



**Draft Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District
held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 19 April 2023
in the Council Chamber**

- Members Present:** Councillor S Doyle (Mayor), Councillors A Connolly, N Connolly, K Duffy, N Heavey, P O'Dwyer, and M Stafford, T O'Dwyer,
- Remote Attendance:** Councillors C Pender and R Power
- Apologies:** Councillor F McLoughlin Healy
- Officials Present:** Mr J Boland (District Manager), Ms B Cuddy (District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Ms R Jackson (LPT Co-Ordinator), Ms F Byrne (Administrative Officer), Ms A Granville (Senior Planner), Mr G Conlon (Senior Executive Officer), Mr M McLoughlin (A/Senior Executive Officer) Ms A Keaveney (A/Senior Executive Engineer) Ms S O'Gara (A/Senior Executive Architect & Urban Designer) Ms F Brown (A/Administrative Officer), Ms B Loughlin (Heritage Officer), Ms P O'Brien (Senior Executive Officer), Mr B Griffith (Facilities Manager), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms KA O'Brien (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

KN01/0423

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Councillor N Connolly declared declaration of interest to Item 13 as his brother in-law owns the land in question.



KN02/0423

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on Wednesday, 15 March 2023 and noted the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer and agreed by all members that the minutes of the monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on Wednesday, 15 March 2023 be taken as read and the progress report be noted.

KN03/0423

Municipal District Road Works

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

Road Resurfacing Works:

Restoration Maintenance:

The majority of the agreed roads have now been tendered and tender awarded.

- Works to commence on Station Road next week as nightworks.
- Works to commence in Milltown next week also, these will be day works.

Restoration Improvements:

The design of these roads are ongoing at present; works will commence in early June.

LPT:

Municipal District Office are preparing proposed LPT works for presentation to the members and tendering.

NTA:

- Melitta Road now complete.
- Works on Green Road are continuing, widening of footpaths, provision of pedestrian crossing and road overlay.

Footpath works:



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- Upgrade of footpath and road surface in Mountain View.
- Upgrade to footpath in Milltown.
- Works to commence in Rathangan outside secondary school.

Miscellaneous Works:

Newbridge:

Hedges were cut in Roseberry, Moorefield Drive, Newbridge College, Langton Park, Athgarvan Road, Athgarvan Village, and Baroda.

Drainage works were completed in Cedarwood Park, fixing an issue in the estate that had been a problem for the past 40 years.

Completed drainage works in housing estates - The Close, Curragh Grange, Beechmount, The Grove, The Park, The Crescent, The Green, The Avenue and The Downs. Also, drainage works at Cottage Veterinary Clinic were completed easing flooding issues in the area.

New ramp signs were installed at Lakeside Park, as well as new cul de sac signs at The Priory and Hawthorn Close. A new junction sign was erected at Roseberry.

A new concrete footpath was poured at Cedarwood Park, as well as trip hazards being removed from various footpaths around Newbridge town using a concrete scabbler.

Repaired a concrete road crossing in Lakeside Park.

Roads were patched at Ballymany, Station Road, Piercetown, Milltown Road, Roseberry, Newbridge Industrial Estate, Athgarvan Road, bus stop at the Crescent, and ramps at Barrettstown.

Newbridge Environs

Upgrading of drainage system in Feighcullen.

Patching Rathbride, Brownstown, Barrettstown and Roseberry.

Sign cleaning throughout area.

Footpath cleaning replaced gully at Brownstown Manor.

Patching Curragh Golf Club Road.



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Kildare

Erected new signage at Cherryville and Tullylost.
Cleaned out gullies Kildare, Rathangan and Monasterevin.
Repair footpaths St. Evins Park, Monasterevin.
Hedge cutting Nurney Road Kildare and Edenderry Road Rathangan.
General pothole repairs throughout entire area.

Kilcullen

Pothole repairs R448 Brownstone, Caragh, Milemill, Brannockstown, Thompson Cross, Nicholastown, Kilcullen, Malones Bridge Caragh, Green Avenue.
Water cuts at Commons Road Two Mile House, Knockbouce and Mile Mill.
Replaced speed limit signs R448 Kilcullen, replaced damaged road signs Thomastown.
Hedge cutting Carnalway, Knockbouce, Logstown to Carnalway, Brannockstown to Ardenode, Caragh Village, Halverstown, Two Mile House and Ladytown.
Road repairs Two Mile House.

The members thanked the District Engineer for all the works and raised the following points:

- Was there a difference in cost between upgrading a footpath and replacing it with a new footpath.
- Which material worked better, concrete or tarmacadam for footpaths?
- Suggested that footpaths should be condition in planning permission for new housing estates.

The District Engineer advised members that the cost of upgrading and replacing footpaths were equivalent and the following factor should be considered:

- upgrades needed to be done for safety reasons trips and falls.
- new footpaths would add to our assets, but costs needed to be taken into consideration such as the purchase of land to build them.
- when new footpaths were built if often left old footpaths in a state of disrepair
- Tarmacadam was more aesthetically pleasing.



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- When repairing footpaths tarmacadam fits back in better than concrete
- Concrete was stronger and worked well for curbs.

The District Engineer advised members that proposed LPT works would be ready early next week and a map would be issued through Councillor Doyle for all members. She felt it was a fair distribution of works throughout the county and was hoping it would go to tender next week.

The District Engineer brought it to the members attention that Sean McKeown, General Services Supervisor for Kildare Newbridge Municipal District was retiring and wanted to wish him all the best. He had provided great assistance to the members and to Kildare Newbridge Municipal District. The members wished him all the best.

The report was noted.

KN04/0423

Residual LPT 2021, 2022 and 2023

Councillor Doyle proposed:

- €2,000 be given to the Gordon Bennett Rally organising committee from the members contingency funding.

This was seconded by Councillor Duffy and agreed by the members.

Councillor Heavey proposed:

- €4,000 for June Fest it was noted that Councillor Heavey is a member of the June Fest Committee.
- €1,000 for Connell Drive residents committee.

This was seconded by Councillor Doyle.

Councillor T O'Dwyer proposed:

- €3,000 to Kilcullen Community Action Group - Kilcullen Valley Fairy Trail Upgrades



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- €4,000 to Kildare County Council Development Control Department - To commission a public lighting audit in Walshestown Abbey Estate Newbridge to assist with bringing the estate to TIC standard.
- €2,500 to Kildare County Council Parks Department towards the Natural Playground in Liffey Linear Park Newbridge
- €5,000 to the Area Engineer office for match funding for speed feedback signs for Brannockstown

This was seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer

Councillor P O'Dwyer proposed:

- €2,500 to Kildare County Council Parks Department towards the Natural Playground in Liffey Linear Park Newbridge
- €5,000 to Development Department towards College Orchard Estate taking in charge.

This was seconded by T O'Dwyer

These allocations were agreed by all members.

Councillor P O'Dwyer and the members wished Joe O'Connor Assistant Engineer for Kildare Newbridge Municipal District all the best as he departs from Kildare County Council

Resolved on the proposals of Councillors Doyle, Heavey, T O'Dwyer and P O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillors Duffy, Doyle, P O'Dwyer and T O'Dwyer and agreed by all members that the above allocations be approved.

KN05/0423

Taking in charge Ros Glás Avenue, Monasterevin

Ms F Brown advised the members that a report had been circulated to members prior to meeting and that it was the recommendation of the Building and Development Control Department that Ros Glás Avenue, Monasterevin be taken in charge.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor Doyle and agreed by all members present that the taking in charge of Ros Glás Avenue proceed.



KN06/0423

Approve a nominee to the Kildare Sustainable Transport Forum

The members voted to approve a nominee to the Kildare Sustainable Transport Forum. Councillor Doyle nominated Councillor Pender. This was seconded by Councillor N Connolly. There were no other nominations.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor N Connolly and agreed by all members that Councillor Pender be approved as nominee to the Kildare Sustainable Transport Forum.

KN07/0423

Pedestrian crossing from Curragh Farm Estate

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer. That the council install a pedestrian crossing onto the R445 to facilitate crossing from Curragh Farm Estate to safe walking routes to schools etc.

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 is no funding available to install new signalised pedestrian crossings in the county. This location is on the route of the NTA funded R445/R416 Newbridge Active Travel Scheme, however, funding is only available in 2023 to progress the design to Options Selection Stage.

Members raised the following points:

- There were 390 units in this new development and there was no connectivity to the main road.
- Traffic calming measures needed to be put in place.
- A costing needed to be provided for the crossing.



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- Suggested that going forward levies should be used to install pedestrian crossings as estates needed to be connected to towns.
- If active travel is to be encouraged the infrastructure must be provided.
- Could the use of development levies for active travel be discussed at transport SPC?

Mr D Hodgins informed members that there was no funding, and the cost would be approximately €50,000. A quick fix would be funding from Active Travel. Ms Anne Graham head of the NTA was due to attend a full council meeting in the near future and this type of issue could be raised then.

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

KN08/0423

Additional time to pedestrian lights

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

That the council add additional time to pedestrian lights in this municipal district in an effort to support vulnerable road users.

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 although this is an operational function of the council, there is no objection in principle to reducing the time allocated to vehicular traffic and increasing the timings for vulnerable road users. Such an initiative supports the hierarchy of road users, as set out in Government policy documents and the National Transport Authority's GDA Transport Strategy. Therefore, the issue will be referred to the ABTA team to consider as part of their recommendations for the town and consideration will be made to identifying suitable sites for trialling the changes.



Members raised the following points:

- Welcomed the positive response.
- Suggested that the issue should be investigated across all Municipals Districts
- Adding seconds could help support vulnerable road users.
- Were under the impression that they were standard times.
- Could a study be conducted to see what was required and what impacts any changes would have on traffic flow?

Mr D Hodgins informed members that there was a minimum standard time for pedestrian crossings, but this could be increased. It could be difficult to develop a strategic implementation. This would have to be examined as there could be unintended consequences for vulnerable road users.

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



The members agreed to take items 9 and 16 together.

KN09/0423

Update on the Newbridge Area Based Transport Assessment

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

That the council provide an update on the Newbridge Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) and timelines for the next stages.

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

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

Can the council provide an update on the progress of the recent Newbridge Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) consultation survey?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council received 727 submissions as part of the Phase 1 Public Consultation for the Newbridge Area Based Transport Assessment. These submissions have been reviewed by the project team and a baseline report on the town has been received and is under review at present. The next stage is the development of options for parking, cycling, roads, public transport, and walking. This process is underway, and a Phase 2 Public Consultation will take place in the second half of 2023. This consultation will take the form of an online survey supported by an in-person event in Newbridge to allow people to view the proposals under consideration for inclusion in the final report.

Councillor Pender accepted report and looked forward to the next phase. Councillor T O'Dwyer asked if the members would see the report before the public? Mr D Hodgins confirmed that Mr S Deegan would circulate the information prior to the public consultation.

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



KN10/0423

Flashing Feedback Speed Signs in Brannockstown

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer.
That the council carry out an assessment on the possible effectiveness of installing Flashing Feedback Speed Signs in Brannockstown.

The motion was proposed by Councillor T 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 Traffic Management Section shall assess the location in terms of suitability/effectiveness of Driver Feedback signs at this location. If provided, data from Driver Feedback signs can be reviewed and analysed to assess the effectiveness of the signs at a location where they are installed.

Councillor T O'Dwyer welcomed the response and informed members that the driver feedback signs installed in Two Mile House and Athgarvan had been hugely effective.

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

The members agreed to take items 11 and 15 together.

KN11/0423

Additional lights from Yellowlough Cross to the Bog Cross

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor A Connolly that the council install additional public lights from Yellowlough Cross to the Bog Cross, Rathangan.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that your request has been added to the KLIPS (Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority



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Schedule) register. This is a priority system, where requests for new lighting will be scored on various factors and placed within KLIPS according to that score. The lighting within KLIPS will be installed as and when funds become available and depending on where the request sits within KLIPS.

Item 15

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

Can the council confirm the locations, status and priority of all street lights currently on the KLIPS within the municipal district?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there are currently twenty one locations on KLIPS for Kildare/Newbridge Municipal District. The works at two locations (highlighted in green) have been completed and are waiting for ESB connections. There are eighteen locations that are currently awaiting funding, while it is not proposed to consider one of the requests which is a rural location.



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	MD	Location	Job Description	Request Date
Completed	Kildare/New bridge	Bishop Rogan Park, Kiccullen	Request for Additional lighting	Oct-21
	Kildare/New bridge	Rathcurragh, Newbridge	Additional Lighting along new footpath	Oct-21
Awaiting Funding	Kildare/New bridge	Artillery Road, Newbridge	Infill at Artillery Road, Newbridge	Dec-21
	Kildare/New bridge	Back Lane, 3545 Lakeside, Newbridge	Request for Additional lighting	
	Kildare/New bridge	St. Evins Park, Monasterevin	Request for Additional lighting along St Evins Park	Jan-22
	Kildare/Newbridge	Cowpasture Monasterevin	Request for additional lighting - Cowpasture	Aug-22
	Kildare/Newbridge	Togher Road, Monasterevin Drogheda	Infills from Drogheda Street Cowpasture Junction	Feb-20
	Kildare/Newbridge	Yellow lough Cross to the Bog Cross,	Request for additional lighting	Apr-23
	Kildare/New bridge	Johns Street and surrounding areas	Requesting for additional lighting	Feb-23
	Kildare/Newbridge	Canal Harbour, Monasterevin	Light between Pole : 14 Moore St to Pole : 12 Canal Harbour	Mar-21
	Kildare/Newbridge	College Farm - Great Southern right of way	Additional Lighting at alleyway and back of apartment block	Nov-22
	Kildare/Newbridge	Cloncumber, Ballyteague	New light outside residence (Eircode W91 Y9C8)	Oct. 18
	Kildare/New bridge	Bride Street - Tully Road Oaktree Kildare	Requestion for additional lighting	May-22
	Kildare/Newbridge	The Oaks, Newbridge	Request for additional lighting at entrance to estate	Sep-19
	Kildare/Newbridge	The Street, Colege Farm, Newbridge	Additional Lighting at alleyway and back of apartment block	Nov-22
	Kildare/Newbridge	Liffey bridge footpath lighting	Reuquest for exisiting lighting to be upgraded to replace old lighting not working	Mar-23
	Kildare/Newbridge	Dara Park Kildare Town	Request for additional lighting in the estate	Mar-23
	Kildare/New bridge	Passlands, Monasterevin	Request for Additional lighting	Dec-19
	Kildare/Newbridge	Kill Hill - Nurmey Road, Monasterevin	Additional Lighting - Kill Hill to Nurmey Road	Jan-22
Kildare/Newbridge	Milltown	Request for additional lighting in Milltown Centre	Mar-23	
No works proposed	Kildare/Newbridge	Sheshoon, the Curragh	Request for additional lighting	Mar-23

Councillor A Connolly welcomed the response. Councillor Pender asked for clarification on how streetlights are prioritised and the cost for what is on that list.

Mr D Hodgins advised he would check the criteria and report to members.

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



KN12/0423

Cowpasture Housing Estate

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

That the council undertake road resurfacing/maintenance to the front and rear access estate roads to the Cowpasture Housing Estate.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department the Municipal District Office agree to include this area in the routine maintenance schedule.

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

KN13/0423

Crossmorris Cross

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

That the council realign Crossmorris Cross, Kildare by way of a staggered cross in the interests of road safety.

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 any such works to be carried out at this junction would require land acquisition and until such time as funding is identified this item cannot be progressed. An application for a low-cost safety improvement scheme may be submitted for 2024 funding.

Councillor N Connelly had declared to members that he had an of interest as his brother in-law owns the land in question as stated in the report.

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



KN14/0423

Drain at Ellistown

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

That the council proceed with the piping of the drain at Ellistown at the Ellistown/Green Road as previously agreed.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that as discussed, there are no plans to pipe this drain in question. It is an open drain that carries a substantial amount of water. To pipe it will cause maintenance and possible flooding issues.

Councillor Stafford informed members that this was a very large drain. It had consequences for residents of this household as they could not do anything with this area. The residents were open minded to finding some solution as they had concerns with this drain. District Engineer informed members that they had no intention of filling in the drain as there were concerns that there could be a 70/80% chance if filled in it could cause flooding. If it got blocked there would be substantial costs to having it resolved.

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

KN15/0423

Public street lighting

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

Cén céatadán de shoilsiú sráide poiblí sa Cheantar Bardasach atá tíosach ar fhuinneamh agus cad iad na pleananna atá ann chun é seo a fheabhsú? (Can the council confirm what percentage of public street lighting in the municipal district is energy efficient and what plans it has to improve this?)



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that There is no mechanism in place to be able to provide a breakdown per Municipal District, however we can provide information for the whole county.

Total quantity of lights:	22,788
Percentage of LED:	55%
Total quantity of LED Lights:	12567

The Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) will replace all remaining inefficient lanterns with the energy efficient LEDs. The project is underway and will start installing lanterns in County Kildare in Q1. 2024.

Councillor N Connolly asked who funds this project? Mr D Hodgins informed Councillor N Connolly that he would revert to him with a response.

The report was noted.

KN16/0423

Hill of Allen carpark

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

Can the council consider the opening of a new entrance to the Hill of Allen carpark that would achieve sufficient sightlines for the car park to be used safely?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office have examined this on several occasions. Without the purchase or donation of lands, it is not possible to provide safe access to the existing car park.

Councillor Stafford asked the District Manager who owned the land around the Hill of Allen. District Manager informed the members that Roadstone owned the land, and they just allowed locals to use this area to park. There was zero visibility coming out of this car park.

The report was noted.



KN17/0423

Meadow Court stud

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

Can the council confirm if the blind bend between Meadow Court stud and the junction at Tully East (R51 WP90) is suitable for a Local Improvement Scheme?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office agrees to have a look at this location as part of the 2024 low-cost accident scheme funding process.

The report was noted.

KN18/0423

Newbridge Town Hall

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

That the council consider the development of a partnership with a community group in Newbridge for the rental of the Town Hall.

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

A report was received from the Community Department and Facilities informing the members that the facilities team in Kildare County Council currently manage the bookings for Newbridge Town Hall, considering the building is listed/protected and given the significant recent investment in the restoration. The facility is used extensively by a wide range of local community groups including choirs, the Women's Shed and Girl Guides. Both the community and facilities team can engage with any particular group if there is difficulty accessing the building or securing a booking.

The members raised the following points:

- What was the appropriate use for our Town Hall?
- Great that it was very busy and being used.



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- Was there a balance between community and commercial.
- The Town Hall added value to the community.
- Would this be an SPC issue to determine what was classed as community or commercial?

Ms P O'Brien informed members that the Town Hall was being used extensively and it was positive that it was being used to its full capacity. It was looked at regarding the use of commercial and community and in the last few months it showed there was only one commercial group using it. It had shown a ratio 4:1 to community. The Town Hall was expensive to run and maintain. Mr B Griffith informed members that there could be a fine line between what is classed as commercial or community. Bookings were done on a first come first served basis, but groups would always be given alternative dates and times if unavailable for a certain date.

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

KN19/0423

Social housing application list

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

Can the council confirm how many people have listed Newbridge as an area of preference on their social housing application list broken down by number of years on the list, housing need (as in one bed, two-bed need etc.) and medical priority?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that 63.5% of those who are on our county-wide housing waiting list, are on the list for less than five years and 40% are on the list for less than three years. The same level of detail is not available on an Area of choice basis, but the number of applicants, who have Newbridge as a first, second or third area of choice, based on assessed bedroom requirement are as follows.

Bedroom Type	No. of Applicants	Medical Priority
1 Bedroom	947	41
2 Bedroom	809	31



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3 Bedroom	354	21
4 Bedroom	55	5

Councillor Pender asked if a breakdown of time that people are on the waiting list could be circulated. Meetings Administrator advised members he would request that the Housing Department revert to the members with the relevant information.

The report was noted.

KN20/0423

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2023

Ms P O'Brien advised the members that a report had been circulated to members prior to meeting on Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2023 and to consider the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2023 allocation for the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District

9	Kildare	Curragh Military Museum	To add to the current collection of DF equipment and British Army Equipment	€1,500.00
10	Kildare	Rathangan Tidy Towns	To install otter holts in two locations on the river bank to encourage otters to nest on the outskirts of the town	€1,500.00
11	Kildare	Kildare Town Community Garden	2 Day Ink Making Workshop	€800.00
12	Kildare	Dunmurray Rise Residents Association	To connect the children of Dunmurray Rise with their local flora and fauna To establish a deeper connection with the nature around them To develop a respect and understanding of the nature. Educational fun and interactive nature games and crafts.	€1,500.00
13	Kildare	Kilcullen Town Hall & Heritage Co. Ltd.	Create a heritage database and have it available via a touch screen information kiosk	€1,500.00



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14	Kildare	Monasterevin Tidy Towns	To improve the biodiversity and presentation of the Heritage Woodland Garden at St. Mary's Lane, Monasterevin	€1,500.00
15	Kildare	Cill Dara Historical Society	Produce a 2024 /calendar with different images of local characters And groups	€1,000.00

Prior to discussion the members made the following declarations of interest:

- Councillor Power - Caragh Tidy Towns
- Councillor P O'Dwyer - Caragh Tidy Towns
- Councillor N Connolly - Kildare Town Heritage Centre
- Councillor Doyle - Kildare Town Heritage Centre

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Power and agreed by all members.

KN21/0423

Street furniture

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

That the council schedule a programme of regular cleaning of street furniture in this municipal district having particular regard for the summer season.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Stafford

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that The SPPR team are working to put maintenance facilities in place for the parklets. Other Municipal Districts with parklets installed have a working arrangement with the Tidy Towns team in the area to look after the planting and cleaning and we would hope that the tidy towns groups in this Municipal District will also come on board to assist. In the meantime, the Municipal District office continues to litter pick around the area of the parklets.

Members raised the flowing points:



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- Tidy Town groups cannot do all the maintenance in the town.
- There was an understanding that the Public Realm were getting a contractor, was this still happening?
- Public areas needed to be considered as it was the responsibility of the members and Kildare County Council to maintain these areas.
- Was there a budget for maintenance?
- Money, Staff, and communication is key for Public Realm spaces to be maintained.
- Were the projects sustainable?

Ms S O'Gara informed members that they did get a quote from the water/plants contractor, and this was under consideration. There was no budget for maintenance. District Engineer informed members that there would be a new section under the new directorates for the upkeep of these projects. The municipal district did litter pick but there was an ongoing battle with budget.

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

KN22/0423

Conservation Management Plan for The Curragh Plains

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

Can the council provide details of the second stage of the consultation for the Conservation Management Plan for The Curragh Plains.

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the findings have been uploaded to the Kildare County Council website and are available at the link below:

<https://www.curraghplains.ie/where-we-are>

Councillor P O'Dwyer asked Public Realm what stage they were at now?

Ms A Keaveney informed members that it had been referred to the Office of Public Works (OPW) and commitment from government was needed to go forward. Public Realm would organise



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James Hennessy to provide a briefing to the members. District Manager informed members that there has been a lot of work done and has progressed significantly.

The report was noted.

KN23/0423

Temporary Section 254 planning permissions

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

Can the council confirm what the status is of the temporary Section 254 planning permissions that were granted for outdoor dining during Covid 19 in this municipal district, whether they need to be renewed or reapplied for and if businesses will be kept informed?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that a licence is issued to applicants on an annual basis which permits the placing of tables / chairs on public infrastructure under Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. These licences were exempted from charges during COVID but were not exempted from the application process. It is a requirement that all businesses engage in the process of applying for the annual licence. Anyone not complying would be in breach of Planning Legislation and could be subject to enforcement action being taken against them.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked the following questions:

- Would businesses be informed of this process?
- Had it been announced to businesses?

Ms S O'Gara advised she would revert to members with further information.

The report was noted.



KN24/0423

Market Square Kilcullen

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer can the council provide a detailed status update regarding Market Square Kilcullen including funding in place, funding required, timelines, detailed design and next steps.

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that Kildare County Council was successful in 2018 in receiving Town and Village grant funding, which facilitated bringing the project to Part 8. In June 2022, the Part 8 was approved. The redevelopment of Market Square has an estimated value of €1.3m and with inflation this cost estimate has most likely increased. A further funding source is required to progress this project.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked when would the briefing be happening?

Ms S O'Gara informed members that the next quarterly briefing would be given at the next municipal district meeting and a workshop needs to be organised with the members. Meetings Administrator confirmed this.

The report was noted.

KN25/0423

Magee Barracks

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor A Connolly.
Can the council outline the communications that have taken place with the Department of Education and progress made, if any, on the proposed development of a second level school at Magee Barracks, Kildare?

A report was received from the Forward Planning, Heritage and Conservation Department informing the members that on receipt of the question from Councillor Connolly, the forward planning team requested an update from the Department of Education with respect to the proposed development of a second level school at Magee Barracks, Kildare.

“A major building project for the Curragh Community School will be delivered under the Department's ADAPT Programme. The ADAPT Programme uses a professional external Project Manager to co-ordinate and drive the Design Team to achieve the best possible timeframe for the



Kildare County Council

project through the stages of Architectural Planning to Tender and Construction. The appointment of the Design Team (Consultant Architect, Civil Structural Engineer, Mechanical and Electrical Engineer, Quantity Surveyor and PSDP) has just been completed. The project is to be delivered in 2 phases; Phase 1 will deliver accommodation for 450 pupils at the Magee Barracks site for the start of the 2024 school year, and Phase 2 will deliver accommodation for a Long Term Projected Enrolment for 1000 pupils. A preferred design option, including the scope and extent of works to be carried out for both phases will be established during the early stages of Architectural Planning. The Design Team are currently preparing a Preliminary Design, where they will assess the site and prepare their initial sketch schemes for the new school. They intend to initiate pre-planning consultations with the Local Authority at the earliest opportunity”.

Councillor A Connolly thanked the Planning team and was delighted with progress. She was fearful that there would be no places for students and this needed to be progressed urgently. M A Granville informed members that the next meeting would be held on 2 May 2023 and a request would be made for timelines on this project. The Planning team would then revert with updated information.

The report was noted.

KN26/0423

Invasive species of plant

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

Cé chomh mór agus a dhéanann Comhairle Contae Chill Dara monatóireacht agus cóireáil ar speicis ionracha plandaí laistigh den Cheantar Bardasach? (Can the council confirm to what extent it monitors and treats the existence of invasive species of plant within the municipal district?)

A report was received from the Forward Planning, Heritage and Conservation Department informing the members that each year Kildare County Council applies for invasive species control projects with Himalayan Balsam and American Skunk Cabbage being the two identified projects in 2023. Funding for the control of both species has been sought from the Department of Housing,



Kildare County Council

Local Government and Heritage. Confirmation of funding has not been received to date. Generally speaking, if Japanese Knotweed is found on lands in the care of Kildare County Council, the Area Engineer will control same. Kildare County Council has no role in the control of invasive species within private ownership. However, where planning applications are submitted that relate either in whole or in part to lands that include invasive species, planning conditions may be attached to a grant of planning permission to require developers to undertake a survey for invasive species and to develop a management plan with respect to same.'

Councillor N Connolly informed members that Limerick County Council had an app that was used for reporting invasive species of plants and could this be something that Kildare County Council could use. Ms A Granville informed the members that since issuing the funding had been confirmed 2023. Ms A Granville said she would speak to Councillor N Connolly offline regarding the app.

The report was noted.

KN27/0423

Regulations/planning requirements on agricultural entrances

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Stafford.
Can the council advise of the regulations/planning requirements regarding the opening of agricultural entrances in the municipal district and if the council is aware of any recent patterns regarding same?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that where any landowner proposes to either install a new agricultural entrance or widen an existing agricultural entrance onto a public road, they should firstly engage with the planning authority to determine whether the works would be considered development and whether they require planning permission for such works.

This engagement is referred to as a Section 5 process and is defined as follows:

Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2001 (As Amended) outlines the process for the determination of the Planning Authority as follows.



5.— (1) If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development within the meaning of this Act, any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question, and that person shall provide to the planning authority any information necessary to enable the authority to make its decision on the matter.

There are some exemptions under the planning acts for such entrances. However, there is a process whereby such exemptions do not apply and in accordance with Article 9 (a) (ii) and (iii) of the planning regulations these exemptions would not apply if works.

(ii) consist of or comprise the formation, laying out or material widening of a means of access to a public road the surfaced carriageway of which exceeds 4 metres in width,
(iii) endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard or obstruction of road users

With regard to the second part of the question Kildare County Council is not aware of any trend or pattern arising from such issues.

The report was noted.

KN28/0423

St St Evin's Cemetery

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

Go ndéanfadh an Chomhairle móroibreacha ar Reilig Naomh Éibhin i Mainistir Eimhín chun an réimse poiblí a fheabhsú agus chun sábháilteacht cuairteoirí a chinntiú. (That the council carry out repairs to footpaths and a general tidy up at St Evin's Cemetery in Monasterevin to improve the public realm and ensure the safety of visitors to the cemetery.)

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



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the council will arrange to clean the footpaths within the cemetery and carry out a general tidy up as requested in the Notice of Motion.

Councillor N Connolly accepted report and informed members that the grass was overgrown, the paths were uneven with potholes and rubbish was being left behind.

District Manager informed members that all the issues would be addressed. Mr K Kavanagh asked to get the message out that there are public bins provided in the cemetery but the public should be advised that's they were not for domestic use.

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

KN29/0423

Community, festival and resident association grant awards

That the members consider community, festival and resident association grant awards assessed by the Economic, Community & Cultural Development Department for 2023.

Community Grants 2023 Kildare Newbridge M.D.			
No.	Group Name	Project	Proposed Grant
1	4th Kildare Town Scout Group	Steel Shed	€1,700
2	7th Kildare Cub Scouts Rathangan	Commercial BBQ	€500
3	7th Kildare Rathangan Beaver Scouts	Upgrade equipment	€500
4	Arthritis Ireland Kildare Branch	Pop up information stands	€350
5	Caragh Tidy Towns	Two new benches for Fr Kinsella Park.	€600
6	Curragh Community First Responders	AED and replacement pads	€1,000
7	Curragh Family Resource Centre	Children's community summer project	€600
8	Curragh Youth Project	Drug & Alcohol Programme for young males	€905
9	Dunmurray Rise Residents association	Summer Project - Sports, swimming cinema.	€1,200
10	Gaelscoil Mhic Aodha Parents Association	Sensory garden and outdoor classroom	€1,300
11	Irish Midlands Ringing Group	Bird ringing	€750



Kildare County Council

12	Kilcullen Community 4 Climate Action	Treasure Town Festival.	€500
13	Kilcullen Photography Club	Projector for outdoors screen display of member photos/community events, etc.	€750
14	Kildare Filipino Community	Participation in St Patrick's Day parade i	€1,000
15	Kildare Town Active Retired	Cultural outings	€800
16	Kildare Town CFR Group	Lifesaving supplies	€1,000
17	Kildare town community garden	Development of the garden	€1,500
18	Kildare Town Projects Group	Community mosaic installation in Kildare Town	€1,500
19	Kildare Town Youth Hub - The Hive	Furniture and fittings to host meetings and training	€1,200
20	Kildare Wildlife Rescue	Pre-release aviaries for rehabilitated garden birds	€1,000
21	Milltown Tidy Towns and Heritage Centre	Wildflowers, a lawnmower, composter and wildlife posters	€1,000
22	Monasterevin Community Centre	Tea & coffee machine	€850
23	Monasterevin Drama Group	Drama production during Streetfest	€500
24	Monasterevin Sustainable Energy Community CLG	Community events to promote warmer homes and less dependence on fossil fuels.	€800
25	Monasterevin Women's Shed	Materials and storage space.	€1,500
26	Monasterevin Youth Action	Outdoor furniture and biodiversity-related equipment.	€1,500
27	Newbridge Christmas Lights	Christmas lights	€24,000
28	Newbridge Community First Responders	AED and equipment	€1,000
29	Newbridge women's shed	Materials, tutors, courses and advertising material	€900
30	NFRC Summer Project	Free summer project	€1,200
31	Parents Association Scoil Bhríde	Upgrade current school garden	€1,000
32	Rath Players	Phased installation of stage safety curtains	€600
33	Rathangan Community Centre Ltd	Community cinema night	€1,500
34	Rathangan Tidy Towns	Interactive map on Rathangan's community website for tourists	€600
35	Rosconnell Group - Newbridge Youth Project	Summer projects and materials	€1,200
36	Suncroft Community First Responders	Training of current members/new members	€1,000
37	The Diningroom Newbridge	Expand storage and transport capability	€750
38	The Kilcullen Christmas Market	Christmas market	€700
		Total for Approval	€59,255
		Budget	€55,823
		Overspend	€3,432



Kildare County Council

Festival Grants 2023 Kildare Newbridge M.D.			
No.	Group Name	Project	Proposed Grant
1	Brannockstown Community Committee	Christmas Tree Celebration	€200.00
2	Cill Dara Old Vehicles Club	Festival commemorating the 'Gordon Bennett' Historic car rally t	€1,200.00
3	Curragh Family Resource Centre	Community Family Fun Day	€800.00
4	Dunmurray Rise Residents Association	Celebration of diverse nationalities	€500.00
5	Kildare Choral and Organ Festival	Festival of Song and Music	€1,500.00
6	Kildare Derby Festival	Kildare Derby Festival	€1,000.00
7	Kildare Drama Festival	65th annual drama festival	€1,200.00
8	Milltown Heritage and Tidy Towns	Flags and bunting for St. Patricks Day, May Bush. Halloween and Christmas	€300.00
9	Monasterevin Community Centre	Indoor facilities for Monasterevin Streetfest	€500.00
10	Monasterevin Community Fest	Monasterevin Streetfest	€500.00
11	Monasterevin Tidy Towns CLG	Barrow Bluebell Festival	€1,000.00
12	Monasterevin Tidy Towns CLG	MONSTERevin Halloween Trail	€1,000.00
13	Newbridge St Patricks Day Parade Committee	St Patricks Day Parade	€10,000.00
14	Rathangan Drama Festival	Annual Drama Festival	€1,500.00
15	Silken Thomas Players	Festival of Drama in Kildare Town	€1,000.00
16	The Peoples Market	Community Cinema evening as part of Monasterevin Streetfest	€500.00
17	THE WOMENS SHED MONASTEREVIN	Yarn Bombing and Decoration for street festival	€500.00
18	White Lily Events trading as June Fest	June Fest Community Festival 2023	€1,300.00
19	White oaks residents	Community multicultural day	€500.00
		Total for Approval	€25,000
		Budget	€25,000
		Balance	€0

Prior to discussion the members made the following declarations of interest:

- Councillor Doyle
 - Kildare Town Projects Group
 - Kildare Derby Festival
- Councillor Stafford
 - 7th Kildare Cub Scouts Rathangan



Kildare County Council

- 7th Kildare Rathangan Beaver Scouts
- Gaelscoil Mhic Aodha Parents Association
- Rath Players
- The Dining Room Newbridge

- Councillor Duffy
 - Monasterevin Community Centre
 - Monasterevin Drama Group

- Councillor P O'Dwyer
 - Caragh Tidy Towns
 - NFRC Summer Project

- Councillor Power
 - Caragh Tidy Towns

- Councillor N Connolly
 - Monasterevin Community Centre

- Councillor Pender
 - Newbridge Christmas Lights
 - NFRC Summer Project
 - The Diningroom Newbridge

- Councillor T O'Dwyer
 - Brannockstown Community Committee

The members raised the following points:

- How was it decided on how much groups were awarded?
- Could a list be provided showing the estates with grass and the amount they were granted?
- It was felt that the timing and closing date was late for grants.
- Look at closing dates to be able to coincide with LPT funding.
- Information on funding was given after LPT had been allocated which restricted members being able to add funding or match grants.



Kildare County Council

Ms P O'Brien informed members that a breakdown would be sent to them. There was a restriction on when budgets had to be approved for the grants. Councillor T O'Dwyer suggested that more notice be given to groups before grants opened so that groups/committees could be prepared.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T O'Dwyer and seconded by Councillor Duffy and agreed by all members that the Community and Heritage grants be approved and Resident Association Grants be noted.

KN30/0423

Sign posted walking route Umeras, the birth place of St Brigid

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

Go mbunóidh an Chomhairle bealach siúlóide le comharthaí feadh an bhóthair ó Umeras, áit bhreithe Naomh Bríd, go dtí an Ardeaglais i mBaile Chill Dara. (That the council establish a sign posted walking route along the road from Umeras, the birth place of St Brigid, to the Cathedral in Kildare Town.)

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

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Brigid1500 project team is investigating the development of a network of pilgrim walkways throughout the county and will include the proposed route as part of this study. There are a number of considerations including cost, accessibility and road safety.

Ms P O'Brien asked Councillor N Connolly if he could send her proposed routes and appreciated the input in getting a network of St Brigid walking routes.

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



KN31/0423

Improvement works at St Brigid's Well

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

That the council carry out further improvement works at St Brigid's Well to improve drainage and accessibility and include a planting programme that will coincide with St Brigids Day 2023, on approach roads to the Well.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that a meeting will be organised with the stakeholders involved in St Brigid's Well to discuss the drainage and accessibility and to ascertain what is involved in the suggesting planting programme and the feasibility of this.

Councillor Duffy asked that the Parks Department and the stakeholder be mindful when improving accessibility that they don't put to many hard surfaces as it was felt it would ruin the ambience of the area.

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

The meeting concluded.