



**Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District
held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 17 September 2025
in the Council Chamber**

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

Online: Councillor R Power

Officials Present: Ms E Hanlon (District Manager), Mr Mark McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Ms B Cuddy (Municipal District Engineer), Ms L Kirwan (Project Manager), Ms M Dempsey (A/Administrative Officer), Ms S Farrar (Administrative Officer), Mr L McNeela (Senior Executive Engineer), Ms M McCarthy (Administrative Officer), Ms M Richardson (Meetings Administrator), Ms KA O'Brien (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

KN01/0925

Declarations of Interest

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

- Councillor Balfe declared a conflict of interest regarding Item 4
- Councillor Connolly declared a conflict of interest regarding Item 34 as his aunt and uncle were the original owners of this estate.

KN02/0925

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the annual and monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 16 July 2025 and the progress report was noted.

Resolved: on the proposal of Councillor P O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor Connolly and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the annual and monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 16 July 2025 be taken as read and the progress report be noted.

KN03/0925

Municipal District Road Works

The members received an update on the Municipal District Road Works

Road Resurfacing Works:

Restoration improvement works:

- Works now complete in Cut Bush

Restoration Maintenance:

Works now complete in:

- Kilmoney Cross to Rathangan
- Line Marking and sweeping will continue over the coming weeks

LIS Schemes:

Works now complete at:

- Lackagh
- Derryleagh

Rathangan Area:

Pothole Repair: Blacktrench, Ressurexit, Milltown, Ellistown

Planning Patching Works: R401. L3003, Kilmoney, Feighcullen R419 St Patrick's school plus, resetting of gullies, Ard Mhuire, Monasterevin Road and Tully Lost.

Verge Cutting: Lullymore, Carty Cross, Yellow Lough

Street cleaning, Litter Picking,

Path Sweeping, Bins all on a weekly basis.

Kilcullen Area:

Pothole repairs: Ladytown, Green Avenue, Newlands, New Abbey Kilcullen.

Grass cutting: Yellow Bog Lane, Old Kilcullen, Milemill - Kilcullen, Corbally, Caragh, Castlekealy, Sunnyhill, Kilcullen –Kinneagh Cross, Green Avenue, Knockbounce- Milemill

Watercuts: Various Locations

Gully Cleaning: Brannockstown, Knockbouce, Kilcullen.

Footpath repairs: Caragh View, Caragh, Hermitage Park Kilcullen

Road signage: Brannockstown, Kennel Building.

Newbridge Area:

Works done do not include our day-to-day litter picking emptying bins clearing of lanes and general maintenance of Newbridge Town and also small villages around Newbridge.

Patcher Works: Pollardstown, Brownstown to Maddenstown, Suncroft, Ring of Roseberry, Lumville to Curragh Golf Course, Martinstown.

Grassverge Cutting: Athgarvan, Kinneagh, Ring of Roseberry, Newbridge Golf Course Road, Barrettstown Road, Halting Site, Morrinstown Road, From Pfizer to Borada Stud.

Pothole Repair: Entrance to White Water, Cedarwood.

Bollards/Poles: Replaced Bollard Ryston Ave, 2 pole and sign replacements Walshestown, new bollards outside Athgarvan School, new pole and signs The Meadows, Replaced T-Junction sign Redlane, Replaced Stop Sign and Pole Curragh. Replaced Bollard Athgarvan "pink house".

Drainage Works: New gully pot and lid connected into main storm water system, Brownstown new gully and soakhole for surface water problem, Carna open drains cleared and repairs to existing gullies -New pipe connection between gullies.

New gullies pot and lid and connected to storm water system was done at Walshestown vets.

Over Hanging Trees on Public Footpath: Liffeyhall, Sexes Bridge.

McGuinness Jetting: Pollardstown, Brownstown, Curragh Racecourse, Athgarvan cattle grid, Main Street Newbridge, Eyre Street, Suncroft Carna, Athgarvan Road, Curragh Grange, Green Road, Rowan Terrace to College Farm.

Scabbling Works: The Oaks, Liffey Mill Athgarvan, Curragh View, Curragh Downs, Scabbled Drop Kerb at Newbridge Silverware.

Trip Hazards: Market Square, Eyre Street.

Footpath Repair: Eyrefield Athgarvan.

Yard Works: New concrete Bays for Charging Points in Newbridge Depot for EV.

Cutting around signs: Moorefield Road, Barrettstown Road, All junctions Pollardstown, Walshestown Road, Kilbelin, Station Road, Walshestown Road “Top End”, L6080 “Kilsaran Quarry” Road, College Farm, Lakeside, Liffey Hall, Roseberry, Red Lane.

Town Works: Cleaning benches that were vandalised Market Square, Sexes Bridge Clean up, clearing out Pollardstown yard, power washed Curragh Racecourse roundabout, fixed and repainted all table/chairs on Newbridge Main Street, repaired kerbs College Farm, moved pole from road edge Main Street Newbridge for the footpath sweeper access, clearing back weeds from pedestrian rails and footpath Roseberry.

Kildare Area:

Bollards installed at Supervalu Monasterevin

Hedges cut: Passlands, Bishopsland, Rossgloss Ave, R445 Monasterevin, R445 Kildare Town, Portlaoise Road, Redhills, St Evins Park, Cherryville Cross, Mooretown, Oghill, Dunmurray Road, Green Road, Old Green Road, South Green Road, Gallaghers Cross, Rahilla, Ferns Bridge, Killagh Cross, Kildangan Rd L3010, Cherryville to Ellistown, Crossmorris, Knavinstown,

Signs: Children at play sign installed at Brocan Wood Monasterevin, Stop sign installed at the Graveyard Kildangan Road Monasterevin, Directional sign fitted on the Malitta Road at Mondello Cross, Dual language sign installed at Kildare Village, New ramp signs at Ruanbeg, New chevron signage installed at Coil bridge R445 Kildare Town, T junction signs installed at Bucket Road junction R445 Kildare Town, Stop sign installed at Rathmuck, speed limit signs installed on Bucket Road (Curragh chase) Kildare Town, concealed entrance signs fitted at Lackagh, Direction sign at Ferns Bridge Monasterevin, New signage installed at Bride Street Kildare Town,

Bollards: Bollards installed at Mahons pub Kildare Town, Green junction Bollards installed at Golf Club Rathbride, Loughlion Green, and Troytown,

Patching: Nurney Road Kildare Town, Maryville, Quinnsboro, Redhills, Rathmuck, Tully Road,

Footpath repair: Slip and trip repair on footpath at Bolands pub Kildare Town, removed broken barriers at Kildare Town community school,

Surface dressing: Nurney Road Monasterevin, Boston Hill, Allen Hill, Glanarea.

Surface dressing after care including cats eye patch removal and signage removal

Drainage works: work completed at Barraderra, and St Evins Park,

Sheep grids: cleared at Melitta Road, Rathbride, Bucket Road, Ferns Bridge.

Installed planters at CYMS Hall Kildare Town

Groundwork and landscaping Aldi Kildare Town

Footpaths were widened at Ross Gloss and Whitesland Kildare Town.

The report was noted.

KN04/0925 Residual LPT Allocations

The following Councillors nominated for LPT allocations:

- **Councillor Doyle proposes to allocate**

- €3,800 to Kildare Town Halloween project.

- **Councillors Duffy and Balfe propose to allocate**

- €3,000 to the Parks Department for provision of sensory boards in Monasterevin Playground.

Councillor Balfe stepped out of the meeting for this item due to the conflict of interest.

- **Councillor Duffy proposes to allocate**

- €3,800 for the 14th Kildare Monasterevin Scout Group
- €1,000 to Kildare Sports Partnership for kayaking equipment and training in Monasterevin.
- €500 retained LPT to Monasterevin Community Centre

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

KN05/0925

Sustainable Transport

The members received an update from the Senior Engineer of the Sustainable Transport Section.

Mr. D Hodgins set out the policy context of Sustainable Transport, including reference to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) relating to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all and the integration of climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning in this area. Topics in the comprehensive update included: Public Transport Initiatives, Strategic Park and Ride, Bus Stop Enhancement Programme, Road Safety, School Wardens, Public Lighting, EV Charging Network Strategy and Implementation, Forward Planning Initiatives, Intelligent Transport Systems and Active Travel Programme.

The Mayor informed the members that there was an extensive agenda to get through and would be happy for the members to put forward some question but would like if the members could contact Mr D Hodgins directly with any other concerns.

The members raised the following:

- Reality was rural Ireland was not suitable for walking.
- A footpath of 2 meters wide was not viable in rural areas and also restricted by electricity poles.
- Smaller buses were needed for rural towns as coaches were too big to be pulling in in rural towns.
- Applauded the objective but wondered was there statistics on whether active travel changed after works had been done or had it changed peoples thinking.
- It was good to see engagement with Local Link
- The allocation from NTA, how much of this has been allocated to Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District.
- Concerned the NTA focus was on low-cost high impact works rather than looking at the bigger picture.



- Roads and pathways safer which could be causing speeding due to roads being in good conditions, could funding be considered for driver education or traffic calming regarding speed.
- Temporary cycle lanes were installed in Newbridge Town and were not being used.
- It was felt that there was a huge information deficit to the public and people needed to be brought on board.

Mr D Hodgins informed the members that he would be available anytime to discuss any other concerns/queries. He said the members and the department needed to work together to deliver.

KN06/0925

Kennycourt Junction, Brannockstown

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

That the council assesses if the Kennycourt Junction, Brannockstown could be listed as part of the junction upgrades programme for 2026.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that Kildare County Council prioritises junction upgrades based on locations of interest identified by the Department of Transport Support Office (DTSO) in their Regional and Local Road Network Safety Analysis. This location is not included in the latest analysis and is unlikely to receive funding for any upgrades.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that this was an old junction that had not been upgraded. She said that the traffic volume and the size of machinery was changing. Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that there had been three accidents from April to September this year involving drivers coming from the Dunlavin side. She said that there was a stone wall that had been destroyed in a private homeowner's garden. Ms T O'Dwyer said she felt it was the lack of awareness of the bend on this junction which was causing the accidents. She asked how this junction could become a location of interest for an upgrade. Mr M McLoughlin informed the

members that locations of interest were identified by the Department of Transport Support Office (DTSO) in consultation with An Garda Síochána. Councillor T O'Dwyer queried if accidents have to be reported to An Garda Síochána in considering the matter and if councillors could report on these accidents having taken place. Mr McLoughlin informed the members the department can only work with the information they have.

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

KN07/0925

Boardwalks on St. Conleth's Bridge

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

That the council considers progressing a scheme to upgrade the boardwalks on St. Conleth's Bridge, Newbridge.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that Kildare County Council has inspected these board works recently and will progress an upgrade scheme in due course when funding and resources allow.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that the bridge was modernised in 2006 with boardwalk but in the last 20 years it had not been upgraded. She said there was surface damage and not comfortable to walk on with holes in the wood. Councillor Pender informed the members that there was a number of incidents of trips due to the holes in the wood. He said the boardwalk was used by children walking to school. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that the department was prioritising this boardwalk in the Capital Programme. Councillor P O'Dwyer requested the hole be fixed in the interim.

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

KN08/0925

Henry Lane, Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
That the council explores the possibility of making Henry Lane, Newbridge a one-way shared space traffic system.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) proposes the closure of several streets linking Main Street and Eyre Street to car traffic and making Eyre Street one-way while still allowing pedestrian and local access. This can be extended to include the proposed changes to Henry Lane. Currently, however, there is no funding or resources in place to deliver this scheme.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that this laneway had 14 homes, 5 businesses and drivers were using it as a rat run. She asked that this request be considered as the residents were agreeable to this being made a one-way shared space traffic system. She asked what kind of resources were needed. Councillor Heavey informed the members that he did not see the expenses to deliver this as he asked how much a few signs would cost to make this happen. Councillor Doyle informed the members that this could be an area where funding through active travel could be used. She said that preparatory work needed to be done.

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

KN09/0925

Elm Park, Kildare Town

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Doyle
That the council includes surface overlay in Elm Park, Kildare Town on the roads programme of works for 2026.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer agrees to include this work for consideration in the 2026 Roads Programme. The 2025 budget is fully expended.

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

KN10/0925
L7033 at Brownstown Stud

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Duffy
That the council undertakes works to improve road L7033 at Brownstown Stud (details provided) to alleviate ongoing issues with flooding.

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 the Municipal District Engineer agrees to include this work for consideration in the 2026 Roads Programme. The budget has been fully expended for 2025. The Municipal District Engineer also agrees to include this location in routine maintenance, i.e. opening some water cuts in the area to alleviate flooding in the short term.

Councillor Duffy asked if general maintenance could be looked at for this area in the short term.

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

KN11/0925
Farrell's Cross, Suncroft

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Duffy
That the council cuts back the overgrown trees at Farrell's Cross, Suncroft which are impeding on an adjacent street light reducing safety at the crossroads.

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 an assessment of the trees in the area will be made, and appropriate works will be carried out.

Councillor Duffy informed the members that this junction was heavily used, and it needed to be illuminated to help make this junction safe.

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

KN12/0925
Canal Harbour Road, Monasterevin

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

That the council, in response to residents' concerns about excessive speed and near misses on Canal Harbour Road, Monasterevin, agrees to review traffic conditions on this road and to bring forward appropriate traffic calming measures as a matter of urgency.

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 Municipal District Engineer agrees to include this location for technical assessment; it should be noted that this is an extensive list with no budget available for any proposed works.

Councillor Balfe informed the members that residents had concerns about this road, and he understood that driver's behaviour did come into play. He said he would encourage the residents to engage with An Garda Síochána.

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

KN13/0925

Great Connell Road, Newbridge

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

Go ndéanfadh an Chomhairle athbhreithniú ar luas agus ar mhéid na tráchtta feadh Bhóthar an Connail Mór i nDroichead Nua chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an méadú suntasach ar mhéid agus ar luas na tráchtta, go háirithe trácht feithiclí tráchtála, agus go ndéanfaidís na comharthaí aiseolais luais digiteacha nach bhfuil ag feidhmiú a thuilleadh a dheisiú go práinneach.

That the council reviews the traffic speed and volume along the Great Connell Road in Newbridge to address the significant uplift in traffic volume and speed, particularly commercial vehicle traffic, and that they urgently repair the digital speed feedback signs that are no longer operational.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer has agreed to review the location in question with a view to preparing a set of drawings for proposed footpath upgrade works. However, it should be noted that there is currently no funding allocated for these works within the 2025 budget.

A quotation in the region of €8,000 has been received for the upgrade of the existing speed feedback signs. However, there is currently no budget available to proceed with the purchase of new signs at this time.

Councillor Connolly informed the members that he had recently talked to someone in Leixlip who was telling him there was the same problem with the speed feedback signs on Captains Hill being out of order all the time. He asked if there was a central funded scheme for feedback signs and was this an issue in general with all these signs. The District Engineer informed the members that this could be looked at through LPT funding, but the signs were expensive to maintain.

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

KN14/0925

Cherryville and Crossmorris Junctions

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

Go mbreithneodh an Chomhairle ar shuiteáil colbhaí nó beart oiriúnach éigin eile chun creimeadh a chosc ar imill an bhóthair ag aomhail Baile na Silíní agus Cros Mhuiris.

That the council considers the installation of kerbing or some other suitable measure to prevent the erosion at the edges of the road at the Cherryville and Crossmorris Junctions, Kildare.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the 2025 budget has been fully allocated, and as such, there is no funding available for works at this location at present.

Councillor Connolly informed the members that there was a safety issue here and signs had been hit because of the hole in the ground. He said he would send the pictures to the District Engineer to have a look at.

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

KN15/0925

Brownstown, the Curragh

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

That the council reviews the busy junction at Brownstown, the Curragh with a view to installing traffic lights.

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 Kildare County Council prioritises junction upgrades based on locations of interest identified by the Department of Transport Support Office (DTSO) in their Regional and Local Road Network Safety Analysis and are currently working on ten locations. This location is included in the latest analysis

and can be considered for future funding interventions as additional junctions are added to the Junction Upgrade Programme.

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

KN16/0925
Athgarvan

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
That the council prioritises two ongoing projects in Athgarvan, the road widening upgrades and the push button pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that Kildare County Council do not currently have sufficient resources to progress the road improvement scheme in Athgarvan in the short term. Kildare County Council will continue to work with the relevant developers to upgrade the pedestrian crossing.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that Athgarvan was on the Capital Programme in excess of ten years, and it was two years since the members were told the road in Athgarvan would be widened and funding was in place but there was still no progression. She said this was why the public were losing faith in the County Council. She asked how the council expected the members to support Active Travel when nothing was happening and asked why staff were leaving.

The members raised the following points:

- Keep been told that projects are ready to go but never seem to be going anywhere
- It was exasperating
- The members kept having numerous conversations about this project, but it was always getting pushed back this was not good enough.

Mr M McLoughlin informed the members it was still a priority project, and he would come back to the members with a timeline. He said the turnover of staff was not just a Kildare County Council issue, it was happening all over the country.

Councillor T O'Dwyer advised that housing estates were continuing to be built in Athgarvan with no infrastructure, and this had been a key project of the Athgarvan Masterplan.

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

KN17/0925
Public Lighting, Roseberry

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heavey
That the council communicates to the responsible authority, the unacceptable timeline for repair/replacement of public lighting on roads and housing estates around Roseberry, Newbridge with a view to having this matter rectified within a month.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that if the members are agreeable the council will write to the Electricity Supply Board Networks (ESBN) with regard to this matter. However, it should be noted that extensive discussions are continuing to take place between the council, our maintenance contractor and ESBN regarding the necessary works to ensure the fault is repaired.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that the lights in this area were gone since November. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that there was a temporary repair made but did not work and the department are in constant contact with the ESBN.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Heavey, seconded by Councillor Pender and agreed by all members present that the council would write to the Electricity Supply Board Networks with regard to this matter and the report be noted.

KN18/0925
School Warden, Caragh School

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heavey
That, following representations on behalf of school management in relation to safety issues at Caragh School, the council considers a request for a School Warden.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that if the details of the representation can be forwarded to the Sustainable Transport Section, then the matter can be considered and a response issued.

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

KN19/0925
Street Lighting Caragh

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Power
That the council examines the installation of street lighting between Caragh playground and Caragh Open Farm to enhance visibility and safety on the public path on this entrance to the village.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that All requests for new public lighting must be submitted through the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Scheme (KLIPS). Upon receipt, the Public Lighting Team will evaluate the request and record it in the KLIPS register.

To ensure accurate assessment, each submission must include a location map clearly highlighting the area of concern. Requests will be ranked based on the KLIPS prioritisation criteria.

Projects will proceed to implementation in order of priority and subject to the availability of resources. Please note that, at present, no funding has been allocated for this work.



Councillor Power informed the members that he would ask going forward that when a notice of motion was put forward like this motion that it would create an application to the KLIPS system and not having to do this separately. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that the department was looking at reviewing the KLIPS system.

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

KN20/0925
Railway Bridge in Caragh

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Power
That the council makes preparatory plans to widen the footpath at the railway bridge in Caragh so that if Irish Rail seek to undertake any works at that location, that our vision for safety enhancements on this route can be included.

This motion fell as Councillor Power had left the meeting.

KN21/0925
Parking Byelaws in Kildare Town

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Doyle
Can the council provide a progress report on the review of parking byelaws in Kildare Town?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Transportation Section is currently working on finalising a Draft Parking Bye-Law for Kildare Town.

The report was noted.

KN22/0925

Speed Ramps in Residential Estates

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

Can the council outline the process and criteria for the installation of speed ramps in residential estates in this municipal district that are in the charge of the council, and confirm what steps residents should take in order to have such a request formally considered, including clarification on whether residents may directly fund or contribute to the cost of such ramps where council resources are not immediately available?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that a copy of the Traffic Calming Guidance Policy is attached for reference.

Councillor Balfe asked for clarification if residents of estates could fund or contribute to installing ramps. The District Engineer informed the members that the first part was a technical examination and then the next stage would be to see what was required but discussion could be had with residents regarding funding. She said ramps could be in the region of €10-12 thousand euro. The District Engineer said there were many steps to installing ramps such as engineer report, drainage and technical assessment.

The report was noted.

KN23/0925

Lighting Upgrade to Gurtenoona, Athy Road, Monasterevin

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

Can the council provide an update on the status of the proposed lighting upgrade to Gurtenoona, Athy Road, Monasterevin, which was added to the KLIPS register in February of this year (KCC-202384), to include clarification on the anticipated timeline for delivery, any progress made to date, and whether there are any issues delaying the scheme?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the request has been formally recorded on the KLIPS register and evaluated in accordance with the KLIPS

criteria. A quotation was obtained for the proposed works, with the estimated cost being €18,062 (including VAT). The applicable VAT rate is 13.5%.

Please note that additional public lighting requests are considered based on their KLIPS ranking and the availability of funding. At present, no funding is available for these works.

The report was noted.

KN24/0925 Infrastructure Projects

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Connolly
An féidir leis an gComhairle liosta de thionscadail bhonneagair sa cheantar bardasach seo a sholáthar, lena n-áirítear, ach gan a bheith teoranta dóibh, soilse tráchta atá moillithe mar gheall ar iad a bheith ag fanacht le nasc leictreachais, lena n-áirítear cé chomh fada is atá gach tionscadal moillithe.

Can the council provide a list of infrastructure projects in this municipal district including but not limited to traffic lights that are delayed due to them awaiting an electricity connection, including for how long each project is delayed?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that there are no traffic signals proposed by the Sustainable Transport Section awaiting Electricity Supply Board Networks (ESBN) connections in this Municipal District.

There are no Roads Capital and Planning Projects currently awaiting an ESNB connection in this Municipal District.

Councillor Connolly asked for clarification on why Spencer Bridge and the Canal Bridge did not feature on the list from a previous motion. Mr D Hodgins informed the members that he would enquire and revert with the information.

The report was noted.

KN25/0925
Victoria Bridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heavey
Can the council outline when and what safety improvement measures are being considered to be put in place for the road from Rathangan to Naas in the vicinity of Victoria Bridge?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that Kildare County Council has commissioned a feasibility report to explore options to widen the Mill Race Bridge. This report is currently under review, and it is hoped to progress this project as soon as discussions with the adjoining landowners take place.

The report was noted.

The District Manager took a moment to congratulate the District Engineer Ms B Cuddy on her new role in Laois County Council and said she would be missed terribly.

The members also echoed good wishes to Ms B Cuddy saying that she was a very trustworthy, professional, competent, straight talker and was a pleasure to work with and would be sadly missed.

Ms B Cuddy thanked the members for their lovely comments and said that she loved her years with Kildare County Council.

KN26/0925
Linear Park and Playground Riverside Development in Kilcullen

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if they are taking in charge the new Linear Park and Playground created in the new Riverside development in Kilcullen?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that there is no objection in principle, to taking in charge this open space and playground, this is subject to the

developer completing the space to the standards required in his planning permission, and resources being identified to maintain it.

The report was noted.

KN27/0925
Play Areas in Newbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Pender
Can the council provide an update on the delivery of planned play areas in Newbridge, including timelines and locations, and advise if any delays or issues have arisen?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that preliminary work on the preparation of a master plan for Lakeside Park is underway. This will identify an appropriate site in Lakeside for a playground as well as other amenities. A questionnaire will be issued in the next few weeks to ascertain the public's opinion and what amenities they would like to see developed in this space; this information will be used to inform the design.

Initial work on development of Moorefield Park has commenced, delays re tendering are due to other projects that have already commenced, we hope to have this tendered by the end of this year.

The report was noted.

KN28/0925
Library and Riverbank Projects

The members received an update from Strategic Projects and Public Realm on the Newbridge Library and Riverbank projects.

Ms L Kirwan informed the members of the following:

Newbridge Library:

The project is progressing well. Detailed design is very nearly complete. We plan to go out to tender for the Contractor in Q4 2025. Expected start date is March 2026. Construction period uncertain but it will likely be complete by the end of 2027.

Riverbank Theatre:

Draft business case being finalised. Hope to go to Part 8 soon. No funding identified yet.

The members raised the following points:

- Were conscious of the series of works that would be happening and how this would impact the Riverbank staff and events, would they be staying on site.
- Could the vision be modified and looked at regarding funding?
- Had the Library staff and Archives been moved?

Ms L Kirwan raised the following points:

- A plan was in place for the Riverbank, they would be offsite for the first 6 months as this was when the heavy construction would be happening and then would hope they would be back in the building after that as noise would not be impacting then.
- There were three different options put forward for the Business Plan with 11 different objectives.
- The library and staff would be moving to Liffey Lodge as a temporary premises while works are happening
- The Archives had been moved to the old Naas Library at Naas Harbour.

KN29/0925 Curragh Plains Conservation Management Plan

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillors Pender and Balfe
That the council calls for the full and timely implementation of the Curragh Plains Conservation Management Plan, and that the council writes to the Department of Defence and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage seeking clarity on timelines, dedicated funding, and enforcement measures to protect the Curragh Plains from further damage and to ensure its long-term conservation.

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

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that The Curragh Plains Conservation Management Plan was submitted to the Tanaiste and Minister for Defence, Micháel Martin, for consideration towards the end of last year. In December 2024 the Tanaiste approved the publication of the document. To progress the implementation of the Plan by central Government, legislative amendments are required; funding and resource allocations need to be prioritised, and the structure of the organisation(s) tasked with the future management of the Curragh Plains will also need to be identified. Page 57 of the Programme for Government 2025 includes reference to the Plan stating:

This Government will:

- Implement a Conservation Plan for the Curragh, establishing a management plan to ensure its preservation, with careful consideration of which agency is best suited to manage this historic landscape.

With the members agreement, a letter can issue to the relevant Departments seeking clarification on the points raised in this motion.

Councillors Pender and Balfe informed the members that they did not want to see this fall by the wayside and needed to keep this as a priority. The Curragh Plains was a unique landscape and did not want to see it deteriorate. It was a fantastic amenity and the sooner the better the implementation of the Curragh Plains Conservation Management Plan was put in place.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Balfe and agreed by all members present that a letter be issued to the relevant departments seeking clarity on timelines, dedicated funding, and enforcement measures to protect the Curragh Plains from further damage and to ensure its long-term conservation and the report be noted.

KN30/0925

Vacant Housing Units and Compulsory Purchase Orders

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

That the council provides a report on all reported vacant housing units and Compulsory Purchase Orders in the Kildare–Newbridge Municipal District over the last five years, including their current status and progress in returning these properties to use.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that

Inspections:

- 165 vacant/derelict properties have been investigated in the past 5 years.

Compulsory Acquisition:

- 9 CPOs have commenced.
- 3 are complete.
- Refurbishment works have commenced on 1 of these properties and are expected to be complete in Q4 of 2025.
- 2 of the properties acquired are approved under the URDF Call 3 scheme.
- 2 CPOs were withdrawn after commitments and agreement with the owners to undertake works to bring the properties back into use.
- 4 CPOs are in progress.

Derelict Sites Register:

- 10 properties have been added to the Derelict Sites Register in the past 5 years.
- CPO has commenced on 6 of these properties.

Buy and Renew:

- 5 vacant properties have been acquired under the Buy and Renew Scheme; refurbishment works are expected to be complete by Q2 2026 for all 5 properties.
- Kildare County Council are at an advanced stage in the purchase of 1 further property.

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant:

- 101 applications have been approved for the vacant property refurbishment grant.
- 57 applicants have completed works and received their grant payment.

Repair and Leasing:

- Kildare County Council have given support for 5 units to be delivered under the repair and leasing scheme.

Councillor Pender asked if the URDF properties were commercial or vacant and was there space to sell them on. Ms S Farrar informed the members that the CPO's were all at different stages.



The URDF properties were purchased to sell them on, with more than likely bottom being commercial and private on top but not for social housing. She said she would talk to the team on this.

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

KN31/0925
Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer
Can the council confirm if there are any plans to replace the street furniture outside the Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge?

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the street furniture referred to in the question were installed during Covid with a view to replacing them with more permanent structures, subject to funding availability. SPPR are aware that works have been carried out over time by the Municipal District office to extend the life of the furniture which is no longer viable. SPPR have procured two benches for the area providing more permanent seating. They are expected to be installed in the coming months

Councillor P O'Dwyer asked when the two benches were being installed if they could liaise with her and she presumed the benches are universal to all.

The report was noted.

KN32/0925
O'Modhrán Hall

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Pender
Can the council provide an update on the progress of the Compulsory Purchase Order for O'Modhrán Hall in Newbridge, and advise if any delays or issues have arisen?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Compulsory Acquisition of Ó Modhráin Hall, Newbridge is now complete.

The Vesting date for the property title to transfer to Kildare County Council was 03 September 2025. The Town Regeneration Team are awaiting confirmation of title transfer from Tailte Éireann.

Councillor Pender asked for clarification if this property was one of the URDF funded properties. Ms S Farrar informed the members that this was one of the URDF's and the intention would be to have commercial on the bottom and private on top.

The report was noted.

KN33/0925
Sophia Development

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

Can the council provide an updated timeframe for the Sophia Development of St. James' Convent in Rathangan.

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the project has received Part 8 approval, and the construction tender process is ongoing.

The report was noted.

KN34/0925
Moorhill Wood Estate, Brannockstown

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

Can the council confirm the total amount paid to waste companies for the removal of sewage from Moorhill Wood Estate, Brannockstown since the service commenced to date and confirm if this expenditure can be recouped from Uisce Éireann.

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Department informing the Moorhill Woods is a legacy estate where there is a requirement for capital investment / works to

repair the Developer Provided Water Services Infrastructure (DPI) in advance of the estate being taken in charge by Kildare County Council. DPI is a category of housing estate served by standalone water services infrastructure, provided by the developer of the estate. There are over 450 of these estates nationally and to date they have not been taken-in-charge due to issues with the water services infrastructure including, in general terms, the water services network not being connected to the public (Uisce Éireann) network or requiring remediation. From 1 January 2024 however, Uisce Éireann, as the national water authority, has been assigned responsibility for the remediation of DPI infrastructure. This followed a government decision in late 2023.

Since 2013, €117,000 has been paid for wastewater tankering services from Moorhill Woods. Kildare County Council has recouped significant expenditure incurred relating to remedial works undertaken on water and wastewater infrastructure in estates prior to them being Taken in Charge. However, in relation to Moorhill Woods, it is unclear as of yet whether the expenditure relating to the DPI can be recouped.

members that

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked if the Legacy Team from Uisce Éireann could be requested to attend the Uisce Eireann Workshop that would be happening before Full Council meeting in October. Mr L McNeela informed the members that up to December 2023 the Memo of Understanding with Uisce Éireann excluded Developer Provided Water Services Infrastructure (DPI) estates, but this had changed in January 2024 and now the responsibility lay with Uisce Eireann. The District Manager informed the members that a request would be made to Uisce Éireann for the Legacy Team to attend the workshop on the 20 October 2025

The report was noted.

KN35/0925
Mountrice Park Estate

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

Can the council provide an update on the taking in charge of Mountrice Park Estate, Mountrice?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Department informing the members that Mountrice Park is considered to be a legacy estate as the developer is no longer active. A Taking in Charge (TIC) request was received in 2023 to date, the TIC process for this estate has not advanced. Development Control are working to progress the TIC of legacy estates on a priority basis largely relating to the date of receipt of the TIC request. This work is also dependent on staff resourcing.

Councillor Duffy asked for clarification on a timeline or indication when this would be looked at. Mr L McNeela informed the members that this was a legacy project and there was a lack of resources at the moment. He said they were progressing with the legacy estates and were on 2001 at the moment. Mr L McNeela informed Councillor Duffy he would have to come back to him on this.

The report was noted.

KN36/0925
Fire Station for Monasterevin

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

An féidir leis an gComhairle nuashonrú a thabhairt ar an dul chun cinn atá á dhéanamh chun Stáisiún Dóiteáin nua a sholáthar do Mhainistir Eimhín?

Can the council provide an update on the progress being made to provide a new Fire Station for Monasterevin?

A report was received from the Fire Service Department informing the members that the fire service has sourced a new site for a new fire station in Monasterevin. The site is located on the Dublin Road, near to the location of a previously agreed site. We will shortly engage the services of an independent valuer and solicitor to progress this purchase.

The fire service has also written to the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management requesting to be considered for inclusion on the next round of capital funding.

The report was noted.

KN37/0925
County Development Plan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Power
Can the council outline what plans are in place to achieve the objective in our county development plan (REA3) to "Develop a strategy for the lands between the settlements of Naas and Newbridge, to consolidate existing development whilst also preventing the coalescence of these settlements."

This question fell as Councillor Power had left the meeting.

KN38/0925
Department of Defence and Curragh Racecourse

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Doyle
That the council requests The Department of Defence and Curragh Racecourse to put in place signage in relevant locations on The Curragh, requiring dogs to be under control and on a leash.

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

A report was received from Corporate Services Department informing the members that this is a matter for the members to agree.

The members agreed to write to The Department of Defence and Curragh Racecourse with the amended wording removing the words "and on a leash"

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor T O'Dwyer and agreed by all members present the members write to The Department of Defence and Curragh Racecourse to put in place signage in relevant locations on The Curragh, requiring dogs to be under control and that the report be noted.



KN39/0925

Columbarium Structure in St Conleth's Cemetery, Newbridge

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

Can the council provide an update on the installation of the columbarium structure in St Conleth's Cemetery, Newbridge?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Columbarium Wall at St. Conleth's Cemetery Newbridge has been completed since March 2025 and is available for use.

The report was noted.

KN40/0925

Digital Information Board Signage

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

Can the council provide a progress report on delivery of a digital information board signage in this municipal district with details on costings, in order to have it considered for inclusion in the budget?

A report was received from the Director of Services, People and Property Management informing the members that this matter was referred to the Community, Culture and Integration SPC for consideration and is on their work programme to advance. Contact has been made with a number of companies in order to scope out the feasibility, supporting infrastructure and technology, vandal proofing, costs for installation, operation and ongoing maintenance. When the information is collated and the report finalised the information will be shared with the members and the SPC.

The report was noted.



KN41/0925
New Youth Facility at Liffey Terrace

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Heavey
Can the council outline what governance model is being considered for the proposed new youth facility at Liffey Terrace, Newbridge?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that at present assessments of the building and site are ongoing, including more detailed technical reports, that will in turn inform design.

In addition, consultation with youth organisations, some of whom have visited the site, remains ongoing.

Until such time as this consultation concludes, and also the assessments and design options are clarified and advanced, it would be premature to be definitive about any governance model.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.