



**Minutes of the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District
held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 15 September 2021
via Microsoft Teams**

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

Officials Present: Mr J Boland (District Manager), Ms B Cuddy (District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr C O'Toole (A/Staff Officer), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Ms K Keane (Administrative Officer), Mr O Brady (Administrative Officer), Mr M McLoughlin (Administrative Officer), Ms Elaine Donohoe (Executive Planner), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr L Dunne (Senior Executive Officer), Mr B Leonard (Meetings Administrator), Ms M Richardson (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

KN01/0921

Declaration of Pecuniary or Beneficial Interests

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that if there were any declarations of interest under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended. Councillor Noel Connolly, and Councillor Duffy advised that they were committee members of Monasterevin Community Centre. Councillor Doyle stated that she was a member of the Kildare Projects Committee.



KN02/0921

Minutes and Progress Report

To approve the minutes of the annual Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting and the monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on Wednesday, 21 July 2021(attached) and to note the progress report.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy stated her abstention on the question of adopting the minutes referenced above.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Noel Connolly and agreed by the members, with one member abstaining, that the minutes of the annual and monthly meetings of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District held on Wednesday 27 July 2021 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

KN21/0921

Casual Trading Bye Laws

To agree and approve that the “Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021 - Kildare Newbridge Municipal District” be placed on public display and submissions invited in accordance with Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act, 1995.

The members agreed to take the item in relation to “Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021 – Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District” at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr Tony Shanahan, Administrative Officer Corporate Services, went through main changes since July 2021 to the draft document. These changes took into consideration the feedback from the members and from the council’s legal advisors.

One of the main changes focused on the event trading. Mr Shanahan informed the members that event trading was not casual trading and that as per the legal advice the Bye-laws were going to exclude event trading licenses. The event trading would be managed through other means. The other main change was not to include the historic Thursday market in Kildare Town in the bye-laws at this time as more consultation was required with the traders, this was also the advice provided by the council’s legal advisors.

The members raised the following items:



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- If the Thursday market in Kildare Town was not included will the members have to revise the bye laws at a later date
- Will the markets be wheelchair accessible
- Can there be a re-direct in the bye-laws for event trading
- What happens if there is casual trading in a public place not identified in the bye-laws
- Not in favour of excluding event trading
- Will excluding the Thursday market in Kildare Town inhibit Public Realm projects
- Do the members have to specify the time and date in the Bye-laws
- What will the impact of the Council regulating licences have on fees
- In favour of removing reference to the Kildare Town market on Thursday
- Rathangan was not a bustling town market, there can be very little trading and the bye-laws may kill off trading, as could the trading fee
- Is the second Sunday market in Kildare Town a recognised day
- Will a business that operates outside their entrance be covered by the Bye-laws
- Was it possible to get a copy of the legal advice
- Was it possible to include the Thursday market and put the bye-laws out to public consultation and then possibly remove if it is problematic
- Can the locations at Monasterevin be re-examined

Mr Shanahan provided the following clarifications:

- If the Thursday market was left out the council would have to go through the process again however, there would be a template to use which would mean it would not take as long
- The markets would be wheelchair accessible
- Staff were endeavouring to put together a trading licence document
- Casual trading in a public place not identified in the bye-laws was illegal
- The dates and times would have to be included in the Bye-laws as it was required by legislation. Days outside of this could be managed through an event trading licence
- Organisers of events would liaise with the Municipal District Office, trading at the events would have to be regulated and the organisers would be required to contact the council



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- In relation to occasional trading in Rathangan, the council did measure the areas and identified two stall locations
- In relation to the second Sunday market in Kildare Town these were part of the reason for the bye-laws and the need to regulate trading
- Businesses that operate stalls outside their entrance need to apply under Section 254
- Matter re the circulation of the legal advice would be checked
- The council's legal advisors suggested that if the Thursday market was not tackled now as it would require further consultation and engaging with the traders individually.
- If the council were to include the Thursday market, logistically, the spaces would have to be examined and the consultation will then have to take place in October

Mr Shanahan advised that it was a matter for the members to decide on what approach to take.

On the proposal of Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Heavey and agreed by the members that "Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021 - Kildare Newbridge Municipal District" be placed on public display and submissions invited in accordance with Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act, 1995 with the following amendments:

To include an evening Thursday market in Kildare Town with the hours operating from 6.30pm to 8.30pm; to include the historic Thursday market in Kildare Town with the hours operating from 8am to 2pm, and to have a market in Kildare Town on Saturday and Sunday with hours operating from 10am to 2pm

Councillor Duffy also requested that the stalls area in Monasterevin be re-examined, Cllr Stafford also requested that the stalls in Rathangan be looked at again. Mr Shanahan confirmed that he would do so.

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr Doyle and seconded by Cllr Heavey and agreed by the members that Bye-laws be placed on public display and submissions invited in accordance with Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act, 1995 with amendments to include an evening Thursday market in Kildare Town with the hours operating from 6.30pm to 8.30pm; to include the historic Thursday market in Kildare Town with the hours operating from 8am to 2pm, and to have a market in Kildare Town on Saturday and Sunday with hours operating from 10am to 2pm



KN03/0921

To receive an update on the municipal district road works

The Municipal District Engineer gave an overview of works during the previous month.

Road Resurfacing Works:

The surface Dressing Program was now complete for 2021:

Additional roads surface dressed in 2021

Ring of Roseberry

Mooney's Road

Carna Suncroft

Cutbush to Martinstown

Additional works carried out as part of our extensive drainage program for this year

Restoration Improvement works completed on the following roads since last meeting.

Paddy's Bridge

Market Square Rathangan

Barraderra Monasterevin

Edenderry Road Rathangan

Athgarvan to Liffey Bridge

LPT /LIS - Have completed LIS in Clogheen Monasterevin, have received additional funding for two further roads which are gone to tender this week in Milltown and Conlanstown Rathangan.

LPT - 2020 program completed, 2021 tender issues with a view to be on site in the coming weeks

Miscellaneous Works:

Verge cutting ongoing across all areas of the MD.

Footpath repairs in Highfield estate, Green Road Newbridge, Main street Newbridge, St. Patrick's park Rathangan

Drainage works: Frenchfurze Kildare, Ring of Rosebery, Barrettstown, Paddy's Bridge.
Pothole repairs across the MD



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General Maintenance – water cuts, patching, gully cleaning.

The Mayor and members thanked the District Engineers team for all their work and raised the following points

- Possible timeframe for traffic calming measures at The Oaks
- Footpath works at Kildare Hotel
- Had there been much uptake and what is criteria for LIS scheme
- Could drainage work on the road from Maddenstown to Kildare Town be looked at
- Could drainage blockages caused by silting be discussed offline

Ms Cuddy advised that contractors were hoping to go onsite at ten different locations over the next two weeks and the Oaks would be included in this. She also advised that drainage works were ongoing, and she would revert regarding the road at Maddenstown. She would contact Councillor Heavey further regarding referred to drainage blockages.

Mr O'Toole advised that the LIS scheme was a relatively simple process and that every parameter was looked at in making the decision from cost to number of households impacted. There were currently 2 schemes in progress.

The report was noted.

KN04/0921

To agree and approve the allocation of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District 'members nominations' 2021.

Councillor	Name of Community Group/Project	LPT Allocation amount	Name of community group to be paid	Brief description of work/project
Anne Connolly	Rathangan Soccer Club	€1,500.00	Rathangan AFC	Installation of a defibrillator
Noel Connolly	Rosconnell Community Centre	€300.00	Rosconnell Community Centre	Memorial for Mick Deveraux RIP



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Noel Connolly	Monasterevin School Safety Action Group	€300.00	Monasterevin School Safety Group	Purchase of equipment
Noel Connolly	Hope D	€2,000.00	Hope D	Mental Health Supports
Noel Connolly	Older Voices Kildare	€1,000.00	Older Voices Kildare	Assisting Older People
Noel Connolly	Carmel Cashin Community Worker	€2,000.00	Carmel Cashin Community Worker	Citizenship or integration initiatives
Noel Connolly	Kildare Town First Responders	€500.00	Kildare Town First Responders	Purchase of essential equipment
Noel Connolly	Suncroft First Responders	€500.00	Suncroft First Responders	Purchase of essential equipment
Noel Connolly	Monasterevin First Responders	€500.00	Monasterevin First Responders	Purchase of essential equipment
Noel Connolly	Rathangan First Responders	€500.00	Rathangan First Responders	Purchase of essential equipment
Noel Connolly	Monasterevin Community Centre	€1,000.00	Monasterevin Community Centre	Purchase of essential equipment
Suzanne Doyle	Kildare Projects Committee	€12,000.00	Kildare Projects Committee	To support community activities for Halloween and Christmas to include the Santa experience in the courthouse and Christmas market.



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Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer proposed to allocate €9,976.65 to pay for the installation of driver feedback signs in Athgarvan to the Transportation Department.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Peggy O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor Chris Pender and agreed by the members, that the allocations circulated to the members and Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer's nomination be approved.

KN05/0921

Parking and Footfall Survey Kilcullen

The members considering the following motion in the names of Councillor T O'Dwyer and Councillor R Power.

That Kildare County Council support the delivery of a parking and footfall survey for Kilcullen in preparation for LAP and in support of the village design strategy currently being carried out by Kilcullen Community Action Group.

The motion was proposed by Councillor T O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor R Power.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Safety Department informing the members that the Roads Projects team were working on the development of Transport Strategies in conjunction with the Planning Department and their priorities in terms LAP reviews. The Roads Project team have completed the Naas-Sallins Transport Strategy and the Athy Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA). The Kildare Town Transport Strategy had recently progressed through a public consultation process and was due to be completed in the coming months. The Maynooth Transport Strategy had recently commenced, and the Newbridge Transport Strategy was to commence following the completion of the Kildare Town Transport Strategy.

Due to limited resources, it was not possible to commit to further Transport Strategies until such time as current strategies were completed.

The members raised the following points

- A local action group have engaged a consultation for design having received LEADER funding for same.



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- Hogarts are currently on site and it may be more cost effective and more efficient to have the survey done now.

Ms Hunt advised that the survey would be under the remit of the Roads department. Ms Hunt also advised that due to the number of projects it may be 2 to 3 years before the Kilcullen LAP would be addressed and that any survey carried out now would be out of date. Cllr Power suggested that a discussion could take place offline.

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

KN06/0921

Bicycle Racks Newbridge Main Street

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer. That the council consider installing additional bicycle racks on Newbridge Main Street in particular at the lower end from St. Conleths Bridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor P O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor McLoughlin Healy.

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team were currently working with the Sustainable Mobility team on the provision of parklets with outdoor seating and bicycle parking on the Main Street in Newbridge, including at the lower end from St Conleths Bridge.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor McLoughlin Healy that the report be noted.

KN07/0921

Traffic Calming Duneany Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor N Connolly. That the council implement traffic calming measures at Duneany Cross, on the Kildangan to Kildare Town Road.



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The motion was proposed by Councillor N Connolly and seconded by Councillor A Connolly.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Safety Department informing the members that a Technical Assessment was required to assess the need and type of traffic calming suitable for this location, the Municipal District Office would include the location for assessment, however there was no funding at present for works at this location if it was determined that traffic calming is warranted.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor N Connolly and seconded by Councillor A Connolly that the report be noted.

KN08/0921

Traffic Calming Martinstown Lane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor A Connolly.

That the council put in place traffic calming measures on Martinstown Lane, The Curragh.

The motion was proposed by Councillor A Connolly and seconded by Councillor N Connolly.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a Technical Assessment was required to assess the need and type of traffic calming suitable for this location, the Municipal District Office would include the location for assessment, however there was no funding at present for works at this location if it was determined that traffic calming is warranted.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor A Connolly and seconded by Councillor N Connolly that the report be noted.

KN09/0921

Sharp Bend Barrettstown Road

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

That the council review the sharp bend on the Barrettstown Road near Tankerds garden Halting Site to mitigate against further accidents.



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The motion was proposed by Councillor P O'Dwyer 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 had assessed the location and it had been determined that driver information signage was required, and that the existing road markings be upgraded. The required works would be carried out in due course.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor N Connolly that the report be noted.

KN10/0921

Road Resurfacing Irish National Stud

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

That the council resurface all approach roads (within a radius of 1km) to the Irish National Stud at Tully, Kildare given its importance as a tourist destination.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that these roads were not included in the Restoration Improvement Works for 2021, therefore there was no budget available to carry out the requested works at this time.

The members stated that the National Stud was a premier destination, and the condition of the roads gave a poor impression and should be addressed.

Ms B Cuddy advised that she requested the General Services Supervisor to look at the road noting that priority works were based on available budgets.

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

KN11/0921

Traffic Safety Priests Lane, Kildare

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



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That the council review the traffic safety measures at the junction between White Abbey Road and Priests Lane and also at Priests Lane, Kildare generally.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the location requires a full strategic review. Given the size of the potential project, this would be outside the scope of the Municipal District Office to deliver.

Councillor Stafford advised that he was referring to two stop signs at White Abbey Road and Priests Lane, and a parking issue on Priests Lane.

Ms Cuddy advised that she had misinterpreted the motion and would have the matter investigated.

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

KN12/0921

Second Bridge Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy. That the council outline the compact urban area criteria and the elements on which the application for the second bridge for Newbridge floundered; what a Newbridge that met the criteria might look like; and whether the criteria could be met without the second bridge?

The motion was proposed by Councillor McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor N Connolly.

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, DHLG&H considered that the Newbridge Southern Relief Road did not meet with the core objectives of the fund which was principally to support compact sustainable urban growth and to directly target and facilitate regeneration development projects in the core of urban centres.



Kildare County Council

The central theme of the URDF Call 2 was 'compact growth', which was one of the NPF's ten national strategic outcomes and underpinned many of the National Planning Objectives to guide the future development of our towns and villages. The Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) aimed to deliver more compact and sustainable development, as envisaged under Project Ireland 2040. It does this by part-funding regeneration and rejuvenation projects in Ireland's five cities and other large towns.

More compact and sustainable development involved a greater proportion of residential and mixed-use development within the existing built-up footprints of our cities and towns. This would ensure more parts of our urban areas become attractive and vibrant places in which to live, work, visit and invest. Furthermore, NPO 3c required the delivery of at least 30% of all new homes that were targeted in settlements, within their existing built-up footprints.

The fund supports the objectives of the National Planning Framework (NPF) and National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2027.

In May 2020 Kildare County Council submitted 4no. URDF Call 2 Applications to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLG&H). Of the 4no. applications, 3no. were successful, namely, Maynooth Town Centre Renewal – Strengthening the Grid, Naas Town Renewal Masterplan and Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road. The proposed Newbridge Southern Relief Road, ranked 2nd in the order of KCC's priority, was unsuccessful. The URDF was targeted in an integrated, dynamic and responsive way to support the regeneration and rejuvenation of towns and cities. Call 2 of the URDF was announced with a primary focus on contributing to compact growth objectives through the support of integrated urban developments, strategic development areas combining a number of elements and schemes that would contribute to the improved liveability of our cities and towns.

As discussed at a TEAMS meeting with the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District councillors on the 21 July, it was agreed to focus on the development of the Newbridge Southern Relief Road (including Newbridge Second Liffey Crossing) to planning stage with the resources available to Kildare County Council.

The members raised the following points

- The application submitted by Kildare County Council to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was excellent.



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- Newbridge cannot qualify for funding without effectively turning the town into a car park
- What exactly was the footprint of the town.
- Why did Celbridge qualify for a second bridge where Newbridge did not.
- The two Strategic Housing Developments in the Ballymany area would have little or no impact on this decision, despite the fact that many would have to cross the bridge to get to schools.
- Could the Council place a special levy on developments in Newbridge.
- Would a levy generate sufficient funding and if there was a move away from the URDF, where would the funding come from.

Ms Hunt advised that Celbridge application for a second bridge was to facilitate access to Hazelhatch train station whereas in Newbridge it was not a model shift and was only to facilitate people getting into cars. She confirmed the footprint of the town was shown on the LAP maps.

The District Manager advised that it was disappointing and frustrating not to get the go ahead for the second bridge and that the council needed to move on from URDF funding. The planning department were currently looking at a supplementary development levy scheme and that this could be looked into as a possible source of funding. He noted that as it was a roads project, funding may become available from the Department of Transport.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor N Connolly that the report be noted.

KN13/0921

Water Drainage Survey Kildare Town

The members considering the following joint question in the names of Councillor Stafford and Councillor Doyle.

Can the council confirm it has plans to conduct a survey of surface water drainage capacity in Kildare town with a view to making recommendations for adoption in the Local Area Plan?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that relative lack of drainage capacity as well as complexities around current infrastructural arrangements had been an issue in Kildare Town, particularly in the context of proposals for new developments. It was accepted that it would be beneficial to examine these matters in more detail including possible options in advance of preparation of the next LAP. While surface water was primarily a matter for Transport Department, there were a number of departments involved, including Water Services / Environment, Municipal District Engineer, Planning Department, NRDO [tanking] as well as Irish Water. The District Manager would convene a meeting of these departments in due course and keep the councillors informed.

The report was noted

KN14/0921

Lands at Ballyfarsoon, Monasterevin

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Noel Connolly. Can the council outline its plans for lands in its ownership (Folio KE43933F 1.24 acres/0.50 hectares) at Ballyfarsoon in Monasterevin?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the request required further investigation. The Municipal District Office would revert to the member once their investigation is completed.

Councillor N Connolly asked that the investigation be expedited as the lands were at risk of adverse possession.

Ms B Cuddy advised that she needed to clarify which department was responsible for the lands in question and would revert to Councillor N Connolly.

The report was noted.

KN15/0921

Lands at Kildare Road Rathangan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor N Connolly. Can the council outline its plans for lands in its ownership (Folio KE2708N 1.112 acres/0.45 hectares) at Kildare road, Rathangan?



A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the request required further investigation. The Municipal District Office would revert to the Member once their investigation is completed.

The report was noted.

KN16/0921

Wall Restoration Lough Road Rathangan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor A Connolly.

Can the council confirm if a reply has been received from the Office of Public Works following my motion at the February meeting in relation to the restoration of the wall on the Lough road, Rathangan?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that correspondence had issued but no reply had been received to date. A reminder had been sent to the OPW.

The report was noted.

KN17/0921

Path Sweeper Kilcullen

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer

Can the council confirm the days and times the path sweeper is scheduled for Kilcullen?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the footpath sweeper was scheduled for Kilcullen. However, the large sweeper was scheduled for Kilcullen three days per week. As part of this, the footpaths were swept out into the street and the large sweeper then collected the sweepings as part of the street sweeping.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked that she be advised of which days the sweeper was scheduled for Kilcullen.

The report was noted.

KN18/0921



Pay and Display Parking Tickets

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Stafford.
Can the council advise what information is required to be displayed on Pay and Display parking tickets and is the council aware of any discrepancies in the tickets issued in the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that requirements for pay and display tickets printed from pay and display machines in County Kildare were as follows:

The pay and display ticket produced by the Pay and Display meter must be clearly legible with good quality readable print and must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- The words "Kildare County Council"
- The fee paid in respect of the ticket.
- The date and time of issue of the ticket.
- The date and time of expiry of the ticket.
- Parking location - Town and Street
- Meter number of ticket printed at.
- Instruction to place ticket inside the vehicle on dashboard.
- On-Street tickets must be printed on white paper with black print.
- Off-Street tickets must be printed on a paper of a different colour (to be agreed with the Client) with black print.

Kildare County Council confirmed it was not aware of any discrepancies in the above.
The report was noted.

KN19/0921

Kilcullen Bus Shelter

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy.
Can the council provide an update on the legal transfer of the land for the bus shelter at Kilcullen and a ballpark timeline on starting works?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that legal representatives managing this land transfer on behalf of



Kildare County Council

the Transportation Department were working through finalising the contractual documents. It should also be noted that the consent of the Charities Regulator was also required in this instance. The Transportation Department was not in a position currently, to give an estimated timeline for the project.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy noted this was the first mention she has seen of the involvement of the Charities Regulator and asked had there been a change to the process. Mr D Hodgins advised that he would speak to Councillor McLoughlin Healy directly regarding the matter.

The report was noted.

KN20/0921

Bus Route Naas to Caragh

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy. Can the council's executive representative to Kildare Local Link provide an update on the plans for a bus route between Caragh and Naas and a ballpark timeline for its introduction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the proposed bus route between Caragh and Naas remained at the planning stages and it was envisaged that this service would be considered under the Connecting Ireland - Rural Mobility Plan.

Further updates would be provided as the planning processes progress.

Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked had there been a change to the process as she had thought this was further along in the timeline. It was agreed that further clarification would be provided by the Roads, Transportation and Safety Department after the meeting.

The report was noted.

The Mayor sought the members approval to adjourn the meeting for a 9-minute break. The members agreed.

KN22/0921

Derelict Building Leinster Street Rathangan



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The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor N Connolly.
That this council write to the Office of Public Works asking that they outline their plans for the derelict building bearing Eircode R51 W248 in its ownership at Leinster Street, Rathangan and to ask if they will gift the building to Kildare County Council so that the building can be brought back into use.

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

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator that subject to the members agreement, correspondence could issue to the OPW as requested.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor N Connolly and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer that a letter be sent to the Office of Public Works.

KN23/0921

Housing Adaptation Grant

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Doyle
That the council review their Housing Adaptation Grant in this municipal district, in light of the significant rise in building costs.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Power.

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Housing Department administered three grant options to assist people with a disability and older people in carrying out works which were necessary for the purposes of rendering a house more suitable for their accommodation needs. All schemes were subject to a household income means test.

The grants available were:

Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability - Maximum grant €30,000.

Mobility Aids Grant - Maximum grant €6,000.

Housing Aid for Older People Grant - Maximum grant €8,000.

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage carried out ongoing reviews on the operation of the Housing Adaptation Grants Schemes within local authorities. A further



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review of the scheme was expected to commence over the coming weeks. This motion would be forwarded to the Department for consideration as part of this review.

Updates on grant applications processed were included in the monthly Chief Executives Report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Power that the report be noted.

KN24/0921

Reopening plans for Kildare County Council Public Buildings

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

Can the council confirm the status of reopening/reopening plans for public buildings like Newbridge Town Hall?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that as the members were aware in “Reframing the Challenge, Continuing Our Recovery and Reconnecting” the Government had agreed that during the period between 1 September to 22 October, Ireland would continue to tread a careful path with a gradual reopening, supported by an extensive vaccination programme. Subject to continuation of progress, the 22 October which would see most restrictions lifted and replaced by guidance and advice to enable society to work together, to protect ourselves and to live our lives fully. Kildare County Council would continue to adhere to public health advice in line with this Reframing the Challenge Document.

The Business Continuity Group met on 7 September and the elected members would be updated on decisions relating to the reopening of our public buildings as soon as they are confirmed.

The report was noted.

KN25/0921

Update on Public Realm

A report was circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The members raised the following points

- Could updates be highlighted in a different colour as they were difficult to distinguish.



Kildare County Council

- How does the Climate Action Training Centre of Excellence fit into the Cultural Quarter?
- Was the Part 8 for Newbridge Library going ahead on its own.
- Update on parking Market Square, Kilcullen
- Could Cherry Avenue be reviewed regarding potential private sector partners.
- Concern that the Kilcullen project is marked as TBC
- Would there be changes made to the public consultation process post the easing of restrictions on 22 October.

Ms Hunt advised that in future she would highlight updates. The Part 8 for the library was well ahead of the others and would proceed separately towards the end of the year or early next year. The Climate Action Training Centre of Excellence was a council led project and URDF funded in new buildings. A feasibility study was progressing on whether it would attract footfall. Regarding car parking in Kilcullen Ms Hunt advised that the owner of the car park was unwilling to sell but would long term lease to the council with the funding to come from car parking levies. Temporary trials of removing car parking spaces had proven successful in increasing footfall. It was hoped to have a face-to-face public consultation with surveys and information boards taking place outdoors post 22 October. Extensive engagement was taking place with An Garda Síochána regarding public spaces and post 22 October, the council should see enforcement of alcohol bye-laws. Ms Hunt advised that enabling works for Cherry Avenue were in the Capital Programme but it would cost in the region of €7M to develop. She advised that she would liaise with Mr S Wallace, Park Superintendent regarding some work in the interim. In relation to Kilcullen project, she confirmed funding needed to be identified and a levy for Public Realm projects may be one source.

The report was noted.

KN26/0921

To seek the views of the members in respect of a strategic housing development at Ballymany, Newbridge (Glan Developments - An Bord Pleanála ref: 21/311040).

A presentation was given by Ms E Donohue, A/Senior Executive Planner and the comments of the members were noted (see Appendix A).



During the course of the strategic housing development presentation, the Mayor put it to the members that standing orders would need to be suspended.

Resolved n proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor S Doyle and agreed by the members that standing orders were suspended for 45 minutes.

KN27/0921

Penney's Development

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

That this Municipal District ring fence any development levies from the new Penney's development for the purposes of progressing the Second Bridge for Newbridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer.

A report was received form the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that development contributions were calculated in accordance with the Development Contribution Scheme 2015-2022 adopted by the members and apportioned as follows:

Service area	% Allocation Residential	% Allocation Commercial & Retail
Roads	47.5	71.8
Surface water	11.5	18.3
Recreation & Amenity	34.5	8.4
Community	6.5	1.5

Development contributions formed part of the funding mechanism of the Capital Programme 2022-2024 and any projects not on this programme would have to be considered in the context of the next capital programme. Roads and surface water were for countywide projects while Recreation and Amenity and Community were ringfenced for the relevant municipal district.



Kildare County Council

The council could not comment on current planning applications that were under consideration.

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

KN 28/0921

Waterways Ireland

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer. Can the council confirm if the Heritage Officer has discussed with Waterways Ireland, the feasibility of upgrading the existing towpath along Corbally Harbour following my January motion and as per the report issued at the January meeting and what was the outcome of these discussions?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Heritage Officer had made contact with Waterways Ireland and was awaiting a reply. Further contact had been made this week and the Heritage Officer would follow up and update members accordingly.

The report was noted.

KN29/0921

Site on Hawkfield Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer. Can the council confirm that the recent site opening on the Hawkfield Road L7038 is within planning regulations and is it temporary?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that a construction management plan was received in respect of planning references 16/975 and 20/1284 and was available to view on the public system under planning reference 16/975. There were no permanent road accesses on this planning file onto the L7038.

The report was noted.



KN30/0921

Tidy Towns Grants 2021

The members considered the proposed grant allocations for Tidy Towns Groups for 2021.

Tidy Towns Grants Allocation 2021						
Kildare- Newbridge MD	TT Group (11)	Population Category (from TT report)	Proposed Budget Allocation		Agreed LPT Allocation	Total
	Newbridge	G (15,001 to 25,000)	€ 8,650		€ 25,538	€ 34,188
	Kildare	E (5,001 to 10,000)	€ 2,335		€ 17,438	€ 19,773
	Monasterevin	D (2,501 to 5,000)	€ 1,211		€ 13,500	€ 14,711
	Kilcullen	D (2,501 to 5,000)	€ 1,211		€ 10,800	€ 12,011
	Rathangan	D (2,501 to 5,000)	€ 1,211		€ 10,800	€ 12,011
	Suncroft	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 518		€ 6,416	€ 6,934
	Caragh	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 518		€ 4,500	€ 5,018
	Brannockstown	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 518		€ 2,700	€ 3,218
	Athgarvan	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 518		€ -	€ 518
	Kildangan	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 518		€ 1,350	€ 1,868
	Milltown	A (up to 200)	€ 239		€ 6,416	€ 6,655
	Total			€ 17,447		€ 99,458

The members raised the following points

- Why had LPT funding been under consideration since March, yet grant allocations were only being approved now.
- Could the grant allocation be made earlier in the year as Tidy Town Groups are in desperate need of funds.

The District Manager advised that the comments would be noted.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Duffy and agreed by all members that the allocations be approved as outlined in the table above

KN31/0921

Pairc Mhuire

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council provide an update on the works being carried out by contractors and Irish Water for the residents of Pairc Mhuire and a completion date?



A report was received from the Water Services Department informing the members that the remaining permanent reinstatement works in Pairc Mhuire would commence in late September. Pipelaying works in this area were only completed in May of this year and hence the permanent reinstatement works were actually planned to be carried out ahead of time in this instance. The intention was that all of the reinstatement would be carried out together, including the green area.

The report was noted.

KN32/0921

Waste Water Treatment Plant Millview Milltown

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant at Millview, Milltown?

A report was received from the Water Services Department informing the members that Irish Water was the national water utility responsible for the delivery of water services to homes and businesses in Ireland

The elected member should contact Irish Water via the dedicated Local Representative Service Desk in compliance with Irish Water instructions and protocol. The contact details were as follows:

Telephone: 0818 178 178

Email: localrepsupport@water.ie

The District Manager advised that he follow up on this with Irish Water.

The report was noted.

KN33/0921

The members considered a question in the name of Councillor Pender.

Can the council confirm the status of the "pilot project" for a reverse vending machine in Naas with a view to initiating a similar project in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Water Services Department informing the members that there was no further update on this other than what was contained on the progress report. Again, this was an initiative of the Naas Municipal District wherein a local group had been established to progress this initiative. The District Manager understood that they had been in discussions with a local business/trader to host the machine and to arrange the [not insignificant] logistics around storage, transport and disposal/sale of the resulting material. The council had been providing assistance in terms of funding/guidance etc. The report was noted.

KN34/0921

Green/living roofs on bus shelters

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Pender. That this municipal district pilot green/living roofs on the bus shelters in Newbridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Power.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this issue had been raised with the National Transport Authority who were responsible for the tendering process for bus stop infrastructure. Their existing contract did not include for the delivery of "green roof" bus shelters. The NTA was examining the technical requirements for installing and maintaining these shelters in the context of future tendering processes for the provision of bus shelters.

The members asked if the NTA could be contacted regarding a pilot scheme.

Mr C O'Toole advised that he would raise this with the Sustainable Transport Team.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Power that the report be noted.

KN35/0921

Youth facilities Kildare Town

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



Kildare County Council

That the council investigate the feasibility of delivering a facility for youth (primarily 12 - 18 year olds) at the Weigh bridge site or alternate sites in Kildare town and make recommendations around suitable activities including skatepark.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer.

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that an investigation of an appropriate site and facilities could be considered for a future Parks works programme but could not be undertaken at present with the number of projects in the municipal district that were already committed to.

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

KN36/0921

Outdoor Facilities and Leisure Amenities Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy. That the council respond to the dire need for outdoor amenities and leisure facilities around Newbridge and its hinterlands (a demand that is increasing exponentially with additional houses being built in the area) - including but not limited to known needs like the national competition level BMX park that has been offered free of charge to the MD, an alternative location to the Curragh Plains for scramblers and motocross bikers, a space for Newbridge Volleyball Club, and additional space needed for sports clubs - by way of an audit of lands owned by the council, and of lands zoned amenity, on which the amenities and facilities needed for our community and in particular for our children and young people to thrive, might optimally be located, or by any other method the council believes would best match needs with locations.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that an audit of lands could be carried out but would have to be considered for a future works programme for



Kildare County Council

the Parks section. We currently do not have the capacity to undertake this work given existing commitments. Audits of council owned land had been carried previously and any land that was available and suitable for recreation and amenity, was being used. In reply to a previous motion of a similar nature in July, it was indicated that we would investigate land zoned for amenity and recreation along the Liffey which will be undertaken.

The members raised the following points

- There was an urgent need for facilities and amenities in the Newbridge area
- Banning people from using the Curragh Plains was not a solution and there was a need to develop somewhere else
- The Newbridge skate-park had gone from not having enough interest to being too small
- Could an audit be carried out on lands owned by Kildare County Council and of all land currently zoned as amenity land and could this be circulated to the members
- Could land not currently in use be made available
- Could a map be made available from the last audit

The Mayor put it to the members that standing orders would need to be suspended again.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McLoughlin Healy, seconded by Cllr P O'Dwyer and agreed by the members that standing orders were suspended for a further 5 minutes.

Mr S Wallace advised that the only available land currently not allocated was in Rickardstown. Funding for recreational facilities did not come from Central Government and there were currently no resources. Information and maps were provided from the last audit but he would look into making them available again.

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

KN37/0921

Workshop for Key Festival Organisers

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

Can the council inform the members if consideration has ever been given to facilitate a workshop of key festival organisers in this municipal district to examine means of working



Kildare County Council

collaboratively in achieving efficiencies, coordinating calendars and developing networks for shared learning?

A report was received from the Community and Economic Development Department informing the members that some consideration had been given to the council and/or Kildare Failte facilitating this type of proposal. There were many festivals held throughout Kildare annually which could range from small to large. Before organising such a workshop, consideration needed to be given regarding the category of “key festival”. Once this had been agreed we could move forward with inviting organisers of those “key” events to a county wide “organisers event” to see how such an event would work.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.

Appendix A

Strategic Housing Development ABP Ref: 21/311040 Glan Developments Ballymany, Newbridge

Mr. E Donohoe advised the members that the application related to a proposed development of 204 no. residential units, a creche and associated site works and outlined details of the application. The members were advised that the application was received on 6 August 2021, submissions or observations were due on 9 September 2021 and the Chief Executive’s Report was due by 30 September 2021. She outlined the details of the application, the Opinion issued by An Bord Pleanála in respect of the pre-planning consultation and advised the members that their views were now sought in accordance with the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016.

Councillor Peggy O’Dwyer said that this was an ideal site for a future school and asked about the link across to the Green Road. She noted that there was no playground included in the application.

Ms. Donohoe informed the members that the application did not include a link across to the Green Road.



Kildare County Council

Councillor T. O'Dwyer said that the link across to the Green Road should be included in this application or may become problematic in the future. She said it was unnecessary to have the creche in the estate rather than the edge and hoped there was adequate capacity. She noted that a smaller development in Kilcullen included a playground whereas this application had none. She also questioned if there was adequate parking provided for residents and visitors.

Councillor McLoughlin-Healy made the following observations: the developer should be asked where the children will go to school as there was already a shortage in Newbridge and similarly there was a shortage of GPs. She said that Newbridge was already choked by traffic. She supported the views on the lack of play areas and said that the Ballymany area should be for lower density housing.

Councillor Heavey said that the members had received presentations on two applications at Ballymany but there was no decision on delivering another second level school in Newbridge. He supported the other members views on a playground; said the Green areas in the estate should link together and that the lack of a second bridge in Newbridge was putting the cart before the horse.

Councillor Connolly supported the views of the other members and said that a creche for 54 children in 204 units was not adequate; a building for community use should be included, a free flow system for traffic coming out of the estate turning left should be included; he noted there were no public electric charging points, noted the lack of GPs, dentists and school places in Newbridge and said that some renewable energy measures should be included.

Councillor Stafford gave the following views: the boundary treatment with mesh fencing was unsuitable; the link road should be completed as part of the application; proper safety measures should be put in place with the attenuation pond; no consideration of the proximity of the Curragh to the site; the durability of the bike stands looked questionable; welcomed three bins per unit but questioned their durability. He said that the application contravened the Local Area Plan and County Development Plan by placing apartments on the edge of Newbridge, putting the highest density on the edge of the town.



Kildare County Council

Councillor Doyle gave the following views: she that there was not adequate parking. for both creche staff and the public; the link road should be delivered as part of the application; concerned about surface water in respect of the topography of the site; a special development contribution needed for a second bridge in Newbridge; an adequate bond should be put in place; a social infrastructure audit per capita required for Newbridge and more space required in the development considering the changing lifestyles in apartment living with, for example, remote working.

Councillor Pender also noted issues in respect of schools, GPs and the inadequacy of social infrastructure audit. He said that there was no provision for public transport, lack of playground or recreational amenities and that the creche should be built first. He also noted that the higher density was an issue on this site on the edge of Newbridge.

Councillor Duffy said that the link road should be completed as part of the development. He queried if the combined development of two strategic housing developments was in breach of the core strategy. He said the high density was a concern and that a special development contribution was required for a second bridge.

Councillor Power said that the completion of the link road was crucial; the density was too high at this location; the quality did not appear good; the setback from the motorway should be greater; a playground was required in the development. He noted that the same Social Infrastructure Audit was used for both SHD applications at Ballymany which would make one of them inaccurate. He said that the size of the apartments seemed too small and below standard.

Councillor Power thanked the members and the planning team for their input.