

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Council

held at 2.00p.m on Monday 24 October 2016 at

Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare

Members Present: Councillor I Keatley (Mayor), Councillors M Aspell, A Breslin, A Breen, F Brett, K Byrne B Caldwell, D Callaghan, M Coleman, R Cronin, I Cussen, M Dalton, S Doyle, T Durkan, D Fitzpatrick, B Hillis, I Keatley, C Kelly, P Kennedy, A Larkin, M Lynch, S Moore, P McEvoy, J McGinley, F McLoughlin-Healy, M Miley, T Murray, J Neville, N O'Cearuil, J Pender, R Power, S Power, T Redmond, D Scully, M Stafford, M Wall, P Ward and B Young

Apologies: Councillors McCabe and O'Neill

Also Present: Mr P Carey, Chief Executive, Messrs P Minnock, T McDonnell, J Boland, N Morrissey, Ms S Kavanagh (Directors of Services), Ms E Hanlon, Head of Finance, Ms M McIvor (Meetings Administrator) and other officials.

01/1016

Vote of Sympathy

The Mayor welcomed the members to the meeting and he called for a minutes silence to reflect the sad passing of

Mr Tom Coleman, brother of Councillor Michael Coleman

Mr Patrick Kearney, retired caretaker with Kildare County Council

Ms Pauline Blake, mother of John Blake, Naas Library

Mr Thomas Bagnall, formerly Maynooth Municipal District and brother of Wille Bagnall, Athy Municipal District.

02/1016

Adoption of minutes

The council considered the minutes of the annual meeting of 24 June 2016 and the monthly meeting of the 19 September 2016 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Wall, seconded by Councillor Miley, that the minutes of the annual meeting of 24 June 2016 and the monthly meeting of 25 July 2016 be adopted and the progress report noted.

03/1016

Disposal of Land

40 Glendale Meadows, Leixlip, Co Kildare

Consent is sought for the transfer of the mortgage on the above property from shared ownership loan. In accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, statutory notice dated 7 October 2016 was circulated to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Moore, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, that the Council consent to the disposal of the land in accordance with the statutory notice dated 7 October 2016.

0.966 acres at Burtown Big, Athy to Mr Nyall Speirs

A plot of land at Burtown Big, Athy, measuring 0.966 acres to be transferred to Mr Nyall Speirs for the consideration of €4,000 together with the cost of piping the stream and reclaiming the land. In accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, statutory notice dated 11 October 2016 was circulated to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Moore, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, that the Council consent to the disposal of the land in accordance with the statutory notice dated 11 October 2016.

1.99 acres at Woodlands, Castledermot to Mr James Victor Cassells

A plot of land measuring 1.99 acres (0.807 ha) to be transferred to Mr James Victor Cassells for the consideration of €30,000. In accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, statutory notice dated 11 October 2016 was circulated to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Moore, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, that the Council consent to the disposal of the land in accordance with the statutory notice dated 11 October 2016.

04/1016

Management Report

Councillor Cussen informed the executive and the members that the Superintendent of An Garda Síochána, at the Joint Policing Committee briefings to the Municipal District members requested the timely turnaround of vacant properties because of the associated risks of anti-social behaviour.

Resolved that the monthly Management Report be noted

05/1016

Part V111 Pedestrian and Cycle Greenway Facility

A report in accordance with Part X1 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part V111 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for the development of a shared pedestrian and cycle greenway facility for circa 8.4 km of the Royal Canal from Maynooth Harbour to the Dublin county boundary at Confey was circulated to the members. The Chief Executive recommended to the Mayor and members that the proposed development proceed in accordance with the conditions set out in the report.

Resolved On the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor McGinley and agreed by all members, that the Pedestrian and Cycle Greenway Facility proceed and is hereby adopted under the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2011 and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2013.

06/1016

Housing Strategic Policy Committee

Councillor Kennedy, Chairman of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee updated the members on the work of the committee. The Allocations Policy has received the approval of the committee. The main change is that the qualifying criteria have changed from a points based system to length of time on the list. The revised policy allows for the choice based letting facility and is in accordance with national policy. It was referred to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration and is now an item on the agenda for full council.

Councillor Kennedy informed the members that a delegation of the committee had met the Minister where the key priorities were discussed.

The self-help scheme has received a positive response and while the budget may not allow for all applications to be grant aided this year, the outstanding ones will be dealt with in 2017.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Policy is now in draft format and will be considered by the committee. Councillor Kennedy also outlined his work with Councillor Byrne on the committee dealing with the Integration Strategy for the county.

The Mayor and members thanked Councillor Kennedy for his comprehensive presentation.

07/1016

Allocation Scheme

The members considered the adoption of the Allocation Scheme for Social Housing 2016 as recommended by the Housing Strategic Policy Committee and the Corporate Policy Group. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that a presentation be made to the members at the November meeting.

The Chief Executive stated that a lot of work had gone into the preparation of the Allocation Scheme and that there were elements which are outside the remit of the local authority. He advised the members to go to the Housing Department before the November meeting and raise the issues that are of concern to them.

08/1016

Briefing from the Health and Safety Officer

Michael Hurley, Health and Safety Officer outlined the 5 phases of the 3 year Transformation Journey towards improving safety culture.

Level 1 Emerging involved the development of management commitment

Level 2 Managing realised the importance of frontline staff and encouraged staff to develop personal responsibility,

Level 3 Involving engaged all staff to develop cooperation and commitment to improved safety,

Level 4 Co-Operating sought to develop consistency and fight complacency and

Level 5 Continually Improving aims to develop consistency and fight complacency.

Mr Hurley outlined the programme of events for Health and Safety Week, culminating in the Health and Safety conference on Thursday 27 October 2016.

The Mayor and members thanked Mr Hurley for the comprehensive presentation and extended their best wishes for the success of the conference on Thursday.

09/1016

Presentation from Threshold

The Mayor welcomed Gary Byrne from Threshold to the meeting.

Mr Byrne outlined the role of the Tenancy Protection Service. It was launched in Dublin in June 2014 with the aim of preventing families from losing their homes. The service offers advice, advocacy and support in tenancy. It was initially aimed at families at risk of homelessness but expanded to include all tenants at risk. The service is active in Kildare, Meath and Wicklow since April 2016. Between June 2014 and June 2016, there were 4,380 at risk of homelessness. Of these, 2,423 were protected through Tenancy Protection Scheme interventions allowing 4,273 children to remain in their home.

Mr Byrne outlined the cost of renting in Kildare and the current figures for Rent Supplement and HAP in the county. He said that the service is working with Kildare County Council and other agencies including Focus Ireland and Citizens Information's Services. Mr Byrne shared the contact details of the relevant personnel and said that the focus remains on prevention given the shortage of accommodation.

The Mayor thanked Mr Byrne for his very comprehensive presentation and asked that it be circulated to the members following the meeting.

The members discussed the rent prices quoted, deposits, advocacy role, and the role of the Registered Tenancy Board. Mr Byrne acknowledged the very real difficulties on the ground. Mr Mc Donnell, Director of Services thanked Mr Byrne for his presentation and reminded the members that Focus, Peter McVerry Trust and Simon are also working internally in Kildare County Council to help those in danger of homelessness.

10/1016

Overdraft Facility

The members considered the approval of the continued overdraft of €4.5m for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, with all the members in agreement the continued overdraft facility of €4.5m for the year ended 31 December 2017 was approved.

11/1016

Audit Committee Charter

The members considered the Audit Committee Charter which had been circulated.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Breen, with all the members in agreement the Audit Committee Charter was adopted.

12/1016

Variation of the Kildare County Development Plan

The members considered the Proposed Variation No 4 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011 – 2017.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Dalton, seconded by Councillor Breslin, with all the members in agreement, the Proposed Variation No 4 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2011 – 2017 was adopted.

13/1016

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee

Councillor Doyle gave a comprehensive presentation on the work of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee. She outlined the membership and the work programme for 2016. The presentation included very effective before and after pictures of properties that received support from the Shop Front Grant Scheme during 2016. Councillor Doyle informed the members of the breakdown per Municipal District of the scheme and looked forward to it being continued in 2017.

Councillor Doyle thanked Karen Kenny for her work in drafting the Childcare Policy and she paid tribute to Gerard Mackey, in the Local Enterprise Office and Sonya Kavanagh, Director of Services for their work and support in 2016.

The Mayor and members thanked Councillor Doyle and paid tribute to the success of the Shop Front Grant Scheme. There was agreement that the public realm was very important and support for the continuation of the scheme in 2017.

14/1016

Mayor's Business

The Mayor thanked the members who attended the Civic Reception for the Under 14 Ladies, the Senior Ladies, Olympians and Paralympians last Friday. There were incredible and inspiring stories of personal journeys and triumphs over adversity. It was a great evening and an ideal opportunity to showcase the Town Hall in Newbridge.

The Mayor congratulated the All Ireland Pitch and Putt and Camogie champions and all other successful sporting competitors in the county.

The Mayor congratulated all the towns and villages on their improved marks in the Tidy Towns competition announced some weeks ago. He paid particular tribute to Straffan on achieving their

silver award in the Entente Florale competition. The Mayor also extended congratulations to our near neighbours in Tullamore who achieved a gold award.

The Mayor informed the members that Joe Boland, Director of Services and the Mayor had met the Entente Florale committee with a view to achieving host status in 2017.

The Mayor reminded the members of the Pride of Place awards scheduled next week in Maynooth.

The Mayor reminded the members that the Kildare Person of the Year event is on Friday 4 November 2016.

15/1016

Correspondence

The Meetings Administrator referred to the two responses from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) circulated to the members with the Progress Report.

Councillor Brett said that it is quite clear that TII are saying that this is the responsibility of Kildare County Council.

Mr Morrissey agreed and said that it is apparent that TII are not going to fund these works. It will now be a matter for Kildare County Council to identify a funding source and the work will be project managed in-house. Mr Morrissey agreed that there is a need for barriers but the challenge is to identify funding.

16/1016

Conferences and Training

The Meetings Administrator referred to report of 24 October 2016 regarding conferences and training circulated to the members

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor McEvoy and in accordance with Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 53(2) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 retrospective approval is granted for the attendance of Councillors Moore, Aspell, Kennedy, Miley, Caldwell, Dalton and Brett at the AILG Autumn Seminar in the Amber Springs Hotel, Gorey, Co Wexford on 13 and 14 October 2016.

17/1016

Motion from the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District

The following motion, referred from the members of the Maynooth Municipal District was

considered

To write to the Department and ask them to consider increasing the current limit of €20k positive equity particularly for properties in areas in North County Kildare.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Durkan.

Ms Hanlon, Head of Finance explained the terms of the Mortgage to Rent Scheme and the level of positive equity and stated that if the members were in agreement, she would advise on the wording of the letter to be issued to the Department.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Durkan, a letter to issue to the Department of Housing Planning Community and Local Government.

18/1016

Approved Housing Bodies

The following motion in the name of Councillor Redmond was considered

That the council immediately seeks from all of the approved housing bodies it deals with up to date summary of their housing estates. This report to include the amount of time houses were left empty and amount of stock.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Redmond and seconded by Councillor Cussen.

A comprehensive report from Mr McDonnell, Director of Service stated that the housing department had contacted all the approved housing bodies operating in County Kildare in March 2016 requesting compliance information in accordance with the requirements of the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme, Capital Assistance Scheme, Social Housing Leasing Initiative and the Capital Advance Loan Facility, which includes occupancy of units. While the level of response from Approved Housing Bodies was initially disappointing the majority are now compliant with the terms of the various schemes. Where there are outstanding issues, the Council is working closely with the relevant bodies to ensure full compliance. Management and Maintenance fees have been withheld where information has not been received and those bodies who have not complied with requests for information will not be considered for future funding. The report gave a detailed breakdown of the number of units provided by the sector in Kildare under each of the schemes. It further stated that the Council advertised earlier this year for expressions of interest from Approved Housing Bodies to work on various delivery options. Respond! Housing and Tuath Housing have been selected to deliver units in Athy and Sallins respectively.

Councillor Redmond said that the motion was put down because of the level of frustration with many Approved Housing Bodies. He said that he was not happy with the report and that it did not

address the motion. He cited incidences of units being empty, one for 8 months and another for several years. Councillor Redmond said that there was a major issue with apartments in the Athy area and he asked should the Council be engaging with the Registered Tenancy Board. He asked the Director how many units were vacant within the county at this time and he noted that Cuan Mhuire was not on the list circulated to the members.

Mr McDonnell stated that the report was augmented at Councillor Redmond's request since the September meeting. He said that if Councillor Redmond is aware of vacancies, he should give him the addresses and he will be provided with the current status of those units. Mr McDonnell said that there were now onerous governance requirements on this sector which will prove challenging for many of the smaller bodies.

The members contributed to a discussion on the motion raising issues of allocations, funding source and how to deal with non-compliant bodies.

Resolved that the report be noted.

19/1016

Modular Housing

The following motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick was considered

That council as a matter of urgency decides a policy around modular housing to help alleviate the housing crisis in the county and have an almost instant impact.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Weld.

A report from Mr McDonnell, Director of Services stated that the Action Plan on Housing & Homelessness identifies rapid build housing as a measure both to mitigate the issues associated with inappropriate hotel arrangements and to expedite social housing supply. The Chair of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee has indicated that the matter will be considered as part of the next Housing SPC meeting.

It is important to stress that Rapid Delivery is a response to Homelessness i.e. provision of temporary accommodation and it is not seen as delivery of main stream social housing. Although it is 'temporary accommodation' the accommodation must have a 50-60 year life span, and be built to the highest construction standards, so in terms of quality and design life, 'Rapid Build' is not seen as 'temporary construction'.

The Office of Government Procurement (OGP) has advertised for a framework for contractors for Rapid Delivery Housing. A framework of eligible suppliers / contractors (minimum of three,

maximum of twenty) to deliver 1,500 rapid-build units by the end of 2018 will be established. It is intended that 200 units will be built nationwide by the end of 2016, 800 units in 2017 and the remainder in 2018.

In relation to homeless families in Kildare, there are 24 families as at 5th October. Of those, 7 are in transition units, and the other 17 are in emergency accommodation (hotel or B&B). It is anticipated that the Council will have access to another 14 transition units within the next 3 months.

Councillor Fitzpatrick informed the meeting that together with Councillor Weld he viewed modular homes which cost €70,000 per unit. He said that they were very good quality and that if the Council were to develop a policy around this area, the impact could be immediate. He acknowledged the report and asked how many of the units mentioned in paragraph 4 would come to Kildare.

Mr McDonnell stated that rapid build is an interim measure. He informed Councillor Fitzpatrick that the Minister has announced that all these units will be Dublin so that there will not be any in Kildare by the end of 2016.

The members contributed to a lengthy discussion regarding the immediate housing crisis, the opportunity to be innovative, the rising rents in the county and the need to move away from emergency accommodation. There was broad support for the motion being examined in more detail to establish facts with regard to pricing, infrastructure requirements, planning requirements etc.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Weld with all the members in agreement, the motion to be referred to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee.

20/1016

Reports for Grant Scheme

The following motion in the name of Councillor Doyle was considered

That the processing of grant applications for persons with disabilities will deem professional Occupational Therapy reports, issued from hospitals on behalf of applicants who have been or are hospitalised, acceptable in determining the work required to adapt house to meet needs. This change in protocol should create a greater efficiency in delivery of these valuable grants that will

benefit both the recipient and eliminate duplication of state services.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick.

A report from Mr McDonnell, Director of Services informed the members that in 2014 Kildare County Council established an Occupational Therapist Framework for the procurement of Occupational Therapists. Under the framework two Occupational Therapists were appointed; one for the north and one for the south of the county. The purpose of procuring the Occupational Therapists is to assist in the processing of applications for the following schemes:

Housing Grants Scheme:

- Housing Adaptation Grant For People With A Disability
- Housing Aid for Older People Grant
- Mobility Aids Grant

Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme:

- Essentially, this scheme is the same as the Housing Grants Scheme but for Local Authority tenants.

Extension works scheme.

- Scheme to provide for extensions to Local Authority Dwellings where extension is deemed to be the most appropriate solution.

The services to be undertaken by the independent Occupational Therapists include the provision of consultant occupational therapy services which will, in all cases, involve at least one visit to the applicant's house; assess the needs of the applicant and the appropriateness of the works/alterations sought; provide a written report to include details of suitable works for the applicant's needs, details of the works that qualify for assistance and the prioritisation (on medical grounds) of the application, having regard to the scheme type and availability of funding for each scheme type.

The independent Occupational Therapists are required to establish the medical priority of the applicant in accordance with the Department's guidelines as follows:

Priority 1: Terminally ill or fully/mainly dependant on family or carer; or where alterations /adaptations would facilitate discharge from hospital or alleviate the need for hospitalisation in the future.

Priority 2: Mobile but needs assistance in accessing washing, toilet facilities, bedroom etc; or where without the alterations/adaptations the disabled person's ability to function independently would be hindered.

Priority 3: Independent but requires special facilities to improve the quality of life, e.g. separate bedroom/living space.

In order to preserve the integrity of the scheme, and the requirement to establish the medical priority of each applicant, it is essential that the Council maintain the independent referral process as established under the framework.

Councillor Doyle thanked the Director for the report but stressed the need for flexibility. She said that Priority 1 applications should just require the Occupational Therapy report from the hospital.

The members contributed to a discussion noting that there were delays and requesting the Director to streamline the process in as far as was possible given the vital nature of this grant assistance to a vulnerable group.

Mr Mc Donnell said that he will be flexible where possible and keep the process under review.

Resolved that the report be noted.

21/1016

Additional Resources

The following motion in the name of Councillor O'Cearuil was considered

Following the announcement of further available funds from the government for housing Assistance Payment and for emergency accommodation that this council takes immediate measures to apply for the additional resources.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Cearuil and seconded by Councillor Miley.

A report from Mr McDonnell, Director of Services informed the members that Kildare County Council recoup homeless expenditure for the mid-east region [Kildare/Meath/Wicklow] on a quarterly basis and will be allocated funding from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in accordance with its allocation. Any increased expenditure over and above the Council's allocation is submitted to the Department as part of a quarterly return. The Council welcome any additional funds made available for the provision of homeless services.

As and from 1 July 2016 the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government introduced revised maximum rent limits for HAP – circular letter 31/2016 and Housing Assistance Payment (Amendment) (No 2) Regulations 2016 refers. The rates applicable to County Kildare are outlined in the circular letter. The capacity of local authorities to make discretionary enhanced payments under the HAP scheme was extended to all local authorities at this time – this had already been operational in Co Kildare. In excess of 800 HAP tenancies will be set up in Kildare by the end of this year, with an estimated additional 1,000 HAP tenancies being set up in the county in 2017. Additional funding has been allocated to HAP nationally as nine more local authorities will be making HAP available by the end of 2016 and it will be available in the three Dublin local authorities [not currently in HAP] early in 2017, completing full implementation nationally.

Councillor O'Cearuil stated that there has been an additional €28m assigned to homeless services and that the current situation of families being accommodated in hotels and bed and breakfast accommodation with no cooking facilities cannot be allowed to continue. Councillor O' Cearuil made the point that the funding should not have to be recouped, it should be available at the beginning of the year.

Mar McDonnell explained the process of recoupment, the fact that the maximum recouped is 90% and the expectation that there will be 30 units available in the next three months and 14 transition units becoming available before Christmas.

Resolved that the report be noted

22/1016

Information on Website

The following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen was considered

That this council undertakes to update their information in respect of homelessness services and include measures to improve the appearance and ease of access to this information on www.kildarecountycouncil.ie.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cussen and seconded by Councillor Redmond.

A report from Mr McDonnell, Director of Services informed the members that the Housing Department, Homelessness Unit, in conjunction with the IT Department, is working to update information with regard to homelessness on our website.

The update will include information with regard to contact details, both e-mail and telephone, for our Homelessness Unit, together with public opening times; information with regard to the Out of Hours service provided, including contact details and operating times; information and contact details for the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB), Threshold and MABS. The update will be completed in the coming days.

Councillor Cussen welcomed the report. She said that there was a real need to make this information accessible and she referred to the innovative graphics on the Dublin City Council website. She asked that an e-mail to the members be circulated when the improvements had been made.

Resolved that the report be noted.

23/1016

Policy for Speed Ramps

The following motion in the name of Councillor Redmond was considered

That this council develops a policy for speed ramps.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Redmond and seconded by Councillor Cronin

A report from Mr Morrissey, Director of Roads, Transportation and Public Safety stated that if agreed this item can be included on the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Strategic Policy Committee Work Programme 2017

Councillor Redmond thanked Mr Morrissey for the response. He looked forward to the policy and enquired if the Director was aware of similar policies in other counties.

The members contributed to a discussion around the issue of speed ramps, noting cost, that it was not a solution in every case, that it was more than people just driving too fast and that there was an element of anti-social behaviour in this behaviour. The tool kit to be supplied to the municipal district engineers was queried and it was noted that Laois County Council have a policy on speed ramps in place since 2008.

Mr Morrissey said that the toolkit is used in the design of the ramps and that the Strategic Policy Committee will determine the work programme and the preparation of this policy will be included.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Redmond, seconded by Councillor Cronin, that this motion be referred to the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Committee.

24/1016

Remediation of Roads

The following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly was considered

That the council set aside a portion of the budget for the remediation of roads selected by the council to be used as alternative routes during all major road work schemes within the county.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor O’Cearuil.

A report from Mr Morrissey, Director of Services, informed the members that as it was impossible to determine which routes will be required in advance of establishing diversionary routes, it is only possible to assess the impact on diversionary routes when the event/incident leading to the use of a route as a diversionary route has ended. The condition of these routes is then assessed as part of the Annual Roads Programme.

Councillor Kelly thanked the Director for the report. She said that she was referring to major infrastructural projects such as the detour of the Kilcullen Road last year. The Local Property Tax fund had to be used towards the remediation of the Green Road afterwards and she was concerned at this. Councillor Kelly suggested that the motion be referred to the Strategic Policy Committee.

Mr Morrissey said that this was an operational issue and as such it was not appropriate to refer it to the Strategic Policy Committee. He undertook to examine all diversion routes and raise it with Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Resolved that the report be noted

25/1016

State Support Service

The following motion in the name of Councillor Moore was considered

That the members support and approve of letters to be issued to An Taoiseach and the Minister for Justice and Law Reform that a priority consideration be given by government to the formation of a new state support service to provide a combination of a) warden, b) security and c) policing services to ensure public obligation on adhering with basic laws on parking, littering, public order, fines collection, traffic management, community supports, public presence and many other low key areas of order management that are not within normal warden service working hours and have

gone out of practice as Garda Síochána obligations.

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

Councillor Moore said that there was a serious vacuum and that the force has not changed since 1922. He said that everywhere you travel in Europe there are specialised units. He said that people are disenchanted, there is local crime, and the Gardai do not have the resources to address the problem.

The members contributed to a debate on this motion. While there was an understanding for the spirit of the motion, there was disagreement on the detail.

The Mayor called for a vote on the motion.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Dalton, with 12 members present voting in favour, 6 members present voting against and no member present abstaining, the motion was carried.

26/1016

Future Service Provision at St John of God

The following motion in the name of Councillor Young was considered

In the light of continued concerns amongst the families of service users regarding service provision and land use by St John of God at St Raphael's and other sites in Kildare, the council resolves to invite the St John of God management to a meeting of the council to report on their plans for future service provision and land use at St Raphael's and their other sites in Kildare.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Young and seconded by Councillor Pender.

Councillor Young said that it is clear that families and carers of service users are in crises. He referred to a site at the Clane Road Celbridge and sought further information on future plans.

The Mayor advised Councillor Young to get further details and the motion would be referred to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Pender, the motion to be referred to the Corporate Policy Group.

27/1016

Business Incubation Units

The following motion in the name of Councillor Lynch was considered

That this council seeks to develop the establishment of business incubation units within the county. These units should be seen as centres where those capable of executing business plans

can work from to launch or develop their business. The centres should be as low cost as possible to the startup business entity and mainly target new and existing information and communications technology and agri business startups. We should develop the units in conjunction with the Local Enterprise Office and any relevant government agency.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Lynch and seconded by Councillor Redmond.

Ms Kavanagh, Director of Services informed the members that a similar motion was tabled in February. It is agreed that the Council will work with all the relevant stakeholders to facilitate and support "start ups" by providing or facilitating the provision of incubation space within County Kildare

Ms Kavanagh stated that the sentiment of this motion and the motion tabled by Councillor Moore in February very much reflects the actions set out in the Mid East Action Plan for Jobs (2016 - 2017). It should also be noted that officials from Kildare, Meath and Wicklow County Council's Economic Development Departments and Local Enterprise Offices are meeting shortly to discuss the table of actions for the Mid East Action Plan for Jobs and the implementation of said actions over the life time of the plan

Councillor Lynch asked was there progress on this as the initial response was issued in February. He said that Kildare could take a lead on this and set up one or two units.

The members contributed to a discussion on the motion, noting that there were such units in the Enterprise Centre in Athy and in Allenwood.

Ms Kavanagh said that there were units in Allenwood, Athy, Celbridge and that the Local Enterprise Office directs clients towards them. Ms Kavanagh stated that the role of Kildare County Council is to facilitate and support and she will look at opportunities of becoming directly involved with the Head of Local Enterprise who is due to assume her position shortly.

Resolved that the report be noted.

28/1016

30km Speed Restriction

The following motion in the name of Councillor Cronin was considered by the members

That the council contact residents associations directly to invite them to be included in the 30 kilometres per hour speed restriction.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cronin and seconded by Councillor Cussen.

A report from the Director of Services informed the members that he had advised each Municipal District that he intends to re-advertise (Jake's Law) again in the last quarter of 2016 and that the Public Participation Network, social and print media will be used to advise that submissions are being sought. The resources are not available to contact resident associations individually and Mr Morrissey cautioned that it is strictly subject to funding in 2017 from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. In the event of receiving 100+ submissions, signage will have to be phased in estates deemed suitable following an assessment by the technical team, who are also constrained by resources.

Councillor Cronin was not satisfied with the report. She recalled the history of a 6 year old boy losing his life in this tragic way and she said that we are always talking about road safety and this is an opportunity. Councillor Cronin said that 100 + submissions would be positive, we need to instill change. She was disappointed to note that only 18 estates have applied for the first round of funding and said that is proof of the merit of the motion.

The members contributed to a lengthy discussion and were broadly in agreement with the motion. There was agreement that they had a role to play in getting the message out too.

Mr Morrissey said that the advertisements will be placed in the next 4/5 weeks. He cautioned, however, that each estate will need to be examined and there is a large volume of work in this and it will be resource dependent.

Councillor Cronin thanked Mr Morrissey and asked that the advertisement be e-mailed to all the members. She said that if necessary, she would like the motion to be put to a vote. The members responded that they were in agreement with the motion

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cronin, seconded by Councillor Cussen, with all the members in agreement, the motion was carried.

The meeting concluded.