

**Minutes of the Maynooth Municipal District Meeting  
held on Friday, 07 December 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, P Ward and B Weld.

**Officials Present:** Ms S Kavanagh (District Manager), Mr J Deane (District Engineer), Ms E Wright, Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officers), Mr E Fagan, Ms S Fitzpatrick (Administrative Officers), Ms A Gough (Meetings Administrator), Ms N Smullen (Meetings Secretary).

**MY01/1218**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 02 November 2018 and minutes of the special planning meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District held on 09 October 2018 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld seconded by Councillor McGinley that the minutes of the monthly Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 02 November 2018 and the special meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District meeting held on 09 October 2018 be taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**MY02/1218**

**Matters Arising**

**Footbridge and cycle lanes over the Lyreen River at Manor Mills (MY22/0918)**

Councillor McGinley asked for clarification on the current position with works due for completion on the footbridge and cycle lanes over the Lyreen River at Manor Mills.

The District Engineer stated that these works were included under Phase 5 of the North/South Corridor Project and the council were in negotiations with two landowners in relation to land take to widen the footpaths. He stated it was planned that the design and completion of the overall project would happen in 2019.

**Taking in charge of Castle Dawson and Meadowbrook Estate Councillor Murray  
(MY02/1018) (02/0918) (06/0418) (MY06/0418) (MY25/0118)**

Councillor Murray asked for an update in relation to the taking in charge of Castle Dawson and Meadowbrook Estate.

**Childcare places in Maynooth (MY30/1018)**

Councillor Ó'Ceairúil noted item MY30/1018 was not listed on the progress report and stated that he had requested it to remain on the report until a further update was available.

**1798 Monument on the Fair Green, Kilcock (MY26/1018)**

Councillor Ward asked if the work for the monument could be prioritised and stated it was unstable and badly in need of repair. The District Engineer stated that the council were currently seeking a specialist to relevel the bottom of the monument.

**MY03/1218**

**Municipal District Road Works**

The District Engineer informed the members that a contractor had been appointed to work on a number of projects starting in January, commencing with works in Prosperous, then on to Rockfield Estate and Highfield Estate. He stated that these works were scheduled to finish in January with works on the Newtown Road scheduled to finished in February. He stated that the installation of ramps on the Moyglare Road and Clane and two other projects had been held over from 2018. The District Engineer stated works for Millicent Bridge would go for public consultation. The District Engineer requested that the members carry forward €115,860.00 LPT funding from 2018 which had been allocated to carry out works.

Councillor McGinley proposed that funding which had been allocated to the St. Patrick's Day Parade should now be allocated to the St. Patrick's Day Committee as they were now a separate entity. The District Manager stated that this information was not detailed on the application form submitted to the council. Councillor McGinley proposed to award the €2,500.00 to the St. Patrick's Day Committee and Councillor Weld seconded this proposal. The District Manager stated that when the matter had been discussed previously the members had agreed that no decision to allocate funds would be made until the mediation process had been completed. Councillor Ó'Ceairúil stated that he had been involved in the

organistaion of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and stated the St. Patrick's Day Committee had spent €2,500.00 which still had not been reimbursed to them.

The District Manager stated that the best option would be for Councillor Ó Cearúil to discuss amending the application form with Ms Conneely in the Community and Cultural Development Department.

Councillor McEvoy asked if ramps would be installed at Capdoo and the District Engineer confirmed they would. Councillor Cronin asked when works would commence at The Rockfield Estate and the District Engineer stated it would be early January. Councillor Ó Cearúil asked for details of works scheduled and the District Engineer stated on the Beaufield side of the road there would be an adjustment to the wall at the vets and a kerb would be installed at the canal side of the road. He stated works to widen the footpath and the road would require further discussions with the residents and it was hoped works would commence in February 2019.

#### **MY04/1218**

#### **Maynooth Municipal District LPT for 2019**

The members considered the Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2019 including the €115,860 from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department.

The District Manager asked that a list of the departmental headings and allocation figures be read out including the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department. Councillor McEvoy stated the total allocation for LPT for 2019 was €650,215 and the breakdown under the departmental headings were as follows:

**LPT Allocation for 2019: €650,215**

<b>Roads Transportation and Public Safety</b>	<b>€247,000</b>
<b>Community and Cultural Development</b>	<b>€236,000</b>
<b>Environment</b>	<b>€40,000</b>
<b>Economic Development and Heritage</b>	<b>€126,215</b>
<b>Housing and Architectural Services:</b>	<b>€1,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€650,215</b>

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Durkan and agreed by all members present that the Maynooth Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2019 as outlined be approved.

**MY05/1218**

**Unspent 2018 LPT funds**

The members considered the transfer of all unspent 2018 LPT funds into 2019.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor McGinley that the transfer of all unspent 2018 LPT funds into 2019 be approved.

**MY06/1218**

**Deputation from Carton Avenue Preservation Society**

The members considered receipt of a deputation from Carton Avenue Preservation Society.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed by all members present that a deputation from Carton Avenue Preservation Society be received by the members at the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in February 2018.

**MY07/1218**

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 15, 16, 29 and 30 in the name of Councillor McEvoy on the agenda be taken together. All the members agreed.

**Item 15 - Motion**

**Road surface and public lighting in Curryhills Park, Prosperous**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council carry out works to improve the road surface and public lighting in Curryhills Park, Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this road was not in the charge of Kildare County Council so no works were planned as part of the normal Municipal District Works Schedule. However, improvements to road surface and lighting could be included as part the proposed redevelopment of the green space adjacent to Curryhill's Park or as an LPT project.

Councillor McEvoy noted the road had not been taken in charge and stated he was happy with the report.

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

**Item 16 – Motion**

**Civil works and the numbers of parking fines in Clane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McEvoy. That the council issue a report summarising the remaining civil works and the numbers of parking fines issued following the implementation of the Clane Parking Bye -laws.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that enforcement of Clane Parking Bye- laws commenced on Monday 16 July 2018. To date, a total of 78 Fixed Charge Notices were issued in Clane. A final survey of works was yet to be completed and was not available at this time. The council was aware that some parking spaces which were to be placed parallel to the kerb had been reinstated perpendicular to the footpaths. Once this survey was completed, the council would circulate it to the members as requested.

Ms Wright stated she would revert to the members once the survey had been completed.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and once finalised, details of the of the survey of works be circulated to the members.

### Item 29 – Question

#### **Lighting on the Millicent Road**

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

Can this council be updated on previous requests for improved lighting on the Millicent Road near Park View, Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this request was listed on the current Kildare Lightng Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS) report and surveying and an assessment was required. This would be considered as part of the 2019 budget.

The report was noted.

### Item 30 – Question

#### **Bus stop near Hughes' Pharmacy**

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

Can this council be updated on the efforts to get Bus Éireann to complete the installation of the bus stop near Hughes' Pharmacy, Prosperous Road, Clane?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council had forwarded this query to Bus Éireann.

The District Engineer stated that the council had received a reply from Bus Éireann who had confirmed they would carry out this work shortly.

The report was noted.

**MY08/1218**

**Excellence in Local Government Awards Ceremony**

Councillor Durkan stated that he, the District Manager and other council officials had attended the Excellence in Local Government Awards Ceremony recently. He stated that an award had been received for the Harbour Field Project and the Athy Community Library and he commended Kildare County Council staff, the elected members and all involved in the work on the Harbour Field and the Athy Community Library.

**MY09/1218**

**Section 38 of Fagan's Lane**

The members considered a report under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - proposed one way system at Fagan's Lane, Maynooth, County Kildare.

Councillor McGinley stated that he had submitted a submission which had not been included with the report and the District Engineer stated that Councillor McGinley's submission had been received and a submission from An Garda Síochána had also been received. He stated that An Garda Síochána had no objections and confirmed they would assist with freeing the traffic flow.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Ó Cearúil, seconded by Councillor Murray and agreed by all members present that the Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 - proposed one way system at Fagan's Lane, Maynooth, County Kildare be approved.

**MY10/1218**

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 7 and 20 on the agenda be taken together. All the members agreed.

**Item 7 - Motion**

**Traffic calming measures on Moyglare Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McGinley. That in advance of the Moyglare Road Improvement Scheme, the following be put in place to try and make it safer for motorists turning right exiting the Moyglare Hall Road, onto the Moyglare Road, Maynooth given the current serious traffic hazards for motorists exiting the Moyglare Hall Road:

- (a) Extended yellow box markings either side of the exit
- (b) Provision of mirror on Crewhill side of the road faced towards Maynooth to give a view of oncoming traffic.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the new Moyglare Road Improvement Scheme had gone to tender and no line marking works were planned in advance of this. The council did not provide mirrors for private use.

Councillor McGinley stated that it was exceptionally difficult for road users turning right exiting the Moyglare Hall Road onto the Moyglare Road. He stated that he accepted the fact this matter would be addressed under the Moyglare Road Improvement Scheme and asked when the tenders were due to be returned and when the work would commence.

The District Engineer stated that contracts would be tendered the following week and it was hoped that works would commence in February/March 2019 with a scheduled completion date of September 2019. He stated that road closures during the month of August would be implemented and would coincide with the Maria Villa development construction and the installation of the traffic lights would be the responsibility of Cairn Homes Limited. Ms Wright

stated that she could discuss the matter further at the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and the matter be discussed further at the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety SPC.

**Item 20 - Question**

**Policy for the use of convex traffic mirrors**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. Can the council confirm if it has a policy for the use of convex traffic mirrors and how can members apply to have them installed in areas in this municipal district where they are needed?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that whilst these mirrors had a use, the council did not supply them for private individuals as they could be ineffective in times of frost/dew and were frequently stolen.

The report was noted.

**MY11/1218**

**Preventative parking measures at the "blue door" Donadea**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Weld. That preventative parking measures be put in place at the "blue door" in Donadea (Forest Park) due to the number of cars wrongly parked on a daily basis which are very likely to cause an accident.

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 the council would contend that it was the responsibility of Coillte to address this issue as the parking demand was being caused by Coillte and the parking charges within their facility.

Councillor Weld stated that he was disappointed the onus had been put on Coillte to address the issue given the fact the cars were parking on a public road and asked why the council had not discussed the problem with Coillte.

The District Engineer informed the members that the council had written to Coillte previously and no action had been taken. He stated that vehicles were being parked directly in front of the gate to avoid having to pay parking fees. Councillor Weld stated that 30-40 cars were being parked on the road outside the park and also on the far side of the road causing difficulty for lorries to pass. He stated that bollards had been erected at both sides of the gate at the main entrance of the park and asked if the possibility of erecting bollards at each side of the second entrance by the gate could be looked into.

The District Engineer stated that the bollards at the main entrance to the park had been erected by Coillte and he agree to contact Coillte again regarding the parking issues.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Weld, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and that the District Engineer contact Coillte regarding the parking issues.

### MY12/1218

The Cathaoirleach requested that item 9 and 21 on the agenda be taken together. All the members agreed.

#### Item 9 - Motion

##### **Park and ride facility for Maynooth train station**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That this council identify a suitable location for a park and ride facility for Maynooth train station as there is unused land close by to the north of the canal that could possibly be used for such a project.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ó Cearúil and seconded by Councillor Durkan. A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council agreed with Councillor Ó Cearúil that there was an ongoing need for commuter parking close to Maynooth train station, but did not consider that the proposed site would be a suitable location. The council would continue to search for a more suitable site.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that Iarnód Éireann had announced additional car parking spaces and an extension incorporated into Maynooth train station. He stated that he thought the land at the side of the health centre was owned by the council.

Councillor Ó Cearúil noted that the park and ride facility in Kilcock had been a great asset impacting positively on the town and stated he welcomed the news from Iarnód Éireann in relation to adding an extension and additional car parking spaces to Maynooth train station.

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

### Item 21 - Question

#### **Car parking spaces at Maynooth train station**

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

Can the council provide an update in relation to the provision of extra car parking spaces at Maynooth train station?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council had no current application under consideration. Permission was granted to Iarnród Éireann in 2010 (Pl. Ref. 10/891) for a surface car-park extension, comprising of 38 additional parking spaces at Maynooth Train Station. This permission had been extended by an additional five years (pl. Ref. 16/611) which now meant an expiration date of 06 July 2021.

The report was noted.

#### **MY13/1218**

#### **Moneycooley Road, Maynooth**

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

That the Moneycooley Road, Maynooth be upgraded to accommodate the foreseeable increase in traffic volume, given the grant of planning permission for a second entrance/exit for Maynooth Business Campus.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that an upgrade of this road was not on the Maynooth Municipal

District Road Works Programme for 2019 but the council would monitor any increase in the traffic volumes on this road in the future.

Councillor Durkan stated that he was disappointed with the report given the fact An Bord Pleanála and Kildare County Council had recently granted planning permission for a second entrance/exit for the Maynooth Business Campus. He stated given the fact the road was very narrow and the expected increase in traffic volumes in the foreseeable future, funding needed to be sought from another source to carry out works in this area. Councillor Durkan asked the members to support his motion that the road be upgraded to accommodate the foreseeable increase in traffic volumes.

Councillor Ó Cearúil supported the motion and stated that he had submitted a motion previously asking for a review of the area to be carried out and asked if there was any update in relation to this review. He stated 80kph speed limit was too high for this area particularly in bad weather conditions.

Councillor Murray supported the motion and stated a survey of the volume and speed of the traffic was warranted. Councillor Durkan asked if a survey could be carried out prior to work for the entrance/exit for Maynooth Business Campus commencing and another survey to be carried out once the works had been completed. He requested that this item remain on the progress report.

The District Engineer stated that he agreed a survey should be carried out before and after the works were completed and stated the new entrance/exit would increase traffic volumes impacting on traffic using The Mooneycooley Road.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Cearúil that the report be noted and a survey be carried out prior to work for the entrance/exit for Maynooth Business Campus commencing and another once the works had been completed and that this item remain on the progress report.

**MY14/1218**

**Signage at the entrance of The Sycamores, Church Street, Kilcock**

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

That the council insert the appropriate warning sign/signs at the entrance of The Sycamores, Church Street, Kilcock to improve road safety for pedestrians and local residents driving in and out of this location.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Municipal District Engineer could meet Councillor Ward on site to discuss the appropriate measures for the estate.

Councillor Ward thanked the District Engineer for the report and stated that he would meet with him on site.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the report be noted and that Councillor Ward meet with the District Engineer on site to discuss appropriate signage measures for the estate.

**MY15/1218**

**Footpath at McCormack's Garage**

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

That the council widen the footpath from McCormack's Garage to the GAA Field in Prosperous.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this would be an appropriate LPT project for 2019.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that this was a short stretch of footpath and individuals running had to step onto the road to pass people who were walking on the foot path because there was not enough room to accommodate both users. He asked how much the widening of the

footpath would cost and the District Engineer stated he would check costings and revert to Councillor Fitzpatrick.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and that the District Engineer check costings for the widening of the footpath and revert to Councillor Fitzpatrick.

**MY16/1218**

**Road safety issues at Loughanure, Clane**

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

That the council immediately review the current road safety issues at Loughanure, Clane and that appropriate traffic calming measures be undertaken as a matter of urgency.

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

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council had previously met with residents from Loughanure and shared their views with regard to speed, traffic volumes and lack of footpaths. The council were looking to have this network of roads addressed in the current speed limit review.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that he had received numerous phone calls from residents in relation to vehicles speeding on the road and they were enquiring what traffic calming measures could be used in the area.

The District Engineer stated it was a difficult situation and it was an area which would be looked at in early 2019 when the speed limit review was being carried out. He stated ramps were not suitable for the area but that signage could be looked at.

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

**MY17/1218**

**Traffic calming measures on Parson Street (R408)**

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

That the council put traffic calming measures in place on Parson Street (R408) from Bond Bridge to the corner beyond Parsons Lodge.

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 there was an issue of speeding at this point and would look into including traffic calming measures.

Councillor Murray stated that it was more of an issue on the narrow road at the end of the hill from Bond Bridge where vehicles were speeding. She stated she would meet with the District Engineer on site.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Murray, seconded by Councillor Durkan that the report be noted and that Councillor Murray meet with the District Engineer on site to discuss traffic calming measures.

**MY18/1218**

**Installation of LED lighting**

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

That the council identify and prioritise suitable areas across the Maynooth Municipal District where the installation of LED lighting could replace the yellow sodium lamps in the interest of public safety.

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 Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Mr Richard Bruton TD, had announced last week that funding of up to €17.5 million would be invested to retrofit all remaining 326,000 non-LED local authority public lights to high efficiency LED lanterns. Public lighting accounts for approximately 50% of total energy use, and based on the application, the project could deliver emission reduction of

over 40,000 tonnes of CO2 from electricity generation per annum. The local authority Public Lighting Energy Efficient Project, led by the National Roads Management Office, would oversee and manage the procurement process to commence this work across all local authorities. Ultimately, this process would determine the timelines and prioritisation of retrofitting public lighting across County Kildare.

Councillor Cronin stated that she welcomed the news the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Mr Richard Bruton TD had announced that funding of up to €17.5 million would be invested to retrofit all remaining 326,000 non-LED local authority public lights to high efficiency LED lanterns. She asked if all remaining lights would be replaced and Ms Wright stated that the €17.5 million was for regional replacements and not solely for Kildare County Council. She stated that the proposal was that all lights would be replaced.

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

### MY19/1218

#### **Car parking space shortages in Griffin Rath Hall, Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McGinley. Can the council provide new parking bays or come up with some other solutions to overcome the car parking space shortages in Griffin Rath Hall, Maynooth, particularly from house number (details provided)?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Griffin Rath Manor was a relatively new estate that had been designed and delivered in line with car parking guidelines. The provision of additional parking at the expense of available green space was not something that was normally delivered by the municipal district office. If the councillor felt that this work should be prioritised it could be delivered as an LPT project.

The District Engineer stated that individual problems with parking spaces could not be addressed.

The report was noted.

**MY20/1218**

**Entrance to Moyglare Hall**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. When will the entrance to Moyglare Hall on the Moyglare Road, adjacent to the ESB be opened?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Building and Development Control Department wished to advise that this estate was currently under construction and had been advised by the developer that the entrance to Moyglare Hall on the Moyglare Road was not proposed to be opened until summer 2019.

Councillor Ó Cearúil asked that Kildare County Council liaise with the developer to discuss the possibility of opening the entrance to Moyglare Hall sooner. The report was noted.

**MY21/1218**

**Upgrading of the M4 interchange at Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Durkan. Can the council provide an update on the upgrading of the M4 interchange at Maynooth, including the progress which has been made on providing a second motorway interchange west of the current one?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a report had been submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) seeking approval to proceed with the scheme (Phase 0 report). Should approval be obtained, a number of options would be assessed which might or might not include a new interchange. The report was noted.

**MY22/1218**

**Royal Canal Greenway**

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

Can the council provide a comprehensive update to this Municipal District on the Royal Canal Greenway, the works currently being undertaken, the time frame for completion of these works, and what are the next steps to be undertaken?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the bridge at Moyvalley was currently under construction with a March 2019 estimated completion date. A contractor had been appointed to resurface the section from Cloncurry Bridge for two kilometres, and Waterways Ireland was working on the section from Ferns Lock back to this point. When these three sections were completed (Easter 2019) the Greenway would be complete from Maynooth as far as Athlone. Directional signage for each access point on the Greenway was currently being fabricated and would be in place by January 2019.

Councillor Ward welcomed the report and stated he would like to convey his appreciation to the District Engineer and the staff in the Maynooth Municipal District Office for their hard work and commitment for the works which had been carried out and stated it was good to see this work recognised in the recent Excellence in Local Government Awards. He asked if works on the Royal Canal Greenway route from Dublin to Kildare were progressing and the District Engineer stated that these works were governed under a separate scheme which was hoped to go to public consultation in 2019.

The report was noted.

**MY23/1218**

**Road side (kerbs) cleaning, Courtown Roundabout**

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

Can the Municipal District Engineer's Office undertake road side (kerbs) cleaning from the Courtown Roundabout to the Clane Roundabout in Kilcock?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that works would be scheduled for the following week.

The report was noted.

**MY24/1218**

**Street lighting at McCormack's Garage**

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

Can the council confirm when the additional street lighting will be installed on the footpath at McCormack's Garage to the GAA field in Prosperous?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Public Lighting Section would visit this location and carry out an assessment based on criteria set out in Kildare's Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS). The request would be ranked on the KLIPS register and would be carried out contingent upon availability of funds and where the request sat on the KLIPS ranking register.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that he thought KLIPS had already carried out an assessment in this area and Ms Wright stated that a copy of the KLIPS report had been circulated to the members. She stated works had not yet been costed and it was hoped works would be carried out in 2019.

The report was noted.

**MY27/1218**

**Traffic calming concerns in Kilshanroe**

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

Can the council provide an update on traffic calming concerns in Kilshanroe?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that a substantial amount of traffic calming works were installed some time ago at Kilshanroe as part of the R402 Road Scheme, including two speed display signs (solar powered). There were some maintenance issues with the speed display signs but in general this has been sorted out. The Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department has no plans for any further traffic calming design at Kilshanroe as the traffic measures are deemed adequate. The enforcement of the speed limits at Kilshanroe is a matter for An Garda Síochána to deal with.

Councillor Fitzpatrick stated there was no mention of the third party Road Safety Audit due to be carried out on this section of road in the report and the District Engineer stated he would liaise with the engineer responsible for the Road Safety Audit and revert to the members. The report was noted.

**MY28/1218**

**Street markings, on the back lanes in Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Murray.  
Can the council provide the time frame for the completion of all street markings, on the back lanes in Maynooth?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that these works had been completed. The report was noted.

**MY29/1218**

**Surface of the Barberstown Road (L2007)**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Murray.  
Can the surface of the Barberstown Road (L2007), after the bridge on the Castledillon side of Straffan be upgraded to a non slip surface?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council would forward this request to the Naas Municipal District Engineer as the Liffey bridge was the border of the two municipal districts. The report was noted.

**MY30/1218**

**Traffic lights synchronisation in Maynooth**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cronin.  
Can the council review traffic lights synchronisation in Maynooth taking into account local “rushhour” episodes?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the SCOOT/Urban Traffic Control System had been re-

validated early this year. This system took into consideration morning and afternoon peaks, and optimised the co-ordination of the traffic signals to suit. If excessive queuing occurred this was as a result of the network operating at over capacity. The Traffic Management Centre would continue to monitor traffic flows in the town. If the councillor had any specific reports she could report them to the Traffic Management Centre directly. The report was noted.

**MY31/1218**

**Dumping on land next to the Blacklion Halting Site, Maynooth**

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

Can the council remove the massive amount of dumping on the council owned land next to the Blacklion Halting Site, Maynooth?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Kildare County Council Housing Department had recently completed an extensive clean up of the Blacklion Halting Site. All residents were also previously written to by the Housing Department and advised that illegal dumping was a breach of their tenancy agreement, was illegal under the Waste Management Act 1996, and could result in offenders being fined. Illegal dumping outside of the halting site was not a matter for the Traveller Accommodation Unit but should offenders be identified from the halting site the Housing Department would support the Environment Section in any necessary action.

Councillor McGinley stated he would like to thank Ms Fitzpatrick and the housing staff for their assistance with this matter.

The report was noted.

**MY32/1218**

**Turnaround of vacant houses**

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

Can the council indicate to the members why it is taking so long to “turnaround” houses that become vacant?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that so far in 2018, the council Housing Maintenance Team had completed the refurbishment of just over 100 casual vacants, in addition to 90 new house purchases. It was anticipated that 120 casual vacants plus an additional 110 new house purchases would be refurbished by year-end. This translates to just over four houses returned to occupational standard per week on average during the year. This was one of the best rates of turnover in the country when looked at on a national basis. It was true that there were many challenges facing the Housing Department in terms of availability of tradesmen and contractors, increasingly higher standards of build that must be achieved, the ongoing poor standard of condition that some houses were being returned, in budget availability, and the ongoing movement of staff into and out of the section. It was expected that there would be a new Framework Agreement going live by early 2019 which would bring about a greater and more flexible availability of contractors at more competitive rates, and this would help further improve turnaround timelines.

Councillor Weld stated urgent action needed to be taken to address the timeframes for the turnaround of vacant houses and Ms Fitzpatrick suggested Councillor Weld arrange to meet with Mr Flynn, Senior Engineer to discuss the matter further.

The report was noted.

**MY33/1218**

**Old Bakery site in Kilcock**

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

That Kildare County Council contact and liaise with the owners of the Old Bakery site in Kilcock with a view to developing a plan going forward to undertake steps to cosmetically improve the site to the benefit of the town of Kilcock.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that as recently highlighted in the Kilcock Health Check Report, vacancy currently stood at 35% in the town centre area of Kilcock, which was substantially over the national average of 13%. This vacancy level was based on the number of units vacant as opposed to total floor area. However, the impact of the old bakery site could not be understated, due to its' key location and sheer site area. In an effort to address this issue, an application for funding had been submitted to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF). The application sought funding for development of a Town Centre Public Realm Improvement Plan to stimulate increased economic activity and private investment in vacant sites within the town centre.

The vacant buildings and Brownfield sites dotted around the town centre as well as the quality of the public realm largely contributed to Kilcock's poor image. This was particularly evident in the area around the former Kelly's Bakery premises which was just off Market Square, Corscaddens and Bridge Street. Narrow streets, such as those found in the town core of Kilcock, present both charms and challenges. Their scale was ideally suited to the pedestrian, with similarly dimensioned streets, a popular feature of tourist destinations throughout Europe.

However, narrow streets also put pressure on available space and could become physically and visually cluttered. It was important that the Public Realm is inclusive for all users. Some of Kilcock's footpaths and streets were at present unsuitable for wheel or push chair users. Rectifying this would be part of a broader redesign of these areas. The safety of pedestrians and cyclists must be considered in relation to traffic and personal safety, particularly along walking routes to and from schools. Efforts to facilitate vehicular traffic had meant that the pavements on several of the streets in Kilcock's town core were very narrow or in places non-existent. This affected the quality of the shopping experience and could cause difficulties for the mobility impaired.

Specific objectives of the proposal was to create a Public Realm Plan that would:

- Stimulate increased economic activity in Kilcock Town Centre by attracting footfall and new private sector investment in vacant premises and nearby vacant land. This would involve contact and collaboration with the land owners in question.
- Reduce the negative impacts of vacant properties in the town centre, boosting civic pride and businesses confidence.
- Improve levels of pedestrian safety in the town centre, ensuring it was safe and welcoming for all users, including those with disabilities.
- Stimulate the night time economy and encourage Purple Flag initiatives.
- Complement nearby investment in the Grand Canal Greenway, thereby heightening its' social and economic impact.

A decision was expected in early 2019 on the application for RRDF funding to develop the Public Realm Plan as set out above.

A report was also received from the Environment and Water Services Department informing the members that the site would be inspected to determine its' condition in the context of the Derelict Sites Act 1990.

Councillor Murray stated that she felt there was a misunderstanding of the concept of the motion as the point of it was to cosmetically improve the site, by cleaning it and painting it in order to improve its' appearance. Councillor Ward agreed with Councillor Murray and stated he appreciated the report and stated the RRDF funding was welcome but it would not be an instant solution to the problem. He stated it was a superficial shop front and a small amount of money spent on improving its' appearance would uplift the whole area.

Councillor Ó Cearúil asked if it would be possible to use some of the money carried forward under the Shop Front Grant Scheme to fund this work.

The District Manager stated she agreed the building was a shop front and the Community and Cultural Development Department would be willing to work with the Environment

Department if it was just a matter of improving the appearance of the building wall. She stated that if there were any community groups interested in creating a mural or other artistic display for the wall the council would be willing to engage with them.

The District Manager stated that huge improvements had been made overall in Kilcock and the town was looking very well. She informed the members that a post had been put up on facebook the previous night stating that the community centre plans for Kilcock were no longer going ahead and stated this was untrue. She asked that the members of the press present at the meeting note that €2,000,000 had been put aside by the council to fund this project, draft plans had been shown to the members and it was intended to secure a suitable site for a community centre. She stated that the members had asked for a multi-purpose community centre and funding which had been put aside for this work would be spent in Kilcock as soon as plans could be progressed. The District Manager stated that it was not helpful for these statements to be posted on facebook given the fact they were not true.

Councillor Durkan stated that the members had previously received an in-depth briefing on the plans for a community centre and any statements other than what had been said at the meeting that day were incorrect. Councillor Ward thanked the District Manager for clarifying the situation.

Councillor Weld stated that it was despicable that anyone would post such a statement on facebook and thanked the District Manager and Councillor Ward for addressing the matter swiftly. He stated that Kildare County Council and the members had worked hard in developing the Kilcock area and the Bawnogues development had been a great success.

Councillor Murray stated she was glad the opportunity had been given today to make a statement to the press and the District Manager stated the council would also issue a press release in relation to the matter.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Murray, seconded by Councillor Weld that the report be noted and that the Community and Cultural Development Department would work with the Environment Department to improve the appearance of the Old Bakery site.

**MY34/1218**

**Pipe network in Prosperous, Clane and Sallins**

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

Can Irish Water and the council give an indication of when the "pipe network" in Prosperous, Clane and Sallins will be upgraded to the Osberstown waste water treatment plant?

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's instructions and protocol. The contact details are as follows;

Telephone: 1850178 178. Email: localrepsupport@water.ie.

The report was noted.

**MY35/1218**

**Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)**

The members considered the nomination of two members to a sub-committee of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) to consider how the current County Development Plan (CDP) was applied in the context of one-off rural housing applications.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed by all members present that Councillor Weld be appointed as a Maynooth Municipal District representative to a sub-committee of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC). On the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Weld that Councillor Fitzpatrick be appointed as a Maynooth Municipal District representative to a sub-committee of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

**MY36/1218**

**North Kildare Swimming Pool Complex**

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

That the council immediately set up a dedicated team to apply for funding for a North Kildare Swimming Pool Complex in partnership with Maynooth University, and that the issue of chargeable title be dealt with at an early stage, given the announcement of funding available under the Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund for Swimming Pool Complexes.

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

A report was received from the Economic and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the council was aware that the programme was open and has a closing date of 17 April 2019 and would discuss the details with Maynooth University, including the title issues and would then revert back to the members.

Councillor McGinley stated that he welcomed discussions with Maynooth University and stated if it transpired not to be a viable option then other options needed to be looked at. Councillor Ó Cearúil supported the motion and stated the closing of the Maynooth University swimming pool was a great loss to the community. He stated the cost of building a swimming pool would need funding from the university and the council and a team should be set up to liaise with the Maynooth University building team to prepare an application for funding under the Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund for Swimming Pool Complexes.

The District Manager stated that this would be a large scale project encouraging partnerships and a wide variety of uses for the complex. She stated that there may not be the same title issues as before and Ms Susan Grady from K Leisure and Mr Minnock, Director of Service would be involved and a consultant would be brought on board if needed. The District Manager stated that this would be a large scale sports infrastructure which would cater for variety of sports activities and there would be a number of schemes involved. She stated it was not yet clear how much funding would be allocated to the different areas under the Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund for Swimming Pool Complexes and the council had committed to allocating funding under the Capital Programme 2019-2021. The District Manager stated she would keep the members informed of any progress with the matter. Councillor McGinley requested that the item remain on the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McGinley, seconded by Councillor Ó Cearúil that the report be noted and the members be kept informed of any progress and that this item remain on the progress report.

**MY37/1218**

**Community Centre in Maynooth**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Ó Cearúil. That the council starts the process of examining the potential for a community centre in Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Health Check was near completion and the council would examine the outcomes, one of which was the provision of a community facility for Maynooth.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated it was positive news that €2,000,000 had been allocated for a community centre in Kilcock. He stated there was no community centre in Maynooth noting the health check which had been carried out in Maynooth had been excellent. He asked that the executive and the members work towards getting a community centre for Maynooth.

Councillor McGinley supported the motion and noted Maynooth had numerous committees in place and stated the process could begin by examining the potential for a community centre through the health check process. He stated that he would be in favour of the location at the Harbour Field, West Side and amenity lands at Carton Avenue and stated when the health check was finalised in the new year, the council could liaise with relevant parties in Maynooth to progress the matter.

Councillor Murray supported the motion and stated that since the parish hall had been demolished there was nowhere in Maynooth for community groups to meet and groups were constantly looking for rooms to hire. She stated community groups had carried out surveys and it might be helpful to contact them for the results of the surveys.

Councillor Cronin supported the motion and stated that the potential for a community centre in Maynooth was ranked in the top ten recommendations in the health check findings for Maynooth. She stated that the Maynooth Joint Policing Committee (JPC) had previously hired rooms which were very expensive. She stated that the health check was an excellent exercise and good feedback had been received from the community.

Councillor Durkan supported the motion and stated some sites which had been suggested for a community centre could be too small and stated a location needed to be carefully identified, possibly on the outer ring road. He stated there would be major changes in Maynooth over the next 3-5 years and a diligent analysis was required to ensure accessibility for all.

Ms Hunt informed the members that the potential for a community centre was highlighted as a priority in the health check for Maynooth and locating a suitable site was a major factor. She stated that the possibility of the Harbour Field site would be discussed.

Councillor Ó Cearúil thanked Ms Hunt and Mr O'Meara for the great work they had carried out with the health checks in towns. He stated that the possibility of a site at The Harbour Field needed to be discussed with the community of Maynooth and if found to be unsuitable, then further options needed to be explored and relevant stakeholders engaged with.

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

### **MY38/1218**

#### **Dog park and skate park for Maynooth**

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

That the council provides a site within the 91 metre non development zone of the M4 motorway to be developed as a dog park and skate park for the residents of Maynooth.

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

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the land in question was not in council ownership and therefore development of it for amenity purposes could not be considered at present.

Councillor Durkan noted the response and stated he knew a landowner who was willing to engage with the council to discuss costings for the land and stated recent costings for the skate park in Naas might give an idea of what it might cost for Maynooth.

Councillor Ó Cearúil stated that he appreciated it might not be a costly exercise and that it was not just a case of costing and setting up the facilities as it required thorough examination and solid proposals. Councillor Durkan clarified that his motion was submitted in order that negotiations be entered into and nothing further.

Councillor McGinley stated he was in favour of a dog park but noted a skate park was not a good idea given the fact the site was located close to the M4. He stated that The Harbour Field would be a suitable location for a skate park. Councillor McGinley asked that the possibility of a dog park at this location should be pursued by the council but not a skate park.

The District Manager stated that the land in question was not in council ownership and it had been zoned as a non developmental area due to the fact it was located so close to the M4. She stated that the council would take details of the land owner and discuss the matter further with him and that Mr Wallace would attend the February meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District with the Park and Recreation Department's work programme to discuss the matter further with the members.

Councillor Durkan stated that he acknowledged Councillor McGinley's view in terms of location in relation to the skate park.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Durkan, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick that the report be noted and that the council discuss the matter further with the land owner and Mr Wallace would attend the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in February with the Park and Recreation Department's work programme to discuss the matter further with the members.

**MY39/1218**

**Bye-laws for Carton Avenue**

Councillor Cronin requested that her motion in relation to bye-laws for Carton Avenue be adjourned to the Maynooth Municipal District meeting in January and this was agreed by all members present.

The meeting concluded.