

**Minutes of the Maynooth Municipal District Meeting
held on Friday, 02 November 2018 at 10:00 am
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas, Co Kildare**

Members Present: Councillor T Durkan (Cathaoirleach), Councillors, R Cronin, D Fitzpatrick, P McEvoy, J McGinley, T Murray, N O’Cearúil, and B Weld.

Officials Present: Ms S Kavanagh (District Manager), Mr J Deane (District Engineer), Ms E Wright, Mr K Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officers), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr E Fagan, Ms S Fitzpatrick (Administrative Officers), Mr G Maher (Senior Staff Officer), Mr S Leahy (Building Control Officer), Ms A Gough (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary).

Apologies: Councillor P Ward.

MY01/1118

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 05 October 2018, the Draft Budgetary Plan meeting held on 22 October 2018 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld seconded by Councillor Murray that the minutes of the monthly Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 05 October 2018 and the Draft Budgetary Plan meeting held on 22 October 2018 be taken as read.

The progress report was noted.

MY02/1118

Matters Arising

Taking in charge of Castle Dawson and Meadowbrook Estate

(MY02/1018) (02/0918) (06/0418) (MY06/0418) (MY25/0118)

Councillor McGinley stated that the taking in charge process had gone on too long given the fact the developer had agreed to hand over the pumping station on 05 July 2015 and stated there was no need to wait for the completion of works in Newtown Hall. He stated the taking in charge of Meadowbrook Estate was still ongoing despite the fact it was four years since the residents had petitioned and nine years since the snag list had been drawn up.

Councillor McGinley stated that the Director of Service needed to take charge of the matter.

Councillor Murray stated that Castle Dawson and Meadowbrook Estates were on the list of unfinished estates and noted the original bond of €120,000.00 had been reduced to €40,000.00 and asked if this amount was still available. She stated that she did not understand why the taking in charge of Castle Dawson depended on Newtown Hall given the fact the pumping station was council property. Councillor Murray asked if costings for the taking in charge of Meadowbrook were known.

Community Centre, Bawnogues, Kilcock *(MY32/1018)*

Councillor McGinley asked if there was any update on on the proposed layout and use of the Kilcock Community Centre. The District Manager informed the members that the matter in relation to the Kilcock Community Centre had been raised at the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in October and it was agreed that quarterly updates would be provided to the members. She stated that officials had met with Frank Cooney Architects and a draft design had been prepared in respect of the layout of the community centre and a meeting would be held with internal departments and the Bawnogues Steering group. She stated that the design would be then brought before the members and if they were in agreement with the proposed design, it would be published in early January 2019. Councillor McGinley asked if it would be a Part 8 application and the District Manager confirmed due to the level of change required, a new Part 8 would be appropriate.

**Alleviation of flooding issues throughout the Maynooth Municipal District (02/0118)
(MY05/1217, Item 25 - Laurence Avenue, Maynooth**

Councillor McGinley asked for further details on the design awaited by the Maynooth Municipal District Office. The District Engineer stated that the matter was being examined, that there was potential land take involved and the design had not yet been completed. He stated he would revert to the members with an update when available.

Road markings at the entrance to the Rockfield Estate (MY23/1018)

Councillor Murray asked if there was a timeframe for refreshing the road markings at the entrance to the Rockfield Estate.

The District Engineer stated that the council needed to discuss the proposed road markings for Laurence Avenue with An Garda Síochána and once these works were being done, the markings at Rockfield Estate would be carried out at the same time.

**Developments in Maynooth failing to provide crèches (29/1018) (MY02/1018)
(MY27/0918)**

Councillor McGinley stated that it was clear from the report received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department that crèches were not being provided and developers were not meeting planning permission conditions for the provision of crèches. He stated that there were no crèches at Castlepark, Moyglare Hall or Newtown Hall and parents had to avail of crèches outside of Maynooth even though the law stated crèches should be provided. Councillor McGinley noted that Castlepark and Moyglare Hall Estates had been referred to the Planning Enforcement Section and the Building and Development Control Section for further investigation and asked why further investigation was needed when the crèches had not yet been built. He stated that the Building and Development Control Department should be making a greater effort to ensure planning permission conditions were met.

Mr Leahy informed the members that the developer had confirmed there was no demand for crèches in Moyglare Hall and Castlepark Estates and Councillor McGinley stated this was not the case as crèches in Maynooth were full to capacity. Councillor Cronin stated she disagreed with the developer that there was no demand for crèches in these estates. Councillor McEvoy stated that the last County Development Plan specified that crèches

should be provided and part of that process was to critically assess if this requirement was being met.

Councillor Durkan requested that the Planning Department provide a further report for the next meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District meeting on 07 December 2018 detailing all crèche facilities provided within the Maynooth Municipal District and the demand for them.

The Cathaoirleach conveyed apologies on behalf of Councillor Ward who was unable to attend the meeting and requested that Councillor Ward's motion and question be noted. All members agreed.

MY03/1118

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer informed the members that the remaining number of work schemes for 2018 had gone to tender and a contractor was being appointed for works on the footpaths at Rail Park, Highfield, Kilcock, Newtown Road and ramps on Moyglare Avenue. He stated that works on narrowing the bridge on Millicent Road would not be done until 2019 and a report on Local Property Tax (LPT) projects for 2019 would be provided to the members for the next Maynooth Municipal District meeting on 07 December 2018.

Councillor McEvoy asked if monies from schemes not completed in 2016 and 2017 would be carried over to 2019 and the District Engineer stated that full LPT allocation monies were spent on the projects which had been progressed and the €70,000.00 which was carried over from 2017 had been spent. He suggested that before LPT monies were allocated for 2019 an in committee meeting be held with the members to review the 2018 schemes.

Councillor McEvoy suggested meeting with the Municipal District Engineer the following week. Councillor Weld stated that he was not criticizing the Maynooth Municipal District Office but noted that the bulk of the LPT money had been spent on the Maynooth and Kilcock areas. He stated that the members represented rural areas too which were lacking in facilities and other areas needed work carried out on their footpaths also.

Councillor McGinley asked if the parking surplus of €200,000.00 allocated for work on the Square in Maynooth and accessibility works would be carried over to 2019. The District

Engineer stated that the €200,000.00 had been spent on the back lanes in Maynooth and a number of other unfinished schemes. Councillor McGinley stated that the members had not agreed to the €200,000.00 being spent in this way and the District Engineer stated that all pay parking money had been spent in Maynooth and suggested that an in committee meeting be held to discuss the allocation of LPT monies further. He further stated that when funding was received from the Irish Public Bodies (IPB) Mutual Insurance Schemes, sections of footpaths in high fall areas which were not included in the budget could be looked at.

Councillor McGinley suggested that going forward when revisions were made to the LPT allocations, updated reports on allocations could be labelled as revision 1, revision 2 etc. and circulated to the members. Councillor O’Cearúil asked if the funding from IPB was used separately and the District Engineer confirmed it was.

MY04/1118

Taking in charge of housing estates

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

Can the members of this municipal district be informed of the number of housing estates in the Maynooth Municipal District which have yet to be taken in charge and what plans the council have for same?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Building and Development Control Department had a report of all estates finished and unfinished which was available on the website at the following link: <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/BuildingandDevelopmentControl/DevelopmentControl/Final%20Report%20Finished%20Unfinished%20%20Estates%20Under%20Construction%20May%202018.pdf>. This report detailed all estates in the county and the reason the estate had not been taken in charge to date. The Building and Development Control Department was currently prioritising and working on the estates which had previously been advertised and had not been taken in charge to ensure that these estates were brought before the council for recommendation.

Councillor Weld stated that there was as severe lack of progress with the taking in charge of housing estates and stated he did not recall the last time a list had been put before the members for approval.

Mr Leahy informed the members that there were a number of housing estates ready to be taken in charge and the Building and Development Control Department were also progressing with other works. Councillor Weld stated that the current list of estates which were taken in charge was a small list and Mr Leahy stated that some estates were ready to be taken in charge and others were being worked on. He stated that it was a lengthy process noting that liaison with Irish Water was now required also.

The report was noted.

MY05/1118

Christmas parking arrangements in Maynooth

The members considered the pay parking arrangements for the Christmas period.

Ms Wright informed the members that the County Pay Parking Policy allowed for pay parking fees to be suspended over Christmas, from 18 December to 02 January inclusive and asked the members if they wished to suspend pay parking in the Maynooth Municipal District during these dates.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Murray and agreed by all members present that pay parking arrangements not be suspended in the Maynooth Municipal District over the Christmas period for 2018 and normal parking arrangements continue.

MY06/1118

Traffic speeding in Kilshanroe

The members considered the following adjourned motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.

Following a number of road traffic accidents in Kilshanroe due to speed, that the council look at addressing the issues around traffic speeding through the village.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Ó'Cearúil.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that over the years the council had carried out a number of speed reduction measures in Kilshanroe. It may now be appropriate to get a 'third party' Road Safety Audit on this section of road to investigate if further works are still required.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that he had received a number of representations from residents in relation to speeding traffic and asked if the actual speed of the traffic was known. He asked when the result of the Road Safety Audit would be available.

The District Engineer stated that the matter was being examined in detail by the Roads Design Section to ensure the most appropriate solution could be reached. Councillor McEvoy stated that this issue should be raised at the oral hearing for the Drehid Waste Facility.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Cearúil that the report be noted.

MY07/1118

Yellow box junctions at the Kingsbry exit

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McGinley. That yellow box junctions are put on both sides of the Kingsbry exit with the Straffan Road, similar to those at the Parklands junction.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McGinley and seconded by Councillor Ó'Cearúil.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there was one yellow box on the Straffan Road at the Kingsbury exit and the council did not plan to extend this box or mark an additional unit.

Councillor McGinley stated that he was concerned that when the new lights began to function at the Meadowbrook Link Road that the traffic would be backed up to the Kingsbury junction.

The District Engineer stated that the yellow box at the Kingsbury junction was to allow traffic to enter and exit the Straffan Road and the function of the yellow boxes was not to facilitate traffic accessing minor roads. He stated that the junction was functioning well and the lights would help further facilitate the traffic flow.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Ó'Cearúil that the report be noted.

MY08/1118

Traffic calming measures for Newtown Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó'Cearúil.

In reviewing the Newtown Road and its capacity for vehicular, cyclist and pedestrian traffic, that adequate traffic calming measures are incorporated and a suitable pedestrian crossing is identified.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ó'Cearúil and seconded by Councillor McGinley.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this would require examining by the Road Design Section as part of the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) projects currently awaiting assessment and a source of funding would need to be identified for any traffic calming measures and pedestrian crossing facilities, if deemed warranted.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Cearúil, seconded by Councillor McGinley that the report be noted.

MY09/1118

Parking at College Way

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

That action is taken to prevent vehicles parking on the footpath/bus stop at College Way, Clane hindering the sight lines where pedestrians cross the R407 Clane-Kilcock Road.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Murray.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer would arrange for bollards to be fixed adjacent to the uncontrolled crossing point on the R407.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Murray that the report be noted and the Municipal District Engineer arrange for bollards to be fixed adjacent to the uncontrolled crossing point on the R407.

MY10/1118

Sight line at Baltracey Cross

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

In view of the proposed increase in the speed limit, that the sight line at Baltracey Cross, with particular reference to the Maynooth Road looking right towards Kilcock be improved.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this could be examined when the Draft Speed Limit review was completed and agreed by the members.

Councillor Weld stated that there were very few road users adhering to the 60kph speed limit and to gain clear visibility to the right hand side, vehicles had to drive out onto the road and a number of minor accidents had occurred. He asked if the council could examine the possibility of improving the sight lines.

The District Engineer stated that the only effective way to address the problem was to purchase land and step the road back further which would involve design consideration and the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) would examine the matter. Councillor Weld asked when this would be examined and the District Engineer stated that the TAAG team would revert to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) examine the matter and revert back to the members.

MY11/1118

Cycle lanes on the Straffan Road

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

That plastic bollards are installed along sections of the cycle lanes on the Straffan Road to restrict their use as left turning filter lanes, and to protect vulnerable road users.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the cycle lanes were carefully designed to operate in a specific way without the installation of this street furniture. The use of a cycle lane as a left turning lane was in contravention to the rules of the road.

Councillor Durkan stated that he did not agree with the report as certain sections of the road were being used as a car park, particularly outside the Maxol Garage, and cycle lanes were being used as filter lanes for traffic. He asked for the members support on his proposal for the installation of plastic bollards and stated Superintendent Wall had noted the problem with vehicles parking illegally.

Councillor McEvoy stated that a productive meeting had been held with Superintendent Wall that morning and the facility of enforcing fines should be explored before the council spent money on bollards.

Ms Wright stated that the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) had met the day before and a referral had been received from Councillor Stafford in relation to “over bollardisation” in the county. She stated the SPC had concluded that the best way forward was the enforcement of fines by An Garda Síochána and the Traffic Wardens.

Councillor McEvoy stated that the council needed to ensure the Traffic Wardens were on a timetable with An Garda Síochána to achieve an efficient result. Councillor Durkan stated that he had concerns for vulnerable road users in the area and proposed a vote be taken by the members for plastic bollards be installed along sections of the cycle lanes on the Straffan Road to restrict their use as left turning filter lanes, and to protect vulnerable road users.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, with five members voting in favour and three members voting against, that plastic bollards be installed along sections of the cycle lanes on the Straffan Road to restrict their use as left turning filter lanes, and to protect vulnerable road users. The motion was carried.

MY12/1118

Cap stones on Bond Bridge

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

That action is taken to prevent the dismantling of cap stones from the top of Bond Bridge in Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council acknowledged that the capping stone on this wall was poorly designed and prone to vandalism and removal, but were not in a position to replace these capping units with a more robust solution.

Councillor Murray stated that she appreciated the council were not in a position to replace the capping stones and asked if the remaining ones could be secured. Councillor McGinley stated he had raised the matter a couple of years ago and stated he agreed with Councillor Murray's proposal to secure the stones.

The District Engineer stated that the options were to either remove the stones entirely or leave them in their current state as the remaining ones on the bridge were secure.

Councillor Ó'Ceairúil stated that the members would consider what the best option would be and the District Engineer stated the council would work with the members to achieve an appropriate solution. Councillor Murray requested that this item remain on the progress report for monthly updates.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Murray, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and that this item on the progress report for monthly updates.

MY13/1118

Road surface at Connaught Street, Kilcock

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

That a plan of work be drawn up and urgently implemented to address the appalling state of the road surface at Connaught Street, Kilcock.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council has no plans to address this road in the coming year or two, as sections of this road will be substantially upgraded as part of the new large scale housing development that has just commenced in Branganstown, Kilcock.

Councillor Cronin stated she appreciated the report and asked if more detail could be provided as to what sections of the road were going to be worked on.

Councillor Cronin stated the road was badly damaged and the District Engineer stated that half of the road had been resurfaced four years ago and it would be resurfaced once the developer was finished.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cronin, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted.

MY14/1118

Traffic management analysis of Clane Village

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

That the council perform a traffic management analysis of Clane Village, with particular focus on the Ballinagappa Road, due to the increased development on the road and the recent narrowing of the junction to Main Street, Clane.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a traffic management assessment would require resources and funding to examine the issues raised in Clane.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that he had concerns that once the Sallins Bypass was opened Clane Village would become a bottleneck with traffic congestion, and the council needed to look at a plan to prevent this from happening. He noted that the report stated a traffic management assessment would require resources and funding to examine the issues raised and asked how much it would cost for funding and resources to carry out the traffic management assessment.

Councillor Weld stated that he had a similar motion previously as it was a serious matter and there were concerns that the opening of the Sallins Bypass would force traffic into Clane Village. He asked what resources were required and stated traffic from the three schools on the Prosperous Road were currently causing traffic congestion. He also stated that additional houses were being built which would create further problems with the traffic. He stated that the top three roads in Clane merged into one street and similarly at the bottom of the village. Councillor Weld stated that a proper Traffic Management Plan (TMP) was needed for Clane Village.

Councillor McEvoy stated that the Traffic Management Analysis would be launched the following week noting 15% of the residents in Clane Village were working there, 65% were working elsewhere and availing of public transport. He asked if an in committee meeting could be held to discuss the previous traffic report issued by White Young & Green and to get some technical input from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department in relation to costings for a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for Clane, and the impact the Sallins Bypass would have on traffic congestion in Clane.

The District Engineer stated it was a matter for the Roads Design Section and Ms Wright stated that she would refer the matter to the Director of Service for Roads, Transportation and Public Safety and the Senior Engineer to look at options before the commencement of any works.

Councillor Fitzpatrick asked if a report could be provided from the Director of Service and Ms Wright stated she would discuss the matter with the Director of Service and the Senior Engineer and revert to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted and a report be provided to the members from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department detailing costings and the impact of the Sallins Bypass on traffic in Clane.

MY15/1118

Footpath outside the Hayfield Estate

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó'Gearúil. Why has the public footpath outside the Hayfield Estate on the Straffan Road been removed, and can the council confirm that all pedestrian traffic is now expected to go through Hayfield?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that in line with the planning permission granted in 2010, the pedestrian traffic along the Straffan Road was diverted inside the boundary wall along the front of the Hayfield Estate as had been constructed by the developer.

The report was noted.

MY16/1118

Handrail at the entrance to Maynooth Train Station

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McGinley. Can the council ask Iarnród Éireann to install a handrail on the wall of the sloped entrance to the Maynooth Train Station path from the Bond Bridge, as it is a real hazard in the freezing days of winter?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that if the members were in agreement, a letter of request would be sent to Iarnród Éireann.

All members agreed that a letter be issued to Iarnród Éireann.

The report was noted.

MY17/1118

Footpath on the Clane-Dublin Road

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

Can the council confirm if it has plans to improve the footpath surface along the Clane-Dublin Road where it passes Clane Motor Factors?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this work was warranted and the Municipal District Office could list it as a potential Local Property Tax (LPT) project for 2019.

The report was noted.

MY18/1118

Bus stop pole outside Hughes' Pharmacy

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

Is there an update from Bus Éireann on the installation of a bus stop pole at the new bus stop outside Hughes' Pharmacy, R403 Prosperous Road, Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this work was listed with Bus Éireann for action.

The report was noted.

MY19/1118

Maynooth Orbital Route

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

Can the council give a timeline for the Part 8 process, tendering process, award of tender and commencement of works on the eastern section of the Maynooth Orbital Route and an update/timeline on the remaining undelivered sections?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Part 8 process associated with a section of the Maynooth Orbital Route was being lead by Meath County Council and was currently under Judicial Review. A non statutory public consultation would commence in November for the preferred route options for the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road, Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) project. A public consultation session would be held in Maynooth and a

submissions/observations period would follow. It was anticipated that the Part 8 process would get underway in Quarter 2, 2019.

Ms Wright informed the members that a public consultation meeting would be held on 21 November at 2:00 p.m in the Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth to discuss route options.

The report was noted.

MY20/1118

Traffic calming measures on the Dunboyne Road

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

Can traffic calming measures be put in place on the Dunboyne Road as a temporary measure until the Mariavilla development is completed?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that while there were no plans for traffic calming on the Dunboyne Road, there was a construction management plan associated with the Mariavilla development.

Ms Wright informed the members that the developer was required to provide a plan detailing two routes for construction vehicles to use. Councillor Murray asked if a copy of this plan could be issued to the members and Ms Wright stated she would circulate a copy of the plan to the members.

The report was noted.

MY21/1118

Traffic lights at Meadowbrook Road

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

Can the council give an update on the ongoing traffic lights saga at the Meadowbrook Road junction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the overlay works were completed on 26 October and the final power connection to the controller was now awaited.

The report was noted.

MY22/1118

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 22 and 23 on the agenda be taken together. All the members agreed.

Item 22 – Question

Vacant council houses

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McGinley.
When will the two vacant council houses in Old Greenfield be allocated (details provided)?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that one of the properties was currently being allocated; the other would be allocated once works were completed.

The report was noted.

Item 23 – Question

Turnaround of local authority houses

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Weld.
Can the council confirm why it takes so long for the turnaround of a local authority house when it becomes vacant, e.g. vacant house (details provided)?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the house referred to in the question was sent to the Housing Maintenance Section for refurbishment work on 20 August, having just become vacant. A Preliminary Inspection was carried out within five days as per normal protocols and was issued soon afterwards to a contractor for pricing. A tender was received and assessed the following week, and a Task Order was issued. Normal lead-in times for contractors vary from between two to six weeks, but this contractor took up control of the site last week and it was envisaged that the house should be fully refurbished within two weeks. With regard to overall turnaround timelines; the recently published National Oversight Audit Committee (NOAC) Local Authority Performance Indicator Report for 2017 showed that Kildare County Council compared favourably with other local authorities in relation to both the percentage of dwellings from the local authority stock that were vacant at any given time and the time taken to turnaround a vacant unit for

allocation. The full report could be accessed via the following link: <http://noac.ie/noac-reports/>

Councillor Weld stated that he accepted properties had to be inspected and asked why there were such lengthy delays when getting them ready for new occupiers.

Ms Fitzpatrick stated that the council had been in to inspect the property and she would check the details of the procedures in this particular case with the engineer and revert back to the members.

The report was noted.

MY23/1118

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 24 and 29 on the agenda be taken together. All the members agreed.

Item 24 – Adjourned Motion

Water supply in North West Kildare

The members considered the following adjourned motion in the name of Councillor Fitzpatrick.

That the council, in conjunction with Irish Water, work to stop the constant interruption to the water supply in North West Kildare.

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

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that Irish Water was the national authority responsible for water and wastewater services. Irish Water could be contacted about this matter via the dedicated Irish Water Local Representatives email or phone line, the details of which are below:

Email: localrepsupport@water.ie. Ph: 1890 178178 or 01 7072854.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that he had contacted Irish Water and they had confirmed that works should be commissioned before Christmas and resurfacing works should be completed in January 2019.

Mr Fagan informed the members that if they had any similar issues with water supplies, Irish Water could be contacted directly on the dedicated email address and contact numbers. He stated that if the members had any problems contacting Irish Water the Water Services Department would assist them.

Councillor McEvoy stated that it was difficult to contact Irish Water outside normal working hours which was frustrating and he requested that this feedback be relayed to them.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and feedback be provided to Irish Water in relation to the problems contacting them outside of normal working hours.

Item 29 – Question

Water main from Allen to Allenwood

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

Can an update be given on the work being carried out to replace a water main from Allen to Allenwood to alleviate the problem of the pipe bursting on a regular basis and when will the work be completed?

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that Irish Water was the national water utility responsible for the delivery of water services to homes and businesses in Ireland. The elected member should contact Irish Water via the dedicated Local Representative Service Desk in compliance with Irish Water instructions and protocol. The contact details are as follows:

Telephone: 1850 178 178 or 01 7072854 . Email: localrepsupport@water.ie.

The report was noted.

MY24/1118

Campaign posters

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

That this Municipal District Committee requests that election candidates and campaigns take account of the request by Clane Community Council and Clane Tidy Towns to limit the mounting of campaign posters to areas outside the town core. (Details are available on their website).

The motion was proposed by Councillor McEvoy and seconded by Councillor Murray.

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the issue of election posters was dealt with in current legislation wherein there were exemptions (subject to conditions) outlined in the Litter Pollution Act and the Electoral (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 2009. Any new policy or procedures would require an amendment to such legislation. The only other option would be for protocols to be agreed locally by candidates/political parties but this would have to be on a voluntary basis. The Environment and Water Services Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) had agreed that the relevant representatives of the council would meet to consider options in relation to this matter. Councillor McEvoy stated outside campaigners were content to return to remove their posters and stated the Tidy Towns committee in Maynooth had asked for the removal of posters which has been adhered to. He stated that the Maynooth Community Council wanted to promote balance on the number of posters displayed.

Councillor Cronin supported the motion stating she had submitted a similar motion previously. She stated posters were an important part of the democratic process and Tidy Town committee's requests should always be respected.

Councillor Fitzpatrick supported the motion and stated an agreement should be put in place in Clane to balance the number of posters displayed and timelines for their removal.

Councillor McEvoy stated there should be geographical areas where posters should be displayed to avoid spoiling the ambiance of towns and rural areas.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Murray that the report be noted.

MY25/1118

CCTV in Rockfield, Parklands

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Murray.
That CCTV is installed in the area connecting Rockfield, Parklands and Rail Park (known as the Y) as a preventative measure to illegal dumping and antisocial behaviour.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Murray and seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the Environment Section would liaise with the Municipal District Engineer's Office and the Parks Section to determine if appropriate support could be given to local residents. Covert CCTV was deployed from time to time as a measure to counteract illegal dumping and this request would be borne in mind in this context.

Councillor Murray stated that this matter had been highlighted on a number of occasions and the District Engineer had cleared the rubbish and stated it was very disappointing to see rubbish being dumped again. She stated that she agreed covert CCTV should be used and she asked if any fines had been imposed where covert CCTV had been used.

Mr Fagan stated he would check the figures in relation to litter fines and provide a report for the December meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District. He stated permanent CCTV could not be installed and he would discuss the matter with the Maynooth Municipal District Engineer.

Councillor Murray asked if it was likely CCTV would be installed and Mr Fagan stated the possibility would be discussed and he would provide a report on litter fines enforced for the next meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Murray, seconded by Councillor McEvoy that the report be noted and a report listing the number of litter fines enforced be provided for the next meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District on 07 December 2018.

MY26/1118

Sewage network in Kilcock

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

Can an update be given on the capacity of the sewage network in Kilcock, Maynooth and Straffan?

A report was received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that Irish Water was the national water utility provider responsible for the delivery of water services to homes and businesses in Ireland. The elected member should contact Irish Water via the dedicated Local Representative Service Desk in compliance with Irish Water instructions and protocol. The contact details are as follows:

Telephone: 1850 178 178 or 01 7072854 . Email: localrepsupport@water.ie.

The report was noted.

MY27/1118

Local Area Plan (LAP) for Maynooth

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó'Cearúil.

That the council proceeds with preparing a new Local Area Plan (LAP) for Maynooth as the current plan runs until 2019 and preparations should begin now.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ó'Cearúil and seconded by Councillor Durkan.

A report was received from the Planning and Strategic Development Department informing the members that the Planning Department had a number of local area plans to progress, including for Naas, Leixlip, Athy and Maynooth amongst others. The emerging draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy would necessitate a variation of the Kildare County Development Plan, which would inform future local area plans. In the meantime, preparatory work on the new Local Area Plan (LAP) for Maynooth would commence.

Councillor Ó'Cearúil stated that the Local Area Plan (LAP) 2013-2019 was one of the better plans and was a positive one. He stated that Maynooth had now changed; the population had drastically increased in both younger and older generations. He stated there was a fear the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation (LIHAF) monies would be bypassed due to the fact the new Maynooth LAP had not yet been prepared. Councillor Ó'Cearúil asked what preparatory work had been carried out so far for the LAP and if it would be ready to be

enacted in 2019. He stated that a new LAP was needed as the old one was no longer fit for purpose.

Councillor McEvoy stated that the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy Plan (RSES) would cover up to March/April 2019 and the objectory period would take up to one year. He stated focus needed to be on the issues within the Maynooth Municipal District.

Mr Kavanagh informed the members that the RSES report would inform all future LAP's, had been published that day and was followed by a ten week consultation period. He stated it was hoped preparations would commence early in the New Year.

Councillor Ó'Cearúil stated that the Maynooth LAP would expire in 2019 and asked if the Maynooth Municipal District members would take a decision whether to extend it for a year or could they add amendments to it.

Mr Kavanagh stated that the Maynooth LAP remained live until July 2019. Councillor Ó'Cearúil requested that this item remain on the progress report for monthly updates.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and that this item remain on the progress report for monthly updates.

MY28/1118

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 31 and 35 on the agenda be taken together. All the members agreed.

Item 31 – Motion

Trees on Carton Avenue

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McGinley. That a tree surgeon be engaged to carry out an audit of the trees on Carton Avenue and any needing replacing shall be in accordance with the Jim McConville and Associates Consultants Report of 2002 prepared for Kildare County Council, entitled Specification and Schedule of Works for Tree Surgery to Existing Lime Trees with funding for this work taken from the €405,294.00 allocated for Carton landscaping in the 2018-2020 Capital Programme.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McGinley and seconded by Councillor Ó'Cearúil.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department, informing the members that an arborist would be engaged to survey the existing trees on Carton Avenue and the adjoining amenity lands as part of the development of a masterplan for Carton Avenue. The planting of additional trees along the avenue as suggested by Joe McConville would be considered as part of this. In the interim any locations where trees have been felled would be replaced as part of the tree planting programme in 2019.

Councillor McGinley stated that he was pleased the council were engaging with an arborist to survey the trees on Carton Avenue and adjoining lands and stated it would be good to see this happening by year end.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Ó'Cearúil that the report be noted.

Item 35 – Question

Trees on Carton Avenue

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Murray.
Can the trees that have fallen on Carton Avenue, Maynooth be removed and a tree replacement plan implemented?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that arrangements would be made to facilitate the removal of the fallen trees on Carton Avenue in the next few weeks. Replacement planting would be carried out in spring 2019.

The report was noted.

MY29/1118

Carton Avenue

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

That the members of the Maynooth Municipal District are informed in advance of any future work to Carton Avenue and that any intended works go through a public consultation process.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Durkan and seconded by Councillor Ó'Ceairúil.

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department, informing the members that their comments had been noted and they would be informed of any future works. A commitment regarding public consultation would have to be qualified. If Kildare County Council intended to do works of any significant nature i.e. opening an additional entrance onto Carton Avenue or altering the avenue in any significant manner, then a public consultation process would be held. If however, works had to be carried out as a condition of a planning permission then there was no provision for a public consultation but the members would be informed in advance of the works.

Councillor Durkan stated that his motion was submitted as a result of works which had taken place recently on Carton Avenue where a planning application for housing resulted in the walkway being altered. He stated that there was no public consultation for these works and neither the public nor the elected members were aware in advance of the works commencing. He asked that the Planning and Strategic Development Department advertise any future works planned for the avenue in the newspapers and via public notices.

Mr Kavanagh stated that the matter had been discussed at the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in October where it was confirmed Lime Tree Hall housing development had been granted planning permission under Reg. Ref. 14/660 on 29 June 2015 and the creation of a footpath/cycle path had been shown on the landscape plans submitted as part of the planning application. He stated that it had also been clarified that the works complied with national and local policy in terms of permeability and movement, and the proposed works had been included in the Maynooth Local Area Plan (LAP) 2013-2019.

Councillor Durkan stated that the scale of the design had not been advertised and asked that any future works in relation to entrances on the avenue be advertised by the developer.

Councillor McEvoy stated that the key message was that the members wanted the features on Carton Avenue to be retained and asked if a line of trees could be sown from Carton Avenue to the row of houses to restore the area feature. Councillor McGinley disagreed with Councillor McEvoy's suggestion to soften the footpaths with trees.

Councillor McGinley stated that the proposed opening had been in the plans since 2002 and engineers had created an eyesore when they implemented the plan. He stated there would be no housing applications for planning permission for the land between Lime Tree Hall and Maynooth Road as the council owned the land. Councillor McGinley appealed to the council to examine the two walkways and the five metre crossing again.

Councillor Durkan asked if the members could be informed of any future planning applications for the construction of houses on lands near Carton Avenue.

Councillor Durkan asked if any applications specific to Carton Avenue could be highlighted to them. Mr Kavanagh stated that a weekly report of all planning applications was provided to the members and Councillor Durkan stated the report did not identify if specific works were to be carried out.

Councillor Ó'Cearúil stated that the members did receive a report but it would be time consuming to look at the conditions attached to each the applications.

The District Manager stated that she understood the members' views in relation to public consultation. She stated that in this particular case the member's request had been noted and the council would strive to ensure the members were informed in advance of any future road and footpath works to Carton Avenue.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Ó'Cearúil that the members be informed where possible in advance of any future works to Carton Avenue and the report be noted.

MY30/1118

Carton Avenue

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cronin. Given the significant, serious issues raised by this committee previously in relation to Kildare County Council's duty to protect Carton Avenue for the community of Maynooth, that it pursue the possibility of transferring its custodianship of Carton Avenue to the Office of Public Works and report back to the Maynooth Municipal District in this regard.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cronin and seconded by Councillor Murray. Councillor Murray stated she was seconding the motion in order to disagree with it.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there were no plans to pursue the transfer of the avenue to the Office of Public Works (OPW). If the members wished to be consulted more in relation to future works on the avenue then it should remain in Kildare County Council's ownership. The OPW did not have the same requirements to consult with elected members or the public in relation to works they carry out. Furthermore any transfer of custodianship would compromise the development and management of the amenity lands adjoining the avenue.

Councillor Cronin asked if in response to Councillor Durkan's motion the council were committing to inform the members in advance of any future work to Carton Avenue.

Councillor Murray stated she did not support the motion and wished to voice her opposition to it given the fact the members had been provided with documentation when Carton House had been signed over to Kildare County Council who had full ownership of the avenue. She stated if the avenue was handed over to the Office of Public Works (OPW) the council and the members would have no input into its' management. Councillor Murray stated she was glad to hear that Councillor Cronin accepted the report issued by the council.

Councillor McGinley stated that he fully supported Councillor Murray and requested Councillor Cronin to withdraw her motion.

Councillor Cronin stated she was satisfied with the report issued by the council.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cronin, seconded by Councillor Murray that the report be noted.

MY31/1118

Carton Avenue

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó'Cearúil.
What action has the council taken to enact the democratic motions enacted by councillors in relation to Carton Avenue at last month's meeting?

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there had been a lengthy discussion at the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in October where the members made it very clear that they were not in agreement with what had happened at Carton Avenue. However, the District Manager and the Director of Service for Planning and Strategic Development responded by saying that the works which had been carried out were in compliance with a valid planning permission (condition 6 of Planning Permission 14/660 refers) and that the planning condition had been included because of an objective in the Maynooth Local Area Plan (LAP). As the members were aware they created the policy context in which the Executive operated. The members agreed the LAP and thereafter they did not have a function in the granting of planning permissions. Before the members took a vote the District Manager made it very clear that the action requested in the motion was not a reserved function and that, if it was agreed, the council Executive could not and would not enact the said motion. This position remained unchanged.

The report was noted.

MY32/1118

Lifebuoys on the Royal Canal

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cronin.
Can the council carry out an audit on the paucity of lifebuoys on the stretch of shared footpath/cycle lane adjoining the Royal Canal from Kilcock town towards the new roundabout on the R148?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the council did not consider that there was a 'paucity' of life buoys as they

had recently fitted a number of new life buoys at public access points in the Maynooth Municipal District to the Royal Canal, Grand Canal and the Liffey. A full water safety audit of the Royal Canal would be carried out in Quarter 1, 2019.

Councillor Cronin stated it was the area at the Royal Canal Pier she was referring to and Ms Wright stated local authorities differed in their specific policies around the requirement of lifebuoys and the council had to be careful not to over populate an area with lifebuoys as it could give an incorrect message leading to the area being used inappropriately as a swimming area. She stated she would discuss the matter with Waterways Ireland. The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.