

<p style="text-align: center;">Special Celbridge Area Committee Meeting Tuesday 8 May 2012 Committee Room, Aras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas</p>

Present: Cllr. John McGinley (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. Anthony Larkin, Cllr. Frank O'Rourke, Cllr. Colm Purcell, Cllr. Kevin Byrne, Cllr. Senan Griffin and Cllr. Joe Neville.

Also Present: Peter Minnock, Director of Services (DOS), John Coppinger, Senior Engineer (SE), Sonya Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer (SEO), Donal Hodgins, Senior Executive Engineer (SEE), Mick Kane, Chief Technician (CT) and James Doyle, Senior Staff Officer (SSO).

A Special Meeting of the Celbridge Area Committee had been arranged to discuss three issues:

1. The NTA's Sustainable Transport Measures Programme Grant Allocation for Kildare County Council 2012
2. The Proposed Construction of Two New Secondary Schools at Moyglare Hall, Maynooth
3. The Draft Pay Parking Bye Laws for Maynooth

The members had asked to meet with the Senior Engineer and Senior Executive Engineer to discuss the detail of the NTA's grant funding for the Celbridge Electoral Area for 2012.

Cllr. McGinley queried why funding had not been secured for the Moyglare Road and whether Dublin Bus (DB) were progressing their plans to change route 66. The SEE stated that the only recent discussion Kildare County Council (KCC) has had with DB was a meeting on site regarding the proposed turning circle.

The SEE had been advised that a funding application for this area was premature pending further discussions with DB. The SEE informed the meeting that over 100 schemes / proposals had been discussed with the NTA and that the NTA and KCC had prioritised schemes based on strategic objectives. In relation to Mill Street, Cllr. McGinley queried why an application had been made for this scheme without prior consultation with the elected members. The

SEE explained that a site meeting had taken place last summer when NTA engineers visited Maynooth. The NTA officials had focused on Mill Street and the potential for a pilot scheme in this area.

He further explained that the NTA were ready to appoint consultants to look at strategic cycle routes. The SE also reassured the members that KCC had met with the NTA within the last week and they had asked them to look again at the possibility of funding works in the Moyglare Road area.

Cllr. McGinley commented on the fact that there were two new schools proposed for the Moyglare Road, each accommodating 1000 pupils, and a large GAA complex. He urged KCC to seek NTA funding for the Moyglare Road and to liaise with DB regarding providing an adequate public transport service in the area.

Cllr. Griffin stated that he would support the proposal to have a footbridge and boardwalk in Mill Street as he would like to see a renewed focus on the river in Maynooth. He also stated that a cycle lane was already in existence in Mill Street, it simply needed to be relined.

Cllr. Griffin referred to project KCC 12 0020 and asked for further details. The SEE confirmed that the description of this project was misleading. Funding has been secured to carry out a road safety assessment on the R148 from the Halting Site to Tesco and to look at installing a footpath and straightening a part of the road. The SE stated that some of these projects were at a very preliminary stage and they needed to be developed further and, as such, they were subject to change.

Cllr. Griffin also queried why an allocation of €40,000 has been ring fenced for the Kilcock Road Scheme in Maynooth. The SEE stated that this funding is to appoint consultants to examine the design work that had already been done for the part 8 process and to update it and bring it on to detailed design. The allocation is based on an estimate.

Both the SE and SEE explained to the members that the funding allocation for all of the schemes was only preliminary. It was to bring projects to design stage and not construction stage. KCC would have to go back to the NTA with a detailed design for each project and await approval to proceed. The members asked to be kept informed of any/all progress being made on these projects.

Cllr. Byrne enquired about Project KCC 12 0002 (Maynooth Road, Celbridge). He stated that the previous Area Committee had asked for a roundabout at this location and not traffic lights. The SEE did not think that there was adequate room for a roundabout at this location, however, he stated that when this project had progressed to a more advanced stage the issue would be examined in detail.

Cllr. Purcell stated that there was nothing in this funding allocation for Leixlip and he enquired what applications, if any, had been made for projects in Leixlip. The SEE stated that in excess of 100 projects had been discussed with the NTA, including several in Leixlip. He stated that the exclusion of Leixlip was not deliberate and as an example, that the Athy Electoral Area had only received grant aid for one project.

He stated that the NTA was in the process of producing a five year plan in respect of its Sustainable Transport Programme which would enable better planning and management of the sustainable transport grants. He also informed the Committee that the “cluster” of Leixlip, Celbridge & Maynooth had been identified for future pilot projects / funding. Cllr. Purcell stated that he would like to see the applications / list of proposed projects before they are submitted to the NTA.

Cllr. Neville queried how certain projects are chosen over others. He stated that Naas had secured funding for six projects in 2012 and if projects in Leixlip were not compatible with the NTA’s strategic objectives then they could receive no NTA funding for the duration of the five year plan. He stated that the Councillors want to have more input into the process and he queried how best to do this. The SEE suggested that members can, either individually or as a Committee, write to the Roads Department querying the lack of funding for projects in Leixlip

and suggesting schemes that they feel should be prioritised. The Roads & Transport Department would then convey the issues to the NTA.

Cllr. O'Rourke welcomed the funding of projects in Celbridge. He also welcomed a strategic five year plan for the 3 towns in North County Kildare. He felt it was important to have a plan / strategy, however, he too was disappointed in the lack of funding for projects in Leixlip.

Cllr. McGinley asked if it was possible to contact the NTA directly. The SE stated it was his objective to improve communication between the members and the Roads & Transport Department firstly and then he could look at the interaction of the Council with the NTA.

The SEE referred to the Area Committee Meeting where the members had requested a list of schools that were waiting on funding for the advance warning signs. He stated that there was potential funding for these works but he would wait until September / October to draw up the list as some signage for schools may get funding under the current tranche of NTA funding.

Draft Pay Parking Bye Laws for Maynooth

The submission report had been circulated to the members in advance of the meeting. The report detailed the 118 submissions that had been received by the Council in relation to the draft bye laws. The Committee went through each submission and either agreed or disagreed with the request made or asked for Roads Design to review the location referred to. The SEO agreed to update the submission report and the drawings and to circulate them to the Councillors for further consideration.

The meeting concluded.