



**Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District
held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 15 November 2023
in the Council Chamber**

Members Present: Councillor N Heavey (Mayor), Councillors A Connolly, N Connolly, P Curran, K Duffy, P O'Dwyer, T O'Dwyer

Remote Attendance: Councillors F McLoughlin Healy, R Power and C Pender

Apologies: Councillor S Doyle

Officials Present: Ms A Aspell (District Manager), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr B Murnane (Executive Engineer), Mr S Deegan (Senior Engineer), Mr J Hennessy (Senior Executive Engineer) Ms S McCullough (Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer), Mr M Hearn (A/Staff Officer), Ms S Farrar (Administrator Officer), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms KA O'Brien (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

KN01/1123

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

KN02/1123

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the special Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor N Connolly and seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 18 October 2023 be taken as read and the progress report be noted.



KN03/1123

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer gave the following update on roadworks in the Municipal District.

Road Resurfacing Works:

Restoration improvement (RI):

Works have now commenced on the R445, this will complete the RI program for this year.

Restoration Maintenance schemes (RM):

All RM are also complete within the Municipal District.

LPT:

Henry Street – works are complete on Henry Street and now moving down to Eyre Street.

Junction Upgrades:

Junction improvement works are now complete at Whelan Cross, junction at Peadar Byrnes Garage, Floods Cross, Ballymany junction and Kildare Town at CYMS.

Low-Cost Safety schemes:

Ballykelly Cross: Works ongoing. Junction overlay complete. Road markings and signage to follow.

Feighcullen Cross: Upgrading to signage and road markings.

Bend at Feighcullen Church: Upgrading to signage and road markings.

Rathmuck: Signage and road marking.

NTA:

- Works on Green Road are continuing, widening of footpaths, provision of pedestrian crossing and road overlay.
- Footpath in Kildangan now complete.
- Contractor on site in Lakeside Park/ Allenview Heights.
- Tender awarded for Ballymany footpath at the Keadeen Hotel.



Kildare County Council

- St. Bridget's Square: Junction overlay works commencing in the coming days.

Kildare

- Hedge cutting in Lackagh, Ros Glas, Duneany, Dublin Road, Monasterevin, Coole Monasterevin and junctions from Cherryville to Ellistown, Nurney Road, Monasterevin.
- Patching at Og Hill, Kildangan, Kildare Town, Ellistown, laneway adjacent to TP Waters garage Kildare Town, Lackagh, Chapel Lane Kildare.
- New chevron signs at Ellistown. New concrete footpaths at the Paddocks Kildangan. Topsoil and lawn seed at Woodview, Monasterevin.
- New bin at Cowpasture, Monasterevin. Trip hazards Claregate Street, Kildare Town.

Kilcullen

- Water cuts - Ladytown, Logstown to Carnalway. Old N9 Carlow Road. Grangemore, Mullaghboy.
- Pothole repairs Ladytown, Dunnstown, Ladytown to Lewistown, Mullacash Hill.
- Gully Cleaning - Brannockstown Village, entrance road to Cnoc na Greine, Gormanstown to Kennycourt. Emptying drainage sump Silliot Hill. Drainage issue resolved at Chapel Lane Twomilehouse. Cleaning drain Fintan Floods field Ladytown. Road signage repairs Caragh. Topsoil after drainage issue Ladytown.
- Cutting back bushes Sunnyhill cul de sac.

Rathangan

- Blacktrench Road, R414, L3001, Pluckerstown, Russellstown - pothole repairs.
- Boston Hill Road - water cuts relief works.
- Milltown drainage flooding release and further investigation. R401- water cuts relief works.
- R401 - Upgrading the 50km/h signs. Rathangan Town - litter picking and sweeping.
- Tullylost junction - Upgrading the 50km/h signs. Barnaran R414 - upgrading the uneven road signs.
- R401 Road/Boston Hill junction - hedge cutting and sign maintenance. Rathangan cemetery - new bench pre-works.



Kildare County Council

Newbridge Town:

- Upgrade and cleaning of the drainage network at Tougher roundabout and on the R445.
- Hedge cutting and water cuts around Newbridge.
- Drainage upgrade at Newbridge College.

The report was noted.

KN04/1123

Residual LPT 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023

Councillor A Connolly proposed:

- €10,500 to Kildare Newbridge Municipal District for 3 x seats for Rathangan Cemetery and 2 x Feedback Speed Signs for Kildare Road, Rathangan.
- €2,000 to Milltown Cemetery Committee for funding towards legal fees in the purchasing of extra land for extension to the cemetery.

This was seconded by Councillor N Connolly

Councillor Pender asked to allocate :

- €5,000 to Newbridge Family Resource Centre to support the delivery of Counselling and therapeutic services.
- Councillor Pender informed the members that he was on the board for the Family Resource Centre. On the proposal of Councillor N Connolly and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer that €5,000 to Newbridge Family Resource Centre to support the delivery of Counselling and therapeutic services.

On the proposal of Councillor C Pender and seconded by Councillor N Connolly that

- €1,500 be allocated to Newbridge Taekwon-Do for the purchase of equipment

Councillor Curran proposed:

- €15,000 to Kildare Newbridge Municipal District for the installation of a second solar powered Equine and Rider warning signage system on both sides of the R413 Melitta Road

This was seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer

- €5,000 to The Rathangan Tennis Club for the upgrading of facilities.



This was seconded by Councillor Pender.

Resolved on the proposals of Councillors A Connolly, Pender, N Connolly and Curran and seconded by Councillors N Connolly, Pender, P O'Dwyer and T O'Dwyer and agreed by all members present that all the above allocations be approved.

KN05/1123

Roads Capital Projects

Mr S Deegan gave a PowerPoint presentation to the members on an update of the Roads Capital Projects for Kildare Newbridge Municipal District.

The members raised the following points:

- At the LAP process it was felt that a lesson had been learnt about how to manage the level of work involved and about engagement for briefings
- With works happening at the Newhall Junction the level of traffic had increased at the Red Lane Road and the surface had deteriorated.
- Had the team been looking at different material use and different ways of working to reduce carbon footprint?
- Concerns when having the public consultation for the Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) it was felt that it was not reaching the members of the public that it needed to, it needs to be maximised.
- What was the time frame for the ABTA and would there be a review mechanism built into it?
- What was Smart Technology?
- Kildare County Council and the members needed to promote public consultations.
- Would it be possible to trial some of the suggestions at public consultation phase?
- What was the policy regarding parking spaces?

Mr S Deegan informed the members that the total works underway for 2023 across the country was €37.65 million. The Junction Programme had 10 junctions all with consultants assigned to them. This would complete the design process over time however and funding application to DoT would likely be required for certain junction upgrades.



Kildare County Council

Phase two of ABTA which would happen in Q1 would be brought to the members before a full consultation with the public. In terms of material use / decarbonization, he informed the members (as an example) that when building the new ring road in Athy they looked at value engineering to reduce carbon and road design were trying to use nature-based solutions where possible. Smart technology had been brought into ABTA. In relation to a question on the budget, the budget for the Roads Planning Team was largely about staff costs / revenue budget. The team were holding their own despite massive changes in complexity and standards. The capital budget was separate / project based. The ABTA consultation was evidence based. On that basis objectives should transfer well to the LAP. An expert team was in place in the ABTA to look at what smart technology was all about. They were given a blank canvas, and we wait to see what they come back with.

He said that as far as he was aware there was no actual policy to reduce town parking however in the delivery many of objectives and projects, parking would be reduced. This was in keeping with statutory targets on reduction in vehicle Km by the target year 2030. Modal shift would lead to encouraging other forms of transport to reduce parking.

The report was noted.

KN06/1123

Yellow box at the Town Hall

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
That the council install a yellow box at the Town Hall exit from the car park on Main Street, Newbridge.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans to install a yellow box at this location. Guidelines outline that yellow boxes are installed where two public roads meet.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that it was an area where sightlines were restricted, and drivers relied on the cooperation of other drivers to let them exit. She asked if a white box



Kildare County Council

could be installed instead of a yellow box. Mr B Murnane informed the members that the municipal district would consider this request.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer

KN07/1123

Footpaths and roads in Langton Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
That the council consider listing the footpaths and roads in Langton Park, Newbridge for resurfacing.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District agree to include your request for consideration as part of the 2024 budget and subject to agreement with the members.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that the estate in question was an older estate that needed repairs to be done. She explained that the material used in the existing paths which had only a life span of 7-8 years and now needed resurfacing.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer

Items 8 and 9 were taken together.

KN08/1123

R415 Rathbride Road to Kildare Town AFC

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor N Connolly
Go gcríochnóidh Comhairle Contae Chill Dara an cosán ó Ghléib na Darach feadh Bhóthar Ráth Bhríde an R415 go dtí páirc peile AFC Bhaile Chill Dara.

That Kildare County Council complete the footpath from Oak Glebe along the R415 Rathbride Road to the grounds of Kildare Town AFC.



Kildare County Council

R415 on the Kildare Town AFC

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Curran

That the council install an accessible footpath and appropriate lighting on the Rathbride Road R415 on the Kildare Town AFC side of the road.

The motions were proposed by Councillors N Connolly and Curran and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office have no funding source to consider this request.

The 2023 budgets are fully expended.

Councillor N Connolly raised the following points:

- Could the footpath be considered for 2024?
- Would there be any cheaper solutions?
- Could barriers be installed in the bottom left-hand corner?
- Had land acquisition been considered?

Councillor Curran informed the members that Kildare Town AFC was established in 1966 over 31 years ago starting off with 17 members and now has over 300 members all using the grass verge. The club had a special needs team, and the lack of footpath made their access very difficult. Mr B Murnane informed the members that the issue was funding, and a cheaper or secondary solution would not be a preferred option.

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

KN09/1123

Solar powered Equine and Rider warning signage

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Curran



Kildare County Council

That the council install a second solar powered Equine and Rider warning signage system on both sides of the R413 Melitta Road.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Curran and seconded by Councillor Duffy

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that at the time of installation, the Municipal District office funded this sign. It was agreed that any further signs installed would be funded by the Curragh. The Municipal District office agree to facilitate the installation of same.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Curran and seconded by Councillor Duffy that the report be noted.

KN10/1123

Crossing at Scoil Na Naomh Uilig

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

That the council install a controlled crossing in the vicinity of Scoil Na Naomh Uilig to recognise the safety and well-being of the children attending the school.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor N Connolly

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that additional pedestrian facilities shall be provided in the vicinity of Roseberry Hill/Scoil Na Naomh Uilig in the coming months. The Traffic Management and Municipal District Sections have been liaising with a developer who is conditioned to deliver these facilities as part of a planning permission. The works are planned to commence in the next few weeks with completion anticipated in early 2024.

Councillor Pender informed the members that it was good to see progression and asked for this item to remain on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor N Connolly and agreed by all members that this item remain on the progress report and that the report be noted.



KN11/1123

St Patrick's school entrance/egress on Morrystown Road

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

That the council outline how and when safe travel to and from school can be enhanced for students and others at St Patrick's school entrance/egress on Morrystown Road, Newbridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Heavey and seconded by Councillor Pender

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is an outstanding planning condition to address the parking, entrance, and pedestrian access at this location. Once the school is at this stage of their development the Municipal District office will engage fully.

This school is not included on the approved list of Safe Routes to Schools published by An Taisce and the National Transport Authority. It is recommended that the school applies to this scheme so that central funding can be allocated to any proposed works.

Councillor Heavey asked for clarification on who would apply for Safe Routes to Schools scheme. He also asked for a break down on how the Transport Department operates. Councillor Pender informed the members that St Patrick's School has started the process in applying for the scheme. Councillor T O'Dwyer highlighted to the members that there would be two crossings going in around this area, one at Highfield Estate and another at Allenview Heights and suggested that they would monitor how these two new crossings go before adding any additional crossings. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that the school would have to apply for the scheme through the NTA and if approved it comes back to Kildare County Council to implement the road crossing. Mr D Hodgins gave the members a breakdown of what the municipal district, sustainable transport and capital programmes does.

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



KN12/1123

Washing/cleaning street sculptures and seating areas on George's Street

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

That the council consider power washing/cleaning street sculptures and seating areas on George's Street, Newbridge in time for the Christmas pedestrian surge.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office clean the seating area regularly. The maintenance of street sculptures is a specialist job which will not be completed in 2023.

Councillor Heavey informed the members that there had been vandalism to the glass around the sculpture. Councillor McLoughlin Healy informed the members that the sculptures behind the glass were originally not intended to be behind glass but to go up on a wall and could be exposed to the elements. Maybe this could be looked at now. Mr B Murnane informed the members that traditionally the municipal district would not maintain sculptures as they would require specialised cleaning to avoid damaging the sculptures. Each structure needed to be assessed independently.

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

KN13/1123

Part 8 for the NTA active travel scheme Monasterevin

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

That the council proceed with the Part 8 for the NTA active travel scheme / Safer Routes to School program for Monasterevin this year to ensure that there is an agreed plan for the new Primary School which is due to open in 2025.

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



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that as part of their Active Travel Grants Programme, the National Transport Authority outlines strict criteria to be met with regard to Project Approval Guidelines and other conditions and obligations that are required to be complied with in order to draw down funding. The approval process that would enable the council to proceed to public consultation has not been completed and it is anticipated that revised documentation and drawings will be submitted to the NTA for approval in early 2024. The progress of the scheme is dependent on funding being made available from the NTA to progress through the design and construction phases.

Councillor Duffy informed the members that this had been agreed in 2021 and funding given for this and he was a little disappointed that it had not progressed but did accept that the team was busy. He asked for clarification on where the barriers were and what the specifics were that was stopping this Part 8 from moving forward. He also informed the members that the new footpath that was installed ended at a junction and went nowhere and with 800 plus students he had concerns. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that this was one of 35 projects and the Transport Department were not receiving sufficient funding to finish the project in a timely manner. He had sought extra funding from the NTA for €15 million, but they had received €10 million. There had been some complications with new policies being introduced that needed to be incorporated. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that he is fully supportive of this scheme it was just a matter of getting through barriers that arose.

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

KN14/1123

Yellow box car park beside Kilcullen Church.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
That Kildare County Council install a yellow box at the entrance to the car park beside Kilcullen Church.



Kildare County Council

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans to install a yellow box at this location. Guidelines outline that yellow boxes are installed where two public roads meet.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that there was now a housing estate next to the church which was leading to more traffic in that area, and it would be the main car park for Kilcullen. When coming from the town or Newbridge side, traffic must turn right to gain entrance to the car park and with traffic lights so close it stops the flow of traffic. She asked could a white box be considered instead. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that a yellow box had a legal provision/status and guidelines had to be followed but would examine the area to consider if a white box could be installed instead.

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

KN15/1123

Machinery Yard

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council provide an update on the plans for the Machinery Yard, Military Road, Newbridge?
A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that it is anticipated that the Machinery Yard will transfer from its current location to Naas during the course of 2024. Plans for the future use of the Machinery Yard will be determined once it is no longer being used by the Transport Department.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that she would encourage Kildare County Council to consider gifting this land to the community of Newbridge.

The report was noted.



KN16/1123

Central white line on White Abbey Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor N Connolly
An bhfuil aon phleananna ag Comhairle Contae Chill Dara an lár líne bhán ar Bhóthar na Mainistreach Báin i mBaile Chill Dara a ailíniú níos faide ar chlé (ó thuaidh) chun ligean do charranna ar an dá thaobh dul tharstu gan na carranna páirceáilte ar thaobh na láimhe deise den bhóthar?

Can the council confirm if there are plans to realign the central white line on White Abbey Road in Kildare Town further to the left (northbound) to allow cars on both sides to pass unobstructed by the parked cars on the right hand side of the road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans to realign the central white line on White Abbey Road as the 2023 budget has been expended.

Councillor N Connolly sought for clarification on cost and enquired if it be considered for next year's budget? Mr D Hodgins informed the members that he would revert with cost and this realignment would not be considered to be a priority but could be considered in 2024.

The report was noted.

KN17/1123

Scheduling of road works

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Pender
Can the council provide an explanation for the rationale and reasoning behind scheduling so many road works at the same time throughout the town of Newbridge and the measures being taken to minimise these disruptions?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are a number of contractors on site in Newbridge at present, Irish Water, NBI, Gas Networks and Kildare County Council to name a few. There is never a good time to carry out works in a town the size of Newbridge. We try and schedule as much as possible during school



Kildare County Council

holidays, summer, and midterm. Shortage of contractors does not always allow us to plan as we would like.

Councillor Pender asked for clarification as to the reason the works were scheduled at the same time and how the community or residents were notified about the works taking place. Mr B Murnane informed the members that a lot of it was private works that the transport section get notification of, they could not be planned around them. At the moment there was a big broadband roll out in Newbridge which was sporadic. The council try to engage with the residents through leaflet drops or meeting with locals. It was hard to schedule works so it was managed and maintained to the best of the teams ability.

The report was noted.

KN18/1123

Road markings / Streetlights Caragh Church

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heavey
Can the council confirm if and when road markings / street lights will be completed between Caragh church and newly tarred Thomastown Road?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the newly resurfaced road has been lined marked, including a new ramp. There are no plans for any additional works. Development Control have contacted the developer of Caragh Heights, Two Mile House Construction, who is responsible for the provision of lights on the public road surrounding their estate. The developer has indicated the public lights are wired and are ready for a connection. We have sought the construction details from the developer to allow Kildare County Council Public Lighting section to apply for a connection. Once the information is received the application will be made and the lights will subsequently be activated.

Councillor Heavey informed the members that there was an area of the road that was not resurfaced that joined the newly resurfaced road and explained there were no road markings and could this be investigated. Mr B Murnane informed the members that this would be checked.
The report was noted.



KN19/1123

Kellys Cross and Ivy House Clongorey

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heavey
Can the council provide information on how and when a hardcore 'pull in section' might be provided to allow traffic to safely pass when meeting vehicles from opposite direction on 200m stretch of roadway between Kellys Cross, Clongorey and Ivy House Clongorey?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are no plans or budget for these works at present within the Municipal District Office.

Councillor Heavey asked for clarification if this could be addressed with LPT. Mr B Murnane informed the members that this could be addressed with LPT funding.

The report was noted.

KN20/1123

Pump Bike Track or Skate Park Kilcullen

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
That the council carry out a suitability assessment for a youth activity such as a pump bike track or skate park on the council owned land between the Business Park and the rear of Kilcullen GAA.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that a feasibility study on the proposed site can be carried out. However, it won't be possible to dedicate staff resources to this until existing projects and works outlined in the Parks Section Works Programme have been completed first.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that there was a gap for youth facilities in Kilcullen. Students had approached her on numerous occasions raising this question. She said there would



Kildare County Council

be plenty of support from the community. She informed the members that she would like this to be kept on the progress report. Ms S McCullough informed the members that they would be kept updated on the ongoing projects.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor N Connolly and agreed by all members that this item remain on the progress report that the report be noted.

KN21/1123

Roots of trees at Glebe Court, Rathangan.

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor A Connolly
That the council investigate the issue of roots of trees, spreading out under the roadway, at Glebe Court, Rathangan.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that an inspection of the location will be carried out. Removal of the trees causing issues may have to be considered. This work will be listed for the next programme of tree works which is planned for Q1-Q2 2024. Any repair works to the road will be a matter for the Roads Area Office to examine.

Councillor A Connolly informed the members that this was unsafe and a trip hazard.

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

KN22/1123

Playgrounds for Newbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Pender
Can the council provide an up to date timeline for the delivery of a second playground/playgrounds for Newbridge and any additional funding that may be required?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that a design for the natural playground in Newbridge Linear Park is being finalised along with tender documents. It is planned to advertise the tender in the next month. Construction will likely be in Summer 2024. The junior playground in the Linear Park at St Conleths Bridge and in Moorefield Park will be progressed once tenders for the natural play area have been awarded. This is likely to be 2024. Additional funding maybe required to deliver a playground in Lakeside Park, but the design and associated cost can only be determined once a masterplan for the open space has been progressed.

Councillor Pender informed the members that he would like a detailed timeline on each individual playground. He asked if funding sources had been identified and should the members be discussing this under LPT funding. Ms S McCullough informed the members that they would be given a list of the projects. She also told them that funding might be required for the Lakeside playground but until the masterplan was done it was not known how much funding would be required.

The report was noted.

KN23/1123

Developing age friendly social and affordable housing

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

That the council initiate a comprehensive investigation and consideration for the purchase of the site located at (details provided), with the primary objective of developing age friendly social and affordable housing to address the pressing housing needs within our community.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor N Connolly

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the site identified has planning permission for 3x 2 beds, 3x 1 beds and 1x 3 bed apartments. The Housing Department will make enquiries on this proposal.



Kildare County Council

Councillor Pender informed the members that the area in question was an exceptional location for developing age friendly social and affordable housing it would be close to all services and an assessable location for the town.

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

KN24/1123

Maddenstown Terrace

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor N Connolly
Cé mhéad teach atá ag an gComhairle in Ardán Baile Uí Mhadaín agus cé mhéad atá á áitiú ag tionóntaí na Comhairle?

Can the council confirm how many homes it owns in Maddenstown Terrace, The Curragh and how many are occupied by council tenants?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Kildare County Council currently own seven properties in Maddenstown Terrace. Three properties are occupied, and four properties are currently on the list for refurbishment works by Housing Maintenance. The report was noted.

KN25/1123

Regeneration works at St. Patrick's Park Rathangan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor A Connolly
Can the council confirm when the regeneration works at St. Patrick's Park Rathangan will commence?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that St Patrick's Park housing project is currently at Stage 3 Pre-Tender approval which will be submitted to the Department of Housing this week. It is anticipated response will be received from the Department before the end of this year. Tender approval will be reviewed in Q1 of 2024 and Stage 4 approval/construction commencement is scheduled for Q2 of 2024.

The report was noted.



KN26/1123

Flooding in Loughminane Green

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor N Connolly
Go rachadh Comhairle Contae Chill Dara i dteagmháil mar ábhar práinne le húinéirí tí, úinéirí talún agus páirtithe leasmhara eile chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar shaincheist na dtuille atá ann le fada i bhFaiche Loch Mín, go háirithe i gcóngarachtaí (sonraí curtha ar fail).

That Kildare County Council engage as a matter of urgency with homeowners, landowners and other stakeholders to address the longstanding issue of flooding in Loughminane Green, particularly in the vicinity of (details provided).

The motion was proposed by Councillor N Connolly and seconded by Councillor Pender

A report was received from the Development/Building Control Department informing the members that in November 2022 following a year of investigations and surveys, Kildare County Council received a preliminary report from an independent consulting engineer with respect to the surface water and wastewater infrastructure in the estate. The report concluded that works in the region of €1 million + VAT would need to be invested into the estate to address the infrastructure deficits. The Development Control Section of Kildare County Council do not have this level of funding available. Development Control has engaged directly with the property owners of units identified in 2022 and again in 2023. In 2023, Development Control progressed matters by securing agreement from Uisce Éireann for them to take in charge the water and wastewater assets. Additionally, the Environment Section of Kildare County Council have engaged McCloy Consulting to review the detailed investigations and surveys completed in 2022 and we have instructed McCloy Consulting to provide a feasibility study/concept design to utilise SuDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) features as a permanent solution to the flooding issues. Development Control await the outcome of this review which is due to be delivered in mid-November 2023.

Councillor N Connolly informed the members that the flooding in this estate had been happening for the last ten years. There had been a lot of development in this area and residents were suffering financial losses. He asked about the wastewater assets and was there a Taking in



Kildare County Council

Charge bond. He also asked if there was any engagement with the neighbouring landowners and were the McCloy consulting team ready with their report? Mr J Hennessy informed the members that the issue was with the stormwater assets as these stay with Kildare County Council and not Uisce Éireann as they only look after the foul water. The storm water drains were not working and Kildare County Council did not have the budget to fix them. There was a bond in place, but this had now expired. He also informed the members that discharging storm water into the neighbouring fields was only a short-term solution. Mr J Hennessy informed the members that McCloy consultants were hired to develop a nature-based solution and would inform the members when the report was available. Cost would be determined once a solution had been identified. Longer study was required to address storm water issues.

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

KN27/1123

Uisce Éireann update sewage issue in Athgarvan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if Uisce Éireann have replied to the letter dated October 6 2023 requesting clarification on whether the odour issue in Athgarvan has been referred to Asset Planning and the request for the Head of Operations to meet members to discuss the sewage issue in Athgarvan?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that an email was received 27 October 2023 to acknowledge receipt of letter and that the matter is being reviewed by the Wastewater Operations team and they will respond in due course.

The report was noted.

KN28/1123

Control of dogs in our public parks

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm what the rules are in relation to the control of dogs in our public parks?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that All dogs must be kept under effectual control when in any public place. Dogs must be leashed when in council owned parks unless there is a designated off leash area. Certain breeds must always be leashed, muzzled and accompanied by a person over the age of 16 years when in a public place. All dogs must wear a collar and tag/badge with the owners details. Dog owners who use council parks are responsible for the dogs conduct and are liable for it causing damage or injury.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that there was only one dog warden for the county and queried how was this could work. Mr M Hearn informed the members that he would take the comments back to the environment section.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.