

Minutes of the Maynooth Municipal District Meeting
held on Friday, 04 May 2018 at 10:00 am
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas, Co Kildare

Members Present: Councillor P Ward (Cathaoirleach), Councillors, R Cronin T Durkan, P McEvoy, J McGinley, and T Murray.

Officials Present: Mr N Morrissey (District Manager), Mr J Deane (District Engineer), Ms A Conneely (Community and Enterprise Development Officer), Ms B Loughlin (Heritage Officer), Mr M McLoughlin, Mr B O’Gorman, Mr B Martin, Ms S Fitzpatrick, Ms A Scanlon (Administrative Officers), Ms A Gough (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary).

Apologies: Councillors B Weld, D Fitzpatrick, N O’Cearúil.

MY01/0518

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District held on 06 April 2018, together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan seconded by Councillor McEvoy, that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on 06 April 2018 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

MY02/0518

Matters Arising

Traffic management plan for the village of Clane (MY15/0418)

Councillor McEvoy asked if a copy of the Executive Summary of the traffic management plan completed by consultants White, Young & Green in 2006 could be circulated to the members.

**Traffic Lights at Meadowbrook Link Road, Maynooth (03/0418) (MY02/0218)
(MY02/0118) (MY02/1117) (MY17/041 (03/04/2018)**

Councillor McGinley asked if there was any update on the commencement of works for the traffic lights at Meadowbrook Link Road. The District Manager informed the members that the Road Opening Licence had been applied for and was being adjudicated on. He also stated there was an issue with the transfer of the bond and works were ongoing in this regard.

Flooding in Straffan Village (MY05/0218)

Councillor Durkan asked if the works completed in Straffan were outside the church and the District Engineer confirmed that the works completed were outside the church.

Cleaning of rivers in the Maynooth Municipal District (MY20/1017)

Councillor Durkan noted that Inland Waterways were not in favour of cleaning the rivers and given the amount of development in Kilcock he asked if the council could discuss this matter with them.

Review of Local Area Plan (LAP)

The District Manager stated that in relation to the review of the Local Area Plan (LAP) for Maynooth, commitment had been given to publish a draft plan between 07 and 09 May 2018. He stated that he would be discussing the matter with the Planning and Roads consultants who were aiming to devise a plan for the Eastern Relief Road to establish where the best location for the bridge would be and stated further information would be available on 17 May 2018 from the Road Consultants. He informed the members that possible dates for the publication of the draft LAP for Maynooth were either 02 or 09 June 2018 and it was agreed by all members present that the draft LAP for Maynooth would be published on 02 June 2018.

The District Manager confirmed that the draft LAP for Maynooth would be published on 02 June 2018 and the matter would be brought back before the Maynooth Municipal District members at their meeting on 05 October 2018.

The District Manger thanked the elected members for their input in relation to the Town Renewal Plan for Maynooth and noted there was great attendance at the workshop which

took place in Clane this week. He also stated the he would appreciate the assistance of the elected members with the advertising/publishing of the details for the future workshops scheduled in relation to the Town Renewal Plan for Maynooth.

Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique (SCOOT) (MY21/0418)

Councillor Murray asked if there was any update on the meeting which was to be arranged for the members to meet with the Traffic Management Team and the Sergeant of Maynooth Garda Station.

The District Manager informed the members that Mr J Walsh, Executive Technician would revert to the members regarding a meeting with the Traffic Management Team and the Sergeant of Maynooth Garda Station.

Taking in charge of Castle Dawson and Meadowbrook Estate (06/0418), (MY05/0418) (MY25/0118)

Councillor Murray asked if there was any update on the taking in charge of Castle Dawson Estate and the District Manager stated that there was currently nothing further to report on the taking in charge process.

MY03/0518

Municipal District Road Works

The District Engineer informed the members that two Local Property Tax schemes from 2017 had been completed. He stated no works for 2018 had commenced and he was awaiting a reply from some of the members in relation to some schemes and this information was required by the beginning of June as it was hoped to commence the programming of schemes by then.

MY04/0518

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 26 on the agenda be taken next. All the members agreed.

The District Manager reminded the elected members of the requirements under Section 179 of the Local Government Act 2001 regarding pecuniary/beneficial interest in any of the groups being recommended for grants in relation to conflict of interest.

The members considered the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018 for the Maynooth Municipal District:

A report was circulated to the members outlining details of grants awarded under the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018.

Ms Loughlin, Heritage Officer informed the members that a total of forty seven applications for the county had been received under the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018 and forty four of those applications were deemed eligible. She stated six applications had been received and a total of €7,250 had been awarded in grants to the Maynooth Municipal District.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present, that the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018 for the Maynooth Municipal District be approved.

MY05/0418

Deputation from Courtown Little

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Burke and Mr Carroll of the Courtown Residents Association to the meeting. Ms Burke gave an overview in respect of the ongoing flooding issues and emphasised the risk this had on people's lives, health and properties. Ms Burke informed the members that following the heavy rainfall on 22 November 2017 a young man who came to the rescue of an elderly man almost drowned and stated due to the depth of the torrent of water in this particular case it was impossible to differentiate what was part of the stream and what was part of the road. Mr Carroll stated that the local landscape had changed due to the building of the M4 Motorway and other major developments along with seasonal change, all of which had a major impact on land drainage and stated that flooding

issues were now an annual problem. Mr Carroll stated that the community were living in fear of reoccurring flooding and stated it was too dangerous an issue to wait for a long term solution. Mr Carroll asked that a commitment was made by the council to regularly clear stream blockages and asked if an appropriate flood plain could be identified to relieve homes of excess water. He also requested that the capacity of the three culverts on Laragh Road be increased and the council use their expertise and resources to find a long term solution to address this problem.

Councillor McEvoy thanked Ms Burke and Mr Carroll for their presentation and stated this week An Bord Pleanála had approved a flood alleviation scheme. He stated that a group from Kilmore had previously attended a Maynooth Municipal District meeting in 2009 and they had created a business case which provided a cost analysis for the works required. Councillor McEvoy suggested the Kilmore Group may be able to assist the Courtown Residents Association due to their previous experience with a similar situation and stated he could arrange a meeting for Ms Burke and Mr Carroll with them.

Councillor Durkan thanked Ms Burke and Mr Carroll and asked the meeting if there was an issue with the cleaning of rivers and if there was a plan to increase the capacity of the culverts, particularly in relation to the riverbed in the Rye River and Lyreen River.

The District Manager thanked Ms Burke and Mr Carroll for their presentation and stated that the near fatal incident had been brought to the council's attention and they were engaged in trying to address these flooding issues. He stated that Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) were aware of the problem with flooding issues on the M4 and the council had discussed the matter with them. He further stated the Environment and Water Services Section were leading the team to address the flooding problems and a consultant had been appointed by the council to assess catchment areas.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms Burke and Mr Carroll for their presentation.

MY06/0518

Flooding issues in Prosperous

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward:

That this municipal district committee receive an update on the works completed to date and any additional works scheduled in respect of the flooding issues in Prosperous, County Kildare.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Water Services had undertaken to carry out improvements to a foul manhole to prevent sewage overflow at Barrington Court. The surface water pipelines there had proved to be working well. Plans were being developed to construct a new surface water pipeline along the main road to Villa Court to connect to an existing large diameter pipeline at the back of Anne Street. This work was programmed to be finished before next winter.

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

MY07/0518

Suspension of Standing Orders

The Cathaoirleach proposed to suspend standing orders at 10:33 a.m. for five minutes to facilitate the District Manager being called out of the meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that standing orders be suspended for five minutes until 10:38 a.m. The monthly meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District recommenced at 10.38 a.m.

MY08/0518

Provision of the 115B bus service

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ward:

That the council contact Bus Éireann in respect of the continuous problem with the provision of the 115B bus service servicing Kilcock, County Kildare.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that if the members were in agreement a letter would be issued to Bus Éireann in respect of the continuous problem with the 115B bus service through Kilcock, County Kildare.

Councillor Ward stated that the continuous problem with the provision of the 115B bus service in Kilcock was very frustrating for the community and commuters were constantly let down with buses not turning up and stated he had submitted a motion previously regarding this matter. He asked if there was any other route to take other than issuing a letter to Bus Éireann, stating this would be the fourth occasion on which Bus Éireann were contacted regarding this issue. Councillor Ward asked if the National Transport Authority (NTA) could be notified about this problem before they come in to meet with the elected members and stated the community of Kilcock deserved an explanation as to why buses were not turning up. He requested the support of the elected members and the Chief Executive in contacting Bus Éireann.

Councillor McEvoy stated it would be helpful if copies of previous correspondence received by Kildare County Council from Bus Éireann in relation to this matter could be circulated to the members.

The District Manager stated that he would arrange a meeting with the NTA and Bus Éireann to discuss the continuous problem with the provision of the 115B bus service.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, that a meeting with the NTA and Bus Éireann be arranged to discuss the continuous problem with the provision of the 115B bus service.

MY09/0518

Upgrade of the Moyglare Road in preparation for the Education Campus

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

That this municipal district committee receive an update on the planned upgrade of the Moyglare Road in preparation for the Education Campus.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this project was being fully funded by Kildare County Council and an adequate budget had been agreed and put in place, with tendering and construction to take place in the coming months.

Councillor Murray stated that the parents and educational staff had been anxious because Sammon Construction had stopped work previously. She requested assurance that whatever works were scheduled were carried out during the summer period and as soon as possible.

Councillor Cronin stated her understanding was that these works would be carried out over the summer, and stated she was disappointed to hear there was no definite timeframe. Councillor Durkan supported Councillor Murray's motion and stated his understanding was that works would commence in August 2018 and asked if this was still the case.

The District Manager informed the members that the National Transport Authority (NTA) were engaged in the process and good progress was being made and confirmed the council had self-funded €3,000,000 and were ready to go to tender. He stated there was a land title issue with the boy's school and the council were unable to go to tender until this land had been transferred to the council. The District Manager stated that the council were aiming to complete the work for the reopening of the schools following the summer holidays.

Councillor Murray stated that the delay was disruptive due to the fact two large schools were opening and noted the opening of the road was necessary to accommodate the volume of traffic and asked if the council could write to the boy's school requesting their assistance with the title issue.

The District Manager stated that if the members wished to write to the school they were welcome to do so but the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department were pursuing the matter and the boy's school were aware of the situation.

Councillor Murray acknowledged that the two boys schools were not responsible and asked if the council could write to the patron of the land. Councillor McGinley asked why the council could not progress with the tender and be ready to commence works when the title issued was resolved.

The District Manager confirmed that the council had examined the option of progressing to tender before resolving the title issue and had sought legal opinion which advised that the council must be in control of the land in order to hand it over to the contractor on the date the contract was signed.

Councillor Ward suggested the elected members could prepare a draft letter and submit it to the District Manager to forward to the patron of the land.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Murray, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, that the report be noted and the elected members prepare a draft letter and submit it to the District Manager to forward to the patron of the land, and this item remain on the progress report for monthly updates.

MY10/0518

Road improvement works on the Castlebrowne Road

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

That the council carry out road improvement works on the Castlebrowne Road in Clane, County Kildare.

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 council had no plans to carry out road improvement works at CastleBrowne (Clongowes).

The District Engineer stated there was a difference in opinion with the address and stated he would clarify details with Councillor Durkan.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, that the report be noted and further clarification sought from Councillor Durkan.

MY11/0518

Junction of Mooretown Drive/Long Road/R408 in Rathcoffey

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

That cats eyes be placed on the junction of Mooretown Drive/Long Road/R408 in Rathcoffey to indicate that the road takes an almost ninety degree turn towards Clane at this junction.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Maynooth Municipal District Office would look at the introduction of additional signage at this junction.

Councillor Cronin welcomed the report and stated she did not think signage alone would be sufficient to indicate the sharp bend on the road, particularly in the direction from Maynooth to Clane and asked for confirmation that cats eyes would be installed. The District Engineer stated the possibility of a tabletop to aid traffic calming measures could be investigated and confirmed he would revert to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Cronin, seconded by Councillor Murray, that the report be noted and the possibility of a tabletop to aid traffic calming measures be investigated.

MY12/0518

Extension of cycle lanes on the R407 road in Clane

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

That the cycle lanes are extended on the R407 road in Clane to connect with the entrance to the Aughamore development.

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 Maynooth Municipal District Office planned to carry out this work in the coming weeks.

Councillor McEvoy enquired regarding the possibility of continuous white lines or shared use lines for areas where traffic speeding was an issue. Councillor Durkan supported the motion.

The District Engineer stated that the road had been upgraded in 2008 and double white lines with dashed white lines on the outside border of the cycle lanes had been installed and the footpath was a shared space for pedestrian and cyclists.

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

MY13/0518

Pedestrian and traffic lights at the R403 Celbridge Road and the Capdoo Inner Relief Road

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

That this municipal district committee is updated on efforts to resolve the incomplete installation of pedestrian and traffic lights at the R403 Celbridge Road and the Capdoo Inner Relief Road in Clane.

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 there was no funding currently available to carry out these works at this location. The council would examine the signalisation of the junction as part of the future development of the area.

Councillor McEvoy stated that this was an issue which has been discussed previously and stated the junction between Clane, Celbridge and Capdoo Inner Relief Road is prone to heavy traffic and used by bus commuters crossing the road at the R403. He stated that families do not have the benefit of walking to school safely and asked that any further development in Capdoo should take into account the completion of works on this road.

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

MY14/0518

Public lighting be installed on the new road at the bottom of the Harbour Field

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McGinley:
When will public lighting be installed on the new road at the bottom of the Harbour Field, between the Glenroyal junction and the Harbour area?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that it was expected that the units would arrive on site in May 2018 and the lights would be commissioned by the end of June 2018.

Councillor McGinley asked if similar lights were going to be installed in Leinster Street and the District Engineer confirmed similar lights would be installed.

The report was noted.

MY15/0518

Stone wall on the bridge over the Rye River

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ward:

Can repairs be carried out on parts of the stone wall on the bridge over the Rye River located at the entrance of the Ryebridge Estate in Kilcock?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Maynooth Municipal District Office would investigate this issue further before concluding their report.

Councillor Ward requested that he be updated on any progress regarding the repairs to the wall and the District Engineer stated he would keep Councillor Ward updated regarding any repairs.

The report was noted.

MY16/0518

Road repairs on the L5041 approaching Jackson Bridge

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

Can the edges of the road be repaired on the L5041 approaching Jackson Bridge from the Laragh direction?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this road was attracting very heavy traffic volumes from school bound traffic avoiding the town centre. The council had plans to improve the sightlines at the junction with the R148 and kerbing the road edge at the junction to improve safety for pedestrians. The council would also carry out some edge repair works at this time.

Councillor Murray asked if there was a timeframe for these works to be carried out and the District Engineer stated the council were currently designing the plans to improve the sightlines at the junction.

The report was noted.

MY17/0518

Upgrading of the M4 Motorway interchange

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

What progress has been made in relation to the proposed upgrading of the M4 Motorway interchange in Maynooth?

The District Manager informed the members that the project for the upgrading of the M4 Motorway interchange in Maynooth was currently with the Regional Design Office who were preparing a business case on the operation of the M4 Motorway.

He stated it was early days for the project and a cost benefit analysis was being prepared for submission to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS).

Councillor Durkan asked if there was any timeframe for the submission of the cost benefit analysis to DTTAS and the District Manager stated it was hoped this would be over the next two to three weeks.

The report was noted

MY18/0518

Proposed temporary car park at the Harbour Field

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

When will the public consultation be taking place in respect of the proposed temporary car park at the Harbour Field?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that under the "Town Health Check" assessment, a public consultation event would take place at the Maynooth Post Primary school at 7:00 p.m. on 10 May 2018. This event would provide an opportunity for members of the community to discuss various matters affecting the town of Maynooth.

Councillor Murray asked if the time of 7:00 p.m. was correct and the District Manager stated the Roads Department would revert to the members confirming the time for the public consultation.

The report was noted.

MY19/0518

Public lights at the Lewiston National School

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

Can an update be provided with estimated timelines for the planned installation of public lights at the Lewiston National School at Millicent, Cline (L2004) and near the Newtown Primary School (near L1007)?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council aimed to have the public lights installed and commissioned at both locations by the end of Quarter 2, 2018.

The report was noted.

MY20/0518

Maynooth Municipal District vacant housing list

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

Why does Part V and any other housing acquisition not appear on the Maynooth Municipal District vacant housing list?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the format and content of the vacant housing report had been considered by the Housing Strategic Policy Committee (SPC), at the request of full council, on a number of occasions, including most recently at a meeting of the Housing SPC on 08 February 2018. At that meeting there was consensus among the members of the Housing SPC that they were satisfied with the report as it was currently presented. This matter was further considered by full council at a meeting on 26 March 2018 and it was agreed that in future the vacant housing report would be dated for the month it applied to and that a new column would be inserted on the report to indicate if the vacant houses had changed and how many had been added/reviewed each month.

Councillor Durkan noted the report and acknowledged the matter had been discussed previously regarding the content of the report but not in relation to acquisitions or Part V's.

Ms Fitzpatrick stated the process was agreed at the Housing Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and any further queries in relation to the report would have to go back through those channels.

The report was noted.

MY21/0518

Play equipment for the Blacklion Traveller site

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

When will the long promised play equipment be installed in the Blacklion Traveller site in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that the provision of playground equipment was not a function of the Housing Section, nor was a budget provided for such amenities. Having consulted with the Parks Department, provision of a playground in this estate was not provided for in future plans. However, Kildare County Council in partnership with County Kildare LEADER Partnership was currently planning for the preparation and implementation of an Interagency Traveller and Roma Strategy. There would be widespread consultation with the traveller community and agencies in preparation of this plan and such a proposal may be considered as part of this.

Ms Fitzpatrick confirmed that the Housing Department were working with Kildare Traveller Action who were progressing a separate amenity on the site. With regard to the Interagency Traveller and Roma Strategy, Ms Fitzpatrick encouraged all agencies, elected members and the community to participate in the consultation which would provide an opportunity to raise priority areas for inclusion in the plan and confirmed information would be circulated in advance of the consultation stage.

The report was noted.

MY22/0518

Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessments (CFRAMS) proposals

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McGinley:

What is the time frame for implementing the Office of Public Works (OPW) Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessments (CFRAMS) proposals for flood alleviation in Maynooth?

A report was received from Environment and Water Services informing the members that the Office of Public Works (OPW) was launching the CFRAMs Flood Risk Management Plans on the 03 May 2018. Following this, each local authority would be required to adopt the plans. Once adopted, Kildare County Council would be able to apply for funding from the OPW to progress the schemes listed within the plans.

Councillor McGinley stated that a lengthy discussion had taken place at the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in December 2017 regarding flooding issues in Maynooth and stated it was announced on 03 May 2018 that fifty new flood relief schemes had been planned for various locations and unfortunately Maynooth was not included in this plan. He stated that the members had agreed at the meeting in December 2017 that the CFRAMS report was brought before the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in 2018.

The District Manager stated that he would check with the Director of Service for Environment and Water Services in relation to the CFRAMS report being brought before the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in 2018 and revert to the members.

The report was noted.

MY23/0518

Litter bins on the Celbridge Road

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

Can some additional litter bins be provided on the Celbridge Road between Maxol and the two primary schools?

A report was received from Environment and Water Services informing the members that the Maynooth Municipal District Office would check to see if there was sufficient additional load capacity on this route to facilitate the additional bins.

Councillor Murray stated that the residents in Rockfield were subjected to large amounts of litter and had no litter bins available to them noting one additional bin would be helpful.

The District Engineer stated that a single bin would be installed close to the schools and another at the top of Carton Avenue and confirmed this would bring the bin route to its' maximum capacity. Councillor Murray stated this would be appreciated.

The report was noted.

MY24/0518

Initiatives to trial Green Kilometre areas

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

Can this municipal district committee be advised of any initiatives to trial Green Kilometre areas in the Maynooth Municipal District?

A report was received from Environment and Water Services informing the members that the Environment Section advertised the Green Kilometre Scheme countywide in February this year, following a successful pilot scheme in the Athy Municipal District area in 2017. The council was still accepting applications from communities in rural areas and also welcomed nominations from the elected members. This scheme promotes anti litter/ dumping through environmental enhancement of a local rural area. Applications should be submitted directly to the Environmental Awareness Officer.

The report was noted.

MY25/0518

Strategic Housing Development application for Maria Villa, Maynooth

The members noted the Strategic Housing Development application for Maria Villa, Maynooth.

Mr McLoughlin stated that the Strategic Housing Development application for Maria Villa, Maynooth had been presented to the members at the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in April 2018 in order to receive their views on the application. He stated that the submission date for the Chief Executive Officer's report to An Bord Pleanála was 14 May 2018 and that he would appreciate if the members could submit their report to him in advance of this date. Councillor Ward stated he would submit the report on behalf of the members within the required timeframe.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Strategic Housing Development application for Maria Villa, Maynooth be noted and the report on behalf of the elected members be submitted to the Planning Department in advance of 14 May 2018 which would be attached as an appendix to these minutes.

MY26/0518

Community grant awards 2018

Councillor Murray stated she would step out of the meeting due to conflict of interest as she was a member of the South West Regional Drugs Task Force, who was listed for a grant award. The Cathaoirleach agreed that Councillor Murray should step out of the meeting due to the requirements under Section 179 of the Local Government Act 2001 regarding pecuniary/beneficial interest in any of the groups being recommended for grants in relation to conflict of interest.

The members considered the Community grant awards for 2018.

A report was circulated to the members outlining details of grants awarded. Ms Scanlon stated that twenty two applications were received and assessed under the Community Grant Scheme 2018 for grants valuing €26,500, fourteen applications were received under the Festival Grant Scheme 2018, thirteen of these applications were recommended for grants to the value of €13,500, the sum of €23,200 was awarded to fifty seven privately owned

housing estates and the sum of €8,508 was granted to seventeen local authority housing estates.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present, that the Community grant awards under the various grant schemes for 2018 be approved.

MY27/0518

Animal abandonment

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

That the council indicate what steps are taken to minimise animal abandonment on council lands and to summarise how many reports have issued for this problem in the Maynooth Municipal District.

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

A report was received from Environment and Water Services informing the members that the Veterinary Services Section monitored reports of stray and abandoned horses within the county under the Control of Horses Act 1996 and the council's countywide byelaws 2000. Such reports were investigated and any stray animals could be seized from publicly owned property. Under the Animal Welfare Act 2013, it was illegal for the owner of an animal to neglect, ill-treat or leave it abandoned. The Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (District Veterinary Offices) and the Irish Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (ISPCA) monitored and investigated such reports. The Environment Section was investigating a specific report in the vicinity of lands close to Carton Avenue.

Councillor Murray stated that animals were constantly abandoned on council lands and non council lands, which was an ongoing issue with An Garda Síochána, ISPCA and other rescue organisations. She noted that the Department of Agriculture Food and Marine had displayed notification signs allowing seven days for the removal of abandoned animals, some of whom were dying and some who had died. She noted some animals were removed within the timeframe of seven days but others had been left behind. Councillor Murray proposed that Kildare County Council display signage on the council owned lands for longer periods.

Mr O’Gorman stated that the council were not aware of this particular issue as the council’s main focus was dealing with stray horses and stated that the Environment Section were willing to work with the members to address this problem.

Councillor Murray confirmed that the rescue organisation My Stray Horse help with the removal of animals. Councillor McGinley supported the motion stating this was an ongoing issue where untagged horses were being abandoned on the land between the Boreen and Carton Avenue.

Councillor Durkan supported the motion and asked how these individuals were gaining access to Kildare County Council land and suggested CCTV cameras could be used as a preventative measure.

Councillor Murray stated that part of her motion was to establish how many reports had been received by the council in relation to abandoned animals and Mr O’Gorman confirmed that only one report had been received.

Councillor Ward asked for the agreement of the members to have the matter investigated immediately given the fact it was an ongoing issue. Councillor McEvoy suggested that the council consider using their CCTV if it was an ongoing problem.

Mr O’Gorman stated that a number of departments would be involved in addressing the problem and asked the elected members to forward any reports that they had received to him.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Murray, seconded by Councillor Durkan, and agreed by all members present that the report be noted and the council take steps immediately to minimise animal abandonment within the Maynooth Municipal District.

MY28/0518

Sewage blockages in Beaufield and Meadowbrook Estates

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

That the council write to Irish Water with a view to resolving the continuous sewage blockages in Beaufield and Meadowbrook Estates, Maynooth.

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

A report was received from Environment and Water Services informing the members that the councillor should contact Irish Water via the dedicated Irish Water Local Representatives email or phone line, the details of which were below:

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

Councillor Durkan stated that he did not find the report helpful as he was constantly receiving reports from estates and stated the sewage in the last house on the road backs up causing a knock on effect on other houses and noted there were cases where sewage had emerged into bathrooms and back gardens. Councillor Durkan asked that the council write to Irish Water with a view to resolving the continuous sewage blockages in Beaufield and Meadowbrook Estates, Maynooth.

Mr O’Gorman stated that he would personally follow up on this matter with Irish Water.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Murray, that the report be noted and that Mr O’Gorman contact Irish Water with a view to resolving the continuous sewage blockages in Beaufield and Meadowbrook Estates, Maynooth.

MY29/0518

Staff transfer

The District Engineer introduced Ms Cox to the members confirming she had replaced Ms Murphy in the Maynooth Municipal District Office and welcomed her to the team.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms Cox to the Maynooth Municipal District Office on behalf of the members and thanked Ms Murphy for all her hard work during her time in the Maynooth Municipal District Office.

The meeting concluded.