

**Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal
District held on Friday, 07 January 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
On Microsoft Teams**

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

Officials Present: Ms M Higgins (A/District Manager), Mr J McGowan (Senior Engineer), Mr S Aylward, Mr Cyril Buggy (District Engineer), Mr Kevin Dunne (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Mr D McDermott (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr B O’Gorman (Administrative Officer), Ms S Martin (Meetings Administrator), Mr S Higgins (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

CL01/0122

Declaration of Pecuniary or Beneficial Interests

There were no declarations from the members of pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

CM02/0122

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the draft minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 03 December 2021 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 03 December 2021 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM03/0122
Matters Arising

CM12/1021

Addition of Pedestrian entrance connecting GAA pitches to Moyglare Road

Councillor Durkan mentioned that he would follow up on this with the Senior Executive Parks Superintendent.

CM13/1121

Road design into Moyglare Hall and Maynooth Education Campus

Councillor Durkan advised that he had a meeting organised with the bus operators and asked if the District Engineer could be present. The District Engineer said that they had planned to organise a meeting the week after the municipal district meeting.

CM04/0122

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer stated a report had been circulated to the members detailing a summary of essential works which had been undertaken in the past month. He confirmed that crews have continued with general maintenance over the past month with a strong emphasis on drainage maintenance which included gully cleaning and water cut openings throughout the district.

Councillor Weld asked if more safety work would be carried out at Baltracey Cross as there had been a couple of accidents recently at that crossroads. He noted that LPT funding had been allocated for this particular site. He asked if rumble strips could be installed to encourage motorists to reduce their speed.

The District Engineer advised that some lining was scheduled to be completed the following week at this site. He advised that the contractor had planned to paint a ramp on the road approaching the crossroads to give the impression of a ramp and this had been a successful traffic calming measure previously at other locations.

CM05/0122

LPT Schedule of Works 2022

It was proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 be carried forward and listed as an item on the February agenda.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick and agreed by all members present that the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 be carried forward and listed as an item on the February agenda.

It was proposed by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Durkan that the members had agreed to allocate €20k to the Bridget 1,500 Implementation Plan.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present to allocate €20k to the Bridget 1,500 Implementation Plan.

CM06/0122

Item 5:

Section 38 Proposed Replacement of a bus shelter at Derrinturn Village

The members considered under the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Section 38 the proposed replacement of a bus shelter at Derrinturn Village (outside Health Centre), road number R-403-2, (in-bound).

The following points were raised by the members:

- What would happen to the old bus shelter and would the Area Office take control of it?
- Would consideration be given to accessibility matters when the position of the pole for this bus stop be looked at? If the council were to move the bus stop would this action require another Section 38 notice?

Mr Dunne noted the questions and advised that he would come back to the councillors regarding the old bus shelter and the bus stop pole. He said that if the old shelter met current standards that it might be left and that he didn't think a Section 38 notice would be necessary for the bus pole to be relocated.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Section 38 proposed replacement of a bus shelter at Derrinturn Village (outside Health Centre), road number R-403-2, (in-bound) be approved.

Item 6:

Section 38 Proposed Replacement of a Bus Shelter at Prosperous Village

The members considered under the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Section 38 the proposed replacement of a bus shelter at Prosperous Village (outside Barrington Court Estate), Road Number R-403-14, (in-bound).

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Section 38 proposed replacement of a bus shelter at Prosperous Village (outside Barrington Court Estate), Road Number R-403-14, (in-bound) was approved.

Item 7:

Section 38 Proposed Replacement of a Bus Shelter at New Road, Straffan

The members considered under the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Section 38 the proposed replacement of a bus shelter at proposed replacement of a bus shelter at New Road, Straffan, Road Number L-5049-0, (out-bound).

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Section 38 proposed replacement of a bus shelter at New Road, Straffan, Road Number L-5049-0, (out-bound) was approved.

CM07/0122

Assessment of Slí na Sláinte on Capdoo Lane (L5708)

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council assess the very popular Slí na Sláinte on Capdoo Lane (L5708), Clane, particularly at peak traffic times, as the number of vehicles now using the narrow laneway raises concerns for local pedestrians and residents.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District has observed this route on numerous occasions and while traffic volumes can be high at peak times there are no short term measures that can be introduced to reduce the traffic volumes. The solution is the construction of a roadway from the Celbridge Road to the Kilcock Road. This project is developer led and will hopefully start shortly.

Councillor McEvoy raised the following points:

- Would the council measure the traffic flow at this location as a sample?
- Could the list of traffic counts to be carried out, be circulated to the members at the next municipal district meeting.

The District Engineer advised that this could be added to the list for traffic counts if a suitable location could be found. He noted that there was a back log regarding traffic counts to be completed.

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

CM08/0122

Safety Concerns at Firmount Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the Municipal District Engineer be invited to meet on site at Firmount Cross to discuss safety concerns posed by private parking in bus stops.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office is not aware of any issues at this location, no concerns have been raised by the bus operatives The Municipal District Engineer will meet Councillor Farrelly at the location to discuss the concerns.

Councillor Farrelly said that motorists have been pulling in and impinging on sightlines on the Prosperous to Clane road near Firmount Cross. Signage nearby could be an option to deter motorists from doing so.

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

CM09/0122

Works Programme for 2022

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Farrelly. That the council add the road from Hatters Cross, Prosperous to Firmount Cross, Clane to the works programme for 2022.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the roads selected for inclusion in the roads programme are determined each year by the Municipal District Office Technical Staff. The roads are selected based on available funding, condition rating of the road and traffic volumes. This road will be included in the list for assessment and consideration.

The District Engineer advised that works were due to be completed at the location mentioned.

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

CM10/0122

Tow Path along the Royal Canal from Maynooth to Leixlip

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council progress work with the NTA in upgrading the tow path along the Royal Canal from Maynooth to Leixlip.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Council is finalising the procurement process for a main contractor for the construction of the Greenway between Maynooth and Leixlip along the Royal Canal.

Councillor Ó Cearúil raised the following points:

- The benefits of having a greenway from Maynooth to Kilcock were clear to see, especially given its popularity during the pandemic.
- The tow path had untapped commuting potential.
- The section within the council's control between Maynooth and Leixlip from Louisa bridge to Confey, Leixlip should be looked at.
- Could a timeline or indicative dates be provided to show the start and expected completion dates.

Mr Buggy advised that the council were working on a scheme with the NTA. He said that the Active Travel Team had received funding for this project and that it was anticipated that a contractor would be on site in first quarter of 2022. He noted that the Cope bridge to Maynooth work had been tendered.

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

CM11/0122

Assessment of Safety of Junction in Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council assess the safety of the junction between Main Street, Convent Lane and the Dublin Road, in Maynooth, paying particular attention to the pedestrian crossing.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this location is within the area to be examined as part of the Maynooth Town Centre Renewal Plan. This plan is to be progressed and developed in 2022 and will include an assessment of all junctions and pedestrian routes.

The members expressed their dissatisfaction with the report and made the following points:

- Similar reports had been issued for different items on the agenda.
- The Town Centre Renewal Plan looked to have included many works and it was understood that projects would be done within the overall project, but works needed due to pinch points and safety issues should not be delayed.
- There had been safety issues for pedestrians on Maynooth Main Street, near the Girls Schools and at Carton Avenue.
- The pedestrian crossing at the Girls School should have been installed at a safer location as vehicles travel through the crossing before they had realised they had travelled through it.
- All stakeholders had agreed on the location of the crossing but installing the crossing in its current location has been an issue since its installation and improved traffic alleviation was needed.
- The enhancement of car movements needs to be monitored, in addition to the hierarchy of road users.
- When would the Maynooth Town Centre Renewal Plan be progressed? An indication of a timeline needs to be given.
- The Municipal District Office should be involved in the safety works.
- They asked that this item be kept on the progress report.

The Senior Engineer advised that the report indicated that the Maynooth Town Centre Renewal Plan would engage on this issue. He confirmed he would bring back their concerns regarding the pedestrian crossing at the Girls School, to the Traffic Safety team.

Ms M Hunt advised that work would start on the plan in March 2022 and that the Maynooth Town Centre Renewal Plan would be finished by the end of 2022.

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

CM12/0122

School Warden at Straffan National School

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Feeney. That the council consider assigning a school warden to Straffan National School.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is no requirement for a School Warden for Straffan National School.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The parents of the children at this school were concerned about the issue of road safety at this location.
- Could guidance be provided on the criteria needed for the provision of a school warden?
- The report provided was quite succinct and not sufficient for the members. The author of reports should have the name assigned to them to provide accountability. This would enable councillors to follow up with the relevant staff member.
- Could a further response be provided?

The Senior Engineer apologised to Councillor Feeney that the report had issued in its current format.

The District Engineer advised that this item would be brought to the Road Safety Officer's attention for assessment and they would be asked to contact Councillor Feeney further.

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

CM13/0122

Bollards in Need of Repair Throughout Kilcock

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

That the council undertake to paint/repair the numerous black bollards located on the paths throughout Kilcock Town that are in a poor state of repair.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a review of the signage and bollards is scheduled for Kilcock in Q1 2022 with the intention to repair/replace as necessary subject to available funding.

Councillor Ward asked if a meeting could be arranged with the District Engineer at the location so that they could identify the bollards needing repair/replacement.

The District Engineer advised that he would be in contact the following week.

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

CM14/0122

Councillor Hamilton suggested that two of his items, 15 and 23, on the agenda be taken together. The Cathaoirleach and all the members agreed.

Item 15:

Increase Pedestrian Light Timings

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

That in the Maynooth traffic review, the council seeks to increase pedestrian light timings to support active transport and does not reduce any existing pedestrian light timing.

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

Item 23:

Maynooth Traffic Analysis on Pedestrian and Bicycle Traffic

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Hamilton. Can the council clarify what information is being collected in the Maynooth Traffic analysis on pedestrian and bicycle traffic and in particular the pedestrian priority and crossing times at traffic lights?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that as part of the Maynooth Transport Strategy, measures such as increased pedestrian priority at signalised pedestrian crossings will be examined. This measure is beneficial in providing improved accessibility across the town for active travel modes. One of the measures will be a review of the traffic signals in the town which are managed from the Traffic Management Centre with sophisticated software (MOVA & SCOOT). This software allows more effective traffic management and can provide signal priority for sustainable modes of transport, such as pedestrians or buses, to ensure that access by these modes are prioritised.

The detailed design process of implementing permeability/cycling links recommended as part of the Maynooth Transport Strategy will consider the need for junction modifications in detail in order to further enhance priority and safety for cyclists and pedestrians. Details of the scope of the traffic data to be collected as part of the Maynooth Transport Strategy has not been completed.

There were no plans to reduce the time allocated to pedestrians at signalised installations.

The following points were raised by the members:

- As Active Travel had been mentioned and the movement of traffic being a priority, the council should guard against compromising or facilitating unnecessary traffic.

- Kildare County Council declared a climate emergency thus there was a need to ensure the enhancement of travel options for pedestrians and cyclists. Improved crossing times at traffic lights should be considered.
- Some motorists have no choice but to use the Main Street in Maynooth, car users need to be kept in mind also.
- Optimisation for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists should be aimed for.
- A western relief road was needed for Maynooth.
- Looking forward to the progress on the eastern ring road.
- Positive planning was needed in the County Development Plan for the future of Maynooth.

The District Engineer advised that he was not familiar with these issues but that he would bring this points back to the Traffic Section and he noted that the council always aimed to keep a balance with respect to pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

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

CM15/0122

Crash Barrier at the Junction of the R405 Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council erect a crash barrier at the junction of the R405 Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the erection of a crash barrier at this location would not be advisable due to the road layout. This location can be added to the list of locations requiring assessment and subject to available funding the installation of additional signage and road markings might be warranted.

Councillor Durkan raised the following points:

- Several similar locations could be identified that have crash barriers.

- The junction mentioned had four roads and cars are approaching the junction too quickly. A number of complaints have been made about this issue.
- He would be happy to meet the District Engineer onsite.

The District Engineer advised that under the current criteria, crash barriers are not installed where head on collisions may occur. He stated that a solution at the location could be found with road lining and signage.

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

CM16/0122

Works on the L5041 Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Durkan. That the council carry out road resurfacing and improvement works on the L5041 Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the roads selected for inclusion in the roads programme are determined each year by the Municipal District Office Technical Staff. The roads are selected based on available funding, condition rating of the road and traffic volumes. This road will be included in the list for assessment and consideration.

The following points were raised by the members:

- The previous company brought in to resurface the road used a machine which was narrower than the road and this had made the road narrower than it was originally. There now looks to be two potholes about 300 metres in length on either side of the road.
- There are pull-ins along the road coming up to Jackson Bridge where people have parked for the greenway and while parked, wing mirrors have been broken off by passing traffic.

- This road is a de facto western ring road for Maynooth and at peak times has a lot of traffic.
- A replacement bridge for Jackson Bridge needed to be considered in long term future plans.

The District Engineer advised that the council do as much as they can with the limited budget they have to help alleviate traffic volumes, improve road conditions and carry out restoration works. The widening of the road may cause speeding along this route. An assessment would need to be carried out on this road and it was hoped that this restoration work for the L5041 may be brought forward to March.

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

CM17/0122

Cycling/Walking Connection from the Ballinagappa Road, Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council confirm if it plans to promote the cycling/walking connection from the Ballinagappa Road, Clane, to the primary schools on the Prosperous Road to the National Transport Authority for action in 2022?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Council has met with the NTA and agreed their support for the connection. A site meeting will be held in Q1 with the relevant stakeholders to discuss the options available to progress this important permeability initiative. Once this meeting has taken place, an update will be brought to the members.

The report was noted.

CM18/0122

Addressing the Bends on the R148, Maynooth to Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council confirm what progress has been made in addressing the dangerous bends on the R148, Maynooth to Kilcock?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is no funding identified or resources available to progress this project at present.

Councillor Ó Cearúil sought clarification on whether the hedges along this road could be trimmed.

The District Engineer confirmed that they would assess the sightlines on this road as they were unaware of any issues but noted that landowners have responsibility to look after their own hedges on their property.

The report was noted.

CM19/0122

Vacated Current Fire Station Site at Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Feeney. Can the council inform members as to what its plans are for the vacated current fire station site at Maynooth given the planned construction of the new station in 2023?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Fire Station is part of the site where the Municipal District offices/depot are located. There are no plans at this time for the vacated portion of the site.

Councillor Feeney sought clarification on whether this site could be a valuable opportunity for the council to use the site as a community centre. The District Manager said that the council would take this into consideration during the repurposing of the fire station site.

The report was noted.

CM20/0122

Update on Kilcock Ring Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward. Can the council provide a comprehensive update on the provision of a Kilcock Ring Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the road objective will be delivered as part of residential development in this location and will be developer driven as Kildare County Council has no funds approved or allocated to deliver this road objective.

Planing Permission has been granted by An Bord Pleanála (ABP) for a Strategic Housing Development (SHD) on one portion of the road, it is anticipated that this development will commence shortly.

Planning Permission was refused by ABP for another SHD on another section of the road. A new application has just been resubmitted to ABP under the Stage 2 of the SHD process.

Councillor Ward asked if the SHD would include a section of the Kilcock Ring Road and whether the council would be interacting with the contractor with regards to the ring road.

The District Engineer advised that he was not familiar with this process and that it was a matter for Roads Planning. He said that the Roads Planning section would have highlighted the link road to the contractor to agree the construction and lay out but that until the road was in a position to be opened, it would remain closed. He also noted that this project would be snag tested and monitored before construction starts.

The report was noted.

CM21/0122

Flooding in Courtown Little/Laragh Kilcock

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward.
Can the council provide a comprehensive update regarding the flooding in Courtown Little/Laragh Kilcock to include any developments of including these works in the wider Lyreen catchment area?

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that it is the intention of the council to include the Courtown Little area and M4 corridor in a review of flooding in Maynooth, as they are part of the Lyreen catchment. A possible flood relief scheme for Maynooth has been identified in the OPW's Flood Risk Management Plans and it is the intention of the Council to progress this scheme (including the review) once resources are available. The report was noted.

CM22/0122

Additional Bus Bay at the Girls School Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council confirm if and when an additional bus bay can be made available at the Girls School Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is currently no road space available to provide additional bus bays at this location. This location is within the area to be examined as part of the Maynooth Town Centre Renewal Plan and perhaps alternative locations can be identified as part of the plan.

The report was noted.

CM23/0122

Update on County Wide Speed Limit Review

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide an update in relation to the County Wide Speed Limit Review, as it pertains to this municipal district?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the review of the public submissions (290) is continuing and amendments to the associated mapping are ongoing in parallel. It is expected that the reports will be ready for discussion with the elected members in January 2022 with a view to completing the review process in Q1 2022. The tender

documents for the purchase and installation of new signage, especially for residential estates, is being actioned in anticipation of the conclusion of the process.

The report was noted.

The Cathaoirleach noted that this was the last meeting for Mr S Aylward, District Engineer and that he was very sorry to see him go. He said that Mr Aylward was the District Engineer since he started his first term as a councillor and that he appreciate how well the balance had been kept between rural and urban road works during this time. He noted that with the inclusion of the new locations taken over from the Kildare-Newbridge area that amazing work had been done in all areas. He also noted that the work that Mr Aylward had done to secure NTA funding and the general works had been brilliant. The Cathaoirleach welcomed the incoming District Engineer Mr C Buggy.

All the members of the Municipal District Committee joined with the Cathaoirleach in thanking Mr Aylward for his hard work, dedication and courtesy afforded to them during his time working with them as District Engineer.

The District Manager thanked Mr Aylward on behalf of the executive for his many years of service. She commended him on his knowledge, commitment and hard work which was testimony to his skills. She also noted that she looked forward to working with Mr Buggy.

Mr Aylward thanked everyone for their kind words. He acknowledged that all of the elected members helped him in his role and he tried his best to help them in return. He said he always tried to fit in a job or task wherever possible and that he tried to deliver in a fair manner throughout his two and half years as District Engineer. He concluded by wishing the incoming District Engineer Cyril Buggy the very best in the role.

CM24/0122

Housing Development at Old Greenfield, Maynooth

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

Can the council provide an update on its planned volumetric framework housing development at Old Greenfield, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Housing Department has submitted in November 2021 a Stage 2 capital application (application for approval to proceed to Part 8 planning) to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage for a housing development on the Greenfields site consisting of 65 housing units. The proposal consists of a mix of 1, 2, 3 and 4 bed units and a mix of houses, duplexes and apartment dwelling types. The DHLGH response is awaited. Subject to approval, the proposed scheme will proceed to planning (Part 8) stage this year.

The report was noted.

CM25/0122

Temporary Suspension of Pay Parking Byelaws

The members considered the the temporary suspension of Pay Parking Byelaws including Enforcement in various locations across the municipal district area to facilitate the continued re-opening of businesses subject to S254 licence approval.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Feeney and agreed by the members present that the temporary suspension of Pay Parking Byelaws including Enforcement in various locations across the municipal district area to facilitate the continued re-opening of businesses subject to S254 licence approval be approved.

CM26/0122

Town Centre First Initiative in Clane

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McEvoy. Can the council report how the Town Centre First initiative will run for Clane, including public engagement and consultation?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Strategic Projects & Public Realm team are delighted to advise that funding of €100,000 has been awarded by the

Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) for the development of a Masterplan for Clane under the Town Centre initiative.

The Town Centre Masterplan funded through this initiative will provide an accurate assessment of the challenges faced by Clane with a tailored response to match. This Masterplan can also be known as a vision plan, actions plan, framework or strategy which will build on the 2018 Clane Healthcheck which was funded by LPT from the Clane Maynooth Municipal District.

While the funding terms and conditions have not yet been received, guidance which issued as part of the funding announcement advise of the following in terms of public engagement and consultation:

“The process of a creating a Master Plan is a collaborative exercise that will involve stakeholders such as community representatives, local residents and business people, and other stakeholders. These stakeholders should form a Town Team, if one was not already in place, and this team will lead the process of creating a Town Centre Master Plan.

Part of this process will be to engage with the broader community over several stages. To reach as many members of the community as possible this may include:

- The creation of multi-media content
- Engagement across a variety of social media platforms
- Community workshops
- Information kiosks set up in prominent locations
- Household booklets or information brochures
- Surveys and interviews
- Working with libraries or schools”

The members would be kept informed of the next steps in this process for Clane as soon as further information is received from DRCD.

Councillor McEvoy asked when would works get underway?

Ms Hunt advised that they had not received the full terms and conditions to date and that no timeline was available yet. She noted that a Town Team would be setup and that this would be key to carrying out the masterplan. She noted that collaboration with the public would be important. She also noted that Kilcock was second on the list and that Prosperous would follow, which was all on foot of the LPT funding assigned to carry out the healthchecks.

The report was noted.

CM27/0122

Waste Recovered Within the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council outline the quantity of waste recovered from public roads within the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District during 2021 and detail the ongoing support for volunteers who assist with dumping and litter gathering.

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

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the council assists voluntary groups and individuals with litterpicking through the provision of bags and litterpickers as well as the collection (by arrangement) of the gathered waste. Where illegal dumping is of a large scale or at an unsafe location, the council will investigate such reports and make arrangements, where feasible, to remove this waste. This is available to Tidy Towns groups and residents associations in the towns and villages as well as to people living in rural areas through our Green Kilometre scheme.

It should be noted that the council is encouraging the public to make a distinction between litter and green waste. The council receives a number of requests for the removal of bagged leaves from residents associations, where either composting within the housing estate or removal by a suction sweeper to maintain surface water drainage is a more appropriate.

The following points were raised by the members:

- It was noted that the council do not have the resources to collect all of the waste throughout the municipal district and that some of the work would fall back on the public to take control of.
- The Green Kilometres was a great initiative that had done brilliantly through the pandemic.
- If the quantum of waste collected could be made public this could be used as a way of positive social engagement.
- What quantity of waste has been submitted by community groups to Sillott Hill, Killcullen
- The battle against litter was an ongoing issue but it had improved.

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

CM28/0122

Trees Programme for 2022

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Farrelly.
Can the council confirm if Barrington Court, Prosperous is on the Trees Programme for 2022?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Barrington Court is not included in the programme of 2022 but the council will assess the estate to see what work is necessary and if it can be accommodated in the programme.

The report was noted.

CM29/0122

Community Centre for Maynooth

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil.
Can the council confirm what progress has been made with providing a Community Centre for Maynooth?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Maynooth Community space has acted as a community

centre in Maynooth for some time. Unfortunately this has been closed due to Covid restrictions. We are currently working with the facilities section to find a way we can safely reopen the facility to the public. A trial is currently being run in Newbridge Town Hall and we await the outcome of this. We hope that Maynooth Community Space will reopen in the new year assuming a positive outcome from the trial and an easing of current restrictions.

Councillor Ó Cearúil asked where were the council was in progressing a Community Centre and a swimming pool for Maynooth?

The District Manager advised that she would look into ways the community centre could be delivered. She noted that not many options or sites had been suggested and that a meeting could be held in Maynooth. She noted that the possibility of using development levies funding could be examined.

Mr McDermott advised that this could be looked at with the Public Realm team as part of the Maynooth Town masterplan.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.