

Áras Chill Dara
Páirc Devoy
An Nás
Co. Kildare
7 September 2015

To the Cathaoirleach and each Member of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District

Dear Cathaoirleach and Members,

The next meeting of the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 September 2015, in the council chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Naas and you are invited to attend.

Yours sincerely,

A Aspell
Meetings Administrator

Agenda (10:00 a.m.)

1. To approve minutes of meeting of 15 July 2015, annual meeting of 15 July 2015 and joint special meeting of 27 July 2015 and to note progress report.
2. To receive deputation from Kildare Children and Young People's Services Committee.
3. To receive a progress report on schedule of municipal district works.
4. To consider a date for the draft budgetary plan for the district.

Housing (10:35 a.m.)

Motions

5. Councillor Doyle

That this council consider the promotion of voluntary downsizing, to current local authority tenants who are currently over accommodated, through incentive schemes and outlining economies of smaller suitable units.

6. Councillor Lynch

That in light of the housing crises this council considers scaling back the demolition project in St. Patrick's Park, Rathangan and re-inhabit homes with families as soon as possible. We ask that this is done in conjunction with the new build of council homes and continue to seek the funding for same, however ask the relevant Government department if this funding can be used to bring empty homes up to a liveable standard as opposed to total demolition and that this is done as a priority.

Questions

7. Councillor Pender

Can we have an update on previous calls to explore the possible use of empty properties in the Curragh Camp for social housing provision?

8. Councillor McLoughlin-Healy

Can the council give a breakdown of the entire funding of the town hall works and where it has come from, including the reasons for the recent increased budget requirement, bringing the previous €400,000 budgeted for completion of the town hall (excepting exterior works) to €645,000, i.e. an extra €220,000?

Roads, Transport and Public Safety (10:45 a.m.)

Motions

9. Councillor Stafford

That the council conduct an investigation into the road safety issues that arise at Robertstown from Mylerstown Cross to Healys Bridge given the lack of road margins and identify the possible solutions including the erection of suitable barriers.

10. Councillor Stafford

That the council erect the appropriate speed limit signs along the R415 between Milltown and Rathbride particularly at Wheelam Cross.

11. Councillor Crowley

That funding be provided from the contingency fund to install a sheep grid at Moorefield GAA entrance at Pollardstown where the continued encroachment by errant sheep is causing serious health and safety issues to the many youngsters who are using the club.

12. Councillor Crowley

That the pedestrian crossing at Newbridge College be upgraded and advance warning signs be provided so that motorists are forewarned of their existence.

13. Councillor Kennedy

That this council address the serious problem of traffic calming and a safe crossing system at Milltown school.

14. Councillor Pender

That in the absence of an effective traffic management plan the council applies appropriate road markings, school signage, traffic calming measures and yellow box at the entrance to the new Educate Together National School in Kildare Town.

15. Councillor Pender

That the council applies appropriate road markings to the junction and bend where the old road at Friary Court meets the Dunmurray Road before the railway bridge as there are no lanes marked out to stop cars from veering to the wrong side of the road when taking the bend.

16. Councillor Power

That the council outline who has responsibility for the integrity of the structures of bridges (canal, river, road and rail) in the area and indicate how often surveys are carried out to determine same.

17. Councillor O'Loughlin

That the council prepare and cost a plan for the revitalisation of Eyre Street Newbridge (including Market Square and also looking at connecting roads) examining footpaths, colour scheme plan with gateway staff, street furniture and examining Newbridge Tidy Towns proposal of using the stone from the former courthouse to rebuild arches as a feature in Market Square.

Questions

18. Councillor Stafford

Can the council provide an update on the proposed road widening at Walshestown, Athgarvan and furnish a report on the matter?

19. Councillor Crowley

Can the director explain the reasons behind the decision to introduce wooden bollards at various green areas including College Park and indicate who requested these and what is the cost of providing and installing them?

20. Councillor Crowley

Can a strategy be devised in conjunction with street cleaning to eliminate unsightly weeds that proliferate our footpaths and principal streets and an ongoing policy of control be introduced perhaps in conjunction with owners of premises and houses?

21. Councillor Pender

Can the council assess the road on the hill on Bride Street and see if there is anything that can be done to improve road safety and to allow children to cross safely from the playground to the garage side of the road?

22. Councillor Power

If the council would give consideration to the provision of a pedestrian crossing opposite The Gables, Newbridge as part of the safe route to school project?

23. Councillor Doyle

Can we have a progress report on the following works;

- the crossroads at Brownstown, Curragh
- the Railway Road, Kildare town
- the bus stop at exit 13?

24. Councillor Lynch

Can this council look into the traffic backlogs at the lights at the McDonalds/Tesco traffic light junction in Newbridge? Backlogs from Ballymany in the mornings and on weekends are causing huge disruption and action needs to be taken at this junction for Newbridge to continue as a main shopping town with ease of access into the town for residents and shoppers.

Planning, Community and Culture (11:15 a.m.)

25. To receive an update from the Decade of Commemoration Committee.

26. To approve report of the Chief Executive to the Proposed Amendment No. 1 to the Newbridge Local Area Plan 2013-2019 (report attached).

Motions

27. Councillor Kennedy

That when the council complete the work in Dara Park/Lakeside Park, Newbridge we look at putting in allotments on the piece of ground in Lakeside Park that the contractor will use as a compound.

28. Councillor Power

In implementing The Liffey Valley Park Strategy, that the council outline the progress made in developing the area between St Conleths Bridge and Newbridge College as an amenity/walkway and indicate what other parts of the strategy could be implemented next year and the approximate cost involved.

29. Councillor O'Loughlin

That the council liaise with local businesses to get sponsorship to plant and maintain the Newhall Roundabout as it is a key entrance to Newbridge as well as Naas.

30. Councillor McLoughlin-Healy

As we are nearing the end of the budget year in which the skatepark has been budgeted for, that the council outline its plans for ensuring the skatepark project happens and addresses the delay in getting councillors, skatepark consultation group and officials together as previously suggested to expedite the process and to maximise the chances of identifying a feasible location.

Adjourned Question

31. Councillor Doyle

Can we have an up-to-date detailed progress report on the taking in charge of Collaghknock/Plains Kildare, to include list of outstanding issues to be resolved with proposed solutions and costings?

Questions

32. Councillor O'Loughlin

If the council cannot resource the installation of the sculptures in Georges Street, that we look at covering these expenses from either the contingency fund of 2015 Local Property Tax or the 2016 Local Property Tax if funds are agreed by full council.

33. Councillor Stafford

Can the council advise of the number of site resolution plans entered into over the past year in relation to estates within the municipal district and provide a progress report in respect of same?

34. Councillor Lynch

Can this council contact Waterways Ireland to find out why the Grand Canal has had a huge reduction in weed cutting taking place on the canal, in particular between Robertstown and Lock 13 at the Village at Lyons and their comments on the reduction in cutting services? Excessive and overgrown weeds cause huge stress to barges which bring tourists to the area and put the industry and canal itself in jeopardy. Solutions such as re-instating the two hours a day overtime, Saturday working for maintenance staff during peak weed growing season, properly fixing the harvester in Tullamore and ensuring weed cutting machines are properly maintained would be some solutions.

35. Councillor O'Loughlin

Can the council agree landscaping plan as suggested by residents and weight restriction on through traffic prior to the council taking Millfield esate, Newbridge in charge?

36. Councillor McLoughlin-Healy

Why were the councillors who had used their allocation of monthly motions/questions to find out where the artwork commissioned for George's Street in 2009, since left in storage, not invited to or even made aware of a visit facilitated by the council, to which the traders from George's Street (on whose behalf the councillors had previously presented their motions), the municipal district engineer, the Arts Officer and one councillor (who hadn't raised the issue in the lifetime of this council) were invited to see the artworks in their current state?

Water Services and Environment (11:45 a.m.)

Motions

37. Councillor Doyle

That this council consider the adoption of bye laws to prohibit the dumping of top soil in cemeteries.

38. Councillor McLoughlin-Healy

That the council provide details of derelict sites/buildings in the district with an update on how many there are and where, how many have been assessed for dereliction in the last year versus how many were actually designated derelict and the outcome or consequences in each case of a derelict designation.

Question

39. Councillor Power

In view of the number of local people who have died and were buried abroad and the increasing number of cremations taking place, would the council consider providing a plaque in cemeteries owned by the council allowing families to register the names of their deceased loved ones?

Financial Services (11:50 a.m.)

Question

40. Councillor Doyle

Can we get a figure from the National Rates Office on the number of re-evaluations carried out in County Kildare in the past years, where they were located geographically without giving exact address and what is the average time it takes to have an evaluation request acted on?

**Economic Development, Enterprise and Corporate Services
(11:55 a.m.)**

Motion

41. Councillor Lynch

From October onwards that this council is provided with a list of agreed actions to be undertaken following motions, questions or other agreements made at council meetings and that these items are kept on a list or spreadsheet system which are carried forward to each subsequent meeting. The item will be struck off the list once resolved with the agreement of the members following its completion/assessment/response. Agreed actions, motions and questions should be added, if requested, by agreement and kept on this list until completed. e.g; letter to Government department - action logged and only removed with agreement of members after the response, pothole to be filled in - action logged and only removed with agreement of members after the job is completed following update from roads crew or inspection.