Minutes of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 09 January 2026 at 10.00 a.m. in the Council Chamber

Members Present: Councillor B. Wyse (Cathaoirleach), Councillors T. Durkan, W Durkan, D. Fitzpatrick, P. McEvoy, P. Melrose, P. Mulroe, D. Phelan and Councillor P. Ward.

Members Online: Councillor A. Feeney.

Officials Present: Ms. M. Higgins (District Manager), Mr. D. Hodgins (Senior Executive Engineer,) Mr. C. Buggie (Municipal District Engineer), Ms A.M. Burke (Executive Engineer) Ms. P. Pender (Senior Executive Officer), Mr. D. Carey (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms. N. Smullen (Administrative Officer), Mr. G. Maher (Senior Executive Officer), Ms. E. McGrath (Administrative Officer) Ms. D. Egan (Meetings Administrator), Mr. A. Foran (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

Councillor B. Wyse (Cathaoirleach) welcomed members to the first Clane Maynooth Municipal District meeting of 2026.

CM01/0126
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.

CM02/01226
Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday 05 December 2025 including the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor W. Durkan and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the monthly Clane-Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 05 December 2025 to be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

CM03/0126

Municipal District Road Works Programme

General Works: The roadside gullies and water cuts are currently being cleaned across the district. The crews are also carrying out patch repairs on the roads in the district.

LPT Funding

The Municipal District Office is progressing the agreed LPT programme for 2025. Funding for 2026 to be agreed by the members. Once agreed it can be scheduled into the works programme.

Roads Programme 2026

The announcement of funding from the Department of Transport for 2026 is expected in late January or early February 2026.

Drainage: A tender has been awarded for drainage works at the following locations which will commence construction in the coming weeks:

R415 Allen	Construction Stage
L1023 Betaghstown	Construction Stage
R403 Prosperous	Construction Stage
L50242 Drehid	Construction Stage
L1002 Clonuff	Construction Stage
L2004 Fleshtown	Construction Stage

Footpaths

A tender has been awarded for footpath works at the following locations which will commence construction in the coming weeks:

Braydon Pk Kilcock	Construction Stage
L7081 Kilmeague Rd Prosperous	Construction Stage
Brookfield Maynooth	Construction Stage
Meadowbrook Rd	Construction Stage
L1013 Dunboyne Rd., Maynooth	Construction Stage
L5035 Painstown Rd., Rathcoffey	Construction Stage

CM04/0126

Clane-Maynooth Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2026.

The members agreed to postpone this item to the next Clane Maynooth Municipal District meeting on Friday, 06 February 2026.

CM05/0126

Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Kildare Junction Improvements

The members noted commencement of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Kildare Junction Improvements at the following locations:

- Allenwood Cross between the regional R403 road and the R415 and L1220 station roads.
- Dagweld's Cross, Black Wood (Dag Welds), Co. Kildare (reports previously circulated)

Resolved: the commencement of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Kildare Junction Improvements at the above locations were noted.

CM06/0126

Town Gateway Project Site Identification

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

That the council conducts an identification of all sites within the municipal district that can benefit significantly from a town gateway project to slow traffic and clarify boundaries and provide an estimate of costing

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

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing members that (SPPR) have published several Town and Village Masterplans, most of which include the provision of 'Gateway' signage on approach roads. Their inclusion in the Masterplan provides leverage to funding applications for Town and Village Schemes, RRDF schemes etc. The Gateways are designed 'in house', working with the Community and our Municipal District Engineer to determine an appropriate location - what is acceptable and what works in each area given that they are situated on the road network. In 2023 Gateways were delivered on approach roads in Prosperous and Kilcock. Prosperous had signs erected on both sides of the road at 2 locations – Allenwood to Prosperous Road and Prosperous to Clane Road (Curryhills). The process was carried out under Section 38 of the Roads Act in consultation with An Garda Síochána and the Transport team of Kildare County Council. A mini tender competition also took place for the civil works required for the installation piece.

The total cost for 4 signs at Prosperous was €100k of which €75k was received through Town & Village Funding and €25k through LPT. Project proposals within the Masterplans do not have funding assigned to them, SPPR actively pursues funding through grants or LPT requests. Given our extensive work programme for 2026, SPPR do not have the resources or funding to complete a survey of all sites in the Municipal District area.
Our priority will be to pursue funding to aid the delivery of the project proposals included in existing Town and Village Renewal Plans.

Councillor W. Durkan thanked the department for the detailed overview, noted that Town Gateways came up frequently and asked if a discussion around costings and delivery could take place.

Councillor McEvoy noted that traffic through towns was an issue. Local Authorities are dependent on funding from Central Government, which is currently not adequate for this proposal.

Mr. D Hodgins, Senior Engineer, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informed the members that this was a timely motion. An urban speed limit review will take place to identify suitable locations as some areas may have 50, 40 or 30kph zones. Any review should include public interaction and consultation and it is envisaged that this review will take place in Quarter 1 or Quarter 2 of this year.

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

CM07/0126

Operational Performance of Junction 7 on the M4

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

That this municipal district writes to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), and the Department of Transport requesting that the operational performance of Junction 7 on the M4 be urgently re-examined.

This review should specifically evaluate:

- The capacity constraints currently causing recurring delays.
- The design and layout limitations impacting safe and efficient traffic movement.
- Any interim or phased measures that could alleviate congestion prior to full scheme progression.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Phelan and seconded by Councillor W. Durkan.

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree.

Councillor Phelan noted that something needed to be done to alleviate congestion and recurring delays. That a letter requesting the operational performance of Junction 7 on the M4 be urgently re-examined be written to TII and the Department of Transport.

Councillor McEvoy noted the bus lane on the M4 is not being used and is awaiting legislation. He added that public transport is part of the solution and agreed that a letter should be written.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Phelan, seconded by Councillor W. Durkan and agreed by all members that the Transport Department write a letter to TII and Department of Transport and the report be noted.

The members agreed to take items 8 and 24 together.

CM08/0126

Installation of Litter Bins on The Block, Prosperous

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

That the council engages with community groups in Prosperous to consider the installation of litter bins on The Block, Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members that the Municipal District Engineer will contact Councillor Mulroe to set up a meeting with the community groups in Prosperous. It is important to note that there is no increase in the funding provided for street cleaning in the 2026 budget.

Councillor Mulroe thanked the department for the report and noted that she was happy to facilitate a meeting, this was a busy area of almost a three kilometre circuit with a lack of litter disposal facilities.

Councillor Wyse noted that this area is well lit, and is well used by people from the community and from further afield as well.

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

CM09/0126

Update on Opening of the Link Road through Millerstown, Kilcock

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

That the council writes to Meath County Council requesting an update as to when the Link Road through Millerstown, Kilcock will be opened for public use.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that this is a matter for the Members to agree.

Councillor T. Durkan informed the members that the opening of this Link Road will help alleviate traffic in the area.

The Transport Department agreed to write a letter to Meath County Council requesting an update in relation to when the Link Road through Millerstown, Kilcock will be opened for public use.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T. Durkan, seconded by Councillor Ward that the Transport Department write a letter to Meath County Council and the report be noted.

CM10/0126

Review the Design detail of the Cycle Lane to path at Mill Street, Maynooth

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

That the council review the design detail of the cycle lane to path at Mill Street, Maynooth (see attached photo) and carry out all necessary remediation works to address road safety concerns of user given two recent accidents.



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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing members that the Mill Street Active Travel Scheme has been designed by independent consultants and approved by the National Transport Authority (NTA). The scheme has been the subject of Road Safety Audits and a final audit on the completed scheme will be undertaken in accordance with current guidelines and mandatory regulations.

Councillor T. Durkan informed the members that he was not happy with the report and noted that two recent accidents involving cyclists had occurred at this location. He advised that the families have raised this issue on multiple occasions. He asked that the council review the design detail of the cycle lane to path at this location and added that similar projects are also in place in Naas and Newbridge.

Councillor Wyse noted that the cycle track looks similar to the kerbs in Naas where there had been issues of people tripping.

Councillor Melrose informed the members that he was sorry to hear that there had been accidents and wished a speedy recovery to those involved. He highlighted the importance of appropriate designs for cycle paths.

Mr. D. Hodgins, Senior Engineer, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informed the members that Mill Street Active Travel Scheme has been designed by independent consultants and works are carried out in accordance with these drawings. He welcomed members comments and noted that until the scheme is finished no post-consultation safety audit could take place. He also mentioned that the council welcomes correspondence from people with concerns about projects.

Councillor T. Durkan asked, with the support of members, a letter be written to the National Transport Authority. He added that if the council continue to deliver schemes such as this there is a risk that further incidents are likely to increase.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T. Durkan seconded by Councillor McEvoy and agreed by all members that the Transport Department write a letter to National Transport Authority and the report be noted.

CM11/0126

Install Bus Stop Sign, Old Bog Road, Kilcock

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

That the council installs a bus stop sign at the previously used bus location at the top of the Old Bog Road, Kilcock.

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

A report was received from Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing members that a topographical survey has been completed for the location of these works. A consultant will be appointed

to progress the design of a number of bus stop locations across the county in 2026, subject to funding being provided by the National Transport Authority.

Councillor Ward noted he was happy with the report and asked for a timescale for works to be completed.

Councillor T. Durkan noted that this was a Parliamentary Question in September 2024 and clarity and action is now needed to get this bus stop replaced.

Mr. D. Hodgins, Senior Engineer, Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management informed the members that it would be approximately six months for the design to be ready.

Resolved on the proposal Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor W. Durkan and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CM12/0126

Cleaning/Clearing of Roadside Surface Water Drains in this Municipal District.

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

That the council undertakes cleaning/clearing of the roadside surface water drains in this municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members that the Municipal District office has been carrying out road gully cleaning over the last two months across the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District using a jet vac. The roadside water cuts renewal programme will recommence in mid-January.

Councillor Ward thanked the department for the report and enquired if housing estates are part of these works.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that housing estates were also part of the works also.

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

CM13/0126

Install Loading Bay at the T-Junction in Johnstownbridge

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

That the council looks at the possibility of inserting a loading bay at the T-Junction in the middle of Johnstownbridge to alleviate traffic congestion at peak times.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will engage with Councillor Fitzpatrick to arrange a meeting onsite to see what is possible at this location.

Councillor Fitzpatrick noted that people cannot exit in this area and there is traffic congestion. He added that he would welcome a meeting with the Municipal District Engineer on site to identify a solution.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that commercial vehicles can stop on double yellow lines for a fifteen minute period (where access to a loading bay is unavailable). He advised that he would meet on site with Councillor Fitzpatrick.

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

CM14/0126

Inclusion on Roads Programme 2026-Road from Derrymullen Bridge-Travellers Rest

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

That the council includes the first road on the right heading from Derrymullen Bridge to The Travellers Rest in the Roads Programme for 2026.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer will consider this request for inclusion in the 2026 road works programme. However, there is a proposal by Uisce Éireann to upgrade the watermain along this road. We will engage with Uisce Éireann to establish a timeframe around their proposed works and if they have the funding in place to carry out the watermain upgrade.

Councillor Fitzpatrick noted that there was a debate as to whether this road was taken in charge and enquired if Uisce Éireann will fund the resurfacing of the road.

Councillor Wyse supported the motion and mentioned that the road is public and asked also for the road to be included in the Roads Programme for 2026.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that Uisce Éireann will not fund the resurfacing of the road. He further advised that Uisce Éireann engage approximately two or three months out from works and will revert to Councillor Fitzpatrick with more information.

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

CM15/0126

"No Entry" road markings at the junction of Pound Lane and Mill Street, Maynooth

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

That the council reinstates the "No Entry" road markings at the junction of Pound Lane and Mill Street, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members that the Municipal District Engineer will liaise with the project team responsible for the Mill Street Active Travel Project in relation to the appropriate location for any road markings. No Entry markings are normally marked just at the edge of the intersection between the two roads. However, in this location the road is made up of brick paving so road markings would not adhere and have any durability. There are existing road sign indicating no entry.

Councillor Melrose informed the members that the road sign was moved forward and that the sign cannot be seen. A no left turn sign would make sense here if no entry markings were not an option.

Councillor Wyse noted that he was familiar with the area and informed the members that a no left turn sign is needed here.

The Municipal District Engineer advised the members that a sign can be looked at and he will discuss a suitably visible location with the contractor.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Melrose and seconded by Councillor Mulroe and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CM16/0126

Installation of "No HGVs" signs approaching Pike Bridge, Maynooth

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

That the council installs "No HGVs" signs approaching Pike Bridge, Maynooth from the L5053 Donaghmore, and at the junction of the L5053/R406.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members that there is no HGV restriction in place on the L5053 at the present time nor is there any weight restriction in place on Pike Bridge which is a Waterways Ireland asset. There is however signage banning HGVs heading eastbound on the R148 from making a right turn over Pike Bridge to access the L5053. Based on the foregoing it is not possible to install "No HGV" signage on the local road in the absence of a statutory process to implement such a restriction. There is also no staff available to commence such a statutory process at the present time. Furthermore, the Roads Projects Team has engaged with the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road contractor, John Cradock Limited who has confirmed that the L5053 is not being used by HGVs associated with the project.

Councillor Melrose informed the members that he is surprised that there is a HGV restriction in place on the L5053. Residents and the local community have contacted him in relation to this issue. He added that HGVs use of the L5053 which goes over Pike Bridge and a sign " No right turn HGV" should be put in place at that location. He advised that the bridge is also in need of maintenance.

Councillor Wyse noted that a sign would not stop HGVs accessing the bridge.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that a new bye-law would be needed and then a sign installed and also noted that he has never seen a HGV on the bridge. He also noted that he has brought this issue to the attention of local businesses and they have advised that their HGV's do not use the bridge.

Councillor Melrose thanked the meeting for the information and advised that he will liaise with the residents.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Melrose and seconded by Councillor Mulroe and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CM17/0126

Footpath to connect Brookfield and Meadowbrook Estates, Maynooth

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

Can the council confirm any plans to allocate funding for a small section of footpath to connect Brookfield and Meadowbrook Estates, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members that the road works programme for 2026 has not been finalised. This request will be considered and if funding is made available through Local Property Tax (LPT) then it can be advanced in 2026.

The Municipal District Engineer agreed to meet with Councillor Phelan in relation to this item.

The report was noted.

CM18/0126

Update in Advance of any Planned Water Works by Uisce Éireann

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

Can the council advise if elected members can be added to the list of persons updated in advance of any planned water works by Uisce Éireann?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing members that This a matter for the members to take up with Uisce Éireann.

Councillor Phelan enquired if members could be notified when Uisce Éireann apply for a Road Opening Licence.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that Uisce Éireann apply for a Road Opening Licence three to six months ahead of when they are needed. They do not then inform the council as to when they will open the road, as this depends on their own project timeline.

The report was noted.

CM19/0126

Solar Powered Street Lights in this Municipal District

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

Can the council confirm if there are plans to carry out an assessment of solar powered streetlights with battery backup, as a way of reducing the organisation's electricity consumption and carbon footprint in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Team informing the members that there are no plans to carry out an assessment of solar powered street lighting. It is unclear whether the technology is mature enough to store and provide sufficient lighting to cover the hours of darkness. However, the Public Lighting Team will keep developments under review.

Councillor T. Durkan noted that solar powered lights would reduce the cost of electricity for the organisation and will refer this to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

The report was noted

CM20/0126

Update on the Works on the Greenways and Blueways in the Municipal District

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

Can the council provide an update on the works on the Greenways and Blueways in the Municipal District?

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

Barrow Blueway – Lowtown to Cloncumber: Works to the Barrow Blueway are completed in this area except for signage and the completion of the Phase 2 Greenway bridges at Lowtown which will interconnect the towpaths.
Overall, the Barrow Blueway project is nearing completion with the construction of a pedestrian bridge over the canal currently ongoing south of Rathangan.

Grand Canal Greenway Phase 2 – Sallins to Clonkeen: Works to the Grand Canal Greenway Phase 2 are currently in the final design stage with the Sallins Greenway Link currently out to tender hopeful to commence on site by the end of Q1 2026. The next section proposed to be delivered is from Ticknevin to Clonkeen in the new year which includes works to a structurally weak embankment. Following completion of these two sub projects above, other sections of the towpath will be selected to proceed on receipt of funding.

Councillor Fitzpatrick thanked the department for the report and enquired in relation to the footbridge in Robertstown.

Mr. D. Carey, Executive Engineer, Strategic Projects and Public Realm informed the members that tender responses were received for the Sallins Link Grand Canal Greenway Phase 2 Crossing the R407 Main Street Sallins. The tender assessment is nearly complete and hope to begin works in Q1 2026. There were 9 tenders in total received. The next phase will be Ticknevin to Clonkeen and Waterways Ireland will complete these works. The bank at this location is structurally weak in parts and sections need reconstruction/strengthening in conjunction with the new construction of the new towpath. All of these works are subject to grant aid approval allocation from Transport Infrastructure

Ireland. Robertstown Part 8 (Planning) was approved in October last year and it will not be progressed in 2026.

The report was noted.

CM21/0126

Footpath from Staplestown Village to the GAA Grounds

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

Can the council provide an update on the footpath from Staplestown Village to the GAA grounds?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the requested footpath extension, funded through LPT in 2025 is completed. This footpath works linked the existing footpaths in Staplestown to the newly constructed footpath in front of the new housing development which ends just at the start of the GAA owned ground.

Councillor Fitzpatrick noted that the LPT works go to the GAA, but the issue was the footpath from there to the gates of the GAA and asked can an answer be given about this.

The Municipal District Engineer informed the members that approximately 140 meters of hedging would have to be removed and the footpath ends just at the start of the GAA owned ground.

The report was noted.

CM22/0126

Survey of Public Lights in the Municipal District

The members considered the following Motion in the name of Councillor Phelan.

That the council carries out a full survey of public lights in this municipal district every September/October to ensure they are not obscured by trees.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the issue where trees and public lights are co-located occurs most frequently in estates where developers plant trees beside light standards and then as the tree matures the tree is in conflict with the light. Any issues reported to us or noted as part of tendering a works programme related to trees blocking lights are included in the programme where the tree is either pruned or where we consider the tree is too near the light it is removed. It has also been our experience that where we propose to remove trees blocking public lights, we sometimes face opposition from the public to remove them. In addition to this it is now part of the taking charge policy of new estates that any issues relating to trees and conflict with lights are removed before the estate is taken in charge. If there are locations where there are particular issues relating to conflict with tree and lights, they can be forwarded to the Parks Section for investigation and inclusion on the tree works programme subject to available budget to carry out the work.

Councillor Phelan thanked the department for the report and noted that a robust tree policy was needed, no funds are ringfenced, clearer communication is required.

Councillor McEvoy asked are core costs adequately funded and are the council looking at funding correctly.

Councillor Wyse noted that there are too many trees to survey in the Municipal District and a map or list similar to the public lighting map, where events could be logged and progress seen, may be an option. He also noted that the Parks Team do great work around the Municipal District.

Mr. S. Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informed the members that it would be a huge amount of work to survey all trees in the Municipal District and the annual regime is based on requests received. If trees are removed, in some instances the Parks Team receive local objections and resistance. There are also objections during the bird nesting season.

Ms. M. Higgins, District Manager informed the members that with regards to future planning applications a proactive approach to tree management is being taken. The Parks Team are now commenting on applications to ensure trees are appropriate to the location and landscape, including taking-in-charge. The current issues are historical.

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

CM23/0126

Provision of a Playground in Coill Dubh

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

Can the council confirm if it has explored the provision of a playground in Coill Dubh, and provide an update on potential suitability?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that Coill Dubh was not included as a location for a playground in the 2018-2028 Play Strategy and therefore no work has been done on locating a playground in the village.

Councillor W. Durkan thanked the department for the report noting that the end of term for this plan is approaching with some sites are still not delivered and the next plan will need to be looked at. An area like Coill Dubh needs to be provisioned and is one that he would like to see considered. He also said that a detailed update on the play strategy and works completed would be welcomed and also enquired as to which Strategic Policy Committee do playgrounds fall under.

Mr. S. Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informed the members that it has proven difficult to identify a site in both Derrinturn and Johnstown Bridge as the council own very little land in these areas. He advised that playgrounds fall under the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces, Strategic Policy Committee.

Councillor W. Durkan noted that sites, stages and funding need to be discussed.

The report was noted.

The members agreed to take items 24 and 8 together.

CM24/0126

Update on the Parks' Improvements Work across the Municipal District

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

Can the council provide an update on the progress of the parks' improvements work across the municipal district?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that an update on the Parks Works Programme will be presented to the members at the March 2026 meeting in addition to a works programme for 2026.

The report was noted.

CM25/0126

Advance updates of Tree Pruning or Removal in this Municipal District

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

Can the council provide advance updates of trees proposed for pruning or removal in this municipal district, before submission to the contractor, to allow member review and reduce follow up requests?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the schedule of tree works is issued to Councillors prior to works starting on site to allow Councillors raise any issues before the works start. The extent of the programme is based on requests we receive from Councillors and the public. The programme is also determined by the budget available to do the work. The public hold a spectrum of views in relation to what works should and what should not be carried out and consequently it will never be possible to satisfy all the requests received.

Councillor Ward enquired in relation to how far in advance the list can be provided and if timeframes could be included.

Mr. S. Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informed the members that works depend on a number of factors and on the number of requests received. He advised there was not much scope for additional notice.

The report was noted.

CM26/0126

Update on Works Grand Canal Towpath in the area of the Cock Bridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor R. Power.

That the council provides an update on works to take place on the Grand Canal Towpath in the area of the Cock Bridge and that during those works, consideration be given to the installation of a bench and plaque in memory of the children of the Caragh Orphanage.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor W. Durkan.

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing the members that works to the Grand Canal Greenway Phase 2 are currently in the final design stage with the Sallins Greenway Link currently out to tender hopeful to commence on site by the end of Q1 2026. The next section proposed to be delivered is from Ticknevin to Clonkeen in the new year which includes works to a structurally weak embankment. Following completion of the two sub projects above, other sections of the towpath will be selected to proceed on receipt of funding. Seating on the Grand Canal Greenway at this location is not included in the project scope. If seating and a plaque were to be installed, approval from Waterways Ireland would be required and a funding stream identified.

Mr. D. Carey, Executive Engineer informed the members that a bench or a plaque on the Greenway at this location is not included in the project scope and approval from Waterways Ireland would be required

Ms. M. Higgins, District Manager informed the members that there is a memorial policy which will have to be taken into account in relation to works of this nature.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor W. Durkan and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CM27/0126

Submission Portal for the Clogherinkoe Serviced Sites Scheme

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

That the council reopens the submission portal for the Clogherinkoe Serviced Sites scheme to facilitate a new round of expressions of interest in January 2026.

The motion was proposed by Councillor W. Durkan and seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick.

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that under the Ready to Build Scheme, local authorities will make serviced sites in towns and villages available to potential individual purchasers (self-builders). These sites will be available at a discount on the market value of the site for the building of a property for occupation as the principal private residence of the purchaser. For more details on the scheme please visit the council website here.

Kildare County Council has previously made 7 serviced sites available in Clogherinkoe. These sites were initially advertised for sale in November 2024. Due to a poor response, the sites were readvertised on 27 January 2025, again there was limited uptake.
Prior to advertising the sites, considerable work was carried out to raise awareness and interest in the sites such as a leaflet drop, information sessions in the local school hall, radio campaign on KFM, local newspaper ads, advertising in the local parish newsletter, local GAA social media, Kildare County Council social media, as well as working with the Municipal District members. Part of the criteria for these serviced sites was that an applicant had to provide proof of living for 16 years within a 5km radius area of the Serviced Sites.

The recently advertised Variation to the County Development Plan (CDP) and more specifically page 41-42 of the document available here, seeks to insert a table specific to

serviced sites. The table sets out that an applicant must provide proof of residence for a 10-year period and be within a 10 km radius. It is hoped to bring the variation to the members to the January 2026 meeting.

If the variation is approved by the members, it should open the sites to more potential applicants. The council can publish the statutory notice and open the portal in Quarter 1 2026. The council will again work with the Municipal District members to raise the awareness of serviced sites (including the updated requirements, if the members approve the CDP variation), we will also work with the Council's Communications Officer to focus a social media campaign.

Councillor W. Durkan thanked the department for the detailed report and informed the members that the new changes are welcomed especially the change to the 10km radius. He added that community engagement is key and the portal should be left open to allow people have time to assess all options.

Members noted the following:

- Previous restrictions made this less attractive to local community.
- Engagement with the community is key.
- Enquired in relation to extending the radius from 10km to 15km.
- This is great for people who wish to remain locally.
- This will help build and retain the community, GAA and local businesses.

Ms. E. McGrath, Housing Department informed the members that if the variation is approved the portal will be re-opened. She advised that she would inform the Team of the views of members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor W. Durkan and seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick and agreed by all members that the report be noted.

CM28/0126

Update on the Award of Tender Process for Clane Library

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

Can the council provide an update on the award of tender process in the case of Clane Library?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing the members that tender assessment completed with a preferred contractor ready for appointment. Next stage funding application has been submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht for consideration and approval. A contractor will be appointed for an intended start of early 2026 following receipt of department approval in the new year.

The report was noted.

CM29/0126

Collapsed Boundary Wall around Carton Demesne

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

Can the council provide an update on correspondence between Carton House and Kildare County Council in relation to the collapsed boundary wall around Carton Demesne?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that exact details of location have been requested by the Planning Department. Corporate Services has updated Councillor Durkan.

Councillor T. Durkan thanked the Planning Department for their work on this matter. He informed that this is a Famine Wall and this is the only section of the wall that has collapsed on the County Kildare side, but the County Meath side there were numerous collapses. Councillor T. Durkan said he appreciated the work done on this item and hoped now that there will be traction with the owners.

The report was noted.

CM30/0126

Taking-in-charge Moyglare Hall, Newtown Hall and Castledawson Estates, Maynooth

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

Can the council provide an update in tabular form on the taking-in-charge of Moyglare Hall, Newtown Hall, and Castledawson Estates, Maynooth including next steps and preferred timeline for completion?

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

Moyglare Hall – The developer has been carrying out remedial works to address surface defects (snags) in recent months. Development Control are actively engaging with the developer in relation to the submission of outstanding documentation required to progress the Taking in Charge (TIC) process.

Newtown Hall – To date no TIC request has been received. There has been ongoing engagement in recent years with the developer by Development Control to address outstanding items in relation to this development. Significant work has been carried out by the developer in recent years including road surfacing, ramp and signage Installation and upgrades to the Waste Water Pumping Station (WWPS).

Castledawson – Development Control have commenced a programme of works under the Legacy Estate Remediation Project. To date works complete include tree removal, public lighting repairs and drainage repairs. A contractor is due on site in the coming weeks to carry out footpath repairs. Following the completion of these works, it is intended to bring forward the Taking in Charge of Castledawson for the consideration of the elected members at a Clane/Maynooth Municipal District meeting in the coming months.

Councillor Melrose thanked the department for the report and enquired in relation to the ownership of both the training pitches and the education campus.

Ms. A. M. Burke, Executive Engineer, Building and Development Control informed the members that there was no information to hand in relation to his enquiry but that she would revert to Councillor Melrose with further information.

The report was noted.

CM31/0126

Safeguards to ensure Sustainable Development in this Municipal District.

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

Can the council outline what safeguards have been put in place in this Municipal District to ensure sustainable development?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing members that all planning applications are assessed in accordance with the relevant planning policy requirements the statutory plans in place at the time of the consideration of the specific application. The Maynooth and Environs Joint Local Area Plan (LAP) 2025–2031 came into effect on 01 April 2025 and incorporates several targeted safeguards to ensure sustainable development centred around compact urban growth, environmental management, and climate adaptation. These strategies collectively reduce carbon emissions, improve resilience, promote healthy living, and ensure Maynooth's development aligns with long-term sustainability objectives. The LAP's quadrant-based approach facilitates all neighbourhood needs to be accessible within a 10-minute walk, promoting walkability and reducing car dependency. The LAP is published on the Kildare County Council website at Maynooth and Environs Joint Local Area Plan 2025 - 2031 - Kildare County Council.

Councillor Melrose thanked the department for the report and noted that not all parts of the plan seem compatible.

Mr. G. Maher, Senior Executive Officer, Planning Department informed the members that there is engagement with Meath County Council in relation sustainable development and a monitoring group will be set up. He advised that he would revert to Councillor Melrose with further information.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.