



**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting
held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 12 September 2023 in the Boardroom**

Members Present: Councillor B Clear (Mayor), Councillors S Moore, C Kelly, A Breen, F Brett, B Quinn

Attended Via Teams: Councillor E Sammon

Officials Present: Mr E Ryan (District Manager), Mr D Reel (District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr M McLoughlin (A/ Senior Executive Officer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms C Talbot (A/Administrative Officer) Ms P Pender (A/ Senior Executive Officer), Ms M Richardson (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Fogarty (Meetings Secretary) and others.

NS01/0923

Suspension of Standing Order

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 10 minutes. The meeting commenced at 3.40 pm.

NS02/0923

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.



NS03/0923

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the annual and monthly meetings of the Naas Municipal District held on Tuesday 11 July 2023 together with the progress report.

Councillor Kelly requested that the vacant house report be updated, stating that there were 4 houses boarded up in Sallins and not 2 houses.

Councillor Moore stated that there were only 2 items on the housing report with any relevance to the Naas Municipal District, the report did not contain enough information.

Councillor Quinn said that Naas town were crying out for a place making strategy. He said there is a lot of infrastructure in the town, but it was uncoordinated.

Councillor Clear suggested that a separate meeting be held.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Moore that the minutes of the annual and monthly meetings of the Naas Municipal District held on Tuesday 11 July 2023 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

NS04/0923

Municipal District Road works

Mr D Reel updated the members on the municipal district road works. The report was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting.

Road Resurfacing

Naas Municipal District Restoration Improvement (RI) Works 2023

The following roads are included in the improvement works projects plan for 2023:

- R407 – Sallins to Clane Road – Construction Stage
- L3012 – Monread Road, Naas – Complete



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- L3012 – Millenium Park, Naas – Complete
- L29975 – Sarto/Pacelli Road, Naas – Complete
- R410 – Blessington Road (Crab Lane) – Construction Stage

Surface Dressing Works

The Naas Municipal District propose to commence the surface dressing works programme for 2023 in June. The roads to be improved include:

- L 2019 – Arthurstown - Complete
- L2011 – Fishery Lane - Complete
- L6027 – Cromwellstown - Complete
- L6035 – Tipper East - Complete
- L2019 – Tipper South - Complete
- L6038 – Redbog - Complete
- L6028 – Cupidstown - Complete
- L6032 – Newtown - Complete

Footpaths

Tenders have been awarded for works at the following locations which will commence construction in the coming weeks:

- Roselawn (footpath improvements) - Complete
- St Brigids Terrace, Kill (footpath improvements) - Complete
- River Lawns, Kill (footpath improvements) - Complete
- Mill lane raised table (footpath improvements) - Complete
- Sundays Well (footpath improvements) - Complete
- Ballymore Eustace (uncontrolled crossings) - Complete
- Blessington Road (footpath improvements) - Tender Stage
- Newbridge Road (Well/Green area) - Tender Stage



LPT/Carparks Funded Works

The Naas Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT)/Carparking works programme for 2023 is being developed in line with the 2023 allocation, as agreed with the Naas Municipal District Councillors.

- Hillview to Sallins Park Footpath - Complete
- Sallins Road Footpath - Complete
- Sherlockstown Road, Sallins (Raised Table) - Construction Stage
- Ashfield Park - Construction Stage
- Kilteel Lane (Road surface) - Construction Stage
- Roselawn, Naas - Tender Stage
- Mountain View, Naas - Tender Stage

Drainage

The Naas Municipal District drainage programme for 2023 will be developed in line with the 2023 allocation from the Department of Transport.

- Monread Road Roundabout - Complete
- Whitechurch (Kill to Straffan Road) - Complete

Low-Cost Safety Improvement Works

The Naas Municipal District have received funding from the Department of Transport for the following 2023 Safety Improvement Works. It is proposed to develop these projects with delivery by Q4 2023:

- R410 – Beggars End to Eadestown - Design Stage
- L2010 – Sherlockstown to Kileenbeg - Design Stage
- L6018/L6019 – Castlewarden Cross - Design Stage

Councillor Brett asked was there any update on the signage for Cupidstown Hill being ordered?



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Councillor Kelly thanked Mr Reel on the great work carried out on the Sallins Road, she enquired about the part of road by Joe Mallon's Garage that is not complete yet?

Mr D Reel advised the members that signage for Cupidstown had been ordered. He stated that the road outside Joe Mallon's was being done by the garage themselves.

Councillor Breen stated that when it rains, the Blessington Road had two streams that flooded outside the Mail Centre.

Mr D Reel stated that there were grates outside the mail centre that were emptied by the council on a regular basis. He informed the members that he would have the area checked.

NS05/0923

Update on 2023 LPT expenditure year to date

Ms C Talbot updated the members with a breakdown of the LPT 2023 expenditure to date. She gave the members an updated LPT request form and asked them if they could submit completed request forms for the monthly meetings 1 week in advance of the meetings going forward.

Councillor Brett advised that he was retracting a previous allocation of €2000 for Naas Christmas lights in exchange for a request for €1000 for the group No Planet B Club Naas.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by all the members that the previous allocation of €2000 for Naas Christmas lights be retracted and exchanged for a request for €1000 for the group No Planet B Club Naas.

NS06/0923

Naas Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2023

The members considered the remaining LPT 2023 allocations for the Naas Municipal District Committee.

Councillor Moore asked the members for a €500 contribution from LPT for the 25 Anniversary of the departure from Devoy Barracks. This was seconded by councillor Brett and agreed by the members.



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The Meetings Administrator informed the members that requests had been received for LPT funding to be allocated to the following projects:

Councillor Clear

Hurling on the Green	€1,000.00
No Planet B	€ 500.00
Naas Tidy Towns	€1,200.00

Councillor Breen

Parks - Pruning of trees at Almer Park	€5,000.00
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Councillor Moore

Naas Local History Group	€ 500.00
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Councillor Quinn

Naas Tae Kwondo Association	€1,000.00
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Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all the members that the above requests received for LPT funding be approved.

NS07/0923

Section 38 of the Roads Traffic Act, 1994

The members considered the Roads Traffic Act, 1994 – Section 38- proposed installation of 4 no. new bus shelters at Oldbridge, Osberstown Cottages, Sallins; Roseville, Dublin Road, Naas; and Limerick Road, Naas.

A report had been circulated to the members in advance of the meeting.

The report was noted.

NS08/0923

Road surface in Rathasker Heights

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



That the council inspect the condition of the road surface in Rathasker Heights which is being adversely affected by a high volume of learner driver activity in the estate.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Breen and seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Naas Municipal District office has assessed this location and will carry out localised repairs, as necessary. The Naas Municipal District office will further review this location in 2024, which may be then considered for further improvements, subject to resources.

Councillor Breen said that she welcomed the report from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department but stated that it was the learner drivers doing the damage.

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

NS09/0923

Reinstate a bus stop adjacent to Poplar Square, Naas

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

That the council in conjunction with the NTA reinstate a bus stop adjacent to Poplar Square, Naas.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the council appointed a multi-disciplinary service provider team to develop the detailed design of the approved Part 8 Scheme in 2022 and sought an allocation of €320,000 from the NTA for the Poplar Square Improvement Scheme in 2023 to cover the contractual commitment for the project. The scheme included permanent public realm improvements to increase the permeability across the Dublin Road and at the junction with



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the Sallins Road. The proposals also included step-free access bus stop infrastructure to facilitate access for all to public transport services stopping.

An allocation of €30,000 was received from the NTA for 2023 and as a consequence the contract for the consultants was terminated by the Council as the project cannot be progressed without the support of the NTA or an alternative funding source.

The members made the following points:

- Members were consistently getting requests to reinstate the bus stop at Poplar Square especially to facilitate older people.
- Kill have 3 bus stops with a fewer population than Naas, who only have 1.
- Could it be reinstated on a short-term basis?
- Why did the NTA refuse the funding?
- If it couldn't be replaced, could it be removed, and the space be brought into the Public Realm space.

Mr D Hodgins stated that there were issues to put in a new Bus Stop. It needed to be fully accessible. The funding was capped from what was used the previous year so there was not enough to fund the project. There was no explanation as to why it was cut by the NTA. The design contract had to be terminated and was indefinitely on hold.

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

NS10/0923

Parking on a temporary basis at the Fairgreen, Naas

The members agreed to take items 9, 15 and 16 together.

Item 9:

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

That the council provide additional parking on a temporary basis (approx. 3 months) at the Fairgreen, Naas to facilitate local businesses during the Kilcullen Road upgrade works.



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Item 15:

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

Can the council confirm what plans it has to help alleviate the parking issues that will result due to the proposed road works on the Ballymore Road, Naas particularly the impact it will have on local trading in the area?

Item 16:

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

Can the council confirm what is delaying a decision to make temporary car parking available to shoppers and retailers on Fair Green, Naas, until January 01, 2024, whilst the roadworks around sustainable transport are being completed in that junction area during the Christmas period?

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Moore

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Sustainable Transport Section is liaising with traders directly on construction issues and although there may be temporary impacts, the works are being positively received.

With regard to car parking, there is significant existing public car parking in the area already. Furthermore, because of the temporary traffic management arrangements, non-stopping through-traffic was re-routed away from the Kilcullen Road leaving accessibility for patrons of businesses relatively unaffected. The promotion of the active travel scheme has also encouraged more pedestrian activity in the area.

From a policy point of view, the provision of additional car parking would not be something that the NTA can support as part of the scheme. The implementation of this key active travel initiative will contribute to revitalisation the public realm of the area and act as a gateway to Naas.

Councillor Brett stated that there were a lot of businesses in that area, and the council needed to support them with a temporary measure for 3 months. When voting on the pathfinder comes



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it could be a problem if the council hadn't supported the traders through the roadworks now. Look at the bigger picture.

Councillor Breen stated measures should be taken to facilitate the traders but did not agree with the Fairgreen being used as it's an amenity for people and shouldn't be used as a car park.

Councillor Moore stated that it was not for Mr D Hodgins to decide as his function was to reduce the carpark spaces. He stated it was a big inconvenience to the traders and it should be up to Mr E Ryan as the District Manager to decide.

Councillor Clear stated that the members needed to support traders, so they would support them through further works. He suggested having a sunset clause, on the 1 January 2024 remove the temporary measures.

Councillor Quinn suggested that rather than sacrifice the green area that was used by communities that the carpark by the boxing club which had a daily rate of €6 euro per day was used and hour-long parking implemented there.

Mr D Hodgins advised as Acting Director of services his concern would be that by the time permission was granted for a temporary carpark the road works would be completed. He stated that it was a temporary impact on people and that the council tried to minimise any disruption caused. The focus should not be on the immediate fix but on the long term.

Councillor Kelly asked how feasible was it to have temporary parking there? She asked how did the circus and carnival use it, and did they need permission?

Mr E Ryan stated that he saw no visible parking issues in the area. Planning permission would be needed to put in a temporary carpark. It would need drainage, netting, hardcore and signage. He stated that under the Planning and Development Act the circus and carnival were exempt from requiring permission.



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Councillor Brett requested clarification on whether the 34 carpark spaces at St Davids Boxing Club could be used.

Mr M McLoughlin advised that all day parking at the car park at St David Boxing club could not be removed without a change to the parking byelaws, however the rate could be changed by the members without a parking byelaw review.

Councillor Quinn proposed that the hourly rate be changed to €2 per hour to allow for short term parking, this was seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by all members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by the members that the report be noted, also on the proposal of councillor Quinn and seconded by councillor Kelly and agreed by all members that the hourly rate at the car park at St David Boxing club be set to €2 per hour.

NS11/0923

Review of the parking byelaws

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly
That the council instigate a review of the parking byelaws within the municipal district.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Brett

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the review of parking byelaws for all locations is ongoing. There is a significant cost associated with the review of parking byelaws and it is therefore prudent to review only where significant change such as enforcement times and amendment of charges are being considered.

Councillor Kelly stated that a review has not been done since 2017/2018 and asked could a possible date be set as a review needed to be done on the parking byelaws.

Councillor Quinn stated that more solutions were needed but unsure what they were.



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He gave an example of the parklet that was situated on the Dublin Road. This was placed in a loading bay spot, now HGV's double park there. He said that the carpark spaces could have been used instead as there was a multistorey car park there.

Mr D Hodgins stated that byelaws are for the members to agree.

Mr E Ryan informed the members that the Department of Transport had set up a group on the use of spaces.

Councillor Kelly explained that residents living by the Canal in Sallins were unable to park outside their own homes and requested permit only parking signs be put up and asked for 9 permits for the residents.

Mr M McLoughlin advised councillor Kelly that he would check about getting the parking permits and come back to her.

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

NS12/0923

Bin Emptying Programme

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly
That the council provide an update on the progress of the Bin Emptying Programme Review within the municipal district.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Brett

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the review includes for the removal, relocation, and replacement of bins based on need and is an ongoing process throughout the Naas Municipal District. Locations are assessed where there are current issues and solutions identified for implementation subject to resources being available. Please note that resources are limited in this area and



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the Naas Municipal District office continue to implement a quality service throughout the Naas Municipal District.

Councillor Kelly stated that Sallins was not being served well, Sallins had twice the population of Kill but half the number of bins. She suggested that a compactor bin on the Sallins Road would work.

Councillor Brett advised the members that there were 5 bins out in Eadestown Cemetery and people are bringing their own rubbish and filling up the bins there.

Mr D Reel stated that the cost of removing waste was increasing but the budget for it hadn't changed. He said that he appreciated with the new Greenway extra bins would be needed. He agreed to put new bins either side of the new bridge in Sallins. He informed Councillor Brett he would speak with him separately regarding the Cemetery.

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

NS13/0923

Pedestrian crossing on the Ballycane Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear
That the council investigate the feasibility of placing a pedestrian crossing on the Ballycane Road on the east side of the Ballymore Road roundabout which would facilitate the large number of residents that live at Oakpark, Ard na Laoi and Cluain Aoibhinn walking towards Naas Town and schools.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear and seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that there is currently no funding allocation for the provision of new pedestrian crossings within the County. If a future funding source is identified the location can be assessed to determine whether additional pedestrian crossing facilities are



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required/warranted. There are existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing points provided on each arm Ballymore Road roundabout at present.

Councillor Clear stated that he was happy to allocate funding.

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

NS14/0923

Reconfiguration of Murtagh's Corner

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

That the council undertake the reconfiguration of Murtagh's Corner immediately, as a way to alleviate thru-traffic through Naas Town, making our Main Street less busy, less noisy, and safer.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Quinn and seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that funding to progress the Naas Pathfinder Project is awaited from the Department of Transport. The Council is in parallel examining proposals to reconfigure this junction. However, the completion of a land transfer process, detailed design and construction works will be necessary before traffic management changes will come in effect.

Councillor Quinn stated that he had a letter from Minister Eoghan Ryan dated the 1 September regarding €300k funding that needed to be applied for. He asked had it been requested yet by the council.

Mr D Hodgins advised the members that he has not yet received the letter from the Minister and stated that as soon as he receives the letter the council will apply for the funding.



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Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

NS15/0923

Review the present policies, around 'Environment and the Use of Herbicides

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore
That members agree to support a request to the Chief Executive, that Kildare County Council completely review the present policies, around 'Environment and the Use of Herbicides' as a result of which the presentation of the streets and side streets of Naas have been disgustingly neglected of the management of vegetation growth throughout the summer and openly promotes a 'couldn't care less' attitude and favouring those who continue to litter the streets.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Clear

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that a mandate was given by the people of Kildare to seek alternative maintenance practices to significantly reduce or eliminate the use of Glyphosate use in the public realm. Kildare County Council as lead authority commissioned research at master's level with Maynooth University. The results from the masters with guidance for ground staff was issued to all partners (10 local authorities and Waterways Ireland) the week commencing 28 August 2023 with additional research being undertaken on aspects of paved areas commencing in the coming weeks under a PhD structure. The future results from the PhD will further inform the maintenance options. Time is needed for the new guidance to be digested, programmed in and implemented to enable the results to be realised on the ground. Following the outcome of the research this will assist in determining policy going forward.

Councillor Moore stated that he was happy with the answer and said the only area where there was no vegetation was where people walk. He said the standard was falling and the members were not getting the service even though they allocated more money for this.



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Councillor Quinn stated that he understood glyphosate created more problems than benefits, the use of glyphosate should not be promoted. He said unsightly weeds were better than poisoning the waters and would like the motion withdrawn.

Mr D Reel stated that there were issues with using chemicals. There was extra demand to carry out the work, and with what was acceptable and reasonable with limited resources.

Councillor Moore stated that he did not say he promoted the use of glyphosate and requested a vote on his motion. 3 members voted for and 2 voted against.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Clear with 3 members voting in favour and 2 against to support a request to the Chief Executive, that Kildare County Council completely review the present policies, around 'Environment and the Use of Herbicides. The report be noted.

NS16/0923

Clean the gullies in Kill Village

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to clean the gullies in Kill Village following recent road resurfacing works?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that following the completion of surfacing works, the gullies will be cleaned.

The report was noted.

NS17/0923

Removal of the stairs at the Johnstown overpass

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

Can the council provide an update on the removal of the stairs at the Johnstown overpass?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that It is Transport Infrastructure Ireland's intention to issue these works (removal of the steps) to the Motorway Maintenance and Renewals Contractor Globalvia Jons. A firm timeline for the delivery of these works has yet to be established.

The report was noted.



NS18/0923

Slow zones 30kph (Jakes law) signage at the Jigginstown Estate

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear
Can the council confirm if it has plans to install slow zones 30kph (Jakes law) signage at the Jigginstown Estate in Naas?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the 5-year Speed Limit Review process ended in July 2022 when the Full Council voted to reject the Countywide Speed Limit Draft Bye Laws (Revision B). The Executive does not have the legal powers to change the speed limit, and hence the signage at this location through the Speed Limit Review process.

Councillor Clear advised that 'Slow Zone' signage had been installed in Monread Crescent. The District Engineer stated that he would investigate this.

The report was noted.

NS19/0923

Feasibility study to consider making John's Lane one way

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Quinn
Can the council confirm if it has carried out a feasibility study to consider making John's Lane one way, following on from the response to Cllr Breen's motion in January 2023?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the proposals to limit through traffic within the Friary Road and John's Lane area are proposed as part of the traffic management and public realm enhancement elements of the Pathfinder Project. Should the elected members wish for these proposals to be brought forward as part of a separate Section 38 process, this can be arranged.

The report was noted.

NS20/0923

Road signage

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly
Can the council confirm that new road signage directing traffic away from the centre of Sallins has been ordered?



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A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that Kildare County Council are currently working on the reclassification of roads in Naas which will include the Sallins Bypass and Sallins village. As part of this process, and subject to Ministerial approval, it is proposed to upgrade the signage at the main junctions around Naas. No signs have been ordered yet as the process is still ongoing. Councillor Kelly enquired about the timeline for installation of the signage.

The District Engineer advised that it was currently with the roads design team, and he was awaiting an update.

The report was noted.

NS21/0923

Trees/vegetation encroaching on the rear of property

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen
That the council inspect and investigate the issues being caused to residents at (details provided) with regard to trees/vegetation encroaching on the rear of their property. High trees and overhanging branches are causing serious problems and blocking light to the premises.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Breen and seconded by Councillor Clear

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the trees and hedgerow at this location will be selectively pruned to reduce the height where possible and where there are larger trees, we will remove some lower branches from these. These works will be considered for the next programme of trees works which we plan to carry out in Q1 2024.

Councillor Breen stated that she was happy with the report, that she spoke with Mr S Wallace who advised her he will get the trees pruned.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by the members that the report be noted.



NS22/0923

Ecology report

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen
Can the council share with members the ecology report which was commissioned with regard to the issues and condition of excessive weed infestation on the lakes at Lakelands and on the Ballymore Road Naas?

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the consultant ecologist the Council engaged with to review the issues at the Lakes has indicated that the growth on the lake is beneficial both to the oxygenation of the water and as food for the wildfowl. It is not detrimental to wildlife. Removal of any of the growth would be for cosmetic purposes. The consultant has indicated that the only negative impact on the lake is the nutrient enrichment of the water from further upstream. The consultant has indicated that the report will be available the end of September. The report will be issued to the members once available. We have requested our Environment Department to investigate the water quality issue.

Councillor Breen stated that she was not happy that swans cannot access lakes and this was only a recent problem.

Mr S Wallace advised that it was the ecologists view that the growth was beneficial and a clean up would only be for cosmetic purposes. Water testing was yet to be carried out. The report was noted.

NS23/0923

Update on Public Realm Projects

An update on Public Realm Projects in the Naas Municipal District was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting. Ms P Pender asked the members if they had any questions.

Ms P Pender wanted to clarify to the members that the parklet was located in the loading bay on the Dublin Road at the request of management of the Town Centre.

The report was noted.



NS24/0923

Cemex site

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon
That the council outline what arrangements and supports will be made for those living in the Cemex site when the building is demolished?

As Councillor Sammon had been called away from the meeting she requested that this motion be taken by Councillor Clear on her behalf

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear and seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from the Ms. S Barry, Administrative Officer, Housing Department informing the members that the Homeless Outreach team will engage with the Community Gardai with a view to meeting and to offer support to the individuals and families reported to be living at this location. Every effort will also be made to ensure that they will be supported to complete housing applications should this be required.

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

NS25/0923

Housing Schemes for Rathasker Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore
Can the council clarify why the two proposed Housing Schemes for Rathasker Road and Caragh Court are now delayed for over ten years, whilst government finance is so readily available, and the housing waiting list gets longer and longer?

A report was received from the Ms. S Barry, Administrative Officer, Housing Department informing the members of the following:

Rathasker Road: Kildare County Council had engaged with Cluid Housing Association to develop the site on the Rathasker Road in Naas. Following site investigation works the estimated cost of remediating the site to allow development rendered a traditional delivery



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route unviable. Kildare County Council subsequently proposed the site for inclusion in Social Housing PPP Bundle 6 (SHPPP 6) whereby cost of developing the site is spread over the 25 years PPP agreement period.

Kildare County Council was informed on 19 January 2023 that Rathasker Road site was selected as one of 9 sites for inclusion in SHPPP 6. Cork County Council will be the Lead Local Authority for SHPPP 6. The Rathasker Road site is estimated to deliver 80 units. The procurement of the design team is current being prepared.

Caragh Road: Detailed designs have been prepared by Kildare County Council and agreed with Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage for a scheme of 73 units at the Caragh Road site. Stage 1 approval has been received. A tender was issued for the procurement of a design team however Kildare County Council were unsuccessful in engaging suitable consultants. An alternative procurement process has been agreed and revised tenders will be prepared and issued for appointment of consultants.

Councillor Moore stated that it was a poor reflection that not one house had been built in the Municipal District since the start of his Kildare County Council time in 2013.

The report was noted.

NS26/0923

County Development Plan Objective

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore
That the council give its considered advice on how the several local interest groups can progress the 'County Development Plan Objective' to consider the development of a southern-side, Naas, triangular shaped amenity, comprising cycle and walking facilities, via the old Naas-Baltinglass Rail Line, the old Stage Coach Road via Mylerstown and Two-Mile House to Corbally Canal Harbour, so as to maximise any opportunity of financial support from National Exchequer funds to develop an inter-linking Rural Naas Greenway Facility.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Clear



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A report was received from Ms A Granville, Senior Planner, Planning Section and Mr S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer, Parks Section advising the members that a number of County Development Plan Objectives relate to locations identified in this motion.

- LR O59 to Facilitate the delivery of the (i) Naas to Sallins Greenway and (ii) Naas to Corbally Harbour Greenway, in co-operation with landowners, Waterways Ireland and Government Departments.
- LR O60 to Explore the feasibility of developing a greenway/cycle for amenity purposes, in cooperation with Waterways Ireland and Government Departments. (a) Naas to Corbally harbour (b) Corbally Harbour to Newbridge.
- LR O61 to Explore, in conjunction with Waterways Ireland, the feasibility of re- opening the canal between Naas and Corbally Harbour for navigation, mooring and launching vessels, to encourage its use for recreational water sports.

The Planning and Parks Departments are engaged with a range of national funding streams, including the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) in order to progress the feasibility and delivery of projects identified in the County Development Plan. In this regard, applications are limited to Local Authorities and State Bodies. However, consultation with local interest groups will form part of the studies/projects should applications for funding be successful.

Councillor Moore stated that he hoped the people of Naas would appreciate that development of these areas of the town was identified as an objective in the plan.

Councillor Quinn stated that he fully supported councillor Moore's motion and appreciated his support of the Greenways.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

NS27/0923

Taking in charge of Willouise Estate

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



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Can the council provide a report on the items outstanding, costs involved, and time required in the taking in charge of Willouise Estate in Sallins?

A report was received by the Building and Development Control Department informing the members that There are a significant number of infrastructural issues that need to be resolved in the Willouise Estate before it can be progressed to Taking in Charge. These include retaining walls, footpaths, public lighting, storm water and road surfacing. The Development Control Team will undertake a full audit of the estate once staff resources allow and develop a costed remediation plan. It is not possible to put a high-level cost against the required works until such an audit has been undertaken.

The report was noted.

NS28/0923

High street retail and enterprise

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

Can the council confirm if it has any mechanisms in place to target the establishment of a broader range of 'high street' retail and enterprise throughout the Naas Municipal District?

A report was received by Mr C Sweeney, Senior Economic Development Officer, Local Enterprise Office informing the members that Kildare County Council's Local Enterprise Office (LEO) and the Economic Development Unit are regularly engaged with enterprise and retail throughout the Naas Municipal District and the wider county. There are a number of mechanisms in place to fully engage with the wider business community.

- The hosting of the Kildare Economic Forum, which takes place on Tuesday 12 September in the Osprey Hotel in Naas.
- Regular online social media engagement.
- Regular visits by the LEO & Economic Development Team, through the Kildare Retail Support Programme, to retailers and businesses in the Naas Municipal District and across other Municipal Districts to promote and support them with their applications for the Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme, Streetscape Scheme and the Retail Window Merchandising Grant. The funding for the Shopfront Grant in the Naas Municipal District for 2023 has been fully utilised with 17 businesses receiving funding awards.
- The hosting of the Pride of Premises Retail Awards in MERITS in Naas to recognise the considerable improvements to streetscapes by businesses from the grant funding.



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- A weekly series of online retail seminars with keynote speakers is currently being finalised for the month of October.

During September our Enterprise and Economic Development Team are also hosting a LEO Kildare Roadshow and touring the county to ensure that our business community are fully equipped with the supports they need. We are hosting a business get-together in each Municipal District to showcase Kildare County Council's supports to the business community. Appointments with our team can be made at <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/> The Naas Municipal District Roadshow takes place at the Economic Forum on the 12 September.

Kildare County Councils' Economic Development Unit regularly meets with prospective investors, both retail and non-retail, to support their requests and provide advice. The Property Portal, established by Kildare County Council, also advertises available or vacant units across the county.

Councillor Quinn stated that he was not looking to establish new businesses but looking for certain types of businesses to target. He said that there is 400sq foot of retail space and new business need to be brought into Sallins and Naas area.

The report was noted.

NS29/0923

Write to the Department of Education

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear
That the members write to the Department of Education asking what plans it has to deal with the lack of primary school places in Sallins, with a population of seven thousand residents and growing rapidly and where a significant number of children have to travel to Naas to attend primary school as St Lawrence's Catholic National School, Sallins has reached capacity with a long waiting list.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear and seconded by Councillor Kelly



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A report was received by the Planning Department informing the members that If the members agree the Planning Department will correspond with the Department of Education with respect to primary school places in Sallins and update the members accordingly.

Councillor Clear stated that there is a field owned by the parish beside the school that could be used.

Councillor Kelly informed the members that she had spoken with TD James Lawless who engaged with the Department of Education on this matter and advised her that the board of management from Sallins NS never informed the Department of Education that the school was at full capacity. She said a new school is needed and not an extension to the existing one.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by the members that the Planning Department will correspond with the Department of Education and the report be noted.

NS30/0923

St David's Castle

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Quinn
That the council initiates a public consultation process on what St David's Castle could potentially become, should funding be made available to take the Castle into public ownership.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Quinn and seconded by Councillor Breen

A report was received by Ms P Pender, A/Senior Executive Officer, Strategic Projects, and Public Realm advising the members that as St. David's Castle is currently in private ownership, the initiation of a public consultation piece for its potential use is not appropriate at this time. As indicated on the attached SPPR update to the members, a Feasibility Study for the Castle Quarter and a Conservation Management Plan & Archaeological Survey for St.



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David's Castle and grounds is being carried out by our Heritage team. The outcomes of the studies and surveys will help to identify the future potential of this site.

Councillor Quinn stated that if the Castle was to be taken into public ownership there were fascinating ideas for it. He said it would be a linchpin for Naas town. He stated that the current owner bought it not knowing it was part of the national monuments list.

Ms P Pender stated that it could be considered as part of the Master Plan, and the council could have a public consultation on it.

Councillor Quinn stated that with some creative thinking the Castle could impact on a wider number of people of Naas.

The District Manager stated that he understood the desire to protect the heritage and was open to consideration.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Breen and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

NS31/0923

Artworks for the new Sallins Bypass

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

Can the council confirm if the process to identify the piece of artworks for the new Sallins Bypass (as part of the Percent for Art scheme) has begun?

A report was received by Ms L Russell, Arts Officer, Arts Services informing the members that the Council are keen to advance this project. However, the Per Cent for Art allocation of €64,000 is modest, given the scale of the redevelopment and there are concerns that an artwork on the main roadway would be lost to the viewer.

The County Arts Officer is in discussion with the NRDO to identify a suitable location for a permanent artwork to mark the redevelopment of the M7/Sallins Bypass. The Council are also in discussion with TII and the Department of Transport.



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Councillor Kelly advised that the artwork would need to be as impactful as the Naas Ball in Naas. She suggested that additional funding or sponsorship could be sought from the Arts Council or local business. She said a piece was needed to showcase and recommended a St Brigids piece like the one recently done in Sallins would suit.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.