



**Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District
held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 18 January 2023
in the Council Chamber**

Members Present:	Councillor S Doyle (Mayor), Councillors N Connolly, K Duffy, F McLoughlin Healy, P O'Dwyer T O'Dwyer, C Pender, R Power and M Stafford.
Remote Attendance:	Councillors C Pender, F McLoughlin Healy
Apologies:	Councillors A Connolly, N Heavey
Officials Present:	Mr J Boland (District Manager), Mr J Hennessy (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr G Hooban (Executive Engineer), Ms B Cuddy (District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Ms R Jackson (LPT Co-Ordinator), Mr O Brady (Administrative Officer), Ms S O'Gara (A/Senior Executive Architect and Urban Designer), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms M Richardson (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and began by passing on condolences from members and staff to Councillor Tracey O'Dwyer on the recent passing of her father, Mr Danny O'Dwyer.

KN01/0123

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.

There were no declarations of interest.



KN02/0123

Minutes and Progress Report

To approve the minutes of the monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on Wednesday, 14 December 2022 and to note the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor T O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor Duffy and agreed by the members that the minute of the monthly Kildare Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on Wednesday, 14 December 2022 be approved and the progress report be noted.

KN03/0123

Municipal District Road Works

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

Road Resurfacing Works:

The 2023 Roads programme is now being prepared.

NTA:

- The roads team are now installing the remaining bollards and line marking in Dara Park.
- Works are near completion on Melitta Road.
- Works on Green Road are continuing, widening of footpaths, provision of pedestrian crossing and road overlay.

Miscellaneous Works:

Kildare

Pothole repairs throughout the whole area – Kildare, Rathangan, Monasterevin.

Flooding issues addressed throughout the whole area – Kildare, Newbridge, Monasterevin.

Completion of dropped kerbs from Beechgrove, Rathangan to Spar shop for wheelchair access.

Newbridge

Patching: Blackberry Lane and Station Rd at Youngs Chemist.



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Signage: Cleaned and repaired parking signs Main Street, new junction and stop sign old military graveyard (Curragh Chase), new stop signs at College park, Piercetown and Henry street, new junction sign at Morrinstown bridge.

Bollards: Repaired 2 chrome bollards Cutlery Rd and Roseberry.

Drainage: Cleared gullies and lines in the following locations Chapel Lane, Main Street Highfield, Langton Pk, The Hall at Liffey Hall.

Removed leaves on footpaths throughout the town.

Fitted bench and new bin at the Crescent, new bin at Liffey Hall.

Hedge Cutting: Blackberry Lane and Roseberry.

Newbridge Surrounds

Patching throughout the area.

Watercuts at Kinneagh, Rosetown, Baroda and Suncroft.

Cleared drains at Askinraw, Suncroft.

Kilcullen

Sweeping leaves Caragh village.

Washing road signs throughout the whole area.

Replacing damaged road sign old N9.

Pothole repairs Mylerstown Cross to Mullacash Cross. R448 at Walterstown, Sunny Hill.

Cleaned drainage pipes Giltown, Carnalway. Logstown.

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

- Could trees on Green Road be cut back as they were very large and encroaching on the footpaths
- On Cutlery Road skateboarders are colliding with new benches and planters causing damage. Could signage be added to advise no skateboarding in the area.
- Could clarification be provided on why it appeared that the NTA would not be funding works for footpaths or pedestrian crossings and how this would affect projects for 2023
- A level of engagement with the NTA would be required to progress or complete schemes.



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- What percentage of the overall national pot had been allocated to Kildare as it would appear the allocation did not reflect the population of Kildare.
- What projects would be affected and what was the shortfall.
- As the problem with the NTA funding was countywide it should be discussed at Full Council level.

The District Engineer advised that the trees on Green Road were private but a hedge would be replanted in this location. Cutlery Road would be investigated for possible solutions. Mr D Hodgins advised that the NTA grants would be announce next week. While €15million had been requested in funding it was expected that it would be capped at €9.9 million in line with 2022. There would be no funding for pedestrians or vulnerable road users. The completion of designs may not be funded. All local authorities were investing heavily in active travel schemes. The NTA were aware that the council were seeking extra funding. The NTA had a national pot of €290million of which Kildare had been allocated less than €10million. Mr Hodgins advised that funding would probably only take each project to the next point.

The report was noted.

KN04/0123

LPT 2021 and 2022

Councillor McLoughlin Healy proposed an amount of €2300 to Newbridge Town Football Club for sports equipment. This was seconded by Councillor Power and agreed by the members.

The District Manager took the opportunity to introduce Ms Rachel Jackson, Administrative Officer, Environment Department who would be taking over as LPT Co-ordinator. He also advised the members that Ms Jackson was working on a reconciliation for 2022 and would circulate it to members when complete.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McLoughlin Healy, seconded by Councillor Power and agreed by the members that an amount of €2300 be allocated to Newbridge Town Football Club.



KN05/0123

Schedule of Works 2023

To agree and approve the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2023.

This item was deferred until the February meeting.

KN06/0123

Orchard Park, The Curragh

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor A Connolly. As Councillor Connolly was absent she had asked Councillor Doyle to move the motion on her behalf

That the council liaise with the Department of Defence requesting an update on works carried out in Orchard Park, The Curragh with a view to expediate the process of the Taking in Charge of the estate.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that with the members agreement Kildare County Council could write to the Department of Defence as per the terms of this Motion.

The members agreed that a letter could issue.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Power and agreed by the members that a letter issue to the Department of Defence.

KN07/0123

Capital Projects

The members considered the following adjourned motion in the name of Councillor Doyle. That the council provide a report for this municipal district of capital projects delivered and planned for the period of this Council.

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



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A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members of the following:

The Sustainable Transport Section

- 2021 – Temporary Cycle and Seating Infrastructure Projects on Main Street and Edward Street, Newbridge (designated and constructed).
- 2022 – Design of the Newbridge Town Cycle Track Network Scheme which will be brought forward to a public consultation in Q1/2 of 2023.

The cost of the Temporary Cycle and Seating Infrastructure Project on Main Street and Edward Street, Newbridge Project was €150,770.

The cost of the other scheme to date is: €88,100.

Roads Design Section

- Northern Link Street
- Newhall Junction Improvement Project Part 8 and CPO
- Carragh Bridge Repairs
- Wheelam Bridge Repairs
- Halverstown Bridge Repairs
- Monasterevin Bridge Repairs
- Brooke Bridge Repairs
- Old River Bridge Repairs
- Grange Beg Bridge Repairs
- Liffey Bridge Carnalway Bridge Repairs
- Stephenstown South Bridge Repairs
- The Southern Internal Link Road (SILR) connecting the South Green Road and the Dunmurray Road.
- Dunmurry Shuttle Upgrade Works
- The Pigeon Lane Signalised Junction Works
- The Hill Road Shuttle Works.

The works to the bridges in the report provided have been completed in 2021 and 2022.

These works are funded by the Department of Transport and grant funding of €351,000 was



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provided in 2021 and €455,400 in 2022. The works to Newhall are included in the current capital programme.

Live projects

- Athgarvan Road Improvement Works, Newbridge
- NSORR between Great Connell Road and Naas Road Newbridge
- Dunmurray Road Kildare Town Improvement Works,
- Ballymany Road and the Standhouse Road Newbridge

The members will have received an update on Roads Design/Roads Planning capital projects from Stephen Deegan Senior Engineer at a previous meeting.

A report was also received from Community, Libraries and Parks and Recreation Departments informing the members of the following:

The following is an update on capital projects delivered and planned between 2019 and 2024 for Community, Parks and Recreation and Libraries.

Parks and Recreation 2019 – 2024:

- **St Brigids Well** – Delivered in Q4 2022
- **Entrance to Newbridge Playground** – Delivered 2022
- **ORIS Applications:**

4 ORIS applications delivered as follows:

- Old Kilcullen feasibility
- Kilcullen Walking Routes
- Pedestrian/Cycle link Monasterevin to Mooreabbey Woods
- Barrow Blueway Link – Monasterevin to Portarlinton
- **Lakeside Park** – development of a masterplan for the open space and include a play area in Q3 2023
- **Lourdesville Kildare Town** – carry out an archaeological investigation to facilitate the construction of a monastic garden in the land between the Cathedral wall and Chapel Hill



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- **Newbridge Sports Centre Refurbishment** – construction of a multipurpose hall – works underway and to be completed in 2023.
- **Pairc Mhuire** – Preparation of masterplan for the open space – work to start on tender in 2023.
- **Cherry Avenue** - Feasibility study for amphitheatre and design concept for earth feature. Followed by a tender for detail design of phase 1 of the masterplan to follow once these are completed – Q1 2023
- **Monasterevin Slip Way** – feasibility to investigate purchase and upgrade of Monasterevin slipway - Q2 2023

Newbridge 2nd Playground –

- A public consultation survey was completed over 2021 and 2022, with over 800 responses, which informed the direction of additional play facilities in Newbridge.
- A tender for the design of two play areas in Liffey Linear Park will be tendered in Q1 2023. This will involve the design for a junior play area in the section of the park from St Conleths Bridge to the Watering Gates. A natural play area will be designed for The Strand Area. It is planned to have these in place by Q3-4 2023. Other locations which we consider suitable for play areas are Moorefield Park and Lakeside Park. It is proposed to develop a small play area in Moorefield Park close to the skatepark and to progress a design for this in the Q3-4 2023 with installation in 2024. A masterplan for the amenity space in Lakeside Park will be necessary to consider how best to improve the amenity value and recreational facilities in it and where to locate play facilities within it. A tender for this will commence in Q3 2023. All play areas will include for consideration the findings of the survey carried out last year and attached with this report.
- **Beechwood Avenue** – Installation of boundary fence – early to mid 2023
- **Liffey Linear Park (Liffey Valley Strategy)** – Upgrade of towpath to Athgarvan Road -design work commenced and construction in 2023.

Community Facilities 2019 – 2024

- **Monasterevin Community Hall** – Delivered in 2020
- **Rathangan Scout Den** – Delivered in 2022



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- **Liffey Lodge Newbridge** – Significant development levies have been accumulated to develop Liffey Lodge into a community facility once the building is no longer in use as a rest centre for Ukrainian families.
- **Newbridge Youth Facilities:** Development levies have been ringfenced for the delivery of an appropriate youth space in Newbridge – development of such facilities will consider facilities at Liffey Lodge.

Economic Development 2019 – 2024:

- **Monasterevin Enterprise Hub:** Bank of Ireland building purchased in 2022. Local Funded Project pending future National Funding to realise potential
- **Kildare Court House** – Building was purchased by Kildare County Council in 2022. A feasibility study is in progress to develop a craft and collective space for Co Kildare. Local Funded Project pending future National Funding to realise potential
- **Greentech Newbridge** -This project is at concept stage pending future planning by Bord Na Mona. Still unclear as to source of funding
- **Equine Innovation Hub** – Delivered in October 2021. Local Funded Project with National funding to complete

Library and Arts Service 2019 - 2024

County Library, Local Studies, Archives and Cultural Centre

- This Capital Project received Urban Regeneration Development Funding (URDF) under Stage 2 as part of the Newbridge Cultural and Civic Quarter in 2019.
- The Architect Lead Design Team was appointed in August 2021.
- The Design Team, Libraries and Public Realm team are currently finalising documentation for the Part 8 application in the coming weeks (November 2022)
- The draft plans were presented to the Kildare-Newbridge MD by the Design Team in September 2022.
- The Stage 2 URDF funding has allowed for the appointment of the Design Team, the development of the design and drawings for the Part 8 Planning application and the preparation of the tender package for the Construction Tender.



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- The expectation is that the project will be “shovel ready” for the next URDF Stage 1 call out when it comes to allow the project to progress to the construction stage.

Kildare Town Library

- 2022 – Full energy upgrade including new energy efficient heating, air handling system and lighting
- Mini-refit including additional meeting space furniture, gaming wall and sensory pod
- 2021- Current date – consultant appointed for design and refit of windows and curtain walling, tender complete for contractor and works to begin in January 2023.

Newbridge Library

- 2019 – mini- library fit out including new shelving, flooring, loose furniture, decorating, meeting room and presentation technology.

Local Studies and Archives, Newbridge (Protected Structure)

- 2022 – meeting room upgrades, decorating, IT infrastructure improvements, furniture and technology.

Monasterevin Library

- 2019- 2020 – energy upgrade works including heating and lighting, additional shelving and interior decoration

Kilcullen Library

- 2019- 2020 – energy upgrade works including heating and lighting and interior decoration.

Kilcullen, Kildare, Monasterevin, Newbridge and Rathangan Libraries

- Library Development Capital Fund since 2019 funded the following IT Infrastructure and library improvements:
- RFID Self-Service Kiosks and Gates
- Lapsafes for lending laptops and tablets
- Public use laptops and tablets



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- Flat screen TVs for signage, meeting rooms and meeting pods
- Presentation technology - screens, speakers and projectors
- Gaming Walls
- Meeting and Study Pods
- Sensory Pod
- Self-Printing Service
- Virtual Reality Headsets
- 3D- Printers
- Robotic Kits and Electronic Kits for workshops

Riverbank Arts Centre

Redevelopment plan is at the feasibility stage. Stakeholder consultations on the design proposal will be held in December 2022 and January 2023.

A report was also received from the Housing Department informing the members of the following:

Housing Capital projects completed or planned to be completed in the Kildare/Newbridge Municipal District between May 2019 and May 2024 include:

KCC direct delivery (incl St. Patrick's Park Phase 1	93
AHB CALF delivery	192
Part V (KCC & AHB)	173
Turnkey (KCC & AHB)	84
Total	542

Councillor Doyle thanked the departments for the comprehensive reports and stated that there was a need to develop a means of recording spends geographically to show an equitable distribution of funding.

The members raised the following points:

- There was a lack of funding in rural areas
- It would be good to have figures and a map of the allocations



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The District Engineer advised that she could produce a map of Roads Works done this year and circulate to members.

Councillor Doyle advised that she would consult with members to refine the ask in a motion for full council.

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

KN08/0123

Public Lighting Brannockstown

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

That the council install one additional public light between an existing row of lights on the approach road from Brannockstown to Mile Mill Junction.

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 lighting at this location will be assessed as part of the PLEEP (Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project). The PLEEP Design will identify locations where additional lighting will be required and depending on availability of funds it will be carried out.

Councillor T O'Dwyer stated that there was a small section on the road where there was no lighting. A non slip surface had been added recently following a bad accident and the addition of one light would help in making the area safer.

Councillor P O'Dwyer enquired if clarification could be circulated to members regarding the difference between the PLEEP scheme and KLIPS.

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

KN09/0123

Road for Improvement Piercetown

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

That the council schedule the road linking Station Road, via Piercetown to the new pedestrian path to Dara Park for improvement in 2023.



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 office agree to include this area for consideration. The Municipal District office is at present preparing the 2023 roads programme.

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

KN10/0123

Liffey Linear Park

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

That the council explore the possibility of opening an additional entrance to Liffey Linear Park on the R416 near Ryston Sports and Social Club where the footpath dead ends in order to make the area a safer route for pedestrians.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council have no plans to open an additional entrance. Two Toucan crossing facilities are being installed on the R416 to provide access to the Liffey Linear Walk for pedestrians. The additional footpath works will join up the Belin Wood Development with the Liffey Linear Park.

Councillor Pender advised that he was disappointed with the report. On exiting Ryston Sports and Social Club, if turning right, the footpath ends at a wall. Councillor Pender advised that he believed an entrance at the location had been indicated on plans for the Cultural Quarter.

The District Manager stated that he would refer to the Public Realm team for clarification.

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



KN11/0123

Allenview Heights, Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Pender
That the council include Allenview Heights, Newbridge in its programme of works for 2023.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office agree to include for consideration. The Municipal District office is at present preparing the 2023 roads programme.

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

KN12/0123

Flooding close to Hazel Hotel

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Duffy
That the council investigate surface water flooding from the R445 Dublin Road into properties located near the Hazel Hotel, Monasterevin.

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 informing the members that the Municipal District office agreed to investigate and discuss further with Councillor Duffy.

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



KN13/0123

Cul-de-Sac Sign

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Duffy
That the council install a Cul-de-Sac sign on a local road off the R414 in Shindala, Kildare.

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 informing the members that the Municipal District office agree to install the sign if required.
Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Duffy and seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer that the report be noted

KN14/0123

Traffic Calming Great Connell Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor N Connolly
Go gcuirfidh Comhairle Contae Chill Dara bearta maolaithe tráchtá i bhfeidhm ar Bhóthar Mhór Chonaill idir Crosaire na Bhuachalla agus Timpeallán Suirbhé O'Murchú, le béim ar leith ar na bealaí isteach chuig eastáit mar Baroda Court, Connell Drive agus Wellesley Manor.

(That Kildare County Council install traffic calming measures on the Great Connell Road between Buckley's Cross and Murphy Surveys Roundabout, with particular emphasis on the entrances to estates such as Baroda Court, Connell Drive and Wellesley Manor.)

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is existing traffic calming measures in place in the form of driver feedback signs. There are no plans to install any additional traffic calming measures at this location.

Councillor N Connolly informed the members that residents in the area were worried about the speed of traffic on this section of road. A number of accidents had occurred. Table top ramps had previously been promised but not delivered. He requested that the statistics be examined.



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The District Engineer advised that table top ramps had been planned more than ten years ago but the layout had since changed. Driver feedback speed signs had been installed. Enforcement of speed was a matter for An Garda Síochána. The link road was due to open shortly and would reduce some of the traffic. Ramps would not solve the issue and the road was not suitable for the introduction of chicanes.

Councillor N Connolly enquired if data was recorded and available from the driver feedback speed signs.

The District Engineer advised that she believed so but would confirm and revert to the Councillor.

Councillor Doyle advised that perhaps Councillor N Connolly could raise the matter at the next JPC meeting.

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

KN15/0123

T Junction at Lourdesville

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Stafford
That the council include the T junction at Lourdesville with Chapel Hill, Kildare as part of the low cost safety scheme for 2023.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Low-cost accident schemes for 2023 have been applied for, the council will include for consideration in the 2024 scheme.

Councillor Stafford stated that traffic in the area had increased and the road was unsuitable for current traffic volumes. He requested that the area be investigated for an alternate solution.

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



KN16/0123

The Glebe, Newtown, Rathangan

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Stafford
That the council resurface and line mark the road at The Glebe, Newtown, Rathangan.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District office agree to include for consideration, subject to budget and meeting criteria set down by the Department. The Municipal District Office are at present preparing the 2023 roads program.

Councillor Stafford stated that there were 19 houses and some businesses on the cul-de-sac. It would greatly benefit from the addition of signage and green bollards to mark the junction and also required resurfacing works.

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

KN17/0123

Road Noise Monitoring

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor N Connolly
Cé chomh mór agus a dhéanann Comhairle Contae Chill Dara monatóireacht ar thorann bóithre sa Cheantar Bardasach agus cén beart maolaithe atá curtha ar fáil dó?

(To what extent does Kildare County Council monitor road noise in the Municipal District and what mitigation measure have been made available for same?)

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that noise complaints are generally assessed against the noise mapping produced by the EPA for 'major' roads which are accurate and allow complaints to be assessed without specific monitoring. The Council has recently arranged a semi-permanent noise monitor on the M7 at Walshestown to collect continuous noise data for that section of road to see if levels exceed the EPA threshold for action.



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Mr D Hodgins advised the members that, with their agreement, he would make a short presentation on road noise at the next Municipal District meeting. The members agreed in principle provided the next agenda allowed this.

The report was noted.

KN18/0123

Bend at Gormanstown Church

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if the section of road at the bend on the Dunlavin Gormanstown Road at Gormanstown Church, highlighted in my motion raised at the March 2022 Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting, has been included on the Low Costs Accident scheme for 2023?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the low-cost accident schemes have not been approved yet. The Municipal District Office submit 4 schemes and usually get a budget for two maybe three. This one did not make the list this year.

Councillor T O'Dwyer advised that she did not accept the report. Following her motion in March 2022 it had been agreed to include this section of road in the low cost accident scheme. There had been seven accidents since.

The District Engineer stated that the criteria for addition was that there had to be a value for money return. Usually four of five schemes were submitted with possibly two or three receiving funding depending on costs involved.

Councillor Doyle enquired if there was equity of distribution in the county. The District Manager advised the there was no issue with distribution of funding.

The report was noted.

KN19/0123

Tender to Install Pedestrian Crossings

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer.
Can the council provide an update regarding the tender to install pedestrian crossings at Hillside, Kilcullen and the junction at Allenvue Heights and Lakeside Park, Newbridge?



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A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the National Transport Authority has indicated that there will be no funding available from the Active Travel Grants in 2023 for new signalised pedestrian crossings in County Kildare. In the absence of funding, the works cannot proceed. Councillor T O'Dwyer stated that she did not accept the report as commitment had been made to these pedestrian crossings in 2022. She requested that clarification be provided on what exactly the NTA were and were not funding as this seemed to go against the pedestrians first ethos.

Mr D Hodgins stated that there would be zero funding from the NTA for improvement works for Vulnerable Road Users.

The report was noted.

KN20/0123

Car Park at Town Hall, Newbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if the car park behind the town hall in Newbridge is in full ownership of Kildare County Council?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the full car park is not in Kildare County Council ownership.

Mr D Hodgins advised that a small part of the car park was not under the ownership of the council but he would clarify exactly what this entailed and revert to members

The report was noted.

KN21/0123

Bus Shelter List

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council provide an update of the list of bus Shelters listed for completion in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Area inclusive to Bundle of Sticks for 2022/2023?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the programme and funding for bus infrastructure works is the



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subject of discussions with the National Transport Authority and has not been finalised for 2023.

Councillor P O'Dwyer queried if bus shelters on both sides of the road at Toghers would be listed.

Mr D Hodgins advised that the list was currently under discussion and not yet confirmed but it was unlikely that bus shelters in this area would be included.

The report was noted.

KN22/0123

The Mill Bridge/Victoria Bridge Thomastown

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

Can the council confirm if there has been any update on possible options for road widening measures at The Mill Bridge/Victoria Bridge, Thomastown?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a contractor has been appointed to repair the damage to the existing Mill Bridge and this work is expected to be completed in January 2023. The Roads Project Team are looking at possible options for road widening measures and are in discussions with the Kildare County Council Heritage Officer about what is feasible. A further update will be provided once these discussions have concluded.

The report was noted.

KN23/0123

Boardwalk Liffey Linear Park

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

Can the council confirm if it has identified any safety issues to be resolved for the boardwalk at the end of Liffey Linear Park?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the design of the proposed works at the Liffey Linear Park Newbridge have been agreed with the council Roads Planning Section and the Developer Glenveagh has confirmed that the works are due to commence on site by the end of January 2023 subject to liaison with the Kildare/ Newbridge Municipal District Office. These works will



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consist of a new footpath which will join up the Belin Wood Development with the existing Liffey Linear Park Boardwalk.

It should be noted that there are no works proposed to be carried out on the existing Liffey Linear Park Boardwalk.

Councillor Pender requested clarification regarding responsibility for the boardwalk at it was his opinion that it was unsafe due to a slippery surface and some loose boards.

Mr D Hodgins advised that he would seek the requested clarification and revert to the members.

The report was noted.

KN24/0123

Line Painting Disabled Parking Spaces

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

Can the council outline how often it refreshes the painting on the disabled parking spaces in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District to ensure that there is no confusion on the designation of these bays?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that paint is refreshed when required and subject to budget availability.

Councillor Stafford advised that some parking bays were clearly defined and other not. This was leading to confusion as to whether the bays were still designated as disabled parking bays.

The District Manager advised that she would liaise with the pay parking team on this issue.

The report was noted.

KN25/0123

Illegal Encampment Rosconnell

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

Can the council outline the steps taken to remove the illegal encampment in Rosconnell and future steps that will be taken to prevent this happening again?



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A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Council's Housing Department has investigated the matter and served statutory notices for the removal of the unauthorised structures. The situation will continue to be monitored and legal enforcement may be considered. The Council's Social Worker Team is also engaging with occupiers who may require housing assistance.

The report was noted.

KN26/0123

Public Private Partnership, Coolaghknock Glebe

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor N Connolly
An féidir leis an gComhairle tuilleadh sonraí a sholáthar maidir leis na hochtó cúig teach atá le tógáil faoi Chomhpháirtíocht Phríobháideach Phoiblí ag Gléib Chúil Chnoic, I mBaile Chill Dara?

(Can the council provide further detail around the eighty five homes to be constructed under Public Private Partnership (PPP) at Coolaghknock Glebe, Kildare Town?)

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Coolaghknock Glebe in Kildare town has been selected as a mixed use (social & affordable units) site with the social units included in Social Housing PPP Bundle 5. Appointment of the design team for Bundle 5 is currently being finalised by the National Development Finance Agency. Following appointment, the design team will engage with the participating Local Authorities to progress design proposals to Part 8. Both social and affordable units will be brought to Part 8. Following Part 8 approval the social units will be developed under the PPP contract and the affordable units developed directly by Kildare County Council as affordable purchase.

Councillor N Connolly sought clarification regarding the percentages of social and affordable housing, whether the affordable scheme would be for rent or purchase and what the house type mix was likely to be.

Mr O Brady advised that there would be 85 social and 40 affordable units. The scheme was at a very early stage so no further details could be provided at this time. Members would be kept updated on developments.

The report was noted.



KN27/0123

Feasibility Study Centre of Excellence

That this council calls for the publication forthwith of the Feasibility Study carried out to establish a Centre of Excellence for Climate Change//Institute for Sustainable Farming on Marginalised Land, as part of Public Realm development of St Conleth's Square, Newbridge.

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the final draft of the Feasibility Study for the Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability is completed with only minor edits being addressed by the design team. The council expect to be in a position to issue the final publication to the municipal district members in the coming weeks.

Councillor Heavey was not in attendance however the Mayor advised that she had been informed by him that he accepted the report.

KN28/0123

Barrow Blueway

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

Can the council provide an update on the road crossing's tender for the Barrow Blueway and anticipated commencement date of the work?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that following numerous requests from interested tenderers for an extension to the closing date for the tender return, the closing date is now January 10. The council expect to complete the tender assessment process in 2 weeks and be in a position to issue the Letter of Intent January 24, followed by the 2 week standstill period. Subject to there being no challenges, the council aim to award 7 February with a contractor mobilising thereafter. A separate procurement process will be run for the construction of the bridge in Rathangan. The council expect this process to commence February 2023, with a contractor awarded by April 2023.

The report was noted



KN29/0123

Monasterevin Masterplan

Can the council provide an update and timeline for the completion of the Monasterevin Masterplan Appropriate Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment screenings and its publication?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Monasterevin Masterplan has been completed by the Paul Hogarth Company in collaboration with the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team. The council is currently reviewing the completed AA and EIA Screenings. It is expected that the Town Renewal Masterplan will be ready to publish within the coming weeks.

The report was noted.

KN30/0123

Litter Pick Bags in Libraries

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
That the council leave a supply of litter pick bags in local libraries for member of the public to collect when they are doing litter picks to particularly facilitate rural areas where a Tidy Towns Committee is not in place.

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

Reports were received from the Environment section and from Library Services informing the members that Environment section would be happy to supply participating libraries with litter pick bags to facilitate community clean-ups as outlined in the notice of motion.

Kildare Library Services would be delighted to work with the Environment section and host litter-pick bags supplied by them to facilitate community clean-ups.

Councillor T O'Dwyer stated that in many rural areas residents were cleaning up litter such as coffee cups and take away packaging which had been thrown from cars. Having access to the proper bags would greatly assist them.

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



KN31/0123

Cremation Ashes at Barrettstown Cemetery

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heavey. That the council bring forward design/best practice options as to how 'ashes from cremations' be accommodated in Barrettstown Cemetery.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Power in Councillor Heavey's absence.

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that an area can be set aside in Barrettstown cemetery to accommodate ash plots. The Environment Dept will liaise with the local caretaker to identify and agree a suitable location. The members stated that some people preferred not to use columbarian walls and would prefer an ash plot and queried if a pilot scheme was possible.

The District Manager stated that columbarian walls were expensive. An area could be set aside for use as an ash plot but plans could be circulated to members in advance.

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

KN32/0123

Donnelly's Hollow

The member considered the following motion in the name of Councillor N Connolly
Go dtugann Comhairle Contae Chill Dara breac-chuntas ar an ngníomh atá déanta chun infíonadh mídhleathach an poll in aice le Poll Ó Donnghaile ar an gCurrach a leigheas.
(That Kildare County Council outline the action that has been taken to remediate the illegal infilling of the hollow next to Donnelly's Hollow on the Curragh).

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

A report was received from the District Manager informing the members that the Council is generally satisfied regarding the progress made to date on foot of the mediation agreement and expects that remediation works will be carried out in Q3/Q4 of 2023.

Councillor N Connolly raised the following points:



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- Lessons had not been learned from a previous historical incident of dumping in a similar location.
- The public could not be expected to comply with regulations relating to illegal dumping if the Department of Defence did not.
- What was the cost of remediation and who would be covering the cost.
- Had the incident been reported to the EPA and if not why not.
- Had any test results been obtained.
- The remediation agreement process had been a massive waste of tax payers money.

The District Manager stated that he was not familiar with the historic incident. Extensive testing had been done which had concluded that there was no risk to the environment or the public and the EPA were aware of the issue. The remediation agreement was a statutory process. The terms of which were confidential. Significant progress had been made but no final decision had been made on how to progress the issue. Assurances were made that there was no risk to the public or the environment. Kildare County Council would not be covering the cost.

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

KN33/0123

Barrow Blueway

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Stafford
Can the council confirm if the dog warden will be responsible for monitoring the Barrow Blueway?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Barrow Blueway is a partnership project between Waterways Ireland, Kildare and Laois County Councils.

Waterways Ireland is currently developing the unbound infrastructure for the Blueway by resurfacing the existing towpath to create a traffic-free, multi-use route. Kildare County Council has responsibility for the provision of bound surfaces at road crossings and junctions.



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Continued monitoring and removal of litter and waste dumped along the route and in the water will lie under the stewardship of Waterways Ireland. 'The ethos of the Barrow Blueway will be A Leave no Trace Policy'.

The Barrow Blueway Economic Plan (July 2021) - overseen by a steering group from County Kildare LEADER Partnership, Kildare County Council and Waterways Ireland - suggests there may be an opportunity for the development of a Barrow Blueway Maintenance Group that can assist with monitoring and litter picks, which may be led by Tidy Town/Community Groups.

There is also a suggestion in the plan that towpath rangers could monitor the condition and safety of the route on a regular basis and monitor the behaviour of Blueway users and their compliance with guidance. Funding and responsibility for such a position would need to be identified before this can be implemented.

Councillor Stafford sought clarification on whether bins, especially those for dog fouling, would be provided along the Blueway and whether the area came under the jurisdiction of the dog warden. He also queried whether signage would be provided regarding the use of dog leads and whether the issues could be part of the discussions with Waterways Ireland. The District Manager advised that the dog warden would have jurisdiction in the area.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.