

**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting held at 3.30 pm on
Tuesday, 10 December 2019
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas**

Members Present: Councillor C Kelly (Mayor), A Breen, F Brett, B Clear, V P Martin, S Moore and E Sammon.

Officials Present: Mr E Ryan (Municipal District Manager), Mr L Dunne (Senior Executive Officer), Ms P Pender, Mr B O’Gorman, Mr O Brady (Administrative Officers), Mr D Reel (Municipal District Engineer), Ms S O’Gara (Project Manager), Ms P O’Rourke (Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator) and Ms K O’Malley (Meetings Secretary).

NS01/1219

Suspension of Standing Orders

The Mayor proposed to suspend standing orders at 3:30 p.m. for four minutes.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by all members that standing orders be suspended for four minutes until 3:34 p.m.

NS02/1219

Acknowledgements

The Mayor thanked Mr Niall Morrissey, former Director of Services Roads, Transportation and Public Safety on behalf of the Naas Municipal District members and wished him well in his new position, stating that they were looking forward to working with Mr Tadhg McDonnell. She conveyed the members thanks to Ms Maura McIvor former Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services and wished her well in her new position in Human Resources, stating that they were looking forward to working with Ms Christine O’Grady. The Mayor congratulated all the Senior Executive Officers on their recent moves and wished them well in their new roles. She also congratulated Ms Annette Aspell on her recent promotion to Director of Services.

NS03/1219

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 19 November 2019 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Sammon and seconded by Councillor Breen that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 19 November 2019, of the Naas Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

NS04/1219

Municipal District Road Works

Mr Reel, Municipal District Engineer updated the members on the municipal district road works. He stated that footpath improvement works were complete in the Naas Municipal District with the exception of works on Naas Main Street due to works ongoing in front of Dunnes Stores and confirmed it was expected that these footpath works would be completed in early 2020 when the last piece of scaffolding had been removed.

Mr Reel informed the members that the first, second and third packages of the road improvement works 2019 were complete as were the emergency drainage works and surface dressing works.

In relation to the Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carpark Funded Works 2019 Mr Reel stated that the roads elements were complete but the footpath elements were not and confirmed that works in the Paddocks, Naas would be commenced at the end of this year or the start of next year.

Mr Reel informed the members that in relation to the Low Cost Safety Scheme at Corbally Crossroads, they were lucky to receive land from local farmers to make the junction safer and he confirmed that these works were substantially completed.

Mr Reel informed the members that works on the crash barrier at Alexandra Bridge, Clane were near completion and it was expected that the works would be completed in the coming days.

In response to Councillor Moore's question in relation to works done at Abbey Bridge, Mr Reel stated that resurfacing works on the section of public road before you cross the bridge towards Tandy's Bridge were being completed. He also stated that he had been advised that the local community would be submitting a Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) application. Mr Reel recommended that the application form be submitted and informed the members that Local Improvement Schemes were a county wide consideration.

Councillor Martin asked what the average waiting time for a decision on a LIS was and Mr Reel stated that the application form was assessed when submitted and the local community then were informed of the contribution required by them. It was then dependent on them making the payment, noting that a lot of applications progress to that stage but do not progress any further. He also stated that there had only been a small number of LIS carried out in the Naas Municipal District.

Councillor Brett acknowledged the landowners who gave land for the works at Corbally Cross stating that they had done everyone a good service by giving the piece of land.

Councillor Moore asked if a letter of thanks could be issued to the landowners who had given land to improve the safety of Corbally Crossroads. All members agreed.

Councillor Clear queried if the bus stop after the Sallins Road Roundabout on the left hand side as you are travelling over the bridge which had been moved to Hunters Wood would be removed. Mr Reel stated that he would check with the National Transport Authority (NTA) regarding the removal of that bus stop.

Resolved that a letter of thanks be issued to the landowners who had given land to improve the safety of Corbally Crossroads.

NS05/1219

Naas Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2020

Mr Reel informed the members that the Naas Municipal District carparking surplus was €553,941 and the LPT element was €916,740.

The members approved the roads projects for consideration and decided to make the decision in relation to the schedule of works 2020 at the January 2020 meeting. **Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by all the members that the roads projects be approved for consideration and the decision in relation to the schedule of works 2020 be made at the January 2020 meeting.

NS06/1219

Unspent 2019 LPT Funds

The members considered the transfer of all unspent 2019 LPT funds into 2020. The Meetings Administrator showed the members the form that was being recommended that all applications should be submitted on. The members agreed to use the form.

The members agreed the funding of the following projects through unspent 2019 LPT funding.

Naas Christmas Light - €4,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that €4,000 be allocated to Naas Christmas Lights.

Naas Rovers Club - €1,500

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by all the members that €1,500 be allocated to Naas Rovers Club.

The Moat Club - €5,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by all the members that €5,000 be allocated to The Moat Club.

Sallins Business Association - €5,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that €5,000 be allocated to Sallins Business Association.

McAuley Place - €5,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Sammon and agreed by all the members that €5,000 be allocated to McAuley Place.

Sarto Park Residents Association - €3,100

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that €3,100 be allocated to Sarto Park Residents Association.

Naas Greenway - €10,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that €10000 be allocated to Naas Greenway.

Naas GAA - €300

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by all the members that €300 be allocated to Naas GAA.

Naas Rugby Club - €5,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by all the members that €5,000 be allocated to Naas Rugby Club.

Naas Tidy Towns - €3,000

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by all the members that €3,000 be allocated to Naas Tidy Towns.

The Meetings Administrator requested the members approval to the allocation of €10,000 to Naas Shop Front Grants as a query had been raised with him regarding this. The Municipal District Manager stated that this funding had previously been agreed however it had been allocated to Kildare/Newbridge Municipal District in error. He stated that he would examine this issue further and report back to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that all unspent 2019 LPT funds be transferred into 2020 and the agreed list of grants to be funded from the 2019 unspent LPT funds.

NS07/1219

Disabled Bays in Áras Chill Dara and K Leisure

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

That the council instruct APCOA to police the disabled bays in Áras Chill Dara and K Leisure Naas as the Naas Access and Disability Group have asked that the issue of people parking in disabled bays in these two sites who do not hold a valid disabled badge, be highlighted.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Brett.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the car park in Áras Chill Dara and K Leisure were legally defined as private car parks (staff car parks) and not public car parks for the general public. Therefore, they cannot be regulated by the Roads Section. Regulation of these car parks is carried out by Kildare County Councils Facilities Section.

Councillor Clear stated that there were approximately ten disabled spaces at K Leisure being used at night time by cars who did not have a permit making it impossible for the disability group to use them. He informed the members that signage could be an issue. He also stated that K Leisure had attempted to resolve this but the problem still remained and that there must be some way of policing the situation. In relation to Áras Chill Dara, Councillor Clear stated that people were parking in the disabled parking spaces and running into the council and suggested undertaking a pilot stickering scheme to rectify these issues. The Municipal District Manager confirmed that he would explore the matter with the Facilities Section.

Councillor Clear asked if a letter could be issued to K Leisure asking them to take more action. Councillor Breen stated that she was a member of the board for K Leisure and would raise the issue at the next meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and the Municipal District Manager to explore the matter of people parking in disabled bays at Áras Chill Dara with the Facilities Section. Councillor Breen to raise the matter with the board for K Leisure.

NS08/1219

Planning Reference 15/848

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear. That the council confirm that the entrance (cycle and pedestrian crossing) to the development on the Kilcullen Road, Planning Reference 15/848 has been constructed in accordance with the relevant planning conditions.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Brett.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Kildare County Council Roads Planning Section had examined this query and confirm that the cycle lane (on road) had been installed at the entrance to 'Bluebell', Naas by the developer- Ardstone. The cycle track was off road at both sides of the entrance. The Roads Planning Section of Kildare County Council was satisfied that this detail complied with the pavement standards.

Councillor Clear stated that raised tables for pedestrians and cyclists were part of the planning permission granted to Ardstone for the new housing estate on the Kilcullen Road but these had not been installed. He noted that it had been for pedestrians but not for children cycling to school who had to use the road. He queried why this was the case considering the planning permission granted clearly outlined a raised table for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Mr Reel stated that the Roads Planning Section examined this confirming that there was ongoing upgrading of that road over the past few years with three or four

entrance points along the road. He informed the members that the most important thing was to ensure consistency across all entrance points along the road, stating that if a raised table was installed it would mean that cyclist would have to stop at this junction only.

Councillor Clear stated that he had made a submission on the planning file at the time and was happy that there was a raised table included for cyclists. In his opinion the consistency approach was not safe and asked the Director of Planning that if the planning permission stated that it should be completed in a particular way, why it was changed.

The Municipal District Manager stated that he accepted Councillor Clear's point and also understood where the Roads Department were coming from. He informed the members that he had not visited the location himself but would examine it and revert to Councillor Clear.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and the Municipal District Manager to examine the location and revert to Councillor Clear.

NS09/1219

Bus Shelter in Johnstown

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett. That the council clarify with the National Transport Authority as to why, after 13 years, the bus shelter in Johnstown has not been reinstated.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Sammon.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council were in discussion with the National Transport Authority (NTA) with regards to providing bus shelters, at locations within the Naas Municipal District. There were numerous issues to be resolved in terms of planning, procurement and contract management. To date resourcing these works had been an issue.

Councillor Brett clarified that the bus shelter had not been reinstated after 15 years and not 13 years as originally stated and noted that this was the third time he had brought this motion to a meeting of the municipal district. He informed the members that the NTA had promised to reinstate the bus shelter but was yet to do so.

Councillor Brett further stated that the car park in Johnstown was full every morning at 7.15am and the bus stop was very exposed to the elements since the bus shelter was removed.

Councillor Kelly stated that she would submit a motion in the new year requesting a meeting with the NTA.

The Meetings Administrator stated that the Roads Department would be informed that the members were unhappy with the report and that the members wanted the NTA to be informed of their dissatisfaction that the bus shelter had not been reinstated 15 years after being removed.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Sammon that the report be noted and the Meetings Administrator to inform the Roads Department that the members were unhappy with the report and that they wanted the NTA informed of their dissatisfaction that the bus shelter had not been reinstated 15 years after being removed.

NS10/1219

Double Yellow Lines in Ballymore Eustace

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon. That the council install double yellow lines at the entrance to the residential dwelling (W91X4E8) at Market Square, Main Street, Ballymore Eustace.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Breen.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that if they were in agreement, a drawing/map showing location and extent of double yellow lines could be prepared and the required statutory procedure commenced.

Councillor Sammon stated that it was the house directly beside the Ballymore Inn.
Councillor Kelly stated that the residents needed to make an application.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Breen that the report be noted.

NS11/1219

Coughlanstown Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon.
That the council provide an update on the works at Coughlanstown Road and an estimated date of completion.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Brett.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that works were ongoing at present and were due for completion in Quarter 1, 2020.

In response to Councillor Sammon's question, Mr Reel stated that as far as he was aware all works would be completed by Quarter 1, 2020

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted.

NS12/1219

Naas to Sallins Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Martin.
That the council carry out a feasibility traffic study bringing forward proposals to, improve user safety and alleviate traffic congestion which occurs on the main Naas-Sallins Road at the turn to Monread (Monread Heights) primarily caused by vehicular traffic waiting on the said main road to turn/travel right at this said junction (at Applegreen station) travelling in Monread direction.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Breen.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that due to geometric constraints it was currently not possible to provide two full dedicated lanes for traffic travelling from the Naas Town approach to this junction. The junction operates under vehicle actuation control and there was a presence loop provided for road users wishing to turn right onto Monread Avenue, this activates the right hand filter arrow to cater for this movement. The junction operates under a 4 stage arrangement and all inter-green times, crossing times etc. comply with recommended standards. The Traffic Management Section shall review the stage timings to determine whether any improvements can be made in terms of operational efficiency/traffic flow at the junction.

Councillor Martin stated that by asking for a feasibility study he had hoped that a non geometric way of resolving the traffic congestion problem at this junction would be found.

Councillor Moore stated that works to expand the width of the road was approved a number of years ago by Naas Town Council and had been mapped out but was postponed due to the Millennium Road being installed noting that the traffic congestion had not been relieved in any way since.

Mr Reel stated that the matter could be referred back to the Traffic and Transport Section to examine.

Councillor Moore stated that there was a blueprint that had not been reflected in the report. The members agreed that the item remain on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Breen that the report be noted and the matter referred back to the Traffic and Transport Section for examination. The item to remain on the progress report.

NS13/1219

Footpath on the Newbridge Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett.
Can the council confirm who has responsibility for the provision of a footpath on the northside of the Newbridge Road adjacent to the Bundle of Sticks roundabout?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this location was currently maintained by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

Councillor Brett stated that the footpath stopped before the old farm house building and the road was not safe to cross to access the business park.

Mr Reel stated that the former Director of Services, Mr Niall Morrissey, was in discussions with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the process was ongoing between TII and Kildare County Council. He stated that the matter could be referred back to the current Director of Services Mr Tadhg McDonnell to find out if the process had progressed. Mr Reel confirmed that at present the footpath was not currently maintained by Kildare County Council.

The report was noted.

NS14/1219

Provision of Roundabout at Ladytown Junction

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett.
Can the council update members on the provision of a roundabout at the Ladytown junction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Consultants had been appointed and were currently assessing options to improve safety at the junction.

The report was noted.

NS15/1219

Timber Bollards on the Naas Ring Roads

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore.
Can the council reconsider the need for the ongoing and costly replacement of hundreds of ineffective rotten/displaced/damaged timber ornamental bollards that are positioned around Naas Ring Roads?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that if they were in agreement, Naas Municipal District would reconsider this requirement.

The report was noted.

NS16/1219

LPT Funding

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett.
That this Municipal District Committee over its 5-year term, allocates a portion of LPT funds for Green Infrastructural projects in our municipal district for the benefit of all.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Clear.

A report was received from the Meetings Administrator informing the members that this was a matter for the members to agree.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Clear that the report was noted and this matter taken into account when allocating 2020 LPT funding.

NS17/1219

Christmas Lights outside Áras Chill Dara

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen.
That the council put Christmas lights on the big tree in the lawn at the front of Áras Chill Dara.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Sammon.

A report was received from the Facilities Section informing the members that unfortunately due to time constraints it was not possible to put lights on the big tree for this Christmas period, however facilities were putting lights up along the boundary fence on the Newbridge Road and on some of the smaller trees next week.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Breen that the report be noted.

NS18/1219

Vacant Housing Report

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore. Can the Vacant Housing Report be modified to include an established monthly figure for registered/unregistered homeless people in the Naas Municipal District that are living in outdoor shelters and tents?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Housing Department were not aware of any registered homeless people sleeping rough/living in outdoor shelters/tents in the Naas Municipal District. It was not possible to assess/quantify the number of unregistered homeless people living in outdoor shelters and tents unless they present to the Homeless Team and were engaging with the relevant services.

In response to a question from Councillor Moore, Mr Brady confirmed that Kildare County Council had a Homeless Outreach Team who went out to assess the homeless situation. He also stated that a homeless and rough sleeping count took place and reports were prepared confirming that he would revert to Councillor Moore with a figure.

The report was noted.

NS19/1219

Strategic Projects and Public Realm

Ms S O’Gara updated the members on the Strategic Projects and Public Realm for the Naas Municipal District. She stated that €260,000 had been approved for the Canal Quarter Masterplan noting that the scope of the project was under review and

that more information would be provided at the next quarterly update. Councillor Moore asked if both sides of the canal were being examined, stating that he had introduced the Roads Department to an individual who had plenty of space for parking and asked if this was being considered. Ms O’Gara stated that the Public Realm Section would be interested in exploring this and confirmed that she would speak to Councillor Moore about it. The Municipal District Manager stated that he had examined the design recently and noticed that it did not include the main street area, noting that there was no point in looking at one side and not the other. He confirmed that he had raised this with the Town Team. Councillor Clear stated that there was no footpath from the canal to the main street and Basin Street to the Town Hall. In response to Councillor Breen’s question regarding what would happen to Market House as it was a protected structure, Ms O’Gara confirmed that as it was a protected structure it would have to be preserved. Councillor Brett stated that access to the Eircom site was very important.

Ms O’Gara stated that the Public Realm Team were very disappointed that the Sallins Health Check/Urban Design Analysis and Town Renewal Plan had been unsuccessful in securing funding. She informed the members that it was their intention to seek alternative funding as it was a project that they would really like to progress.

In response to a question from Councillor Martin in relation to a health check for Naas, Ms O’Gara stated that there had been a pilot project in 2016 and confirmed that the report would be circulated.

The members made reference to the Sallins Town Design Analysis by O’Meara Architects and the Municipal District Manager stated that the Sallins Town and Design Analysis could be reviewed, and the points highlighted in the report used for the next application for funding.

In relation to the Naas Town Hall Library, Ms O’Gara stated it was hoped that works would commence in early 2020. Ms O’Gara stated that works commenced in early

November 2019 on the MERITS project and confirmed that it was currently on programme and progressing well.

In relation to the Ballymore Eustace looped walk, Ms O’Gara stated that €30,000 had been spent and there were other items that the community hoped would have been delivered confirming that there was a number of issues the team would work with the community on.

NS20/1219

Naas to Sallins Greenway Part 8

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear.
Can the council give an update on the status of the Naas to Sallins Greenway Part 8 process?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Part 8 drawings and documents of the Naas to Sallins Greenway was being progressed with the inclusion of a link to the Sallins bypass which was currently under construction. The Part 8 report for the scheme should be substantially completed by Quarter 2 2020 subject to surveys being completed.

The report was noted.

NS21/1219

St. David’s Castle, Naas

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Martin.
Can the council give the members of this committee information in respect of the current status, ownership and condition of St David’s Castle, Naas including a copy of the file of correspondence, if any re same and confirm whether or not the council has taken any steps in recent years in securing ownership or management of and/or enhancing it or enquiring into its ownership and condition?

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that St. David’s Castle Naas was listed as a protected

structure in the County Kildare Development Plan 2017 – 2023, reference NS19-001, and was within an architectural conservation area. The Castle was in private ownership. Kildare County Council was not in funds to acquire the Castle and had made no approaches to the owner to acquire ownership or management of the Castle. The Conservation Officer met the owners on site in February 2018 and informed them of their statutory duty to (a) maintain the structure, fabric and curtilage of the structure and (b) to prevent the structure from becoming endangered. The report was noted.

NS22/1219

Christmas Tree Recycling

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen. Can the council confirm where in this municipal district that the public can bring their old Christmas trees for recycling?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that our Christmas tree recycling service would be available from Saturday 04 to Sunday 19 January at the Fairgreen, just across from the recycling banks. Trees would be shredded on site and the mulch would be used by Naas Tidy Towns on landscaping projects locally.

The report was noted.

NS23/1219

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017 to 2019

The committee agreed to consider items number 21 and 22 of the agenda together.

Item number 21 – Adjourned Motion Councillor Moore

That the council identify the 2019 applications that were made for grant assistance for projects in this Municipal District area under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme or under The National Lottery Good Causes Awards.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Clear.

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that one application for funding within the Naas Municipal District area was submitted to the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2019 to carry out a Healthcheck/Urban Design Analysis of Sallins and develop an associated Town Renewal Plan. Unfortunately, this funding application was unsuccessful. A meeting took place with the Department of Rural and Community Development on 19 November and the feedback received had been circulated to all members for their information.

Item number 22 – Motion Councillor Moore

That the council identify what applications were forwarded from the Naas Municipal District for the years 2017/2018/2019 as projects for consideration under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and what projects were successful in those years.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett.

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the following projects within the Naas Municipal District area were submitted for consideration under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme for the years 2017 to 2019:

Year	Town	Project	Outcome	Amount of Funding Received
2017	Ballymore Eustace	Walking Trail	Successful	€ 92,000
2018	Kilcullen (then part of Naas Municipal District)	Upgrade to Market Square	Successful	€200,000
2019*	Sallins	Healthcheck/ Urban Design Analysis, Town Renewal Plan and	Unsuccessful	

		development of priority project(s) through to Part 8 Approval.		
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*An expression of interest was considered in respect of Twomile House, however it was considered that the proposal was premature until such time as planning permission is in place.

Councillor Moore expressed his dissatisfaction in relation to Kildare County Council's success rate under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme stating that Kildare received a lower number of grants than Leitrim, Carlow or Louth and noting that something needed to be done regarding this. He voiced his concerns regarding the level of resourcing in the Public Realm Section. Councillor Moore asked the Municipal District Manager to examine where any additional monies could be procured for the municipal district to allow the members to put other money to better use.

The Municipal District Manager stated that he would follow up on the query to establish if there were funding pools available.

In relation to Councillor Moore's comment regarding the level of resourcing in the Public Realm Section, the Municipal District Manager stated that the Chief Executive was considering the option of additional staff for the Public Realm Team.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Clear that the report be noted and the Municipal District Manager stated that he would establish if there were funding pools available.

NS24/1219

Telephone Exchange in Abbey Street

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore. That this Municipal District Committee requests that the Chief Executive of Kildare County Council write to the CEO of An Post, identifying our municipal districts

interest in acquiring the now defunct Telephone Exchange in Abbey Street as part of our future Cultural Quarter for community purposes.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett.

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the council was successful in obtaining funding from the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund to carry out a feasibility study and develop a Masterplan for the Canal Quarter which includes Abbey Street. This work would commence in early 2020. Part of the proposal for the Canal Quarter was that active land management would be progressed to negotiate purchase vacant/underutilised site e.g. Eir Exchange building site and former An Post sorting office. In conjunction with the Feasibility Study, Kildare County Council intends to continue to engage in negotiations and discussions with the relevant landowners of key sites identified and to progress the development of publicly owned sites e.g. the new Library, Kildare County Council car park, vacant lands to the rear of the Courts Service.

Councillor Moore asked if a letter could be written to An Post to open up negotiations and to identify our municipal districts interest in acquiring the now defunct Telephone Exchange in Abbey Street as part of our future Cultural Quarter for community purposes regardless of the Cultural Quarter that the council had in mind.

The Municipal District Manager suggested that he meet with An Post first regarding the matter and all the members agreed. The members requested that the item remain on the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and the Municipal District Manager to meet with An Post regarding the matter and the item remain on the progress report.

NS25/1219

Adjourned motion on the De Burgh Lands

On foot of Councillor Moore's suggestion, Councillor Martin asked that this motion item number 24 on the agenda be adjourned until an update had been received from Ms Sonya Kavanagh, Director of Services, Economic, Community and Cultural Development in relation to the matter. The members unanimously agreed.

NS26/1219

Monread Dog Park

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear. Can the council inform members if there will be a dog park in Monread Park as part of the masterplan for it?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the installation of a dog park in Monread Park would be a consideration in developing a masterplan for the park. The final decision on this would be dependent on how we can combine the various elements being sought within the park, the public consultation and the outcome of this and what the elected members decide to approve when the final masterplan comes before them for decision.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.