

Áras Chill Dara
Páirc Devoy
An Nás
Co. Kildare
11 July 2016

To the Cathaoirleach and each Member of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District

Dear Cathaoirleach and Members,

The next meeting of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District will be held at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, 20 July 2016, in the council chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas and you are invited to attend.

Yours sincerely,

M. Dalton
Meetings Administrator

Agenda (10:15 a.m.)

1. To approve minutes of monthly meeting 15 June 2016 and to note progress report.
2. To receive an update on the schedule of municipal works.

Housing (10:25 a.m.)

3. To receive an update on Social Housing at Bishopsland, Kildare Town.

Motions

4. Councillor Doyle

In light of proposed capital investment in development of local authority housing in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District, that we establish a representative group of longstanding tenants of local authority housing in the municipal district area to seek inputs and recommendations on the design and planning of new local authority housing in the county and furthermore that we review the range of issues frequently raised in the up keep and maintenance of current stock and seek to implement design strategies that might mitigate against same.

5. Councillor Pender

That the members of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District agree to refer the following motion to full council - That the members formally object in writing, to the direction from the Minister in June to remove applicants who are in Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), on a transfer list or in receipt of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) from the housing needs assessment.

Questions

6. Councillor Aspell

Can we receive a report in relation to local authority housing in the Kildare-Newbridge MD area for the years 2013-2016 inclusive to include the following information; (a) the annual budget allocation for the replacement of windows and doors in council housing stock in the Kildare-Newbridge municipal district; (b) the number of housing units in the Kildare-Newbridge municipal district that have had the windows/doors upgraded in each of these years?

7. Councillor Aspell

Can the members receive a report on the figure for rent accrued from local authority housing in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District for 2013-2016 inclusive?

8. Councillor Power

Can the council outline its policy in relation to Anti Social Behaviour, the number of tenants that were evicted (in recent years) due to such behaviour and if some indication could be given as to the extent of the problem in the Kildare-Newbridge area?

9. Councillor Pender

Has the Council been offered any NAMA Properties in the Kildare-Newbridge municipal district area or if they have any interests i.e. Long Term Leases, Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) tenants in any of the NAMA properties in the area and if so are there any opportunities to secure possession of these properties?

Roads, Transportation and Public Safety (10:35 a.m.)

Motions

10. Councillor Aspell

That the council replace the safety rails at the school in Allenwood that were taking out during roadworks and for this work to be carried out as a priority before the summer break is over.

11. Councillor Aspell

That the council implement traffic calming measures in Dominic's Park such as double yellow lines and signage to stop illegal parking in this area.

12. Councillor Kennedy

That this council look at ways to prevent car parking on the footpath at the restaurant at Ballymany cross placing bollards at that would cure the problem.

13. Councillor Power

That an update be provided in relation to footpaths outside Eleson House, Kilmeague.

14. Councillor Stafford

That the council install the appropriate traffic calming measures on Bang Up Lane, Kildare particularly at the junction between the lane and Bride Street.

15. Councillor Lynch

That this council make contact with the Health Services Executive (HSE) and owners of the new primary care centre in Kildare Town to access the possibility of a pedestrian crossing at the site.

Questions

16. Councillor Doyle

Can we have a report on feasibility of putting a Saturday cleaning crew into Kildare town?

17. Councillor Kennedy

Can a white line be put in the middle of the road at the junction of Cutlery Road and Edward Street to help vehicles deciding to turn left or right?

18. Councillor Power

In view of the number of motor accidents at Dag Welds Cross, can the council indicate what measures it might propose to reduce that number?

19. Councillor McCabe

Can a full yellow box be positioned at the College Park/Station Road Junction to allow easier and safer movement of traffic? This is due to density of traffic especially during school term.

20. Councillor McCabe

Is it possible to increase the frequency of mechanical street cleaning in Newbridge in conjunction with more regular weed spraying with residual weed killers, in order to keep the town at its best at all times?

21. Councillor Stafford

Can the council conduct a review of the sight-lines at Feighcullen Cross, Rathangan and carry out the necessary works to improve road safety at this location?

22. Councillor Stafford

Can the council erect the appropriate warning signage at suitable locations advising motorists of the presence of the school bus stop at Lullymore, Rathangan?

Water Services and Environment (11:05 a.m.)

Motions

23. Councillor Lynch

That we call on the Director General of the Irish Prison Service and the Minister for Justice to make available low level prisoners or those near the end of a minor sentence to be put to use to clean up any litter and rubbish dumped on Curragh Plains on a semi-regular basis under supervision by the Irish Prison Service and in addition, call on the local court service and the Probation Service to consider when giving out community service sentences to include the clean-up of the Curragh Plains within this. Thistle cutting should also be examined in conjunction to litter picking. Correspondence should be sent to all relevant bodies above and also to the Defence Forces and the Curragh Rangers to ensure agreement by all parties.

24. Councillor Stafford

That the Council will by bye-law or otherwise limit or prevent vehicular access to cemeteries in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District where cars are causing damage to headstones or grave surrounds or take such other appropriate action to prevent damage occurring.

Planning, Community and Culture (11:20 a.m.)

Adjourned Motions

25. Councillor Lynch

That this council does not accept that the Town Hall, Newbridge cannot be internally divided and to suggest the same is farcical. If the need is identified, the council should not object to their own planning permission at the location. The option should be kept open to internally divide the building (modular, permanent etc...) if the need is identified.

26. Councillor Power

That the council provide a list of the estates in the Kildare-Newbridge area that remain to be taken in charge and the details regarding the outstanding issues that need to be addressed by each estate before the process can be completed also be provided.

27. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

That the council provide an update on the Part 8 process for the Skatepark and on the public submissions invited earlier this year.

Motions

28. Councillor Power

That the council indicate the approximate number of trees it planted in the Kildare-Newbridge area during 2015 and the proposed number for this year, when is it proposed to develop a tree policy?

29. Councillor Doyle

That an Integrated Service Providers Forum be established in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District, with the express focus of combating issues of anti social behaviour in residential areas.

Adjourned Questions

30. Councillor Power

In view of the wonderful asset that is the Liffey and the potential it provides for the town, can the council outline its plans to further develop the river bank between St Conleth's bridge and Newbridge College?

31. Councillor Doyle

Can we have follow up on request to Department of Defence for payment of community gain/compensation from sale of Magee Barracks in Kildare town?

32. Councillor Lynch

What is the status of the skateboard park consultation for Newbridge so that the agreed and budgeted 2015 project which has already been delayed, does not roll into 2017 and the public can have their say on same?

33. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

Can we include in the planning around the Lidl application for the link-road and new warehouse, improved traffic signage/calming along the route as traffic turns left from Lidl towards Athgarvan?

Questions

34. Councillor Doyle

Can we have a progress report on the taking in charge of The Plains, Kildare and all associated estates within this development and Loughminane Estate in Kildare town?

35. Councillor Lynch

Can we carry out a feasibility study alongside K-Leisure to assess the practicality and financial viability of setting up a public swimming pool in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District, most suitably in the town of Newbridge?

36. Councillor Pender

Have the council been made aware of or have they identified any occurrences of Giant Hogweed in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District and if so what are the procedures to eradicate it and to make people aware of it.

Economic Development, Enterprise and Corporate Services (11:45 a.m.)

Motions

37. Councillor McCabe

That funding is found for seating for Newbridge Town Hall. Currently, groups who wish to use the venue, have to borrow chairs from surrounding towns to hold an event. There are specific interlocking chairs needed per Health and Safety requirements in order to use the venue and these are not readily available on loan.

38. Councillor Pender

That the council provide regular assessments on the number of reports submitted under the various categories through the Fix Your Street website, paying particular attention to illegal dumping.

39. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

That the council outline the current protocol for responses from Directors of Service to Councillors' queries relating to the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District. Please clarify the following:

what, if any policy exists around how long is acceptable before a DOS provides i) superficial acknowledgement of a Councillors' query and ii) a reply addressing the substance of a Councillors' query. I appreciate different queries have different levels of urgency and that the protocol for urgent versus non-urgent queries may be differentiated and;

B) whether the copying of queries to customer service has any impact on the expected response rate.

40. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

Given the significant delays from the director of service in replying to requests by some constituents who wish to know who to contact regarding the use of Newbridge Town Hall juxtaposed with the apparent speedy (and differing) responses to others, that the council explain

A) the Protocol for the application and use of the Town Hall?

- Who does an applicant apply to in the first instance?
- Is there an application form to be filled in?
- What criteria are used to decide whether the applicant is successful?
- Who decides if the applicant is successful?
- What is the mechanism for decision making?
- What is the Council's function vs. the management team in relation to applications for use of the town hall?
- Are the management team aware of, and using, the same code of conduct as applies to Councillors/Officials regarding potential conflicts of interest?

B) As per the best practice model used by the council in the setting up of committees, that the council clarify the formation criteria for the setting up of the management board of the Town Hall, their role, short-term/long-term goals and the accountability structure and any other information that may be relevant in explaining any policy change since the months of lobbying by this and many other Councillors for the Town Hall to be opened as a multi-purpose community facility with youth at its core.

Adjourned Question

41. Councillor Stafford

Can the council identify the number of placements on the Gateway Scheme in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District and indicate if the council proposes to engage more participants?

Questions

42. Councillor Kennedy

Can the members agree to look at using the previous Newbridge Town Council chain of office for the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Mayor, the names of the Municipal Mayors

could be inscribed on the back of the previous Town Council's Mayors names and also that we look at reinstating the full payment to the Municipal District Mayor.

43. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

As promised weeks ago, can the Director of Service provide detail of the balance that remains from the €425,000 drawn down from the Insurance cover for the old Courthouse, what total monies have been taken from that fund and for whom and where the current balance is reflected in the Councils financial statements?

44. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

Can the Council provide the detail requested at last month's meeting on the discussion of the motion regarding the long-term leases entered into by Kildare County Council for council owned land/property in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District? This ought to include:

The length of each lease

The length of time remaining on each lease

Whether rent for each lease is nominal or at market rate

45. Councillor Mark Lynch

What is the status of the phase 3 development of Newbridge Town Hall, the timelines and has funding been secured for same? If funding has not been identified or guaranteed where are we seeking to draw the funds from and will be issues with this?