

**Minutes of the Celbridge Area Meeting**

**Held on Friday 21, March 2014 at 10.00 a.m.  
in Áras Chill Dara, Naas.**

**Members Present:** Councillor F O'Rourke (Cathaoirleach); Councillors K Byrne, T Byrne  
J McGinley, S Griffin, A Larkin and C Purcell

**Also Present:** Mr Peter Minnock (Area Director) Mr G Willoughby, (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr J Deane (Area Engineer), Mr G Duff (Administrative Officer), Ms P Penny (Assistant Staff Officer), Ms A Aspell (Meetings Administrator) and Ms C Loughlin (Area Secretary)

**CE 01/1403**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2014 together with the progress report.

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

**CE 02/1403**

**Matters arising from the Minutes and Progress**

**Parking in Oaklawn West Leixlip**

Councillor Purcell stated that he wanted to amend the February Minutes to reflect the following : " that he stated that he wanted to see a review of the Leixlip Parking Bye-Laws' The members stated that if the requested clarification came from the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport then they could go ahead and amend the pay parking bye laws. All the members were in agreement.

**Overview report on pay parking in Celbridge and Leixlip**

The members were unhappy with the report and requested clarification from the finance department as to why a surplus from Pay Parking was not being put back into the area it was profited from. The members requested an explanation and stated that if profit was made it should be spent locally. They stated that this money could be used to review parking bye laws in Leixlip.

**Lights with a crossing on Easton Road**

The members were unhappy with the report and stated that a solution needs to be found and that there was not one pedestrian crossing on Easton Road they stated that if at all possible warnings lights or slow down signs should be provided.

**Catholic Church car park, Leixlip**

Mr Johnathan Deane area engineer updated the members on the Catholic Church car park. He stated that it was currently safe but not efficient. They are looking at a re-design and carrying out a safety audit. He would report back to the members at a later date.

**Report on potential flooding in North Kildare**

The members requested that they be forwarded a copy of the standard form of letter which was issued to the householder once flood alleviation works have been carried out.

**Straffan Road M4 Junction interchange**

The members requested to be updated on any response from the National Roads Authority.

**Council owned lands at Shillachain Lane**

The members requested that a report be prepared for the next Celbridge area committee meeting.

**Leixlip Wastewater Treatment Plant**

The members asked to be informed when the investigation has taken place.

**CE 03/1403**

**Dublin Bus**

Mr Derry O' Leary a representative from Dublin Bus attended the meeting to update the members on the bus 66 service to Newtown Maynooth and the extension to bus route 67 Moyglare Hall Maynooth. Mr O'Leary stated that Dublin Bus were very keen to go ahead with both projects as soon as possible as with two new schools in the area it would be a huge opportunity for Dublin Bus to service the needs of the people in the area. The members expressed their concerns and issues they had with bus 66 services to Newtown Maynooth and 67 extension to Moyglare Hall, Maynooth. Issues raised were: (a) Turning point at Parson Hall (b) Traffic Signals (c) a safe turning spot for the buses (d) extension to the

Moyglare Hall service. The members also stated that there was no bus stop in the centre of Leixlip town and that the area would benefit greatly from the service. Mr O' Leary answered all the members questions and took on board all the members issues and suggestions .The Members thanked Mr O' Leary for attending the meeting.

**Resolved:** that the issues raised would be followed up and the 67 bus extension to Moyglare Hall, Maynooth and the 66 bus service to Newtown Maynooth goes ahead as soon as possible to facilitate the two new schools being built in the area.

**CE04/1403**

**An Garda Siochanna**

Garda Tony O'Halloran and Inspector Patsy Glennon, Traffic Inspector, Kildare Division attended the meeting. They discussed that Dublin registered taxis encroaching into parts of County Kildare. The members expressed their concerns and stated that these taxis were taking business away from the local trade and this was causing concerns. Garda O'Halloran stated that when they do operations they have a member of the office of the taxi regulator along with them to issue fines and prosecutions. The taxi operators also have to pass a local knowledge test of the area. Inspector Glennon stated they would get the traffic corps to look at the issue in conjunction with the taxi regulator especially at the weekends between 11.30.p.m and 03.00.a.m. They would also enforce legislation and parking issues. The members thanked both members from An Garda Siochana for attending the meeting.

**CE 05/1403**

**Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2011**

**Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2011 – Part 8**

**To consider report regarding the Enhanced Pedestrian/Cycle Crossing of R148**

**Kilcock Road, Maynooth, Co Kildare.**

Mr George Willoughby senior executive engineer, roads design department discussed the report with the Celbridge area committee members and explained the scheme and answered any questions that the committee had. The committee welcomed the scheme. On the proposal of Councillor McGinley , seconded by Councillor Griffin, that the report regarding the Enhanced Pedestrian/Cycle Crossing of R148 Kilcock Road, Maynooth, County Kildare go forward to the March full council meeting for adoption.

**Resolved:** On the proposal of Councillor McGinley , seconded by Councillor Griffin, that the report regarding the Enhanced Pedestrian/Cycle Crossing of R148 Kilcock Road, Maynooth, County Kildare go forward to the March full council meeting for adoption.

**CE 06/1403**

**Post box on the Leixlip approach at Young's Cross**

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

That an urgent review of the position of the post box on the Leixlip approach at Young's Cross be carried out as there have been a couple of accidents and near misses at this location.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office has examined the location but was unsure as to the particular hazard that was causing the problem and requests further information from Councillor Larkin. Councillor Larkin requested to meet the area engineer on site to discuss the review of the position of the post box on the Leixlip approach at Young's Cross.

**Resolved:** That the area engineer meets with Councillor Larkin on site to discuss the position of the post box on the Leixlip approach at Young's Cross.

**CE 07/1403**

**Pay parking signage in Leixlip and Celbridge**

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

That all signage in relation to pay parking in Celbridge and Leixlip be reviewed and in particular their size, design and location.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the signs in relation to pay parking in all towns are and must be compliant with the road traffic signs manual issued by the department of transport. The area office placed these signs in the most prominent position visible to the motorist but which has the least impact on residents and the streetscape. The location of the signs is also determined by the location of current underground utilities and services. The members were in an agreement that the signs should be reduced and the design and style co inside with the towns that some of the signs are outrageous in size they also agreed to remove signs that are no longer needed.

**Resolved:** That the area office removes signs that are no longer needed and reduces signage in particular to their size, design and location.

**CE 08/1403**

**Controlled crossing at Leixlip West**

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

That in the absence of a controlled crossing on the dangerous Leixlip West approach from Beech Park to Castletown estate entrance, which has well over one thousand residential units and serves over six thousand people, the following be implemented immediately and these will be of great assistance to the controlled crossing;

- traffic speed limits reduced
- electronic speed warning signs
- traffic calming measures i.e. speed ramps, road narrowing, etc

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the traffic management section would examine this proposal and report back to the committee.

The report was noted.

**CE 09/1403**

**Green Verge at entrance to Confey Church**

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

That the area engineer looks at the green verge at the entrance to Confey Church. The footpath has pooling of water ankle deep that cannot run off and pedestrians have to walk up on the green verge.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that this work was listed to be actioned when resources in the Leixlip section allow.

The report was noted.

**CE 10/1403**

**Foothpath from the Avenue Café to Doctors Lane**

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

That the council examine the feasibility of putting a footpath from the Avenue Cafe as far into Doctors Lane as possible in the interest of public safety.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that there are serious challenges on this laneway with regard to the overall width of the road corridor but the area office can examine the feasibility of a footpath of sorts.

The report was noted.

**CE 11/1403**

**Installing a right turning lane at St.Mary's Church**

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

That the council examine the feasibility of installing a right turning lane at St. Mary's Church for those vehicles coming down Moyglare Road and wishing to turn right up the Kilcock Road.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 informing that the upcoming Part 8 consultation on the North/South corridor cycle route includes for a review of this junction and this suggestion can be reviewed at that time. The report was noted.

**CE 12/1403**

**Water ponding at the Celbridge House Pub**

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

That the council repair the large depression in the footpath between the Celbridge House Pub and the apartments as water is ponding and the surface is uneven.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that the area office was aware of this issue which would be listed for attention when resources allow.

The report was noted.

**CE 13/1403**

**Improving the general landscaping on the Hazelhatch Road**

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

That the council clean up the hedge, ivy, trees and improve the general landscaping in the location that runs parallel to the raised footpath on the Hazelhatch Road.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that the area office can address this when it's general hedge-cutting programme commences in late April.

The report was noted.

**CE 14/1403**

**Landscaping maintenance contract**

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

That the council include the roundabout at the Hazelhatch train station and the footpath area to the railway bridge into their landscaping maintenance contract.

A report was received from the parksdepartment dated 14 March 2014 stating that this would be included in the maintenance contract for the current year. It was proposed to prepare a landscape plan for the roundabout in 2015 and to landscape it subject to the availability of resources and to then include it in the roundabout sponsorship scheme for the county.

**CE 15/1403**

**Maynooth Fire Station**

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

That a proper location be identified for a new Maynooth Fire Station as a matter of urgency as the existing location is highly unsuitable and the state of the existing station is very poor. A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that the area office reports that the relocation of the fire station was a matter for the fire service. However, there are certain elements of the north/south corridor plan for Maynooth which may improve access for the fire service to the road network in Maynooth. The chief fire officer reports that funding for fire stations was provided by the Department of the Environment and that there was currently no budget available for fire station capital projects including the purchase of sites. The selection of a future site would require the consideration of many different factors including proximity to risks, access and egress and a location proximal to where fire fighters live. It was accepted that the current site was not suitable and that facilities need to be upgraded but, given the absence of funding, there was no short term solution. The members were unhappy with the report and stated that that Maynooth needs to prioritise for a new fire station. Ms Aspell stated that there was no budget available for fire station capital projects including the purchase of sites. The members invited the chief fire officer to the next meeting of the Celbridge area meeting to discuss the issue.

**Resolved:** That the chief fire officer for Kildare be invited to the next Celbridge area meeting to discuss the issue of a new fire station for Maynooth.

**CE 16/1403**

**Seek funding for a footpath from Lishandra Manor to Tankards Lane, Ardclough**

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

That the council seek funding for the provision of a footpath from Lishandra Manor to Tankards Lane, Ardclough from the NTA under the sustainable transport grants, given the improved accessibility it will give to students, residents and recreational walkers using the grand canal towpath to access Ardclough village safely for services.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the scheme would be considered when the application to the NTA for funding for footpath projects is being finalised.

The report was noted.

**CE17/1403**

**Footpaths at Castlevillage estate, Celbridge**

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

That the council look into the possibility of dishing the footpaths for disabled persons at the following locations at Castlevillage estate, Celbridge;

- (details supplied) Castlevillage Court
- (details supplied) Castlevillage Drive
- the entrance to The Crescent
- the footpath at (details supplied) Castlevillage Walk.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the these requests have been referred to the overseer who would endeavour to address them when resources allow.

The report was noted.

**CE18/1403**

**Yellow Lines at Thornhill Meadows estate**

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

That the council provide yellow lines at the entrance to Thornhill Meadows estate for safety reasons and expand the yellow box to the far side of the road at the request of the residents association.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that there was a yellow box at the junction to the estate. The area office would monitor the parking situation at the estate over the coming weeks to see if there are serious unauthorised parking issues at the entrance.

The report was noted.

**CE 19/1403**

**Lights at the Grove, Abbeyfarm, Celbridge**

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

In order to provide safety and better quality lighting, that two short arm lights be provided at the Grove, Abbeyfarm, Celbridge (poles number 2 and 3) as there is some anti-social activity at this location.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that the public lighting unit of the roads design office would assess the existing lighting at this location and would report back to the committee. Councillor McGinley



requested to meet the area engineer on site to discuss installing two short arm lights (poles number 2 and 3) at the Grove, Abbeyfarm, Celbridge

**Resolved:** That the area engineer meet with Councillor McGinley on site to discuss installing two short arm lights (poles number 2 and 3) at the Grove, Abbeyfarm, Celbridge.

**CE 20/1403**

**Bus bay opposite Buckleys House, Main Street, Maynooth**

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

That the bus bay opposite Buckleys House, Main Street, Maynooth be extended by two metres in order to allow the bus to pull into the bay, thereby allowing traffic to pass freely through the Main Street.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that the bus bay was lengthened by 3 metres last year and the area office has no further plans to do any other works at this location. However, the area office acknowledges that there are still delays on the main street when buses are picking up and dropping off passengers.

The report was noted.

**CE 21/1403**

**Airtricity explain public light system at Celbridge Interchange**

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

That Airtricity be requested to explain why the public lighting system at the Celbridge Interchange is constantly failing to operate correctly as there are presently eight lights out of action.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the as requested by the committee the roads department issued a letter to Airtricity and to ESB Networks inviting them to attend a meeting of the committee to discuss issues of concern to the members. No reply from either firm has been received as yet. Councillor Griffin stated he was unhappy that no representative came to the area meeting to discuss the public lighting system. Assessment of the pillars that are been used need to be assets as they are constantly blowing the issue needs to be resolved as there are 8 more lights out of action. Mr George Willoughby stated he would contact Mr Ronan Linnane who deals with the public lighting section in the council and report back to the members.

**Resolved:** That a report issue to the members to explain why the public lighting system at the Celbridge Interchange was constantly failing to operate correctly.

**CE 22/1403**

**Repair public lighting at River Forest estate**

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

That we ask Airtricity to repair the public lighting at the entrance to River forest estate as one light on pole number 19 at the corner needs urgent repair and also light numbers 1, 2, and 3, as these lights are out for approximately 4 weeks.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 confirming that there the public lights which were out at the entrance to river forest have been repaired by Airtricity within the last week. There was also a fault on the ESB network supply side supplying power to these lights which has been reported to the ESB for repair. The members requested that Mr Ronan Linnane, executive engineer, roads design be invited to the next Celbridge area meeting to discuss the Airtricity contract.

**Resolved:** That Mr Ronan Linnane attend the next Celbridge area meeting to discuss the Airtricity contract.

**CE 23/1403**

**Repairs to footpath River Forest**

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

That repairs to the footpath at house number (details supplied), River Forest be carried out as the path area is in a bad condition and also in Castletown estate at house numbers (details supplied) the footpath and dished area needs repair as a number of elderly residents are having problems walking on it because a lot of potholes are present making it difficult for walking.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office could list these footpath sections for repair but cannot complete them until resources are available. The members agreed that a letter should issue to the Department of Environment Community Local Government seeking funding for houses that are forty years old that are in need of constant repairs.

**Resolved:** That a letter issue to the Department of Environment Community Local Government seeking funding for houses that are forty years old that are in need of constant repairs.

**CE 24/1403**

**Speed cushion on Greenlane Road be repaired**

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

That the speed cushion on Greenlane Road outside St Marys GAA be repaired as soon as possible.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office was addressing all of the ramps in poor condition within the celbridge electoral area on a priority basis and would attend to them all as soon as possible.

The report was noted.

**CE 25/1402**

**Iarnrod Eireann**

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

That this council ask Iarnrod Eireann the rationale behind moving the ticket machine from inside the station to the edge of the path at the bridge.

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that if the committee was in agreement a written enquiry would issue to Iarnrod Eireann as requested. The members agreed that a written enquiry should issue to Iarnrod Eireann in relation to the moving of the ticket machine from inside the station to the edge of the path at the bridge.

**Resolved:** That the roads and transport department issue a written enquiry to Iarnrod Eireann in relation to the moving of the ticket machine from inside the station to the edge of the path at the bridge.

**CE 26/1403**

**Pothole outside house, Leixlip Park**

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

Can the pothole outside house number (details supplied) Leixlip Park be repaired as soon as possible?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 A temporary repair has been completed on the pothole. Further works would be required to remove the damaged section of concrete road and replace it.

The report was noted.

**CE 27/1403**

**Upgrade scheme on the Maynooth Road, Celbridge**

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

Can we have an update on the upgrade scheme being carried out on the Maynooth Road, Celbridge and in particular the traffic light signalling at Thornhill Junction?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that the traffic lights at the Aghards junction are fully complete and

working satisfactorily. There are still issues with the commissioning of the pedestrian lights on the Maynooth side of this junction and these are currently being addressed.

The report was noted.

**CE 28/1403**

**Repair ramps on the Hazelhatch Road in Celbridge**

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

Can the council include the ramps for repair on the Hazelhatch Road in Celbridge into their work programme when resources allow?

A detailed report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office was addressing all of the ramps that are in poor condition within the Celbridge electoral area on a priority basis and would attend to them all as soon as possible.

The report was noted.

**CE 29/1403**

**E.S.B and An Post**

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

Can the council write to the E.S.B and An Post and request them to clean and paint their various sub stations, mini pillars, post boxes, etc within Celbridge which will compliment the great voluntary work which is ongoing?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that the If the committee is in agreement a written request will issue to the ESB and to An Post as requested. The members agreed that the roads and transport department issue a letter to ESB and to An Post as requested.

**Resolved:** that the roads and transport department issue a letter to ESB and to An Post requesting them to clean and paint their various sub stations, mini pillars, post boxes, etc within Celbridge.

**CE 30/1403**

**Kerb and Footpath along the mill in Celbridge**

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

Can the kerb and footpath at the entrance and along to the mill in Celbridge be included in the councils list of works for repair?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office would list this work for action when resources allow.

The report was noted.

**CE 31/1403**

**Examine the footpath from Dara Court exit**

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

Can the council examine the footpath from the Dara Court exit to the entrance to the supermarket on the Maynooth Road, Celbridge which has been left in a dangerous condition by the installation of the water meters?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office would contact the contractors for Irish Water about these installations.

The report was noted.

**CE 32/1403**

**Footpaths and Cycle paths**

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

Can the council request the NTA to examine the extension of footpaths and cycle paths from the Salesian College, Celbridge to the Straffan Road, Maynooth in order to make it safer for those attending the Salesian College, Celbridge and the Educate Together schools in Maynooth?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that this particular cycle path, while being desirable, would require significant capital expenditure. The scheme would be listed as a long-term objective and funding would be sought to examine it's feasibility.

The report was noted.

**CE 33/1403**

**Repairing footpaths Dara Court, Celbridge**

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

Can the council look into the possibility of repairing the footpaths at the following locations, house numbers (details supplied), Dara Court, Celbridge when funds and personnel become available?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office would list this work for action when resources allow.

The report was noted.

**CE 34/1403**

**Traffic lights system at Cope Bridge, Confey, Leixlip**

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

Will this council examine the traffic lights system at Cope Bridge, Confey, Leixlip to see if they are fit for purpose after 14 years in situ?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the Kildare County Council has funding from the NTA for 2014 to review all aspects of Cope Bridge. A brief for the consultants' review was being prepared. It was intended to erect "No HGV" signage on the approaches to the bridge in the coming weeks. Councillor Purcell stated he had concerns over the traffic lights at Cope Bridge and requested that the area office examine the traffic light system at Cope Bridge.

**Resolved:** That when the area office reviews Cope Bridge that they also examine the traffic light system at Cope Bridge.

### **CE 35/1403**

#### **Canal towpath from Louisa Bridge, Leixlip to Cope Bridge, Confey**

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

Will the council demand that the OPW reinstate sections of the canal towpath from Louisa Bridge, Leixlip to Cope Bridge, Confey in view of the large number of people discommoded by its current state?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating that the area office was in discussion with Waterways Ireland on all aspects of the canal towpaths from Maynooth through to the county border at Confey and would raise this issue with them.

The report was noted.

### **CE 36/1403**

#### **Progress report on the Liffey Bridge, Celbridge**

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

Can we have a progress report on the Liffey Bridge, Celbridge? Are the consultants appointed and are the finances in place?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating the Tender submissions have been received from a number of competent consultants and are currently being evaluated. It was hoped to confirm the appointment of the chosen consultant in the coming weeks.

The report was noted.

### **CE 37/1403**

#### **Directional signage at Business park Roundabout, Maynooth**

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

Can we have the directional signage replaced at the Business Park Roundabout, Maynooth?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 stating the this signage was maintained by the maintenance contractor for the NRA. The area office would contact them to identify the signage to be repaired.

The report was noted.

**CE 38/1402**

**Update on the flooding at the back lane in Avondale**

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

Is there an update on the flooding at the back lane in Avondale (details of effected properties supplied)?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that there was no progress to report on this issue at present.

The report was noted.

**CE 39/1403**

**Update on the grass margin at River Forest**

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

Can we receive an update on the grass margin at south entrance to the back of the shops at River Forest?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 there was no progress to report on this issue at present.

The report was noted.

**CE 40/1403**

**Dublin Bus**

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

Can Dublin Bus be asked about increasing services on Easton Road as extra bus times are needed and is there a service to be provided between Celbridge and Leixlip?

A report was received from the roads and transport department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that the Derry O'Leary from Dublin Bus would attend the Meeting. Mr Derry O'Leary briefed the members on this item during his presentation.

The report was noted.

**CE 41/1403**

**Childcare providers**

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

With the number of childcare providers discontinuing their services, that we seek a review of the condition in the County Development Plan that a substantial portion of a house must be dedicated to residential.

A report was received from the planning department dated 20 March 2014 outlining of the policies of the County Development Plan 2011-2017 regarding childcare and pre-school facilities. The motion relates to a statement contained in the development management section (Chapter 19 Section 19.5) of the County Development Plan 2011-2017 which states that "the complete conversion of existing semi-detached and terraced dwellings within housing estates to childcare facilities was generally discouraged. The childcare use should remain secondary and the bulk of the house should be retained for residential purposes". The review was being sought on the basis of childcare providers discontinuing their service. The report was noted.

**CE 42/1403**

**Unauthorised developments**

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

That this committee agrees that the growing numbers of unauthorised developments cannot be processed in anything approaching a timely fashion by all local authorities and request that the County Manager address the problem and identify ways and means to deal with this matter.

A report was received from the planning department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that the planning department agreed that there was a growing number of complaints of unauthorised development. They are prioritised by the department and dealt with on the basis of urgency. New complaints are prioritised as follows: high works for which planning permission has not been granted, unauthorised work on a protected structure, high impact work which may affect health & safety; medium = work not in compliance with planning permission; low = dispute between neighbours which could be a civil matter. The planning department try to deal as quickly as possible with high priority cases. Once a file was opened, the procedure for reaching a successful conclusion can be long and protracted, particularly if it requires legal action. Accordingly these files remain "open" on the system for a long time. Over the past year approximately 1,000 files over two years old have been examined and closed. This exercise continues in an effort to reduce the number of inactive files. There are currently approximately 1,800 files open on our system. The members were disappointed with the report and stated that the back log needs to be dealt with and procedures need to be put in place. The members stated that Offaly County Council put a scheme in place and dealt with the back log of the unauthorised developments. They stated



that Kildare County Council contact Offaly County Council asking them about the scheme they put in place to deal with the the back log of unauthorised developments.

**Resolved:** That the planning department contact Offaly County Council asking them about the scheme they put in place to deal with the the back log of unauthorised developments.

**CE 43/1403**

**Stone walls on the protected structures list**

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

Can stone walls be included on the protected structures list and if so are there any in the area?

A report was received from the planning department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members of the approaches that may be made in relation to protecting stone walls in the county as noted in the County Development Plan 2011 – 2017, Chapter 12 Architectural and Archaeological Heritage. There are a number of stone walls within the area which are located within the curtilage of a protected structure and therefore the wall would also be protected.

The report was noted.

**CE 44/1403**

**Skateboard park in Leixlip**

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

Can the council provide or assist in identifying a suitable site for a skateboard park in Leixlip?

A report was received from the parks department dated 14 March 2014 informing the members that the council could assist in this process. However the work involved in this has not been included in the works programme for the parks section for the current year which was recently presented to the Community and Culture SPC. The commitments outlined in this would have to be completed first.

The report was noted.

**CE 45/1403**

**Bathing and swimming in public places**

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

Will the council consider an advanced safety campaign in respect to bathing and swimming in public places?

A report was received from Kildare Sports Partnership department dated 14 March 2014 informing the members that the council would consider an advanced safety campaign and would contact Councillor Larkin to discuss in the coming days.

The report was noted.

**CE 46/1403**

**Map of Graves**

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

Can the council consider putting in place a map of graves with location and names at graveyards in the area?

A report was received from the environment department dated 20 March 2014 informing the members that the information relating to graves are maintained in registers held by the caretaker and also in the environment section at the environment section was currently working with the library service towards commencing the creation of a database which would contain information relating to cemetery/graveyard internments this work was at an early stage. The provision of a map at graveyards in the county was not being considered at the moment.

The report was noted.

**CE 47/1403**

**Celbridge Casual Trading Bye-Laws**

To receive report on proposed Celbridge Casual Trading Bye-Laws

The members agreed to adjourn casual trading bye-laws for Celbridge.

**Resolved:** That the item be adjourned.

**CE 48/1403**

**Gaelscoileanna in North Kildare**

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

In view of the difficulties encountered by parents in enrolling their children from Gaelscoileanna in North Kildare, that this committee would endorse the building of a local Gaelcholaiste. The meetings administrator informed the members that this item was a matter for the members to discuss. The members were all in agreement that the committee support the provision of a local Gaelcholaiste in Leixlip, Celbridge and Maynooth.

**Resolved:** That a letter issue to the Minister for Education and Skills Mr Ruairi Quinn stating that the Celbridge area committee members were all in agreement that the committee support the provision of a local Gaelcholaiste in Leixlip, Celbridge and Maynooth.

The meeting concluded.