

Áras Chill Dara
Páirc Devoy
An Nás
Co. Kildare
12 September 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 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 21 September 2016, in the council chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas and you are invited to attend.

Yours sincerely,

M. McIvor
Meetings Administrator

Agenda (10:00 a.m.)

1. To approve the minutes of the monthly meeting and the annual meeting on 20 July 2016 and to note progress report.
2. To approve minutes of the joint meeting with Maynooth Municipal District on 13 July 2016
3. To receive an update on the schedule of municipal works.
4. To approve the Kildare Town Alcohol Bye-Laws 2016.

Housing (10:15 a.m.)

Questions

5. Councillor Doyle

Can we have the report on the progress of the tenant purchase scheme, with details on the timeline of roll out, the number of applicants and number of eligible applicants?

Roads, Transportation and Public Safety (10:20 a.m.)

Motions

6. Councillor Doyle

That a the link road between Dunmurray Road and Rathbride Road, be given a formal name, perhaps Dunrath, or if Council or members, can suggest something more appropriate and that the new estate being planned for this road be given a relevant associated name.

7. Councillor Doyle

Having regard to the extensive imminent development in Kildare town and the importance of having a fit-for-purpose Traffic Management Plan to inform same, that tenders are sought for the delivery of a Kildare town Traffic Management Plan with a view to delivering same before end of Q1, 2017.

8. Councillor Power

In view of the number of accidents at the Milltown/Kildare (R 415) & Pollardstown (L 7032) junction, can the council outline its plans to improve safety at this spot and when the necessary works will be carried out.

9. Councillor Aspell

That an entrance between Langton Park and Tracy Meadows, Newbridge be closed off due to anti social behaviour and littering problems.

10. Councillor Aspell

That the council carry out major repairs on roads and footpaths in Standhouse Lawns Estate, Newbridge.

11. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

That the council provide a list of the locations prioritised for new public lighting in the district, and advise whether and when funding is available.

12. Councillor Stafford

That the council kerb and grade the verge along the L2032 at the entrance to Old Mill Race, Athgarvan.

13. Councillor Pender

That the council repair the road at Chapel Lane, Kildare Town.

Questions

14. Councillor Doyle

Can we have a report on the re-surfacing schedule for Kildare Town giving detail on level of re surfacing that has occurred in town over the last 7 years?

15. Councillor Power

Can the council outline its plans to improve safety for pupils attending schools beside St Conleths Bridge in Newbridge?

16. Councillor Aspell

Can the council examine the possibility of road and footpath repairs in Langton Park, Newbridge, as it is over 30 years since any major repairs were carried out?

Also, can a yellow box be placed at the entrance to Langton Park to allow residents access to the Green Road.

17. Councillor Aspell

Do the council intend on erecting a wall in Standhouse Lawns Estate, Newbridge to replace the existing trees and fence, which are currently in disrepair? A wall is a preferred option by the residents as fencing is not a permanent structure.

18. Councillor McCabe

Would the Council consider budgeting for a full time cleaning team for Newbridge (similar to those in place in other towns in the County), especially, in light of the town's importance as a retail centre and as such is required to look its best at all times?

19. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

Will the Council provide a solution to prevent further accidents (e.g. traffic dropping into the roadside drain) happening on the narrow laneway that goes between the front and back pitches of Ellistown football pitch?

20. Councillor Stafford

Can the Council examine the sequencing of the three sets of traffic lights on the Monasterevin Road, Kildare, particularly the lights at the junction with Pigeon Lane and at Tesco, in light of the number of minor road traffic accidents at this location?

21. Councillor Stafford

Can the council furnish a progress report on the installation of the sheep grid(s) on The Curragh at Athgarvan?

22. Councillor Pender

Can the council repair the footpaths across from the school in Suncroft?

23. Councillor Pender

Can the council install a litter bin at the recycling depot at Tesco, Kildare Town to ensure it is kept clean and litter free?

Water Services and Environment (10:50 a.m.)

Motions

24. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

That the council outline a plan to deal with the rubbish and weeds that detrimentally impact the aesthetic of Newbridge Town. This plan, which should be informed by the national strategy for attracting business and residents into town centres, should include mechanical cleaning equipment similar to that used for Naas Town Centre and a rota with the capacity to meet the needs of a town of this size and population.

Questions

25. Councillor Power

Can the source of the foul odour at Roseberry Hill be identified and what action will be taken to deal with the situation?

26. Councillor McCabe

As all the entrances to the town of Newbridge are very scenic and well-maintained, the entrance from the Kilcullen and Military Road side is dominated by the ageing water tower. If the water tower is council owned, would the council consider the painting of the structure, possibly with the inclusion of the town name and logo?

Planning, Community and Culture (11:05 a.m.)

Motions

27. Councillor Power

Can the council provide an update on the position in relation to the provision of a skateboard park in Newbridge?

28. Councillor Lynch

That this council accepts the need for another second level school within the area and our planners should now begin identifying a suitable location for such a construction. Our planners should work alongside the Department of Education in identifying the best location for a future Department investment into South Kildare and we request that this site is added to the County Development Plan, if time spans permit. Members should be kept updated of this progress.

29. Councillor Lynch

That this council writes to Minister Humphreys and her officials asking them why they did not responded to our previous correspondence in relation to the Curragh Plains being designated a natural heritage area and despite letters sent from this council.

It took a parliamentary question to answer this very simple question which we asked the Minister, well over a year ago, in June 2015. The question was asked and immediately answered in Leinster House (Ref no 18643/16) in June of this year.

We ask the Minister and her officials why they never took it upon themselves to answer the needs of the local democratic process, it was a simple question which was immediately answered in Leinster House. Why then could they not answer local government?

In addition we ask the Minister to re consider her position on the Curragh Plains and open up a review of the Curragh under the designated nature directive and we invite her to a tour of the Plains to show the need for the Curragh to be fully protected and promoted.

30. Councillor Stafford

That the Council will proceed with the taking in charge of Coill Dubh Village on the basis that the roads have now been brought up to a standard acceptable to the local authority for taking in charge.

31. Councillor Pender

That the council assess the buildings located within the Curragh Camp for historical, cultural, technical and architectural significance and report on which buildings, if any, along with those already included, merit inclusion on to the protected structures list.

Adjourned Question

32. 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

33. Councillor Lynch

Why after a million euro investment into the town hall, is it still sitting idle the vast majority of the time and almost 9 months after its initial opening date despite the huge need for facilities within the town of Newbridge and do council officials think that this is acceptable and when are they going to fully utilise the facility? The volunteer board should not be blamed for the lack of progress as this is a council initiative.

Economic Development, Enterprise and Corporate Services (11:30 a.m.)

Adjourned Motions

34. 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 Directors of Service 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.

35. 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 Councils 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 Questions

36. 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

37. 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?

Questions

38. Councillor Lynch

Can we find out from the Department of Defence what their future plans are for the Curragh Camp so as to work out the best location and scope of proposed infrastructure works proposed by this council and if they are in agreement with the same e.g. bus stop, footpath, resident and school infrastructure access to residents from Brownstown and surrounding areas?

39. Councillor McLoughlin Healy

We have had a significant number of lives lost to suicide in the district in recent years. Many believe the incidence of suicide to be higher in certain locations, including Rathangan and more recently Newbridge, than the national average. Can I request that my allocated 5K from the property tax/payparking monies for research into the incidence of suicides in the district. This research will include, but is not limited to, if and why the incidence of suicide is high, why we have had so many suicides in the area and what can be done to help prevent anymore constituents living in the Kildare-Newbridge district, from getting to the point where they feel like they have no option but to take their own lives, in the future? Ideally recommendations would be used to help inform future planning and services.