

**Minutes of Naas Municipal District Meeting held at 3.30 pm on
Tuesday, 13 April 2021
on Microsoft Teams**

Members Present: Councillor F Brett (Mayor), A Breen, B Clear, C Kelly, C Kenny, S Moore and E Sammon.

Officials Present: Mr E Ryan (Municipal District Manager), Ms C Barrett (A/Director of Services), Mr L McNeela (Municipal District Engineer), Ms M Hunt (Senior Executive Officer), Ms P Pender (A/Senior Executive Officer), Ms A O'Malley (Administrative Officer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms A Granville (Senior Executive Planner), Mr S Cummins (A/Senior Engineer), Ms L Russell (Arts Officer), Mr C O'Toole (A/Staff Officer), Mr J Hannigan (Meetings Administrator), Ms K O'Malley (Meetings Secretary) and others.

NS01/0421

Suspension of Standing Orders

The Mayor proposed to suspend standing orders at 3.30 p.m for ten minutes to facilitate the completion of a briefing to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by all members that standing orders be suspended for ten minutes until 3.40 p.m to facilitate the completion of a briefing to the members.

NS02/0421

Declaration of Pecuniary or Beneficial Interests

There were no declarations from the members of pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Act.

NS03/0421

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 09 March 2021 together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Kelly that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 09 March 2021, of the Naas Municipal District be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

NS04/0421

Matters Arising

Illuminating the John Devoy Statue (NS15/0321)

Councillor Moore asked that this item remain on the progress report.

Purchase of House by Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) (NS22/0920)

Councillor Moore asked why a CPO process could not be commenced during current Covid-19 restrictions.

Damage to St David's Castle (NS25/0321)

Councillor Moore requested a copy of the letter issued to An Garda Síochána. The members informed him that this had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Naas Farmers Market (NS05/0920), (NS24/0720) and (NS26/1020)

Councillor Moore queried why three municipal districts were mentioned in the report on the Naas Farmers Market and casual trading. The Municipal District Manager stated that casual trading bye-laws for three municipal districts were under review and a request for feedback had issued to members of each of them.

Clock on the Town Hall (NS02/0321)

Councillor Moore objected to the electrifying of the clock and expressed his dissatisfaction stating that the clock should be kept as it was for the last 150 years. The Meetings Administrator undertook to convey Councillor Moore's comments to the Library Service.

Footpath on Fishery Lane opposite Naas Industrial Estate (NS13/0321)

Councillor Kelly thanked the Roads Department for agreeing to install bollards at this location to prevent parking.

Entrance/Exit at Pipers Hill Education Campus (NS07/1020)

Councillor Kelly thanked the Roads Department for their work on this matter noting that all the members had received representations in relation to it.

NS05/0421

Kildare Fáilte Presentation

The Mayor stated that a presentation from Kildare Fáilte had been delivered at the Full Council meeting and asked the members if they had any questions. There were no questions from the members.

NS06/0421

Municipal District Road Works

The Municipal District Engineer updated the members on the municipal district road works, making the following points:

- Footpath works at St Martins Avenue, Woodlands, Friary Road, and Swans to Patrician Avenue, Naas were still on hold and would be progressed following easing of Covid-19 restrictions.
- A tender was awarded for road resurfacing works as part of the restoration Improvement Works Scheme 1-2021.
- A tender had issued for road resurfacing works as part of the restoration Improvement Works Scheme 2-2021
- Other than the ESB connection, works were complete on the Kill pedestrian crossing and it was hoped it would be connected by the end of this week.
- The Municipal District Office were currently limited to completing essential work.

In response to a question from Councillor Kelly in relation to whether footpath and roads works would be deemed essential, Mr McNeela stated that it was on a case by case basis and up to the Government to determine what was deemed essential.

NS07/0421

Section 38 proposed Construction of new Bus Shelters

The members considered the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Section 38, proposed construction of new bus shelters at the following locations to proceed to a Section 38

- Site 1: Clane Road, Sallins (Opposite Chapel Lane), Road Number: R-407.
- Site 2: Main Street, Kill (Opposite St. John's Church of Ireland), Road Number: L-2014.
- Site 3: Dublin Road, Naas, (Odeon Cinema Bus Stop), Road Number: R-445.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Breen that the Road Traffic Act 1994 - Section 38, proposed construction of new bus shelters at Site 1: Clane Road, Sallins (Opposite Chapel Lane), Road Number: R-407, Site 2: Main Street, Kill (Opposite St. John's Church of Ireland), Road Number: L-2014 and Site 3: Dublin Road, Naas, (Odeon Cinema Bus Stop), Road Number: R-445 proceed to a Section 38.

NS08/0421

Part 8 Projects in the Naas Municipal District

Mr Cummins provided an update to the members on the following NTA Cycle Projects in the Naas Municipal District:

- Naas Sallins Greenway
- Naas Permeability
- Sallins Village Traffic Management and Cycle Project
- Safe to School Programme – Craddockstown Road
- Kilcullen Road, Naas
- Kill Pedestrian Crossing
- Naas to Kill Cycle Route

As part of his presentation he made the following points:

- There were a number of key stages involved in the NTA Safe Route to School Scheme guidance which was recently released.

- Approval had been received to install a bridge and also for the consultant to consider the possibility of installing a second bridge as part of the Naas to Sallins Greenway.
- Preliminary designs for seven permeability links as part of the Naas Permeability project would be completed.
- Tender documents were currently being prepared for the Sallins Village Traffic Management and Cycle Project.
- The plan for the Safe to School Programme – Craddockstown Road was to complete Phase 2 Concept Development and Options Selection process in 2021.
- The Roads Department planned to make improvements to the design in relation to the segregation of cyclists and traffic on the Kilcullen Road plan.
- The Kill Pedestrian Crossing was installed in a location which was different to what was outlined in the Part 8 project as it was a more suitable location.
- The Roads Department contacted the NTA as they felt the design of parts of the Naas to Kill Cycle Route could be improved, the NTA wish to revisit the design and therefore the project had not gone to tender this week as originally planned.

In response to questions from the members, Mr Cummins made the following points:

- The redesign of the road in the Craddockstown School area would not be completed until 2022.
- Plans for cycle lanes in Sallins would be brought before the members this year and would then proceed to a Section 38.
- Naas Sallins Greenway would be brought to Part 8 next year.
- The Kilcullen Road project would be going to tender next year.
- A multi-disciplinary team was in place in relation to projects in Sallins.
- The Dublin Road Part 8 would not be progressed this year due to workload however it was hoped it would be progressed next year.

NS09/0421

Double Yellow Lines in the Paddocks

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen.
That the council repaint a set of double yellow lines in the Paddocks, which have worn away with time.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Naas Municipal District Office agree to review the set of lines in question and repaint them.

In response to a question from Councillor Breen regarding a timeframe for these works, Mr McNeela stated that he would check this with the line marking contractor.
Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted and Mr McNeela to confirm the timeframe for the works with the line marking contractor.

NS10/0421

Disabled Parking Bay in Johnstown Village

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett.
That the council install a disabled parking bay in Johnstown Village.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Roads Design Team would contact Councillor Brett to explore possible locations for a disabled parking bay in Johnstown Village.
Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted.

NS11/0421

Bins in Sallins

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly.
That the council move the bin from outside the former Chinese take away on Main Street, Sallins to the Canal Bank, (Kerdiffstown side).

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Breen.

The members made the following points:

- There were four bins within a few feet of each other and asked that one of the bins be moved noting that this must be considered as essential.
- It was vital for bins to be re-installed as two bins along the canal had been removed.
- The bins were in the wrong place in Sallins and needed to be in places that people were using such as along the canal.

Ms O'Malley made the following points:

- The locations of bins in Sallins would be examined shortly.
- A bin survey would be taking place, it was hoped this would commence later in the Summer when Covid-19 restrictions were eased.

In response to a question from Councillor Kelly querying the number of people required to complete a bin survey, Ms O'Malley stated that she would relay the members comments to the Senior Executive Officer and Director of Services in the Environment Department.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Breen that the report be noted and Ms O'Malley to relay the members comments to the Senior Executive Officer and Director of Services in the Environment Department.

NS12/0421

Path/Cycleway from Sallins to Kerdiffstown Park

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kelly.
That the council undertake a feasibility study to ensure there is a safe path/cycleway from Sallins to the new Kerdiffstown Park.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Sammon.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council were currently in the process of implementing its programme of works for the approved Sustainable Transport Measures Grants (STMG's) from the National Transport Authority. This was taking priority for 2021. Kildare County Council would forward this proposal regarding a feasibility study for safe cycle and pedestrian infrastructure from Sallins to the new Kerdiffstown Park to the National Transport Authority for their attention and discussion. However, it should be noted that the majority of this road was not listed within the NTA National Cycle Plan which would affect funding opportunities in this instance.

The members made the following points:

- It was understandable that due to the condition of the road, it was not listed within the NTA National Cycle Plan.
- Kerdiffstown Park would be accessible to people from Naas, Kill, Johnstown and Ballymore Eustace but not to people from Sallins who would be living closest to it.
- The Greenway would provide access to a certain point but then the location of the Golf Club hampered connectivity, and the road was not safe to walk on.
- It was important to have an accessible connection between Sallins and Kerdiffstown Park.
- Following initial enquiries, Naas Golf Club seemed open to assisting with the connection between the Greenway and Kerdiffstown Park.

Mr Cummins stated that a clever solution to the problem was required noting that the width of the road and the trees were an issue and addressing/overcoming this issue would be bringing it into the area of Environmental Assessment. He confirmed that a proposal would need to be examined and he would raise the matter with the NTA at their monthly meeting. He sought the members feedback on any possible suggestions.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Sammon that the report be noted and Mr Cummins to raise the matter with the NTA at their monthly meeting.

NS13/0421

Our Rural Future – Rural Development Policy 2021 - 2025

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kenny. That the council examine the impacts and opportunities that the recently announced strategy; Our Rural Future – Rural Development Policy 2021 - 2025 - has for towns and villages in the Naas Municipal District with respect to optimising digital connectivity for remote working, sustainable tourism and promoting a climate neutral economy.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kenny, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm informing the members that 'Our Rural Future; Rural Development Policy 2021-2025' was published on 29 March 2021 and represented the Government's blueprint for a post-COVID-19 recovery and development of rural Ireland over the next five years. This policy document, which supported the National Planning Framework (NPF) and National Development Plan, covered a wide range of issues that related to rural life including digital connectivity, revitalisation of towns and villages, enhancement of public services, the transition to a climate neutral society, sustainable agriculture and forestry and provided the framework to achieve the vision of transforming the quality of life and opportunity for people living in rural areas in Ireland.

The publication of this national policy was timely with the review of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 currently underway. This new policy would directly inform the preparation of the 'Small Towns and Villages Strategy for County Kildare' being prepared to inform the settlement strategy for the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029.

A further report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the opportunities and impacts of this policy would be examined by the Broadband Officer in collaboration with the other relevant stakeholder departments within Kildare County Council.

The members made the following points:

- If better broadband links in rural areas and broadband hubs were established enabling more people to work from home, there would be less road traffic and possibly less pressure on other council services.
- Covid-19 had highlighted that remote working was possible and therefore, emissions could be reduced if there were less cars on the road due to remote working.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kenny, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted.

NS14/0421

Traffic Issues at Pipers Hill Education Campus

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon. That the council reengage with KWETB and all stakeholders regarding traffic issues at Pipers Hill Education Campus.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Kenny.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Kildare County Council Roads Section were

currently in the process of completing a report on the traffic issues at the Pipers Hill Campus, taking into account the Aecom Traffic Analysis Report that was carried out for KWETB. This report should be completed and submitted to Kildare County Council senior management shortly where a meeting was scheduled to be arranged with KWETB and Kildare County Council to discuss the traffic issues in more detail.

The members made the following points:

- The KWETB had asked Aecom to cost the report.
- The ETBI also had an office at the Pipers Hill Education Campus.
- Bellingsfield residents wanted to be included in the meeting.
- All stakeholders should be brought together to discuss how the matter would be resolved.
- A pedestrian entrance into the site should be sought.
- Now that schools had re-opened, there had been an increase in the volume of traffic on the Kilcullen Road in the mornings and evenings.

Ms Barrett stated that the Roads and Transportation Department had been working to include all stakeholders and confirmed that a report on the traffic issues at the Pipers Hill Campus was currently in the process of being completed and an update would be provided to the members in advance of the next Naas Municipal District meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Kenny that the report be noted and an update to be provided to the members in advance of the next Naas Municipal District meeting.

NS15/0421

Bus Shelter at Roseville

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to install a bus shelter at Roseville while carrying out similar works at the Odeon cinema?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that due to the current dimensions and boundary restrictions at this section of carriageway on the Dublin Road, the bus shelter design would be incorporated into the detailed design of the Dublin Road Corridor approved Part 8 which would allow for a more efficient and effective detail design process while also eliminating any potential conflict points with vulnerable road users.

The report was noted.

NS16/0421

Damaged Fence Surrounding a Culvert on the Corbally Canal

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to repair or remove the damaged fence surrounding a culvert adjacent to Jigginstown Bridge on the Corbally canal?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Naas Municipal District Office had plans to assess this location and repair or remove the damaged fencing as necessary.

The report was noted.

NS17/0421

Bus Stop at junction of Osberstown (Clane to Naas side)

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

Can the council confirm when action will be taken to make the bus stop at junction of Osberstown (Clane to Naas side), more accessible for the residents who live across the road from it, i.e. Osberstown, White City, The Sidings and Oldbridge?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Naas Municipal District Office had plans to assess this bus stop location in line with proposals being developed as part of the Sallins Traffic Management Scheme with a view to identifying measures which may be possible to implement with the aim of improving accessibility to this bus stop.

The report was noted.

NS18/0421

Street Bin Collection Service Schedule

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Kelly.
Can this council be furnished with a copy of the street bin collection service schedule for the Naas Municipal District?

It was confirmed that the street bin collection service schedule was available at the back of the Litter Management Plan that was approved by the members at the March Full Council meeting.

The report was noted.

NS19/0421

Polling Area for Naas Town

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore.
Can the council confirm if it has clearly define a polling area for Naas Town, in the event of there being a plebiscite for a local requirement, and confirm if they can issue maps and an Electoral Register on that plebiscite area only?

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that under the Electoral Act of 1992 Kildare County Council had established a Polling Scheme which was last revised in 2019 for the purpose of Dáil, European Parliament and Local Elections and Referenda. The polling scheme could be accessed on the council website along with accompanying maps as follows:

Polling Scheme -

<https://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/AllServices/ElectionsandVoting/ElectoralReformandBoundaryChanges/>

<https://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/AllServices/ElectionsandVoting/Elections/LocalElectoralAreaMaps/>

This was the only predetermined polling scheme in operation and along with the register of electors which was updated on a yearly basis in accordance with electoral acts and regulations, form the basis for the conduct of polls for elections and referenda.

Where there was a provision for the holding of a poll or plebiscite for any other reason in accordance with any act then in accordance with that act and any regulation, the boundaries of the area affected would need to be determined along with the establishment of a list of qualified electors. The requirements for the conduct of a ballot would need to be set out in regulations by the relevant Minister.

Town Councils were dissolved in 2014 and the local government boundary structure was based on Local Electoral Area's and Municipal Districts. The subdivision of these was polling districts and district electoral divisions. Town areas in Kildare were not specifically defined. In the Naas Local Electoral Area there was a defined polling district of Naas containing the district electoral division of Naas urban and part of Naas Rural district electoral division and the remainder of the district electoral division of Naas Rural (containing Monread North and Osberstown) was part of the Sallins polling district.

For example, Section 189 subsection (1) of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended relates to the changing of a placename. In section 2 it says that the boundary of the place to which a proposal adopted under subsection (1) applies shall be described in that proposal whether by reference to a map or otherwise.

S.I. no 24/2019, Local Government Act 2001 (Commencement) Order 2019 enacted the following provision of the act from 31st January, 2019

(a) subsection (1) of section 5 and Part 1 of Schedule 3 in so far as they effect the repeal of—

- (i) sections 76, 77, 78 and 79 of the Local Government Act 1946 (No. 24 of 1946),
- (ii) section 53 of the Local Government Act 1955 (No. 9 of 1955), and
- (iii) section 67 of the Local Government Act 1994 (No. 8 of 1994); and

(b) sections 189, 190, 192 and 193, and subsections (1) and (2) of section 194. The council are awaiting a response from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to the making of regulation by the Minister in relation to sections 189 and 190 of the act regarding change of place names and will advise the members of the response once received.

The report was noted.

NS20/0421

Update on Public Realm Projects

An update on public realm projects in the Naas Municipal District was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting.

In response to question from the members, Ms Hunt made the following points:

- In relation to the URDF funding received for Naas, it was possible that consideration of projects would commence in the Summer when other projects across the county had been completed.
- The URDF application was broad therefore there was a lot that could be done and plenty of funding behind the application.
- The easing of Covid-19 restrictions now allowed for topographic surveys to be carried out therefore design work could recommence.
- Cycle cafes had to be completed by June subject to level 5 restrictions and the Public Realm Team were working with the Road Safety, Cycling and Sustainable Transport Officer in relation to these.

NS21/0421

St David's Castle

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Breen. That in the light of recent work carried out at St David's Castle, its curtilage and grounds, the council ensures that the site is given protection in keeping with statutory regulations for protected structures and proper planning permission in line with an official planning application.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Moore.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that St David's Castle was both a protected structure and a recorded monument and occupied a prominent location in the centre of Naas town. The council had been engaging with the new owner of the Castle and its attendant grounds with a view to securing the site in the first instance and to protecting the castle from further deterioration. Beyond works that were considered to be emergency works, all other works were halted and a full scope of works must now be agreed between the owner, Kildare County Council (including consultant Architectural Conservation Officer) and the National Monuments Service. It should also be noted that a total of €13k was awarded to the owners of St. David's Castle through the Government's 'Built Heritage Investment Scheme' on 01 April last which would contribute to works to improve the Castle and its grounds.

The members made the following points:

- It was necessary to safeguard St David's Castle, its curtilage and grounds.
- Works on the doorway, trees and shed were completed during Covid-19 and all works, with the exception of safeguarding works, should not have been completed.
- All future planning permissions should be adhered to.
- Great work was undertaken to restore the wall at the shopping centre which was part of the castle.
- Any works completed at St David's Castle should be meticulously marked and supported by the Council's Architects.
- Infilling works that sloped into a river were completed.

The Municipal District Manager made the following points:

- No authority was given for works other than those considered to be emergency works.
- A discussion had taken place between himself and the owner in relation to securing the property.

- A small section of wall had been knocked down but there was no shed knocked down.
- Overgrown ivy and vegetation were removed however no trees were cut down.
- The site was cleaned up by the owner.
- St David's Castle would be monitored very closely.

Resolved on the proposed of Councillor Breen, seconded by Councillor Moore that the report be noted.

NS22/0421

Senior Citizen Retirement Accommodations

The member considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore. That in view of the high level of promotion and emphasis afforded in the upcoming Naas Local Area Plan on the need for Senior Citizen Retirement Accommodations, that the planners immediately considers the addition of a number of designated sites within the Town Centre for a Retirement Village, comprising the services and facilities as are now provided by the local community managed McAuley Place, instead of a 100% commitment to high rise apartment blocks in the 'once only available' town area sites.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Draft Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027 was explicit in its recognition and acknowledgement that McAuley Place had become a national exemplar model of housing for older people. The Draft Plan noted that there would be further opportunities for Naas to expand this supported housing market/model and supported development of this nature walking distance of the town centre, key services, public transportation, car parking and public spaces set within a universally designed and age friendly public realm. The Land Use Zoning Matrix set out in the Draft Naas LAP sets out a wide range of uses which were permitted in

principle and open for consideration in the town centre, of which residential and/or supported living was permitted in principle. Objective HCO2.1 of the Draft LAP requires *that a good mix of housing types and sizes is provided in all new residential areas and in appropriate brownfield/infill areas, to meet the needs of the population of Naas, including the provision of appropriate supported housing and longer term residential care solutions designed for older people and/or people with disabilities.* Identifying specific sites for such uses is not considered appropriate at local area plan level in the absence of full consideration of site characteristics/features/attributes. Furthermore, there was no “100% commitment to high rise apartment blocks” for town area sites within the Draft Naas Local Area Plan.

The members made the following points:

- Earlier plans identified the area from the Castle to Friary Road as a location for approximately five high rise apartment blocks.
- The location would be suitable for some form of retirement village and the opportunity to consider this in the area should not be lost.
- Plans for social and affordable housing on the Caragh Road site had already been submitted.

Ms Granville made the following points:

- McAuley Place was an exemplar of age friendly communities and was acknowledged in the National Planning Framework and further facilities of this nature are to be supported throughout the draft LAP.
- The St David’s Castle area is identified as one of 6 Core Regeneration Areas in the Draft Plan. Section 10.4.4 sets out an indicative design framework and a series of key design principles for the Castle Quarter lands.
- The members were advised that there are no specific objectives for five high rise apartment blocks in the Draft LAP.

Resolved on the proposed of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted.

NS23/0421

Naas Local Area Plan

The member considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Moore. That the Director of Planning explains to the members and the public how major road-route decisions, previously rejected by elected members in legally binding local authority processes, have re-appeared, over twenty years later as exactly the same proposals, in the upcoming Naas Local Area Plan.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Breen.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Development and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Draft Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027 was published on 09 March 2021 and was informed by the preparation of a number of evidence based assessments including (but not limited to) a Social Infrastructure Audit, Sustainable Planning and Infrastructural Assessment and the Naas - Sallins Transportation Strategy. These assessments were a direct response to requirements throughout the National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy for the Eastern & Midlands Region for a more evidence-based approach to planning, ensuring the best available data, information and knowledge are used to inform plan-making.

It was long acknowledged that the town of Naas suffers from congestion and it was undisputed that new road infrastructure was required to assist in the sustainable, economic and social development of Naas. The Naas/Sallins Transport Strategy (2020) was undertaken to provide up-to-date analysis to optimise decisions taken during the land use planning process and examined current traffic movements and future transport options for the towns of Naas and Sallins and identifies possible options to provide for a more functional overall transport and movement system. The Strategy included a Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) which assesses options for interventions and improvements across the entire study area. Proposed new routes for public transport priority, traffic and walking and cycling were identified in addition to other localised interventions to provide for improved movement and access across

the town and its hinterland. The analysis undertaken to inform the Transport Strategy illustrates that a number of options were considered during the preparation of the strategy, and while these routes may provide some benefits, they would not be to the same extent as the preferred options identified in the Transport Strategy. The issue of selected routes being previously rejected over twenty years later, is not accepted. Repeated analysis, the most recent in 2020 by varying independent consultants have proven that interventions at the locations identified in the Draft Local Area Plan are the most viable and appropriate solutions for the overall transport and economic function of Naas as the County Town in Kildare.

Councillor Moore stated that the population of Naas was now 150% greater than it was 20 years ago and highlighted that the route selection for the road was made 20 years before this expansion and it would not be acceptable for the road to pass through existing housing estates.

Resolved on the proposed of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Breen that the report be noted.

NS24/0421

Permeability Routes

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Kenny. That the council engages with relevant Residents' Associations in the planning and implementation of potential permeability routes in recognition of the role of permeability in the Local Area Plan for Naas.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kenny, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Developments and Public Realm Department informing the members that the permeability routes identified in the Draft Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027 were indicative only. If/when these permeability measures were progressed in the future, these routes would be subject to a separate statutory planning procedure, which would include for detailed design and public consultation.

The members made the following points:

- Permeability routes are included in the Transport Strategy.
- The council should engage with the residents in relation to the routes.
- A detailed study had been undertaken in Naas as part of the Greenway feasibility study which highlighted routes that were of use and allowed people the opportunity to walk to places.
- The fact that the routes would be subject to a separate statutory planning procedure which included for a detailed design and public consultation if progressed in the future meant that it would be carried out in the correct manner.

In response to a question from Councillor Kelly querying if there were guidelines for permeability similar to DMURS, Ms Granville stated that the NTA had a best practice guide on the delivery of permeability and confirmed that she would circulate it to the members following the meeting. Ms Granville also stated that all the routes had been visited and assessing how they all worked collectively was important.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kenny, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted and Ms Granville to circulate the NTA best practice guide on the delivery of permeability to the members following the meeting.

NS25/0421

Creches in New Build Housing Estates in the Naas Municipal District

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

That the council provide a report detailing all the creches that were conditioned to be built as part of the planning permission in new build estates in the Naas Municipal District in the last 10 years and their progress.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Sammon.

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Developments and Public Realm Department informing the members that the following was a list of all

creches/childcare facilities granted in residential developments in the Naas Municipal District since 01 January 2011.

File	Applicant	Location	Description	Date Granted	Date Units Commenced	Date Creche Commenced
16/1117	Cairn Homes	Craddockstown	258 units and creche	13/7/17	20/9/18, 20/11/18, 5/2/18, 3/12/20	Creche not commenced
16/1145	Ardstone	Jigginstown, Naas	183 units, and childcare facility.	9/5/17	3/8/17, 27/10/17, 21/12/2017, 6/4/18, 16/1/19	Creche not commenced
16/635	Ballymore Developments	Pipers Hill, Naas	243 units and creche	21/12/16	24/1/18, 8/2/18, 4/9/18	Creche not commenced
19/305701	Cairn Homes	Naas West & Jigginstown	314 units and creche	11/2/20	9/3/20, 15/6/20, 30/10/20	Creche commenced
20/307258	Randalswood	Devoy Quarter, Naas	152 units and childcare facility	17/09/20	Development not commenced	Creche not commenced

All of the above grants of permission were all still live permissions. The council had received some applications in the Naas Municipal District for the change of use from permitted creche/childcare facilities to alternative uses, none of which had been granted in recent years. In respect of the Naas urban area, the Draft Naas Local Area Plan 2021-2027 was currently on display. The Social Infrastructure Audit included in the Plan includes details on permitted and operational childcare facilities within the LAP boundary. Submissions on the draft plan are due by 21/04/2021.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Sammon.

The members made the following points:

- Developers were leaving the construction of creches to the end of the construction period and they were not being completed.
- If creches were part of an approved Planning application why had they not been built.
- The refusal of applications by the Planning Department for change of use from permitted creche/childcare facilities to alternative uses was welcomed.

- There were creche providers available to run creche facilities in the area, some of whom had been in touch with developers seeking premises but nothing had progressed.
- Creche facilities should be constructed no later than when 50% of properties had been completed.
- A housing estate should be ready for taking in charge if at any stage a developer was no longer in a position to complete an estate.

The Municipal District Manager informed the members that the guidelines stated one creche was required per 75 dwellings and that it should be conditioned that no new dwellings were built until the creche was built. He confirmed that he would follow up on the matters raised.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Sammon that the report be noted and the Municipal District Manager to follow up on the matters raised by the members.

NS26/0421

Poplar Square and Canal Traffic Free Sunday

The committee agreed to consider items number 24 and 25 of the agenda together.

Item number 24 – Question Councillor Breen

Can the council update the members on the progress of the two Public Realm projects, namely Poplar Square and the Canal Traffic Free Sunday?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Developments and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Covid-19 response tactical urbanism project in Poplar Square had been very successful, particularly in recent months, with the space (and seating) in almost constant use by the public. Kildare County Council proposed to continue to trial this project over the summer months for use by the public. Subject to when restrictions permit, bicycle stands, age friendly seating and wheelchair accessible tables would be installed. The project would continue to be reviewed with feedback invited from the public to inform the future design of this

public space. In relation to the Canal Traffic Free Sunday, this was a local initiative, and not one in which the Public Realm team had been involved.

A further report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Naas Municipal District Office continued to implement a temporary road closure along the Canal each Sunday (until August 2021). The closure had restricted vehicular movements to local access traffic only and facilitates pedestrian and cyclist movements along the canal each Sunday. Councillor Breen advised that not all residents were happy with the closure of the road.

Item number 25 – Question Councillor Kenny

Can the council give a progress update and timeline on the review of the pedestrianization and tactical urbanisation of Poplar Square?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Developments and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Covid-19 response tactical urbanism project in Poplar Square had been very successful, particularly in recent months, with the space (and seating) in almost constant use by the public. Kildare County Council proposed to continue to trial this project over the summer months for use by the public. Subject to when restrictions permit, bicycle stands, age friendly seating and wheelchair accessible tables would be installed. The project would continue to be reviewed with feedback invited from the public to inform the future design of this public space.

Following concerns raised by Councillor Breen, Ms Hunt stated that she would speak to the Roads Engineer in relation to providing a short stay parking space to facilitate local businesses.

The report was noted.

NS27/0421

Turnstiles at Kilteel Graveyard

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Brett.
That the council provide turnstiles at Kilteel graveyard to facilitate access to the site.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that this was a very old cemetery, where Kildare County Council currently had a keyholder. The council will research the ownership, access and other issues and report at a future meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Brett, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted.

NS28/0421

Discharge License for Blessington Wastewater Treatment Plant into Golden Falls

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Sammon.
That the Naas Municipal District Committee writes to the Environmental Protection Agency and objects to any increase in volume of material in the Discharge License for Blessington Wastewater Treatment Plant into Golden Falls.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Kelly.
A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that this was a matter for the members to agree.

The members supported the motion and Councillor Sammon informed the members that the Environmental Protection Agency were taking online submissions and offered to draft a submission and send it to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Sammon, seconded by Councillor Kelly that the report be noted.

NS29/0421

Market House, Naas

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Breen.
Can the council confirm if any endangerment notice or penalty been served on the owner of the Market House, Naas considering the state of the collapsed roof?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that as the property was on the Derelict Sites Register, statutory notices would have been served before reaching this point.

The report was noted.

NS30/0421

Big Belly Bin on Poplar Square

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear.
Can the council confirm when will the big belly bin on Poplar Square be replaced as it has been broken for many years?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that a quote for repair had been received which was extremely expensive, therefore other options were now being considered.

The report was noted.

NS31/0421

Remaining Capacity of Kildare County Council Graveyards

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Clear.
Can the council confirm what is the remaining capacity of Kildare County Council graveyards in the Naas Municipal District?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that an assessment would be carried out and the results relayed to the member as quickly as possible after the meeting.

The report was noted.

NS32/0421

Control of Dogs in Monread Park

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Sammon.
Can the council confirm how often there is a dog warden present in Monread Park?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that prior to the lockdown the dog wardens would visit this part of the county in response to calls or while on routine patrols. However, since the imposition of Level 5 lockdown the dog wardens were working remotely and responding to calls on a risk assessment basis. For the members' information, the Control of Dogs legislation requires that a dog, when not on the premises of its owner or person in charge of the dog, must be accompanied by and be under the effective control of its owner. The Act also enables Dog Wardens and the Gardai to seize stray dogs, including dogs not under proper control.

The report was noted.

NS33/0421

Kildare 2021 Arts Act Grant Scheme, Bursaries and Awards

The members considered the Kildare 2021 Arts Act Grant Scheme, Bursaries and Awards.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed by the members present that the Kildare 2021 Arts Act Grant Scheme, Bursaries and Awards be approved.

NS34/0421

LED Lights

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Clear.
That the council commence replacing lighting in our parks with LED lights to make it more user friendly for female walkers and runners.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Moore.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that there was no provision in the Parks budget or works programme to accommodate this work. The matter would be discussed with the Public Lighting Section.

A further report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that Kildare County Council had already commenced upgrading lighting to LED, where lighting faults occur, these were being replaced with LED lighting. The remainder of the lighting would be upgraded as part of the National Public Lighting Upgrade Project. It was anticipated that Region 2, which included Kildare, would go to tender in Quarter 2, 2021 with works commencing in Quarter 1, 2022 with a 2 year installation period for the region. Currently, it was not possible to give an exact timeframe as to when works would commence in Kildare as this would be a matter for the successful contractor to schedule. It should be noted there was no funding available in the Public Lighting budget to carry out any works which relates to upgrading of existing infrastructure only.

The following points were made by the members:

- Strong LED lights should be used.
- The agreement reached in the previous council term was that when sodium lights stopped working, they would be replaced by LED lights.
- The current lights were dimmed to protect wildlife

Mr O'Toole confirmed that the lights in parks would be included in the National Public Lighting Upgrade Project and that as faults occurred in lights in the parks, they would be replaced by LED lights.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Clear, seconded by Councillor Moore that the report be noted.

NS35/0421

CCTV Grant Aid Scheme

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Moore. Can the council issue the official requirements of the recently expanded Community-Based CCTV Grant Aid Scheme and indicate if there are any other reasons, besides monetary, why the Naas Municipal District and the local Gardaí, could not now nominate areas for such security purposes?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that the Community CCTV scheme had been amended to allow for extension or upgrade of existing CCTV systems which were incomplete or obsolete and availability of an additional once-off grant of up to €5,000 for minor maintenance costs of CCTV systems. Otherwise, the scheme remains as first published in 2017. A pilot CCTV scheme for Clane was being prepared in association with An Garda Síochána locally and it was hoped that this would become a template for similar schemes in the county. Consultants were being sought to help design the scheme. The council would urge any local groups seeking to install a CCTV scheme to wait until the Clane pilot was developed further, but groups could proceed with applications if they so wish.

To be eligible to apply for grant funding, proposed CCTV systems must meet the legal requirements for CCTV. This means that before applying for funding, Community CCTV systems must:

- be approved by the local Joint Policing Committee,
- have the prior support of the relevant local authority, which must act as data controller, and
- have the authorisation of the Garda Commissioner.

In response to a question from Councillor Moore querying how long the trial in Clane would take before similar sites in Naas could be examined, Councillor Brett stated that Clane were undertaking the template for CCTV and preparing tender documents. He informed the members it was hoped that the tender document would

be available in the next month or two if acceptable and it would then be forwarded to the other municipal districts.

The report was noted.

NS36/0421

Upgrade Facilities at Naas Canal Harbour

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

Can the council confirm if it has any plans to upgrade the facilities at Naas Canal Harbour to encourage boats and barges to visit during the summer?

A report was received from the Planning, Strategic Developments and Public Realm Department informing the members that funding had been received under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund to develop the public realm strategy around Naas Canal Harbour so as to create a Canal Harbour Quarter. Part of this project would be to examine potential uses of various buildings in the area and the redevelopment of the public realm areas. However, the development of mooring facilities at this location was a matter for Waterways Ireland. Kildare County Council would liaise with Waterways Ireland in this regard as part of the Canal Quarter Plan. The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.