

Minutes of the Celbridge Area Meeting

Held on Friday 20, September 2013 at 10.00 a.m.

in Áras Chill Dara, Naas.

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

Apologies Councillors A Larkin, T. Byrne,

Also Present: Mr P Minnock (Area Director), Mr J Deane (Area Engineer),
Ms S Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officer), Ms P Penny (Assistant Staff Officer), Ms A.
Aspell (Meetings Administrator) and Mr J Hannigan (Area Secretary)

CE 01/1309

Minutes and Progress Report

To approve minutes of meeting of 19 July 2013 and to note progress report.

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

CE 02/1309

Matters arising from the Minutes and Progress Report

Tidy Towns

The councillors expressed their thanks to staff in the Áras Chill Dara, the area office staff and all who had contributed to a very successful year for tidy towns, The initiatives and partnership approaches pursued by all had reaped dividends.

Parson Hall Residents Association.

The members stated that they understood that the gap was to be closed and that any changes were to be agreed with the residents in advance. They requested that this matter be referred to the roads design section.

This item is to remain on the action plan

Removal of illegal signs/posters

The members requested that a member of staff from environment department attend the next meeting to discuss this issue

Presentation Convent School, Carton Avenue Maynooth

The members suggested using yellow boxes and introducing a one way system from Dunboyne Road. The members suggested that a meeting take place between the residents and a member of the roads design team

Sewage Treatment Plant Kilmacreddock

Councillor Griffin undertook to discuss this when next meeting the Minister for the Environment.

CE 03/1309

Footpath from Maynooth Park to Laurence Avenue

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McGinley that the footpath along the road from Maynooth Park to Laurence Avenue, on the Greenfield Supermarket side, be repaired, as it is in a terrible state as a result of lorries parking on the path and that bollards be erected to stop the lorries from parking there in future.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 September 2013 stating that the footpath was indeed in great distress due to people parking on the path and using the adjacent shops, takeaway etc. they could not give an exact timescale for the upgrade but it would be listed for attention when resources allowed.

The report was noted

CE 04/1309

M4 Junction at the Straffan Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McGinley that measures be introduced at the slip way to Dublin on the M4 Junction at the Straffan Road to allow pedestrians and business park workers to cross the junction in a safe manner. A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 stating that measures to improve the connectivity between the Business Park and Straffan Road were included in the draft plans for the NTA funded North-South Corridor Study. When pre-consultation drawings are ready, these will be presented to the Committee. The area engineer confirmed that these areas would be included in the report.

The report was noted

CE 05/1309

Saint Raphaels Manor,

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne that the following matters in Saint Raphaels Manor, Celbridge be attended to;

To remove the graffiti from the road signs in the estate.

That the manholes in the green areas near to house number (details supplied) Priory Close be repaired/made safe.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 stating that they will apply the products available to remove the graffiti. The manholes in Priory Close were maintained by water services and they will liaise with them accordingly. The report was noted.

CE 06/1309

Survey of vacant poles

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Byrne that a survey be undertaken of vacant poles (with no signs) in Celbridge and that unused poles be removed.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 stating that this issue was ongoing and related to the review of payparking on the Main Street that had not yet been completed. The removal of these signs would be done as part of this process.

The report was noted.

CE 07/1309

Remove Slow ramp signs

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke that the council remove the four large 'slow' ramp signs in the middle of Celbridge before the pedestrian lights (two on both approaches) as they are completely out of place and character.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 stating that two of the signs have been removed but the remaining pair are required as a minimum requirement. The area could look at replacing these larger signs with the standard yellow diamond sign but it would still look unsightly on the existing pole. Following discussion it was agreed that the area office would look at the possibility of removing the existing large poles and replace them with standard poles.

The report was noted.

CE 08/1309

Traffic Survey Hazelhatch Road

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor O'Rourke that the council carry out a traffic survey on the Hazelhatch Road between Hazelhatch Park and the entrance to the national school and the GAA.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 advising that a traffic survey would be carried out as per the member's request.

The report was noted.

CE 09/1309

Review of Parking Bye Laws Leixlip

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

That this committee reviews the parking bye laws for Leixlip.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 stating that the current bye-laws commenced on 2nd July 2012. In order to allow the bedding in of the bye laws and in order for the public to adjust to the changes implemented it was recommended that a review should not take place for a number of years (four to five years) from the commencement date. As the members were aware, the current implementation and regulation of the bye-laws in Leixlip was working very well and any change at this very early stage would cause confusion to the public. Furthermore, the Council could not afford to carry out another review of the pay parking bye-laws in the north of the County where regulated parking was not self financing. Councillor Purcell believed that tweeking of bye laws was allowed but was advised that a full review was required when making changes. Councillor Purcell felt that the law need changing and would approach the Minister about this.

The report was noted.

CE 10/1309

Traffic Calming Celbridge Interchange

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

That we provide traffic calming measures on the Celbridge Interchange (Apple Green Road).

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that they were aware of the details and circumstances of the recent tragic fatality on the R449. This was a high quality medium speed road and traffic calming solutions such as ramps, chicanes etc would not be appropriate.

Two sets of repeater 60kmh signs were erected close to both roundabouts recently.

Following discussion it was recommended by the committee that the council consider putting double white lines along the full length of this stretch of road.

The report was noted and the recommendation was forwarded to the transport department.

CE 11/1309

Low level Lighting Silleachain Lane

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Purcell that we provide low level lighting on the Silleachain Lane in Leixlip.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the committee that they agreed with the need for this type of lighting to improve safety and usage of Silleachain Lane.

The area office had trimmed back hedges to define the extent of the lane width. They intended to carry out some widening, drainage and surfacing works on the laneway in the near future and would include ducting for appropriate lights.

The report was noted

CE 12/1309

Tree planting Blacklion

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

The new footpath from Blacklion to the town was welcomed, however, residents are concerned about the cutting down of quality trees. In order to enhance this area, he requesting that tree planting inside the mesh fencing be carried out during the late autumn.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 stating that trees were removed along the line of the footpath, and fencing was erected by the owner of the land who had Planning permission for the development of these lands. The planting of trees along this boundary would be a decision for this landowner. It was suggested by the that the landowner be approached to see if they would undertake tree planting. The area engineer undertook to further look at the area.

The report was noted

CE 13/1309

Celbridge Pay Parking Review

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Byrne

To ask the council when the results of the Celbridge pay parking review will commence?
A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that similar to the reply for Question 5, the pay parking review had not yet been completed as there were certain ongoing unresolved complexities with the scheme. It was recommended that a separate meeting would be held on this issue.
The report was noted and a meeting will be arranged

CE 14/1309

Cleaning of Storm Drains

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Byrne asking
that the storm drains in Thornhill Meadows, Celbridge be cleaned before the rainy season commences?
A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that the full crew would commence a clearance of drains throughout Celbridge over the coming weeks.
The report was noted

CE 15/1309

Finger Post Sign Pole

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
Can the council straighten the finger post sign pole at the junction of King's Archway and Celbridge Main Street?
A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that this had been addressed.
The report was noted

CE 16/1309

Bus stop Youngs Cross

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
Could the council write to Bus Eireann and request that they carry out the necessary repairs to their bus stop sign (I.D code 137081) opposite Young's butchers in Celbridge?
A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that they would ask Bus Eireann about their plans for this stop, and whether they intend to upgrade it with 'Real time' bus arrival information.

The report was noted

CE 17/1309

Traffic Wardens assisting with safety at identified schools

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor O'Rourke
Can the council provide their litter\traffic wardens to assist with safety at the identified schools as required at drop off and pick up times?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that the roads & transport department had requested Kildare County Council's traffic / litter wardens to attend the schools on an irregular basis in the interest of road safety. Wardens had also been requested to make themselves visible to all motorists and at the commencement of each school year to issue warning notices, where required, in advance of issuing parking fines.

The report was noted and the members asked for updates on the effectiveness of the approach.

CE 18/1309

Footpath Pikesbridge Road

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McGinley
Can a footpath be installed on the Pikesbridge Road from Kilcar House to Pikesbridge in order to improve safety for pedestrians?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that they had reviewed this road, and would conclude that the length and expense of the footpath that would be required to link Kilcar House to Pikesbridge could not be justified on a Cost/Benefit analysis, even though it would be desirable.

The report was noted and with the agreement of the members a deputation from the residents association will be invited to the next meeting of the area committee.

CE 19/1309

Car Park Leinster Street

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Griffin
I note that the car park on Leinster Street, Maynooth is on the market. Is it possible for the council to come up with a scheme to purchase this for a public car park? (A project in conjunction with Iarnróid Éireann could be possible).

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 advising the members that this worthwhile suggestion would be investigated further.

The report was noted

CE 20/1309

William Rowantree House Leixlip

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Purcell

Will the council seek to have the work at William Rowantree House, Main Street, Leixlip expedited?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 advising the members that they were unaware of the context of the question. It was clarified by Councillor Purcell that it was unsightly and scaffolding had been erected there for a considerable time. This item will be referred to environment department and planning for investigation.

This item to be placed on the Action Plan.

CE 21/1309

Noise Reduction M4

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Purcell

Can the council give an update on efforts to have noise reduction measures put in place on the M4?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that noise mapping was carried out along major roads in 2012 and the second Noise Action Plan identified steps to be taken over the following five years to identify and prioritise locations which were seriously affected by environmental noise but any action on the ground would be dependent on the provision of funding.

The report was noted and further investigation will be carried out by Ms Kavanagh.

CE 22/1309

Litter Bin St Patricks Park

The members considered the following Motion in the name of Councillor Byrne

That a stationary refuse/litter bin be provided near house (details supplied) Saint Patrick's Park (which will be emptied by local residents).

A report was received from the environment department dated 19 September 2013 informing the members that they would examine this proposal. Costs associated with purchase and installation would have to be considered.

The report was noted

CE 23/1309

Sewer Pipe Crodaun Park

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Griffin

Is the main line sewer pipe from Crodaun Park to the M4 Business Park, Maynooth Road in the charge of the council?

A report was received from the water department dated 19 September 2013 informing he members that the main line sewer from Crodaun Park to the M4 Business Park on the Maynooth Road was not in the charge of Kildare County Council.

The report was noted and it was recommended that the council consider taking this section in charge

CE 24/1309

Taking In Charge Meadowbrook

The members considered the following Motion in the name of Councillor Griffin

Some residents living in estates not in the charge of the council are finding it rather difficult to sell their homes even when they have obtained a good price. In order to ease this burden, I am requesting the council to expedite the taking in charge of Meadowbrook estate, Maynooth.

A report was received from the planning department dated 19 September 2013 stating that documentation to facilitate the residents to request the council to commence the taking in charge process for Meadowbrook Estate under Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended has been issued to the residents. However, it was a condition of the planning permission to redevelop the commercial site that the Meadowbrook housing development be completed to taking in charge standard. It was now a matter for the residents to decide whether they wished to request the council to commence the taking in charge of Meadowbrook estate in its current condition or to wait and see if the planning permission was taken up to redevelop the commercial site. The council would commence the taking in charge process for the Meadowbrook Estate if requested to do so by a majority of the houseowners in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. Councillor Griffin stated that the estate should be taken in charge

The report was noted.

CE 25/1309

Celbridge Local Area Plan

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Byrne

To ask the council when the Celbridge Local Area Plan will commence?

A report was received from the planning department dated 19 September 2013 stating that it was envisaged that the review of the Celbridge Local Area Plan would commence in early 2014. However, the Forward Planning work programme was being reviewed at present and if there was any change to the programme, the members would be informed. Councillor Byrne asked if possible that the review commence in 2013.

The report was noted.

CE 26/1309

Telecommunications Mast Scoil San Carlos

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Purcell

Could this committee support the removal of the mast on the River Forest Hotel which is giving cause for concern to the parents of children attending Scoil San Carlos School, Leixlip

A report was received from the planning department dated 19 September 2013 stating that this was a matter for the committee members to discuss and decide upon. Following discussions it was recommended that a letter be sent to the department of communications requesting that a safety audit of the emissions from the mast be carried out.

The report was noted and a letter will issue.

CE 27/1309

Safety Measures Band Hall

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

That the following safety measures be carried out at the Band Hall, Maynooth;

- That the wall beside the hall at the green (Pound Park) be repaired using the €80,000 allocated in the Capital Programme in 2008.
- That the public light that was removed from opposite the Band Hall at Bartons, Pound Lane, Maynooth, be replaced without any further delay.

A report was received from the parks department dated 19 September 2013 that the €80k allocated to the repair of the boundary wall in Pound Park cannot be used in the current year for repair work as the annual expenditure allowed for within the Amenity and Recreation

Capital Programme had been fully allocated for the current year. However the project would be considered for inclusion in the 2014 capital programme.

The issue regarding the public light had been referred to the transportation department for consideration.

The report was noted and a report from transport department will be presented at the next meeting.

The meeting concluded