is liable for damages caused in an attack on any person by the dog and for injury done by it to any livestock. With regard to dangerous dogs, where a complaint is made to the District Court by any interested person that a dog is dangerous and not kept under proper control, the Court, in addition to any other penalty which it may impose, may order that the dog be kept under proper control or destroyed.

As a result of a review carried out by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, the Department considers that there is a need to further promote a culture of responsible dog ownership in Ireland and is considering supporting information campaigns regarding responsible dog ownership and progressing measures involving primary and secondary legislation.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator