



**Minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District**  
**held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 18 June 2025**  
**in the Council Chamber**

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

**Apologies:** Councillor T McDonnell

**Officials Present:** Ms E Hanlon (District Manager), Mr Mark McLoughlin (Senior Executive Officer), Mr R Harte (Executive Engineer), Ms Pamela Pender (Senior Executive Officer), Ms S Farrar (Administrative Officer), Ms C Talbot (Administrative Officer), Ms C Whelan (Staff Officer), Ms Paula O'Brien (Senior Executive Officer), Ms L Morgan (Meetings Administrator), Ms KA O'Brien (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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**KN01/0625**  
**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.

**KN02/0625**  
**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 21 May 2025 and the progress report was noted.

Councillor Pender queried why there has been no update on the progress report regarding the car park at the Town Hall, Newbridge. He said this needed to be progressed.

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**Resolved:** on the proposal of Councillor T O'Dwyer, seconded by Councillor Duffy and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting held on 21 May 2025 be taken as read and the progress report be noted.

**KN03/0625**  
**Municipal District Road Works**

The members received an update on the Municipal District Road Works

**Road Resurfacing Works:**

**Restoration Improvement Works:**

**Works completed at the following locations:**

- Bridge Street. Rathangan
- Ryston, Newbridge
- R445 Newbridge (with exception of Cats Eyes)
- Grey Abbey Road. Kildare
- Ballyfair, Cutbush
- Chapel Lane, Newbridge
- Canal Harbour, Monasterevin

**Restoration Maintenance:**

**Kildare Newbridge Municipal District works to commence on Monday 16 June**

**National Transport Authority (NTA):**

Works are ongoing at St. Bridgid's School and surrounding areas in Kildare Town, works due for completion in the next few weeks.

**Local Property Tax (LPT):**

Footpath works complete in Kilcullen.

**Kildare**

**Footpath repair:** The Plains (big job)

**Pothole repair:** completed along Canal Harbour.

**Hedge cutting:** Assumpta Villas, Ballykelly Cross, Ball Alley, Monasterevin,  
Brocan Wood, Hazel Hotel, Nags Head to Fitzpatrick Garage, Coole, Clogheen,



Old Port Road, Ferns Bridge, Saint Evins Park, Baraderra, Lackagh, Red Hills, Hybla and Duneany Cross.

**Sign Removal:** Kildare Village and Supervalu, Kildare Town.

**Signs Installed:** Kildare Chilling and Farm Brooke Glebe.

### **Preparation works for surface dressing.**

#### **Rathangan**

**Pothole repair:** Ellistown, R401 Clonbollogue, Cartys Cross and R401 Kildare Road, Clongorey, Black Trench, Ellistown, Wilsons Bridge, Newhall and Mount Pleasant.

**Road patching:** Mount Rice.

**Litter picking:** Rathangan Town Centre, Schools and Yellow Lough.

**Footpaths and Roads Sweeping:** Rathangan and Milltown

**Cleaning signs:** Lullymore and L3003.

**Water cuts:** Feighcullen to Wheelams Cross, Rathangan and Yellow Lough.

**Clearing an area in Rathangan yard for installation of Ev chargers.**

**Grass cutting:** Black Trench at junctions.

**Signage Repair:** Boston Hill.

**Mc Guinness gully cleaning:** Yellow Lough, Milltown and Rathangan.

Glebe Court, Saint Patrick's School, Hawkfield and Scarletstown.

**Road edge repair:** for surface dressing at Feighcullen to Lock 22.

#### **Newbridge**

**General works:** litter picking, emptying bins, clearing of lanes and general maintenance of Newbridge Town and small villages around the Newbridge.

**Potholes:** Athgarvan, GAA Gound Newbridge (exit side on to main street), Ring of Roseberry, Eyre Street (speed ramp repairs), Eyre Field Road and Athgarvan -R413.

**Footpath Repairs:** Liffey Bridge, Moorefield Road and Roseberry Hill.

**Patcher Unit:** Athgarvan to Walshestown, Martinstown, Cutbush and Military Road.

**Hedgecutting:** hedges cut back on public footpath Moorefield Road "Finley's old garage"



**Road Repairs:** Curragh McDonagh P&P cattle grid, the Newbridge side approach and exit from ramp repairs, Lurg Lane Road repairs and sealing joints.

**Poles and signs:** Concealed entrance pole and sign Athgarvan Roselawn Farm, sign replacement R416 Athgarvan Road.

**Watercuts:** Rosetown.

**Drainage Works:** New drain dug, and soak hole created along road edge at Lurg Lane, cleaned out drain on Great Connell,

**McGuinness jetting:** Root cutting at Liffey Hall on part of drainage system.

**Grass verge cutting:** Great Connell, Barretstown Road, Red Lane, Harbour Road, Baroda, Ballymany R445, Curragh Chase, R445 "Old Kildare Road", Morristown Cross/Road, Athgarvan to Rosetown.

**Bollard Replacement:** Dara Park.

## **Kilcullen**

**Pothole Repairs:** Old Carlow Road. Gormanstown, Whitehall Cross to Ballysax, Kilcullen to Milemill to Brannockstown, Mullacash to Coughlinstown, Pipers Hill to Mullacash.

**Grass Cutting:** Thompsons Cross, Whitehall Cross, Halverstown Cross, Mullacash Cross. Mylerstown Cross R448, Corbally Cross, Pipers Hill and Floods Cross.

**Footpath Repairs:** Stephenstown Lawns and Two Mile House.

The report was noted.

## **KN04/0625 Residual LPT Allocations**

The following Councillors nominated for LPT allocations:

### **Councillor Chris Pender**

- **Reallocation of €6,500 Allocated to Arts Officer – Mural Project**

Request that the €6,500 previously allocated in October 2021 from LPT to the Arts Officer for a proposed mural on the Water Tower be reallocated, or the focus of the project amended, to support a mural or street art installation in Newbridge Town Centre. A central



location would offer greater visibility, increase community engagement, and contribute positively to the town's public realm.

**Councillor Peggy O'Dwyer**

- To allocate €4820 to the Roads Department Kildare Newbridge Municipal District Office.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillors Pender and T O'Dwyer, both seconded by Councillor Power and agreed by all members present that both the above allocations be approved.

**KN05/0625**

**Certificate of Recognition**

To consider a proposal that a Certificate of Recognition be conferred under Section 74 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members she would be abstaining from the vote as she had a conflict of interest.

The Meeting Administrator informed the members that the Certificate of Recognition was for the proposed nominee Rosie Kennedy, who was 5 times World Champion in Irish Dancing. Rosie Kennedy began her first dance class with Morrissey School of Dancing in Monasterevin, at the very tender age of 3. By the age of 4 years old she had gone viral, dancing out a reel, with millions of views. She said this proposed nomination came in from Councillor Duffy. Councillor Duffy informed the members that he put forward this proposal as he felt Rosie Kennedy deserved recognition.

Councillor Duffy informed the members that the process for this was very convoluted and maybe this needed to be looked at. Councillor Pender requested that in future the details of the nominee be sent to the members in advance of the meeting. He said the process was very burdensome and was a lot of work for a small meeting and requested it be reviewed by the Protocol Committee. Councillor P O'Dwyer asked if Certificate of Recognition presentations be made at a community event instead of at a municipal district meeting.



**Resolved** Proposed by Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer and agreed by all members present with Councillor T O'Dwyer abstaining that a Certificate of Recognition be conferred under Section 74 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended be approved and to be put on the agenda for Protocol for this policy to be reviewed.

**KN06/0625**  
**Capital Programme 2025-2027**

The members considered the Capital Programme 2025-2027.

The District Manager informed the members that the Capital Programme was circulated with the agenda, and it would be this time of the year the members get to review and make inputs for the following year. She said that the Capital Programme would be presented to the members in association with the Budget in November.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that she had sent in queries and questions prior to this meeting and thanked the District Manager and staff for answering them. She said she had two items that she would like to mention:

- The Kilcullen Car Park had been identified in the Settlement Plan as critical for Kilcullen and surveys had been done but she could not see this information in the Capital Programme. She asked for Kilcullen Car Park to be listed in the future plan list.
- Kilcullen industrial Estate Road was on the list, but this was now going to be a walking /cycling route and not open to vehicles, so this needed to be reclassified in the Capital Programme as this had caused huge concerns for residents.

The members raised the following points:

- Masterplan for Lakeside Park was not listed.
- Would like a Swimming Pool for Newbridge to be listed on the Future Projects.
- Was glad to see that Newbridge Youth facilities and Newbridge Cultural Quarter were on the programme.



- The Ladytown Junction was listed on the programme but there was a substantial reduction in funding with no indication why there were changes. €400,000 put aside - what was this money being spent on and what are the plans for Ladytown?
- Suggested an annual in-committee meeting take place in advance of the Capital Programme meeting.
- Kildare County Council need to get more realistic about timelines and deliveries of projects.
- Have seen progress on projects.
- The Capital Programme was a difficult document to read.

The District Manager informed the members that the Capital Programme when compiled by each department at the point in time was the best estimate on information for projects. Each year the projects, in the Capital Programme, are reviewed and updated to allow for progress and changes in line with the current landscape. The Capital Programme for 2026-2028 will reflect the updated position. Some projects can take several years to progress. She said that projects mentioned would be considered and also members views. She informed the members that with regards to the Ladytown Junction there was insufficient funding and that there was a need to reprioritise funding to other projects. She said she would take back the questions and talk to departments.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked the District Manager if the members could be updated when funding was reallocated to other projects in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District.

### **KN07/0625** **Annual Meeting**

The Mayor proposed that the Annual Meeting for Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District be held on Wednesday 16 July at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Municipal District Meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber.

**Resolved** Agreed by all members present that the Annual Meeting for Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District be held on Wednesday 16 July at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Municipal District Meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber.



**KN08/0625**

**Section 38**

To note section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Installation of 4 New Bus Shelter at the following locations:

Bus Stop 11670, Athgarvan, Co. Kildare (South-bound)

Bus Stop 11689, Athgarvan, Co. Kildare (North-bound)

Bus Stop 132301, Maddenstown, Co Kildare (West-bound)

Bus Stop 104041, Maddenstown, Co Kildare (East-bound)

Councillor Balfe asked for clarification if there was a second bus shelter going to be installed at Brownstown. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that he would enquire about this and revert.

The report was noted.

**KN09/0625**

**Caragh Community Centre**

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

That the council considers installing public lighting towards Caragh Community Centre.

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 all requests for new public lights must go through the Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Scheme. (KLIPS). The Public Lighting team will assess this request and enter it into the KLIPS register. The request will then be ranked according to the KLIPS criteria. Projects will move to the implementation phase on a prioritised basis, subject to the availability of resources. Please note that there are no funds identified for this work at this time.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that the Caragh Community Centre was just outside Caragh Village and there was a footpath the whole way out but no lights, and this was a very busy section of the road in a rural location. Councillor Power informed the members that there were vulnerable road users using this path such as children and people with buggies. He said that there could be potential for development in years to come as Irish Rail had plans for this area and it





could be in the interest of Kildare County Council to work with them. Councillor Pender asked if the KLIPS list could be recirculated to the members. He said the order in which KLIPS was prioritised should be looked at based on the usage of the area.

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

**KN10/0625**  
**Maryville Estate**

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

That the council inspects the condition of the rear entrance driveway accesses of Maryville Estate with a view to including this on the Programme of Works.

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

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office agree to carry out inspections at requested locations; it should be noted there is no funding for these works in the 2025 Budget.

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

**KN11/0625**  
**Parking Main Street, Kilcullen**

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

That the council commences the process to introduce bye laws on Main Street, Kilcullen for the purpose of regularising parking.

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 Transport Department will consider the potential for the introduction of parking bye-laws in Kilcullen. The introduction of parking bye-laws will require the approval of the members and, if implemented, would most likely extend beyond the Main Street to reduce the impact of parking bye-laws on residential developments and amenities. There is an ongoing review of existing bye-laws to be completed which will impact on the timescale of such a process. The matter will be raised at the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Strategic Policy Committee for consideration as part of the 2025 Work Programme which includes parking policy.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that the introduction of parking bye-laws were often associated with pay parking but this was not the case for this motion; the purpose of the bye-laws for Kilcullen was to introduce a maximum of two to three hours stay parking. She said that a parking survey had been conducted for this. She informed the members that this option was looked at to encourage people to spend time in Kilcullen because at present there was no public car park in Kilcullen, so people were not stopping, and this would help with the turnover of the movement of car spaces. She said there was already a Kildare County Council warden who visited Kilcullen.

The members raised the following points:

- Pay parking should be considered as Kildare County Council budgets were tight.
- If the council are enforcing parking in the area, payment needed to be sought.
- Would parking machines still need to be installed.
- A good idea to have two to three hours free parking.

Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that this idea had merit. He said the council was looking at the bye-laws at the moment. He said with limited parking in Kilcullen it would cost more money to collect parking fees as a contractor would have to do this, but at the moment there was a warden from Kildare County Council that covered Kilcullen, and this would be more cost-effective. Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that costing had been looked at and it would not make economic sense to put in pay parking.



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

**KN12/0625**  
**Cutlery Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer  
That the council considers relocating the parking meter on Cutlery Road further up from the private car park near Penneys to avoid customers using the incorrect meters and being clamped.

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 Transport Department will review the location to see if a move is warranted or whether appropriate signage would address any issues.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that one of Kildare County Council's parking meters for Cutlery Road was located just outside the private car park behind Penneys/Costa and was causing issues for people parking in the private car park as some people were using the parking meter that was for Cutlery Road. She said that this was causing a problem for people who were not familiar with the area.

The members raised the following points:

- It would be a practical solution just to move the meter.
- A lot of people getting caught as the meter is located right beside the pedestrian entrance and when people see the one in the car park being used, they would automatically find another one close by.
- Clear delineation of which car parks were private, or public was needed.
- Ask the company in the private car park to make their signage clearer of where their meter was.
- Was a Section 80 not done at this location to remove the car spaces on Cutlery Road in front of the parking meter?



Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that he would talk to the Municipal District office about the Section 80. He said the department had talked to the private company about their signage for their meter.

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

#### **KN13/0625**

##### **Beechgrove/The Meadows**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Loughlin  
That the council installs bollards along the entrance of Beechgrove/The Meadows housing estates in Rathangan to prevent the repetition of previous unauthorised encampments in the area.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the council do not find bollards to be beneficial in preventing unauthorised encampments. Landscape mounds could be considered, subject to identifying a budget.

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

#### **KN14/0625**

##### **Speed Ramps**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Duffy  
That the council line marks the existing speed ramps outside the Church, Kildangan and in Mill Stream Avenue Estate, Monasterevin to make them visible to drivers and improve safety.

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 Office agree to meet Councillor Duffy to discuss this issue on site and agree a solution subject to available budget.

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

**KN15/0625**  
**Drogheda Street Crescent Estate**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Duffy  
That the council installs double yellow lines and signs at the entrance to Drogheda Street Crescent Estate, Monasterevin (near details provided) to prevent parking during school hours blocking the entrance to this estate.

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 request on the Line Marking Schedule, subject to budget.

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

**KN16/0625**  
**Dunmurray Road, Kildare**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Doyle  
Can the council provide a Progress Report on delivery of a cycle path on Dunmurray Road, Kildare connecting to Kildare Town Community School, to include details of any conditions of planning associated with delivery?



A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that this project is not included on the Roads Capital Projects Work Programme and there is currently no funding or staff available to progress the delivery of this cycle path.

Councillor Doyle asked for clarification on whether this was part of the planning conditions. She said this route was to a secondary school and should have been part of the new road's development. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members that the land in question was third party ownership so was outside the line of development.

The report was noted.

**KN17/0625**  
**Cycle Lane Markings**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor P O'Dwyer  
Can the council confirm if there are plans to re-enforce the cycle lane markings on St. Conleth's Bridge, Newbridge?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that there is no budget at present for the requested works.

Councillor P O'Dwyer asked if it could be listed for consideration.

The report was noted.

**KN18/0625**  
**Road Widening Project Athgarvan**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer  
Further to previous representations on the Road Widening Project in Athgarvan, can the council confirm if the design phase due to commence in Q1 2025 has commenced and if not outline reasons for the delay?



A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that works have been delayed on this project due to staff constraints; however, it is hoped to commence the next phase of this project before the end of the summer.

The report was noted.

**KN19/0625**  
**831 Local Link Service**

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

Can the council provide an update on the 831 Local Link service, specifically in relation to the recent consideration of extending the route to include Suncroft village, and to outline any decisions made or progress to date regarding this proposed extension?

A report was received from the Transportation Department informing the members that the Transport Department have made contact with Local Link and will provide an update when a report is received.

Councillor Balfe asked for a timeline. Mr M McLoughlin informed the members the department had contacted Local Link but received no response as of yet.

The report was noted.

**KN20/0625**  
**Seating/Benches**

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

That the council commits to installing seating/benches in public areas and housing estates taken in control by Kildare County Council in this Municipal District in the interest of health and wellbeing and integration within the community.

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



A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that seating and benches are included in new public areas and housing estates. The consideration of additional seating in existing public areas would be subject to identifying a budget, suitable locations and commitments to existing projects. The co-operation of the local community will also be required as seating areas are also considered negatively as they may be subject to anti-social behaviour.

A report was received from the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that seating is generally provided as part of a regeneration project for a public realm space in our towns and villages. Where these projects are in our work programme, funding and resources have been identified. The installation of seating in areas not part of a particular project can be funded through Local Property Tax (LPT) if the members wish to allocate funding.

Councillor O'Loughlin informed the members that this was a simple solution especially for elderly people and he acknowledged it can cause antisocial behaviour.

The members raised the following points:

- Antisocial behaviour will happen whether there are benches or not
- Unless people insist utilising the facilities, it would not work
- Matching funding could be an option and collaborate with resident associations or communities that would be interested and help support them.
- This could be utilised with LPT for people who would like to engage in this initiative.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members that there were other ways of funding the installation of benches. She said in Newbridge the Disability Access Group have installed benches through other sources of funding and maybe this was something Councillor O'Loughlin could look at.

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





**KN21/0625**  
**Astroturf/Football Pitch**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McDonnell  
That the council provides an astroturf/football pitch in Lakeside Park, Dara Park, Newbridge.

This motion fell as Councillor McDonnell was not present at the meeting.

**KN22/0625**  
**Masterplan for Lakeside Park**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McDonnell  
Can the council provide an update on the Masterplan for Lakeside Park, Newbridge?

This question fell as Councillor McDonnell was not present at the meeting.

**KN23/0625**  
**Barrow Blueway**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Balfe  
That the council agrees to install appropriate signage along Canal Harbour Road in Monasterevin, which runs parallel to the Barrow Blueway, in order to:

1. Alert motorists to the presence and potential crossing of local wildlife species—particularly swans, ducks, and other birdlife, as well as otters—which are frequently observed along the canal and adjacent roadways; and
2. Provide clear wayfinding signage to assist pedestrians, cyclists, and visitors in navigating the canal path, highlighting access points, routes, and amenities connected to the Barrow Blueway and local heritage attractions.

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

A report was received from the Transportation and Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Transport Department will examine the issue further with Councillor Balfe in consultation with the Heritage Officer. Work continues to be carried out on



the Barrow Blueway project. Wayfinding and signage will be delivered as part of the overall project, on completion, in collaboration with Waterways Ireland. The Barrow Blueway Placemaking Plan (BBPP) was developed by Meinhardt on behalf of the Barrow Blueway Project Partners, Kildare County Council, Waterways Ireland and Laois County Council, and funded through Kildare LEADER. The BBPP, sets out a series of programmed and (indicatively) costed actions to maximise the success of the Barrow Blueway as a local, national, and international attraction in accordance with the Blueways Ireland Accreditation Criteria of: Experience, Safety, Technical, Conservation and Environment, Access, and Sustainability.

Councillor Balfe informed the members that he looked forward to the outcome. He said he acknowledged the ongoing work but asked could there be interim measures in the meantime for temporary signage. Ms P Pender informed the members that she would speak to Waterways Ireland and the accreditation team about interim measures.

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

**KN24/0625**  
**Folio Number KE8461F**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Connolly  
Go gcuirfeadh Comhairle Contae Chill Dara an teach dar cód (sonraí Eircode curtha ar fáil) agus uimhir fhóiliò KE8461F, atá folamh le breis agus 10 mbliana, le clár na láithreán tréigthe.  
That the council adds the home bearing (Eircode details provided) and folio number KE8461F, which has been vacant for over 10 years, to the derelict sites register.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Derelict Sites Team have a file on this property and made contact with the listed owners last year. The property was put up for sale following engagement and the folio was updated with a new owner in July 2024. The team have made contact with the new owner requesting information and a timeline on



their plans for the property. We will continue monitoring progress on the site and begin Derelict Sites Act proceedings if a timely resolution to the ongoing vacancy/dereliction is not forthcoming.

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

**KN25/0625**  
**Folio Number KE4011N**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Connolly  
Go dtuairisceoidh Comhairle Contae Chill Dara do na comhaltaí faoina húinéireacht ar 4.58 acra ar a bhfuil uimhir fhóilió KE4011N, lena n-áirítear a úsáidí san am atá thart agus san am i láthair, aon ioncam atá ginte aici agus pleananna na Comhairle don talamh amach anseo.

That the council reports to the members on its ownership of 4.58 acres bearing folio number KE4011N, including its past and present uses, any revenue it has generated and the council's future plans for the land.

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

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that this land is in the ownership of Kildare County Council and has been leased for many years for a nominal amount. The process of renewing this lease is currently underway by the Capital Section.

Councillor Connolly asked if this field could be suitable for a football pitch for a local club. Ms S Farrar informed the members that the lease renewal was currently being reviewed.

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



**KN26/0625**  
**Tenancy**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Connolly  
Cén sásra atá i bhfeidhm chun ligean do thionónta i dteach údaráis áitiúil creidmheas a fháil as an am a chaitear ar an liosta tithíochta roimh an tionóntacht agus le linn na tionóntachta, i gcás briseadh síos caidrimh. (Go háirithe, i gcás an duine a fhágann an teach teaghlaigh)  
Can the council outline what mechanism is in place to allow a tenant in a local authority home to avail of credit for the time spent on the housing list prior to and during the tenancy, in the event of a relationship breakdown (In particular, for the person who leaves the family home).

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that there is no mechanism in place for this. As a relationship is not tenancy related, the Housing Department always advise the tenants to initiate legal proceedings which will allow the Court System direct which tenant can remain in the family home and who must leave the home. The tenant who leaves the home can then apply for social housing in order to be approved back on the housing list. No added years or backdating of time can be given to this applicant.

The report was noted.

**KN27/0625**  
**Newbridge Town Renewal Plan**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McDonnell  
Can the council confirm the status of the Newbridge Town Renewal Plan?

This question fell as Councillor McDonnell was not present at the meeting.

**KN28/0625**  
**Council Bank Overdraft Facility**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer  
That the council lists all land and buildings that either have been purchased or are being considered for purchase and their value in the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District, using the annual council bank overdraft facility.



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

A report was received from the Finance Department informing the members that Kildare County Council has not purchased and does not intend to purchase any land or buildings using the council bank overdraft facility.

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

**KN29/0625**  
**Newbridge Plaza**

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

That the council commits to the delivery of the proposed plaza at the corner of Newbridge County Library and Archives as a key element of the planned upgrade to the library, and that the council:

(a) provide an update on the current status of the design, including any changes—formal or informal—that have been discussed; (b) confirm the anticipated timeline for the delivery of both the plaza and the wider library upgrade; and (c) outline how community engagement will be incorporated to ensure the final design reflects the needs of local residents, businesses, and library users.

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 Strategic Projects and Public Realm team are managing the delivery of the Newbridge Library, Local Studies and Archive Building project.

- a. Review of general drawings is ongoing with the final design of the energy performance of the building under review to potentially reduce operating costs while contributing to our Climate Action targets. Suitability Assessment Questionnaires have been published on e-tenders; this procedure involves inviting applicants to submit information in response to a customised standard questionnaire. It has been agreed that the Project will be delivered in two Phases: Phase 1 being the Library, Local Studies and Archive Building and Phase 2 being the extended



plaza area and proposed transport interventions. A report outlining the rationale for delivery of the project in two phases, has been circulated to the elected members for information.

- b. Delivering the project in two phases will see the Library, Local Studies and Archive Building project delivered in Phase 1 with associated public realm space. It is expected construction will commence in 2026; a more defined timeline will emerge once detailed design is finalised. The extended public realm space/plaza and transport measures will be delivered in Phase 2, as part of a future NTA/Transport scheme for the Main Street.
- c. The elected members will have had sight of the Chief Executive Report prior to consideration of the Part 8 proposal in 2024. Submissions from key stakeholders, businesses, residents etc, are set out in Appendix B of the Chief Executive Report with appropriate responses from the Project Team. Commitments to include/exclude elements at the Detailed Design Stage of the Project are documented in the Chief Executive Response/Comments. Conditions are attached to the Part 8 Planning Report, signed off by the Planning Department and the Chief Executive.

Councillor Pender informed the members that he was disappointed that the delivery of the Plaza had been divided into two phases but was happy that it was still on the agenda.

Ms P Pender informed the members that it would come as an upgrade with the Transportation Department looking after Phase 2. Councillor Pender informed the members it seems to be going back and forth between departments and felt both departments should be at the meeting to answer not only with this motion but all motions that have a response or responsible from more than one department.

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

#### **KN30/0625**

##### **Wifi4eu**

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

An bhfuil aon iarratas déanta ag an gComhairle ar mhaoiniú wifi4eu le 7 mbliana anuas sa Cheantar Bardasach?

Can the council confirm if any wifi4eu funding has been applied for in this Municipal District over the last 7 years?



A report was received from the Information and Technology Department informing the members that the WiFi4EU provided funding for public Wi-Fi hotspots via the European Commission from 2018 to 2020. Kildare considered applying but found no suitable project due to timing issues and the Covid pandemic. Applications closed in 2020. Kildare remains active in the Broadband Officers network, discussing similar schemes with the Department of Rural and Community Development. Currently, there are no EU or National schemes offering public Wi-Fi funding.

The report was noted.

**KN31/0625**  
**Bus Turning Point in Kilcullen**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor T O'Dwyer  
Can the council confirm if they have commenced objective STKL55 (to designate an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) to protect the historic urban core of Kilcullen) and STKL87 (to engage with the NTA to identify a suitable location to facilitate a bus turning point in Kilcullen) that can support existing local link and public transport as per objective as both objectives were to commence within 12 months of adopting the Kilcullen Settlement Plan?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the Kilcullen Settlement Plan was adopted by Kildare County Council on 31 March 2025. In relation to Objective ST KL56, the preparation of an Architectural Conservation Area for Kilcullen will be progressed as a Variation to the County Development Plan 2023-2029. Work is underway to recruit an Architectural Conservation Officer and to procure consultants for the provision of architectural conservation services in this regard. In relation to Objective ST KL87, correspondence has issued to the National Transport Authority to commence discussions with the Planning Department and the Transport Department of Kildare County Council regarding a bus turning point.

Councillor T O'Dwyer asked with the absence of an Architectural Conservation Officer are works not progressing at the moment. Ms C Talbot informed the members that she would revert to the relevant section and update the members.



The report was noted.

**KN32/0625**  
**Convex Mirror**

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

Can the council confirm if planning permission is required for a homeowner in this municipal district, to install a convex mirror to use as a road safety measure?

A report was received from the Planning and Transport Department informing the members that there are no specific exemptions listed in the Planning and Development Act with regard to the installation of convex mirrors.

The issue of convex (fish eyed) mirrors was discussed at the Transport, Public Safety and Emergency Services SPC in November 2020.

The following were the conclusions reached in respect of their use:

- They are prone to freezing and condensation, thus rendering them useless.
- They distort size and distance and are no substitute for actual sight distance.
- They are not suitable for high-speed traffic and rural roads speed limits are generally 80kph unless otherwise specified. It is particularly hard to see motorbikes at a distance in a convex mirror - with a distorted view it is difficult to judge distance.
- They are prone to criminal damage.

The Transport Department considers that there is no substitute for good sight distance/sight lines and does not endorse or encourage the use of convex mirrors.

Councillor P O'Dwyer asked for clarification if the installation was allowed on private property by another individual not owning the property? Ms C Talbot informed the members that she would revert to the relevant section and update the members.

The report was noted.





**KN33/0625**

**Area Based Transport Assessment**

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

Can the council confirm whether an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) is a legally required document in the context of the Newbridge Settlement Plan, and if not legally required, can the council clarify its role, purpose, and weight in the planning and development process?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that it is an objective of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midlands Region that local transport plans are required to be prepared for selected settlements in the region (Section 3.1 and RPO 8.6 refers). Newbridge is listed as a selected settlement in this regard. To ensure a robust settlement plan is prepared for Newbridge, that would withstand potential legal challenges, it is paramount that the settlement plan aligns with the higher order plans, which includes RSES, in the context of the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). An Area Based Transport Plan has been prepared in this statutory context.

Councillor Pender informed the members that the report states it's an objective but that was not answering the question. He asked what the strength of the ABTA with the settlement Plan was?

The report was noted.

**KN34/0625**

**Tidy Town Grant Allocations for 2025**

The members received the proposed grant allocations for Tidy Town Grant Allocations for 2025

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Duffy, seconded by Councillor Balfe and agreed by all members present that the proposed grant allocations for Tidy Town Grant Allocations for 2025 be approved.



### **KN35/0625**

#### **Cemetery Committee Grant Allocations for 2025**

The members received the proposed grant allocations for Cemetery Committee Grant Allocations for 2025.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor P O'Dwyer and agreed by all members present that the proposed grant allocations for Cemetery Grant Allocations for 2025 be approved.

### **KN36/0625**

#### **Sustainable Drainage Systems**

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

That the council identifies Eyre Street, Newbridge, as a pilot location for the implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in line with the KCC SuDS Retrofit Design Note 2025, as part of its approach to climate resilience and urban regeneration.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that Kildare County Council published the Sustainable Drainage Systems Guidance document in 2024. This can be found online at this link [KCC Sustainable Drainage Systems Guidance Single page.pdf](#)

The document shows how nature based sustainable drainage system are designed and installed in new developments and retrofitted in existing landscapes.

As part of this work a number of locations were identified as candidate sites for the retrofitting of nature-based surface water management solutions in place of the tradition gully and pipe system. These sites are currently at design stage and the lessons learned from these sites will guide how we move forward with the retrofitting of nature-based SuDS solutions to more locations across the county.



As part of this we are working with Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO), and the Nature based SuDS team to share these experiences with other local authorities and learn from other locations. When considering other future sites, Eyre Street can be included in the process.

Councillor Pender informed the members that it was fantastic to see that Eyre Street could be included in future sites, and it was great to see streets being regreened and would be great for Eyre Street.

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

**Item 43 was taken with item 37**

**KN37/0625**  
**SafeTALK**

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

That this council supports the organisation of a SafeTALK suicide prevention training event in Monasterevin as part of Mental Health Awareness Month and agrees to work in partnership with local community groups including Heads Up, mental health charities, and relevant statutory bodies to facilitate and promote the event. This initiative is intended to build community resilience, increase awareness of mental health challenges, and equip participants with practical skills to identify and respond to those at risk of suicide.

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

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that Kildare County Council Community Department works closely with the HSE Suicide Prevention Officer, HeadsUp, mental health charities and other bodies through a number of forums including Connecting for Life. Suicide prevention training, including SafeTALK has and continues to be rolled out across a number of areas across the county. A list of courses organised by the HSE in Kildare is available on the HSE website and is promoted by Kildare County Council. Any



community organisation seeking to arrange such training can contact the HSE Suicide Prevention officer or the Kildare County Council Community team.

**KN43/0625**

**Mental Health Awareness**

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

Can the council confirm if it would consider exploring the possibility of working with this municipal district and relevant organisations to promote mental health awareness in the Newbridge area?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the Community Department in Kildare County Council works collaboratively with the HSE, mental health organisations, community, and voluntary groups to promote and support mental health awareness around the county. This includes participation on the HSE Connecting for Life strategy group. Kildare LCDC works to implement initiatives through other partners including Healthy Ireland, HeadsUP in its work to run bespoke programmes across the county, Kildare Sports Partnership collaboration on The Woodlands for Health Programme with the HSE, the Mental Health Association to run community cafes, CAMS-Care suicide prevention training for staff working in community/youth work and Kildare Traveller Action Traveller specific counselling as examples. Kildare County Council will discuss mental health awareness and community resilience specifically for the Newbridge area with its partners with the view to progressing various programmes and events.

Councillor Balfe informed the members that he welcomed the report and thanked Ms P O'Brien and the department. He said he appreciated the communication with the Community Department and for them engaging with key groups as this empowered them with awareness. Councillor Pender informed the members that this was a timely thing that the council needed to be doing now to help build resilience. It was important that everybody worked together on this. He said he would continue to progress this with Newbridge.

Councillor P O'Dwyer informed the members she was on the Dublin Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum, and they had received a presentation which she had found very informative on these



issues and was informed of services that she was unaware of. She said she would seek permission to get the presentation to circulate to the members and to Ms P O'Brien.

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

**KN38/0625**  
**Drinking Water Well**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McDonnell  
That the council provides a natural drinking water well from source in Newbridge.

This motion fell as Councillor McDonnell was not present at the meeting.

**Items 40 and 41 were taken with Item 39**

**KN39/0625**  
**Monies Allocated to Community Facilities**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Heavey  
That the council outlines its decision process for all monies allocated to community facilities (playgrounds, public realm, grants to community organisations, etc) and other investments, if any, in the years 2019-2024 for Caragh, Kilcullen, Kildare, Monasterevin, Milltown, Rathangan, Newbridge.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the decision process is substantially based on requests from community and public representatives. It is also determined by the size of the town or location, availability of a budget and objectives within the existing council strategies and policies.

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the decision process for investment in community facilities is based on collaboration with communities and



public representatives. Projects are identified through various council plans and strategies (such as County Development Plan and Local Economic and Community Plan) and availability of a budget. All community grant schemes are publicly advertised and independently evaluated with clear guidelines.

#### **KN40/0625**

##### **Planned Investment to Community Facilities**

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

That the council advises details of planned investment to community facilities (playgrounds, public realm, grants to community organisations, etc) and other investments, if any, for 2025 for Caragh, Kilcullen, Kildare, Monasterevin, Milltown, Rathangan, Newbridge.

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

A report was received from the Finance Department informing the members that each year the members are presented at the November Annual Budget meeting with the Capital Programme for the next three years. This programme shows the planned projects for the coming years and identifies them by Municipal District. The Capital Programme for 2025 – 2027 (previously circulated) can be found on the Kildare County Council website or by clicking on this link [Capital Programme 2025 - 2027](#)

#### **KN41/0625**

##### **All Monies Invested in Community Facilities**

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

Can the council provide details of all monies invested in community facilities (playgrounds, public realm, grants to community organisations, etc) and other investments, if any, in the years 2019-2024 for Caragh, Kilcullen, Kildare, Monasterevin, Milltown, Rathangan, Newbridge?

A report was received from the Finance Department informing the members that the actual spend on the Capital Programme for each year is in Appendix 10 of the Annual Financial Statement



which is presented to Members each year at the March Full Council Meeting. Attached is the actual spend on the Capital Programme from the years 2016 to 2024.

Councillor Heavey informed the members that people have said to him that Newbridge were not getting enough funding on community facilities for the size of the town. He said he put these motions and question forward as he wanted to see was there the appropriate amount of spending on community facilities in the towns of Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District and wanted to make sure someone was keeping an eye on the spending. He said transparency was important and said he would like to see some methodology to keep it reviewed.

The members raised the following points:

- An audit needed to be done on the spend
- Equal distribution of funding for the towns
- There were too many anomalies
- The council was being dictated by central funding; this was not serving democracy well

Ms P O'Brien informed the members that that the decision process for investment in community facilities is based on collaboration with communities and public representatives. Projects are identified through various council plans and strategies which help guide the department.

All community grant schemes are publicly advertised and independently evaluated with clear guidelines.

The District Manager informed the members that Appendix 10 circulated to the members shows the expenditure on community projects and she acknowledged the size of Newbridge.

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



**KN42/0625**

**Community Centre on Dunmurray Road**

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

Can the council provide a report on potential avenues to delivery of a community centre on Dunmurray Road, Kildare (ref site with planning), and indications of possible timelines?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that a provision for the development of a community centre on the Dunmurray Road in Kildare has been included in the current Capital Programme. The Community Team along with the Capital Team are currently investigating various options to work with the local community organisations to deliver a centre at the site including alternative building delivery techniques.

The report was noted.

**This was taken with item 37**

**KN43/0625**

**Mental Health Awareness**

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

Can the council confirm if it would consider exploring the possibility of working with this municipal district and relevant organisations to promote mental health awareness in the Newbridge area?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the Community Department in Kildare County Council works collaboratively with the HSE, mental health organisations, community, and voluntary groups to promote and support mental health around the county. This includes participation on the HSE Connecting for Life strategy group. Kildare LCDC works to implement initiatives through other partners including Healthy Ireland, HeadsUP in its work to run bespoke programmes across the county, Kildare Sports Partnership collaboration on The Woodlands for Health Programme with the HSE, the Mental Health Association to run community cafes, CAMS-Care suicide prevention training for staff working in community/youth work and Kildare Traveller Action Traveller specific counselling as examples. Kildare County Council will discuss mental health awareness and community resilience specifically





for the Newbridge area with its partners with the view to progressing various programmes and events.

The report was noted.

**KN44/0625**  
**Youth Service Facilities and Programmes**

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

Can the council confirm if it would consider committing to conducting a comprehensive audit of all existing youth service facilities and programmes within the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District, with a view to identifying current service gaps; outlining any plans to allocate funding and resources in the upcoming budget to enhance youth spaces, support local youth organisations, and expand after-school and mental health supports for young people, in collaboration with stakeholders such as the local Comhairle na nÓg and the Education and Training Board (ETB)?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that Kildare County Council provides significant supports to various community and voluntary groups to assist in the provision of youth services throughout the county. In addition, Kildare County Council works closely with forums such as Kildare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), Children and Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC) and the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) towards the shared goal of enhancing the lives of children, young people, and families in Co. Kildare. Kildare County Council has secured a property in Newbridge and the intended use of the property is for a youth facility which will serve as a safe and inclusive space for young people in the area once all funding is in place. The development of the youth facility will be a collaborative effort, and we are working with our community workers, Kildare Sports Partnership and local community groups and organisations with a focus on the provision of youth services to identify groups/organisations who are best placed to manage the facility. The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), now the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY), established the Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) (formerly Children's Services Committees) in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children and families at local and community



level. CYPSC brings together a diverse group of agencies across the statutory, community and voluntary sectors in local county areas to engage in joint planning of services for children and young people. All major organisations including Kildare County Council working locally on behalf of children and young people are represented. These committees work to improve the lives of children, young people and families at local and community level through collaborative planning and improved service delivery Kildare CYPSC has a Memorandum of Understanding with Kildare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) which guides the positive collaborative relationship between the two agencies.

Education and Training Boards are charged with responsibility for Youth Work in the ETB 2013 Act, which identifies Youth Work as a planned programme of education designed for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of young persons through their voluntary participation, and which is (a) complementary to their formal, academic or vocational education and training; and (b) provided primarily by voluntary youth work organisations (ETB Act 2013 and Youth Work Act 2001).

Kildare County Council will continue to support young people, who play a vital role in building their communities and creating an inclusive environment, through our Community, Arts and Sports Partnership Grant Schemes and Programmes.

Councillor Balfe asked for clarification if there was a plan to conduct an audit. Ms P O'Brien informed the members that the Community Department were linking with CYPSC who would be carrying out an audit as this would not be done directly by Kildare County Council.

Councillor T O'Dwyer informed the members that she was on the LCDC committee and would bring this back to them.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.