



**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Meeting  
held on Friday 05 July 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 Feeney, P Melrose, and P McEvoy.

**Apologies:** A Farrelly, P Ward and B Wyse.

**Officials Present:** Ms. M Higgins (District Manager), Mr. C Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Mr. A Hickey (Assistant Engineer), Mr. D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr. J Hennessy (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr. L McNeela (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms. S McCullough (Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer), Ms. O Howe (A/Senior Staff Officer), Ms. G Allen (County Librarian), Ms. A Keaveney (A/Senior Executive Engineer), Mr. C O'Toole (A/Administrative Officer), Ms. S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Ms. A Cassidy (Senior Staff Officer), Ms. D Egan (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the first Municipal District meeting since the Local Elections, welcoming in particular the newly elected Councillors along with all returning Councillors. He also welcomed Jane Cummins, currently studying for a Masters in Climate Action who was attending in the public gallery.



**CM01/0724**

**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.

**CM02/0724**

**Municipal District Road Works Programme**

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

**General Works:**

**Local Property Tax (LPT) Funding:**

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

**General Footpath Works completed:**

L2004 Millicent Rd, Clane - Footpath and Drainage works

R402 Johnstownbridge - Drainage works

L6001 Curryhills, Prosperous - Footpath works

**Works underway:**

Newtown (Cappagh GAA) - Footpath works

**Works tendered**

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



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L	50222	Kilkeaskin	750	Awarded
L	1021	Corkeragh	1,500	Awarded
R	401	Ballindoolin	1000	Awarded
L	1004	Dunfeirth Road Johnstown Bridge	1000	On site
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	Awarded
R	403	Brockagh	1,200	Awarded
R	403	Allenwood	480	Awarded
L	10222	Curryhills Cul de Sac	400	Design
R	403	Curryhills	650	Design
R	403	Prosperous Main Street	720	Awarded
L	5078	Clane Ring Road	880	Tendered
L	5071	Staplestown Village	1,100	Design
R	406	Straffan Road Maynooth	500	Awarded

## Climate Adaptation Works 2024

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

## 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	Design
L	50212	The Cush Road Ticknevin	1200	Design
R	148	Laraghbryan	1000	Design
R	405	Celbridge Road	900	Design
L	1017	Derryvarogue – Timahoe	5950	Completed
L	5025	Timahoe West	1100	Completed
L	5032	Belgard Road	1470	Completed
L	5031	Ballycannon	1700	Completed



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L	6007	Millicent South	1200	Completed
L	6008	Ballysize	1500	Completed
L	6001	Back Road Prosperous	1000	Completed
R	403	Skew Bridge Allenwood	1250	Design
R	415	Grangeclare	1250	Design

The District Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Footpath works at Newtown School including road resurfacing would be carried out in 2 weeks.

Road resurfacing would take place at the following locations before the next Municipal District meeting in September.

- Kishawanny
- Allenwood
- Night works on the Straffan Road in Maynooth were planned to start on the 15 July.
- Prosperous R403 works planned for 29 July would involve a nighttime road closure.

As the crew moved through the works on the Road Works Programme, surface dressing works would continue later in July or early August in the Municipal District at:

- R148 at Laraghbryan in Maynooth
- R405 Celbridge Road in Maynooth
- R403 Between Allenwood and Derrinturn near Skew Bridge.
- R415 near the Travellers Rest heading for Kilmeague.



**CM03/0724**

**Speed Limit Review**

The members received a presentation on the 2024 Speed Limit Review from Mr. J Hennessy, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management.

The members raised the following:

- There had been a number of fatalities on the roads recently.
- Action Plan and quarterly targets were very helpful.
- Enquired where would funding be sourced to revamp all Kildare County Council's speed signage.
- Would this process include the work already carried out from previous motions and questions. Many motions had been put down previously at the Joint Policing Committee and speed had been the common thread.
- Whether approval of speed limits for particular roads was to be agreed at Municipal District or Full Council level.
- Would there be external technical input.
- Welcomed the introduction of Jake's Law in housing estates, noting that this was only in housing estates which had been taken in charge. This created an added incentive to have more housing estates taken in charge.
- Pointed out that in accordance with planning regulations new housing estates already had a 30km/h speed limit.
- Requested for the slides from the presentation be circulated to members.

Mr. J. Hennessy, Senior Executive Engineer, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informed the members of the following:

- Each Municipal District Office will quantify resources and the quantity of signage.
- Procurement process would be undertaken centrally by Department of Transport and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.
- No decision had been made to date in relation to the physical installation of signage, whether this would be by individual Municipal Districts or if this would be centralised.
- First step would be reduction of speed limits on Rural/Local Roads from 80km/h to 60km/h.



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- Would revert to Councillors in relation to Urban Speed Limits at a later date, emphasising that Local Rural Roads would be addressed first.
- Stringent set of criteria was involved in the Speed Limit Review process and advised that these would be shared with the members.
- Intention would be that if a speed limit was reduced, it would not go up again without very good reason.

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

- Time constraint to implement the programme by the anticipated commencement date expected in November 2024.
- First task was to seek approval of members in relation to bye-laws, to enable the commencement of the process.
- Countywide Speed Limit Reviews ordinarily occur every 5 years and this process will continue as will the review process that is open to the public to seek a review of a particular speed limit.
- The focus would be on changes to the default speed limits and initially only on rural local roads. Roads with L that had an 80km/h default would reduce to a default of 60km/h, unless otherwise voted on at Full Council.
- The Council had selected a number of routes which were being examined against the criteria set out in the Department of Transport documentation.
- Information on assessments of speed limits would be provided to the members.
- Advised there was a very high bar to increase a speed limit.
- There was an unacceptable number of road deaths in the Country and it was Kildare County Council's mandate to reduce speed limits in their county.
- It was noted that staff members of Kildare County Council form part of a number of national working groups on speed limits and advised there would have to be a very compelling reason to justify increasing a speed limit above the new default limit.
- It would be very important that in early 2025 and straight after the conclusion of the Local Rural Roads process, that a countywide speed reduction in housing estates be brought forward for public consultation and approval by the members.



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- An Urban Roads Speed Limit Review was planned for 2025.
- It was further noted that the working assumption was that for areas along local rural roads which have a current special speed limit of 50km/h that this special speed limit would still apply.
- Emphasised that all decisions would be those of the members. That his department would deem a location suitable and inform members, but the decision would ultimately be with the Elected Members as it was a reserved function.
- Ensured the circulation to members of the slides from the presentation.

### **CM04/0724**

#### **Section 38 of the road Traffic Act 1994**

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. (Deferred to next Municipal District monthly meeting on Friday 06 September).

### **CM05/0724**

#### **Footpath Repairs at Donore Cottages**

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

That the council provides urgent footpath repairs in the case of Donore Cottages, due to safety and accessibility concerns raised by residents in the area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor W. Durkan, seconded by Councillor T. Durkan.

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members there is no funding allocated in the 2024 budget to repair these footpaths. The Municipal District Office will add this request to the list and should funding become available, works will be scheduled. Otherwise, this request can be considered as part of the 2025 works programme.

Councillor W. Durkan requested this item be listed as a high priority.



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

### CM06/0724

#### **Speed ramps on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth**

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

That the council installs speed ramps on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth in the vicinity of the nursing home, to address speeding issues on this busy approach road to the town.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members this road was upgraded as part of the North South Corridor Scheme, the footpaths were widened and the carriageway width was reduced. The Municipal District office will organise for a speed survey to be carried out on this section of the Moyglare road and if speeding is an issue, it will be referred to An Garda Síochána for monitoring and enforcement.

Councillor Feeney welcomed the report, which advised a speed survey would be carried out at the location. The residents on the road had been in contact with her and the issue of poor driver behaviour had also been highlighted. She suggested a ramp could be installed so as to slow down traffic.

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





**CM07/0724**

**Public Street Lighting**

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

That the council makes provision for the installation of public street lighting on the R157 Dunboyne Road from the Dunboyne Road roundabout to the junction of the R157 and R148 in the interest of public safety.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Melrose, seconded by Councillor Feeney.

A report was received from Mr. D Reel, A/Senior Engineer informing members the section of road in question is approximately 850m long and will require 25 lighting columns and lanterns. The approximate cost to deliver a lighting scheme along this road is in the region €76,000. There are currently no funds identified for this proposal and funding would need to be identified prior to progressing with this scheme.

Councillor Melrose conveyed his thanks for the report and outlined that this had been an issue that was brought to his attention on his recent canvassing campaign. He said there were a number of young families in the area and it was incumbent on the council to provide adequate health and safety measures, to include proper lighting on the links to Carton Avenue.

With regard to the issue of funding Mr. M McLoughlin from the Transport Department advised the approach of most Municipal Districts, was to set aside €30,000 to €40,000 from Local Property Tax funds.

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



**CM08/0724**

**Court House Square, Maynooth**

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

That the council undertakes a health and safety review of Court House Square, Maynooth, in relation to loose cobblestones and broken or uneven paving, and subsequently prioritises the replacement of any such that pose a potential danger to public safety.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Melrose, seconded by Councillor T Durkan.

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the upgrading of Court House Square, Maynooth, is part of the master plan which includes the footpaths on Main Street and the Harbour Field. Upon completion of this, funding will be sought from department grants. The Municipal District office will arrange for the crew to inspect the existing paving and carry out repairs as required. It is important to note that there are smooth paved footways through Court House Square.

Councillor Melrose advised he had stubbed his toe on a pavement and torn his patellar tendon. He was cognisant of the footfall in the area of the Market and he would like if repairs to pavements could be prioritised, particularly around arches and lighting. He advised he agreed with the Local Area Plan and the Master Plan. He enquired in relation to page 58 of the Local Area Plan which made reference to the Master Plan and if these Plans were linked or separate to each other.

Councillor Feeney supported the motion and paid tribute to the late Eddie Tobin from Railpark in Maynooth commending his role in the Community and on the Residents Association. She informed members that only recently Eddie had highlighted to her the dangers with regard to pavements which were in disrepair and at that time informed her that his wife Geraldine had suffered a minor incident. We need to pre-empt these types of incidents and take action, as people were not safe getting from A to B.



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The members raised the following:

- Conveyed their sympathies to the late Eddie Tobin's family.
- Highlighted the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) phased funding at Harbourfield and Court House Square.
- To explore the possibility of spending URDF funds in September to carry out repairs.
- There was a large footfall of students in the area.
- Requested the District Engineer carry out a costing in relation to putting down asphalt to address the issues.

The District Engineer advised members a crew could carry out maintenance. He also pointed out cobblelock was not designed to be walked on, as it was just for decorative purposes. The crew would attempt to remove the trip hazards but funding was the difficulty. As requested a costing would be carried out in relation to asphalt.

The District Manager informed members she would request Ms. P Pender, Strategic Projects and Public Realm to provide members with an update on various projects.

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

### **CM09/0724**

#### **Staplestown National School**

That the council meets with Councillors and representatives of Staplestown N.S. and PTA to discuss the current concerns regarding road safety and pedestrian crossing and identify solutions for same.

As Councillor A. Farrelly was not in attendance his motion fell.



**CM10/0724**

**Safe crossing points for pedestrians in Clane**

That the council reviews the three roundabouts in Clane regarding safe crossing points for pedestrians, to ensure they are designed in line with national guidance.

As Councillor A. Farrelly was not in attendance his motion fell.

**CM11/0724**

**Repairs on laneway off R415 in Derrymullen**

That the council carries out repairs on the laneway off the R415 in Derrymullen just south of Bond Bridge, and the laneway east of Drehid Cross running south off the L5025, and add these two roads to the works programme for 2025.

As Councillor B. Wyse was not in attendance his motion fell.

**CM12/0724**

**Survey of traffic volumes at Moyglare Road, Maynooth**

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

That Kildare County Council carries out a full survey of traffic volumes and speed on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members the Municipal District office will organise for a speed survey to be carried out on the Moyglare road and if speeding is an issue, it will be referred to An Garda Síochána for monitoring and enforcement.



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Councillor T. Durkan welcomed the report which advised a speed survey would be carried out at the location. He said this was a long straight road and he had highlighted the issues of speeding at this location previously. He suggested the speed on this road be reduced to 30km/h adding he would also discuss the issue with An Garda Síochána.

Councillor Ó Cearúil advised he had grown up in the Moyglare Road area and had seen the speed of traffic, adding there were a number of schools in this area. He said there was a huge volume of pedestrians on the road and also crossing at the GAA. He added a solution needed to be found to reduce speed on that road.

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

### CM13/0724

#### Traffic Calming Measures

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

That the council summarises progress on implementing traffic calming measures to improve active travel opportunities at schools in the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District and outlines options for a five-year strategy to resource additional measures for the remaining works needed.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor W. Durkan.

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing members Kildare County Council Sustainable Transport Section are progressing delivery plans, as part of the Safe Routes to School Programme within the Clane - Maynooth Municipal District, which include a Park and Stride proposal for the school at New Road/The Glebe, Straffan. It also includes a Park and Stride and permeability access proposals, from the Ballinagappa Road to the Prosperous Road, for the schools at Prosperous Road, Clane.



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The members raised the following:

- A debate had taken place at Full Council in relation to the Capital Programme.
- Possibility of 3 year Programme to be drawn up to facilitate catching up on key items affecting Communities.
- Particular issues in relation to pedestrians at school entrances.
- Requested a list be drawn up in relation to, for example a Footpath, School and a Library Strategy.

Mr. D. Hodgins, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management said just after an election was a good opportunity to examine how Local Property Tax (LPT) could be spent. He gave some samples of how works had been achieved as follows:

- Newtown School funded by their own resources, no funds from National Transport Authority (NTA) and some funding from LPT.
- New signage at pedestrian crossing at Football Club in Maynooth, funded not just by NTA but also funded in part by LPT.

He informed the members there was €1 million set aside in the Capital Fund to cover all five Municipal Districts.

The District Engineer advised there were a lot of minor works which if addressed could make a big impact.

The District Manager said it was an opportunity for forward planning which would allow the various teams to strategically plan for works.

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



**CM14/0724**

**St. Brigid's Terrace, Straffan**

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

That the council resurfaces St. Brigid's Terrace, Straffan.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members there was no funding in the 2024 Road Works Programme to carry out these works. This request will be added to the list of requested schemes for 2025.

Councillor Ó Cearúil advised there were a lot of young families in the area. He said the road was in disrepair and needed to be on the Road Works Programme both this year and next.

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

**CM15/0724**

**Public lighting in Parklands Square, Maynooth**

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

That the council installs public lighting in Parklands Square, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from Mr. D Reel, A/Senior Engineer informing members the additional lighting request will be added to the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Scheme (KLIPS) register and will be ranked according to the KLIPS criteria. In the interim, Kildare County Council Public Lighting Team would request Councillor Ó Cearúil to send in a map highlighting the exact location of the proposed lighting, which will allow the public lighting section to develop costs for the proposal. Please note there are no funds currently



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available for additional public lighting and funding will need to be identified prior to progressing this proposal.

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

### **CM16/0724**

#### **L-5071 through Staplestown Village**

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

Can the council provide an update on when road works will be completed in the case of the L-5071 through Staplestown Village?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members the Municipal District office is currently reviewing the budgets for resurfacing in 2024. A decision on the Staplestown Village works will be made in mid-July 2024.

The report was noted.

### **CM17/0724**

#### **L-5008 Road at Clogherinkoe**

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

Can the council provide an update on when road works will be completed in the case of the L-5008 Road at Clogherinkoe?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members the resurfacing of this road is currently awarded to a contractor and works should be completed within the next two months.

The report was noted.





**CM18/0724**

**Pedestrian lights at Maynooth Town Football Club (MTFC)**

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

Can the council provide any update as to when the push button pedestrian lights at Maynooth Town Football Club (MTFC) will be energised?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing members all works are substantially complete at this location and RECI Cert has been submitted to Electrical Supply Board (ESB) Networks. The scheduling of the provision of the ESB power supply is solely a matter for ESB Networks and therefore no connection date can be provided. Kildare County Council Traffic Management Section have liaised with ESB Networks in order to try progress the matter.

Councillor Feeney said it was a shame the pedestrian lights were installed and ready for use but were not yet operational. There were children using this area to attend the Soccer Club and that it was a matter of safety. It was frustrating how slow ESB Networks were and referred to the 3 year wait for energising lights at the canal.

The report was noted.

**CM19/0724**

**Celbridge Road, Maynooth**

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

Can the council provide an update and progress report on the delivery of improvement works on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing members that following detailed discussions with the National Transport Authority (NTA), Kildare County Council has run a tender process to appoint a consultant to undertake preliminary design and statutory processes for Celbridge Road Active Travel Scheme, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. Tenders have now been received and are currently being



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assessed. It is anticipated that a preferred consultant will be identified and appointed in the coming weeks and that after a standstill period of 14 days the consultant will commence design work. At present it is anticipated that design work will recommence in July 2024. The report was noted.

### **CM20/0724**

#### **R403 footpath between Liffey Lawns and Scoil Bhríde, Clane**

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

Can the council outline if the summer works programme will include a solution to address surface water pooling for pedestrians on the R403 footpath between Liffey Lawns and Scoil Bhríde, Clane?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members the Municipal District Engineer will check the current works programme and advise the member in the coming weeks.

Councillor McEvoy said there were a few pooling areas and he appreciated that to complete all necessary works would require a lot of funding. He requested if at this time the necessary works at the school could be carried out.

The District Engineer advised works at the school would be looked at.  
The report was noted.

### **CM21/0724**

#### **M4 Bus Corridor**

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

Can the council outline progress towards completing the M4 bus corridor in this municipal district?



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A report was received from the National Roads Office informing members the M4 Bus Priority measures are progressing as two projects: M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures (at construction stage) and M4 Westbound Bus Priority Measures (at design stage) as set out below:

### **M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures**

Per the approved Part 8, this project is eastbound on the M4 from Maynooth to Leixlip. Further details of the 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>

At present there is a Road Works Speed Limit Order in place (08 April–02 December 2024) on the M4 Eastbound between junctions 5 and 6. Enabling works such as ducting and drainage get underway for the construction of the first phase of the bus priority measures (M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures), Junction 5 to Junction 6 Eastbound. Construction of the remainder of the scheme from Junction 6 to Junction 7 is intended to follow the first phase.

### **M4 Westbound Bus Priority Measures**

A technical advisor has recently been appointed to progress Phase 3, Design and Environmental Evaluation, and Phase 4, Statutory Process, for the M4 Westbound Bus Priority Measures.

Councillor McEvoy referred to regular bus users of the 115 on the North West Corridor, the 120x servicing Edenderry to the City and the scale of movement by Public Transport. He said the issues on the M7 needed to be addressed.

The District Manager informed members she would convey Councillor McEvoy's comments to the National Roads Office.

The report was noted.



**CM22/0724**

**Speed Limit Review**

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

Can the council provide the members with an update on the speed limit review in this municipal district as a matter of urgency?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing members a 2023 speed limit review was completed by the Department of Transport and this review has provided for legislative changes to the following default speed limits:

- 30 km/h (Urban Areas)
- 60 km/h (Rural Local Roads)
- 80 km/h (National Secondary Roads)

The default speed limits are to take effect on a staggered basis and the provisional commencement dates are as follows:

- End of November 2024 for Rural Local Roads
- Quarter 1/Quarter 2 2025 for National Secondary Roads and Urban Speed Limits

Kildare County Council is currently undertaking an exercise to quantify the volume of signage required for the implementation of the 60km/h rural local road default limit.

A presentation on the Speed Limit Review 2024 will be delivered to each Municipal District meeting in July 2024.

The report was noted.

**CM23/0724**

**Traffic Lights at Allenwood Cross**

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

Can the council provide an update on the proposed Traffic Lights at Allenwood Cross?



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A report was received from the Transport Design Team informing members the signalised junction is currently being designed by our consultants following a meeting onsite with the Elected Representatives to review the options developed for the junction.

Councillor Fitzpatrick said this was an ongoing issue at Allenwood Cross. He enquired when the report from the consultants would be made available to the members and where would the funding be sourced.

The District Engineer informed members this issue was not being dealt with by his team but he would convey the comments back to the appropriate department.

The report was noted.

### **CM24/0724**

#### **Moyglare Village Estate**

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

That the council removes or significantly trims back the trees in the Moyglare Village Estate, Maynooth along the adjoining wall with Maynooth GAA.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing members the location will be examined and any works that may be required will be considered for the next programme of tree works in the Maynooth Municipal District.

Councillor Feeney welcomed the report outlining that the issue would be examined. She added that approximately eight months ago two trees had fallen down. In addition there had been a significant fire on 08 June in that area, requiring the attendance of the Emergency Services. Residents of Moyglare Village Estate had relayed to her, issues in the area in relation to anti-social behaviour and drug use.



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Councillor Ó Cearúil said the trees were not suitable and were falling apart. He added that he had raised this issue two years ago.

Ms. S. McCullough, Parks Department informed the members a survey had been carried out recently and no problems were identified. She acknowledged the issues outlined in relation to anti-social behaviour and the recent fire and advised a visit to this location would take place the following week.

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

### CM25/0724

#### Boundary fence in Ticknevin

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

That the council installs a boundary fence in front of the houses in Ticknevin to allow the residents on the cul-de-sac some privacy and also levels the clay on the green area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

A report was received from the Parks Department informing members a site meeting will be arranged with Councillor Fitzpatrick to review the location and the issues outlined. Any works require a budget to be identified for them and will be considered for the 2025 Parks Works Programme in the context of existing works already committed to across the Municipal District.

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



**CM26/0724**

**Signage around Playgrounds**

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

That the council enters discussions with Allenwood Community Development Association (ACDAL) to review the signage around playgrounds to remind drivers to drive slowly and to park in the appropriate places.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

A report was received from the Parks Department informing members work has already taken place on signage and parking. The issues highlighted will be discussed further with ACDAL.

The members raised the following:

- Allenwood Playground was a huge success, but it had created knock on effect on traffic resulting in parking issues.
- At board level, dialogue between ACDAL and Kildare County Council would be appreciated.
- To assess the possibility of the installation of a Public Toilet.
- Business at that location depended on the safe use of existing parking.
- Children from the Creche opposite used the playground during the full calendar year.

Ms. S McCullough, Parks Department informed members her department would monitor, manage and discuss this issue.

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



**CM27/0724**

**Masterplan for Carton**

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

Can the council inform members when the Masterplan for Carton will be published?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing members work on engaging consultants to develop a conservation plan for Carton Avenue is part of our current works programme. This will inform the development of a masterplan. Once the conservation plan is complete consultants will be engaged to develop a masterplan. It is likely it will be 2026 before a masterplan is published.

Councillor Feeney said she was disappointed with the report which advised it was likely to be 2026 before a Masterplan would be published and enquired as to why there was such a delay. Were the Masterplan for Carton and the Maynooth Local Area Plan being worked through at the moment and could both be run in tandem.

Ms. S McCullough, Parks Department informed members a Conservation Plan was on the Programme. She advised that a huge volume of work was involved in assembling such a report. It required, for example Heritage Report and Ecological Report along with Public Consultation. This would create a solid ground towards the Master Plan.

The report was noted.

**CM28/0724**

**Signage at Gateway Points of Johnstownbridge Village**

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

That the council provides signage at the gateway points of Johnstownbridge Village, in line with similar measures in other towns in the area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor W. Durkan, seconded by Councillor T. Durkan.





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A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing members the Johnstownbridge Village Renewal Masterplan has been developed and agreed in consultation with residential and commercial stakeholders from the town/village, the elected members and the relevant departments within the Local Authority. Some projects will be delivered in the short term and others in the medium to longer term, taking into account funding availability, land ownership etc. The Masterplan is an important tool that will enable Kildare County Council and the community to apply for a range of funding schemes, including the Rural Regeneration Development Fund and the Town and Village funding where a greater priority is given to the funding of projects which are considered part of an overall village plan. Currently Strategic Projects and Public Realm do not have funding in place for the delivery of the village gateways projects. Projects will be delivered when funding becomes available through the various Town Renewal funding streams, Local Property Tax or in partnership with other Local Authority Departments to leverage available funding from other work programmes. It should be noted that the projects identified in the Masterplan are conceptual only and may be subject to appropriate planning consents and further consultation processes prior to detail design and construction stage.

Councillor Durkan said he appreciated the report and enquired if he could have access to the list of recent successful applications so as to assist in emulating success for new applications, the aim of which would be to reduce the pressure on Local Property Tax demands.

Ms. A Keaveney, Strategic Projects and Public Realm advised a list would be made available.

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



**CM29/0724**

**Village Gateways**

That the council prepares detailed designs and costings for the village gateways for Allenwood, Coill Dubh, Kilmeague and Robertstown, in preparation for future funding applications.

As Councillor B. Wyse was not in attendance his motion fell.

**CM30/0724**

**Regeneration of New Road, Kilcock**

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

Can the council provide an update of planned works to regenerate New Road, Kilcock, in terms of “active frontages and a quality public realm”, in accordance with the 2015-2021 Local Area Plan?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing members the regeneration of New Road, Kilcock is not on the SPPR work programme for 2024 and does not have funding in place to date. Priority projects are subject to agreement with the members, resources and availability of funding.

Councillor Melrose requested clarity in relation to how projects were prioritised from the Local Area Plan. He also enquired if a motion would be required to progress the issue.

Ms. A. Keavney advised that the matter was a question for the Roads Department.

The Cathaoirleach advised Councillor Melrose to contact the Municipal District Engineer in relation to his question.

The report was noted.



**CM31/0724**

**Vacant private properties in the Maynooth LEA**

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

Can the council outline its role in identifying vacant private properties in the Maynooth LEA; if they liaise with vacanthomes.ie in the sharing of information, and if there are targeted council plans to tackle vacancy locally, separate from submissions by the public to the vacancy website?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm informing members of the following:

- Properties reported on vacanthomes.ie are notified to the Vacant Homes Section as soon as reported, all reported properties are investigated.
- A vacancy survey of the county took place in 2023 with over 1000 properties surveyed and vacancy data was collected including extensive surveys in the Maynooth Local Electoral Area (LEA).
- Further surveys of towns in this LEA have taken place this year.
- 2 Compulsory Purchase Orders under the Housing Act have been confirmed in 2024.
- 1 Compulsory acquisition under the Derelict Sites Act has commenced.
- The Vacant Homes Officer, Tenant Liaison Officers (TLOs), Clerk of Works and Technicians who are active in the area report any vacant properties in the area to the Vacant Homes Team.
- All reports of vacancy are thoroughly investigated and the Vacant Homes Unit engages with owners to encourage and assist addressing vacancy and dereliction, acquiring properties compulsorily if required.

Councillor Melrose enquired as to what methods were employed to identify vacant private properties, in particular he enquired in relation to what capacity the Tenant Liaison Officers operate at and how and what methods were used to identify such properties.



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Ms. O. Howe informed members that An Post had previously carried out a survey of vacant properties which they had made available. Also, when a vacant property was identified a site visit would take place and a survey would be carried out. In some cases a Compulsory Purchase Order may be required.

The report was noted.

### **CM32/0724**

#### **Clane Library**

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

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That the council outlines the next phase towards completing the development of the Clane Library now that national funding has been allocated.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick.

A report was received from the County Librarian informing members under public library capital investment, the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) has granted Kildare County Council €1.9m towards the delivery of Clane Community Library. €1.1 million has been approved by the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District from Local Property Tax from 2021–2024. The balance of the €3.8m project will be funded by Kildare County Council under the Capital Programme. The Part 8 Planning Report for the Clane Library Capital Project was approved in May 2023. Following the completion of the detailed design, the Stage 3 application was submitted by the Library Service to the Department of Rural and Community Development December 2023 and we await their response. The Library Service is currently working with the Design Team on finalising the Bill of Quantities and the tender documentation for the main contractor. To comply with planning and health and safety requirements, the Library Service is also engaging with the Village Centre Management Company and the other Unit Owners to come to an agreement to make improvements to the common areas within the Centre as part of this project. Until the Library Service receives approval from DRCD for our Stage 3 application we cannot proceed to publish the tender. We expect to receive their response in the coming weeks. The tender process is estimated to take 3–4 months to complete. The Library Service must



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then submit a Stage 4 application to the DRCD for approval before the contract with the successful contractor can be signed. The construction stage is currently estimated by the Design Team at 12-14 months. The Library Service will need a further 3 months following handover for fit out, IT installation and shelving the collection before opening to the public.

Ms. G. Allen, County Librarian informed the members of the following:

- Backlog within the Department.
- Work was currently taking place finalising the tender.
- Would be followed by procurement to get tender launched.
- Discussions were taking place with each of the donors.
- Issues in relation to shared car parking spaces were being ironed out.
- Commencement on site in 2025.
- Works were estimated to take approximately 12 months
- Fit out of the Library would take a further 2 to 3 months.

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

### **CM33/0724**

#### **Business Campus Kilcock**

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

Can the council provide an update on the funding application for the provision of a business campus in Kilcock, Co. Kildare?

A report was received from the Local Enterprise Office informing members Pobal is still evaluating the application; they have sought some technical clarifications which Kildare County Council has responded to. Kildare County Council is awaiting the final decision from Pobal.

Councillor T. Durkan said interest in the Business Campus had snowballed. He said he was aware of 120 businesses looking to access such a facility.



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The District Manager apologised on behalf of the Local Enterprise Office as a member of staff was unable to attend the meeting. She advised she had been involved in the appeal to Pobal and hoped it would be good news.

The report was noted.

### **CM34/0724**

#### **TIC of Castledawson, Maynooth**

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

Can the council clarify when Castledawson, Maynooth will be taken in charge and what measures are being taken to expedite the process?

A report was received from the A/Chief Fire Officer informing members the pumping station serves the Castledawson estate is under the control of the developer of Newtown Hall. Development Control are liaising with both the developer of the Newtown Hall estate and Uisce Éireann in order to have the pumping station brought up to a taking in charge standard. Once this has been completed and any remaining snag items addressed in Newtown Hall, both estates can be progressed for taking in charge together.

Councillor Ó Cearúil said Castledawson, Maynooth was built in 1995/1996 and it was unfair this Estate had not yet been taken in charge. More needed to be done and he enquired as to what were the barriers. He added he cannot go back to the Public without a more detailed report as this issue had been coming up now for 10 years . He referred to the great amount of work Councillor Hamilton had done previously to get Meadowbrook Taken in Charge.

Mr. L. McNeela, Building and Development Control introduced himself and informed the members he was replacing Mr. J Hennessy, adding he looked forward to working with the Councillors.



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In relation to the question he informed the members of the following:

- He had met with the developer two weeks ago.
- Active work was taking place on the Pump Station.
- Only minor works remained to complete stack/fencing.
- When works complete at Newtown Hall the developer would be submitting Taking in Charge for both Newtown Hall and Castledawson.

The report was noted.

### CM35/0724

#### Christmas Lights Local Property Tax Awards 2024

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

Clane/Maynooth M.D. - Local Property Tax 2024 -Christmas Lights	
Group	Proposed Allocations
Newtown Community Group	€600
Carbury Village Residents Association	€3,200
Maynooth Christmas Lights	€13,000
Kilcock Business Association	€3,200
	€20,000

Councillor McEvoy noted Clane was not included on the 2024 Christmas Lights Awards. He enquired if that was resulting from Clane not having applied last year. He also pointed out that when taking down the lights in Clane last year, several repair and replacement issues came to light. He enquired if the approval of these awards could be held over to allow time for the application process to be re-opened allowing Clane and other groups to apply.

Mr. C. O'Toole, Community, informed members the list had been drawn from the previous year's applications and as mentioned by Councillor McEvoy, Clane had not applied in that year, resulting in Clane not being included in the list of awards. He added the application



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process would be re-opened and this item would be included on the Agenda of the Municipal District meeting in September.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor W. Durkan and agreed by all members that Christmas Lights Local Property Tax Awards 2024 would be re-opened and be included on Municipal District meeting Agenda in September.

### **CM36/0724**

#### **Uisce Éireann**

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

That Kildare County Council writes to Irish Water requesting they attend a meeting of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District to discuss the number of burst water mains on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from Water Services informing Elected Members that they can contact Uisce Éireann Local Representatives Service Desk (LRSD) via the following:

- Dedicated phone line – 0818178178
- By email : localrepsupport@water.ie
- By post: Uisce Éireann , PO Box 860, South City delivery Office , Cork.
- Councillors Clinics held every quarter.
- Next Councillor Clinic with Uisce Éireann will be held online at 11.00am on the morning of the monthly full council meeting on Monday 21 October.

The members raised the following:

- Report does not answer the question.
- Two sections of pipe had been fractured.
- Rockfied House Estate had flooded on two occasions, waters reached depths of 1ft.
- Efforts had to be made to have water turned off at 5.00 am on the night of the flooding.





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- There had been two flooding incidents in 5 months.
- Fears in relation to spending monies on improvements without addressing the flooding issues and then having to dig all work up again when the next burst came.
- Local Representatives to support the issue as a Committee.
- Request Irish Water to come into the Chamber to discuss the issues.
- Irish Water were only available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, with no support for issues outside of those times, for example on weekends and evenings.
- The most recent flooding issue had occurred on a Sunday.

The District Manager said as members were aware there was a transfer phase currently ongoing and informed the members she had voiced the Councillors concerns to Uisce Éireann. She outlined the following developments in relation to Uisce Éireann:

- Quarterly Newsletter would be issued to Councillors by Uisce Éireann.
- Clinics would be held in the Autumn.
- Motions were to be emailed to Uisce Éireann directly.
- Kildare County Council were only in a position to inform Councillors in relation to where to seek information.

The District Manager advised that the Executive met twice a year with Uisce Éireann to highlight issues in relation to Planning and Development and at that time Councillors highlighted any difficulties. She advised that in view of the fact the motion had come after the discussions with Uisce Éireann that this motion be sent to the dedicated email address [councilmeetings@water.ie](mailto:councilmeetings@water.ie)

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor T. Durkan, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by members that Kildare County Council would write to Irish Water and also send the motion to [councilmeetings@water.ie](mailto:councilmeetings@water.ie)

The meeting concluded.