



**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Meeting  
held on Friday 06 September 2024 at 10.00 a.m.  
in the Council Chamber**

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

**Officials Present:** Ms. M. Higgins (District Manager), Mr. C. Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. A. Hickey (Assistant Engineer), Mr. M. McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Mr. L. McNeela (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr. C. O'Toole (A/Administrative Officer), Ms. P. O'Brien (Senior Executive Officer), Ms. E. McGrath (A/Administrative Officer), Mr. J. Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms. D. Egan (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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**CM01/0924**

**Declaration of Pecuniary or Beneficial Interests**

There was a declaration of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Councillor McEvoy informed the meeting he was a member of the Clane Christmas Lights Committee and that he would leave the chamber during item 39, To approve Christmas Lights Local Property Tax Awards 2024.

**CM02/0924**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of annual Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on 28 June 2024, the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on 05 July 2024 and to note the progress report.



**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, and seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members that the minutes of the annual Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on 28 June 2024 and the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on 05 July 2024 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**CM03/0924**

**Municipal District Road Works Programme**

To receive an update on the municipal district road works programme.

**General Works:**

**LPT Funding**

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

**General Footpath Works completed:**

L2004 Millicent Road, Clane - Footpath and Drainage works.

R402 Johnstownbridge - Drainage works

L6001 Curryhills, Prosperous - Footpath works

Newtown (Cappagh GAA) - Footpath works

Rockfield, Maynooth – Footpath works

Moyglare Village, Maynooth - Footpath Works

**Roads Programme 2024**

Below is a list of funded jobs through Road Improvement Grants and Road Maintenance Grants for 2024.

**Restoration Improvement Schemes 2024**

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
R	403	Capdoo	400	Completed
L	70042	Nursery Road Allenwood South	2400	Completed
L	50222	Kilkeaskin	750	Completed
L	1021	Corkeragh	1,500	Awarded
R	401	Ballindoolin	1000	Awarded
L	1004	Dunfeirth Road JohnstownBridge	1000	Completed
L	1006	Kishawanny	400	Awarded
L	5008	Ballycowan Clogherinko	800	Awarded
L	5075	Mainham Road	700	Completed
L	5077	Butterstream Clane	900	Completed



L	5076	Loughanure	800	Completed
L	7075	Lowtown	1200	Completed
R	403	Brockagh	1,200	Onsite
R	403	Allenwood	480	Onsite
L	10222	Curryhills Cul de Sac	400	Completed
R	403	Curryhills	650	Awarded
R	403	Prosperous Main Street	720	Completed
L	5078	Clane Ring Road	880	Awarded
L	5071	Staplestown Village	1,100	Completed
R	406	Straffan Road Maynooth	500	Completed

## Climate Adaptation Works 2024

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
L	1005	Knockcurr	1000	Onsite
L	5025	Drehid Derrymahon	1200	Onsite

## Restoration Maintenance Schemes 2024

Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and Townland Name	Length Road (m)	Status
L	5023	Derrinturn – Parsonstown	1250	Completed
L	5020	Ballyhagen – Nurseries	1380	Completed
L	5023	Coonagh – Gormans Cross	600	Completed
L	1006	Williamstown	1000	Completed
L	50262	Kilina Canal Cul de Sac	715	Completed
L	50212	The Cush Road Ticknevin	1200	Completed
R	148	Laraghbryan	1000	Completed
R	405	Celbridge Road	900	Completed
L	1017	Derryvarogue – Timahoe	5950	Completed
L	5025	Timahoe West	1100	Completed
L	5032	Belgard Road	1470	Completed
L	5031	Ballycannon	1700	Completed
L	6007	Millicent South	1200	Completed
L	6008	Ballysize	1500	Completed
L	6001	Back Road Prosperous	1000	Completed
R	403	Skew Bridge Allenwood	1250	Completed
R	415	Grangeclare	1250	Completed



The District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Very busy summer and some works were outstanding due to a contractor shortage.
- Works at Allenwood School were taking place.
- Also works at the roundabout in Clane at the Ring Road.
- Curryhills R403 was the last job out of Prosperous.
- Drehid Road Recycling, contractor on site to finish.
- Works due to finish in 2/3 weeks.

#### **CM04/0924**

##### **Section 38 - The Proposed Installation of 2 no. New Bus Stops**

To note Section 38 of the road Traffic Act 1994 - the proposed installation of 2 no. new bus stops and associated ancillary works on the R402, Kilshanroe, Co. Kildare. The report had been previously circulated to the members. It was agreed by the members that the report be noted.

#### **CM05/0924**

##### **Ramps and "Children at Play" Signs in Cluain Aoibhinn, Maynooth**

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

That the council installs two ramps and "children at play" signs in Cluain Aoibhinn, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members a traffic speed survey was carried out in Cluain Aoibhinn in May 2024 and 99 % of vehicles were travelling below the speed limit with only 1% speed violations. Based on Kildare County Council's Traffic Calming guidelines there is no requirement for ramps. The proposed 30 km/h slow zone signage will be installed in all estates in charge of Kildare County Council if and when speed bye-laws are approved.



Councillor Ó Cearúil enquired as to what percentage of vehicles speeding would indicate that ramps were required. He also emphasised that ‘Children at Play’ signs were needed as there were a lot of new families in the estate.

The District Engineer informed the members that around the green a speed radar was installed in May. Four vehicles were found to be speeding and 85% of vehicles were travelling at speed in the high 30 km/h. He did not see a need for intervention. The estate would be due to get a Slow Zone and until then ‘Children at Play’ signs would be put up.

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

It was agreed by the members to take the following items from the Agenda together Item 6, Item 21 and Item 29.

**CM06/0924**

**Avenue in Moyglare Hall, Maynooth**

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

That the council works with the relevant landowners along the avenue in Moyglare Hall, Maynooth to ensure that it is safe for residents, students and staff and that there is a short and long term maintenance plan.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that this road is not taken in charge and is not in the control of Kildare County Council although this process is progressing. The members will be kept informed.

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

Can the council provide a detailed update on the taking in charge of the section of Moyglare Road outside Maynooth Education Campus and the Moyglare Hall Pumping Station?



A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that Kildare County Council Transport Department is currently in discussion with the KWETB with regard to taking this road in charge and will advise the members when the process is completed.

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

That Kildare County Council crown lift the trees outside Maynooth Education Campus on the way into Moyglare Hall in the interest of public safety.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the location has been noted for inspection by the Parks Section upon completion of the taking-in-charge process. Upon completion of this inspection, the trees can be included in a forthcoming Arboricultural Programme as necessary.

The members raised the following:

- Exponential growth of trees created blind spots.
- The safety of students was paramount as there were three schools in the area.
- Dangerous to cross the road on the Moyglare Road side.
- Needed to find logical solutions.
- Dublin Bus goes through this area.
- In the interest of Health and Safety focus was needed on how roads such as this were maintained.
- Work with landowners and residents to make safer for the public.
- Anomaly that road not taken in charge.
- Moyglare Road impassible and not within Health and Safety regulations.
- Buses hit trees and knocked branches creating debris on footpaths, affecting traffic.
- Argument could be made to not plant trees close to roadways.
- Land registry was examined and land goes diagonally to the Campus.



- Observation carried out over 20 mins and all buses passing hit branches which then fell to the footpath.
- Enquired if a member was on any the board of KWETB, in order to then raise a motion.
- Councillor Fitzpatrick said he was on the KWETB board and would follow up on this issue.

The District Engineer said that the first part of the folio was Kildare County Council and the second part was KWETB. Kildare County Council and KWETB had engaged in relation to taking in charge. He had met with the principal in June. He said it was KWETB's responsibility to maintain the trees and he would engage with them to get more action, as Kildare County Council could not just go in and carry out works. There was also a statutory process for disposal.

Mr. M. McLoughlin informed members that the process of taking in charge was in motion.

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

#### **CM07/0924**

#### **Projects to be considered for LPT funding**

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

That the council provides estimated costs for projects to be considered for LPT funding to include resurfacing the back lanes in Coill Dubh and the concrete driveway at Molly Dicks, Robertstown (L-70763).

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the estimated cost of resurfacing the concrete driveway at Molly Dicks, Robertstown (L-70763) with bituminous macadam would be in the region of €20,000. The estimated cost



of resurfacing the back lanes in Coill Dubh with bituminous macadam would be in the region of €70,000, however there is a lack of drainage in the back lanes, so the additional cost of the drainage could be in the region of €25,000. It would not be wise to resurface the back lanes without considering the drainage requirements.

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

It was agreed by the members to take the following items from the agenda together Item 8 and Item 26.

#### **CM08/0924**

##### **Traffic Calming Measures and School Zone Markings Kilshanroe Village**

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

That the council provides a costing for additional traffic calming measures and school zone markings in the case of Kilshanroe Village, so that this may be considered in upcoming budget discussions.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that there are no plans to carry out additional traffic calming measures in Kilshanroe Village. Extensive traffic calming measures were carried out as part of the upgrading of the R403. The cost of providing school zone markings outside the school in Kilshanroe would be in the region of €10,000.

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

Can the council detail any speed reduction measures implemented in Kilshanroe in the last term of this council, and to confirm if it plans to implement any further measures in the vicinity of the school?





A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer is not aware of any speed reduction measures during the last term of this council. There are no plans currently to implement any new speed reduction measures in Kilshanroe.

The members raised the following:

- Substantial amount of work done over the years.
- Public want traffic calming measures to be put in place.
- Priority to get this work done.
- Public perceived there was a risk regarding speed.
- Could an analysis of recent average speeds be conducted.
- Could a meeting be arranged with residents.
- People concerned and believed ramps and other measures were not working.
- Costings were requested.
- People were speeding and a lot of accidents had occurred.
- Look to roll out Safe Routes to Schools complete works which would create good value, to include School Zone Markings and Pencil Bollards.
- Johnstownbridge had a number of ramps and could that be looked at for Kilshanroe.
- Looked forward to seeing what measures would be put in place.

The District Engineer said that data would be gathered, a speed survey at the school carried out and engagement with the Inspector in Leixlip from An Garda Síochána. He also referred to two CRMs which were received. He said he would look at options and there had been positive feedback on School Zone Markings. Pencil Bollards re-enforced to drivers the perception that the road was narrow. He added a lot of work was required if the funds were there.

Councillor Ó Cearúil suggested bringing this issue as a stand-alone motion.

Councillor Durkan advised that he would submit a motion on the issue.



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

**CM09/0924**

**LPT Re-Allocation**

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

That the council moves €3,000 of LPT money allocated to the Roads Department to the Environment Department.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Tim Durkan and seconded by Councillor William Durkan.

The Meetings Administrator, Mr. J. Hannigan informed the members this is a matter for the Members to agree.

Councillor Tim Durkan requested the support of the members to move €3,000 LPT money to Environment, which he had previously allocated to the Roads Department from his €30,000 LPT allocation. The allocations were detailed as follows €2,000 to Laraghbryan Cemetery and €1,000 to Lady Chapel Cemetery.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Tim Durkan, seconded by Councillor William Durkan and agreed by the members that €3,000 of LPT money previously allocated to the Roads Department be moved to the Environment Department allowing for €2,000 to Laraghbryan Cemetery and €1,000 to Lady Chapel Cemetery.

**CM10/0924**

**Cycling Route to connect Maynooth and Celbridge**

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

That the council provides a safe walking and cycling route to connect Maynooth and Celbridge.



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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informing the members that Kildare County Council has recently appointed a consultant to progress the preliminary design of the Celbridge Road Active Travel Scheme, Maynooth, which will link schools on Celbridge road with the existing pedestrian and cycle infrastructure on Straffan road. No funding is currently available for the development of a walking and cycling route on the remaining section between Maynooth and Celbridge.

The members raised the following:

- Great benefit to Maynooth and Celbridge and an important piece of the puzzle.
- Huge possibilities and benefits in the areas of tourism the economy and environmentally.
- Would enable the continuation of the journey from Connolly Folly to Castletown Estate.
- Funding was an issue.
- Required shovel ready projects.
- Where would Historical Sites fit in.
- Would look favourably at joint proposals with Celbridge and Leixlip when discussing LPT.
- Active Travel connecting not just Ballygoran to Barrettstown but back to Maynooth to the schools and shops.
- More accessibility to the centre for people on the outskirts to access towns and villages.
- Meeting with the National Transport Authority on 30 September.

Mr. M. McLoughlin said the NTA would be meeting soon with members. That Kildare County Council did not have the funds which would be significant.

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



### **CM11/0924**

#### **Pedestrian Crossing at the end of Carton Avenue**

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

That the council installs a pedestrian crossing at the end of Carton Avenue to allow safe crossing on the R157.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informing the members there is currently no available funding for the provision of new pedestrian crossing facilities in the county. The request has been added to a list of similar requests in the county and shall be assessed when resources become available.

The members raised the following:

- Pedestrian Crossing was needed.
- Residents has asked for proposals to be put forward and would welcome a safe crossing.
- Needed something similar to the push button at the Soccer Club.
- Upgrade of the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) in February would marry in close from Carton Demesne to Carton Avenue.
- Works could be fitted into MERR when just outside the scope of that road.
- Support for the motion but needed to be considered in a wider context on issues of speed and traffic volumes.
- Previous motion could not be progressed as there was a Speed Limit review taking place at the time.
- Conversation between the members about various projects and what was feasible, would be useful and save time for the District Engineer.



The District Engineer said there was huge merit to a crossing point as pedestrians could see both left and right. There may be a case for push button traffic signals. In relation to proximity to the MERR Kildare County Council could check for any overlap and ensure any works would not interfere with the works for the MERR. Resources were required for all projects and it would be a benefit if it was known what projects would be funded in 2025 so resources could be allocated.

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

### **CM12/0924**

#### **Installation of "Islands" and other Traffic Calming Measures**

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

That the council considers the installation of "islands" and other traffic calming measures, as required, on the existing R403 Clane Inner Relief Road following a series of vehicle collisions and in anticipation of an induced increase of movements by motorised vehicles with the opening of the Capdoo road extension.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that the Municipal District Office will carry out a speed survey along the Clane Inner Relief Road which will guide/determine any course of action required. The existing road widths may not permit islands.

The members raised the following:

- In a year and a half, three severe accidents had taken place and were unsure what was the cause.
- Cars were travelling at speed and had upturned.
- Anticipate and reduce flow of people and avoid Main Street.
- Do not yet know the implications of the urban Speed Limit Review.



- 2/3 ramps were required on the road into Celbridge outside the Hotel as speed was exceptional.
- Not to locate Islands at accident spots

The District Engineer advised that the speed survey would need to be carried out first over a week and then look at options for that section. He referred to the geometry and the islands being narrow and how at a point it was difficult to make right turns.

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

#### **CM13/0924**

#### **Tree Cutting Programme in Kilcock**

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

That the council completes the tree cutting programme in Kilcock where a number of trees still requiring attention, continue to block public lighting.

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

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that the Parks section will review outstanding works on the Arboricultural Programme in Kilcock particularly in relation to trees blocking public lighting.

Arrangements will then be made to undertake outstanding works or to undertake additional pruning to some trees as necessary as part of the current programme.

The members raised the following:

- Public lighting issues at Royal Meadows, Courtown Demesne and Abbeyfield.
- Purpose of tree crowning was to unblock number of lights which were blocked by trees.
- Aware that tree culling could take a number of years as it must be tendered.
- Enquired was there a method to take down a single tree.



Mr. M. McLoughlin said he would take back the issues raised by the members. He advised there were difficulties with resources. His understanding was that tendering was completed but not necessarily for Kilcock.

Councillor Ward requested that Mr. M. McLoughlin come back to him in relation to the questions.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said that a motion to Full Council was a priority for him.

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

#### **CM14/0924**

#### **Speed Review on Church Street, Kilcock**

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

That the council undertakes a speed review on Church Street, Kilcock.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members the Municipal District Office will arrange for a speed review on Church Street, Kilcock.

The members raised the following:

- Road narrows to one width.
- Persistent problem with speeding to Lower Church Street.
- Speeding from Garda Station past the Church as people rush to the centre of town.
- Three accidents in last number of weeks unsure of the causes.
- Enquired as to what could be done.
- A number of Planning Permissions were granted and questioned had there been conditions regarding speed limits or traffic calming.



The District Engineer said he did not know which Planning Permissions and some could be old. He added that he would meet with Councillor Ward on site.

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

### **CM15/0924**

#### **Hedgerows Clane Maynooth Municipal District**

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

That the council cuts the hedgerows in the interest of the safety of road users in the Clane-Maynooth municipal district, in cases where hedgerows are deemed dangerous and engagement with the landowner has been unsuccessful.

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

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members the Municipal District office have cut tall vegetation at junctions during the last few months to ensure sightlines are maintained. The Municipal District Office will engage with landowners and advise them on their responsibilities to maintain verges/hedgerows.

The members raised the following:

- Number of people had made contact with members regarding hedgerows.
- Enquired if landowners did not cut the hedgerows could Kildare County Council then cut them.

The District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Landowners' responsibility to cut the hedgerows.
- To get action Kildare County Council would write to the landowners and may get no reply but the work then would be done by the landowners.
- Kildare County Council would have authority to compel them to carry this work out.





- Kildare County Council could serve notice to landowners under the Roads Act.
- If serious safety concerns Kildare County Council would do the work and recoup the costs through the Circuit Court.
- Number of hedgerows sat onto the margins for walkers giving them no room to step in.

Councillor Fitzpatrick enquired if Kildare County Council had brought any landowner to court in relation to this issue.

The District Engineer said he was not aware of any such case.

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

#### **CM16/0924**

#### **Safety Audit around all Schools in this Municipal District**

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

That the council carries out a safety audit around all schools in this municipal district that have not been upgraded with safety measures recently and confirm if a program of works is in place to bring them up to a safe standard.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informing the members that the National Transport Authority (NTA) provides funding under the Safe Routes to Schools programme to improve the safety of students accessing schools around the county. Kildare County Council is currently progressing the design and construction at several school locations under the Safe Routes to Schools programme. Schemes are progressed following the approval of schools by the NTA. The Municipal District Engineer will prepare a cost estimate for the members to consider ahead of budget 2025 discussions for the installation of school zone markings and pencil bollards at schools in the Municipal District.



The members raised the following:

- Improvements to bring up to specifications of other schools in the area.
- Item to remain on the Progress Report.
- Rathcoffey was an outstanding issue.
- List of all schools for District Engineer to provide estimates close to Christmas.
- Could markings be done at the R403 in Allenwood.

Councillor Durkan said if did not qualify for funding that €100,000 LPT funds could be used and he had costings for each one. He suggested to try and get all done in one go and pointed out the economy of scale.

The District Engineer advised markings could be done and pencil bollards could be considered. He advised members that he had a map listing all schools.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed by the members that this item remain on the Progress Report and costings be available at the Clane Maynooth Municipal District Meeting on the 05 October. The report was noted.

#### **CM17/0924**

#### **Cycle Connectivity between Maynooth, Straffan and Clane**

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

Can the council confirm if it has examined or does it have any plans to examine, the cycle connectivity between Maynooth, Straffan and Clane?

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informing the members that Kildare County Council Sustainable Transport Section has been allocated funding by the National Transport Authority to progress various active travel schemes throughout the county. The cycle connectivity between Maynooth, Straffan and Clane is not included on this list of approved schemes.



The report was noted.

**CM18/0924**

**Junction Improvement Works at Allenwood Cross**

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

Can the council provide an estimated timeline for the completion of the detailed design for junction improvement works at Allenwood Cross?

A report was received from Transport Design Team informing the members the detailed design is expected from our consultant in early September. Further discussions can take place with the Elected Members once this design has been reviewed to agree the next steps in this project.

The report was noted.

**CM19/0924**

**Public Lighting on the Derrymullen Road in Allenwood**

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

Can the council provide an estimated timeline for the installation of the new public lighting on the Derrymullen Road in Allenwood?

A report was received from D. Reel, A/Senior Engineer, Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that Kildare County Council Public Lighting Section have requested a new quotation from the new maintenance contractor.

The report was noted.

**CM20/0924**

**Johnstownbridge to Dunfeirth Road**

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



Can the council outline if additional road markings, to include centre meridian line, are planned in the case of the recently resurfaced Johnstownbridge to Dunfeirth road, and when they may be completed?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that following on from the summer works programme, a list of road markings required are awaiting actioning by Kildare County Council's appointed road marking contractor. It is anticipated that these will be completed in the coming weeks. This will include a centre line along this road.

The report was noted.

#### **CM21/0924**

##### **Maintenance of Derrycrib Lane, Donadea**

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

Can the council clarify the party responsible for maintenance of Derrycrib Lane, Donadea so that it can be appropriately considered for maintenance funding?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that Kildare County Council can confirm that this lane is not in charge of Kildare County Council. The ownership of the lane would be registered with land registry. Kildare County Council cannot advise who the owners of the lane are.

Mr. M. McLoughlin informed the members that this issue may qualify under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS).

Councillor William Durkan said that with the clarification he would now proceed.

The report was noted.

#### **CM22/0924**

##### **Faulty Public Lights on Main Street, Maynooth**

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



Can the council confirm when the faulty public lights on Main Street, Maynooth will be repaired?

A report was received from D. Reel, A/Senior Engineer, Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that Kildare County Council Public Lighting Section has instructed the maintenance contractor to prioritise the repair of the lights. We are not able to give a specific timeline as this depends on the nature of the faults and whether they require ESB attendance.

Councillor Feeney said that in her opinion this was a dangerous stretch of road, noting there was no date mentioned in the report and she requested that this issue be prioritised. She added that faulty lights were also affecting businesses in the area.

Mr. M. McLoughlin informed the members that a new contractor was on target to reduce outstanding repairs down to 1%.

The report was noted.

#### **CM23/0924**

#### **Pedestrian crossing lights**

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

Can the council confirm if it anticipates that the pedestrian crossing lights to be installed at the upgraded junction of the R403 Celbridge Road, Clane and the extension of the Inner Relief Road through Capdoo, Clane will be brought into use in advance of the completion and opening of the inner relief road to motorised vehicles?

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informing the members that the traffic signal equipment is currently being installed at the upgraded junction of the R403 Celbridge Road/Capdoo Inner Relief Road. It is anticipated that the traffic signals at this junction shall be operational in advance of the completion of the relief road.



The members raised the following:

- Enquired if systems adapted to make improvements or did they have to be monitored.
- Request that the traffic flow through the town be monitored.

The District Engineer informed the members that at Capdoo it only took one car taking off slowly for the loops not to detect a vehicle and then revert to another leg of the junction. Loop detection was set at 6 seconds which was the standard, however it was extended to 8 seconds and could be reduced when people got used to it. Obviously, an extended green time for one leg would delay the other legs. If loops went down, system then would revert back to what it was doing seven days previously.

The report was noted.

#### **CM24/0924**

##### **Speed Limit Review on the Barberstown Road into Straffan**

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to carry out a speed limit review on the Barberstown Road into Straffan?

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informing the members that the current public consultation process is confined to the nationwide default speed limit on rural local roads only and includes this road.

The report was noted.

#### **CM25/0924**

##### **Footpath from Staplestown Village**

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

Can the council confirm any plans to complete the footpath from Staplestown village to GAA Club?

A report was received from Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces informing the members that there are currently no active plans as no funding has been identified for this project. Should funding become available then this project can be advanced.



Councillor Fitzpatrick said this was a short stretch of road and requested the District Engineer to cost the works required.

The District Engineer agreed to come back with a costing.

The report was noted.

#### **CM26//0924**

#### **Appropriate Planting Scheme, Capdoo Avenue**

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

That the council considers an appropriate planting scheme between the footpath and boundary wall of Capdoo Avenue to soften the landscaping, improve water control and enhance biodiversity.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the Parks Section will engage with the Roads Department and the Municipal District Office to evaluate the site and explore suitable planting opportunities from *inter alia* horticultural, biodiversity, and best practice nature-based solution perspectives.

Councillor McEvoy said there had been no planting after the works and suggested landscaping would be a better presentation. He was encouraged by the report which indicated further discussions would take place relating to the right planting and biodiversity.

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

#### **CM27//0924**

#### **Playground for Straffan**

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

Can the council provide an update on the provision of a playground for Straffan?



A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that Straffan GAA has offered a site for a playground within their grounds. However, the proposal is contingent upon the upgrade of their clubhouse. The playground cannot proceed until the Club advances its proposals.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said further information relating to a timeline would be needed from the GAA Club. He added this was a real priority for the Municipal District as Straffan was in dire need of a playground.

The report was noted.

#### **CM28//0924**

#### **Kilcock Playground**

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

Can the council provide an update on the start time for construction of Kilcock playground?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that tenders have been received for appraisal. Upon completion of the evaluation, a preferred bidder will be appointed as the contractor after successful completion of the awards process. It is envisaged that a tenderer will be appointed as a contractor for the construction of the playground later this year. Construction works would then commence in early 2025.

Councillor Melrose relayed the frustration of the project extending to next year and not in tandem with the Community Centre.

The report was noted.

#### **CM29//0924**

#### **Objective SKO 25 of the Kilcock Local Area Plan 2015-2021**

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

That the council, in keeping with objective SKO 25 of the Kilcock Local Area Plan 2015-2021, "To promote the creation of a quality public realm along New Road and reduce visual





clutter,” makes provision for a street mural to be painted on the walls of the buildings (formerly Kelly’s bakery factory) on New Road, Kilcock, depicting a story associated with St. Brigid.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Melrose and seconded by Councillor Farrelly. A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the Community Department will be launching a St. Brigid’s Community Grant Scheme in Autumn 2024. This scheme will be open to community and creative groups for projects relating to St. Brigid. Details of the scheme will be advertised on Kildare County Council and Brigid 1500 websites. All queries relating to the scheme can be emailed to [Brigid1500@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:Brigid1500@kildarecoco.ie). Please be advised that applications must hold necessary insurances and permissions, including planning permission, landowner consent and permission from civic memorial policy group where relevant.

A report was received from Public Realm informing the members that the Objective SKO25 of the Kilcock Local Area Plan is a very general objective, intended to address public spaces rather than individual properties. The property referenced in the motion is in private ownership and not a public space. The Strategic Projects & Public Realm (SPPR) work programme contains several large projects that remain to be delivered, sitting at various stages of progression or construction. A Health Check was completed for Kilcock in 2018, identifying projects that were considered important to residents and business groups in Kilcock. The progression of any projects requires funding and resource allocation to bring forward. Most projects funded on the SPPR programme are grant funded and the principles of those funds mean that not all projects are suitable to that funding stream. SPPR is putting together a programme of projects, identified in all Town Renewal Plans and Masterplans published around Kildare. There are over 120 projects which we will be prioritising for delivery, subject to funding and achieving planning consents where they are necessary. It should also be noted that if the street mural proposal progresses on this building or any similar building, planning permission may be required if it is within an Area of Conservation Architecture (ACA). As part of Brigid 1500 a mural was installed on a private property in Kildare Town, with the permission of the landowner and appropriate planning consents achieved.



The members raised the following:

- Tie in work with Brigid 1500.
- Beautiful mural in Kildare Town.
- Murals added to an area and reference made to a mural in honour of President Joe Biden in Trim, Co. Meath.
- Appreciated and commended work done in line with the Local Area Plan.
- Would be remiss not to examine possibilities.
- Appreciated that not in public ownership.
- Looked forward to works commencing.
- Tie in with countrywide efforts.
- Expand to as many areas in the county as possible.

Ms. P. O'Brien said she would issue details of the Grant Scheme to Community Organisations and was happy to work with them regarding all the necessary permissions. She said there was a good bit of lead time and would also need to be in line with the Civic Memorial Policy.

Ms. M. Higgins said that murals had an impact. She advised for Community Groups to link with the Arts Services as they would have the knowledge about areas such as planning and consent of the property owner.

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

### **CM30/0924**

#### **Ard Carraig to Woodview Footpath in Clogharinkoe Village**

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

That the council conducts urgent maintenance and clearance in the case of the Ard Carraig to Woodview footpath in Clogharinkoe Village.



The motion was proposed by Councillor Willaim Durkan and seconded by Councillor Tim Durkan.

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members an inspection of this site will be carried out to ascertain the works required and maintenance and clearance works will be carried out.

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

### **CM31//0924**

#### **Levies due on derelict properties**

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

That the council provide, in tabular form, figures for levies due on derelict properties in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District for 2024, including historical aggregated levies due on any such properties heretofore.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department providing the below table of properties in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District entered on the Derelict Sites Register and details of the total amount of levies owed.

<b>File no:</b>	<b>Date of entry</b>	<b>Property Address</b>
DS-2007-K02	22/06/2011	Mary Hickeys Sweet Shop, Church Street, Kilcock
DS-2007-A01	15/07/2015	Allenwood North
DS-2011-R04	06/02/2017	Grove Lane, Robertstown
DS-2021-20	11/01/2023	Clonaugh, Enfield
DS-2017-Kilcock01	28/04/2023	Grange, Kilcock
DS-2022-21	22/05/2023	Blossom Hill House, Ballynakill, Broadford



DS-2022-27	22/05/2023	Lions House pub, Kilcock
<b>Total levies owed inclusive of 2024</b>		<b>€240,381.44</b>

Levies are charged at 7% of the Market Valuation per annum. The derelict sites register transferred from Environment Department to the Housing and Regeneration Department in January 2024. Compulsory Purchase of the Derelict Site at Clonagh, Enfield has commenced and the other sites are being investigate and considered for Compulsorily Acquisition.

Councillor Melrose raised the following:

- Derelict properties were a Nationwide issue.
- €20m in levies was collected nationwide.
- Blight on the lands.
- Made reference to the Housing crisis and all the work which was required.
- Four properties in 2023 were vacant for over a decade and would like to see something done with those properties as soon as possible.

Ms. E. McGrath advised of a CPO process under the Derelict Sites Act. She said in some cases there had been extensive investment by new owners into older sites and some were at pre-planning stage. There can also be title issues and in those cases levies were rarely collected. However, at CPO stage the levies could be recouped.

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

**CM32//0924**

**Redevelopment of the Harbour Field Maynooth**

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

Can the council provide an update and timeline for the redevelopment of the Harbour Field Maynooth?



A report was received from the Public Realm Team informing the members that Strategic Projects and Public Realm (SPPR) successfully tendered for a Landscape Architect led Multi-Disciplinary Design team for the Detailed Design and Tender for the Harbourfield Development, Maynooth, Co. Kildare in April 2024, the tender closed at the end of May after which an assessment was carried out. Cathal O'Meara Landscape Architect emerged as the preferred tenderer and was awarded the contract in July 2024. A commencement meeting was held in August and engagement with internal departments of KCC is currently underway. Timeline for delivery of the detailed design and tender of the redevelopment of the public park has an expected delivery programme of 24 weeks. Progress reports on this project and all other project on the SPPR work programme are provided each month on the Chief Executive Report.

Councillor Tim Durkan enquired in relation to altering the decision process of 24 weeks and were Kildare County Council in a position to fund applications to shovel ready.

Mr. J. Hannigan, Meetings Administrator advised that due to staffing constraints a staff member from Public Realm was unable to attend and he would take back the enquiry to the Public Realm Team.

The report was noted.

### **CM33//0924**

#### **Social Housing Development on the Straffan Road Maynooth**

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

Can the council provide an update and completion date for the social housing development on the Straffan Road Maynooth?

A report was received from Town Regeneration informing the members of a Substantial Completion for Greenfield is programmed for Q4 2025.

The report was noted.



**CM34//0924**

**Clane Town Centre First Plan**

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

Can the council outline how a funding allocation, announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development, will be used to progress the Clane Town Centre First Plan?

A report was received from Town Regeneration informing the members that the adopted Clane Town Centre First Plan identified Wayfinding, town branding and identification and capitalising on the proximity of the River Liffey to Clane as opportunities that required further exploration. The Town Regeneration Officer on behalf of Clane Town Team submitted a funding application to the Department of Rural and Community Development to assist in progressing this area and are delighted that this proposal has been successful. It is hoped the funding will be used to engage consultants to carry out some or all of the following; prepare a detailed Wayfinding Strategy which will provide detailed design and costings for Town Gateways and walking routes/loops and enhancement of heritage sites, to examine a town branding scheme for Clane, including the provision of designs and costings for signage and to prepare a detailed plan which maximises the potential of the River Liffey in Clane.

The report was noted.

**CM35//0924**

**Taking in Charge of Hawthorns Estate, Kilcock**

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

Can the council provide an update on the taking in charge of Hawthorns Estate, Kilcock?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Department informing the members that all infrastructure within this estate is complete. Development Control continue to liaise with the Developer and are awaiting submission of the Taking In Charge documentation to commence the process.



Councillor Ward said it was good to learn that all infrastructure within this estate was complete. He enquired if anything could be done where the developer delays or stops, resulting in no action.

Mr. L. McNeela advised there had been no Taking in Charge request from the developer and the onus was on him. There had been previous delays in relation to Taking in Charge of Royal Meadows. He said Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act could be commenced.

The report was noted.

**CM36//0924**

**Christmas Lights Local Property Tax Awards 2024**

The members considered the approval of the Christmas Lights Local Property Tax Awards 2024.

Clane/Maynooth M.D. - Local property Tax 2024 -Christmas Lights		
Group	Requested Amount	Proposed Grant
Newtown Community Group	€990	€500
Carbury Village Residents Association	€6,750	€3,000
Maynooth Christmas Lights	€25,000	€11,100
Kilcock Business Association	€8,000	€3,600
Coill Dubh Residents Association	€1,000	€500
Clane Community Council	€3,000	€1,300
<b>Totals</b>	<b>€44,740</b>	<b>€20,000</b>

Councillor McEvoy excused himself from the chamber while this item was conducted.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Feeney, seconded by Councillor Wyse and agreed by the members that the Christmas Lights Payments be approved.

**CM37/0924**

**Replacement Community Cabin in Ashgrove, Derrinturn**

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



That the council provides a replacement community cabin in Ashgrove, Derrinturn, as a matter of urgency.

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

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the Community Department is progressing the replacement of the community cabin Ashgrove in Derrinturn and expects this to be installed in the coming months.

The members raised the following:

- Community Cabin was absolutely necessary and although it was in Ashgrove Estate it was used by the whole community.
- Cabin was the only bit of hope and there was a great community spirit.
- Arson attack on a Kildare County Council house, which had cost thousands of euro to put right.
- Talks had taken place with An Garda Síochána.
- People had no respect it was like the wild west and good v evil.
- Questioned why people were not put out of houses when they had no respect for the laws of the land.
- Extended thanks to Paula, Doreen and Keith and commended their work in extremely difficult circumstances.
- Asked the Director to immediately liaise with the Superintendent in Leixlip.
- Residents were living in fear and it was not right.
- Formally asked the Director to request the Superintendent to meet with members, along with Keith and Doreen to solve the activities going on in the area.
- This was a wonderful community.
- Investment in communities was how social issues were taken care of.
- Enquired about Youth Workers and Community Groups developing relationships with Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and also the availability of grants for long term works.





Ms. M. Higgins referred to a particular community, which was not in this Municipal District where a strong community development approach had been taken. With full agency support the Community had now fully turned around and had gained an award. She also referenced Children and Young Peoples's Services Committee (CYPSC) and the work happening behind the scenes which included consultations with Local Authorities, Tusla and at senior level with An Garda Síochána. She added that a small amount of money could do a lot to create sustainable and resilient communities and Community Leaders were needed.

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

#### **CM38/0924**

#### **Childcare Provision in this Municipal District**

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

That this council invites the Department of Children, Equality, Diversity, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and the Kildare County Childcare Committee (KCCC), along with council representatives in Planning and Housing to a meeting with members to discuss childcare provision in this municipal district.

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

A report was received from Mr. J. Hannigan, Meetings Administrator informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree. The Kildare County Childcare Committee are meeting with the Full Council on Monday 21 October at 2.00 pm in the council chamber. This has been agreed at CPG.

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



The members agreed to take Item 42 and Item 43 from the Agenda together.

### **CM39/0924**

#### **Swimming Pool in North Kildare**

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

That the Council confirms its plans to engage with Swim Ireland and the relevant Government Departments to secure a swimming pool in North Kildare as a priority, following the recent publication of a National Swimming Strategy.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Farrelly and seconded by Councillor Feeney. A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that Kildare County Council is currently in discussions with Swim Ireland and other bodies with a view to advancing a swimming facility for North Kildare. Meetings are being held with various suppliers and consultants with a view to exploring alternative solutions.

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council confirm the current status of discussions with the Maynooth College regarding the reopening of the swimming pool for community use?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that Kildare County Council is continuing discussions with Maynooth University, St Patricks College, Swim Ireland and other bodies with a view to advancing a swimming facility for North Kildare. Meetings are ongoing with various suppliers and consultants with a view to exploring alternative solutions.

The members raised the following:

- Commended the pursuit of swimming pool and there was a sense it was very close.
- Needed to tie in with National Policy and Local Policy.
- Thanked Executive for the work pursuing this and trusted the work would progress.
- Councillor Feeney said as a child she had collected monies towards swimming pool.
- Called for college pool to be made available for community use.



- Swimming was a life skill.

Ms. P. O'Brien advised that a meeting had taken place in the summer and another meeting that week. She asked for the members, when discussing LPT, to be conscious of the significant costs involved as the pool was over 100 years old. Discussions to take place with Maynooth University and as soon as there was more information she would share that with the members.

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

#### **CM40/0924**

#### **EU Just Transition Fund in this Municipal District**

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

Can the council confirm if it intends to apply for funding for projects regarding the EU Just Transition Fund in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Ms. J. McNabb, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office informing the members that the EU Just Transition Fund (JTF) is focused on three priority areas of investment, with the six regional delivery partners across multiple funding calls. The relevant areas for Kildare County Council's Enterprise Economic Development and Tourism Department are within Priority 1:

Generating employment for former peat communities by investing in the diversification of the local economy.

- Support the economic diversification of the local economy through the development of the regenerative Tourism sector. (Through Fáilte Ireland)
- Support the implementation of local and regional economic strategies. (Through Pobal)
- Support research, development, and innovation in the bioeconomy sector. (DAFM)



Kildare County Council's Enterprise Economic Development and Tourism Department are currently implementing the Regenerative Tourism and Placemaking Scheme and Tourism Activation Scheme under priority 1 which cover Maynooth Celbridge Municipal District and Athy Municipal District. A funding application to support the implementation of local regional and economic strategies to Pobal has been unsuccessful, and further clarification has been requested from the delivery partner on the decision. Kildare County Council, Community Department submitted a funding application to Pobal to improve access to Allenwood Community Development Association (ACDAL), the community and enterprise centre located in Northwest Kildare by building a sustainable walk and cycle route to and from the village of Allenwood. This would have resulted in increased access to and from this pivotal centre for the region. This application was not successful.

A third call under Support to Local and Regional Economic Strategies of 3.7 million to be shared across a number of counties has opened for “shovel ready” projects only, with a deadline of 20 September. This call is limited to projects capable of immediate implementation, i.e. planning permission, leases and partnership agreements for operations are already in place, and outcomes for job creation and training are achievable. Projects must also align to the Local Economic and Community Plan actions. Our priority project in the Maynooth Celbridge Municipal District which has been is a feasibility study/business case for the development of an Industrial Park is not eligible under the current call. The community department is currently supporting the Robertstown Community Amenities Association application, for the development of the Eco Park and Community Space in the third call for funding. Please note both Municipal Districts will also benefit from investment from the EUJTF through additional projects such as peatland restoration and transport decarbonisation initiatives through the regional delivery partners.

Councillor Farrelly requested a meeting for members with Ms. J. McNabb in relation to Just Transition and the application process.

Ms. P. O'Brien informed the members of the following:

- Gave examples of where funding had been sought and were unsuccessful and they were very disappointed with those outcomes.



- No successful project application in Kildare.
- The issue was that projects had to be shovel ready.
- LECP, Economic Development and Community Projects.
- Community Groups seeking funding should come forward and Kildare County Council would assist them with their applications.

Ms. M Higgins said there were nine pockets of monies and it was a complicated funding model with different agencies involved. There was also a requirement of projects to be shovel ready. There were different rules for each of the various pockets. The Electric Vehicle element of these projects is managed by Zero Emission Vehicle Ireland (ZEVI) and Kildare County Council had previously put forward suitable sites.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.