

Minutes of the Celbridge Area Meeting

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

in Áras Chill Dara, Naas.

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

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 Ms C Loughlin (Area Secretary)

CE 01/1312

Minutes and Progress Report

The committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2013 together with the progress report.

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

CE 02/1312

Matters arising from the Minutes and Progress Report

Noise Reduction M4

The members were not happy with the response from the NRA and agreed that the roads and transport department refer this matter to the Transport SPC for further consideration. Councillor McGinley queried if there had been any progress on the second noise action plan.

Signs facing the wrong direction at the Famine graveyard

Councillor O'Rourke stated that the sign at the Famine graveyard was still facing the wrong direction. The area engineer agreed to re look at the sign.

Deputation- from Pikesbridge Road, Maynooth Residents Association.

The area engineer pointed out that speeding of cars was not an issue. The members requested that kerbing along the road and signage be looked at and proposals be brought before them for the January area committee meeting.

Left green filter light be installed at the Glenroyal exit to the Straffan Road

The members noted that a site meeting would be arranged with Councillor McGinley for January.

To discuss free parking in Celbridge and Leixlip

The members noted that the committee's decision had been noted and would be implemented accordingly.

Dublin registered taxis

The members stated that they were unhappy with the response and stated that legislation was not been enforced. They requested that the Taxi Regulator be written to inviting them into the Transport SPC to discuss the issue.

Widening of footpath from Brady's to the taxi office

The members noted the meeting had taken place.

Naming of road opposite the Castle in Maynooth

Ms Kavanagh stated that a response had not yet been received from the college.

Improvements to bus stop outside Carton House, including new light

The members noted that a request for new lights are routed through road design. The area office has submitted a request and now await a response.

Programme put in place for blocked drains in estates

The members welcomed the news that the area office would list the gullies for attention.

Yield sign and road markings at the junction in Saint Patricks Park, Celbridge

The members noted that a meeting with the general services overseer took place last week and it was the area engineers understanding that these issues have been satisfactorily addressed.

Widening of the Liffey Bridge at Celbridge

The members stated that the issue needs to be resolved making it safer for pedestrians. A feasibility study needs to be done of the bridge.

Civic amenity site for North Kildare

The members stated that the site needs to be moved to the east side of Leixlip as the site would be refused in Celbridge. The members await an update on the project.

Fines issued by the dog wardens

Councillor O'Rourke indicated he was surprised with the low amount of fines. He stated that there was a new legislation brought in and questioned if the policy had been put into place.

Sewer line in River Forest estate

The members noted the report.

Install a light over ATM machine in Maynooth

The members noted that a letter has been written to Allied Irish Bank in relation to installing a light over the ATM machine in Maynooth. Councillor McGinley stated that the light had been installed.

CE 03/1312

The extension of the 66 bus service to Newtown, Maynooth

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

That a report be given to the area committee on the progress made on the extension of the 66 bus service to Newtown, Maynooth and if, as a result of the change of the terminus from the Straffan Road, will there be traffic signals or a roundabout at the junction of the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 stating that a detailed design for an improvement of the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link road Junction was complete. The control used at the junction would be traffic signals.

Councillor McGinley was disappointed with the report and stated that definite information on the details need to be reported to the area committee. He asked if they were going ahead with the extension, if funding was in place, are there traffic signals, and if there was any other turning points on the extension.

Resolved: That a detailed report be compiled on the extension of the 66 bus service to Newtown, Maynooth with the following questions answered: if they were going ahead with the extension, if funding was in place, are there traffic signals, and if there was any other turning points on the extension.

CE 04/1312

North-South Cycle Route Corridor Study for Maynooth.

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

That a report be given to the area committee on the consultants progress so far on the National Transport Authority funded North-South Cycle Route Corridor Study for Maynooth. A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 stating that this scheme has been discussed internally with other departments in the Council. The next step was to agree a draft scheme with the NTA and then, in advance of a public consultation process, the draft scheme would be presented and discussed with the area committee.

Resolved: The members requested a date on when the report would be presented to the members on the consultants progress so far on the National Transport Authority funded North-South Cycle Route Corridor Study for Maynooth

CE 05/1312

Re-instate the Ardclough sign

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

That the council re-instate the Ardclough sign at the Ardclough\Straffan\Kill junction that has been removed due to a recent incident.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 confirming that the area office would list this item for attention. Councillor O'Rourke requested that the area engineer would make contact with the Tidy Towns Committee in relation to this matter.

The report was noted.

CE 06/1312

To examine the Clane Road\Shakelton Road junction layout

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

That the council examine the Clane Road\Shakelton Road junction layout in Celbridge and the traffic lights sequence to see if safety can be improved due to the number of incidents at this location.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 informing the members that roads design / traffic light management would examine this junction and report back to the committee. Councillor O'Rourke stated that the timings on the straffan right turn were wrong, putting an option red light over the green light would be an option if feasible to do.

The report was noted.

CE 07/1312

National Transport Authority list of schemes

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

That the council will consider including the Hazelhatch Road from the shop units to the entrance of the GAA/St. Patrick's School on the National Transport Authority list of schemes for improved pedestrian safety and access such as a section of new footpath, zebra crossing at St Wolstans Abbey/Templelawns and traffic calming at the appropriate locations along the section of road.

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

That traffic calming measures be put in place from the tennis club on the Hazelhatch Road, Celbridge to the national school at Primrose Hill, to take account of the number of pedestrians using the route to and from the school, the GAA club and the tennis club and also the nearby railway stations and to prepare for the building of two new schools in that area.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December confirming that as part of the 2013 NTA funding, the area office has just completed overlay work on the footpaths along a section of the Hazelhatch road. No further works are planned there in the coming year. Both Councillor O'Rourke and K Byrne requested a review of the area including a zebra crossing be put in place for children crossing, a section of new footpath. Councillor O'Rourke stated if a scheme could be designed for funding.

Resolved: That the area office reviews the area along the section of the Hazelhatch road to include a zebra crossing for children and a new section of footpath to improve pedestrian safety.

CE 08/1312

Assessment of footpath lighting in Celbridge

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

That the council carry out a full assessment of footpath lighting in The Grove and Castletown estates, Celbridge, with a view to ensuring that there are no areas of darkness on the footpath network in the estates and that there are no lights which cause light pollution by flowing directly into houses in the estates. The council can then commit to making alterations to lighting in these estates.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 stating that this can be assessed in the coming weeks but if the Councillor knows of areas of

concern within the estates they can be forwarded to the public lighting section (publiclights@kildarecoco.ie)

The report was noted.

CE 09/1312

Traffic calming measures outside the Grove estate, Celbridge

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

That the council investigate the possibility of providing traffic calming measures outside The Grove estate, Celbridge where local residents have complained about the frequency of high speed traffic passing by.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 confirming that the area office has no plans for traffic calming measures on the Ardclough road outside the Grove Estate. Councillor Byrne asked the area engineer to review traffic calming measures outside The Grove estate, Celbridge.

Resolved: That the area offices review traffic calming measures outside The Grove estate, Celbridge.

CE 10/1312

Lights on the Celbridge Interchange

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

That the council seek answers from Airtricity as to how it took so long to finally get the lights working on the Celbridge Interchange and beyond with assurances that this will not be repeated. That we have a representative from the company come to the area meeting to give the explanation in person.

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

We seem to have an on/off public lighting system along the route from the Celbridge Interchange to the Kilmacraddock Roundabout. We call on Airtricity to provide a better service to the pedestrians who regularly use this walking route at night

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December stating that some 80 lights on the R449 and Easton Road were all supplied from one unmetered public lighting pillar. This infrastructure was installed some time back under the road scheme. A fault in the infrastructure caused heating and a fire within the public lighting pillar. This brought down a fuse on the ESB supply and the ESB disconnected the supply.

Upgrading of this Public lighting pillar to a metered supply was required and Airtricity carried out, and completed, this work some weeks back. Both Councillor Purcell and Griffin were unhappy with the report and stated that 6 to 10 weeks was not an acceptable time to fix the problem with the lights. They both stated that it has become a safety issue with the public

using the interchange. They have requested that both Airtricity and ESB be written to requesting a representative to come to a Celbridge area committee meeting to discuss and explain why it took so long to fix the problem on the interchange.

Resolved: That the area office write to Airtricity and ESB requesting a representative to come to a Celbridge area committee meeting to discuss and explain why it took so long to fix the problem on the interchange.

CE 11/1312

Repair footpath Staint Mary's Park, Leixlip

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

That the council repair the footpath between house number (details supplied) and (details supplied) St. Mary's Park, Leixlip.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December stating that the area office could list this footpath sections for attention in 2014 depending on available funding. Councillor Purcell requested a review of the footpath for pedestrians safety.

Resolved: That the area office reviews the section of the footpath for safety issues.

CE12/1312

Side wall at the Liffey Bridge Straffan

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

That the side wall bounding the Liffey Bridge at Straffan be repaired as a matter of urgency in order to prevent further collapse (south side wall).

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 stating that the area office would list this issue for attention in the New Year.

The report was noted.

CE13/1312

Direction barriers at Barberstown

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

That the council call on the NRA to repair/reinstate the direction barriers at Barberstown Roundabout and Celbridge Interchange. They are broken down and unsightly.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December 2013 stating that the barriers at the interchange have been reported to the maintenance contractor for the M4. The signage at the Barberstown roundabout was listed for repair with the area office and would be done in the new year. Councillor Griffin requested that the area office contact the NRA to repair/reinstate the barriers as soon as possible.

Resolved: That the area office contact the NRA to repair/reinstate the barriers at Barberstown roundabout and Celbridge interchange as soon as possible.

CE 14/1312

Remove bin on main street Leixlip

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

That the bin outside no 7 The Mall on Main Street, Leixlip be moved to a new location (seating area in Arthur Guinness Square).

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December confirming that the area office need to relocate a number of bins in main street area of Leixlip for a variety of reasons. This would be done in the New Year. Councillor Larkin requested that the area office liaise with Leixlip Tidy Towns before the bins are relocated. The report was noted.

CE 15/1312

Easton Road

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

That the Easton Road be prioritised for upgrading and safety features to the National Transport Authority.

A report was received from the parks department dated 18 December 2013 confirming that the area office has applied to the NTA for funding.

The report was noted.

CE 16/1312

Extra light at Captains Hill

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

That we ask the lighting section to review the bottom of Captains Hill for extra lighting as this busy junction is very dark.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December stating that the lighting of this junction would be reviewed in the coming weeks. Any upgrade would require the removal of the decorative lanterns and their replacement with more effective lighting. Councillor Larkin requested to meet the area engineer on site to discuss the lighting section at the bottom of Captains Hill.

Resolved: That a meeting be arranged between the area engineer and Councillor Larkin on site.

CE 17/1312

Yield sign on the Clane road

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

Can the council face the yield sign the correct way at the exit from the Clane Road onto the Shackleton Road before St Wolstans School?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December confirming that the signs have been rectified.

The report was noted.

CE 18/1312

Trees on the Clane Road

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

Can the council inspect the trees on the Clane Road opposite Esso and on the Shackleton Road, which were planted earlier this year, with a view to replacing and staking where necessary?

A report was received from the parks department dated 18 December informing the members that some of the trees at this location were vandalised. Their replacement would be included in the tree planting programme for 2014. However if the trees are vandalised again it was not proposed to replace them.

The report was noted.

CE 19/1312

Repair wall at entrance to Wheatfield in Ardclough

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

Can the council repair the low wall at the pedestrian entrance to Wheatfield in Ardclough that was knocked down recently?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December informing the members repairs to the wall would be listed for attention in 2014.

The report was noted.

CE 20/1312

Bollards be placed at the railway station, Hazelhatch

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

Can bollards or poles be put in place to prevent the driving of vehicles, etc, through the wrong side of the roundabout (both ways) at the entrance to the railway station at Hazelhatch, Celbridge?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December stating that the area office would refer this issue to road design for review, however, no works can be progressed in the absence of confirmed funding. Councillor K Byrne requested that this item be reviewed as soon as possible.

Resolved: That a review of the report be issued to Councillor K Byrne as soon as it was available.

CE 21/1312

Special speed limit at Scoil Na Mainstreach, Celbridge

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

Can a special speed limit be provided at Scoil Na Mainistreach, Celbridge and also the accompanying flashing lights be provided and that this finance be provided from the provision in 2014 or submitted for National Transport Authority funding?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December informing the members that work at this school were completed in November. This work was funded by the NTA. No further grants have been sought for this location.

The report was noted.

CE 22/1312

Roundabout near Salesian College

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

Can the roundabout near the Salesian College, on the Maynooth Road, Celbridge, be examined with a view to improving the sight line as you enter and exit from it?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December informing the members that the landscaping and decoration of the roundabout can hinder sightlines at various times of the year. The area office would contact the group maintaining this roundabout and ask them to remove certain vegetation.

The report was noted.

CE 23/1312

Removable bollards on the Silleachain Lane

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

Will the council place removable bollards on the Silleachain Lane as it passes through St. Marys Park, to prevent refuse trucks tearing up the surface?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December informing the members it was difficult to erect bollards to restrict vehicular access to the lane as it was very open in certain sections. The area office would list the repairs to the damaged sections of the laneway for attention in 2014.

The report was noted.

CE 24/1312

Public lighting on Confey Road, Leixlip

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

Will the council ensure that the public lighting is operational for users of the pathway from Confey Road, Leixlip passing Newtown House on route to Riverforest in the interest of public safety?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December informing the members that Airtricity would patrol this route but if the councillor was aware of any lights currently not working they can be forwarded to the public lighting section (publiclights@kildare.ie) or logged online with Airtricity via the Kildare County Council web site.

The report was noted.

CE 25/1312

Cycleways

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

Are any of the proposed cycleways for the areas before the National Transport Authority or being granted funding to start?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 18 December informing the members that the area office has submitted a full application for funding for the Royal Canal Greenway from Maynooth to the west and have not heard of any decision yet. The Royal canal greenway from Maynooth to the county boundary with Fingal County Council has been reviewed and the area offices are seeking funding from the NTA to produce a Part 8 application for this work in 2014.

The report was noted.

CE 26/1312

Christmas tree recycling Maynooth

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

Will the area office in Maynooth be providing Christmas tree recycling facilities and if so, what dates?

A report was received from the parks department dated 18 December stating that similar to last year, Christmas tree recycling would be offered from the Maynooth office on Leinster Street. Councillor Larkin welcomed the news of Christmas tree recycling in the area.

The report was noted.

CE 27/1312

Local Area Plan Leixlip

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

Will the council state when the Leixlip Local Area Plan is due to be reviewed?

A report was received from the environment department dated 17 December stating that it is envisaged that the review of the Leixlip Local Area Plans would commence in the latter part of 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.

The report was noted.

CE 28/1312

Baybush Group Water Scheme

To consider the taking in charge of Baybush Group Water Scheme.

The members received a report on this item recommending the taking in charge of Baybush Group Water Scheme.

Resolved: On the proposal of Councillor McGinley, Seconded by Councillor O' Rourke that the Baybush Group Water Scheme goes forward to full council for taking in charge.

CE 29/1312

Casual Trading Bye-laws for Celbridge

The members received a report on Casual Trading Bye-Laws for Celbridge area .The members were in agreement with the report but requested that the fee be reduced from €520 per bay to €100 to €350 depending on the bay size. The members agreed to put the Casual Trading Bye- Laws on display with this change.

Resolved: The members agreed to put the Casual Trading Bye- Laws on display.

CE 30/1312

Public gates Castletown

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

That this committee calls on the OPW to desist from closing the public gates to Castletown.

The members held a long discussion on the public gates at Castletown. They stated that the residents should have use of the right of way and that the OPW meets with the residents so that a resolution on the item could be solved. Mr Minnock (Area Director) stated that he had met with the OPW informing them that the motion was on the agenda for discussion. They stated that they wanted to work with the residents but the gates have to be managed and controlled.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.