

**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting  
held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 08 February 2022  
on Microsoft Teams**

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

**Officials Present:** Mr E Ryan (Municipal District Manager), Mr D Reel (Municipal District Engineer), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Ms P Pender, Mr D Mc Dermott (A/Senior Executive Officers), Ms V Cooke, Ms A O'Malley (Administrative Officers), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms K O'Malley (Meetings Secretary) and others.

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**NS01/0222**

**Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations from the members of pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

**NS02/0222**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Naas Municipal District held on Tuesday, 11 January 2022 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Breen that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 11 January 2022 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**NS03/0222**

**Matters Arising**

**Cemex site on the Dublin Road NS26/1121**

Councillor Kelly asked for a timeline on the detailed traffic survey of the junctions at Maudlins that was being advanced.

The Municipal District Manager stated that the work that commenced recently was the detailed traffic survey of the junction at Maudlins which was an objective of the recently adopted Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027.

**Illuminating the John Devoy Statue NS15/0321& NS04/0421**

Councillor Moore asked for confirmation that the illumination of the John Devoy Statue was on the Sustainable Travel Team's agenda of works.

**Vacant Housing Report**

Councillor Kelly stated that 15 houses were boarded up in Sallins, however the Vacant Housing Report had a total of nine, five requiring minor works and four requiring major works.

Ms Cooke informed the members that there were two properties that were fire damaged and were not included on the Vacant Housing Report and confirmed that she had re-checked the list of vacant properties in Sallins and still had a total of nine properties. She asked Councillor Kelly to send her the list of properties and she would check the list off against each other.

**Business Promotional Group NS35/1220**

Councillor Kelly expressed her concern that there was no information in the Business Promotional Group quarterly report in relation to Naas Shopping Centre and stated that the Shopping Centre was holding up the future development of Naas.

The Municipal District Manager informed Councillor Kelly that the reason it did not appear on the report was that he had no concrete information to report on. He confirmed that he had some engagement with the owner in relation to the entrance but there was currently no substantial update to provide. In response to a question

from Councillor Kelly, the Municipal District Manager stated that the planning application had expired and there was currently no live planning application in relation to the Shopping Centre.

**NS04/0222**

**Mayors Business**

**Vigil at Áras Chill Dara**

The Mayor thanked all the elected members and staff of Kildare County Council who attended the vigil for Ashling Murphy at Áras Chill Dara and thanked Councillor Sammon for organising it.

**Covid-19**

The Mayor thanked the people of Naas, Kildare and Ireland for their efforts in coming together to combat the Covid-19 Pandemic and acknowledged those whose lives had been lost as a result of Covid-19.

**A Minutes Silence**

A minutes silence was observed in memory of Ashling Murphy and for those whose lives were lost due to Covid-19.

**Water Supply Contaminated in Killeel**

Councillor Brett stated that the group water scheme in Killeel had been contaminated with arsenic and he had been in touch with Irish Water to provide a tanker for drinking water. He informed the members that a supply from the mains may have to be arranged if the issue continued.

Ms O'Malley confirmed that the Environment and Water Services Department had been in touch with Irish Water and undertook to contact Irish Water again in relation to the matter.

**Lighting of Cupidstown Hill for St Brigid's Day**

The Mayor complimented the people who organised lighting on Cupidstown Hill in celebration of St Brigid's Day.

### **Invitations to Twinning Events**

The Mayor provided an update to the members on Twinning events. He confirmed that the Dillingen Twinning event and the New York St Patrick's Day event had been deferred. He informed the members that neither himself or the Deputy Mayor were available to attend the event in Omaha on 12 March 2022 and therefore he proposed that, given Councillor Kelly was the Chairperson of the Twinning Liaison Committee and the Leas-Cathaoirleach of County Kildare, it would be fitting that she represented the Naas Municipal District Committee at the event. The members agreed to nominate Councillor Kelly to attend the Twinning event in Omaha on 12 March 2022.

**Resolved** on the proposal of the Mayor and agreed by the group that Councillor Kelly would attend the Twinning event in Omaha on 12 March 2022.

### **Funding from the NTA (National Transport Authority)**

The Mayor welcomed the recently awarded funding from the NTA to the Naas Municipal District of over €4 million which had been allocated to a number of roads projects including Cycleways and Greenways. He thanked the Roads Department staff for putting the applications together.

### **Naas Senior Hurling Team**

The Mayor congratulated the Naas Senior Hurling Team on their win in the All Ireland Intermediate hurling final and acknowledged the great achievement stating the people of Naas were very proud of them.

## **NS05/0222**

### **Naas Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2022**

The Mayor stated that the LPT Schedule of Works 2022 had not yet been fully agreed however the allocation of the below funding had been agreed by the members. He confirmed that the allocation of the remaining funds would be agreed by the members in the coming weeks:

- €500,000 to Roads Projects
- €118,711 to Public Realm/Regeneration
- €70,000 to the members discretionary fund.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by all the members that €500,000 to allocated to Roads Projects, €118,711 to Public Realm/Regeneration projects and €70,000 to the members discretionary fund and the remaining funds to be agreed by the members in the coming weeks.

### **NS06/0222**

#### **Proposed Works within the Naas Municipal District**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett. That the council update members on proposed works within the municipal district over the next year, especially with regards to footpath and road restoration, in order to assist in the disposal of discretionary LPT funding.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the indicative proposed works programme for 2022 was identified in the Municipal District Road Works update. This would not be finalised until the grant allocation for 2022 was received from the Department of Transport. It was estimated that Kildare County Council would receive its allocation of funding in February 2022.

Councillor Brett accepted the report.

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

### **NS07/0222**

#### **Bin the Poop Stencils on Footpaths**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillors Kelly. That the council update/renew Stencils on footpaths and areas most frequented by dog walkers to remind dog owners to “bin the poop”.

The motion was proposed by Councillors Kelly, seconded by Councillor Kenny.

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that dog fouling stencils on walking routes in Sallins, Naas and Johnstown/Kill were due to be renewed in Quarter 2 this year.

The members made the following points:

- A list of walking routes had been provided to the Environmental Awareness Officer and playgrounds were also to be included.
- Could the stencils be made illuminous pink as they faded quickly last year.
- It was hoped that an awareness campaign could be organised.
- Could the audio warning devices that were installed in Monread Park and then moved, be located?

Ms O'Malley stated that the audio warning devices were moved to various locations last year and she was not sure of the exact locations, but she would revert to the members with this information.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillors Kelly, seconded by Councillor Kenny that the report be noted and Ms O'Malley to revert to the members with information on the current location of the audio warning devices.

### **NS08/0222**

#### **Installation of Temporary Audio Warning Devices along the Grand Canal**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly. That this council liaise with Waterways Ireland to install temporary audio warning devices along the Grand Canal in this municipal district to remind dog owners of their responsibilities.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that there were currently no plans as part of the delivery of either the Grand Canal Greenway or Barrow Blueway projects to install audio warning devices along the route. There would be a code of conduct developed for both the Greenway and Blueway Projects, which would set out the

requirements for all users of both amenities. Kildare County Council would raise it with the Steering Groups as an area for concern and consideration.

Councillor Kelly stated that she was delighted to hear there would be a code of conduct but was unhappy that temporary audio devices could not be installed and moved around noting that they work in Parks.

Ms Hunt made the following points:

- There was a Steering Group for the Grand Canal Greenway which included representatives from Offaly County Council, South Dublin County Council and Waterways Ireland.
- Works in delivering a Greenway had to be carried out in a uniform matter and audio devices were not usually found on Greenways.
- The matter would be raised with the Steering Group and she would revert to the members with the feedback.

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

### **NS09/0222**

#### **Pedestrian Crossing from Castle Farm/Primrose Gardens to Elsmore**

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

That the council examine the possibility of installing a pedestrian crossing between Castle Farm/Primrose Gardens across the ring road to Elsmore pedestrian entrance.

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 as part of a recently granted planning permission, a developer had been conditioned to provide a Toucan crossing in the vicinity of this location. Pending the delivery of the crossing as part of this development, the Council had no plans to provide same.

Councillor Clear made the following points:

- Speeding was a significant issue on the road.
- Young families had to walk as far as one kilometre from one side of the road and two kilometres from the other side of the road to get to a pedestrian crossing.
- Could the Planning Department provide details of the planning application that included the requirement for providing the pedestrian crossing and at what location, as he had been unable to find it.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and the Planning Department provide details of the planning application for which a Toucan crossing had been conditioned.

### **NS10/0222**

#### **Installation of Double Yellow Lines at Oakglade Close**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear. That the council install double yellow lines for 30 meters at Oakglade Close to prevent parents, who are collecting from Naas Community National School, from blocking the junction.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that with the members agreement, a Section 38 process could commence to install double yellow lines for 30 meters at Oakglade Close.

Councillor Clear made the following points:

- Parents collecting children were parking right at the junction.
- Installing the double yellow lines would keep the junction open and safe for users.

The members confirmed that there were no housing developments within the area identified



All the members agreed to the commencement of a Section 38 process.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by the members that the report be noted and approval was given to the council to commence a Section 38 process at Oakglade Close.

**NS11/0222**

**Reinstatement of Roads following Repairs and Resurfacing**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kenny. That the council review its oversight and audit procedure to ensure appropriate standard of reinstatement is achieved in this municipal district following repairs and resurfacing by contractors and utility companies e.g. the recent resurfacing on the Rathasker Road and repairs post pipe laying on the Woolpack Road.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that road openings were licenced under the national Map Road Licencing (MRL) system and contractors undertaking road openings were required to reinstate the road in accordance with the "Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads". Currently there was a significant quantity of road openings occurring in the Naas Municipal District with both Irish Water and the National Broadband (NBI) projects ongoing in the district. The oversight of the reinstatement works were based on resources available and the Naas Municipal District Office endeavours to manage these as part of its workload. Any defects were reported back to the contractor and were required to be rectified in compliance with the conditions of their licence. Kildare currently has one road opening licence inspector for the county.

The members made the following points:

- There were a couple of different areas around the municipal district where roads had not been re-instated to an appropriate standard.
- Uneven surfaces on roads proved very difficult for cyclists.

- Roads should be re-instated as good as, or to a higher standard than they were before the works took place.
- A contractor carrying out works in Johnstown Village had not re-instated the road following works, bonds needed to be kept for contractors who did not re-instate roads properly following works.

The Municipal District Engineer stated that the re-instatement of a road was a two-phase process ie. a temporary re-instatement was carried out initially, followed by a period of settlement and then the permanent re-instatement could be completed.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kenny, seconded by Councillor Clear that the report be noted.

### **NS12/0222**

#### **Broadband Services in Ballymore Eustace**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon. That the council provide an update on the provision of Broadband Services in Ballymore Eustace.

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 updates on the roll out of the National Broadband Plan could be found at <https://nbi.ie/map/> using their Eircode, those within the intervention area could get an update on the rollout for their area. NBI had identified 10 Deployment Areas (DA) across Kildare which were at varying stages from Survey Planned, Survey Underway, Network Build in Progress. Naas to Ballymore area was developed under the Blessington DA. It was currently in the Network Build in Progress stage with anticipated date for connection to high speed Fibre Broadband due April 2022 – June 2022, impacting 5031 premises. Those within the intervention area, could keep up to date on the progress by registering on the NBI site using their Eircode.

There were other DA's that impact the Ballymore Eustace area and they were not as far along as the Blessington DA, some were at survey planned or survey underway stage. Our recommendation is for residents within the intervention area to log onto the website, register their interest in receiving updates and any impact on their area will be communicated to them directly.

Having reviewed a number of premises in the town of Ballymore Eustace, it appears that a significant number do not fall within the intervention area. Ms Pender had had extracted the following information which may be helpful to some residents/business.

How do they get fast broadband if they are not in the intervention area?

If your premises isn't included in the rollout of the National Broadband Plan, but you cannot receive internet speeds of 30Mb or more from any commercial broadband provider, the following steps should be taken;

1. Contact your current retail service provider to investigate the issue and to determine the reason as to why your broadband speeds are slow or why a high speed broadband service cannot be provided.
2. Contact other retail service provider offering broadband services in your area to ascertain whether high speed broadband is available at your premises.
3. After the above checks are completed and if you are still unable to receive over 30Mbps from any retail service provider, then you can raise a query with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) who will undertake an investigation on your behalf. For further details, please contact the National Broadband Plan division of DECC using the designated [Web Form](https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/forms/NBP-Customer-Service.aspx) (at this link <https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/forms/NBP-Customer-Service.aspx>)
4. This investigation will determine if high speed broadband can be provided to you by a service provider or whether your premises should be included in NBI's fibre rollout.

Councillor Sammon stated that Ballymore Village was still operating off copper wiring and outside the National Broadband Plan. There were two electrical interference points in Ballymore Eustace, one at the Ballymore Inn and one at Paddy Murphy's pub. She stated Comreg were aware of the issue but did not seem to be too concerned and asked what the next steps were to rectify the problem?

Ms Pender asked Councillor Sammon to send all the information to her and she would take the query to the Department and seek clarification.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and Councillor Sammon to send all the information to Ms Pender who will take the query to the Department and seek clarification.

### **NS13/0222**

#### **Quality of lighting at Monread Park, Naas**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen. That the council upgrade the quality of lighting at Monread Park, Naas, to improve visibility in the interests of safety.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there was no funding available in the Public Lighting Budget to progress projects which were solely upgrade in nature. The lighting at the location would be upgraded as part of the National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project. A Tender Assessment Board was currently sitting to appoint a contractor for Region 2, which included Kildare. Currently it was not possible to advise where Kildare would sit as part of the project as this would be a matter for the successful Contractor to schedule. Should the members wish to fund this project in advance of the national project, funding of €25,000 would be required.

The members made the following points:

- Good quality lighting in Monread Park was important to make the park safe as the park was used by many people and with the shocking events of late where

members of the public were being targeted there was an immediate need to upgrade the lighting.

- All lights in Monread Park had been repaired and Kildare County Council appeared to be prioritising parks.
- LED lighting needed to be prioritised in all parks in the municipal district
- As lights stopped working, they were being replaced with LED lights.
- There was a company approaching Council's with deals who would replace all lights with LED lighting and taking the savings made as payment.

Ms Pender confirmed that as a light was repaired, it was replaced with an LED light and this would be the case until the Public Light Retrofitting Project got underway which was hoped would commence at the end of the year. She also confirmed that the Public Lighting Section had not been approached by any company offering to replace lights and take the savings made as payment.

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

### **NS14/0222**

#### **Crossing Point between the Fairgreen and the Ballymore Road Lakes**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kenny. Can the council confirm if it has any plans to provide a controlled crossing on the Craddockstown Road at the raised table crossing point between the Fairgreen and the Ballymore Road Lakes taking into account the increased number of vulnerable road users (VRU) and elderly pedestrians that walk to Naas General Hospital and exercise around the lakes?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there were no current plans or funding allocated to modify this crossing point to a controlled crossing point. The Traffic Management Section shall review the crossing as part of a number of locations that shall be reviewed this year to consider whether a controlled crossing point was warranted at this location.

Councillor Kenny clarified that road users and pedestrians crossing roads needed to be extra vigilant outside health care facilities and asked that a pilot scheme - Safe Routes to Healthcare Facilities - similar to Safe Routes to Schools programme, be considered for Naas.

The report was noted.

**NS15/0222**

**Motion Sensor Activated Traffic Lights**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kenny. Can the council confirm how often they review the configuration of motion sensor activated traffic lights to ensure the sensor detects lone cyclists so that cyclists obeying the light signal do not have to wait for vehicles to arrive and activate a signal change?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Traffic Management Section review and monitor the operation of its traffic signal equipment on a daily basis. In terms of the detection of cyclists the traditional form of detection i.e. induction loops could sometimes not register a carbon fibre style bicycle due to the lack of metal contained in these type of bicycles. The Traffic Management Section had provided alternative methods of detection where reports had been received where this was found to occur. If the member wishes to report any issues related to this, please e-mail [traffilight@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:traffilight@kildarecoco.ie) and the Traffic Management Section shall investigate the issue.

The report was noted.

**NS16/0222**

**Sunflower Parking**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Sammon. Can the council confirm if it has considered the introduction of Sunflower Parking in the Naas Municipal District?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Waterford County and City Council had recently installed two “hidden disability bays” in an off-street car park in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, and users of these bays were required to pay and display for their parking. Regular disability/accessibility bays were provided for all disability badge holders and were regulated under the Road Traffic Act and the Road Traffic Regulations. At present, there was no legislation for the installation (road markings & signs) or the regulation of “hidden” disabilities/autism, therefore the proposed bays were not enforceable. The Transportation Department would like to advise the members that the Pay Parking Section was in the initial stages of reviewing a number of parking bye-laws across the county. Once prepared, the draft parking bye-laws for each town would be advertised in due course where submissions may be submitted. The Transportation Department would further advise that if the members wish to proceed with such initiatives, that these proposals be made through the relevant SPC to ensure consistency across the county in the provision of parking services across all towns in County Kildare.

The report was noted.

### **NS17/0222**

#### **St Corban's Place Double Yellow Lines**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen.  
Can the council confirm when the agreed double yellow lines for St Corban's Place will be installed?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members the Naas Municipal District Office was awaiting the road markings contractor to commence these works.

The Municipal District Engineer confirmed that double yellow lines in St Corban's Place had since been installed.

The report was noted.

**NS18/0222**

**Damaged Bridge at Caragh**

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

Can the members be updated on the plans and timelines for the repair of the damaged road bridge, currently closed to traffic, at Caragh?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members the bridge consultant had provided a report on the damage to Caragh Bridge. A Conservation Architect had been appointed by the Council to prepare an application to the National Monuments Service (NMS) for Ministerial Consent to carry out the remedial works on the bridge as Caragh Bridge was a National Monument (KD019-012). The application and its review by the NMS would take a number of weeks but it was envisaged that consents would be in place by early March to allow a contractor commence the necessary repair works to the bridge.

The report was noted.

**NS19/0222**

**Municipal District Road Works**

A report on the municipal district road works was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting. The Municipal District Engineer stated that he was waiting on the 2022 allocation from the Department of Transport which he was expecting this month.

**NS20/0222**

**Kildare County Council Owned Vacant Houses in Sallins**

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

Can the council provide a report on the number of vacant houses in the ownership of Kildare County Council in Sallins, including addresses for each property?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that each month the members were given a Vacant House Report which details the total



for the county and a municipal district breakdown. The report also further breaks down the works required into major works or minor works. This month's report shows that there were 4 properties requiring major works and 5 properties requiring minor works in Sallins. The addresses of such properties were not published for a number of reasons which include security of the property and the identification of properties as being council owned where such properties were located in private estates. The detail of the report had been agreed by the Housing SPC in 2021.

Councillor Clear sought clarification on the report as he was aware of 15 vacant houses in Castlefen. Ms Cooke stated that if Councillor Clear sent her a list of the properties he was referring to she would compare it with the Housing Department's list of vacant houses.

The report was noted.

### **NS21/0222**

#### **Temporary Suspension of Pay Parking Byelaws**

A report circulated to the members in advance of the meeting outlining the request. Ms Hunt asked the members to consider granting approval for the following two scenarios for the period January to November 2022.

- Where the Public Realm Team wanted to install parklets and outdoor seating areas in the municipal district for use by the public.
- Where a business applied to take over a parking bay for the purposes of outdoor dining.

She confirmed that only safe and appropriate locations would be approved and stated that the S254 licence applications were reviewed by the Municipal District Engineer and the Public Realm Team who provide a report to the case planner for a full planning assessment of the proposal.

The members asked for a list of the S254 licences for the municipal district when they have been granted, to enable them to respond to any queries received and Ms Hunt agreed to issue a monthly list.

Ms Hunt outlined proposed parklets for public use at the following locations:

- The use of two parking spaces outside Grá Café.
- The use of five parking spaces outside the Potato Market/ Presbyterian Church area.
- The use of two parking spaces in the area around Rustic.
- The use of two parking spaces near the new row junction.

Councillor Breen asked if businesses in the area had been informed of Public Realm's plans to take over parking spaces and Ms Hunt confirmed that the Public Realm Team did a walk around Naas and spoke to business owners.

She informed the members that funding was available to roll this out however she required their agreement.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that the temporary suspension of Pay Parking Byelaws, including Enforcement, in various locations across the municipal district area to facilitate the continued re-opening of businesses subject to S254 licence approval be approved.

### **NS22/0222**

#### **Jigginstown Castle, Naas**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore. That this council issues a letter to the Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works, Patrick O'Donovan, drawing his attention to the ongoing saga of small financial allocations, being made on a piecemeal basis, to secure and preserve Jigginstown Castle in Naas (1634-1640) as a Building of Architectural and Historic value, long after its selection in the year 2000 as a priority State Project; that could now avail of new Government Grant initiatives and be brought into use as a tourist building of immense interest

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that with the member's agreement, the Senior Executive Officer would write to the Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works, Patrick O'Donovan with regard to Jigginstown Castle, Naas. Councillor Moore confirmed that he was happy for the letter to issue and this was agreed by all the members.

The Municipal District Manager stated that he previously had a meeting with staff members from the OPW and raised the issue and on foot of this motion he sent a follow up message to them which was in addition to the letter that would issue following the motion.

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

### **NS23/0222**

#### **IBAL Award**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore. Can the council clarify what is required to erect a prominent stone feature on a stand alone site in Naas Town Centre as a testament to Naas winning 'The Cleanest Town in Ireland' IBAL Award and to give perpetual credit to the volunteerism of the Community in Naas?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that any proposal for the erection of a civic memorial required the consent of the council and was subject to the Civic Memorial Policy adopted in 2018. Attached was a copy of the policy and the application form which those who were seeking to erect a civic memorial must complete. Recommendations of the Civic Memorial Technical Committee on application received go to CPG who would determine whether the application would go to the municipal district or full council for final decision.

The report was noted.

**NS24/0222**

**Cemex Site**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear.  
Can the council confirm if it has engaged with the owners of the Cemex site to develop a masterplan and future use of the site?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that EDO 1.4 of the recently adopted Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027 sets out that it was an objective of the Council to facilitate the regeneration and redevelopment of the lands to the east of the Dublin Road roundabout, in particular the Key Development Area at Junction 9 (Maudlins), through a joint approach for the overall landholding through the preparation of a comprehensive masterplan comprising of an overall high-quality design in recognition of its location as a key gateway site. Adherence to the Design Framework set out in Chapter 10 was required in the preparation of any masterplan for these lands which would be informed by the Traffic Modelling and Access Strategy (Objective URD 1.13, refers). Objective URD 1.13 also relates, which sets out that it is an objective of the Council to prepare a Traffic Modelling and Access Strategy for lands zoned Mixed-use at the Junction 9 (Maudlins) Key Development Area within 12 months of the adoption of the local area plan, in consultation with relevant stakeholders including Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), the National Transport Authority (NTA) and the owners of the KDA lands. Given that the plan only came into effect on the 01 December 2021, the process to initiate that modelling has just recently begun and engagement at this early stage is considered to be premature.

The report was noted.

**NS25/0222**

**Public Waste bin at the Church Carpark in Sallins**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen.  
That the council install a public waste bin at the church carpark in Sallins.

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

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the car park was privately owned, and the council does not provide bins in such locations. There were already a number of bins in close proximity to the car park, including in the playground, along the canal and on main street. The Councillor would also be aware that the Environment Strategic Policy Committee was currently considering new guidelines for the provision of street litter bins countywide.

Councillor Breen asked if a bin could be installed outside the church car park in Sallins.

Councillor Kelly stated that the only person that could install a bin was the landowner and there were already bins in close proximity to that location.

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

### **NS26/0222**

#### **Christmas Trees Sign in Monread Park**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly.  
Can the council confirm if it has plans to install a sign at Monread Park next Christmas directing people disposing of their Christmas Trees to the Fairgreen?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that in the lead up to Christmas, the council advertises, via local and social media, details of all locations where the public may dispose free-of-charge their old Christmas trees. The Council did provide such signage previously in Monread and they were vandalised. This could be reviewed closer to the time when disposal locations for next year were being finalised.

The report was noted.

**NS27/0222**

**Refuse Bins Bye-Laws**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore. Can the council clarify if there are any bye-laws or environmental regulations that restrict the use of public streets and lanes in this municipal district from being used as weekend storage areas for the refuse bins of commercial businesses?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Council's Waste Management (segregation, storage and presentation of household and commercial waste) Byelaws stipulate that "other than on the day before and the designated waste collection day, containers used for the presentation of kerbside waste shall be held within the curtilage of the premises where the waste is produced". The byelaws also state that all containers used for the presentation of kerbside waste shall be removed from any roadway, footpath or public place no later than 8.00am on the day after the designated waste collection day.

The report was noted.

**NS28/0222**

**Bealtaine Festival**

The committee agreed to consider item 26 and 27 of the agenda together.

**Item 26 – Motion Councillors Kenny and Sammon**

That this council explore the feasibility of facilitating a post pandemic celebration event or parade by arranging a timely Naas Mainstreet closure and including council managed participants such as the fire brigade and street cleaners. The theme could reflect the role of frontline workers and also celebrate local sporting clubs and IBAL successes.

The motion was proposed by Councillors Kenny, seconded by Councillor Sammon.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that they were happy to facilitate any group wishing to

organise a post pandemic celebration event or parade in Naas. The Council's festival grants scheme was opened to the public on 17 January and remains open until 11 March. Any group wishing for support with such an event should be encouraged to apply.

### **Item 26 – Motion Councillor Moore**

That this council and the Executive give approval and support for the establishment of a Naas Community Development Committee to inaugurate a Bealtaine or Maytime Festival to identify with the end of covid restrictions, celebrate recent local successes and initiate a joyous forward and positive Integration Movement in the community of Naas.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that should a group of local volunteers wish to establish a Naas Community Development Committee and require support in doing so the Community Worker for Naas Municipal District would be happy to assist them. Once formed the Council would encourage such a group to apply for the festival grant scheme to avail of supports provided by the Community Section.

The members made the following points:

- In the past Parades were organised by the Callaghan family in Naas however they had long since ceased even prior to Covid-19.
- The end of Covid-19 was in sight and there was a lot to celebrate including sporting achievements and the IBAL award.
- The theme of the event should recognise the role frontline workers played during the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Having a Bealtaine festival would be an apt way of celebrating the end of Covid-19 and recent achievements and as May was only ten weeks away, a committee to organise such an event should be established as soon as

possible. Integration into the community should be kept in mind when organising the event.

- Members had been asked to set aside funding for such an event.
- As there were so many festivals such as the Mid-Summer Arts Festival, The Community Fete and the Wildfood Festival, a representative from all festivals should sit on the proposed Naas Community Development Committee and potentially amalgamate it into a committee for festivals.
- The Naas Christmas Lights Committee bank account could be used to receive the grant payment to avoid delays associated with bank account set up.

Mr McDermott made the following points:

- The challenge would be seeking an account in time that the grant payment could be made to.
- There was a limit of how much could be awarded under festival grants but with LPT funding supplementing the festival, it could be sufficient to run the event.

Councillor Moore confirmed that he would get members together to establish a Community Development Committee and would welcome the offer regarding the use of the Naas Christmas Lights Committee bank account.

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

### **NS29/0222**

#### **Light up Cupidstown Hill in Killeel for St Brigid's Day**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett. That this council identify yearly funding to light up Cupidstown Hill in Killeel, the highest point in the county, for a week each year following St Brigid's Day being designated as a public holiday.

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



A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that as we start to build towards the celebration of Brigid 1500 the Council would be bringing together a steering committee of interested parties to seek out funding and coordinate our approach towards the celebrations. This request would be brought to the committee once it had been formed. Funding for this committee, the role of its coordinator and their prospective events had been requested through LPT and it was hoped that each municipal district would look favourably upon this request.

Councillor Brett thanked the members for their support and stated that there were 150 people in Killeel that night to celebrate St Brigid's Day.

Councillor Kenny stated that the Hill of Allen was also lit up for St Brigid's Day and suggested that as Cupidstown Hill was the highest point in Kildare, more emphasis be put on it and not just for St Brigid's Day.

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

### **NS30/0222**

#### **Monread Playground and Park**

The committee agreed to consider item 29 and 30 of the agenda together.

#### **Item 29 - Question Councillor Brett**

Can the council update members on the timeline to bring forward proposals for the upgrade/renewal of Monread playground?

#### **Item 30 - Question Councillor Carmel Kelly**

Can the council update members on the status of the Masterplan for Monread Park?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that there were currently five Capital projects under consideration for this years works programme in the Naas Municipal District. These were the completion of a Part 8 for

Sallins Amenity Land, Tender for detail design of Sallins Amenity Land, Conservation Plan for Oldtown Demense, Memorial Garden & Masterplan for Monread Park including the playground upgrade. Work was already ongoing on Sallins Amenity Land Part 8. It would only be possible within the staff resources available within the Parks Section to progress 1-2 of the remaining projects listed. The Parks Section ability to deliver projects and give timeframes for them had to be considered in the context that the existing staff compliment had to deal with a similar demand for the delivery of projects across four other municipal districts. The scale of the projects to be delivered were increasing in number and scale. Additionally, the same staff had to combine the progression of a large project list and manage an ever increasing volume of operational works. The consequences of this was that operational works take precedence over capital projects because it was reactive type works or requests. This makes it difficult to give accurate timeframes for project delivery. Additionally, it was not possible to simultaneously deliver every project that each municipal district wants. The identification of priorities in the project list to 1-2 projects would require the assistance of the municipal district members and whether this included Monread Park and Playground. It was likely to be at least the end of the year before work could commence on preparing a tender for consultants to develop a masterplan for the park if members wish for this to be prioritised. This timeframe may have to revised as the year progresses given the issues outlined.

The members highlighted how understaffed the Parks Department was stating that at least two staff members should be assigned per municipal district given the number of proposed projects and ongoing operational works. The Municipal District Manager stated that the Management Team recognised the fantastic work carried out by Senior Executive Parks Superintendent and his team and confirmed that the Chief Executive had flagged the issue in relation to staffing levels in Kildare relative to other Local Authorities as a key issue.

The report was noted.

**NS31/0222**

**Dog Parks in the Municipal District**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Sammon.  
Can the council confirm if it has a policy on the provision of Dog Parks in this municipal District?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that there was no policy for the delivery of Dog Parks. The issue with provision of dog parks was identifying suitable sites to provide a dog park. The only possible suitable location in the Naas Municipal District was Monread Park. Another issue would be the ongoing maintenance of them which would be required. Additional staff and financial resources would be required to facilitate this.

The report was noted.

**NS32/0222**

**Speed Limit Review Workshop**

The Mayor informed the members that the Roads Department were seeking a workshop on the draft speed limit review document and confirmed that he had provided a number of suitable dates in February for this to take place and the Roads Department would revert to the members with a date.

The meeting concluded.