

Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District
held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 April 2025
in the Council Chamber

Members Present: Councillors P O'Dwyer (Mayor), P Balfe, N Connolly, K Duffy, N Heavey, T McDonnell, T O'Dwyer, B O'Loughlin, C Pender

Apologies: Councillors S Doyle and R Power

Officials Present: Ms E Hanlon (District Manager), Mr M McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Ms B Cuddy (Municipal District Engineer), Ms S Farrar (Administrative Officer), Ms C Lyons (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms M McCarthy (Administrative Officer), Ms E Donnelly (Acting County Arts Officer), Mr C O'Toole (A/Administrative Officer), Ms L Morgan (Meetings Administrator), Ms KA O'Brien (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

KN01/0425
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.

KN02/0425
Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 19 March 2025 and the progress report was noted.

The mayor informed the members that on item 5 a comment was made that the road would be closed at Ladytown but under legislation the decision to close a road is a reserved function of the



elected members of the Municipal District, not an executive function. This means that the elected members, not the Council's Chief Executive or staff, are responsible for making this decision.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 19 March 2025 be taken as read and the progress report be noted.

KN03/0425

Municipal District Road Works

The members received an update on the Municipal District Road Works

Road Resurfacing Works:

NTA:

Works are ongoing at St. Brigid's School and surrounding area in Kildare Town.

LPT:

Works are now complete on the R445 Newbridge.

Footpath works commenced in Kilcullen, Conroy Park and St Brigid's Avenue to be completed in the coming weeks.

Restoration Improvement / Maintenance:

Road improvement works have commenced at: Church View, Suncroft.

Newbridge

Day to day litter picking, emptying bins, cleaning of lanes and general maintenance of Newbridge Town and small villages around Newbridge.

McGuinness Jetting: Two cattle grids either side of the Curragh racecourse.

Drainage: Lakeside inlets/outlets and all gullies around the lake, The Oaks, Acorn Downs, Old Connell, Mount Carmel, Wesley Manor. In Dara Park a new french drain and new concrete footpath installed to solve ongoing drainage issue, Lurg Lane.

Patching: Maddenstown to Kildare Town, Brownstown to Carna, Bougherguy, from Lidl roundabout to back road that leads back onto dual carriageway.

Planning Works: Chapel Lane, Athgarvan, College Park.



Road Sweeping: Back of Curragh racecourse, Sexton Bridge Road and footpath from Brennans Garage to Ballymany Roundabout.

Topsoil: Standhouse Road/Blackberry Lane, Lakeside, Dara Park.

Kildare

Repairs: Horse Bridge crossover on the R445 Kildare to Newbridge.

Water cuts: R445 Kildare to Monasterevin.

Pothole repair: Quinnsboro, Rathbride Close, Curragh Chase, Knavinstown.

Drainage: Flooding issue at Cleary's residence Ballalley was repaired.

Bollards: Junction bollards installed at Duneany Cross.

Signs: Stop sign and T junction sign installed at Redhills to Southgreen Road junction. Cul de sac sign installed at Fire Castle Lane.

Junction upgrade: Signage installed at Mountrice junction.

Rathangan

Day to day street and path sweeping, cleaning and emptying of bins.

Signage: Installation of 4 signs at Spring Field Cross. Sign repair at Blacktrench.

Water cuts: Water cuts on the L7002, L7007, L3003 and Boston Hill.

Patching: L3003, Main Street Rathangan.

Road Reinstatement: L3003 and L7007.

Oil Spill: Main Street Rathangan plus Ring Road.

Pothole Repair: L70062, Blacktrench, L3003, Thomastown and Ellistown.

Drainage: Gully cleaning R401 Glebe.

Kilcullen

Pothole repairs: Newlands Naas Mylerstown to Swordlestown. Brannockstown to Stephenstown R412. Knockbounce to Milemill. Kilcullen.

Drainage: Knockbounce, Milemill, Brannockstown, Mainstreet Kilcullen. Bishop Rogan Park entrance.



Road Signage: Erecting junction signs Thomastown. Replacing Speed limit signs. washed signage Victoria Bridge. Washed signage Mylerstown cross R448.

Replace litter bins: Kilcullen.

Watercuts: Melon Hill, Yellowbog Common, Castlefish, Knockbounce to Giltown Cross. Silliot Hill to Carnalway, Long Straight Dunstown, Mullaghboy.

The District Engineer informed the members that the map she had distributed to the members was showing the areas for road maintenance and improvements for 2025. Some works have gone to tender and would depend on budgets available but would keep the members up to date. The report was noted.

KN04/0425 **Residual LPT Allocations**

There was no LPT nominated for allocation this month.

KN05/0425 **Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994**

To note commencement of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 – proposed installation of a new Bus Shelter at the following locations:

- Bus Stop 11670, Arthgarvan, Co. Kildare (South-bound).
- Bus Stop 11689, Arthgarvan, Co. Kildare (North-bound).
- Bus Stop 132301, Maddenstown, Co Kildare (West-bound).
- Bus Stop 104041, Maddenstown, Co Kildare (East-bound).

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that she wanted it noted that as part of the Active Travel Scheme where the two Arthgarvan bus stop routes were being installed the road was being widened.

The report was noted.



KN06/0425
L2028 Old Connell Newbridge

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

That the council considers installing a series of ramps to replace the Speed Flashing Signs which are frequently out of order, at L2028 Old Connell Newbridge.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Municipal District office have no funding in place to consider this proposal.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that the area is around Byrnes Cross, near Pfizer, and the speed flashing signs are not working in this area, and it was being used as a detour road for short cuts. She asked was this road not listed as a "quiet road".

The members raised the following points:

- The issue on this road was going to get worse and traffic calming measures needed to be increased.
- Were there were other alternatives to ramps.
- Was there a policy relating to traffic calming or slowing traffic.
- Vehicles going too fast in this area.

The District Manager informed the members that there was a policy for traffic calming measures and speed checks are done in areas. All of this cost money and unfortunately if there was no money the works could not be carried out.

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



KN7/0425

Traffic Calming Measures

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
That the council carries out an assessment with a view to installing traffic calming measures on the approach road from Carnalway to the Logstown Road, Kilcullen at the start of the residential row of houses.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Municipal District office agrees to include the location for assessment, however, as previously advised there is a long list of traffic calming requests and no available budget for assessments or works.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that speed in this vicinity was an issue especially on rural roads where drivers are not aware when they come around a corner that they are entering a town. She asked if further down the line that a scheme could be looked at to help make drivers aware when approaching a town to slow down. Councillor McDonnell informed the members that he felt the slow down digital signs worked better than ramps. He said when he saw the digital speed signs it would make him more aware of his speed and felt it would be good in villages. The District Engineer informed the members that the digital speed signs worked well for a period of time but then regular drivers on these roads would get used to them. She said that they cost around 6-8 thousand euro and have to be replaced every 2-3 years.

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

KN08/0425

Pinkeen Bridge exit into Cnoc na Greine, Kilcullen

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
That the council assesses what safety measures, to include signage, can be installed at the pedestrian crossing at the Pinkeen Bridge exit into Cnoc na Greine, Kilcullen, to alert drivers to pedestrians crossing.



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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Municipal District office agrees to include this location for assessment, however, as previously advised there is a long list of traffic calming requests and no available budget for assessments or works.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that the cross over to the school was sorted which has now created this other issue. She said drivers entering the estate are not stopping or may be unaware of the pedestrian crossing as there was no signage. Councillor T O'Dwyer said that drivers need to be reminded that there was a pedestrian crossing and was also aware that driver behaviour was an issue.

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

KN09/0425

Active Travel Report

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

That the council provides a written monthly Active Travel Report in tabular format for this meeting and all future monthly meetings, to include (a) The projects identified within the municipal district, (b) The funding source or likely funding source for each project, (c) The current stage of progress for each project and any other relevant information.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that this information is already provided as part of the monthly Chief Executive's report to Full Council. The Sustainable Transport Section will review the suggested format to determine if there is a more optimum way to present the data.



Councillor Pender raised the following points:

- Understood that it was in the CE Report but felt it would be easier to provide the report at municipal district level like the vacant house report.
- If the members were getting this report every month at municipal district level it would help stop the members submitting motions and questions unnecessarily.
- The members receive the progress report every month which wouldn't really change on a monthly basis
- Councillors need to be made aware when changes happen.
- Councillors time is very limited, and it would help to have this report every month in a smaller document and it would be easier to be kept updated this way.

Mr McLoughlin informed the members that this information was given every month in the CE Report. He felt there was no added value to giving the report at municipal district level and didn't see what purpose it would serve. He said the Capital Projects did not really change much unlike the vacant housing report. He informed the members that he would commit to keeping the members updated at municipal district level when there was an update or change with the Active Travel Report. The District Manager informed the members that the CE Report was a valued document and did not feel the need to be duplicating work when there were staff shortages, and this would be putting extra work on staff.

Councillor Pender informed the members that he was happy enough to go with the commitment from Mr M McLoughlin on receiving any updates/changes from the Active Travel Report at municipal district level.

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

KN10/0425
L7010 and L7012

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Loughlin
That the council resurfaces the road L7010 from Mountrice Cross to the junction where it joins the L7012.



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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Roads Programme has been prepared for 2025. There is a limited budget available and the L7012 is not listed for 2025, however, it can be included for consideration for 2026.

Councillor O'Loughlin informed the members that this stretch of road was particularly bad and there was also a school along this road. He said it was disappointing that this road would not be resurfaced but asked if the municipal district office would commit to patch repairs. Councillor Duffy informed the members that this was a very busy road and especially with a school on it and needed to be on the list for next year. The District Engineer informed the members that there was a process for deciding on what roads were dealt with first using the hierarchy method and regional roads were always first. She said with the budget the municipal district office had they could only resurface 20/30km of road yearly.

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

KN11/0425
Bridge Street, Rathangan

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Loughlin
That the council installs a bus shelter at the bus stop on Bridge Street, Rathangan.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Loughlin and seconded by Councillor Pender

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Sustainable Transport Team are currently assessing the feasibility of relocating the bus stop in Rathangan to facilitate existing bus services along with future planned routes. It would be premature to install a bus shelter at an existing stop in Rathangan at this stage.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor O'Loughlin and seconded by Councillor Pender that the report be noted.



KN12/0425
L703610

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

That the council resurfaces the L703610, Piercetown, Newbridge which is in poor condition.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McDonnell and seconded by Councillor O'Loughlin

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that there are no plans for surfacing this road in the 2025 budget.

Councillor McDonnell informed the members that it was frustrating for him and his constituents that he was not able to do his job properly for the community due to budget constraints. He said it had been 40 years since this lane had been resurfaced. The district engineer informed the members that there was a very limited budget, and she had to manage this budget and prioritise the work. The District Manager informed the members that the budget for this year for Kildare County Council was €260 million which had to be distributed between 1100 different services. She advised the members present there was a limited budget, and all had to work within the budget. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McDonnell and seconded by Councillor O'Loughlin that the report be noted.

KN13/0425
Nags Head, Monasterevin

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

That the council implements appropriate traffic calming and safety measures at the junction at the Nags Head, Monasterevin, to enhance road safety and reduce accident risks.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Roads Projects Teams are currently progressing a Junction Improvement Project including ten junctions. There are no resources at present to consider further junctions, however this location can be considered but priority will be given to Locations of Interest identified as part of the Collision Analysis carried out the Department of Transport Support Office.



Councillor Balfe informed the members that it was reassuring that this junction was going to be considered. He said that this was a busy junction, and he used it regularly himself. This junction was an access road to egress to the church, community centre and school. Councillor Balfe informed the members that there were limited measures for coming out of this junction and the location of it doesn't lend itself well. Councillor Duffy informed the members that as far as he was aware this junction was part of the Active Travel Safe Routes to School scheme but wondered why it was not mentioned in the report. He said he was told that the Part 8 was imminent and asked could this be clarified. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that he would come back to them with this information.

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

KN14/0425

R417

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

That the council assesses the public lighting coverage and lighting levels along the R417 Athy Road in the vicinity of the Monasterevin Cemetery.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that there are no current plans to install public lighting at this location. Any requests for public lighting should include a description of the issue and a location map showing the area of concern. Following this, the request will be assessed and may be included in the KLIPS register, and prioritised subject to resources.

Councillor Duffy informed the members that he would progress this offline.

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



KN15/0425
Mount Carmel, Newbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if agreed plans to carry out an assessment on the suitability of the general area of Mount Carmel, Newbridge for a safe pedestrian crossing (motion from 21 February 2024) has been carried out?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that there is no budget available for requested assessment or associated works.

Councillor P O'Dwyer asked for clarification on who does the assessments as her previous motion was answered by Mr D Hodgins. The District Engineer informed the members that it would depend on the work but as this was not an NTA project it would be the Municipal District Office.
The report was noted.

KN16/0425
M9/M7 to Service Newbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if they have raised with TII the need for a slip road off the M9/M7 to service Newbridge and if not, what is the mechanism to commence this process?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 has identified the upgrade of this junction as an objective (TM084) and the Newbridge Area Based Transport Assessment has also identified this as supporting infrastructure that should be delivered to support the long-term development of Newbridge. This project is not currently included in the Capital Programme 2025-2027.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked for clarification if the Council had engaged with TII. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that they had not been in contact with TII as this was not in the pipeline at



the moment. He said if the members wanted to put forward a motion to write to TII he would be happy to facilitate this.

The report was noted.

KN17/0425
Thompson's Cross, Kilcullen

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

Can the council outline what the next steps are for Thompson's Cross, Kilcullen as it would appear, without seeing the findings, that none of the recommendations by consultants seem to be appropriate?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that there are no resources at present to progress works to this junction. It is hoped to revisit this location later this year with a view to progressing an appropriate solution for this location.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked for clarification on how much it would cost to carry out this work. Mr M McLoughlin informed the meeting that he would check the cost and revert.

The report was noted.

KN18/0425
Public Lighting

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

Can the council provide an update on the rectification of public lighting along Cowpasture Road, Togher Road and Brook Lawns, Monasterevin which have not been operating since Storm Eowyn?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the average length of time from report to repair/replacement is 4 weeks. However, where ESB attendance is required, the length of time from report to repair/replacement may be longer. The public lighting maintenance contractor and the public lighting department will continue to liaise with ESB.

The report was noted.



KN19/0425
Playgrounds Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Pender and P O'Dwyer
That the council commits to ring-fencing and allocating any residual/remaining income from the development of the Moorefield Park, Newbridge Playground/Area towards the delivery of the playground and masterplan for Lakeside Park, Newbridge ensuring continued investment in community recreational facilities within the area.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that any residual funding following the completion of Moorefield Park will be allocated to Lakeside Park and also to an upgrade of the existing playground in Newbridge Sports Centre which involves replacing of the junior multi-unit and the iplay unit and safety surface.

Councillor Pender informed the members the reason he and Councillor P O'Dwyer put this motion forward was to ensure the funding remained within Newbridge for it to be invested in the area. Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that €30k had been allocated to start the masterplan for the Lakeside Park area.

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

KN20/0425
Liffey Linear Park and adjacent lands

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Pender
Can the council provide an update on the ownership status of Liffey Linear Park and any adjacent lands, and whether the council has engaged, or plans to engage, in adverse possession to secure these lands for community use given their current use and importance to the local area?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that considerable research has been carried out regarding the ownership of land in Liffey Linear Park and the



information obtained has been forwarded to our legal representatives to ascertain ownership rights in Liffey Liner Park.

The report was noted.

KN21/0425

Part 8 St Evins Access Road, Monasterevin, Co Kildare

Ms A Dutczak gave a presentation to the members on the Chief Executives Part 8 Report P82024.17 for the proposed St Evins Access Road, Monasterevin, Co Kildare

Ms A Dutczak informed the members that the following Part 8 was an amendment to the previously approved Part 8 ref. P82023.06, which would consist of new access road with new proposed access point from the south of site at St Evins Park. Part 8.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor Balfe and approved by all members present that the Chief Executives Part 8 Report P82024.17 for the proposed St Evins Access Road, Monasterevin, Co Kildare be approved with the amendments as outlined in the presentation.

KN22/0425

Newhall site

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

Can the council clarify why the Newhall site (Floods Cross Designated Accommodation Centre) cannot be used for frontline staff or emergency accommodation in the short term and if there is any scope for a more flexible or creative approach to utilise this site for urgent housing needs?

A report was received from the Integration Department informing the members that the development of the Designated Accommodation Centre for the provision of temporary accommodation for Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection at Newhall, Naas was exempt development on foot of the introduction of SI 306 of 2022 following the approval of the EU Temporary Protection Directive in March 2022. The benefit of the exemption came to an end when the contract with the Minister for the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (State Authority) expired in March 2025.

The land developed at Newhall is unzoned, agricultural land and cannot be developed for the uses suggested. No proposals have been submitted to Kildare County Council to develop this land for the uses suggested.

The report was noted.

KN23/0425

Social Housing

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

Can the council provide a breakdown on the number of houses allocated in this municipal district in the last 5 years to include social housing and which approved housing bodies/associations were involved?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the following table gives a breakdown of Kildare County Council social allocations recorded over the past 5 years in the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District:

KCC Housing Allocations	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Total	161	149	130	114	257	124	935

This information is not available by municipal district for properties provided by Approved Housing Bodies (AHB). The total number of housing units delivered by AHB's in Kildare Newbridge Municipal District for the past 5 years from 2020 to 2024 is 2,117, provided by Cill Dara, iCare, Co-Operative Housing, Cluid, Oaklee, Tuath, Clanmill, Circle, North and East and Cill Urni Housing Association.

Councillor McDonnell asked for clarification on where the figure of 2,117 came from. Ms S Farrer informed the members that these figures were provided from the Approved Housing Bodies (AHB), and the properties were allocated to those on the Kildare County Council housing list.

The report was noted.



KN24/0425
Heat Pumps

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

Can the council confirm why it is installing heat pumps in badly insulated Kildare County Council houses?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that since no specific property is mentioned, it is assumed that the question relates to the upgrade of the existing KCC housing stock under the Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme (EERP).

This programme provides funding to ensure that the fabric of the home is upgraded, and an efficient decarbonized heating system is provided, namely a heat pump. The works carried out to achieve this energy rating may or may not include attic insulation, wall insulation/dry lining, windows and door upgrade, renewable heating systems, replacement radiators and pipework. The extent of these works will be decided upon based on those needed to achieve a B2 BER rating and ensuring costs are balanced to maximise the no. of units retrofitted.

The report was noted.

KN25/0425
Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2025

The mayor informed the members that the list for the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2025 for the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District was previously circulated and they were not for publication until after 30 April 2025, to allow the Arts Service team to present to all municipal districts.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that she was wondering why two of the approved grants were not happening in Kildare and asked how this worked. Ms E Donnelly informed the members that the grants approved were assessed by 17 assessors and had different criteria they had to meet in order to qualify. The two in question were professional artists which under their criteria had to show that the projects benefited the artist and the county.



Arts Act Grant 2025				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of proposed project	Award €
Amie	Dempsey	Kildare / Newbridge	Finishing a dystopian novel set in Kildare; facilitate a period of writing from April 2025 to September 2025, including planned research trips to the Curragh plains and Army Camp.	€ 500
Cian	Ó Náraigh	Kildare / Newbridge	Develop the script of the play <i>Anonn</i> consisting of a week-long workshop with the creative team and design team, concluding with a reading of the full script for an invited audience.	€ 1,500
Greg	Hallahan	Kildare / Newbridge	Research towards a temporary art installation at Solas Bhríde's celestial garden featuring glowing primordial shapes suspended in the air. Luminescent metal frames absorb sunlight and glow at night. Combining ancient and modern elements, it revitalizes the space, offering visitors a captivating, mystical experience that blends history with contemporary art.	€ 500
Hollie	Murphy	Kildare / Newbridge	An artistic collaboration between writer Cian Ó Náraigh and illustrator Hollie Murphy that explores Irish folklore through monologues, illustrations, and research. Blending oral tradition with contemporary storytelling. This project aims to preserve cultural heritage, share stories online, and potentially expand into immersive festival experiences.	€ 500
Jack	Collieran	Kildare / Newbridge	The creative development, production, and composition of the score for the short film 'I Woke Up Like This', which will be showcased both locally and internationally.	€ 910
Mollie Mia	Murphy	Kildare / Newbridge	Towards costs associated with a showing of 'Thank God We're Surrounded by Water' at Beta Festival 2025. 'Thank God We're Surrounded by Water' is a collaborative cross-disciplinary performance which will take place on the September 15th & 16th, The Lexicon.	€ 450
Noel	Hensey	Kildare / Newbridge	A two-month long residency at PADA, Lisbon, Portugal, taking place April to June 2025. The production of a new body of work for a solo-exhibition at The Cash Shop gallery, Gort, Co. Galway, taking place September to October 2025.	€ 2,500
Olga	Anacka	Kildare / Newbridge	To support the travel of the exhibition <i>Patching Femininity</i> to ProArte Gallery run by Association of Polish Visual Artists in Zielona Góra, Poland.	€ 1,200
Rory	Dignam	Kildare / Newbridge	Newbridge Musical Theatre presents its 2025 debut of the strong female-led musical <i>The Witches of Eastwick</i> at Newbridge College (21–26 April). A groundbreaking production, it celebrates sisterhood, female empowerment, and community diversity. Rehearsals at Scoil Mhuire unite local and regional talent, enriching Newbridge's cultural landscape with fresh, innovative theatre.	€ 800
Total				€ 8,860

Arts in Education Residency Award 2025				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of proposed project	Award €
Liadain	Butler	Kildare / Newbridge	A Textile Project for a new journey inspired by biodiversity and nature. Over 8 weeks, final year students of Kildare Town Educate Together NS will explore textile processes of weaving, felting, embroidery and plastic fusing. By the end of the project, each child will have a handmade magic bag that symbolises their strengths and dreams.	€ 2,500
Total				€ 2,500

Arts, Health & Wellbeing Award 2025				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of proposed project	Award €
Marta	Golubowska	Naas / Newbridge	A series of clay workshops in collaboration with the Kildare branch of Down Syndrome Ireland. The group of adults will avail of this courtesy of Kare Newbridge, who will provide the space each week. The workshop could lead to an exhibition on Down Syndrome Day, 21 March 2026.	€ 4,000
Total				€ 4,000



Culture Night 2025 Commission Award				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of proposed project	Award €
Hazel	Larkin		Kildare Traveller Action proposes an Ethnodrama piece. Travellers in County Kildare will work with an experienced facilitator to produce, through a series of workshops, a piece of theatre that reflects the lived experiences of discrimination against members of the Traveller community in the county.	€ 4,000
Max	Zaska	Kildare / Newbridge	The 7-piece soul-funk-jazz band ZASKA will perform in the beautiful Woodstock Cafe in Monasterevin. The event will be accessible to all incomes, ages, and ethnicities who live locally, including those in Direct Provision Centres. This live performance of Music of Black Origin will address sustainability and will be recorded.	€ 4,000
Total				€ 8,000

Dennis O'Driscoll Literary Bursary Award 2025				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of proposed project	Award €
Roisin	Ni Neachtain	Kildare / Newbridge	To complete a fifth collection of poetry "The Blush Vein" - a book exploring trauma and the climate crisis in Ireland.	€ 2,000
Total				€ 2,000

First Fortnight Award 2025, in partnership with First Fortnight Festival				
First Name	Last Name	Municipal District	Brief summary of proposed project	Award €
Kate	Maher	Kildare / Newbridge	Threads of Connection : a six-week community quilt project with Dúla at Kilcullen Library's garden. Through weekly textile workshops using plant-based techniques, participants will create individual fabric squares, forming a collective quilt. This nature-inspired, intergenerational project fosters storytelling, creativity, and mental well-being, culminating in a public exhibition during First Fortnight 2026.	€ 4,000
Total				€ 4,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Duffy seconded by Councillor O'Loughlin and agreed by the members that the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2025 for the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District be approved.

KN26/0425 **Council-Owned Lands or Properties**

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

That the council provides a comprehensive list of all council-owned lands or properties within the municipal district, including details on whether they have been earmarked for future use and the specific nature of that intended use.

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

A report was received from the Property Interest Register Department informing the members that the Property Interest Register Team can be contacted with any queries regarding properties within the Municipal District area. There are currently no plans for changing the future use of these properties.



BUILDINGS:	
FORMER KILDARE TOWN COURTHOUSE	Building
KILDARE TOWN MARKET HOUSE TOURIST OFFICE	Building
SPORTS CENTRE NEWBRIDGE	Building
LOCAL HISTORY AND ARCHIVE BUILDING NEWBRIDGE	Building
BRANCH LIBRARY NEWBRIDGE	Building
LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS AND ARTS CENTRE NEWBRIDGE	Building
FIRE STATION MONASTEREVIN	Building
FIRE STATION NEWBRIDGE	Building
MACHINERY YARD OFFICES, WORKSHOPS, STORES & CANTEEN	Building
BISHOPSLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE	Building
HALTING SITE NEWBRIDGE	Building
ROADS DEPOT NEWBRIDGE	Building
RESOURCE CENTRE DARA PK NEWBRIDGE	Building
FORMER METHODIST CHURCH MONASTEREVIN - Now known as Council Hall	Building
ROADS DEPOT - CLOGHEEN BRIDGE	Building
PARKS DEPOT OLD CONNELL NEWBRIDGE	Building
ROADS DEPOT KILCULLEN	Building
ROADS DEPOT CLOGHEEN BRIDGE	Building
ROADS DEPOT KILDARE TOWN	Building
SILLIOT HILL KILCULLEN	Building
NEWBRIDGE TOWN HALL	Building
ROADS DEPOT UNIT 15 RATHANGAN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	Building



FORMER HSE BUILDING BRACKNAGH RD RATHANGAN	Building
LIFFEY LODGE NAAS ROAD NEWBRIDGE	Building
FORMER BOI BUILDING MONASTEREVIN	Building
LANDS DEVELOPED OR TO BE DEVELOPED:	
RATHANGAN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	LAND
NEWBRIDGE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	LAND
KILCULLEN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE	LAND
RICKARDSTOWN, NEWBRIDGE - Amenity Lands	LAND
GARDENS MONASTEREVIN	LAND
CLOUGHGARRETT KILDARE TOWN	LAND
KILL HILL MONASTEREVIN	LAND
LOUGHBROWN NEWBRIDGE	LAND
ROWANVILLE KILDARE TOWN	LAND
KELLYS NEWBRIDGE - NOW Rosconnell	LAND
BURRELL RATHANGAN - Adj to St Patrick's Park	LAND
ATHGARVAN - Adj to Mountain View	LAND
HYLANDS MONASTEREVIN - Now Mill Stream Avenue	LAND
PARKINSONS MONASTEREVIN - St Evins Park	LAND
BISHOPSLAND KILDARE	LAND
TANKARDSGARDEN - Halting site	LAND
CLONCARLIN MONASTEREVIN - former halting site	LAND
COOLAGHKNOCK GLEBE (THORNSETT) KILDARE TOWN	LAND
KILDARE TOWN LEAVYS	LAND
COOLAGHKNOCK GLEBE KILDARE J MURTAGH	LAND
LAND AT MOONEY'S ROAD, ROSEBERRY, NEWBRIDGE	LAND



LAND AT IRISH NATIONAL STUD KILDARE - known as Cherry Avenue	LAND
NEWBRIDGE LIFFEY LINEAR PARK NEWBRIDGE	LAND
TOWER HILL KILDARE TOWN - AMENITY AREA	LAND
LAND STATION RD KILDARE TOWN R51 Y540	LAND
LAND AT FEIGHCULLEN, RATHANGAN - BIODIVERISITY	LAND
PLAYGROUNDS:	
PLAYGROUND SPORTS CENTRE NEWBRIDGE	LAND
PLAYGROUND LOURDESVILLE KILDARE TOWN & 1916 GARDEN	LAND
PLAYGROUND WESTEND STREET MONASTEREVIN	LAND
PLAYGROUND ATHGARVAN ROAD KILCULLEN	LAND
PLAYGROUND SUNCROFT	LAND
PLAYGROUND TANNERY PARK RATHANGAN	LAND
PLAYGROUND ELLISTOWN	LAND
NEWBRIDGE SKATEPARK	LAND
ROSCONNELL PLAYGROUND	LAND
CEMETERIES:	
ALLEN CEMETERY	LAND
BARRETTSTOWN CEMETERY	LAND
KILCULLEN CEMETERY GORMANSTOWN	LAND
KILCULLEN CEMETERY NEW ABBEY	LAND
KILDARE TOWN ST CONLETH'S CEMETERY	LAND
NEWBRIDGE ST CONLETH'S CEMETERY	LAND
RATHANGAN GRAVEYARD	LAND



Councillor Balfe informed the members that that was trying to find potential sites for skate parks and for the Monasterevin Association Football Club (MAFC) as the grounds they were using had approximately a year left. He asked if the list they received could be given in a map format as he said it would be easier to identify the locations. Councillor Heavey asked for clarification on the report given saying that there were currently no plans for changing the future use of these properties. He said he was under the impression that Liffey Lodge, Newbridge was being temporarily used to archive documents while works were under way at the local history and archive building Newbridge. Ms C Lyons informed the members that she would be able to circulate to the members the locations on a map as they now have a new database that could give them this information in this format. She said that Councillor Heavey was correct, that Liffey Lodge was being used temporarily while building works were happening. Ms C Lyons informed the members that the Director of Services Mr E Ryan was in talks with Moore Abbey regarding land, but she would talk to Councillor Balfe about MAFC.

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

KN27/0425
Curragh Post Office

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

Can the council provide an update on the current status of the Curragh Post Office, including details of any correspondence issued and received in relation to it?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that the Curragh Camp Post Office is a protected structure. It is listed on the Record of Protected Structures maintained by Kildare County Council. It is not in council ownership. The most recent correspondence are as follows: (1) A letter issued to Department of Defence dated 07 October 2019 and (2) a letter received from Department of Defence dated 13 November 2019

The report was noted.



KN28/0425
LPT

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McDonnell
That the council addresses the uneven distribution of LPT monies allocated to towns within the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District.

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

A report was received from the Finance Department informing the members that the allocation of retained LPT in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District is matter for the Members of the District.

Councillor McDonnell informed the members that there are 11 councillors in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District and there should be fair distribution for each councillor to help get work done for their community. He said that there was over €300k from LPT given towards the library, but he said this should be coming from government funds and not taking so much away from LPT for the next few years. Councillor McDonnell asked how can jobs get done in the area if there was not fair distribution.

The members raised the following points:

- The distribution between towns and villages may not be fair but as a municipal district the members work and vote together to make decisions on the distribution and approval of the LPT.
- Fully understand councillors not getting projects across the line that they would like but this was part of the difficult decisions that had to be made.
- Yes, the library should be funded from government but as there was a shortfall the members voted to put the money towards the library so they would not lose this funding as this was an important infrastructure within the town.
- The members have to work within the budget they are given and difficult decisions had to be made together.
- It was difficult when small villages were losing out, but the members try to be decent and fair when it comes to allocating LPT.



The District Manger informed the members that LPT monies were for the municipal district and there were no individual allocations for the members and all allocations were agreed as a municipal district.

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

Items 29 and 30 were taken together

KN29/0425
Zoning Amenity/Open Space/Community

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heavey
That the council identifies and locates land blocks suitable for Zoning Amenity/Open Space/Community for the imminent LAP (Settlement Plan) for Newbridge in compliance with National Planning Framework.

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

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that Local Area Plans and County Development Plans (CDP) including Settlement Plans are, in all aspects, statutorily required to comply with the requirements of the National Planning Framework (NPF). It should be noted that the NPF does not make provision for specific standards for quantum's of land to be designated/zoned for amenity/open space/community. All CDP Settlement Plans and Local Area Plans prepared by Kildare County Council Planning Team are informed by Social Infrastructure Audits which identify deficits in the provision of civic, social and recreational amenities. The published land use plans address the land use requirements, in the context of appropriately zoned lands, to address deficits and make provision for additional requirements as a result of planned population growth. The progression and delivery of these areas/facilities is outside the remit of a land use plan and will be subject to necessary funding and, where appropriate, land acquisition.

KN30/0425

Sports Facilities in Compliance with National Planning Framework

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



That the council outlines its plans to provide for obligations and opportunities to deliver sports facilities in compliance with National Planning Framework.

A report was received from the Planning and Community Department informing the members that Local Area Plans and County Development Plans including Settlement Plans are, in all aspects, statutorily required to comply with the requirements of the National Planning Framework (NPF). It should be noted that the NPF does not make provision for specific obligations for the delivery of sports facilities, however states that the continued provision and enhancement of facilities and amenities for children and young people, such as childcare, schools, playgrounds, parks and sportsgrounds, remains necessary and will need to be maintained at similar levels for the foreseeable future thereafter. All CDP Settlement Plans and Local Area Plans prepared by Kildare County Council Planning Team are informed by Social Infrastructure Audits which identify existing deficits and future requirements for the provision of sports and recreational amenities. The published land use plans address the land use requirements associated with the deficits and make provision for additional requirements as a result of planned population growth. The progression and delivery of these areas/facilities is outside the remit of a land use plan and will be subject to necessary funding and, where appropriate, land acquisition.

Kildare County Council is currently developing a Local Sports Plan for the county. This five-year plan will align with national and local public health and physical activity policies. The plan will detail the required sports, recreation and physical activity actions for the county, particularly in relation to key target groups. The plan will include recommendations for operational, structural, and other required service enhancements relating to sports and recreation for Kildare.

Councillor Heavey informed the members that he remembered when there was a lot of land available for community/open spaces but now it was difficult to find any. He said young people need the facilities for recreation. Councillor Pender informed the members that recreation or recreational space was one of the important things to consider. He said that some councillors had made submissions for the Local Area Plan. Councillor Pender said it was important that they get it right to future proof these lands in Newbridge. Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that the Settlement Plan was coming up soon and advised of the need to encourage private owners on



zoning of land. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that it was important from the social aspect of the LAP and that it was a collaborative approach.

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

KN31/0425
Planning File 23416

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

Can the council confirm whether an investigation has been undertaken into the concerns raised in Planning File 23416 particularly regarding the removal of hedgerows beyond the approved limits and whether an enforcement notice has been issued against those responsible?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that as previously outlined on several occasions to all Elected Members the Planning Department will not discuss any alleged Planning Enforcement cases in a public forum but will at all times keep the complainant informed of progress.

The report was noted.

KN32/0425
Monasterevin Settlement Plan

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

Can the council provide an update on the commencement of the Monasterevin Settlement Plan and the statutory timelines once the process commences?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that as advised to the Elected Members at a briefing on the 22 January 2025 revised legislation relating to the plan making process is imminent (Planning and Development Act, 2024) and this is further outlined in the recently published [Planning and Development Act 2024 Implementation Plan \[March 2025\] prepared by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage](#).

Until specific dates are advised regarding the commencement of Part 3 (Plan making) of the Planning and Development Act, 2024, no schedule is available. The Forward Planning team will



continue to provide timely updates to the Elected Members on the progression of the commencement of the new Act.

The report was noted.

KN33/0425

Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards for 2025

The mayor informed the members that the list had been previously circulated for the Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards for 2025.

Councillor Pender informed the members that he was aware of a group that had applied but were unsuccessful but did not see them on the list. Councillor T O'Dwyer asked does the Community Department not list the Resident Association Awarded Grants. Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that there was a significant number of applications and commended the Community Department on their hard work and thanked them. Mr C O'Toole, A/Administrative Officer, Community Section, informed the members he would check applications and revert to Councillor Pender. He said that the list of grant awards does not show the individual Resident Associations awarded.



Kildare NewbridgeMunicipal Ditrict Community Grants 2025				
No	Group Name	Project	Grant Requested	Grant Proposed
1	Rathangan Women's Shed	Arts & Crafts Supplies	€ 998.91	€ 750.00
2	Curragh Family Resource Centre	Arts & Crafts Workshops	€ 2,731.46	€ 1,000.00
3	Newbridge Pickleball Club	Equipment	€ 1,380.00	€ 500.00
4	Bishopslane Awareness Committee	Youth Event	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,500.00
5	Monasterevin Men's Shed	Equipment	€ 700.00	€ 600.00
6	Athgarvan Women's Shed	Workshops	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,500.00
7	Kildare Irish Figure Dancers	Equipment	€ 1,157.00	€ 900.00
8	Droichead Nua Irish Figure Dancing Class	Equipment	€ 964.99	€ 500.00
9	Kildare Community Games	Gazebo	€ 465.00	€ 450.00
10	Rosconnell Group- Newbridge Youth Project, In Synchron	Event	€ 2,700.00	€ 1,600.00
11	Clongorey and District Association	Community Notice Board	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,000.00
12	Monasterevin Parent, Toddler and Baby Group	Workshops	€ 1,100.00	€ 700.00
13	insync youth and family services Kildare	Youth Programme	€ 2,669.13	€ 1,500.00
14	The Inbetweeners Group	Equipment	€ 2,975.00	€ 1,500.00
15	Milltown	Heating Upgrade, Heritage Centre	€ 3,150.00	€ 1,000.00
16	Kildare Town Community First Responders	Defibrillator	€ 1,664.90	€ 1,200.00
17	Caragh Community Development Association	Seat	€ 787.10	€ 500.00
18	Bishopslane Inspiration Station	After-school Club	€ 418.00	€ 400.00
19	Old Kilcullen Area Community Association	Bench	€ 1,856.52	€ 1,000.00
20	Kildare Town Community Garden	Equipment	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,700.00
21	Womens Shed/BitsnBobs	Courses and Crafts	€ 2,170.00	€ 1,500.00
22	Sparkability CLG Monasterevin	Sensory Toys	€ 1,000.00	€ 1,000.00
23	Newbridge Family Resource Centre	Materials for Golden Girls Group	€ 1,891.47	€ 1,000.00
24	Clongorey Meet & Code	Laptops and Equipment	€ 2,992.00	€ 1,000.00
25	Monasterevin Access Group	Laptop	€ 1,027.00	€ 800.00
26	Monasterevin Senior Citizens	Event	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,000.00
27	Chill Dara Bridge Club	Equipment	€ 1,928.00	€ 300.00
28	Kildare Town Knitting Group	Wool	€ 799.00	€ 300.00
29	Newbridge Malayali Association	Workshops	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,400.00
30	Eastern Fringe Gaming Club	Equipment	€ 1,550.00	€ 900.00
31	Kilcullen Community Action	Sensory Garden Equipment	€ 1,400.00	€ 1,000.00
32	Curragh Youth Project, Insync Youth & Family Services	Youth Event	€ 2,240.00	€ 1,500.00
33	Rathangan Community Association Ltd.	Workshops	€ 2,300.00	€ 1,000.00
34	Monasterevin Youth Action	Greenhouse	€ 1,450.00	€ 1,000.00
35	Mná Beoga	Framing of Tapestry	€ 800.00	€ 600.00
36	Kildare Filipino Community	Workshop and Cultural Events	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,200.00
37	Dunmurray Rise Residence Association	Equipment	€ 1,830.32	€ 1,500.00
38	Kildare Town Community and Family Resource Centre	Sensory Equipment	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,500.00
39	Young at hearts	Community Event for Elderly	€ 1,002.29	€ 900.00
40	Newbridge Women's Shed	Workshops	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,500.00
41	Kildare Town Active Retired	Events	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,500.00
42	South Kildare Photography Club	Event	€ 420.00	€ 300.00
43	Monasterevin Community Centre CLG	Age Friendly Programme	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,500.00
44	Suncroft Community Development	Community Centre Improvements	€ 3,000.00	€ 1,000.00
45	Newbridge Christmas Lights Committee	Christmas Lights	€ 24,000.00	€ 24,000.00
			Total for Approval	€ 69,000.00
			Budget	€ 65,000.00



Newbridge Kildare Municipal District Festival Grants 2025				
No	Group Name	Project	Grant Requested	Grant Proposed
1	Curragh Family Resource Centre	Community Day	€ 1,500.00	€ 800.00
2	Bishopsland Awareness Committee	40th Anniversary Celebration	€ 1,500.00	€ 1,400.00
3	Brannockstown Community Committee	Christmas Event	€ 160.00	€ 150.00
4	Clongorey and District Association	Equipment for Community Events	€ 2,000.00	€ 500.00
5	Kildare United Indians for Social Harmony & Integration	Community Events	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
6	Milltown	Community Festival	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,400.00
7	Old Kilcullen Area Community Association	Community Picnic	€ 802.20	€ 650.00
8	Kilcullen Town Promoters	Christmas Event	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,500.00
9	Kildare Drama Festival	Drama Festival	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
10	Kildare Town Community Garden	Annual Community Garden Event	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,800.00
11	The Liffey Choir	Summer Concert	€ 1,485.32	€ 1,200.00
12	Rathangan Annual Drama Festival	Drama Festival	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
13	Newbridge Malayali Association	Events	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,200.00
14	Kilcullen Community Action	Fairy Trail Event	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,500.00
15	Monasterevin Hopkins Society	Festival Opening & Art Exhibition	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
16	Kildare Traveller Action	Traditional Fare Day	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,200.00
17	Feile Bride Festival Committee	Feile Bhride	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
18	Kildare Filipino Community	Dancing and Drumming Events	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,300.00
19	Dunmurray Rise Residence Association	Multicultural Event	€ 1,000.00	€ 900.00
20	Monasterevin CLG	Barrow Bluebell Event	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
21	Monasterevin CLG	Halloween Event	€ 2,000.00	€ 1,000.00
22	South Kildare Photography Club	Photography Event	€ 600.00	€ 500.00
			Total for Approval	€ 23,000.00
			Budget	€ 15,000.00
			LPT 2024	€ 8,000.00

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor Pender and agreed by all members present that the Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards for 2025 be approved and the report be noted.

The meeting concluded.