



**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting
held at 3.30 pm on Tuesday, 12 November 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

Apologies: Councillor C Kelly

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

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed the members of the sad passing of Rachel Murdiff wife of community Garda Gary Cogan and also John McCarville Retired Tenant Liaison Officer

NS01/1124

Declarations of Interest

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 from the members of pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

NS02/1124

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Naas Municipal District meeting held on 08 October 2024, the special Naas Municipal District meeting held on 22 October 2024, along with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Moore that the minutes of the monthly Naas Municipal District meeting held on 08 October 2024, the special



Kildare County Council

Naas Municipal District meeting held on 22 October 2024 be confirmed and taken as read.

The progress report was noted.

NS03/1124

Municipal District Works Programme

To receive an update on the municipal district road works programme.

Naas Municipal District Roadworks Update – November 2024

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 Ballymore to Ardinode | 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 |
| • Sallins Road, Naas | Complete |
| • Blessington Road/Tipper Road Junction | Complete |
| • Monread Heights Naas | Complete |
| • Monread Avenue, Naas | Complete |
| • Basin Street, Naas | Complete |
| • Hollywood Park, Naas | Construction Stage |
| • Cleevaun | Complete |
| • Lacken View | Complete |



Kildare County Council

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 |
| • The Park, Morrell, Naas | Construction Stage |
| • Elmwood, Naas | Pre-Construction Stage |
| • Ashgrove, Naas | Pre-Construction Stage |
| • Blessington Road, Naas | Pre-Construction Stage |
| • Corbally Court, Naas | Pre-Construction Stage |

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 | Complete |
|---------------------------------|----------|

LPT/Carparks Funded Works

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

- | | |
|--|----------|
| • BME Road to Ballycane - Raised Table Crossing | Complete |
| • Poplar Square - Haydens – Footpath | Complete |
| • Sallins Road - Raised Table Crossing | Complete |
| • Gleann na Gréine – 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 |
| • Kerdiff Avenue, Naas | Complete |
| • Greenaun, Naas – Ramp | Complete |



Kildare County Council

- Traffic Calming (Eadestown) Complete
- Traffic Calming (Ballymore Eustace) Complete

(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:

- Killeel Community Hall, Kill Complete

The members raised the following:

- A yellow box on the Ballymore Road close to Swan's shop, removed during road works for the Kilcullen Road Active Travel Scheme, required reinstating as it was causing issues for a local resident due to motorists assuming it was a parking space and blocking access.
- Elmwood Naas Footpaths required investigation.
- Rathasker Heights, St Conleths Place and St Michaels Terrace had yellow boxes removed also and these had not yet been reinstated.
- Members had sent correspondence to Kildare County Council in relation to issues and received no feedback.



M. McLoughlin advised the following:

- Members could email Mr Khan who will respond on his return.

NS04/1124

LPT Allocations

To agree and approve remaining LPT allocations for the Naas Municipal District Committee.

List of approved LPT items:

- Christmas Lights - Naas €40,000.00
- Christmas Lights - Sallins €3,000.00
- Christmas Lights - Kill €2,500.00
- Christmas Lights - Ballymore Eustace €2,500.00
- Christmas Lights - Johnstown €1,500.00
- Christmas Lights - Eadestown €500.00

Councillor Kelly proposed a reallocation of €2,000 from Sallins Amenity Lands to the following

- Aylmer Park Naas €500.00
- Moat Theatre - Fairy Trail upgrades €1,500.00

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Brett and agreed by all members that the above items be approved.

NS05/1124

Yellow Box at Blackhall

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

That the council assesses the exit from Blackhall onto the Clane Road for a yellow box.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Moore.

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Naas Municipal District will assess this junction in line with the Kildare County Council procedures criteria associated with yellow box junctions.

The members raised the following:



Kildare County Council

- Sallins bypass was welcomed but causing issues with traffic in Clane as a result with motorists avoiding the M50 tolls.
- People in Blackhall Place could not exit onto the Sallins Road.
- Traffic was backed up as far as the Stud Farm at certain times.

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

NS06/1124

Monitoring Report Abbey Bridge to Osberstown Bridge Scheme

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

That this council be furnished with a copy of the monitoring report on the closure of Abbey Bridge to Osberstown Bridge Scheme.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that Kildare County Council does not produce monitoring reports for Capital Project Schemes. As outlined previously, the council will continue to monitor the general traffic management arrangements in Naas, along with all towns in the county as part of our operational function as Roads Authority.

Councillor Kelly advised that she was not happy with the report. The scheme had been huge and there were ongoing issues. The members needed sight of any reports and she queried why they were not available to them.

The members raised the following:

- Councillors would appreciate a monthly report from the Active travel Scheme on any issues why was the scheme being monitored if there was no follow up.
- The impact of the closure needed to be monitored, volumes of traffic during peak hours should be monitored.
- A project should be monitored after delivery.



Kildare County Council

- How was the decision on a full road closure arrived at.
- St Mary's college had planning permission for a new build which would take 3 ½ years. A condition of planning was that all construction traffic was to use the Canal Road. How was this now possible?

M. McLoughlin advised the following:

- No formal reports were produced.
- Traffic light sequencing could be looked at.
- The scheme was working well but he would feedback issues raised.
- He would see what could be done in relation to reports.
- He would Investigate the planning Issue.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Sammon that the report be noted

NS07/1124

Yellow Box Hartwell Road Junction

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett
That the council installs a box junction at the junction of the Hartwell Road with Kill Main Street.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Sammon.
A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District office will assess this junction in line with the Kildare County Council procedures criteria associated with yellow box junctions.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Sammon that the report be noted



NS08/1124

Yellow Boxes Along Sallins Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Dunne
That the council replaces or updates the yellow boxes on the Sallins Road between the Millennium Road Roundabout and Poplar Square, Naas to improve safety for road users.

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

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the Municipal District office have upgraded the yellow box junction road markings along the Sallins Road in the last 14 months.

Councillor Dunne advised that there appeared to be some yellow boxes missing which had been highlighted by the extra traffic volumes since the closure of the Canal Road.

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

The members agreed to take Agenda Report Items 9 and 10 together.

NS09/1124

Kerbing along Cycle Lane Barrier Kilcullen Road

Item 9

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

That the council affixes reflective or brightly coloured bollards or delineators on the small barrier between the cycle lane and the road at the Kilcullen Road, Naas.

This would make the kerbs much more visible to cyclists, pedestrians and drivers.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Dunne and seconded by Councillor Kelly.

Item 10

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



Kildare County Council

That the council paints the top of the concrete kerbs along the cycle lanes on the Kilcullen Road, Naas especially from Patrician Avenue to the start of North Main Street to improve visibility, making the kerbs more noticeable to pedestrians crossing the road.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that The Kilcullen Active Travel Scheme is funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA), who in accordance with the Infrastructure Guidelines, also approve the design prior to funding decisions.

The Scheme is designed by competent consultants who are procured from the NTA's Framework Agreement for design services.

Kildare County Council oversees the design and implementation of the works which are prepared in accordance with National Design Standards.

Whilst the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets is the main design standard used in urban areas, other design standards and guidance used for this scheme include the following:

- The National Cycle Manual
- The Traffic Signs Manual
- Guidance on the use of Tactile Paving
- BusConnects preliminary design guide
- Building for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach

An independent safety audit has been completed following construction of the scheme and no major safety concerns were raised. However, Kildare County Council is reviewing all feedback received from members of the public in relation to this scheme as part of a post construction review and will implement changes if required. The option to install bollards on the kerbing or to paint the kerbing were being considered, however, any intervention will need to adhere to the above design standards and the Council will need to be satisfied that they will be practical, effective and improve the overall situation whilst not creating new hazards. Any options will be discussed with the National Transport Authority and be the subject of a safety assessment.

The members raised the following:



Kildare County Council

- Bollards may not be visible during periods of snow.
- Who would decide what was required in relation to design standards.
- The colour of the concrete kerbing was too similar to the road.
- People with restricted sight may have difficulties.
- There had been numerous trips and falls in this area.
- A trial with painting of the kerbs may be an option and see what the results were.
- NTA was contacted by Councillor Sammon who informed that NTA design was to a 2011 standard and the 2023 (most recent) standards should be met.
- Designers should consider colour enhancement for driver awareness
- Vulnerable Road users, who should be prioritised were now most at risk.
- If NTA could not make changes then LPT could be used to bring to 2023 standard.

Mr M McLoughlin noted the members points to take back to the Sustainable Transport Team.

The members agreed to take Agenda Report Items 11 and 12 together.

NS10/1124

Closure Basin Street Abbey Street Junction

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

That following a recent meeting of Naas Municipal District, the council in the instance of the closing of Abbey Street in Naas, provide clarification as to why Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act of 1994 was considered necessary and why any of four other alternative actions were deemed as unsuitable considerations.

- a) The demolition of the Kildare County Council owned vacant and derelict corner buildings at the junction
- b) The installation of a raised pedestrian footpath with a protective barrier
- c) The changing of Abbey Street traffic to a one-way vehicle traffic system or
- d) Any combination of the above three considerations.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Kelly.



A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that the public consultation process undertaken for the closure of the Basin Street/Abbey Street Junction was in accordance with the provisions of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994. There is no alternative consultation process that is appropriate to use for a scheme of this cost and scale. The purpose of such consultation processes is to present an intervention that is being undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Act and to collect and respond to observations made. The proposed scheme was presented to the Municipal District elected members in advance of the consultation process for noting and also after the consultation process was completed, at a special meeting of the Municipal District. In addition, elected members could make observations themselves during the consultation process. The scheme was noted on both occasions that it was presented. This process is now complete and a decision has been made by the Executive. The suggested interventions made in the motion, can be examined by the Executive, however, the decision to close the junction has been made. It was taken on road safety grounds to reduce the risk of collisions between motorised vehicles and vulnerable road users using Abbey Street and Basin Street, especially at the junction between the two streets. In particular, the closure eliminates the danger to pedestrians of vehicles turning at the junction.

The members raised the following:

- This issue was not progressing.
- No explanation given about the request.
- Section 38 should not have automatic approval.
- No indication of what Section 38 would clarify.
- Took issue with public consultation process. No consultation had taken place.
- This was approved under the greenway approval.
- Executive action was taken to close the road but nothing would happen for 5 or 10 years so was premature.
- Items could still be delivered before the Masterplan and issues needed to be addressed as they occurred.

Mr M McLoughlin raised the following:



Kildare County Council

- Section 38 was not an emergency process.
- There was a media and online process but usually a poor response rate.
- There was a masterplan engagement.
- A meeting would be organised with members to discuss the issues.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted. (and added to progress report)

NS11/1124

Abbey Street, Naas

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon Acknowledging the Department of Transport and National Transport Authority's Road User Hierarchy, and considering the top priorities of walking and wheeling, that the council:

1. Provides a footpath at Abbey Street, Naas or provides a costing for a footpath so that the members can consider it as part of the LPT schedule of works for 2025.
2. Identifies a location for the commercial bins in the area.
3. Explores the use of the Eir property as a distribution point for HGVs accessing the area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sammon and seconded by Councillor Kelly A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that Abbey Street is included in the Naas Canal Quarter Masterplan, which is currently in its public and stakeholder consultation phase. It would be premature to make changes along Abbey Street until a clear agreed vision is developed for the area. The installation of physical infrastructure at this stage would pre-empt the outcome of the consultation process. However, options to develop an improved public realm area along Abbey Street have been considered and Kildare County Council Sustainable Transport Section has provided schematic ideas as inputs into the consultation process for consideration. Councillor Sammon advised that she was dissatisfied with the report as none of the queries raised had been addressed. She noted that forward planning had not provided a report as this was not part of the Masterplan. A vision for the area was required but ongoing issues



Kildare County Council

needed to be addressed. The use of the Section 38 process needed to be looked at. She also noted the irony in the report stating that it would be the report stating that it would be premature to make changes. She requested that all three questions be added to the process report.

Members raised the following points

- LPT could be used to provide a footpath at Abbey Street.
- Drawings had footpaths and commercial bins located off main street.
- Eir should be located in one of the numerous Industrial estates around the town and the Council should purchase it the building.

The District Manager advised that the Masterplan may not address all the issues and that he would discuss the members concerns with Mr Hodgins. He stated that Basin Street could be designated as a shared space. He also stated that Eir were difficult to contact.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Sammon and agreed by all that the report be noted

NS12/1124

Junction of Sallins Road and Monread Avenue

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

That the council investigates a redesign of the road layout at the Junction of the Sallins Road and Monread Avenue, Naas in the interests of improved traffic flow and pedestrian safety.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that Changes to the layout of the Monread Avenue/Sallins Road signalled junction would involve significant civil engineering works and would require a widening of the junction into third party lands. There is no funding resource available to progress a design for such a scheme.

Councillor Breen advised that she was not happy with the report as cars were mounting the footpath at this junction.

Members raised the following:



Kildare County Council

- Was funding available to change this junction.
- Cars and HGV's were driving onto the footpath in some instances.
- Members had asked for solutions to this over many years.
- Landowners could be open to make land available for widening this junction.
- If Applegreen had access from Monread Avenue it would be possible to create two lanes.

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

NS13/1124

School Warden Gaelscoil Nás na Riogh

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

That the council provides a school warden to service Gaelscoil Nás na Riogh school at Piper's Hill, Naas in the interests of children's safety and that of pedestrians.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that Gaelscoil Nás na Ríogh is located on private property. The access roads leading to the school from the R448 Kilcullen Road have not been taken in charge by Kildare County Council. Therefore, a school warden cannot be provided within the school complex.

Members raised the following:

- The Main Road through Pipers Hill was a source of frustration.
- There needs to be a safe area for the bus to park.
- Residents and parents were asked not to let children out of the cars at the roundabout.
- A Traffic warden was needed.
- Taking in charge is progressing and awaiting snag list to be completed.

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



NS14/1124

Park and Stride Area

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon
That the council explores the idea of a park and stride in an area that has access to both the Sallins Road and the Canal Road.

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

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that the planning and design of a new car park in Naas is not included in the Capital Programme. There are no staff resources available to progress such a project.

Councillor Sammon advised that not everywhere was accessible by foot and queried if this could be looked at as part of the Northwest Quadrant.

Members raised the following:

- If parking was available people would park and walk.
- Visitors to De Burghs Estate needed a car park closer to Oldtown Gates. Possible the use of McInerney lands for this purpose could be looked at.

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

NS15/1124

Old Caragh Road Works

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore
Can the council confirm the estimated or final cost, where was the finance sourced, what were the safety or other reasons and what benefits have been provided in reducing the exit link of the Old Caragh Road to the Newbridge Road, Naas to a single channel?

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that the Department of Transport in association with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the National Transport Authority published a design advice note called “Advice Note 6 – Priority Junction Tightening Measures” which is published on their website. This note outlines the typical legacy issues at priority junctions and sets out options for measures to improve the existing layout. Kildare County Council has



Kildare County Council

implemented a scheme, costing less than €100,000 following a Section 38 Public Consultation Process, which significantly improves facilities for vulnerable road users. The report was noted.

NS16/1124

HGV Restriction Sallins

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear
Can the council provide an update on the commencement date for the recently proposed truck ban (excluding delivery vehicles) in Sallins where residents have observed that trucks continue to travel through the village at speed instead of using the bypass?

A report was received from the Transport Department informing the members that the progression of a HGV restriction is predicated on a number of processes:

- The development of an alternative route which will necessitate the taking in charge of the Millennium Ring Road. This is expected to be completed in early 2025.
- The reclassification of the regional road through Sallins, which will require Ministerial consent.
- A significant level of signage necessitated by the changes and funding to deliver same.

This can be progressed in the course of 2025 subject to resources being available.

Councillor Clear noted that HGV's may be using this route as Google maps is the most widely used journey planner and alternate routes may take time to be updated on Google. Councillor Clear also queried would anyone contact Google to advise of route changes He was advised that it would happen.

The report was noted.

NS17/1124

Signalised Junction Castle Farm

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Sammon
can the council confirm if it has explored the delivery of a signalised junction at Castle Farm, Naas?



Kildare County Council

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Department informing the members that Kildare County Council currently have no plans to deliver a signalised junction at this location.

Councillor Sammon noted that there were approximately thirty or more motions in relation to this already and that it was now time for a signalised junction to be provided at this location. Councillor Sammon advised that she would submit this as a motion.

The report was noted.

NS18/1124

Plans for Naas Lakes

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore
That a presentation be made to members by the Parks Section of Kildare County Council on the designs, drawings and plans to upgrade the leisure, walking and seating facilities of the Hospital Lakes areas in Naas before a contract is placed to ensure the safety, security and leisure uses of that facility are not compromised by the inclusion of cycling or use of e-scooters.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Dunne.

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the proposed works at the Lakes will involve widening the footpaths to facilitate easier two-way access for pedestrians and to replace the existing seating and provide a paved area around them. There are no plans for the inclusion of cycling or e-scooters.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Dunne that the report be noted.

NS19/1124

Access to Kerdiffstown Park

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



Kildare County Council

That the council actively collaborates with adjacent landowners to establish a direct access route for Sallins residents to Kerdiffstown Park, enhancing community connectivity and access to green spaces.

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

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that the council have no objections in principle to improving the connectivity from Sallins to Kerdiffstown but any work on this will not be possible at present due to existing commitments to projects and works. Additionally, there is no budget available for this proposal.

Members raised the following:

- Kerdiffstown was a great amenity.
- Needed to investigate a route to Kerdiffstown Park from Naas and Sallins, possibly from the Greenway.
- Landowners should be approached about routes.
- Kildare County Council should buy land to enable routes
- Rights of Way should be expanded and investigated.

The District Manager advised that he would follow up on this.

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

NS20/1124

Removal and Planting of Trees

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore
Can the council confirm the number of mature trees they have removed, where have they been removed from and what numbers and sizes of trees have been planted as replacement trees and where have they been replanted in the Naas Town Area over the past five years?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that details of the number of removals and planting have been attached with the report from 2019 to the



Kildare County Council

current year. Trees in the Municipal District are removed if they are causing structural damage, diseased or dead, blocking a public light or are structurally unsound. The planting of replacement trees is carried out where feasible. The number of trees planted is limited by the budget available, the need to allow any remaining root structure in grass verges to decay following stump removal and also the need to water and establish trees particularly any tree size beyond sapling size and the risk of periods of drought which impact establishment. The size of trees planted is generally a tree with a 10-12cm girth. We also plant saplings and hedging where suitable.

Councillor Moore raised the following:

- That for 500 trees cut down, 1,250 trees were planted. There was a very good ratio of replanting.
- He worried about tree removal by private developers.
- Could replanting of removed trees/hedges in private developments be enforced by planning.

The report was noted.

NS21/1124

Seasonal Events Kerdiffstown Park

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Sammon
Can the council confirm if it has considered seasonal events at Kerdiffstown Park?

A report was received from the Parks Department informing the members that no consideration has been given to seasonal events in Kerdiffstown Park. Work at the moment is focused on the ongoing management of the park.

Councillor Sammon raised the following:

- Was there even an option for seasonal events or themed nights.
- Themed nights, such as a witches walk at Halloween or Santa for Christmas could work could this be considered for 2025.



The report was noted.

NS22/1124

Unacceptable Environmental Conditions

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

Can the council update members on the unacceptable environmental conditions that continue to exist at (details provided), Naas?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the Derelict Sites Team have engaged with the property owner and are taking action to address the issues at this property.

The report was noted.

NS23/1124

Naas Town Council Memorabilia

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

Can the council give an update on the whereabouts of the contents of the room (banners, memorabilia, pictures etc.) formerly used by the Naas Town Council in the Naas Town Hall and what they intend to do with same?

A report was received from Acting County Librarian informing the members that the Lord Edward Fitzgerald Banner is currently being stored in a specialist art handling storage facility under the instructions of a textile conservator.

A report on its condition has been completed with recommendations for necessary conservation works and instructions on future storage and display.

The John Devoy portrait has been restored and now hangs in Áras Chill Dara.

The paintings from the former Council Chamber by the late Naas artist Richard Butler were moved and stored by Kildare County Council Facilities when the building was cleared and remain in storage.

All other memorabilia were moved to temporary storage for the duration of the works and are now stored as part of the Kildare Archives and Local Studies Collection.

These will remain in storage as part of the collection and are catalogued and accessible for displaying at events whenever required.



Kildare County Council

This material includes Twinning gifts and presentations that were received by the Town Council.

The Library Service has arranged with Corporate for a selection of these gifts to be made available for display at the upcoming Twinning Network event on the 6 November.

Members raised the following:

- Happy with the report queried how the Lord Edward Fitzgerald Banner could possibly go back on display.
- Could the banner be photographed and photos put on display.

Mark Reid Senior Executive Librarian informed that this item needed further restoration works as it has been over 20 plus years since it was restored. It would then be displayed vertically in an insulated glass display case. In the interim he would investigate the feasibility of displaying photos of the banner.

The report was noted.

NS24/1124

Draft Sallins Local Area Plan

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

Can the council confirm if the draft Sallins Local Area Plan will be published before the end of Q4 2024?

A report was received from the Planning Department informing the members that the Draft Sallins Local Area Plan will not be published before the end of Q4 2024. The predraft (non-statutory) research and background data collection for the Sallins Local Area Plan review is underway currently. The Ministerial Guidelines with respect to the preparation of Local Area Plans outlines that this phase may take up to 12 months. Further updates will be provided to the members when available.

Councillor Kelly advised there was an issue and queried the current conflict with An Board Pleanála with the LAP now out of date. Zoning should be in line with the County Development Plan and not reverting to Pre- LAP.

The District Manager requested that Councillor Kelly forward him the correspondence she had received and advised that the issue would be highlighted to An Bord Pleanála.



The report was noted.

NS25/1124

St John's Grove, Johnstown

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Brett
Can the council provide an update on the taking in charge process for St Johns Grove, Johnstown?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Department informing the members that Development Control commissioned a CCTV investigative survey of the foul and storm infrastructure in October 2024. Development Control are not yet in receipt of the report. Subject to the findings of the investigative survey a site resolution plan may be required.

The report was noted.

NS27/1124

Primrose Gardens, Naas

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen
Can the council update the members on the unsatisfactory situation with regard to Primrose Gardens, Naas, not being taken in charge and all the outstanding estate maintenance issues still not completed?

A report was received from the Building and Development Control Department informing the members that Primrose Gardens has recently been referred to Development Control from Planning Control with a view to progressing the Taking in Charge and completion of outstanding works.

In recent weeks, Development Control have:

- Carried out preliminary investigations to ascertain the location and condition of drainage outfall / attenuation system.
- Begun a review of available CCTV surveys of the foul and surface water network to identify required remediation works.



Kildare County Council

- Called in the bond from the developer which can be used to address the outstanding items.

Development Control are now working towards developing a full scope of works with a view to bringing Primrose Gardens to a Taking in Charge standard. Given the poor condition of the foul and surface water pipe network and the absence of road wearing course throughout the development, the available bond monies will not be sufficient to address all items and alternative funding sources will need to be explored.

Councillor Breen informed the members that the estate was now built 17 years and there were still many issues. She queried if there were funds available to complete the works to bring the Estate up to taking in charge standard and requested an estimated time frame.

Mr L McNeela added that there was €190,000 bond monies available but that this would not be enough. Currently reviewing CCTV of underground pipework as most defects were underground. Councillor Brett added that LPT funding could be considered.

The report was noted.

NS28/1124

Morell Flood Management Scheme

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

That the council gives an update on the Morell Flood Alleviation Scheme.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Sammon.

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Morell Flood Management Scheme is currently under construction, with 75% of the scheme completed as of October 2024. Construction of the scheme is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025, with full handover of the scheme to the council scheduled for end of 2026. Once completed (EOY 2025), the scheme will protect homes and business within the townlands of Killeenmore, Turnings, Ballyhays, Sherlockstown, Tuckmilltown, Blackchurch and Killeen from a 100-year flood.

It will improve the quality of life for people living in 60 homes currently impacted by flooding from the Morell River and remove delays caused by flooding from the N7 and local roads. As



Kildare County Council

part of the scheme, the council and OPW are trialling new species rich seed mixes on flood embankments to increase biodiversity and provide additional environmental benefit. If successful, these trials will be considered across all flood schemes in Kildare.

Members raised the following:

- Lots of people applied for planning permission and were refused due to flooding issues.
- If 30 houses was the limit, who would get planning when this issue was sorted.
- Some people had been granted permission but could not start until the flood relief scheme was completed.
- People should be prioritised if they applied already.
- Unfair if new applications were taken ahead of these.
- Could correspondence be issued to previous applicants.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett and seconded by Councillor Sammon that the report be noted

NS29/1124

Dogs Barking Issue

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

Can the council provide a report on the ongoing issue of dogs barking /noise pollution at an estate in Sallins?

A report was received from the Housing and Environment Departments informing the members that as per our Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy complaints relating to dogs are referred to the Environment Section of the council and are dealt with under The Control of Dogs Act 1986, as amended. The various forms of council tenancy agreements outline tenant obligations in relation to the keeping of pets and animals. The Estate Management Section will engage positively with tenants where addresses are provided in relation to nuisance dogs. A tenant or complainant can also make a personal application to the District Court, under the Control of Dogs Acts 1986, as amended, in relation to persistent nuisance caused by a barking dog.



Kildare County Council

Excessive dog barking which causes a nuisance to any person is an offence. If a neighbour's dog is barking, you should go to your neighbour directly to try resolve the issue. If this doesn't work, you can make a complaint about excessive barking to the District Court under Noise Regulations.

Before you do this, you must first let the dog owner know that you are making a complaint. This can be done by completing a Section 108 Form under the Control of Dogs Act 1986. (The Section 108 form is available from the District Court.)

The District Court can make an order requiring the dog owner (or occupier of the house where the dog is kept) to exercise control over the dog to reduce the barking, limit the number of dogs that can be kept on a premises, or direct that a dog be delivered to a dog warden as an unwanted dog.

Councillor Brett advised that there were ongoing issues of dogs barking in this estate. There were dogs in certain houses that shouldn't be there. He advised he did not know how the issue could be resolved.

The report was noted.

NS30/1124

Recycling Trays for Public Bins

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly
Can the council confirm if the Naas Municipal District is being considered for a trial of the recycling trays on public bins?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) has been very successful since its introduction in February 2024 with Re-turn, the operator of Ireland's DRS, announcing at the end of October that over 600 million plastic bottles and cans have been returned since the scheme's launch. Another local authority is introducing a pilot scheme that will see container trays fitted to litter bins where members of the public can place bottles and cans that they don't intend to return themselves.

This is designed to prevent people who wish to collect the containers from having to rummage through the bin to access bottles/cans.



Kildare County Council

We understand that the trial will be assessed during 2025, and a view taken on the benefits, mitigation impacts, and a decision taken on further rollout and costings.

The practice of rummaging through public bins for returnable containers has not been a major concern in the Naas Municipal District to date. Accordingly, no trial is planned in the Municipal District at present.

Councillor Kelly advised that the pilot scheme in other Local Authorities had been hugely successful and suggested that the council should implement the scheme as soon as possible without the need for setting up a pilot scheme

The report was noted.

NS31/1124

Community Centre Johnstown

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear
Can the members receive an update on the proposed Community Centre for Johnstown at the former Johnstown Garden Centre site in light of the strong presence of community groups in the area and confirm if an alternative location is under consideration?

A report was received from the Community Department informing the members that the Community Department has ongoing engagement with representatives from the Johnstown Amenity Projects Company regarding the proposed community centre and walking/gardening trail at the former Johnstown Garden Centre site. Final planning permission was granted during the year. A detailed project plan for the development of the site was submitted to Community Department who will continue to work with the group to advance the project.

Councillor Clear advised that he was happy with the report as residents deserved this. Councillor Brett thanked the Community Development for all the work done in relation to this and advised that a community building which had been lying idle for 24 years would be handed over.

The report was noted.