



**Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District
Meeting held on 16 December 2020 in
Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare**

Members Present: Councillor K Duffy (Mayor), Councillors A Connolly, N Heavey, F McLoughlin Healy, T O'Dwyer, R Power, M Stafford, P O'Dwyer, N Connolly, C Pender

Apologies: Councillor S. Doyle

Officials Present: Mr J Boland (District Manager), Ms B Cuddy, (District Engineer), Mr S Cummins (A/Senior Engineer) Mr J Malone (A/Senior Executive Engineer) Mr L Dunne (Senior Executive Officer) Ms S Scully (Administrative Officer) Mr C O'Toole (A/Staff Officer) Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent) Mr B Leonard (Meetings Administrator) Ms E Molloy (Meetings Secretary).

KN01/1220

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on Wednesday 18 November 2020 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor M Stafford and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District held on Wednesday, 18 November 2020 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.



KN02/1220

Matters Arising

Councillor F McLoughlin Healy stated in relation to the Progress Report that there was no update on the Public Realm plan. She also stated there was no update on the dumping problem in the Curragh. The District Manager replied that there were quarterly reports from Public Realm and a report was due in January with additional details, Part 8's for Rathangan and Kilcullen and the Cultural Quarter in Newbridge. He thanked the Elected Members for their funding through LPT contributions for these projects. He further stated that there was no update on the dumping in the Curragh, and that he was working with the Department of Defence on this. Councillor McLoughlin Healy replied that this was a problem that was going on for years and asked for further details to be furnished. She also asked if the Traffic Management Plan would be included in the January Public Realm report. The District Manager replied that he spoke to the Director of Transport and it was the intention that the Traffic Management Plan would commence in 2021 and it would be dovetailed with the Public Realm plan, that funding was earmarked for 2021 and that the Traffic Management Plan study would be done in 2021.

KN03/1220

Municipal District Roadworks

The District Engineer stated a report had been circulated to the members providing an update on roads resurfacing and footpath works, low cost accident schemes, LPT, miscellaneous works, NTA funded works and drainage.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked for an update on the works that were going on in The Oaks and asked if ramps going in? The District Engineer replied that she was waiting on design, that she had just received new guidelines for traffic calming in housing estates. Three locations were marked for possible traffic calming. The District Engineer was looking at alternatives and the new guidelines may help address the issue. The District Engineer would arrange to meet residents on this for their input.



KN04/1220

LPT Expenditure 2020

A report of LPT Expenditure 2020 had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The District Manager stated that historical issues had been dealt with. The report was noted.

KN05/1220

Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District “other community projects” LPT funding 2020

The members considered the nomination provided in writing by Councillor Anne Connolly. The Mayor asked if there were any other LPT nominations Councillor Peggy O’Dwyer confirmed the following nominations

- €500 Clongorey and District Community Association
- €500 Rotary Club Newbridge
- €500 Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal
- €500 Pairc Mhuire Residents Association
- €500 Roseberry Hill Residents Association

The Mayor requested that the reallocation of €3500 for June Fest already approved by the members be noted at this meeting. He also asked for the members to approve the Supplementary Agenda item for the Kilcullen market festival grant of €1500. Councillor Tracey O’Dwyer expressed her support for the Kilcullen market festival grant.

The Mayor requested the members to advise if their circumstances met any of the requirements under Part 15 Section 177 of the Local Government Act, as amended, for members to disclose a pecuniary (i.e. financial) or other beneficial interest, of which they have “actual knowledge” that they or a connected person had in a matter that arises at a meeting of the local authority.



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Councillor Noel Connolly stated he was an underage trainer for Ellistown GAA Club.

Councillor Anne Connolly stated she was a social member of the LGFA.

Resolved that the nominations and grants proposed by Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor R Power and agreed by the members.

KN06/1220

Approve the Transfer of all Unspent 2020 LPT funds into 2021

The approval of the transfer of all unspent 2020 LPT funds into 2021 was proposed by Councillor Mark Stafford and seconded by Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer, with all members agreeing.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor Stafford and agreed by the members that all unspent 2020 LPT funds be transferred into 2021.

The Mayor asked the members to consider a proposal for a Joint Policing Committee request for a LPT contribution to implement a Community Alert Scheme county wide. The total funding required being €45,000 for a three-year service. The Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District contribution would be €10,600.

The proposal was proposed by Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Anne Connolly.

The members considered the proposal and made the following comments

- How was the figure of €10,600 reached?
- What was the end product?
- Not every message would be relevant to individual areas

The Mayor stated that the figure of €10,600 was proportional to Municipal District size but would clarify this to the members. He said the intent of the scheme was to standardize the community alert system and have a central approach. He said that the geographical location would be tailored to different areas of the county.



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The members agreed in principle to this proposal, however more detail was required on this proposal before being approved formally.

KN07/1220

Agree and Approve the Allocation of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2021

The District Engineer stated that she would need to know the budgets for 2021 LPT in order to compile the schedule of works.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked to suspend Standing Orders to address the anomaly of motions that were adjourned due to Covid time limits on previous meetings going unheard for two months while new motions were heard first. It was agreed to run with the items in the order of the agenda.

KN08/1220

Taking in Charge of housing estate in Grangemore Manor, Brannockstown

A report of the taking in charge of housing estate in Grangemore Manor, Brannockstown had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly with all members agreeing that the housing estate in Grangemore Manor, Brannockstown be taken in charge.

KN09/1220

Removal of sewage from Moorhill Wood Estate

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer That the council confirm the total amount paid to waste companies to remove sewage from Moorhill Wood estate, Brannockstown since the service commenced to date.



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The motion was proposed by Councillor T O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that to date €28,232.16 had been spent on removing sewage, maintaining the pump and providing a hardstand for the sewage tanker at Moorhill Wood estate.

Councillor T O'Dwyer stated that this was an environmental issue, that the residents were dealing with raw sewage and that two children had developed sepsis as a result of this problem. It would cost €54,300 to fix and could LPT funding be considered to remedy this problem. Councillor Mark Stafford urged the council to liaise with Irish Water on this matter. The District Manager stated that the estate was not Taken in Charge and that he was meeting with the Director of Building Control and would raise this matter.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly that the report be noted.

KN10/1220

Receive an Update from the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG)

In relation to TAAG items, the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed the members that at the September plenary meeting, a report issued to members advising that TAAG was no longer operational and the procedure for dealing with the items contained within TAAG was included in the report. All items had been extracted for each municipal district and they were now being considered by the Municipal District Office and the Traffic Section to identify projects that needed further assessment. For items on the TAAG list that had been dealt with or would not progress further, a response would issue.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked for more detail on this and when a response would issue.

Ms S Cummins, A/Senior Engineer replied that requests were being reviewed, if they met requirement of standards, they would then be considered subject to funding being available.



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This item was to go on the progress report for the next meeting to outline the process for what would be happening.

The Mayor excused himself from the meeting and Councillor Noel Heavey took the Chair.

KN11/1220

Road markings on R445 roundabout at Lidl warehouse

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer

That the council put road markings on the new roundabout near the Lidl warehouse on the R445 to Naas in the area of Old Connell.

The motion was proposed by Councillor P O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor R Power

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department that the Municipal District office would examine, and if warranted, install the necessary road markings.

Councillor Power stated that the two lanes were of different sizes. The District Engineer replied that they were different sizes for turning purposes and that the roundabout had gone through a safety audit.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor Power with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

KN12/1220

Flooding Problem on Old Road, Carna, Suncroft

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Anne Connolly

That the council address the flooding problem on the Old Road, Carna, Suncroft

The motion was proposed by Councillor A Connolly and seconded by Councillor Stafford



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A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that there were several drainage schemes commencing in the coming weeks and that the Municipal District office would investigate this location, and if within the council's remit and budget, the council would include it in the drainage programme.

Councillor P O'Dwyer stated that this problem needed to be addressed as an emergency.

The District Engineer replied that the contractor was beginning this programme in January.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor A Connolly and seconded by Councillor Stafford with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

The Mayor returned to chair the meeting.

KN13/1220

Martinstown Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Anne Connolly

That the council, under the Low-Cost Accident Improvement Scheme, make safe

Martinstown Cross.

The motion was proposed by Councillor A Connolly and seconded by Councillor C Pender

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that this proposal would be included for consideration as requested.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor A Connolly and seconded by Councillor Pender with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

KN14/1220

Street Bins in Monasterevin

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kevin Duffy

That the council make the following modifications to the street bins in Monasterevin:



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- Relocate 1 of the 2 bins at the Northbound bus stop out to the Hazel Hotel/Skirteen area
- Upgrade the existing timber bin in Cowpasture to a new metal bin, and
- Install new street bin on the Nurney Road near the entrance to Ard Evan and Ros Glas housing estates.

The motion was proposed by Councillor K Duffy and seconded by Councillor McLoughlin Healy

A report was received from the Environment department informing the members that the Roads Department provided bins and serviced these within the municipal district. The Environment Department would liaise with the Area Engineer regarding the request. As part of the current review of the Litter Management Plan, a review of the provision and servicing of street litter bins would be undertaken within the municipal district and would commence in early 2021. The members would be kept informed of the progress. It may be possible to remove bins from less frequented areas and reallocate these to the areas identified.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor K Duffy and seconded by Councillor McLoughlin Healy with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

KN15/1220

Flooding Issue on Dublin Road, Skirteen

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kevin Duffy
That the council investigate and rectify the ongoing flooding issues into a private house on the Dublin Road at Skirteen.

The motion was proposed by Councillor K Duffy and seconded by Councillor N Connolly

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that the Municipal District Office agreed to meet on site and investigate this further.



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Resolved on the proposal of Councillor K Duffy and seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

KN16/1220

Morristown Bridge, Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Noel Heavey
That in view of the heavy level of commuter traffic over the narrow Morrystown Bridge, Newbridge and safety concerns of some commuters, the council publishes practical options to improve safety to life and property.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Noel Heavy and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that Kildare County Council would undertake a traffic count at Morrystown Bridge to determine the level of traffic and HGVs using the bridge. A source of funding would have to be identified to undertake any design works/construction works as significant capital funding would be required for possible land acquisition, road realignment works, relocation of utility services etc. In addition, agreement with Iarnrod Eireann would be required to undertake any works on the bridge and ramps.

The members discussed the motion and raised the following queries

- At what times would the traffic count be taken?
- Could the inclusion of a pedestrian crossing be included in the works?

A/Senior Engineer replied that the count would be taken between 7am and 9am and 5pm and 7pm and possibly all day and that the capital works team would consider a pedestrian crossing on any new bridge.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Noel Heavey and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer with all members agreeing that the report be noted.



KN17/1220

Barrier Fence at 1-5 Rathbride Abbey, Kildare

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Mark Stafford
That the council erect a suitable barrier fence between the footpath and the green area at 1-5 Rathbride Abbey, Rathbride Road, Kildare in the interests of safety and privacy of the residents.

The motion was proposed by Councillor M Stafford and seconded by Councillor N Connolly

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development department informing the members that the Parks department would examine this issue in conjunction with the Roads department. Any work required would have to be considered within existing commitments in the Municipal District. Funding for any solution would also have to be identified.

Councillor Stafford stated that residents/children did not feel safe and could a fence/wall be erected? The District Engineer replied that she had no funding for building walls. The Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, Mr. S Wallace replied that this issue could be looked at and considered but that funding would have to be sourced and LPT funding could be considered.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor M Stafford and seconded by Councillor N Connolly with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

KN18/1220

Laneways (Francis Lane and Thomas Lane)

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Chris Pender
That the council closes the Laneways (Francis Lane and Thomas Lane) either side of the Eyre Powell Hotel to vehicular traffic.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Chris Pender and seconded by Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer



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A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that this would require the extinguishment of a public right of way and would require going through due process for same. If councillors were in favour of proceeding, the council could start the process.

Councillor Pender stated that he had conducted a survey from 30 November 2020 to 8 December 2020 using CCTV from local businesses. 53% of cars were using the lanes the wrong way round. The lanes were being used as a short cut and traffic crosses a busy footpath on Lower Main Street which was being used by hundreds of school children on a daily basis. He also stated that there were fire escapes, one from the Eyre Powell Hotel and one from Harrigans Pub exiting into these laneways. Councillor Pender stated that there was a need to ensure the safety of children.

The members considered the motion and made the following comments:

- The views of An Garda Síochána should be sought on this issue
- To commend Councillor Pender on the data he brought to the meeting.
- To be wary of closing rights of way, these laneways were being used to access parking by local residents and once closed, the laneways would never be reopened.
- This issue should not be examined in isolation, that it should be considered in the context of the overall Traffic Management Plan.
- That the council should carry out an official traffic survey of vehicles using the laneways.

A/Senior Engineer S Cummins stated that these laneways provided access to/from Main Street for a number of residential developments/businesses in the Francis St/Thomas St area. There were some potential Public Realm schemes being planned in the area and any modifications to traffic flow/routes would have to be considered in the context of these schemes – therefore these proposals whilst open for consideration were premature pending the development of these schemes. He also added that the lighting team were installing lighting within both archways.

The District Manager stated that extinguishing a public right of way is a statutory process which required public consultation and there should be an input from the Public Realm team.



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Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer with all members agreeing that the report be noted and that a further detailed report from the Roads Department be furnished for the February 2021 Municipal District meeting.

KN19/1220

Broken Street Light in Church View, Caragh

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

That the council repair a broken streetlight in Church View, Caragh (details provided)

The motion was proposed by Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that the relocation of the streetlight has been completed and the new light has been energised.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor R Power and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer with all members agreeing that the report be noted.

KN20/1220

Resurface of Old Road Carna, Suncroft

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Anne Connolly

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to resurface Old Road, Carna, Suncroft?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety department informing the members that the council were at present preparing the roads programme for 2021 and would include this road for consideration.

The report was noted.



KN21/1220

Footpath at Millbrook, Rathangan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Anne Connolly
Can the council confirm if it has any plans to upgrade the footpath at Millbrook, Rathangan?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that the 2021 LPT programme was being reviewed at present, once a budget was agreed, all requests including the above would be reviewed, and put forward for agreement with the members.

The report was noted.

KN22/1220

List of roads to be salted during winter months

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Noel Connolly
Can the council provide a list of the roads in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District that will be salted during the winter months, along with an update on our winter readiness?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety department informing the members that Kildare County Councils Winter Maintenance plan including a map of routes that were currently being gritted was available on the Kildare County Council website.

Councillor Connolly asked was there scope to include rural areas where there were schools
The District Engineer B Cuddy replied that there was no scope to change for the 2020/21 season, that the annual review had been carried out.

The report was noted.

KN23/1220

Public Lights in the Municipal District

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Mark Stafford



Kildare County Council

Can the council confirm that all public lights in the towns and villages of the municipal district are in working order given the unprecedented numbers of people walking in the evenings?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety department informing the members that as of December 8, there were 94 lighting faults reported across the Municipal District. The council could request that focus is given to the main walking areas throughout the county, however this would have a negative impact on repairs in housing estates and lights in rural locations.

Councillor Stafford accepted the report and asked what the response time was for requests for repairs. A/Staff Officer C O'Toole replied that the response time was 28 days.

The report was noted.

KN24/1220

Bus Shelter for Kilcullen

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy

Following the very welcome confirmation that the council have committed in the budget 2021 to delivering the much-needed bus shelter for Kilcullen in 2021, can the council provide a timeline on when it hopes to start the work onsite?

A report was received from the Roads, Transport and Public Safety department informing the members that there was no timeline available yet, the council were in the process of preparing the 2021 works programme.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy stated that she wanted to draw the council's attention to the fact that the person who had offered the land to the council on which the bus shelter was to be built, was now in the process of selling this land to another purchaser. The District Engineer noted this.

The report was noted.



KN25/1220

Green Area in front of Liffey View

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy
That the council meet with residents of Liffey View regarding the development of the green area in front of their terrace houses including but not limited to; making it more accessible for elderly neighbours; and to discuss the possibility of off-street parking for residents.
The motion was proposed by Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Chris Pender

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that
The development of 13 social housing units on the Athgarvan Road/Liffey Terrace was completed in 2018. There was substantial engagement with residents in the area prior to and during the development resulting in improvements in public realm, rearrangement of traffic and the provision of car parking. These works were completed under the contract to construct the 13 social housing units and the Housing section had no source of funding to carry out any additional work. The Housing Capital/Architectural Services Section could assist with design input if required.

A report was received from the Public Realm team informing the members that currently this area of Newbridge was not on Public Realm's 2021 work programme, however if the Motion was passed, a meeting would be arranged with the residents to ascertain their requirements. Any works that may be required would be subject to availability of funding and resources.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked if a meeting could be arranged with the residents.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Chris Pender with all members agreeing that the report was noted and that the District Manager would pass on the request of a meeting with the residents to the District Engineer.



KN26/1220

Old Mill Race Monasterevin

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kevin Duffy
Can the council provide an update on the recent purchase of vacant houses at Old Mill Race, Monasterevin, and to what extent will these be social houses, numbers purchased, house sizes and timeframe for occupation?

A report was received from the Housing department informing the members that the council has received an Expressions of Interest for units in Old Mill Race, Monasterevin but at the time of issue of this report, the council had not concluded the purchase of the units. It was not the intention of the Housing Department to provide specific information on the units in order to protect the privacy of future tenants under GDPR.

The report was noted.

KN27/1220

Newbridge Town Hall

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Chris Pender
Can the council outline the process for the reopening of Newbridge Town Hall for public usage?

A report was received from the Corporate Services department informing the members that facilities had no plans to open Newbridge Town Hall to the public under the current Covid restrictions. This situation would be reviewed when restrictions were eased.

The report was noted.

KN28/1220

Housing Grants

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Robert Power



Kildare County Council

Can the council provide information on the process of providing housing grants for council units in this municipal district, the average process time from application to installation and identify the cause of any blockers in this process?

A report was received from the Housing department informing the members that the Housing Adaptation Grant (Disabled Persons Grant) Scheme for council tenants was managed by Kildare County Council (assessment, tender process, carrying out recommended works). Priority 1 applicants (as per Occupational Therapist's assessment) were prioritised. There was a waiting list for Priority 2 applicants. Given the current Covid-19 restrictions and the necessity of some applicants to limit access to their homes there was a backlog of approved and unapproved applications which cannot be processed. The allocation for local authority properties is on average €400,000 per annum, which allows the completion of approximately 40 projects per year. In recent years additional funding has been made available which enabled the completion of additional projects. The major obstacle to the approval of grants is the availability of funding.

The report was noted.

KN29/1220

Barrettstown Cemetery

The members considered the following adjourned motion in the name of Councillor Noel Heavey

That the council extend Barrettstown Cemetery as planned with the utmost urgency.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Heavey and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer

A report was received from the Environment department that the work which would entail the provision of some additional plots as well as flood alleviation works/bank protection was included in the Environment Department's programme of work for 2021.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Noel Heavey and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer with all members agreeing that the report was noted.



KN30/1220

O'Modhráin Hall, Newbridge

The members considered the following joint motion in the names of Councillors Anne Connolly, Noel Connolly, Suzanne Doyle, Noel Heavey, Fiona McLoughlin Healy, Chris Pender, Robert Power and Mark Stafford

That this Municipal District Committee calls for the Charities Regulator to ensure that the proceeds from the sale of the O Modhráin Hall in Newbridge, are used for the exclusive benefit of the proposed Youth Cultural Centre in Newbridge.

The joint motion was proposed by Councillor Anne Connolly, and seconded by Councillor Peggy O'Dwyer

The District Manager Joe Boland read out a report that he had circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

The members considered the report and made the following points

- There was a need to send a strong message to the Charities Regulator that funds from the sale were to stay in Kildare to promote Irish culture and music in the Newbridge area.
- The site had been derelict for some time and to request an explanation from the Charities Regulator as to the delay of the sale.
- To agree as a group that the sale should benefit a youth cultural centre in the area.
- To remember the legacy of the late Gerard O'Connor who promoted music and culture over several decades in the town and was closely associated with the hall and that the name O Modhráin should be retained in the next phase of the development for the building.

The District Manager stated that the sale would close early in the new year and that the Charities Regulator would determine where the funds would go. He added that the council had no say in the sale of O Modhráin Hall but would keep a watching brief.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Anne Connolly and seconded by Councillor Peggy O'Dwyer with all members agreeing that the District Manager draft a letter to the Charities Regulator and circulate a copy to the members.



KN31/1220

Water Supply in Brannockstown

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if there has been any update on the letter that was sent to Irish Water requesting a meeting on their proposed plans to the water supply in the Brannockstown and surrounding areas?

A report was received from the Water Services department informing the members that the Council, as agreed at full Council, formally wrote to Irish Water seeking a presentation on the matters at hand or, alternatively, to address a joint meeting of the relevant Municipal Districts. A reminder was subsequently issued, and the matter raised again with Irish water at a senior management meeting [tier 2]. Regrettably, there has been no response to date. Copies of relevant correspondence were attached.
The report was noted.

KN32/1220

Derelict Sites Register

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Noel Connolly
Can the council confirm if (details provided) are on the derelict sites register?

A report was received from the Environment department informing the members that the property was not currently listed on the council's derelict site register. An inspection would be carried out by the Environment Department
The report was noted.

KN33/1220

Just Transition

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Mark Stafford



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Given that the intention of the Just Transition deep retrofit programme is to primarily benefit communities most affected by the cessation of peat harvesting, can the council outline how the selection of homes in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District and the contractors to carry out the works achieve this aim?

A report was received from the Architectural Services department informing the members that Kildare County Council have been assigned a budget of €3.3m under the Midlands Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme. This is a pilot programme for future energy upgrade works across the country with indication of substantially increased funding to follow for large scale retrofitting works. Under this pilot programme it was only possible to cater for a small percentage of council housing stock. The council estimate that this budget would allow to upgrade approx. 80 No Units, circa 1.5% of council housing stock. Kildare County Council had initially identified the following housing estates to the West of the County for these initial works subject to engagement with the tenants involved as follows:

- Beechgrove Rathangan
- Ashbrook, Derrinturn
- Bishopsland, Kildare
- St Evins Park, Monasterevin

Engagement with tenants in Beechgrove, Rathangan had commenced and there was substantial interest in the programme. Kildare County Council are utilising the Local Government Operational Procurement Centre (LGOPC) 2017 Energy Upgrade Framework, published under public procurement guidelines for all contractors interested in tendering energy upgrade works. Kildare County Council expect that this framework would be renewed in 2021 and contractors interested in tendering for this work would have the opportunity to join the framework at that stage.

Councillor Stafford stated he was asking the first part of his question again, how the projects are selected? Ms S Scully replied that she would come back to the members with this response.

The report was noted.



KN34/1220

Bord Na Mona

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Fiona McLoughlin
Can councillors and constituents have input into the agenda for the meeting with Bord na Mona in December?

A report was received from the District Manager informing the members that the meeting had now concluded; its purpose was to inform the members on the issues listed in the agenda.

The District Manager stated that there would be a briefing in January with a provisional date set for 12 January 2021 with the relevant Municipal Districts, on Just Transition.

The report was noted.

KN35/1220

Playground in Newbridge

The members considered the following adjourned motion in the name of Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy

That the municipal district councillors consider allocating the €100,000 allocated for a youth amenity to a playground for Newbridge, identified and highlighted in the council's Play strategy as a known need, and seek clarity as to where the remaining funding might come from if we are to have a chance of the project being completed within the next few years.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fiona McLoughlin and seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly.

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development department informing the members that funding for a second playground and Youth Amenity had been included in the Capital Programme which would be presented to members as part of the Annual Budget. €50k has been allocated for 2021 and €250k in 2022 for an additional



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playground. These figures are subject to confirmation in the Capital Programme that will be presented to members as part of the annual budget.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy wanted it to be noted that a member of the Municipal District committee had been speaking on the radio using the details in the report prior to it being discussed at the Municipal District meeting. Councillor Power stated that he spoke on KFM radio and that he did not use the information from the report but from information that he had gleaned himself.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy thanked the council for including the playground in the Capital Programme and that she was happy for the motion to fall.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly with all members agreeing that the report was noted, and the motion was to fall.

KN36/1220

LPT funding for Playgrounds

The members considered the following adjourned motion in the name of Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy

That this Municipal District Committee commit to adding sufficient LPT funding to any capital funding agreed to ensure the delivery of the playgrounds the council has identified are needed across the district; including the delivery of a playground in Newbridge as a priority and the delivery of playgrounds in Two Mile House, the Curragh Camp and Athgarvan by the end of this council's term.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Chris Pender

A report was received from the Economic Community and Cultural Development department informing the members that the allocation of LPT for playgrounds was a matter for the members. However, in addition to funding, suitable sites would also have to be identified.



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Any work would also have to be considered in the context of commitments to existing projects and the staff resources to deliver them.

The members discussed the motion and made the following points:

- To use LPT funding to deliver playgrounds in the Municipal District, there was a shortfall of €720k. This was what people want LPT to be spent on. To consider a rolling fund to deliver four playgrounds.
- Questioned the need for a playground in the Curragh Camp as there was one there already and there were no families in the camp.
- To discuss LPT items at the beginning of the year rather than in a piecemeal fashion. Playgrounds were being delivered. Other items may be more of a priority.
- To meet as a collective to discuss the allocation of LPT

The Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Mr. S Wallace stated that as part of the play strategy the council was trying to deliver the projects over a five-year term. Potential sites were being identified, there was no demand for a playground in Twomile House.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy stated that she disagreed that LPT talks should be in private, that there was a clear strategy to allocate funding, that there was a need for playgrounds in Athgarvan and Twomile House and to commit to deliver more in Newbridge. She requested Mr. Wallace to supply more information for LPT consideration.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor F McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Chris Pender with all members agreeing that the report was noted and Mr. S Wallace to provide more information for LPT consideration.

KN37/1220

Other Business

Councillor Anne Connolly paid tribute to the late Rathangan publican Mr. John Fullam who had died recently. Councillor Connolly described Mr Fullam as a huge community man, and that his death was a major shock to the locality. The District Manager described Mr Fullam



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as a significant instigator of new developments planned by the council in the Rathangan area. The Mayor thanked Councillor Connolly for her poignant and respectful comments and asked for a minute's silence.

The Mayor asked the members if they wanted non heard motions to be carried or if they were happy with the reports submitted. Councillor Peggy O'Dwyer asked for her motion to be adjourned to the next Municipal District meeting. Councillors Tracey O'Dwyer and Noel Connolly said that they accepted the reports.

The Mayor wished all persons present a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year

The meeting concluded.