

**Minutes of the Celbridge Area Meeting**

**Held on Friday, 21 September 2012 at 10.00 a.m.**

**in Áras Chill Dara, Naas.**

**Members Present:** C Purcell (Cathaoirleach); Councillors K Byrne, S Griffin, A Larkin, J McGinley, and F O'Rourke

**Also Present:** Mr P Minnock (Area Director), Ms S Kavanagh (S.E.O.), Ms E Doyle (Meetings Administrator), Ms E Murray (Area Engineer), and Ms C. Loughlin (Area Secretary)

**CE 01/0912**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The committee considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 20 July 2012 together with the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal as Councillor Griffin and seconded by Councillor McGinley that the minutes be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**CE 02/0912**

**Matters arising from the Minutes and Progress Report**

**Weekend Street Cleaning**

Councillor McGinley raised concerns at the lack of street cleaning at weekends in the Maynooth area. Ms Kavanagh informed the members that this matter is due to be discussed at the September council meeting.

**Repairs at Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge**

Councillor O'Rourke requested that repairs be carried out to this road as soon as possible.

**Small works panel**

Councillor Purcell requested a list of contractors that have been selected for the small works panel.

**Cycle path from the bus stop at Kingsbury**

Councillor McGinley stated that cyclists can not use the cycle path at present due to a large amount of holes and it is very dangerous. He requested the area engineer to investigate this and for works to be carried out as soon as possible.

**Verge and roundabout at Kilcock Road, Maynooth**

The members expressed their concerns that NUIM has not responded to items that were raised in writing with them. The members would like NUIM Maynooth to be advised that there is a standard to be maintained with Kildare County Council in relation to items that need to be attended to. One such item relates to a Christmas tree which has still not been removed despite requests to do so.

**Vehicular access to Laraghbryan Cemetery**

The members requested clarification as to whether it is still council policy to restrict vehicle access at any time to the cemetery and asked if possible that times be allocated when vehicular access would be allowed.

**Businesses storing large rubbish bins**

In response to a request from the environment department that a list of the offenders be provided, Councillor McGinley stated that he had already provided the department with the information.

**Shop Fronts in Maynooth**

Councilor Purcell stated that Leixlip Town Council has a report on this issue and copies can be sought from them on the issue of introducing a paint colour scheme to local businesses.

**CE 03/1209**

**Pay parking, Maynooth**

A special meeting will be held in committee to consider this issue and also to receive a briefing from consultants employed by the NTA.

**CE 04/1209**

**Deputation from Mill lane Residents Association, Leixlip**

The Cathaoirleach and members welcomed Ms Marguerite Devine and Mr Declan Kenny to the meeting. Ms Devine and Mr Kenny outlined issues concerning Mill Lane, including the volume of tankers in Mill Lane, pedestrians, health and safety, damage to walls along the Black Avenue and the existing barrier at the entrance of Black Avenue. Mill Lane residents would like a solution to the ongoing issue and it was suggested that the council could consider installing an access to the treatment plant from an off-site location and that liquid waste could be pumped into the facility using the pipe network. The members welcomed the presentation from Mill Lane residents and agreed to refer the questions and try get a solution to the problem from the appropriate department.

**Resolved:** That the water services department receive a copy of the presentation and report back to the October meeting of the committee.

**CE 05/1209**

**Directional signs at Barrogstown Road junction**

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

That the two large directional signs at the Barrogstown Road Junction with the Maynooth/Celbridge Road be removed as they serve no purpose and they are an eyesore. A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the area office would contend that these two directional signs for Celbridge and Maynooth are important for advising motorists, who are not familiar with the area, of the direction for these towns. The hedge needs to be cut back at this location and the area office can confirm this will be attended to as soon as possible. Councillor McGinley stated that the signs were too big and decayed and requested the signs be removed as soon as possible.

**Resolved:** That the area office remove the two large directional signs at the Barrogstown Road Junction as soon as possible.

**CE 06/1209**

**Filter light at the Glenroyal complex**

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

That a left filter light be put in place at the exit from The Glenroyal complex, Maynooth, to activate when the right filter light comes on, in order to help reduce tailbacks into The Glenroyal.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that as the committee were aware, the traffic signals in Maynooth operate under urban traffic control (utc). The suggestion that traffic should exit the side road when the main road is on a green light is not recommended at this location. It is recognised that such a solution can improve traffic flows at junctions with specific geometry. However, the linking of the two turning movements in this case will constrain the operation of the signals and, therefore, reduce capacity at the junction. Councillor McGinley disagreed with the response to the report and suggested that a left filter light be put in place at the exit from the Glenroyal complex, Maynooth. Councillor Griffin agreed and he also suggested a yellow box should be placed in the area.

**Resolved:** That the roads department put in place a left filter light at the exit from the Glenroyal complex, Maynooth.

**CE 07/1209**

**Footpath, Maynooth Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne:

That the repair of the footpath from house number (details supplied) Maynooth Road, Celbridge to (details supplied) be included in the Works Programme for 2013, as this section of footpath is in a dangerous condition.

A report was received from the roads and transportation department dated 20 September 2012 stating that if there was sufficient funding made available for footpath repairs in 2013 then this footpath can be included in the programme of works.

Report was noted.

**CE 08/1209**

**Bicycle parking in Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councilor Byrne:

That the council make provision for bicycle parking within the parking zone of the town.

(This was an objective in the Celbridge Traffic Management Plan).

A report was received from the roads and transportation department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the the provision of cycle parking in County Kildare (including Celbridge) was currently being examined. Councillor Byrne asked that the members be informed when the provision of cycle parking is being examined.

**Resolved:** That the members would be informed when the provision of cycle parking is being examined.

**CE 09/1209**

**Storm drain at Saint Raphaels School, Clane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne:

That the council examine the storm drain near the entrance to Saint Raphaels School on the Clane Road, Celbridge to see if it is connected to any outfalls as water ponds over it when it rains and other locations (entrance to Vanessa Close and the lower end of Saint Patrick's Park).

A report was received from the roads and transportation department dated 20 September 2012 confirming that the ponding at Vanessa Close had been attended to. The other two locations would be investigated and, if the cost of rectifying the issue was not prohibitive, the work could be undertaken.

The report was noted.

**CE 10/1209**

**Salmon Leap Bridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell:

That the council do whatever is necessary to slow down traffic approaching Salmon Leap Bridge.

A report was received from the roads department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the speed limit is 50 kmph and there was usually a heavy flow of traffic which ensures that traffic speeds are kept low. However, a traffic survey and speed count would be arranged and the results would be available to the committee.

Councillor Purcell was not happy with the report and requested signage be put in place in the area alerting oncoming traffic that there is a 90 degree bend ahead, slow down.

**Resolved:** That the area office put in place signage alerting oncoming traffic that there is a 90 degree bend ahead, slow down.

**CE 11/1209**

**Confey directional signpost, Main Street/Captains Hill**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell:

That the council replace the Confey directional signpost which was located at the junction of Main Street/Captains Hill.

Councillor Larkin informed the members that the sign has been replaced.

The report was noted.

**CE 13/1209**

**Removal of taxi spaces**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell:

That the council remove the 4/5 taxi spaces outside the Ryevale tavern and return spaces to public parking.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the council would reline the road markings in Leixlip in accordance with the pay parking bye-laws, as adopted by the members, as soon as possible and subject to sufficient funding being available in the pay parking budget for the works. Councillor Purcell requested that the taxi spaces be returned to normal parking spaces in the Leixlip area. Ms Kavanagh informed the members that these spaces are a result of pay parking bye laws as approved by the members and could not be changed without a public consultation process.

**Resolved:** Councillor Purcell requested that the taxi spaces be returned to normal parking spaces in the Leixlip area.

**CE 14/1209**

**Remedial repairs Dunboyne Road, Maynooth**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Griffin:

That in the interest of health and safety, remedial repairs be carried out on the traffic calming ramps on the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth and on the ramp at Scoil Ui Dalaigh, Knockaulin, Leixlip.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that there was no funding for ramp repairs in the current roads maintenance budget. Councillor Griffin was not happy with the response and requested small remedial repairs to be carried out on both the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth and at the ramp at Scoil Ui Dalaigh, Knockaulin, Leixlip to make these areas safer to the public.

**Resolved:** That the area office carry out small remedial repairs on both the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth and at the ramp at Scoil Ui Dalaigh, Knockaulin, Leixlip.

**CE 15/1209**

**Hedge at Ballygoran/Pikes Bridge junction**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Griffin:

In order to improve visibility, that the hedge and nettles at the Ballygoran/Pikes Bridge Junction and at the junction close to Ballygoran Reservoir be cut back.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 confirming that this work would be attended to in the next week.

The report was noted

**CE 16/1209**

**Flooding at Call-A-Cab Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke:

That the council carry out whatever remaining works are necessary at Call-A-Cab in Celbridge to remove any further risk of flooding which was experienced during July last.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the the area office believed that they have carried out all the work that they could at this location. A report was also received from the water services section dated 20 September 2012 stating that, as the technical solution to address both possible gully water infiltration and highway drainage, falls under the remit of the roads department, water services would assist roads to address the problems of wastewater lines surcharging and help ameliorate their effects. Councillor O' Rourke requested to meet the area engineer from the area office and the water service department on site to agree a solution to this problem as soon as possible.

**Resolved:** That a meeting be arranged between Councillor O'Rourke, the area office and water services department to find a solution to the flooding outside Call-A-Cab.

**CE 17/1209**

**Sticker for Pay and display machines in Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke:

That the council investigate the possibility of introducing a peel back sticker for pay and display machines in Celbridge and Leixlip to avoid the display tickets being displaced within the car.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the council used adhesive pay and display tickets up until mid-2011. The change to non-adhesive tickets came about as a result of surveys as to how the adhesive tickets were being used. The survey results showed that 98% of drivers did not use the adhesive pay and display by sticking it to the windscreen, instead, they left the ticket on the dashboard of the vehicle.

The report was noted.

**CE 18/1209**

**Pay and display sign be removed at Main Street, Leixlip**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin:

That the recently installed pay and display sign at the entrance to the car park, Main Street, Leixlip be removed.

A report was received from the roads department dated 20 September 2012 stating that this sign was placed at the entrance to the car park to ensure that drivers were made aware, prior to entering the car park, that pay parking is in operation. The removal of this sign is not recommended as it gives pertinent information to any motorist on entering the car park.

Councillor Larkin requested that the sign be moved at the earliest opportunity as it is out of proportion to the size of the car park and is obstructing views. The sign should be relocated in the square in Leixlip.

**Resolved:** That the area office remove the pay and display sign at the entrance to the car park, Main Street, Leixlip as soon as possible.

**CE 19/1209**

**Gully at the perimeter of Leinster Street, Maynooth**

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

What progress has been made on getting the deep gully at the perimeter of Leinster Street, Maynooth, made safe and not a litter magnet?



A report was received from the roads department dated 20 September 2012 stating that there are compliance issues which are being investigated by the planning department on this matter. Councillor McGinley was not happy with this response and asked for a report for the October meeting.

**Resolved:** That the planning department report on this matter for the October meeting.

#### **CE 20/1209**

##### **Repainting of yellow box at Thornhill Meadows**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne:

Can the yellow box at the entrance to Thornhill Meadows, Celbridge be repainted when the road marker is next in the area and if some indication might be given as to when that might be?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the yellow box at the entrance to Thornhill Meadows would be installed in the near future.

The report was noted.

#### **CE 21/1209**

##### **Flooding in Celbridge Area**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne:

To ask the council that arising from the report to my motion at the May meeting of the Celbridge Area Committee and given that planning permission has been granted for two schools on the Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge, will the council now advise the current status of its plans to reduce flooding in the area which effects some farmland, the GAA club and a potential risk to Primrose Gate housing estate nearby.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the the area office had advised that this was within the Primrose Gate housing development, a private housing development that was not in the charge of Kildare County Council. Councillor Byrne asked Ms Kavangh to follow up on this item with the water services department.

**Resolved:** Water services to clarify the current status of plans to reduce flooding in the area which affects some farmland, the GAA club and a potential risk to Primrose Gate housing estate nearby.

**CE 22/1209**

**Main Street car park, Leixlip**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell:

Will the council set out the terms and conditions of closing the Main Street car park in Leixlip by local groups including the insurance implications for the council?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that any group wishing to use a Kildare County Council car park should write to the roads and transport department with information on the organisation requesting use of the car park, dates and times they are requesting use of the car park and proof that they are indemnifying the council to the sum of €6.5 million.

The report was noted.

**CE 23/1209**

**Reline yellow boxes around Leixlip**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell:

When will the council reline the various yellow boxes and white lines in and around Leixlip?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the yellow boxes have been replaced.

The report was noted.

**CE 24/1209**

**Foothpath Wheatfield Ardclough**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke:

Can the small broken section of footpath beside house no (details supplied) Wheatfield, Ardclough be repaired?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 confirming that this footpath would be repaired in the near future.

The report was noted.

**CE 25/1209**

**Re-positioning of Pedestrian Crossing Sign Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke:

Can the advance warning sign for 'Pedestrian Crossing Ahead' on the Celbridge bound lane before St. Raphael's be re-positioned towards the on coming traffic?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that relocating the sign was expensive and it was not clear to the area office as to why this sign should be relocated. The trees in the vicinity of the sign could possibly be pruned / cut back to improve visibility.

The report was noted.

**CE 26/1209**

**Removal of steel pole**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke:

Can the small steel pole on the Main Street beside Lynch's shop be removed if it is no longer required?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that it would not be prudent to remove this pole until the signage for Celbridge pay parking was completed. As indicated in the previous report removing or relocating signs/poles was a costly exercise that the area office does not have a budget for. Councillor O'Rourke stated he would like the sign removed, that the sign was not in use and was causing obstruction on the footpath.

**Resolved:** That the roads department remove the sign on the Main Street beside Lynch's shop.

**CE 27/1209**

**Leixlip Youth and Community Centre**

Ms Ann Crofton prepared a report on the issue of Leixlip Youth and Community Centre. Kildare County Council has engaged with the Board on many building issues over the past 4 years and carried out improvements to drainage and lighting. The council is happy to continue to work with and support the Board in the future. Councillor Griffin would like the board of Leixlip Youth and Community Centre written to asking them if they have any outstanding issues with the centre.

**Resolved:** That the board of Leixlip Youth and Community Centre be written to asking them if they have any outstanding issues with the centre.

**CE 28/1209**

**The Canal Toll House, Leixlip**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell:

Will the council outline its efforts to date in endeavouring to open The Canal Toll House to local groups in Leixlip?

A report was received from the parks department dated 20 September 2012 confirming that approaches had been made to both Leixlip Tidy Towns and Royal Canal Amenities Group regarding the possibility of using the Canal Toll House but have not progressed any further to date. Any assistance or local knowledge that the members of the area committee could provide with regard to identifying local interest groups who might use the building would be appreciated.

The report was noted.

**CE 29/1209**

**Kildare Fáilte**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin:

Can we get a representative of Kildare Fáilte to give the committee a progress update on attracting tourists to the county at the October meeting?

All the members agreed that a representative of Kildare Fáilte should attend the next full Council meeting which is due to take place in October to discuss any progress update on attracting tourists to the county.

**Resolved:** To invite Kildare Fáilte to the next full council meeting in October to discuss any progress update on attracting tourists to the county.

**CE 30/1209**

**Stopcock be made safe at Saint Patrick's Park Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne:

To ask the council if the stopcock that was protruding over the level of the footpath at house (details supplied) Saint Patrick's Park and (details supplied) Thornhill Heights, Celbridge be made safe.

A report was received from the water services department dated 19 September 2012 confirming that water services has scheduled repairs at both locations for the coming week. The report was noted.

**CE 31/1209**

**Assessment of the recent transfer of waste collection**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin:

Is there an ongoing assessment of the recent transfer of waste collection services to AES?

If so, can we have a report and if not could we get one?

A report was received from the environment department dated 19 September 2012 stating that this question was discussed with Councillor Larkin and the matter had been clarified.

The report was noted.

**CE 32/1209**

**IBAL Judging**

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

Is it the council or the Irish Business against Litter (IBAL) that decides on what towns to include in the IBAL judging?

A report was received from the environment department dated 19 September 2012 stating that it is IBAL who decides on the towns to be monitored in the Anti-Litter League. It involves An Taisce regularly monitoring litter levels in towns and cities across Ireland according to international standards. Councillor McGinley asked the question how the towns can exclude themselves from IBAL judging.

**Resolved:** That the environment department write to IBAL and requesting clarification as to how towns can exclude themselves from IBAL judging.

**CE 33/1209**

**Household charge, Celbridge area**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin:

In relation to the household charge, can we have the collection rate for the Celbridge area?

A report was received from the finance department dated 20 September 2012 stating that the household charge unit in Dublin provides a daily update of the amount collected in each local authority (on a county wide basis). This is not broken down by area / town. At present County Kildare has a collection rate of just under 60%. As such, it was not possible to provide the collection rate for Celbridge. Councillor Larkin was not happy with the response and has asked for the finance department to look for statistics on this issue.

**Resolved:** That the finance department look for statistics on the household charge within the Celbridge area.

**CE 34/1209**

**Housing need in Ardclough**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Griffin:

In view of the ongoing housing need in Ardclough, the council enter or examine how best to develop the lands now held under the control of NAMA. These lands could revitalise the village of Arclough.

A report was received from the planning department dated 20 September 2012 confirming that the land, which has full planning permission, was currently in the control of NAMA.

Kildare County Council has not been approached by NAMA to enter into discussions.

Councillor Griffin requested that the council to write NAMA and enter into some negotiation with them to revitalise Ardclough and strengthen the area, which would, in turn, benefit the Arclough Community, Kildare County Council and NAMA.

**Resolved:** That the planning department write to NAMA to enter into discussions to negotiation with NAMA to revitalise Ardclough and strengthen the area.

**CE 35/1209**

**Leixlip Tidy Town**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin:

That we congratulate Leixlip Tidy Towns on their recent bronze medal achievement in the national contest.

The members of the Celbridge area committee extend congratulations to the Leixlip Tidy Towns on their bronze medal achievement in the national contest. The members agreed that the council should give all help possible to winning gold in the future. The members would like to wish the group all the best for the future.

**CE 36/1209**

**Maynooth Ambulance Services**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Larkin:

That the council write to the Minister for Health and portray our disgust at the curtailment of the Maynooth ambulance service and demand immediate return to full service.

The members all agreed that the Celbridge area committee write to the Minister for Health.

**Resolved:** That the Minister for Health be written to portraying disgust at the curtailment of the Maynooth ambulance service and demand immediate return to full service.

**CE 37/1209**

**Public light cable trench Straffan Road**

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

That the public light cable trench across the Straffan Road to the bus terminus, opposite the Glenroyal Hotel, be reinstated before it causes an accident.

A report was received from the roads department dated 20 September 2012 stating that this item was on a list for attention when manpower was available. Councillor McGinley was not happy with the response to this item and said that this item should be priority and that manpower should be made available.

**Resolved:** That the public light cable trench across the Straffan Road to the bus terminus, opposite the Glenroyal Hotel, be reinstated.

**CE 38/1209**

**New road at Old Greenfield, Maynooth**

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

What progress has been made on getting the new road at Old Greenfield, Maynooth, completed?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2012 stating that it is presumed that Councillor McGinley is referring to the road constructed by High Degree Construction / Mason Homes as part of a private housing development. The roads and transport department is not in a position to give any further update on this matter. When contact was last made with the developer, in October 2011, the developer stated that he was not in a position to complete the road either at that time or in the foreseeable future. Councillor McGinley would like the roads department to write to the developer asking him to make the site secure.

**Resolved:** That the roads department write to the developer asking him to make the site secure.

**CE 39/1209**

**Representatives from Fingal County Council Department**

The members welcomed Mr Ray Conway and Mr Hans Visser to the Celbridge area committee meeting to discuss the statutory public consultation concerning the master plan for St.Catherine's Park, Lucan. Mr Ray Conway gave the members copies of the plan and gave a detailed presentation to the committee on the park. The members all had their concerns and all asked questions in relation to the park and all questions were answered by

both Mr Conway and Mr Visser. The members complimented both Mr Conway and Mr Visser on their detailed presentation and asked that the local authorities in question all work closely together on the masterplan for St.Catherines park in bringing the plan forward. The members thanked them for attending the meeting.