

**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting**  
**held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 12 April 2022 in the Council Chamber,**  
**Áras Chill Dara, Naas**

**Members Present:** Councillor Seamie Moore (Mayor), Councillors, 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 C Whelan, (A/Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Deegan (Senior Engineer), Ms A O'Malley, Mr J Shannon (Administrative Officers), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms L Russell (Arts Officer), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms K O'Malley (Meetings Secretary) and others.

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**NS01/0422**

**Suspension of Standing Order**

In order to facilitate the completion of an in-committee meeting, the members agreed to suspend standing orders for ten minutes.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by all the members that standing orders be suspended for five minutes. The meeting commenced at 3.40 pm.

**NS02/0422**

**Chairing of the Meeting**

The Mayor informed the members that Councillor Sammon, Deputy Mayor would be assisting him with chairing the meeting due to his attending the meeting online.

**NS03/0422**

**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.

**NS04/0422**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Naas Municipal District held on Tuesday, 08 March 2022 and the Special meeting of the Naas Municipal District held on Thursday, 31 March 2022 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Kelly that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 08 March 2022 and the Special meeting of the Naas Municipal District held on Thursday, 31 March 2022 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**NS05/0422**

**Matters Arising**

Councillor Kelly queried the figure for the grass and roundabout maintenance supervision on the Parks Works Programme which was noted by the members at the March 2022 monthly meeting, stating that she thought €7,500 was allocated from LPT funding and not €15,000.

The Meetings Administrator undertook to talk to Simon Wallace in relation to the matter.

**NS06/0422**

**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 made the following points:

- There were two Road Resurfacing Works Packages, works package one was at pre-construction stage and works package two was at tender stage.
- Surface Dressing Works would commence in June 2022.

- Footpath works had commenced with a number of areas already complete.
- Funding had been received from the Department of Transport for safety improvement works on the L6011 / L6012 Junction of two local roads at Sherlockstown, Sallins, L2018 / L6030 Junction of two local roads at Killeel and R410 Philipstown (approx. 1.2km south of Eadestown). Plans would be developed for each of these locations in the coming months.
- A programme of works for the delivery of LPT/car parking funded projects would be developed following the approval of €500,000 by the members at their March meeting.
- Drainage improvement works at Johnstown were completed in January 2022. Further works would be developed in line with the road improvement works for 2022.

### **NS07/0422**

#### **Mayors Business**

#### **Punchestown Racecourse**

The Mayor informed the members that Punchestown Racecourse had received a grant of €1.2m from Horse Racing Ireland and extended his congratulations to them.

#### **LPT**

The Mayor informed the members that the following requests for LPT funding had been received:

- Councillor Kelly had requested €2000 from her discretionary LPT to be allocated to the installation of Portaloos on the grounds of Sallins Park for the use of the GAA and Soccer Club.
- Councillor Moore proposed €2500 from his own discretionary LPT to be allocated to the the Holi Festival (Indian Community) which had recently taken place in Monread Community Centre.
- Councillor Brett proposed that €10,000 be set aside for the Care of the Aged Group to complete improvement works in their building on the Newbridge Road, which had not been used in a number of years.

Councillor Brett stated he received this request last Friday and had requested details of the works required to complete the improvement. The HSE had provided approx €80,000/€90,000 to bring the building up to standard however a further €10,000 was required to complete the improvement works. He confirmed that if the members supported the allocation, he would ask the Chairperson and Secretary of the Care of the Aged to provide documentation outlining where the funding would be spent.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by all the members that €2000 be allocated to the installation of Portaloos on the grounds of Sallins Park from Councillor Kelly's Discretionary LPT, €2500 be allocated to the Holi Festival (Indian Community) from Councillor Moore's Discretionary LPT and €10,000 be set aside for the Care of the Aged to be further considered when the documentation outlining where the funding would be spent was received from the Chairperson and Secretary of the group.

### **NS08/0422**

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

The members considered the remaining LPT 2022 allocations for the Naas Municipal District Committee (see appendix 1 attached).

**Note:** As outlined in item NS07/0422 (Mayors Business) the Naas Municipal District Committee resolved to allocated €2000 to the installation of Portaloos on the grounds of Sallins Park from Councillor Kelly's Discretionary LPT and €2500 to the Indian Community for the Holi Festival from Councillor Moore's Discretionary LPT. €10,000 to be set aside for the Care of the Aged to be considered when the documentation outlining where the funding would be spent was received from the Chairperson and Secretary of the group.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by all the members that the remaining LPT 2022 allocations for the Naas Municipal District Committee be approved.

### **NS09/0422**

#### **Roads Design Projects Update**

The Deputy Mayor welcomed Mr Deegan, Senior Engineer from the Roads Design Team to the meeting.

Mr Deegan delivered an update to the members highlighting the projects being carried out by the Roads Design Team related to their MD:

- Roads Projects and Planning Team
- New Machinery Yard Relocation and Regional Salt Barn
- Naas – Sallins Greenway
- Transport Strategies
- Naas Permeability Improvement Project
- Junction Programme
- Newhall Junction Improvement
- Bridge Programme
- Roads Planning
- Department of Transport Support Office. Mr Deegan confirmed that while these projects came from the Department of Transport, he liaised closely with the Department of Transport Support Office.

Mr Deegan responded to members queries on some of the projects and provided an update on a number of Part 8 projects. He confirmed that his presentation would be circulated when all municipal district committees had been briefed and provided his contact details to the members.

The members thanked Mr Deegan for his presentation.

### **NS10/0422**

#### **Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2022**

The members agreed to consider item number 30 of the agenda next.

The members considered the approval of the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2022 for the Naas Municipal District (see appendix 2).

Ms Russell informed the members that last year, €71,550 was allocated as part of the Arts Awards and Bursaries and this year €99,910 was being allocated.

The members thanked Ms Russell and commended her and the Arts Section on the variety of grants awarded.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Clear that the Arts Awards and Bursaries for 2022 for the Naas Municipal District be approved.

**NS11/0422**

**Grass Margin along the Millennium and South Ring Roads**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillors Kenny.

That the council level, upgrade and maintain a sufficiently wide grass trackway in the grass margin along the Millennium and South Ring Roads in Naas for runners and joggers who prefer to use softer surfaces instead of the concrete alternative.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there were no current plans to level, maintain or upgrade the grass margins along these roadways. The nearby K-Leisure Centre is a facility available for those who wish to run/train on grass surfaces around the football pitches.

The members made the following points:

- A lot of people had started running and jogging since the start of the pandemic and found it difficult running on hard ground.
- There were long stretches of green margins that could be levelled on the Millennium and South Ring Roads in Naas.
- Using the K-Leisure Centre could potentially mean people had to drive to the location.
- Was there lighting at the K-Leisure pitches?
- The public were fortunate to be able to use Punchestown however running on the grass track was not allowed.

- If a track was put in, it would be overrun with encampments and a lot of money had been spent in the past cleaning up after encampments in this area.
- It was the outside verge being referred to in the motion and not the bollards.

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

### **NS12/0422**

#### **Path/Cycleway from Sallins to the new Kerdiffstown Park**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly. That this council be updated on the progress to secure funding for the feasibility study to ensure there is a safe path/cycleway from Sallins to the new Kerdiffstown Park.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there was no capacity in the Sustainable Transport Section to procure consultants to examine the feasibility of a route to Kerdiffstown Park. However, it was expected that this scheme would be progressed in 2023, subject to satisfactory progress on other schemes in the area in 2022. It should be noted that the options for implementing a segregated cycle facility along the carriageway either between Johnstown or Sallins was limited.

The members made the following points:

- It was accepted that there were limited options for implementing a segregated cycle facility along the carriageway either between Johnstown or Sallins and that the road was very dangerous.
- Clarification on the report was sought as it indicated that the scheme would be progressed.
- There was an option of entering from the back of Palmerstown House.
- There was a path from the old quarry that could be a safer option.

Ms Whelan undertook to investigate the matter further to confirm if the scheme would be progressed and revert to Councillor Kelly with the information.

The Municipal District Manager made the following points:

- This was an objective of the Naas Local Area Plan.
- The road was very narrow and dangerous.
- Potential options could be explored.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and Ms Whelan to investigate the matter further to confirm if the scheme would be progressed and revert to Councillor Kelly with the information.

### **NS13/0422**

#### **Parking Signs in the Town**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen. That the council review the current parking signs in the town with a view to improving their visibility, clarity and effectiveness in directing vehicles to suitable parking locations.

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 parking signs were provided in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Traffic Signs Manual. There were a number of these signs in Naas directing traffic to off-street carparks including Friary Street, Hedermans and Abbey Street carparks. The Naas Municipal District Office were happy to review this parking signage in Naas.

The members made the following points:

- The parking signs in the town were very small.
- Bigger signs were needed to promote footfall in the town.
- Naas had great council owned carparks however Hedermans carpark was only being used at 20% capacity even though the cost was only €3.00 per day



- Electronic signs indicating the location of carparks were required.
- The cost of electronic signs was approximately €500,000.
- The item to be left on the progress report.

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

#### **NS14/0422**

##### **Naas Southern Inner Relief Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore. That the council now consider the removal of the roadside timber bollards and large concrete barriers around the Naas Southern Inner Relief Road as they serve no sustainable security or enhancement purpose.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that it was previously agreed that any damaged timber bollards on the ring roads in Naas would not be replaced. Due to the number of bollards on the ring roads and limited resources available, it was not possible to remove them all at this time.

Councillor Moore accepted the report.

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

#### **NS15/0422**

##### **Special Speed Limit of 30kph for the Centre of Naas**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear. That the council propose a special speed limit of 30kph for the centre of Naas from Wolf Tone Street to Fairgreen Street under the speed limit review.

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 the Road Traffic Act 2004 defines a built-up area as the area of a city, a borough, or a town within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2001. The R445 in the centre of Naas from Wolf Tone Street to Fairgreen Street was classified as a built-up area with a default speed limit of 50 km/h.

For a 30km/h zone to be proposed for the Naas Town Centre, there needs to be a street design with share use of Pedestrians/cyclist, constructed road design complying with the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limit Guidelines in Ireland and Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, is required.

The members made the following points:

- The report stated you could not have a 30km/h in the centre of the town unless shared walking/cycling was introduced first.
- There were trucks using the main street and the timers on the pedestrian crossings were changing from green after a few seconds.
- There were a lot of projects being carried out but the centre of the town was still unsafe and the Council needed to work from the centre of the town outwards.
- The introduction of a special speed limit of 30km/h for the centre of Naas would reduce the congestion and push traffic out to the ring roads and onto the motorway.
- It would also improve air quality and noise pollution and make the centre a nicer place for pedestrians and cyclists.
- The matter would be brought up again at the speed limit review.
- A special speed limit of 30km/h was also being sought for Sallins.
- A new road was required to assist in moving trucks outside the centre of the town and raised tables introduced which would reduce speed in the centre of the town.

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

**NS16/0422**

**Shared Space Signs**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon.  
That the council install 'Shared Space' signs on all roads identified as walking routes in the Naas Municipal District.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Shared Space signs could be erected in urban low speed environments of 30km/h or 20km/h only and where pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles share the main carriageway and where the space was enhanced as a public realm area. These types of designs/projects were outlined in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.

Councillor Sammon expressed her dissatisfaction with the report stating that she did not see the point in having designated walking routes if there were no signs indicating this.

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

**NS17/0422**

**Wheelchair Space Signs in Kill Village**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett.  
That the council erect wheelchair space signs in Kill village to aid identification of the spaces at night time.

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 Naas Municipal District Office would facilitate this request, subject to approvals.

Councillor Brett accepted the report.

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

**NS18/0422**

**Yellow boxes on Naas Main Street**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kenny.  
Can the council confirm if it plans to install yellow boxes on Naas Main Street to facilitate traffic turning from Moat Lane and onto Town Hall Lane on either side of the town hall /new library which both join with Abbey Road.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the provision of yellow boxes on Main Street at these two locations was not recommended as this would further encourage vehicular traffic to use the Canal route to access the Main Street. Should access to Abbey Street be restricted for vehicular traffic from both Basin Street and the Canal, then this issue could be revisited.

The report was noted.

**NS19/0422**

**Standard of Landscaping on the New Link Road into Sallins**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly.  
Can the council engage with SIAC/COLAS regarding the standard of landscaping on the new Link Road into Sallins?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the contractor had entered into a 3 year landscaping maintenance contract during which time regular reviews are carried out by the Project Team to ensure that planting was taking hold. If plants were not taking hold, they would be replaced.

Councillor Kelly expressed her dissatisfaction with the report and sought clarification that all she was asking was for grass to be sowed as the grass verges were unsightly and uneven and asked that her comments be taken back to the landscaper.

The report was noted.

**NS20/0422**

**Review of the 'no right turn' from Wolfe Tone Street**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore. Can the council confirm if it plans to carry out a review of the 'no right turn' from Wolfe Tone Street in light of traffic and pedestrian chaos at the exit to North Main Street from Dunnes Stores having no circuiting facility if it turns left to the Sallins Road, where as the Wolfe Tone Exit has the facility of the Crossings Traffic Lights to create an exit timing space?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this item would be reviewed as part of the design of the Dublin Road footpath and cycle improvement scheme.

The report was noted.

**NS21/0422**

**Art Scheme in relation to the Sallins bypass and M7 Road Widening Scheme**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear. Can the council confirm where the 1% Art Installation will be constructed under the Percent for Art Scheme in relation to the Sallins bypass and M7 road widening scheme?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that it was planned to have the Art Installation piece installed around Junction 9A where both schemes intersect.

Councillor Clear sought clarification on whether the maximum amount of €500,000 would be used and if there were plans to get the views of the public in relation to the type of art piece that would be constructed.

Ms Whelan undertook to get clarification on Councillor Clear's questions and revert to the members with the information.

The report was noted.

**NS22/0422**

**Banning of HGVs on Rural Roads**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Sammon. Can the council advise what mechanism is available to ban HGVs on rural roads on grounds of damage to heritage walls in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the placement of weight restrictions on a road under *Article 17 of the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations, 1997, (S.I. 182) Weight Restriction on Vehicles Entering a Road*, was an executive function carried out following consultation with An Garda Síochána. Any proposal for HGV bans would have to follow the technical document "Kildare County Councils Criteria for the Implementation of Statutory Signing and Lining measures in Co. Kildare".

The report was noted.

**NS23/0422**

**Naas Town Crest and a Naas Town Flag**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore. That this council commences discussions with Maynooth University History Department or a professional Heraldic Company, with a view to commissioning them to research and recommend options on a Naas Town Crest and a Naas Town Flag that would give credibility to the present County Town and its important historical place in Ireland.

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

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that research online had provided the following image of a flag of Naas however its status had to be established. An application for a crest would need to be made to the Office of the Chief Herald in Ireland. While there was a Naas Town Council Crest the Council was unaware of any Naas Town Council Flag but perhaps Councillor Moore could elaborate on this. As members were aware, the Protocol and Procedure Committee reviewed the Flag policy last year and it was adopted by the council. The policy makes reference to a County Kildare Flag but no other local flags. Perhaps consideration should be given to referring this matter to the Protocol and Procedures Committee to consider a policy on flags and crests for towns within the county including the County Town.



The members made the following points:

- The flag in the report was from Naas Town Council and although it was not an official flag it would be a good place to start.
- Naas was a unique town with a lot of history but did not have a flag or emblem.
- It would be great if the members could pull together some recommendations and bring them to the Protocol and Procedures Committee for consideration.

Councillor Brett confirmed that Councillor Kelly and he were members of the Protocol and Procedures Committee and could bring forward the recommendation to the committee for discussion.

The Municipal District Manager stated that town branding was being considered in more recent times and this should be taken into account when discussions on the matter were taking place.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett that the report be noted and Councillors Brett and Kelly to bring forward the recommendation to the Protocol and Procedures Committee for discussion.

**NS24/0422**

**Lighting in Áras Chill Dara**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kenny. Can the council confirm its plans to switch off/extinguish unnecessary indoor and outdoor lighting and other electrically powered equipment in Áras Chill Dara including the carpark which are not required after hours and at night-time now that we are in “Summer time”, to promote energy saving notwithstanding the need for some built in redundancy.

A report was received from the Facilities Section informing the members that they were currently commissioning a new Light Management system that when fully operational would control lighting levels throughout the building allowing for natural lighting levels

The report was noted.

**NS25/0422**

**Maintenance and changing of Lights on Perpetual Motion**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly. Can the council confirm who is responsible for the maintenance and changing the colour of the lights for the sculpture Perpetual Motion (Naas Ball)?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that TII contractors for M7 had authorised access to the sculpture to test, install and remove bulbs in addition to providing coloured bulbs and appropriate electrical personnel etc. Requests to change the bulb at various times



during the year and which had increased significantly of late, should be directed to TII.

A discussion ensued amongst the members in relation to the cost and the frequency of requests to light up Perpetual Motion (Naas Ball) for various occasions and the need to discuss the matter with TII.

Ms Whelan confirmed that a letter could be written to TII inviting them to a meeting to discuss a solution for the lighting of Naas Ball.

The report was noted.

#### **NS26/0422**

##### **Public Realm Projects Update**

An update on Public Realm Projects in the Naas Municipal District was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting. Ms Hunt informed the members that she would deal with any questions they wished to raise.

The members welcomed the report.

#### **NS27/0422**

##### **Building Sites Using Pile Drivers**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kenny. That the council ensure that all building sites using pile driving for foundations in this municipal district are fitted with sufficient silencer and muffling systems to reduce consistent repetitive noise and vibration exposure to the general public, ensure that noise thresholds are within Health & Safety limits and work time and duration of use limits as stipulated in planning permission are adhered to.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department and the Environment Department informing the members that

pile driving like other construction activities including rock breaking and bulk excavation had a noise condition recommended by the Environment Section for inclusion in the granted planning permission. This planning condition limited the time that the activities could occur to Monday to Friday 0800 to 1800 and on Saturday from 0800 to 1300. The planning condition also set a construction noise limit of 70dB(A) for all activities on site.

Councillor Kenny made the following points:

- Pile driving activities were taking place mainly for the apartments that were being built locally.
- Depending on the direction of the wind the noise could be very loud
- What were the restrictions in terms of the vibration?
- At what distance was 70dB(A) measured at?

Ms Hunt undertook to liaise with her colleagues in the Environment Department in relation to what distance the decibels measurement were taken at.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kenny, seconded by Councillor Clear that the report be noted and Ms Hunt to liaise with her colleagues in the Environment Department in relation to what distance the decibels measurement were taken at.

### **NS28/0422**

#### **Parklet in South Main Street**

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

That the council relocate the Parklet in South Main Street to a more acceptable and suitable location.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Developments and Public Realm Department informing the members that funding was awarded to Kildare County Council by Fáilte Ireland for the provision of parklets in four locations within Naas Town Centre. The proposed locations were agreed with Fáilte Ireland on the basis

of their positioning along the Main Street relative to nearby eateries and cultural attractions and, to encourage dwell time in the town in support of Naas's tourism potential. This agreement forms part of the funding terms and conditions.

The first Fáilte Ireland approved parklet was installed in March, with additional railing in production. The usage level of this parklet was being monitored and feedback was being captured. To date the parklet was being well used by all ages and abilities with feedback received on this parklet being largely positive. The Public Realm team would continue to monitor the usage level and feedback during the bedding down period so as to inform any future decisions on the development of other parklets and potential locations.

The members made the following points:

- The recently installed parklet was not located in the right place to enhance the appearance of the town and was dangerous due to its close proximity to the road.
- Many complaints had been received in relation to the parklet and its design and location was not doing anything to promote tourism in the town.
- It was important to consult with traders and the public when installing parklets in the future especially when removing parking spaces and in particular outside the Presbyterian Church and Rustic.
- The parklet needed to be given time for the public to try it out and should not be moved yet.
- The parklet was located on North Main Street not South Main Street.
- There would always be controversy when parking spaces were being removed but it was better to have the parklet where it was currently located than blocking a footpath.
- A meeting should be arranged between the members and the Public Realm Team in relation to the location of the parklet and whether it should be moved or not and also regarding the location of the future parklets in the town.
- There were traders and members of the public who welcomed the parklet.

- The parklet should be given a chance, there were difficulties initially when parking spaces were removed from Poplar Square however people were now getting used to it and it was being used.

The Municipal District Manager made the following points:

- The parklet was well designed in terms of detailing and functionality however the slope it was positioned on was the main issue.
- Some landscaping might soften its appearance.
- He was happy to have a separate discussion with the members in relation to the Parklets.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Clear that the report be noted and a meeting to be arranged between the members and the Public Realm Team in relation to the location of the parklet and also regarding the location of the future parklets in the town.

### **NS29/0422**

#### **Number of Unauthorised Developments**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon. That the council outline the number of unauthorised developments currently being investigated within the municipal district.

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

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that currently unauthorised development investigations were not recorded by municipal district area, so it was not possible to provide figures on the number of investigations within the Naas Municipal District area.

However, a tender to procure a new system was currently being developed which would enable reporting by municipal district area.

The table below sets out the Countywide position 2017 to 2021:

|             | <b>New Cases</b> | <b>Warning Letters Issued</b> | <b>Enforcement Notices Served</b> | <b>Legal Proceedings</b> | <b>Files Closed</b> |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>2017</b> | 158              | 270                           | 107                               | 18                       | 567                 |
| <b>2018</b> | 181              | 359                           | 154                               | 34                       | 144                 |
| <b>2019</b> | 238              | 356                           | 184                               | 33                       | 162                 |
| <b>2020</b> | 268              | 360                           | 159                               | 22                       | 136                 |
| <b>2021</b> | 268              | 434                           | 81                                | 10                       | 150                 |

The members made the following points:

- During Covid-19 there were a lot of dwellings built and waiting to be investigated.
- This was a problem across all municipal districts and the council needed to get on top of it.
- Letters were issued in relation to an unauthorised development at Flood's Cross however nothing further was done.

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

### **NS30/0422**

#### **Cost of Purchasing and Installing the Parklet in South Main Street**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen.  
Can the council confirm what the cost was of purchasing and installing the Parklet in South Main Street?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Department informing the members that the parklet was designed and constructed by local companies. The total design and construction cost (including installation) was approximately €30,500 (ex VAT).

It was agreed to discuss all matters in relation to the parklets at the meeting with the Public Realm Team.

The report was noted.

**NS31/0422**

**Town Plebiscite**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore.  
Can the council outline if there are any other restrictions to prevent a Town Plebiscite now that the CSO Boundary of the recent Naas LAP defines the Town Area?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that the council had confirmed with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage that regulations with regard to sections 189-192 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended had not been made, and it remained the case that there was no legal basis for holding a plebiscite on the changing of a placename.

The report was noted.

**NS32/0422**

**Old Cemix Site**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett.  
Can the council confirm if the derelict buildings on the old Cemix site at Dublin Road can be removed without planning permission?

A report was received from the Environment Department Department informing the members that in the normal course, planning permission was required for the demolition/removal of such structures. This could also be secured on foot of a statutory notice under the Derelict Sites Act. However, such a notice must also have regard to considerations of proper planning and development as well as environmental considerations (eg appropriate assessment etc). In relation to the case at hand, the Council had corresponded with the owners and was in the course of following up. This matter was being dealt with by the Environment Section.

The report was noted.

**NS33/0422**

**Properties at risk of Fluvial Flooding**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly. That this council engages with Insurance Companies regarding their criteria for assessing whether properties in this municipal district are at risk of fluvial (river based) flooding, and have those measures updated to reflect the actual situation.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Kenny. A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the core of the motion related to insurance cover issues which was outside the Council's remit. Insurance companies were commercial entities and made their own decisions regarding risk and cover. The individual property owners in question may wish to challenge their respective insurers and if necessary, contact the Ombudsman. The Municipal District Members, as local elected representatives, may alternatively wish to make individual or collective representations and engage directly with insurance companies on this issue. For information purposes, flood mapping delivered as part of the Naas Flood Relief Scheme meets the standard required by the Office of Public Works for publishing on its website ([www.floodinfo.ie](http://www.floodinfo.ie)). This website contains the most up to date information regarding flood risk in Ireland.

The members made the following points:

- This is a problem for one particular area which was not in a flood risk area however insurance companies would not insure them.
- There was a motion from Councillor Brett in 2021 in relation to a similar matter and the Council said they would write to the insurance companies.
- Could a letter be issued asking insurance companies what their criteria was for refusing cover and what maps they were using?
- The OPW maps for the area in question clearly showed that there was no flood risk.
- People in Johnstown were still being refused insurance cover.
- Insurance companies were still using old maps.

Ms O'Malley stated that there had been no reply from the insurance companies to a letter previously issued and confirmed that she would take the members comments in relation to a letter being issued asking insurance companies what their criteria was for refusing cover and what maps they were using back to the Environment Department.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Kenny that the report be noted and Ms O'Malley to take the members comments in relation to a letter being issued asking insurance companies what their criteria was for refusing cover and what maps they were using back to the Environment Department.

### **NS34/0422**

#### **Community, Festival and Resident Association Grant Awards**

A report on the Community, Festival and Resident Association grant awards assessed by the Economic, Community & Cultural Development Department for 2022 was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting (see appendix 3 attached).

Mr Shannon made the following points:

- The Community Department recommended the approval of 27 applications with a value of €67,260 under the Community Grant Scheme.
- The full allocation of Community Grants had not been reached and further applications may come before the members again at a later date for approval.
- 11 grants with a value of €13,000 was recommended under the Festival Grant Scheme 2022.

Councillor Kelly sought clarification that the application for the outdoor cinema was made by a private entity, and not by Sallins GAA who had merely offered the use of the land for the outdoor cinema. Mr Shannon undertook to check this out and revert to Councillor Kelly with the information.

Councillor Kelly declared that she had a conflicting interest in relation to the Sallins Business Association and left the room.



Councillor Clear declared that he had a conflicting interest in relation to the Tidy Towns and left the room.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Brett that the Community, Festival and Resident Association grant awards assessed by the Economic, Community & Cultural Development Department for 2022 be approved.

### **NS35/0422**

#### **Sallins Mens Shed**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear. That the council provide, on a temporary basis, a plot of land in the Sallins Amenity Park designated area for Sallins' Mens Shed.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Kenny. A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the requirements of the Mens Shed would have to be established before consideration could be given to this request. A number of community groups had already been accommodated on the site and continuing requests to accommodate groups on an adhoc basis, had the potential to hinder the implementation of the masterplan for the site.

Councillor Clear accepted the report.

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

### **NS36/0422**

#### **Children's Playground in the Monread Park**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen. Can the council update the members on the condition of the children's playground in the Monread Park?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that following the members highlighting issues relating to the

condition of the playground last year, the paths were cleaned and new play bark installed. There had been some drainage issues since the bark was replaced but this was being monitored to see if further work was required to resolve the matter. Additionally, the Council have made an application for €18k under the playground improvement grant available from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to assist with the installation of 1-2 pieces of additional equipment. Longer term, it was planned to upgrade the playground as part of an overall masterplan for improvement works in Monread Park.

The report was noted.

**NS37/0422**

**Bye Lawn for the Control of Dogs in Monread Park**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear. Can the council confirm if bylaws for the control of dogs are in force for Monread Park and other parks in Naas Municipal District and if not, when will this be progressed?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there were no bye laws in place for the control of dogs in Monread Park or other parks in the Naas Municipal District. There were no plans to implement any bye laws as the Council do not have the resources to develop or implement them. However the Council would review the existing signage in the parks regarding the control of dogs and dog fouling and provide signage if none exist in the parks.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.

Appendix 1:

|  |  |                        |                         |                         |
|--|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Schedule of Municipal District Works 2022</b> |  |                        |                         |                         |
| <b>Naas Municipal District</b>                   |  |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Retained LPT: €1,020,829</b>                              |                        | <b>Total:</b>           | <b>€1,282,970</b>       |
|  | <b>Payparking €262,141</b>                                   |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Project Details</b>                                       | <b>Agreed Budget €</b> | <b>Spent/Transfer €</b> | <b>Unspent Budget €</b> |
| <b>Roads</b>                                     | <b><u>Roads Projects</u></b>                                 |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Roads Projects (includes pay parking €262,141)</b>        | <b>500,000</b>         |                         | <b>500,000</b>          |
|  | <b>Cherry Grove, Naas - footpath</b>                         |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Ashgrove Drive, Naas - footpath</b>                       |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Ashgrove, Naas - Road</b>                                 |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>R407 Osberstown (to Motorway bridge) - footpath</b>       |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Sallins (north) to Roundabout - Rough edge/verge</b>      |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Johnstown - drainage / gullies</b>                        |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Johnstown Gardens, Johnstown - road</b>                   |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Roselawn, Naas - footpath</b>                             |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Mountain View, Naas - footpath</b>                        |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Rathasker Heights &amp; Carrig Oscar, Naas - footpath</b> |                        |                         |                         |
|  | <b>Sallins Road /Mill lane jctn. - Raised table</b>          |                        |                         |                         |
| <b>East of Ballymore Rd Roundabout - table</b>   |  |                        |                         |                         |

|  |         |   |         |
|--|---------|---|---------|
| Rathasker Heights & Carrig Oscar,<br>Naas - footpath   |         |   |         |
| Age Friendly footpaths, Ballymore<br>Eustace -footpath |         |   |         |
| Railway walk - Lakelands to<br>Cleevaun - footpath     |         |   |         |
| Taking in Charge                                       | 20,000  |   | 20,000  |
| Roads Sub Total  | 520,000 | 0 | 520,000 |
|  |         |   |         |
| <b><u>Residents Associations</u></b>                   |         |   |         |
| Residents Association                                  | 70,000  |   | 70,000  |
|  |         |   |         |
| <b><u>Community Projects</u></b>                       |         |   |         |
| Members Reserve Fund                                   | 70,000  |   | 70,000  |
| Into Kildare - St Brigid Cupidstown                    | 3,300   |   | 3,300   |
| Into Kildare - General                                 | 12,000  |   | 12,000  |
| Naas Point Food Charity                                | 25,000  |   | 25,000  |
| Garda Youth Diversion                                  | 8,500   |   | 8,500   |
| Naas GAA   | 750     |   | 750     |
| Ukrainian Support within Naas MD                       | 10,000  |   | 10,000  |
| Christmas Lights - Naas                                | 40,000  |   | 40,000  |
| Christmas Lights - Sallins                             | 3,000   |   | 3,000   |
| Christmas Lights - Kill                                | 2,000   |   | 2,000   |
| Christmas Lights - Ballymore<br>Eustace                | 2,000   |   | 2,000   |
| Christmas Lights - Johnstown                           | 1,500   |   | 1,500   |
| Christmas Lights - Eadestown                           | 1,500   |   | 1,500   |
| Town Twinning  | 15,000  |   | 15,000  |
| Naas Wild Food Festival                                | 20,000  |   | 20,000  |
| Mens and Womens Sheds                                  | 13,000  |   | 13,000  |
| Kingfurze Tennis Courts                                | 5,000   |   | 5,000   |

|  |   |                |          |                |
|--|---|----------------|----------|----------------|
|  | <b>Naas Town Plaques</b>  | <b>4,000</b>   |          | <b>4,000</b>   |
|  | <b>Community Worker Projects -<br/>Comm &amp; Culture Dept</b>  | <b>7,500</b>   |          | <b>7,500</b>   |
|  | <b>Climate Action - Climate Section</b>                         | <b>25,000</b>  |          | <b>25,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Restoration / Repair of Arch -<br/>Devoy Barracks</b>        | <b>20,000</b>  |          | <b>20,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Bealtaine Festival</b>                                       | <b>20,000</b>  |          | <b>20,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Ballymore Eustace Oak Tree<br/>Sculpture</b>                 | <b>5,000</b>   |          | <b>5,000</b>   |
|  | <b>Naas Age Friendly- Ballymore<br/>Eustace</b>                 | <b>6,000</b>   |          | <b>6,000</b>   |
|  | <b>Kildare Fleadh</b>   | <b>5,000</b>   |          | <b>5,000</b>   |
|  | <b>Kildare/Eadestown Comhaltas</b>                              | <b>5,000</b>   |          | <b>5,000</b>   |
|  | <b>Unallocated</b>  | <b>12,000</b>  |          | <b>12,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Community Sub Total</b>                                      | <b>412,050</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>412,050</b> |
|  |   |                |          |                |
|  | <b><u>Economic Development, Planning<br/>&amp; Heritage</u></b> |                |          |                |
|  | <b>Public Realm - General</b>                                   | <b>118,711</b> |          | <b>118,711</b> |
|  | <b>Public Realm - Potato Market</b>                             | <b>50,000</b>  |          | <b>50,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Bridget 1500</b>   | <b>20,000</b>  |          | <b>20,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Heritage Officer - Heritage Projects</b>                     | <b>25,000</b>  |          | <b>25,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Capital Fund Urban Regeneration</b>                          | <b>45,884</b>  |          | <b>45,884</b>  |
|  | <b>Econ Dev, Planning &amp; Heritage<br/>Sub Total</b>          | <b>259,595</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>259,595</b> |
|  |   |                |          |                |
|  | <b><u>Libraries &amp; Arts</u></b>                              |                |          |                |
|  | <b>Music Generation</b>   | <b>30,000</b>  |          | <b>30,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Coiste na Gaeilge</b>  | <b>1,000</b>   |          | <b>1,000</b>   |
|  | <b>Arts Feature - cleanest town</b>                             | <b>10,000</b>  |          | <b>10,000</b>  |
|  | <b>Climate Action - Project 1</b>                               | <b>4,125</b>   |          | <b>4,125</b>   |

|                    |  |                  |          |                  |
|--------------------|--|------------------|----------|------------------|
|                    | <b>Climate Action - Project 2</b>              | <b>1,700</b>     |          | <b>1,700</b>     |
|                    | <b>Decade of Commemoration</b>                 | <b>9,000</b>     |          | <b>9,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Libraries &amp; Arts Sub Total</b>          | <b>55,825</b>    | <b>0</b> | <b>55,825</b>    |
|                    |  |                  |          |                  |
| <b>Environment</b> | <b><u>Tidy Town Groups</u></b>                 |                  |          |                  |
|                    | <b>Tidy Towns - Naas</b>                       | <b>5,000</b>     |          | <b>5,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Tidy Towns - Kill</b>                       | <b>2,000</b>     |          | <b>2,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Tidy Towns - Sallins</b>                    | <b>2,000</b>     |          | <b>2,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Tidy Towns - Ballymore Eustace</b>          | <b>2,000</b>     |          | <b>2,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Tidy Towns - Johnstown</b>                  | <b>1,000</b>     |          | <b>1,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Tidy Towns - Eadestown</b>                  | <b>1,000</b>     |          | <b>1,000</b>     |
|                    | <b>Environment Sub Total</b>                   | <b>13,000</b>    | <b>0</b> | <b>13,000</b>    |
|                    |  |                  |          |                  |
|                    | <b>Parks</b>                                   |                  |          |                  |
|                    | <b>Glyphosphate</b>                            | <b>7,500</b>     |          | <b>7,500</b>     |
|                    | <b>Parks projects (including Tree surgery)</b> | <b>20,000</b>    |          | <b>20,000</b>    |
|                    | <b>Recreation &amp; Amenity Sub Total</b>      | <b>27,500</b>    | <b>0</b> | <b>27,500</b>    |
|                    |  |                  |          |                  |
|                    | <b>Total LPT Funding</b>                       | <b>1,287,970</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>1,287,970</b> |

**Appendix 2**

See Attached

**Appendix 3**

See attached