



**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting
held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 10 September 2024
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas**

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

Remote Attendance: Councillor C Kelly

Officials Present: Mr E Ryan (District Manager), Mr Y Khan (A/District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Engineer), Mr M McLoughlin (A/ Senior Executive Officer), Ms M O'Dwyer (Administrative Officer) Ms A Gough (LPT Coordinator), Ms M Richardson (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Fogarty (Meetings Secretary) and others.

NS01/0924

Declaration of Conflicts or Pecuniary Interests

Declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

There were no declarations made.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting for 5 minutes as a mark of respect and to offer condolences on behalf of himself and the members to Councillor G Dunne on the recent passing of his brother Mr John Dunne. A minute's silence was observed.



NS02/0924

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Naas Municipal District meeting held on 09 July 2024 and the special meeting held on 24 July 2024 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Dunne that the minutes of the monthly Naas Municipal District meeting held on 09 July 2024, the special meeting held on 24 July 2024 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

NS03/0924

Municipal District Road works programme

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

Road Resurfacing

The Naas Municipal District Restoration Improvement (RI) and Restoration Maintenance (RM) works programme for 2024 has been developed in line with the 2024 allocation from the Department of Transport. The following projects are being delivered as part of this programme:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| • R411 Ballymore Eustace village | Complete |
| • R413 Balllymore to Ardenode | Complete |
| • R410 Baltracey (Beggars End) | Complete |
| • L2021 Rathmore | Complete |
| • Craddockstown Road, Naas | Complete |
| • Ballycane, Naas | Complete |
| • Fishery Lane, Naas | Complete |
| • Johnstown | Complete |
| • Monread Avenue | Complete |
| • Kill | Complete |



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- Sallins Road, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Blessington Road/Tipper Road Junction Complete
- Monread Heights Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Monread Avenue, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Basin Street, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Hollywood Park, Naas Pre-Construction Stage

Footpaths

A tender has been awarded for works at the following locations:

- Roselawn, Naas Complete
- Mountain View, Naas Complete
- Friary Road, Naas - Raised Table Crossing Complete

Safety Improvement Works

The Naas Municipal District Safety Improvement Works is based on the 2024 allocation from the Department of Transport, as follows:

- R411 – Bends at Donode Little.

LPT/Carparks Funded Works

The Naas MD Local Property Tax (LPT)/ Carparking works programme for 2024 has been developed in line with the 2024 allocation, as agreed with the Naas MD Councillors.

- BME Rd to Ballycane - Raised Table Crossing Complete
- Poplar Square - Hayden's – Footpath Complete
- Sallins Road - Raised Table Crossing Complete
- Gleann Na Greaine – Footpath Complete
- Chapel Lane, Sallins – Footpath Complete
- Sallins Park to St. Brigids Terrace – Footpath Complete
- Johnstown Manor, Johnstown – Footpath Complete
- Glendara, Kill – Footpath Complete
- Liffey Heights - Ballymore Eustace – Road Complete
- Kilheale, Kill Complete



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- Kerdiff Avenue, Naas Complete
- Traffic Calming (Eadestown) Complete
- Traffic Calming (Ballymore Eustace) Complete
- Morrell Park, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Ashgrove, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Elmwood, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Blessington Road, Naas Pre-Construction Stage
- Corbally Court, Naas Pre-Construction Stage

(LPT Funded Road Projects)

- Hillview, Sallins Complete
- St. Patricks Park, Kill Complete
- Ashgrove, Naas Complete

Drainage

The Naas Municipal District drainage programme for 2024 will be developed in line with the 2024 allocation from the Department of Transport.

- Wolfestown/Philipstown Complete
- Naas Road, Ballymore Complete

Surface Dressing

The Naas Municipal District office have completed approximately 10 kilometres of road maintenance projects to date.

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

Works for Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) is programmed for 2024 at the following location:

- Kiltel Community Hall, Kill Pre-Construction Stage

The report was noted.



NS04/0924

Remaining LPT 2023 allocations

The members considered the below LPT 2023/2024 allocations for the Naas Municipal District Committee.

Retained LPT Allocations			
InSync - music room completion on Basin St	€	2,144.98	Feile Nas na Riogh - Kids entertainment on Festival Day
			€ 1,000.00
			Sallins Ladybirds & Brownies
			€ 1,000.00
			Monread FC - U8 soccer team start up
			€ 2,175.00
			Sarto Residents Association
			€ 1,500.00
			St Davids Boxing Club
			€ 2,175.00
			The Park Residents Association
			€ 800.00
			Naas Tidy Towns
			€ 3,000.00
			Naas Musical Society
			€ 1,000.00
			Sult na Sollan festival
			€ 1,000.00
			Rovers Scouts Group
			€ 2,000.00
			Tipperkevin Holy Well Group
			€ 1,000.00

Also to be included is the reapproval of Naas Athletics Club €50,000 – original allocation was for track upgrade, now the project has changed to a Hammer and Discus Cage

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Dunne and agreed by all members that the above allocations be approved.

NS05/0924

Interactive Speed Control Signs

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen
That the council provides interactive speed control signs on the Sallins Road, Naas in the interests of road safety.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the existing speed limit signage on the R407 Sallins Road is clearly displayed. The limit is 60kph at the northern (Monread Road) end and reduces to 50kph



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closer to the town. This route is a regional route that is located within the built-up area of Naas town.

Interactive speed control signage is used at specific locations and situations.

The link between the provision of signage and a potential improvement in road safety on all regional roads into Naas (and similar sized towns) has not been demonstrated.

The placing of additional signage on poles along the route would negate any improvements for vulnerable road users by reducing the width of existing footpaths for walkers possibly forcing them to step onto the carriageway. It should also be noted that there is no funding provision or ongoing maintenance for such signage.

Councillor Breen stated that she was not happy with the report. She advised that the road was particularly busy and that she felt an interactive speed control sign would be beneficial there. She enquired about costings.

Councill Clear stated that he supported this motion. He said that there had been a lot of changes on this road, stating there was only a footpath on one side. He said that funding had been found for a similar setup on the Blessington Road, and this had set a precedent.

Mr D Hodgins stated that on one hand was being told there was too much traffic on that road and then told speeding was an issue, he stated it could not be both. He stated that more enforcement was needed. It was challenging that the school was not visible and possibly more school signs could be installed. The speed limit would be reduced as part of the speed limit review but would still require enforcement.

The members asked for this item to be added to the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by the members that this item to be added to the progress report and the report be noted.



NS06/0924

Damaged/Sunken Footpath in Poplar Square

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen
That the council repairs the damaged/sunken footpath in Poplar Square, Naas located outside the Poplar Pharmacy in the interests of the safety of pedestrians.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office will investigate the issue and repair the damaged footpath as necessary.

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

NS07/0924

Corban's Lane/South Main Street Project

The members agreed to take item 7 and 20 together.

Item 7:

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore
That members would agree that following the failure of the infamous Naas Pathfinder Programme and the non-usage of road allocation grants for the town, that the Corban's Lane/South Main Street project be now brought forward as the most essential roads project to be completed.

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 the design for Murtagh's Corner/Corban's Lane is being prepared by the Transport Capital Team and is at detailed design with delivery anticipated in 2025.



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In respect of the Public Realm Team, they have tendered for the services of a multi-disciplinary integrated Design Team lead by a suitably qualified Urban Designer to prepare a non-statutory regeneration Town Renewal Masterplan for Naas. The plans will have a strong focus on the Public Realm and the successful candidate will provide all necessary consultancy design services required to deliver the regeneration Masterplans which will include for, but not be limited to, urban design and planning, architecture, architectural conservation, landscape architecture, engineering, quantity surveying, traffic management/safety and sustainable mobility, enterprise and tourism development, ecology, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment or any other consultancy services necessary for the performance of the services described in the tender brief. The SPPR team are currently assessing tenders with a view to awarding a contract in the coming weeks. A programme for delivery will be outlined also in the coming weeks and progress reports will be provided in the monthly Chief Executive Reports.

It is envisioned that the Masterplan will incorporate the entire town centre area, it will have a particular phased priority on 3 interlinked Core Regeneration Areas (CRAs) located within the historic core of Naas town centre and two key transportation and public realm interventions on the north and south access points to Main Street. It will also acknowledge and develop the relationship between and integration of, the Canal Quarter, the Naas Library and Cultural Centre and the Grand Canal Greenway.

The three CRAs and two key transportation interventions to be prioritised as the first phase within the Masterplan are as follows:

CRA 1 – Regeneration of Main Street including redevelopment of Poplar Square and Murtagh's Corner

CRA 2 – Redevelopment of St. David's castle and surrounds, John's Lane and Friary Road as a vibrant tourist, cultural, civic and market destination with residential, marketplace and mixed used development.

CRA 4 – Corban's Lane (including Naas Town Shopping Centre currently under redevelopment. Redevelopment of Naas Town centre and regeneration of Corban's Lane and all connections to main street and beyond).

Item 20:

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



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Can the council confirm if it is proceeding with the design of the Main Street in Naas that was previously mandated under the now defunct pathfinder scheme and If so, will we see this design by the end of the year?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that proposals to reduce on street parking, narrow the carriageway, and introduce a bus gate and active travel measures on Main Street Naas can be developed, subject to funding and resources becoming available.

The members raised the following:

- Since the most important work had been completed by the consultants, was there now a timeline for the delivery?
- The council needed to keep going for a design on the Main Street
- Would this tie in with the Canal Quarter?
- Could one CRA be prioritised over another to provide an alternative route

Mr D Hodgins informed the members that the vision for the Main Street was to have it linked up with the Canal Quarter, this would help to explain the closure of Abbey Street.

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

NS08/0924

Trips and Falls at the Kilcullen Road

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

That the council outlines the number of reports/complaints of trips and falls on the curbing on the Kilcullen Road it has received.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Kilcullen Road Active Travel Scheme, which was funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and officially opened by Minister Chambers in May 2024 has been designed and built to national standards.



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The scheme has been the subject of Road Safety Audits and a post construction review. Any issues raised have been reviewed with the qualified designer and Kildare County Council continues to monitor the situation. To date there have been 6 reported trips or falls on the Kilcullen Road.

The members raised the following:

- There were more complaints coming in from members of the public to the councillors, worried there were more than the 6 reported trips and falls now as some were going unreported.
- Were the council waiting to pay peoples medical bills who tripped/fell, before something was done?
- The weakness was that there was no differentiation in the colour scheme between the road and the kerbs.
- There was a clear white line for cyclists but nothing for motorists
- Could a committee be formed to review works of this nature?
- Pedestrians needed safer ways to cross the junction.
- Would there come a point where it was cheaper to fix the issue than pay for claims.

Mr D Hodgins advised the following:

- He welcomed motions that highlighted issues
- He acknowledged that incidents occurred but advised the numbers are low. There were hazards and challenges everywhere.
- The road was designed to national standards
- There was no recommendation to change it, it was a standard layout
- The different levels made the route safer for all.
- Pedestrians were the priority in the Town Centre
- Economics did not come into it, the scheme would continue to be monitored

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



NS09/0924

Review of Parking in Ballymore Eustace

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon
That the council conducts a full review of parking in Ballymore Eustace with a view to designating some 'residents only' parking on Chapel Street.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Transport Department will add this location to the Bye Law review schedule.

Councillor Sammon stated that the area was the start point for a 5km walk. Residents could not find parking in the area due to the volume of cars parking there for the walking route. A film crew had used the area 3 times already this year causing traffic chaos. She requested that the District Engineer do a walk around the area with her and advised she was working on getting access to lands for a 'Park and Stride'.

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

NS10/0924

Loading Bay in Poplar Square

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Dunne
That the council removes the inside white line at the loading bay in Poplar Square, Naas outside of the West Country Carpets business and move the flower box about two feet forward, thus increasing the loading area.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that Naas Municipal District office has reviewed the location, and any



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extension of the loading bay would interfere with the movement of the junction. This location could be further reviewed with the delivery of the Poplar square project.

Councillor Dunne stated that this came to his attention from people who received parking tickets. He said that the white line was protecting a small bit of waste land, if flower box was moved two feet it would increase the loading bay area.

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

NS11/0924

Installation of Ramps

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

That the council installs ramps on the access road to The Stables and The Meadows at Kill.

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 Municipal District Office will request a speed survey at this location. There are no resources currently available for traffic calming, but this may be reviewed as part of the 2025 Works Programme.

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

NS12/0924

Unightly weeds on the Tipper Road

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

That the council cuts back the unsightly weeds and overgrowth alongside the vacant lots on the Tipper Road, Naas opposite the Racecourse.

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



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A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office will facilitate this request.

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

NS13/0924

Reinstate the Yellow Box on the Kilcullen Road

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

That the council reinstate the yellow box on the Kilcullen Road outside of St Conleth's Place as the residents are having great difficulty exiting their estate at busy times.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office will review the yellow box marking request in accordance with the Criteria for the Implementation of Statutory Signing and Lining Measures in County Kildare and this is subject to need and resources.

The members raised the following:

- There had been a yellow box there previously, could it be reinstated?
- The road was busier than before
- Residents were frustrated trying to get out of their estate
- The residents had been very obliging throughout the Active Travel Scheme
- If a cycle lane was put in, did yellow boxes get removed because of it?

Mr D Hodgins informed the members that the removal of yellow boxes was not related to cycle lanes being put in. He told the members that it was based on the traffic volumes over the course of a day and not just at peak times. The issue was with motorists not facilitating others.



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

NS14/0924

Notices of Road Closures

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly
That the council ensures that all notices of road closures, footpath works etc. issued to Councillors be accompanied with maps of location and detours, if necessary, as a matter of course.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Transport Department will endeavour, where practical, to provide maps, however, the majority of road closures are on foot of requests from third parties who, in most cases, do not provide maps suitable for circulation. The council will encourage applicants to provide appropriate maps as the Municipal District Offices often do not have technical staff available to prepare maps.

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

NS15/0924

Nonfunctioning Streetlights and Public Lights

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Dunne
Can the council provide an update as to the progress being made on the nonfunctioning streetlights and public lights in general in the Naas Municipal District since the appointment of the new contractor?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the performance of the contractor is monitored using Deadsure, the fault reporting software. The data from the software is provided at county wide level and not by the Municipal District. Therefore, it is not possible to answer the specific request for the Naas



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Municipal District. However, the contractor has been making progress since commencing on 15 July 2024.

There were 464 active faults when the new contractor took over and there were 327 active faults at the end of August. The contractor is making good progress in reducing the fault count down to the anticipated level of 260, or 1% of our entire inventory.

The contractor currently has 4 electricians that are approved to work in County Kildare and are working towards having 6 electricians.

The report was noted

NS16/0924

Road Signage between Tandy Bridge and Osberstown Bridge

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

Can the council confirm any plans to provide road signage for motorists/pedestrians between Tandy Bridge and Osberstown Bridge on the Naas/Sallins Greenway informing them of traffic restrictions, ie. vehicular local access only, no through road and no parking on the Greenway?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that Kildare County Council is working closely with Waterways Ireland to design and agree signage along the towpaths between Abbey Bridge and Osberstown Bridge.

Councillor Breen enquired as to the timeline for the signage to be installed.

Mr D Hodgins advised Councillor Breen that the council were in discussions with Waterways Ireland.

The report was noted.

NS17/0924

Residents Access on the Greenway Corridors

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

Can the council outline how it proposes to manage and control the required vehicle movement of essential services, tourists and those who need to visit residents and relatives on the Greenway Corridors of Naas, where vehicle movement has been banned?



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A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that as outlined in the Section 38 consultation report, vehicular access to all properties has been retained.

Councillor Moore advised that the public did not seem to be aware that they could access the area to visit residents stating that signage would help in this regard.

Mr D Hodgins said that all residents and property owners in the area were aware of the vehicle access but it would not be practical to sign post individual dwellings from the main road.

The report was noted.

NS18/0924

Vehicular Traffic of the Naas to Sallins Greenway

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

Can the council confirm that they are monitoring the closure to vehicular traffic of the Naas to Sallins Greenway - Abbey Bridge to Osberstown Bridge Scheme?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that as outlined in the Section 38 consultation report, the scheme's outcomes will be monitored as matter of course.

Councillor Kelly asked when the outcomes of the scheme would be circulated to members.

Mr D Hodgins advised Councillor Kelly that it was not the intention to circulate any reports to the members, but the scheme would be monitored by the council.

The report was noted.

NS19/0924

Bin Reinstated in Ballymore Eustace

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

Can the council confirm when the bin at the junction on Main Street and Oliver Plunkett Road in Ballymore Eustace will be reinstated following its removal for footpath works?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office will review the location of the bins in Ballymore Eustace including this location.



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Councillor Sammon stated that the bin previously located between the pub and take away had been removed during footpath upgrade works. She requested that it either be reinstated or replaced with a larger bin.

The A/District Engineer advised that he would review the request.

The report was noted.

NS20/0924

Signpost for Taxis at Market Square

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to install a signpost at Market Square, Naas to denote the starting place for queuing for Taxis?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Municipal District Office notes there are existing road markings and signage advising of the taxi spaces at Market Square, there are no proposals for additional signs at this location.

Councillor Brett advised that he was not referring to the taxi spaces but rather was requesting a sign saying 'Queue here' to avoid rows over where the taxi queue began.

The report was noted.

NS21/0924

Footpath on the Tipper Road

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to replace the section of footpath on the Tipper Road, east of the entrance to The Paddocks where the surface is chaffing?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that due to limited resources, it is not proposed to carry out footpath works at this location. Works can be considered for works program 2025 subject to resources.

The report was noted.

NS22/0924

Installing Changing/Dressing Rooms in Monread Park

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



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That the council considers installing changing/dressing rooms and storage facilities in Monread Park, Naas to include extra seating benches and a "chat bench" to assist in the operation of this park to continue to help those clubs, groups, spectators and pedestrians to use and enjoy this amazing facility.

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

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the Parks Department will consider the incorporation of changing rooms, storage and club facilities as part of the overall Masterplan for the park.

Parks department has carried out a stock and condition survey of the existing seating facilities within Monread Park, a draft design has been prepared to include new and additional seating areas throughout the park, the incorporation of a chat bench will be explored also. It is the intention to tender this project in September 2024 with a view to appointing a contractor following the procurement process.

The members raised the following:

- A chat bench was normally coloured differently and people using the benches agreed to chat to whoever joined them.
- Benches were previously removed due to anti-social behaviour; they needed to be reinstated.
- The facilities in Monread Park were inferior to other parks used for sports.
- Sports teams were entitled to be promoted to a higher league on winning but could not be promoted due a lack of facilities.

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

NS23/0924

Sallins Playground

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly
That the council lists Sallins Playground for upgrading/restoring of equipment.



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

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the Parks Department have carried out a full conditions assessment for Sallins Playground. In the first instance, any pieces of equipment that require works for Health and Safety purposes have been programmed as a matter of priority. Replacement pieces, for example the basket swing have been ordered, this should be installed in the coming days.

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

NS24/0924

Landscaping of the Caragh Road Roundabout

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

Can the council update the members on progress with regard to the agreed landscaping of the Caragh Road Roundabout, Naas?

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the Parks Department have reviewed the designs for Caragh Road roundabout, to provide a low maintenance biodiverse planting plan, with year-round interest, using plants recommended in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan guidance document on Roundabouts, and to align with available budgets. The project will be tendered in September with a view to appointing a contractor following the procurement process. The report was noted.

NS25/0924

Removal of Parrots Feather

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

Can the council confirm if it has received any quotation for the removal of Parrots Feather at the Lakes in Naas?

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer



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informing the members that the Parks Department commissioned an invasive species survey and recommendations report for the lakes in Naas. The report was completed and received by Parks Department on 23 August 2024. The recommendations include additional surveys to establish the source of the siltation in the lakes, remediation methods such as silt traps including programmes for required additional maintenance, the procurement of an engineering study to establish environmental dredging techniques, and consultation with relevant national bodies. Dredging the lakes and the installation of silt traps can only be carried out once additional surveys and consultation is undertaken. It appears that the establishment of the invasive species within the lakes are being assisted by the reduced level in the water depth as a result of the silt build up. Parks Department will engage with all other responsible service departments to agree next steps

The report was noted.

NS26/0924

St Ita's Complex

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Dunne
Can the council provide an update to the progression of the plan to develop the St Ita's complex on the Newbridge Road and what is to happen to the remaining tenants?
A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Cluid Housing Association, who currently manage St. Ita's, have had pre planning discussions with the Planning Department with a view to redeveloping this Complex. A formal planning application has yet to be lodged, and it would currently be premature to comment on what will happen to existing tenants. The accommodation needs, if any, of existing tenants will of course be considered in the context of any redevelopment of the complex.

Councillor Dunne asked if the information in the report could be distributed to the residents?
Ms M O'Dwyer advised that she would bring the request back to the housing department.

NS27/0924

Derelict Sites Notice

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly
Can this council confirm that a derelict sites notice has been issued to the owner of the (details provided) Sallins?



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A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the The Derelict Sites Section has been in contact with the leaseholder and the owner of this premises, a derelict sites inspection has taken place and a Section 8(2) notice under the derelict sites act is being prepared for issue.

The report was noted.

NS28/0924

Master Plan for the Former McInerney Lands

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore
Can the council confirm if now, on the completion of the Registration of Ownership in favour of Kildare County Council, there is an objective to undertake a Master Plan for the former McInerney Lands, after initially securing the site, removing an illegally built fence and impounding the animals found grazing on the site and what course of action will that take?
A report was received from Mr E Ryan, informing the members that a report had been requested from our legal advisors; on receipt an update will be provided to the members.
Councillor Moore advised that he was happy that the lands were now in the ownership of Kildare County Council as it was a pivotal piece of ground which could contribute a lot.
The District Manager advised the members that he spoke with the Senior Planner of Kildare County Council and advised that the consultants preparing the North West Quadrant Masterplan could potentially look at this area as part of a proposed bridge crossing the canal
He advised that the more refined design of the site would be incorporated into the brief for the Masterplan for the Oldtown Demense as it will need some car parking provision which could be incorporated onto this site. He advised there was still an issue with adverse possession and removal of an adjoining hedge due to anti-social behaviour.

The report was noted.

NS29/0924

Grant Application to Government

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore
That members would agree that Kildare County Council should take immediate action and prioritise a Grant Application to Government or wherever, to provide finance for the provision of a minimum of 25 hectares of community and amenity land for the present dire need and future expansion of a wide range of sporting needs in Naas, as



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- i) population growth to 30,000 has far outpaced the ability of local clubs and groups to provide a continuation of provision from their own resources
- ii) some clubs and exceptionally talented players, like basketball, volleyball & badminton, must travel to Dublin and elsewhere for facilities to train and play their fixtures.
- iii) successful local soccer teams cannot upgrade to higher competition levels from existing junior grades, because their local clubs lack pitches, facilities and even the most basic of changing rooms and toilets.

- iv) healthy, sporting lifestyles, highly promoted, following Irish successes at the recent Olympic Games, are being denied to thousands of youths in Naas because a lack of municipal support and investment in sport.
- v) Kildare County Council has utterly failed to provide any sporting lands or facilities to the expanded Naas Town population since 2014 when it assumed such responsibilities from Naas Town Council, who had previously provided the existing Monread Park, Lacken Pitch, Naas Swimming Pool and Naas Sports Centre, up to forty years ago.
- vi) Elected members have worked with officials to provide a huge expansion of houses for the needs of Ireland and the Irish Government, but the reciprocated balance of municipal playing facilities has never materialised.
- vii) A joint Government and Local Authority financial provision must now be made to purchase sporting lands in Naas, as it is expected that elected members will be requested to zone more lands for further town population expansions in the short, medium and long terms.

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

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that Kildare County Council has provided additional sporting facilities in Naas with the addition of Monread Community Centre and Kerdiffstown Park. Additional lands were also made available to Naas United in Jigginstown. Lands have also been zoned in the Naas Local Area Plan for additional recreational needs. Some of these lands are currently under consideration as part of a recent planning application in Jigginstown.



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Significant resources have been allocated to the Naas area by Kildare Sports Partnership including, Naas Sports Hub and various sports programmes that target hard to reach groups in the area.

Naas Sport Hub, led by Kildare Sports Partnership, recently commenced operations from its base adjacent to the Canal Harbour with the first water-based activity taking place in August 2024, when a Stand-Up Paddle Boarding “Taster Session” was organised for children and adults. Kildare Sports Partnership secured significant funding for this project through dormant accounts through Sports Ireland. The location and activity around the Hub is already helping to rejuvenate this area of the town. The opening of the Sports Hub has already been the catalyst for reestablishing sports activities in Naas such as the kayaking club.

Kildare Sports Partnership was one of four Sport Partnerships to secure funding from Sport Ireland, to organise a HER Outdoors Festival Event in conjunction with HER Outdoors week. The event took place in Monread Park, Naas on Tuesday, August 13 with a very large attendance, which further highlights the commitment to the Naas area.

Any allocation of resources to acquire land will have to consider existing commitments on the Capital Programme and the elected members will have to decide what they want to prioritise. Sallins Amenity Land has already been identified as a priority. There is no funding available from government to purchase land for sporting needs. Both the Sports Capital and Large-Scale Sports Infrastructure Grant schemes preclude the use of the funding for land purchase. If resources or funding are made available to purchase land consideration has to be given to the willingness of landowners to sell land for amenity for these purposes rather than realise a commercial value. Staff and legal resources to acquire land will also be required.

Councillor Moore advised that he was disappointed that the report had come from Parks who had neither the funding nor the resources to deliver what he was requesting. He advised that football pitches were more needed than a water hub. He stated that funds should be put aside by members to acquire land and maybe Government would add to this in the future. He advised that children from the town were joining teams in rural areas which had better facilities.

The members raised the following:



Kildare County Council

- The problem was there was a shortage of sports facilities.
- The question was about money towards getting football fields
- Accepted that Government would not give funds to purchase land
- The resources needed to be in line with population growth.
- Costs for Sallins Amenity Lands had ballooned. If funding was not received from the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure grant scheme, the council would be left with a field.
- The council needed to be shovel ready

The District Manager said the following:

- The motion had mentioned other sports, it was not explicitly about soccer fields
- Lands at Jigginstown had been zoned for recreation and amenity in the Local Area Plan.
- There could be a discussion regarding using a significant portion of LPT and a commitment from the members
- Having a track record of putting funds aside for land acquisition would help
- If the council had lands acquired, then they could look at Capital Grants
- Strengthening the relationship with Naas Sports Centre should be looked at.

Councillor Moore stated that the members would need the help of the District Manager to guide them on this.

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

NS30/0924

Purchase Plots from Cemetery

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear
That Kildare County Council considers purchasing a number of plots from the private cemetery adjacent to Bodenstown Cemetery, for the Sallins community, given that this cemetery is nearly full.

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



A report was received by the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the adjacent graveyard is a privately operated commercial operation. Aside from the requirement for the council to comply with public procurement policies as well as exposing the council to potential financial risk, there is no perceived benefit to the community in having the council act as a “third party / intermediary” between the operator and the local population.

Councillor Clear stated that Bodenstown Graveyard was almost full now and Sallins had a population of approx. 7K. He queried if a deal could be done to purchase a number of plots from the private cemetery.

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

NS31/0924

Leaves for Composting

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to provide a facility for people in the Naas Municipal District to bring their leaves for composting now that autumn is upon us?

A report was received by the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that organic material such as garden waste, for example grass clippings and leaves, can be recycled by composting in your garden. Waste from your garden can also be put in the brown bin.

The council encourages residents' associations to compost green waste in designated areas within their estate. Support is available from the Council's Environmental Awareness Officer for groups to set up composting areas.

Councillor Clear stated that this was a problem every year. He said there was a presumption that everybody in estates helped with the clean-up, but this was not the case. He asked if the council could look at facilitating a pilot scheme of assistance in removal of leaves

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.

