



**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting
held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 09 May 2023
in the Council Chamber**

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

Apologies: Councillor Sammon

Officials Present: Mr E Ryan (District Manager), Mr Y Khan (Assistant Engineer), Mr M McLoughlin, Ms S Walsh (Executive Engineer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms L Kennedy (A/Administrative Officer), Ms G Allen (A /County Librarian), Mr T Shanahan (Meetings Administrator), Ms J Fogarty (Meetings Secretary) and others.

NS01/0523

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 but the members indicated that they would declare interests when it came to the allocation of the Community, Festival and Heritage grants.

NS02/0523

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Naas Municipal District held on Tuesday 11 April 2023 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Breen and seconded by Councillor Clear that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 11 April 2023 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.



NS03/0523

Municipal District Road works

The Assistant Engineer 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

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 – Tender Stage
- L3012 – Monread Road, Naas – Construction Stage
- L3012 – Millenium Park, Naas – Construction Stage
- L29975 – Sarto/Pacelli Rds., Naas – Construction Stage
- R410 – Blessington Road (Crab Lane) – Tender 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
- L2011 – Fishery Lane
- L6027 – Cromwellstown
- L6035 – Tipper East
- L2019 – Tipper South
- L6038 – Redbog
- L6028 – Cupidstown
- L6032 – Newtown

Footpaths

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



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- 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) - Construction Stage
- Blessington Road (footpath improvements) - Tender Stage
- Ballymore Eustace (uncontrolled crossings) - Tender Stage

LPT/Carparks Funded Works

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

Drainage

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

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

The members made the following points:

- What is the latest update on Eadestown Village?
- The road over Abbeybridge towards Carragh Court has not been taken in charge yet but is in need of an upgrade.
- There is a scheme for funding, but farmers need to be living on the road to avail of it.
- Clarification sought regarding works on Millennium Road, and who is responsible.



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- Members noted recent flooding at Westgate/Kill GAA, Tipper Road and Primrose Gardens.

Mr Y Khan advised that Eadestown Village is at the design stage, he said he will check with the department and come back to the members with an estimate timeframe of how long the design stage will take.

Mr McLoughlin advised that road near Abbeybridge didn't qualify under low cost improvement scheme but he would consult the municipal district office further on this to clarify.

Mr McLoughlin also clarified that the council can only make urgent health and safety interventions but cannot seek design changes outside what was permitted originally. He advised that Mr. S. Deegan would be giving updates on roads projects next month.

Mr Y Khan would revert on the instances of flooding reported.

NS04/0523

Capital Programme 2023-2025

The members considered the Capital Programme 2023-2025 which had been listed for discussion and an opportunity for the elected members to put forward any questions on the programme.

The District Manager advised the members that a report was previously circulated and that they were invited to review it prior to the budget later in the year and that the capital programme, by its nature is multi-annual.

The District Manager undertook to revert to the members regarding clarification of the use of a site close to Enable Ireland on the Naas Ring Road and Mr McLoughlin to revert on the plans set out for the Ballycane Road improvement.

NS05/0523

Naas Municipal District LPT Schedule of Works 2023

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

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



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Councillor F Brett:

- €2000 to the Killeel Comhaltas
- €1500 to the Naas Scouts 'Rover' Group
- €2000 to the Kill Dramatic Society
- €1000 to the Naas Country Markets
- €1000 to the Killeel St Brigid's Arts Group
- €1000 to the Naas Women's Shed

Councillor C Kenny:

- €2000 to Feile Liam Óg O Flynn
- €1000 to the KWW SPCA
- €2000 to the Naas Serpents Basketball

Councillor E Sammon:

- €824 to Ballymore Eustace Graveyard

Councillor C Kelly:

- €2050 to Sallins GAA/ Sallins Celtic

Councillor Moore:

- €2500 to the Naas Musical Society

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Clear and agreed by all the members that the above LPT 2023 allocations for the Naas Municipal District Committee be approved.

NS06/0523

Integrated survey for Naas to allow a Parking Plan

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

That the council undertake a full integrated survey for Naas to allow a Parking Plan to be agreed for the short, medium and long term future of the Town, to take cognisance of the loss of much of the street parking, reduced parking incomes, higher costs of contracted management services, higher costs of leased sites and to include a justification model for



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retaining a warden/legal and court services company for a continuous reducing financial return.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that this will be carried out in the context of active travel measures and the review of the pay parking byelaws in Naas which will commence in 2024.

The members made the following points:

- The APCOA service contract is up for renewal next year and the members are not happy to wait until 2024.
- There is a lot happening in Naas over the next few years, can the members get an overall vision?
- Can the members look at the Business Plan related to URDF funding.

The District Manager advised that the vision is set out in the Local Area Plan, which is only two years old, he also said the council are still waiting on correspondence regarding the Business Plan and that he will follow up with the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department, to update the members.

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

NS07/0523

Surface repairs and improvements to footpaths

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

That the council carry out surface repairs and improvements to footpaths at the area in front of Haydens, Lawlors Hotel and around the John Devoy statue, Naas.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing



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the members that the Naas Municipal District office have reviewed this location and are arranging to have the footpath treated to improve grip.

Councillor Kelly advised that she is not happy with the report, she said that the report is the same report given in 2015 and no improvements have taken place.

Councillor Moore advised that the area is not flat, that there is a slope on it. He asked for the repairs to be carried out when the Hotel work are being carried out. He asked for this to be put on the progress report.

Mr Y Khan advised that the council have engaged with a new company who are going to deal with the footpath issues in 2-3 weeks on a trial basis.

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

NS08/0523

Kerdiffstown Road for a stop-go system

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

That the council assess the bridge on the Kerdiffstown Road for a stop-go system/traffic light.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Kerdiffstown Road Rail Bridge currently operates as a courtesy/give way system where road users give way/yield to oncoming traffic. It is considered that this is the most appropriate method of traffic control at this rural location. The location can be assessed with a view to improving traffic flows/safety at the bridge with the current give way/yield system in place.

A signal operated one-way shuttle system, given the current traffic volumes, location of residential entrances, geometric layout of approaches/road widths is not recommended.

Councillor Kelly said that she is not happy with the report, she said traffic is directed to use the road by google maps and stated that the road is busy enough now, that it will only get



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busier over time, in the context of the development of Kerdiffstown Park. She suggested that a traffic count be done before and after to assess the problem. Cllr Brett expressed concern that traffic lights would cause long delays on this road.

Mr M McLoughlin advised he will bring back the feedback to the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department and the Municipal District Engineer.

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

NS09/0523

Suspend pay parking in Hedermans Carpark

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon
That this council suspends pay parking in Hedermans Carpark for the Wild Food Festival from 08 to 10 September 2023.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett, who was authorised by Cllr Sammon to do so in her absence, and seconded by Councillor Kelly

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by the members that the council suspend pay parking at Hedermans Carpark for the Wild Food Festival from 08 to 10 September 2023.

NS10/0523

Repair the damaged road margin on the R411

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kenny
That the council repair the damaged road margin on the R411 Ballymore Road at 53.2039384, -6.6589205,67 where a channel has developed as a result of rainwater runoff.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing



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the members that the Naas Municipal District office will assess this location and make repairs as necessary.

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

NS11/0523

Motorcycle parking

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear
That the council install motorcycle parking in the centre of Naas town at an appropriate location.

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

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that there is no provision for motorcycle parking bays in the Road Traffic Sign and Lines Manual issued by the Department of Transport and motorcycles are expected to use parking bays in the same manner as other vehicles.

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

NS12/0523

Traffic count at Bodinstown

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly
Can the council confirm if the traffic count has been carried out at Bodinstown Cross/Millicent Road Junction?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that a traffic count will be carried out at Bodinstown Cross/ Millicent Road Junction before the end of Q2.

The report was noted.



NS13/0523

Abbey Street and Basin Street junction

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear
Can the council confirm what plans it has to improve the safety of the Abbey Street and Basin Street junction for pedestrians, particularly children going to school?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that as previously advised, the Council is investigating the closure of Abbey Street and Basin Street junction in the context of active travel improvements in the area. When plans are developed then a proposal will be brought forward for public consultation. The report was noted.

NS14/0523

Signage for cyclists on the Blessington Road Naas

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen
Can the council outline plans to provide suitable signage for cyclists to facilitate the new cycle lanes being introduced on the Blessington Road Naas?

A report was received from the Transport, Mobility and Open Spaces Department informing the members that the Roads Design team can confirm that signage for cyclists will be installed as part of the Blessington Road works to comply with the relevant standards. A Road Safety Audit Stage 3 will also be carried out on the completed works.

Councillor Breen asked was it for both sides of the road?

Mr M McLoughlin advised that the signage was for both sides of the road.

The report was noted.

NS15/0523

Fair Green amenity as a public temporary car park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore
That the council consider using the Fair Green amenity as a public temporary car parking amenity during the huge disruption of the Road's construction works in that area.



The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that this is not designed as a parking area and would not be capable of catering for regular movements of traffic or parking as the surface would be eroded and damaged. There is parking available all along the Ballymore Road, Supervalu and the car park opposite catering for parking.

Councillor Kelly requested a report from the roads department.

The district manager advised that a public temporary car park would still require planning permission. He said the cost to tarmac the area for 6 months would be too high, and run off from a hard surface would have to be assessed for environmental reasons and would necessitate drainage works too.

Councillor Clear suggested that they use St Corbans School as an alternative over the summer months when the school is not using that area.

The district manager advised he would bring the comments back to the roads department and provide an update.

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

NS16/0523

Water hydration and refill stations

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kenny
That the council give an update on plans to provide water hydration and refill stations in the Naas Municipal District including the potato market and the new Naas library.

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



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A report was received by Ms G Allen Acting County Librarian informing the members that The Library Service has included plans for a water hydration and refill station for the new Naas Library which will be located on the ground floor. The plan is eventually all library buildings where a suitable location can be identified will have similar drinking water stations.

The district manager advised the members that there is a water hydration station planned outdoors for the Potato Market.

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

NS17/0523

Playground on the Fairgreen

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear
That the council investigate the feasibility of placing an appropriate playground on the Fairgreen in Naas to encourage more people to visit the centre of the town. This location has parking and good passive surveillance and is an ideal location for a playground.

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

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the Parks Section have no objection in principle to the proposal for a playground at this location however there are number of issues that will have to be resolved before this can be considered further. These are:

- The open space has functioned as a space for funfairs and circuses for a long time. Councillors need to agree if this will remain the case or not. If it is to remain as a space to cater for this a playground would not be appropriate for the site.
- No further adhoc development of the space without the input of the Parks Section.
- Archaeological considerations on the site may prevent the location of playground.
- Completion of existing project commitments as outlined in the works programme for this year and the 2023-2026 Capital Works Programme.



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- The preparation of plan to upgrade the space.
- Finance to deliver a playground.

Councillor Clear made the following points:

- Just looking for a small-scale natural playground in the Fairgreen area.
- This would encourage more people up to the top of the town.
- Members could look at funding through LPT for 2024 possibly.
- Requested this item be put on the progress report.

Mr S Wallace made the following points:

- There is an extensive list of works going on in Naas at the moment.
- That Kildare County Council only rent that area.
- This space has been the venue for funfairs and circus for a long time and consensus was needed on a single use for the area.

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

NS18/0523

Maintenance responsibility for the green verge at Lakeside Park

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

That the council consider taking over the maintenance responsibility for the green verge adjacent to the footpath at the corner entrance to Lakeside Park on the Ballymore Eustace Road.

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

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that the Parks Section do not have the resources to undertake the maintenance at this location.

Councillor Breen asked how much of a cost would it be for this job?



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Mr S Wallace advised over half the maintenance budget is used on fixing grass verges, he noted this impacts on other works being carried out too.

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

NS19/0523

Prosecution Warning Signs at the Millbrook

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore
Can the council confirm when it intends to erect Prosecution Warning Signs at the Millbrook Wood Spinney to prevent future stealing of timber by trespassers and the destruction of the natural eco-system that was being developed?

A report was received from Mr. S Wallace, A/Senior Parks and Landscaping Officer informing the members that there are no plans to erect a sign at this location. It is unlikely that any sign would deter individuals who have the lack of conscience to undertake removing timber from a woodland. The Parks Department will however consider the size and locations of any future timber piles to deter this type of behaviour.

The report was noted.

NS20/0523

Sewerage blockages

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen
That the council investigate the occurrence of sewerage blockages occurring in the back gardens of residences in (details provided).

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

A report was received from the Ms. V Cooke, Administrative Officer, Housing Department informing the members that over 90% of the properties in this estate are privately owned. From 2015 to date, our records show that the council have only received 4 sewerage-related requests for repairs to Council-owned properties here and all were responded to. The quantity and regularity of these issues would not be a cause of concern for Housing Maintenance and would be reasonably typical of development of this type.



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Uisce Éireann (Irish Water) are responsible for resolving any issues which may arise in the sewers of private properties and issues relating to blockages of sewers should be reported to Uisce Éireann for further investigation.

Councillor Breen said that St Corbans was built in the 1930's by the council, they are now mostly privately owned, and asked if the council can help these residents as it was the council that built the houses originally.

Ms V Cooke advised that there are only 5 council houses there now and the rest are all private. She noted that any call-outs for these houses was for routine maintenance issues, nothing of the scale set out in the motion. She said if it's a problem with a private house then the onus is on the owner of the property. She said as a solution, the residents could all come together and do a collective survey, and reminded members of the upcoming Irish Water clinic for members on June 26th at which they may wish to raise these issues.

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

NS21/0523

Plans for the Harbour Quarter

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear
Can the council confirm its plans for the Harbour Quarter, and can they be shared with the members?

A report was received by Ms P Pender, A/Senior Executive Officer, Strategic Projects, and Public Realm advising the members that there is no further update since the last quarterly update to the members at the last meeting. The business case for the URDF application requires Department approval. Once this is secured a further update can be given to members.

NS22/0523

Proposed names of estates

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



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That the council bring proposed names of estates in the Naas Municipal District before the members for comment prior to their acceptance or otherwise by the Planning Department.

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

A report was received by the Planning Department informing the members that the assessment of naming proposals for all residential developments is carried out as a compliance with a condition of planning permission and is a function of the Executive. This assessment is carried out by a naming team and in accordance with the Naming of New Residential Developments Policy, which is attached for the Members' information. Report attached.

The members made the following points:

- When naming a new estate, it should have something to do with the area the estate is being built and that names proposed increasingly are not credible in terms of such connections to the locality. Noted that the use of Irish in estate names is declining.
- Suggest that the SPC have a discussion when the local area plan is being prepared, they give a list of potential names for that area or possibly refine the policy,

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

NS23/0523

Planning Toolkit Workshop

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett
Can the council confirm if it would consider holding a Planning Toolkit Workshop for the Naas Municipal District members?

A report was received by Mr E Ryan, the District Manager informing the members that the member are aware that the AILG and OPR run workshops for elected members on a broad range of planning issues and the OPR have a wide range of Planning Practice Notes, Planning Leaflets and a page for public awareness on planning dealing with planning



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decisions/appeals, consultations, given the broad remit of planning, the Councillor would need to clarify what aspects of planning he requests a workshop on.

The district manager advised that he spoke to the Senior planner and requested a workshop for the members before the next meeting.

The report was noted.

NS24/0523

Update at Primrose Gardens

The members agreed to take item 24 and 25 together.

Item 24:

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

Can the council give an update on the taking in charge process at Primrose Gardens?

Item 25:

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

Can the council update the members on the status of the outstanding remedial development work needed in Primrose Gardens, Naas?

A report was received by the Building and Development Control Department informing the members that extensive works remain outstanding. Kildare County Council have requested a meeting with the Developer to discuss the extent of outstanding works and to establish a deadline for completion. This meeting is to take place on Friday the 5 of May.

Mr. J Hennessy clarified that the meeting was rescheduled for May 12 and if there is no progress progression to enforcement will be needed.

The report was noted.

NS25/0523

Report on the New Town Hall Library

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

Can the council provide an updated, pre-opening report on the New Town Hall Library, to clarify progress on retaining the original Public Clock mechanism, with the addition of hourly Clock Signal soundings during the day, the new exposure of the Stain Glass Window, the



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exhibition area for the FitzGerald Banner, the reappraisal of a Rooftop Flagpole and the arrangements for the return of the Friday Market? All of the above Report to be complimented with an arrangement for an early Site Visit.

A report was received by Ms G Allen Acting County Librarian informing the members that the Library Service is currently awaiting an updated programme schedule from the contractor who unfortunately has experienced further delays which are beyond his control. We now expect completion and handover to be in August and we are aiming to open to the public in September.

The Cathaoirleach and members of Naas Municipal District will be the first visitors invited to tour the building following the handover and as soon as the IT, furniture and stock are installed.

Clock

Philip Stokes from Stokes Clocks specialist has completed repairs including replacing the glass, repairing the hands and repainting in black the metal clock dials.

Under advice from Ruth Kidney, Kildare County Council's Conservation Officer it has been decided that the original clock mechanism will remain in situ and the electrification of the clockface is permissible. It is her opinion that these works will not materially affect the character of the clock, or the protected structure and the original clock mechanism may be reinstated at any stage. These works were deemed essential to avoid unnecessary daily maintenance to aid in the workings of the clock and health and safety issues relating to access. It is hoped once the clock is back in operation that the hourly chimes can be reinstated. This work cannot happen until the final weeks of the project.

Flagpole

The Design Team previously prepared a comprehensive health and safety analysis report which was issued to Councillor Moore. Under the recommendations of the Health and Safety Officer we will not be able to provide a rooftop flagpole and as per the previous response flagpoles will be installed on the balcony on the first floor which can be accessed safely.

Fitzgerald Banner

The banner is still in a specialist storage facility and will remain there until such time as the building work is complete. We will then engage a textile conservationist to advise on a



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location for and how best to display the banner in the new library. The last conservation report was completed back in 2012 so up to date advice is required.

Circular Window

As per previous report issued when the circular window was uncovered it was agreed that the existing location which originated from 1904 would obstruct the restoration of the original entrance into the library which predates 1904. The window has now been restored and replacement glass fitted. It has been installed in a wall at the podium level in the second-floor main multifunctional room.

The Market

Library staff will be in contact with the market organisers as soon as we know when the space will be open and available to them. With the additional delay it is expected that will now be in the autumn pending no further delays.

In response to a clarification question, Ms Allen confirmed that following specialist advice the clockface would be electrified but that she would consult to consider reinstating the chimes during daylight hours.

The report was noted.

NS26/0523

Booking of rooms in the new Naas Library

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

Can the council provide contact details and a timetable for the booking of rooms and facilities by community groups in the new Naas Library?

A report was received by Ms G Allen Acting County Librarian informing the members that it is expected the library will open to the public in September and our first priority will be to accommodate the many existing groups who use the current library for meetings and events. Bookings for additional groups cannot be taken until we have handover from the contractor and have our staff in the building.

The booking of meeting rooms initially will depend on availability and the requirements of the groups.



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For the initial opening period the library will not be operating the My Open Library (MOL) service until all systems have been rigorously tested and the staff and registered MOL members have received training.

Once operational the MOL system will allow registered members of that service to access the library outside of the staffed hours in the early mornings, evenings and at weekends.

In addition to providing spaces during our usual library opening hours the MOL service will be an ideal way for groups to access meeting spaces during unstaffed hours providing they are registered members and have received the induction training.

The report was noted.

NS27/0523

Proposed grant allocations for Tidy Towns

The members considered the following Grant allocations for Tidy Towns Groups and that the Cemetery Maintenance for 2023 was to be deferred to the June Municipal District Meeting.

Report: Grant allocations for the Tidy Town groups 2023.

TT Group (5)	Population Category (from TT report)	Proposed Budget Allocation	Proposed LPT Allocation	Total
Naas	G (15,001 to 25,000)	€ 12,728	€ 5,000	€ 17,728
Kill	D (2,501 to 5,000)	€ 2,955	€ 2,000	€ 4,955
Sallins	D (2,501 to 5,000)	€ 2,955	€ 2,000	€ 4,955
Ballymore Eustace	C (1,001 to 2,500)	€ 1,818	€ 2,000	€ 3,818
Johnstown	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 1,136	€ 1,000	€ 2,136
Eadestown	B (201 to 1,000)	€ 1,136	€ 1,000	€ 2,136
Total		€ 22,728	€ 13,000	€ 35,728

Councillor Clear declared an interest in relation to his position with Naas Tidy Towns, and stepped out of the meeting while the proposal regarding grant allocations was decided.

Councillor Moore advised that Naas town has now exceeded a population of 25K so it should be in another category. He said the demand on the town was huge.

Mr K Kavanagh advised that the population data was from Tidy Towns.

It was also clarified that the decision regarding cemetery grants needed to be deferred to June to allow time for more responses from the community and in that regard the Councillors reminding local groups would be helpful.



Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by the members that the grant allocation be approved.

NS28/0523

Abandoned cars and vans parked in private driveways

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

That the council outline what powers it has to deal with abandoned cars and vans parked in private driveways and estates in this municipal district.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Breen

A report was received by the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that it should be noted that the abandonment of vehicles is already a prosecutable offence under existing legislation i.e., Section 71 of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended. Section 56 of the WMA also empowers the council to take measures to prevent or limit environmental pollution caused by the holding of “waste”, which potentially could include abandoned vehicles.

There is potential to address the issue of vehicles on private driveways under litter legislation, e.g., if the vehicle is regarded as litter and likely to become unsightly, deleterious etc.

The last registered owner is legally responsible for an abandoned vehicle. After investigation, the council will then follow a procedure of issuing notifications to the registered owner. This may include placing an abandoned vehicles notice on the vehicle. The registered owner is formally written to and is typically given 21 days in which to remove the vehicle. If it is not removed within the 21 days, the council may arrange to have it removed. There is a cost of removal and storage to the taxpayer in so doing.

The following should also be noted:

- Vehicles on public roads which are causing an obstruction, or a road safety hazard, should be reported to the Gardai.
- While a vehicle with no tax or insurance may be an indicator that a vehicle is abandoned, the issue of no tax or insurance on a vehicle on a public road does not automatically



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deem a vehicle abandoned. Having no tax or insurance on a public road is a matter for the Gardai and does not fall under the remit of Kildare County Council

- Vehicles in estates which are owned by persons resident in the estate will not be deemed abandoned.
- Vehicles on private lands, private car parks or in estates not taken in charge by the County Council will not be deemed abandoned.
- Broken down vehicles, poorly parked vehicles or vehicles involved in residential parking disputes are not considered abandoned.

It should also be noted that unwanted vehicles can be disposed free-of-charge at an Authorised Treatment Facility (ATF). There are a number of these facilities within the county.

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

NS29/0523

Naas women's shed

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

Can the council confirm if it plans to provide a temporary home/meeting place for the Naas women's shed?

A report was received by Economic Community and Cultural Development informing the members that the community development team are currently working with the group to find a location.

The report was noted.

Councillor Brett noted that this was the last meeting for Councillor Colm Kenny who was stepping down from his role as an elected member. All members joined in thanking Councillor Kenny for his contribution, his commitment to environmental issues and his cooperative attitude.

Councillor Kenny thanked his fellow Councillors and was appreciative of their comments.

The meeting concluded.