

**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting held at 3.30 pm on  
Tuesday, 14 May 2019  
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas**

**Members Present:** Councillor B Hillis (Mayor), Councillors A Breen, F Brett, D Callaghan, C Kelly, S Moore, S O'Neill, R Power and D Scully.

**Officials Present:** Mr P Minnock (Municipal District Manager), Ms E Wright, Mr K Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officers), Mr D Reel (Municipal District Engineer), Mr B O'Gorman (Administrative Officer), Mr M Kane (Chief Technician), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator) and Ms K O'Malley (Meetings Secretary).

**NS01/0519**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 16 April 2019 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Breen that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 16 April 2019, of the Naas Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**NS02/0519**

**LPT Allocation**

The Municipal District Manager informed the members that €62,000 LPT funding had been allocated to residents associations in 2018 however no funding was allocated to residents associations in 2019. He stated that unused LPT funding had been identified and sought the members agreement to transfer €62,000 from the unused LPT funding to residents associations for 2019.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor O'Neill and agreed by all the members that €62,000 from unused LPT funding be transferred to residents associations for 2019.

**NS03/0519**

**Municipal District Road Works**

Mr Reel, Municipal District Engineer updated the members on the municipal district road works. He stated that the Naas Municipal District was at tender/construction stage for improvement works to footpath and associated works at the following location within the Naas Municipal District:

- The Gables, Kill (footpath improvements) – Complete.
- The Park, Naas (footpath improvements) – Complete.
- Sallins Road, Naas (footpath improvement) – Complete.
- St. Brigid’s Avenue, Kilcullen (road and footpath improvements) – Construction Stage.
- Relocate Bus Stop, Sallins – Complete.
- Sallins Controlled Pedestrian Crossing improvements – Complete.
- Newbridge Road, Naas footpath works – Complete.
- Resurfacing of Abbey Street Car Park, Naas – Complete.
- Hazelmere road repairs – Complete.
- Main Street, Naas – Tender Stage
- Brannockstown Footpath – Construction Stage.

Mr Reel informed the members that in relation to the Naas Municipal District Road Improvement Works 2019, the first package of works (Works Package 1) was at pre-construction stage with construction to start by 13 May 2019. It included the following works locations:

SECTION A: L6039 Crab Road

SECTION B: L20113 Bishopscourt, Kill

SECTION C: L20102 Alasty

SECTION D: L6012 Sherlockstown, Sallins

SECTION E: L60601 McLoughlins Lane, Boleybeg

SECTION F: L6035 Naas Rugby Club to the Red House

SECTION G: L6043 Craddockstown

SECTION H: L2004 Digby Bridge

SECTION I: L200610 Osberstown Cottages, Sallins

He stated that works at Crab Road, Bishopscourt, Kill and Alasty were taking place this week.

In relation to the second package of road improvement projects, Mr Reel stated that these were at tender stage with construction to start by mid June 2019. It included the following works locations:

SECTION A: L6011 Turnings-Sherlockstown-Daars

SECTION B: L20042 Blackhall, Clane

SECTION C: R407 Bodenstown-Clane

SECTION D: L6076 Castlefish (Nicholastown)

SECTION E: Bishopshill, Ballymore Eustace

SECTION F: Dunshane

SECTION G: Walterstown, Sallins

SECTION H: L2023 Punchestown, Naas

Mr Reel informed the members that there were two substantial issues in relation to emergency drainage works and confirmed that the Naas Municipal District had carried out emergency drainage works at Main Street, Sallins which included repairs to the drainage system at the shops/apartments on the R407 opposite Sallins Bridge. He stated that this work had been completed. Emergency drainage works were also carried out at Lakelands, Naas which included repairs to the collapsed pipe exiting the lakes and the removal of trees causing the problem (root ingress). These works were also completed.

**NS04/0519**

**Matters Arising**

Councillor Moore stated that he wrote to the Municipal District Manager and Chief Executive seeking advice in relation to the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 and expressed his dissatisfaction having not received a response from them.

**NS05/0519**

**Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8**

The members considered the report from the Corporate Policy Group on the referred motion from the Naas Municipal District Committee on the Chief Executive's Report on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8.

That the Naas Municipal District Committee resolves to refer the consideration of the Chief Executive report on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 to the Corporate Policy Group to determine as to whether the function should be exercised and performed by the elected council of the local authority or by the municipal district members.

A report was received from the Corporate Policy Group informing the members that following discussion at the Corporate Policy Group on the 02 May and based on the fact that the Naas Municipal District members had not as yet received and had the opportunity to give due consideration to the Chief Executive's Report on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8, it was agreed that the consideration of the Chief Executive's Report on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 be exercised and performed by the Naas Municipal District members.

The Municipal District Manager informed the members that there was a long debate at the previous Naas Municipal District meeting which resulted in a motion being referred to the Corporate Policy Group and the report as circulated was the position following consideration at the Corporate Policy Group meeting on 02 May 2019.

Councillor Scully stated that at the Corporate Policy Group meeting it was clear that his fellow elected members were of the opinion that decisions affecting municipal districts should be decided on at municipal district level. He further stated that following the Corporate Policy Group meeting he was left in no doubt that the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 was not being referred back to the Naas Municipal District for consideration but for decision.

Councillor Brett stated that it was due to his amended motion at the April meeting of Naas Municipal District that the matter was referred to the Corporate Policy Group and confirmed that he had informed the other elected members in advance that he

would be submitting the amended motion. He further stated that he accepted the report from the Corporate Policy Group.

Councillor Kelly stated that the report received from the Corporate Policy Group referred to the Naas Municipal District Members giving consideration to the Chief Executives Report on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 and queried when the elected members could expect to receive the Chief Executive Report.

Councillor Moore stated that he was opposing the road and confirmed that he had asked for the matter to be reviewed.

Councillor Breen stated that she was opposing the road and that an outer relief road was required.

Councillor Power stated that he fully accepted the report received from the Corporate Policy Group and confirmed that he would not be part of the Naas Municipal District in June when the decision on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 would be made. He expressed his concern that the Naas Inner Relief Road may not go ahead and stated that the road would be a positive step for the town. He agreed that an outer relief road was required but added that there would still be a need for an inner relief road if that were to happen.

The Municipal District Manger stated that it was 27 years since the road was first included in a Local Area Plan and informed the members it was hoped that the Chief Executives Report on the Naas Inner Relief Road Part 8 would be listed for the June meeting of the Naas Municipal District.

The report was noted.

**NS06/0519**

**Naming of Roundabouts in the Municipal District**

Mr Kane updated the members on the naming of roundabouts in the municipal district. He stated that there were a number of roundabouts in Naas that required a name and issued a map to the members highlighting these roundabouts and asked the members to send in their submissions.

Further to a discussion amongst the members, the following points were made.

- Local residents requested planting and flower beds on the roundabout itself between the old and new Caragh Road. Mr Kane stated that landscaping was part of the long term plan for all the roundabouts.
- It was suggested that some of the roundabouts in the municipal district be named after the 1927/1928 All Ireland winning football team.
- That schools in the area choose a name for a roundabout.
- The Irish version of the names be used

Councillor Scully stated that he was the Chair of the Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and that a county wide policy for naming of roundabouts was required. He suggested that the Naas Municipal District Committee send a request to Niall Morrissey, Director of Services, Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department recommending that the incoming SPC establish a county wide policy for the naming of roundabouts.

The councillors thanked those who sponsored roundabouts in the municipal districts.

The Municipal District Manager stated that the naming of roundabouts process should be a county wide decision and should include the Irish version of the name.

Ms Wright stated that the matter of the naming of the roundabouts came from the Naas Transport Working Group and confirmed that the Naas Municipal District Committee was the first to be briefed.

It was agreed that the matter in relation to a county wide policy for the naming of roundabouts would be referred to the incoming Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services SPC.

### **NS07/0519**

#### **N7 Speed Restriction**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly. That this Municipal District Committee be informed when the speed restrictions on the N7 will be lifted.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Callaghan.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that at this time SIAC/Colas had informed Kildare County Council that they were confident they would achieve substantial completion of the M7 widening element of the scheme by the end of July 2019. The contractor had also indicated that they expected to have the three lanes available between Junction 8 (Johnstown) and Junction 10 (Naas South) in advance of this date. Should the three lanes become available for use on parts of the widening scheme; the existing temporary speed limit would be reviewed in conjunction with An Garda Síochána, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the contractor SIAC/Colas. The general public would be kept informed in advance of any changes in relation to the number of trafficked lanes available and the applicable speed limit.

Councillor Kelly asked why we were now looking at substantial completion by the end of July. Ms Wright outlined the scale of the job in response.

The Municipal District Manager outlined the scale and size of the job and noted that the traffic congestion should ease from July onwards.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Callaghan that the report be noted.

### **NS08/0519**

#### **Fibre Broadband in the Blackhall/Rathmore areas of Clane**

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

That the council engages with Telecoms providers to ensure there are no planning or other impediments such as road issues, to the provision of fibre broadband to the Blackhall/Rathmore areas of Clane.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Callaghan.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council's Broadband Office continued to deal with all providers in relation to the rollout of broadband throughout the county.

The Public Lighting Section was also liaising with a Broadband Service Provider (Eir) in relation to the utilisation of public lighting columns to 'string' fibre across Alexandra Bridge. All service providers were obliged to comply with whatever planning/licensing requirements exist for any Telecoms Provider/Statutory Undertaker.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Callaghan that the report be noted.

### **NS09/0519**

#### **Sallins Bridge Parapet Railings**

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

Can the council consider replacing the Sallins Bridge parapet railings with a more aesthetically pleasing design in conjunction with the Grand Canal Greenway project?



A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that while the replacement of the Sallins Bridge parapet railings was not part of the design brief for the Grand Canal Greenway project, the Roads Department would endeavour to secure funding for this work, if possible. The report was noted.

### **NS10/0519**

#### **Naas Courthouse**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Neill. That this Municipal District Committee writes to the Court Services in Naas Courthouse with a request to power hose the walls and steps of the courthouse and that they replace the torn and faded National flag on the roof.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that if the members were in agreement, a letter would issue to the Court Services in Naas Courthouse.

Councillor O'Neill stated that the flag on top of the courthouse had been replaced and that she had heard the courthouse would be closed for four months for major refurbishment. She requested that the cleaning of the walls and steps of the Courthouse take place after the major refurbishment had been completed.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted and a letter to issue to the Court Services in Naas Courthouse asking that the walls and steps of the Courthouse be cleaned.

### **NS11/0519**

#### **Finance Committee Report**

Councillor Moore informed the members that he was the Chair of the Finance Committee and gave the members an update. He confirmed that it was not a decision making committee however it enabled discussion on relevant topics and for

items to be referred to the appropriate committee/SPC once the finance element was clarified. The report was noted.

**NS12/0519**

**Cleaning Cost of Temporary Encampments**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett. Can the council outline to the members what are the cleaning up costs involved following the recent temporary encampments on the Naas Ring Road and on the Straffan Road, Kill?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that a clean up at the Naas Ring Road was recently undertaken by the Council's Environment Clean-up Crew, with assistance from Naas Tidy Towns. A request for a clean-up at Straffan Road, Kill was currently being arranged by the Environment Department. An estimated cost of €1,000- €1,500 was typical for each of these individual clean up requests.

The report was noted.

**NS13/0519**

**Building and Excavation Works on the L6061 Lane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Neill. That the council makes it a priority to address the HGV and site traffic coming from building and excavation works on the L6061 lane area known as The Park Lane, Grangebeg, Dunlavin County Kildare as soon as possible.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Callaghan.

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the issues raised in the Notice of Motion were currently being examined.

Councillor O'Neill highlighted the urgency of this complaint.

Mr Kavanagh stated that an Enforcement Notice had been issued and an inspection would be carried out later that week. He confirmed that he would provide an update to Councillor O'Neill when available.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Councillor Callaghan that the report be noted and an update be provided to Councillor O'Neill when available.

**NS14/0519**

**De Burgh's Garden**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Neill. Can the council confirm if there is an approximate timeline of when the public will have access to the site known as "De Burgh's Garden"?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the conservation plan for the gardens would have to be completed before this issue could be considered.

Councillor O'Neill asked when work on a conservation plan would commence. Mr Wallace stated that it was planned for later that year. The report was noted.

**NS15/0519**

**Dog Park**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Neill. Can the council consider looking at the land at K Leisure or Caragh Road to locate the proposed dog park?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the lands at K Leisure/ Naas Sports Centre was leased to both these groups for amenity use. There was no scope within these leases to provide a dog park. The other lands on Caragh road was designated for housing and would have to be referred to that Department for consideration.

The report was noted.

The Mayor thanked the members and officials for their kindness to him during his time as a member of Kildare County Council and wished Councillor Callaghan and the Municipal District Manager the best in their retirement.

The Municipal District Manager and the Meetings Administrator wished Councillor Hillis and Councillor Callaghan well in their retirement and wished all the members well in the upcoming elections.

The members wished Councillor Hillis, Councillor Callaghan and the Municipal District Manager well in their retirement and thanked all the officials for their work.

The meeting concluded.