



**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting
held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 05 December 2023
in the Council Chamber**

Members Present: Councillor B Clear (Mayor), Councillors A Breen, F Brett, S Moore, B Quinn and E Sammon

Online: Councillor C Kelly

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 (A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer), Ms E O'Brien (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr J Hannigan, (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Fogarty (Meetings Secretary) and others.

NS01/1223

Declaration of Interests

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

NS02/1223

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Naas Municipal District meeting held on 14 November together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by members that the minutes of the monthly Naas Municipal District meeting held on 14 November be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.



NS03/1223

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 – Complete
- L3012 – Monread Road, Naas – Complete
- L3012 – Millenium Park, Naas – Complete
- L29975 – Sarto/Pacelli Road, Naas – Complete
- R410 – Blessington Road (Crab Lane) – Complete
- L2014 – Kill Village – Complete
- R445 – Dublin Road, Naas – Complete

Surface Dressing Works

The Naas Municipal District office 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



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Footpaths

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

- Roselawn (footpath improvements) - Complete
- St Brigid's 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) - Complete
- Johnstown (uncontrolled crossing) - Construction Stage
- Gaelic View, Kill (footpath/ramps) - Tender Stage
- Riverlawns, Kill (footpath) - 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
- Sherlockstown Road, Sallins (raised table) - Complete
- Ashfield Park - Complete
- Killeel Lane (road surface) - Complete
- R407 Sallins Village (footpath improvements) - Complete
- R407 Sallins Road, Naas (footpath improvements) - Complete
- Roselawn, Naas - Tender Stage
- Mountain View, Naas - Tender Stage
- Rathasker Lane - Construction Stage
- St Patricks Park, Kill - Construction Stage

Drainage



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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
- Cromwellstown - Complete

Low-Cost Safety Improvement Works

The Naas Municipal District office have received funding from the Department of Transport for the following 2023 Safety Improvement Works. These projects are currently at construction stage.

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

Councillor Moore complemented the roads section and the Municipal District office on all works completed.

Mr D Reel advised the members that a wish list for new projects should be given to him by the following week.

NS04/1223

LPT 2023 Allocations

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

The Mayor informed the members that 9 requests had been received for LPT funding to be allocated to the following project:

Councillor Carmel Kelly

The Green Roots Projects	€ 500.00
Killashee National School	€ 125.00
Castlefen Residents Association	€ 852.00



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St Davids, to sponsor a tree € 250.00

Councillor Evie Sammon

Fr Flanagan's Boxing Club €1,600.00

Ballymore Eustace Band Hall €5,000.00

Councillor Bob Quinn

St Davids, to sponsor a tree € 250.00

Kildare Autism Network €1,000.00

Councillor Bill Clear

McAuley Place €1,000.00

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by all the members that all the above 9 requests received for LPT funding be approved.

NS05/1223

Section 38 of the Roads Traffic Act

The members considered and agreed that the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Section 38 – Proposed Traffic Calming/ Safety Improvement Scheme at Eadestown, Naas to proceed to Section 38.

Noted.

NS06/1223

Naming the new pedestrian bridge in Sallins

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear
That the council consider naming the new pedestrian bridge in Sallins the "St Brigids Bridge" given that we are honouring St Brigid both this year and next year all over Kildare County.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear and Seconded by Councillor Sammon

A report was received by the Strategic Projects and Public Realm team informing the members that they are currently engaging with the Ministers Office to finalise a date for the official opening of the Bridge. All protocols in relation to the possible naming of the



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pedestrian bridge in Sallins will be considered and an update will be provided to members at a later date.

Councillor Clear acknowledged that the Greenway was an amazing link between the school and the GAA and stated he was delighted that it was delivered for a reasonable price. He requested that this be put on the progress report.

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

NS07/1223

Budget for the maintenance of rivers, culverts and lakes

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

That the council provide a fund in its municipal district budget for the maintenance of rivers, culverts and lakes in the Naas Municipal District.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett and Seconded by Councillor Clear

A report was received by the Transportation Department and the Flood Management Team informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer is responsible for the maintenance of culverts. The maintenance of rivers and lakes typically falls to the riparian landowner who has responsibility in this regard.

There is a current budget provision to cover existing drainage districts and where the council has carried out flood relief works. Works are programmed annually, with prioritisation given to those areas where houses are at risk of flooding.

Machine works are limited to a seasonal window (July to September) and depend on ecological assessment and liaison with IFI as well as assessment of health and safety risks. Assigning a budget per Municipal District could lead to undue pressure to carry out works in certain areas (where there is additional budget) at the expense of other areas where maintenance is required.

The members made the following points:

- Naas was surrounded by sandpits, and this causes silt problems.
- This was not a once off problem, therefore there should be a distinct fund for it
- Could a water feature be installed to prevent the silt coming through?



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- This had been accumulating for over 15 years.

Mr M McLoughlin advised that he would report back to Mr S Wallace with the members' concerns.

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

NS08/1223

Narrow footpath in Basin Street

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen
That the council investigate, with a view to improve, the condition/design of the narrow footpath in Basin Street adjacent to Emporium Kalu in the interests of Public Safety.

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

A report was received by the Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team informing the members that they received Category B funding for further development and technical assistance to progress the regeneration and development of the area known as Canal Quarter in Naas Town Centre. This will involve the preparation of a Feasibility Study which will inform the Naas Town Renewal Masterplan and Canal Quarter. The Abbey Street/Basin Street area will fall into the study area with a focus on regeneration, informing decision making on future uses and public realm works. There are no plans to improve individual elements of the Basin Street/Abbey Street area outside of this process.

The members said the following:

- Enquired when will the feasibility study would be carried out?
- Stated that this issue was brought up by the members at different times every year.
- The problem was at Abbey Street, a section 38 was needed.

Mr D Hodgins advised that The Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team was examining the upgrading of Basin Street connecting Naas Main Street to the Harbour. In addition, the Sustainable Transport Section would be publishing a statutory Public Consultation Process



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in Q1 2024 for the Naas to Sallins Greenway, which would include revised traffic management proposals for the area, including a restriction on traffic between Basin Street and Abbey Street.

He said that both these proposals would reduce the risk to vulnerable road users in the area by eliminating traffic that was inappropriately using the area as a through route.

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

NS09/1223

Yellow box at the entrance/exit to Castle Farm Estate

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

That the council provide a yellow box at the entrance/exit to Castle Farm Estate, Naas, and the ring road.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that the Naas Municipal District office will assess the provision of a yellow box junction at this location in line with the relevant Technical Guidance document.

Councillor Breen stated that this was a very busy road and for safety reasons a yellow box was needed.

Councillor Sammon stated that she was not sure if a yellow box was actually needed there, it was down to the flow of traffic coming out of Enable Ireland.

Councillor Clear said that a new creche was in the plans for that area therefore a signalised junction was needed there.

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



NS10/1223

Write to the Department of Transport

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon
That the council write to the Department of Transport and appeal all speed limits in the Naas Municipal District that were affected by the County Development Plan and the Local Area Plan.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sammon and Seconded by Councillor Brett

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that the elected members agreed at Full Council, to postpone the restarting of the countywide speed limit review, pending the publication of revised guidelines for the making of speed limits which is being actioned by the Department of Transport. The Government published the final report of the Speed Limit Review and this publication made a number of recommendations relating to changes to default speed limits. Changes to the default speed limits will require primary legislation and the Department of Transport envisages that the necessary legislation could be passed in Q1 2024. When statutory guidelines are updated, the implementation of the Review's recommendations could commence.

Councillor Sammon stated that the boundary line for Ballymore Eustace was changed in the County Development Plan. but the speed limit was not changed in the new area She asked could she appeal it herself to the Department of Transport?

Mr D Hodgins advised that this was a reserved function.

Councillor Kelly stated that she was at a meeting in Galway where they had used bylaws to change the speed limit. She and Councillor Noel Connolly had a motion going to full council on this.

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



NS11/1223

National Transport Authority

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Quinn
That Kildare County Council engage with the National Transport Authority to outline any business supports that could be made available near new Active Travel Schemes in the municipal district for cyclists and pedestrians, such as the Kilcullen Road, Naas, to enhance the customer experience.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that they meet the National Transport Authority on a quarterly basis and they could discuss the issue with them.

Kildare County Council's Sustainable Transport Forum, a working group reporting to the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee is also considering the development of a policy around the need for ancillary active travel measures to support the implementation of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure across the county.

Councillor Quinn stated that there was huge disruption and asked what support was given to businesses and when was the next meeting with the NTA?

Mr D Hodgins informed the members that he would not discuss compensation but added that the department had worked very closely with the local businesses. He told the members that the next meeting with the NTA would be Quarter 1 2024.

Councillor Clear stated that certain businesses were badly impacted financially and could the council help to get them open as quickly as possible.

Councillor Quinn asked could the council fast track any outcome of support mechanisms for these businesses.

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



NS12/1223

Iarnród Éireann

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Quinn
That Kildare County Council engage with Iarnród Éireann - Irish Rail to support using vacant underground car park space as commuter bicycle parking in the Waterways, Sallins.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that The County Development Plan Objective TM O38 supports the development of accessible cycle parking facilities at public service destinations.
If it is the elected members wish, we will write to Iarnród Éireann to seek a meeting to discuss the provision of a facility at this location.

Councillor Quinn stated that he was happy that more people were making use of the bike lanes, but more bike spaces were needed.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Breen and agreed by all members that the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section write to Iarnród Éireann to seek a meeting to discuss the provision of a cycle parking facility at this location and the report be noted.

NS13/1223

Road signage at the entrance/exit to Hederman's Car Park

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen
Can the council update members on the provision of improved road signage at the entrance/exit to Hederman's Car Park, Naas, in the interests of public safety?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that The Naas Municipal District office have reviewed the entrance location and are proposing new signage at the entrance and exit points. This work will be commenced following the completion of the road works programme 2023.

The report was noted.



NS14/1223

Update on progress on the Naas Local Area Plan

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

Can the council update the committee on progress, resources and timelines towards Naas Local Area Plan objectives for filtered permeability measures?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport and Traffic Management Section informing the members that In 2022, the National Transport Authority provided funding to progress the proposed permeability schemes to the statutory public consultation stage. It was agreed with the Sustainable Transport Section at the time that resources should be prioritised on developing plans for infrastructural schemes such as Kilcullen Road, Dublin Road, Monread Road, Newbridge Road, Blessington Road and Sallins Village Active Travel Schemes. It is envisaged that the permeability links would then be developed to link the core active travel network around the town.

Councillor Quinn stated that he was not happy with the report and asked for clarity on who was responsible for developing the permeability links and who was going to fund it?

Mr D Hodgins advised that funding would be sought for externally through the NTA. The report was noted.

NS15/1223

Redesign/master plan for Monread Park

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

Can the council confirm what the current situation is regarding the redesign/master plan for Monread Park given that it is the biggest park in the Naas municipal district and the substantial numbers using it?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that works will not commence on a masterplan for Monread Park until the following works are completed these are:

1. Design works for Sallins Amenity Land,
2. Opening of Kerdiffstown Park.
3. Opening of DeBurghs Woodland Garden

The report was noted.



NS16/1223

Parking facilities provided at the De Burgh lands

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett
Can the council confirm if parking facilities will be provided at the De Burgh lands when it opens to the public next Spring?

A report was received from the Parks Section informing the members that It will not be possible to provide parking facilities at DeBurghs Woodland Garden. However, some limited parking will be provided within the grounds of Millbank Cottage for those with physical disability issues.

The report was noted.

NS17/1223

Status of the Alms House

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen
Can the council update members on the status of the Alms House on the Dublin Road, Naas?

A report was received from the Housing Section informing the members that the Peter McVerry Trust had intended to redevelop this property to provide 3 x 1-bed self-contained own door units for housing accommodation purposes. The Trust have recently advised they are no longer in a position to carry out this redevelopment and the Housing Department are in discussions with the St Vincent de Paul Society regarding ownership of and the future use of the property.

Councillor Breen gave a brief outline on the history of the Alms House.

The report was noted.

NS18/1223

Scaffolding at Jigginstown Castle

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Quinn
Can the council confirm which agency is responsible for the scaffolding at Jigginstown Castle, and whether there are any ongoing associated costs or charges with the scaffolding?



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A report was received from the Planning Section informing the members that Jigginstown Castle is in the care of the Office of Public Works (OPW). Kildare County Council does not incur any costs associated with scaffolding on the Jigginstown site.

The report was noted.

NS19/1223

Brigid 1500 Festival

The members received an update by Ms K Lane on the programme for the 2024 Brigid 1500 Festival.

Ms. K. Lane outlined highlights in relation to the launch and media coverage of the 2024 Brigid 1500 Festival. Also informing the members that there were 101 Community and Creative Grant Applications received, with 58 Applications approved awarding over €188,000 to Creative and Community Groups across the county. The members were also informed of a number of Flagship Events which would be taking place in each Municipal District during the 2024 Brigid 1500 Festival from 27th January 2024 to 4th February 2024, details of which were available on www.brigid1500.ie

A School's Resource Pack 'The Life and Times of St. Brigid' would be distributed to primary school children and will be available in both English and Irish languages. Circulation will also be through Kildare Education Network and available through Kildare Library Service and at www.brigid1500.ie

Councillor Clear stated that he would like to see something in Sallins and asked were there any more events being held on the Bank holiday Monday?

Ms K Lane stated that there were no more events scheduled on the Bank Holiday Monday as that day was generally very quiet.

The report was noted.

NS20/1223

Autumn Leaf Scheme

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



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That the council follow the example of Dublin City Council and implement the “Autumn Leaf Scheme” in this municipal district which provides local groups and residents associations with a way of collecting and disposing of leaves.

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

A report was received by the Transportation Department and the Environment informing the members that the Municipal District office carries out regular sweeping of leaves essentially to keep gullies clear and there is no budgetary provision nor personnel available to extend the service beyond this.

The most sustainable method of dealing with leaves is for the resident’s association to compost them within the estate. There are a number of groups already doing this with support from the council. The Council’s Environmental Awareness Officer is happy to assist community groups where required.

Councillor Kelly advised that she would talk with the Council’s Environmental Awareness Officer.

Mr K Kavanagh advised that he would liaise with Councillor Kelly on this.

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

NS21/1223

Culvert at Waterways

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

That the council confirm that the culvert at Waterways, Sallins has been inspected this year and provide an update on the results of that inspection.

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



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A report was received by the Flood Management Team informing the members that the culvert is scheduled for inspection in mid-December. If maintenance is required, it will be scheduled within the seasonal window of July to September.

Councillor Kelly asked was the culvert inspected annually and who received the report after it had been inspected?

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