

**Draft Minutes of Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Meeting  
held at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 15 June 2016  
in the Council Chamber, Aras Chill Dara**

**Members Present:** Councillors P Kennedy (Mayor), M Aspell, S Doyle, M Lynch  
M McCabe, F McLoughlin-Healy, J Pender, M Stafford, S Power.

**Officials Present:** Mr T Mc Donnell (District Manager), Ms B Rea (District Engineer),  
Mr L Dunne, Mr K Kavanagh, Ms A Aspell, Ms E Wright (Senior  
Executive Officers), Mr D Creighton, (A/Senior Architect), Mr J  
Coppinger, (Senior Engineer), Mr W Hannigan (Senior Executive  
Engineer) Mr S Wallace, (Senior Parks Superintendant), Mr D Wyer  
(Environmental Awareness Officer), Mr B O’Gorman, Ms S Scully, Ms S  
Fitzpatrick, (Administrative Officers), Ms M McIvor (Meetings  
Administrator) and Ms E Price (Meetings Secretary).

**KN01/1606**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 18 May 2016 together with the progress report.

Councillor Lynch asked that wording of the resolution under minute reference KN25/1605 – Taking in Charge of Estates be changed to include the word ‘regular’.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Doyle that the amended minutes be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

**Community and Festival Grants (KN22/1605)**

Councillor McLoughlin Healy noted when considering the Community and Festival Grants at the May Municipal District Meeting, she had not realised the Busk and Food Festival, Newbridge was also included in the list of Festival Grants to be considered. Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked that her interest in the Busk and Food Festival be noted.

**Breakdown of Pay Parking Income for Newbridge (KN16/1605)**

The Pay Parking Section are asked to attend the July Municipal District meeting to provide the members with an overview of the appeals process for parking fines.

**Resolved** that officials from the Pay Parking Section attend the July Municipal District Meeting.

**Walkway at Moore Avenue (KN02/1603 & KN04/1604)**

The members were advised that the Building Control Section is in the process of examining submissions from the developer under the taking in charge process and it is hoped the matter could be resolved before the end of 2016.

**Resolved** that the members be updated at each municipal district meeting until the matter has been fully resolved.

**Pedestrian Crossing at the Orchard Park, The Curragh (KN09/1602) &  
Bus Shelter, Pedestrian Crossing and Footpath from Brownstown to The Curragh  
(KN06/1604), (KN02/1605)**

Responding to a query from Councillor Pender on when this meeting will take place, the district manager advised that confirmation of a date is awaited from the National Transportation Authority (NTA).

**Resolved** that the members be advised when the meeting has been confirmed with the National Transportation Authority (NTA).

**Traffic Calming at Askinraw Lane, Suncroft (KN10/1605)**

Responding to a query from Councillor Doyle, the district engineer advised August, 2016 as a possible timeline for these works to take place.

**Resolved** that the members be further updated when the works are scheduled to start.

**Lights and Signage in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District (KN07/1604)**

In relation to the report circulated to the members regarding lighting and signage in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District, Councillor McLoughlin Healy requested that the members be updated with a costing on signage.

**Resolved** that the roads department provide the members with the cost of signage.

**Long Term Leasing of Buildings and Land (KN31/1605)**

In relation to the progress report circulated to the members advising them of the various leases on land and buildings, Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked for a further update on the specific lengths and costs of these long term leases.

**KN02/1606**

**Schedule of Municipal District Works**

The District Engineer circulated an update on district work.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

**KN03/1606**

**Date for the Annual Meeting**

The meetings administrator advised the members that the annual meeting will take place on Wednesday 20 July 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

**Resolved** that the date and time of the annual meeting be noted.

**KN04/1606**

**Housing Projects in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District**

The District Manager gave a comprehensive verbal report on housing projects in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District. The members were advised on the current status of each of the six housing projects involved.

**St Patrick's Park, Rathangan**

The members were advised that Phase 1 drainage relief works were complete and documents were almost ready to go to tender for the refurbishment of 22 units. In relation to Phases 2 and 3, the members were advised that this involves demolition, refurbishment and the provision of a green site and that a design brief is being prepared to submit to the framework consultants.

Councillor Stafford queried if demolition and rebuild of some of the units might be more cost effective than refurbishment. Responding, the Senior Architect advised that there are a number of factors to be considered with the demolition of units including the cost of rebuild, the cost of demolition and whether a unit is terraced or end of terrace, as such demolition would only occur where absolutely necessary.

### **Bishopsland/Dunmurray Road, Kildare**

The members were advised that the link road is now open and a design team has now been appointed. The Senior Architect advised the members that the design brief is for 34 units which is an increase of 6 units. It is envisaged that a draft Part VIII may be brought to the next monthly council meeting.

Responding to a query from Councillor Doyle regarding the mix of the number of 2 and 3 bed units, the district manager advised that current guidelines from the Department advocate for a greater number of smaller units and with this in mind the Housing Department will be considering a greater mix of units in all developments.

### **Tankardsgarden, Newbridge**

The members were advised that consultants are due to be appointed and documents are ready to go to tender for 4 units at this site.

### **Beechgrove, Rathangan**

In relation to Beechgrove, Rathangan, the members were advised the original approval is for 18 units. The District Manager advised that the Department is currently considering a revised plan for increased capacity at this site.

### **Athgarvan Road, Newbridge**

In relation to the replacement of the units previously on these sites, the members were advised that documents are ready to go to tender before the end of the month and it is hoped works might commence late in Q3 or in Q4 of 2016.

### **Athgarvan (Site at Kinneagh Cross to the Curragh Road)**

The members were advised that this site is currently being looked at and considered by the Department for a possible 30 units.

Responding to a query from Councillor Doyle regarding a site at Coolaghknock in Kildare, the District Manager advised the members that the council had been unsuccessful in its bid on another derelict site in Kildare Town but the council is still looking at sites.

The District Manager advised the members that the council has established a framework of consultants to assist with new schemes and staff resources are also being reviewed.

The District Manager also advised the members that units acquired by the council usually require some refurbishment and the policy of the council, where possible, is to carry out these refurbishments whilst the unit is vacant. The members were also advised that the council works closely with Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the provision of housing and also provides an out of hours service for the homeless with the Fr Peter McVerry Trust.

Responding to a query from Councillor Pender on the increase in numbers on the housing list and whether there would be an increase in funding to reflect this, Ms Aspell advised that the council is currently completing an Assessment of Housing Needs for the county which is due to be complete before 21 September 2016. Following a number of queries from the members in relation Mortgage to Rent (MTR), the District Manager advised he would further update the members with information on the numbers of applications for and any provisions in place for Mortgage to Rent (MTR).

The Mayor, on behalf of all the members, thanked the District Manager and the Housing Department for their informative and comprehensive report.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the District Manager to update the members on the Mortgage to Rent Scheme (MTR).

### **KN05/1606**

#### **Houses on the Athgarvan Road, Newbridge**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Aspell.

What is the current situation with the houses that were knocked down on the Athgarvan Road (old Barracks) and when can we see a start to the rebuilding of new homes on that site?

A report was received from the Housing Department advising the members that the council intend on going to tender during the next 2 weeks and subject to tender returns and

Department approval a start date in September 2016 is anticipated.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

**KN06/1606**

**Housing Grants Applications**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Doyle.

Can we have a report on number of Disabled Person Grant (DPG) & Essential Repairs Grant (ERG) applications in the system this year for council housing stock in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District (including previous applications outstanding) with details of the current status of same and the level of budget available?

A report was received from the Housing Department advising the members of the current status of housing adaptation grants and extensions for council stock. The report noted that the council has not yet been formerly notified of the 2016 allocation for housing adaptations and extensions for local authority stock.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the members be updated when notification of the budget allocation has been advised.

**KN07/1606**

**Local Authority Houses Allocated in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Power.

Can the council provide a list of the local authority houses allocated in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District each month this year and how this performance compares with recent years?

A report was received from the Housing Department advising the members of the housing allocations from January to May 2014, 2015 and 2016 in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District.

Councillor Power asked for an update on progress on the housing list.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the members be updated on progress on the housing list for the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District.

**KN08/1606**

**Bridge Barriers at Lowtown**

The council considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Doyle.

That the bridge barriers at Lowtown be included for delivery with other priority bridges in the area for priority delivery this year.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Stafford.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office will assess the location at Lowtown with a view to procuring a price for supply and installation of a safety barrier.

Councillor Doyle clarified the location as being on the right hand side of the road at the Traveller's Rest.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Stafford that the municipal district office assess the location at the Traveller's Rest with a view to procuring a price for supply and installation of a safety barrier.

### **KN09/1606**

#### **Road Widening at Curragh Grange/Liffey Hall, Newbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Lynch.

That the council be updated as to the progress of a previous motion which indicated the need to widen a small section of the road coming from Newbridge towards Athgarvan, at the Curragh Grange/ Liffey Hall junction where cars are backing up due to cars turning right into the estate and cars exiting the town cannot pass them on the left, which is needlessly causing huge traffic delays. The land is already available on the left of the road in which to make a small 5m bypass which would alleviate the situation, even if it were a few metres of levelled soil.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Lynch and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that there is currently no funding available for the design and upgrading of this junction. The report advises that this scheme is on the list of National Transport Authority (NTA) potential schemes but no funding was provided by that Authority for it in 2016.

Councillor Lynch said he was frustrated, as this was a simple project and should be relatively cheap to carry out. Following a discussion from the members, Councillor McLoughlin Healy asked that an approximate costing on these works be provided to the members.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Lynch and seconded by Councillor Doyle that the report be noted and an approximate costing on this project be prepared.

**KN10/1606**

**Repairs to the Coolough Road, Kilmeague**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Power.

That the council carry out immediate repairs to the Coolough road in Kilmeague (link road between Naas road and Prosperous road) and provide some relief and comfort for the residents of the 15 houses that live on the road.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that this road has not been included on the list of proposed road improvement schemes for 2016. The report advised that the municipal district office will continue to maintain it with a view to including it as a project on the 2017 road improvement programme.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Doyle that the municipal district office continue to maintain the Coolough Road and examine further with a view to including as a project on the 2017 road improvement programme.

**KN11/1606**

**Lamp-post at Liffey Hall, Newbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy.

That the council assist the residents of Liffey Hall to erect a lamp-post they paid to replace themselves after years of requesting the council to replace.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Pender.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Public Lighting Unit has made contact with the Residents Association of Liffey Hall with a view to erecting these replacement poles.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor McLoughlin Healy and seconded by Councillor Pender that the report be noted.



**KN12/1606**

**Drain Grates at Little Connell, Great Connell Road, Newbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Stafford.

That the council will investigate the problems caused by heavy traffic traversing certain sunken drain grates at Little Connell, Great Connell Road, Newbridge particularly noise pollution and identify possible solutions.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Doyle.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the roads design department is currently dealing with a Section 38 report on proposed traffic calming works, including speed ramps, on the Great Connell Road in conjunction with the examination of a recent planning application from Lidl for a new large warehouse to which a planning condition may be applied requiring the applicant to complete the link road between the Naas Road and the Great Connell Road. The report advised that the proposed traffic calming works on the Great Connell Road include pavement and drainage works to be undertaken. The members were advised that the Roads Design Department will be meeting with the Senior Engineer on this issue and the Section 38 report will then be completed and that the Roads Design Department will discuss the sunken drain grates at Little Connell, Great Connell Road, Newbridge with the municipal district engineer and an update will be provided for the next meeting.

Councillor Stafford queried if a solution could be found to reduce the noise levels caused by heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) driving over the sunken grates.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Doyle that the Roads Department examine possible solutions to reducing the noise levels and an update on traffic calming, pavement and drainage works be provided at the next municipal district meeting.

**KN13/1606**

**Cleaning of Water Course at Derrymullen, Allenwood**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Stafford.

That the council will complete the cleaning of the water course at Derrymullen, Allenwood which runs parallel to the road and which connects the Grand Canal and River Slate.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Power.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office will inspect the watercourse at Derrymullen with a view to undertaking necessary works later in the coming months.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Power that the report be noted and the members to be updated when the works have been completed.

**KN14/1606**

**Redevelopment of Eyre Street, Newbridge**

The members considered the following adjourned question in the name of Councillor Power.  
Can the council give an update in relation to the redevelopment of Eyre Street, Newbridge?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that discussions are ongoing with the National Transportation Authority (NTA) with regard to Newbridge and the identification of resources. An update will be provided to the members on the outcome of these discussions. The Senior Engineer advised the members that there is an indication of a grant from the National Transportation Authority (NTA), but Mr Coppinger also advised the members that this is a lengthy process.  
**Resolved** that the report be noted and an update be provided on the outcome of discussions with the National Transportation Authority (NTA).

**KN15/1606**

**Parking at Lackagh School**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Lynch.  
Can the members be updated as to a previous motion laid down in relation to implementing more parking at Lackagh School and the progress of same with landholders?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the Road Improvement Scheme proposed in the area of Lackagh School, together with the proposed development by the school, will provide parking and improved traffic management at this location. The report further advised that this contract is due to commence in August 2016.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

**KN16/1606**

**Traffic Calming Measures on the Rowanville Road, Kildare**

The members considered the following questions in the name of Councillor Pender.

Can the council please consider traffic calming measures on the Rowanville Road, Kildare Town?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the regional road R445 at Rowanville has a 50km/h speed limit and that enforcement of this speed limit is a matter for the Gardaí. The report advised that the planned Traffic Management Study of Kildare Town, in addition to the future development of Magee Barracks and the future development of the former National Stud lands, will all contribute to an assessment of the existing road layout at Rowanville, however any proposed road improvement works identified as part of this study will be undertaken subject to funding being identified.

Councillor Pender, whilst acknowledging the enforcement of speed limits is a matter for the Gardaí, noted that a section of the Rowanville Road is an accident blackspot and expressed concern that the number of reported incidents at this location appears to be rising. Following a request from Councillor Pender, the district engineer advised that the municipal district office will assess the need for additional signage on this road.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the municipal district office to assess the need for additional signage on this road.

**KN17/1606**

**The Machinery Yard, Newbridge**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McLoughlin Healy. Can the council provide an update as to when the machinery yard is to be relocated from the centre of town and whether the council has had discussions with interested parties about its future use or sale?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the council is currently proceeding toward procurement of services associated with the project to relocate the machinery yard. The report further advised that the project will take a number of years to complete and it would be premature to enter into discussion on disposal of the site at present.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the District Manager to update the members.

**KN18/1606**

**Drainage Issues at Ketches Corner, Barrettstown/Clongorey**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Stafford.

Can the Council investigate the drainage issues that arise at Ketches Corner, Barrettstown/Clongorey caused by a blocked drain and carry out the necessary works to alleviate any potential flooding in the area?

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office has inspected the drainage issues at Ketches Corner and they will liaise with the Planning Department to consider how to progress the resolution of this matter.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the members be updated on possible solutions to the drainage issues at Ketches Corner.

**KN19/1606**

**Disposal of Waste into the Waste Water Treatment Network  
of Residential Estates in Kildare Town**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Doyle.

That we investigate and report on the matter of commercial drainage companies disposing of waste into the waste water treatment network of residential estates in Kildare town as reported to Department of the Environment.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Kennedy.

A report was received from the Water Services Department informing the members that the due to the restrictions on imports at Osberstown Waste Water Treatment Plant, the council's waste water operations have on occasions used the sewer network in one estate in Kildare Town as a discharge point to the network when carrying out routine maintenance and cleaning in the area. The report advised that this work has been carried out by the council's tankering contractor under the instruction of council staff in order to maintain services in the area. The report further advised that works are progressing at Osberstown Waste Water Treatment Plant by the current operator and the council hope to be in a position to return to normal operations by mid June. The members were advised that any incidents of other contractors discharging illegally to estates in the town should be reported to the Environment Section for investigation.

Following queries from the members in relation to this matter, it was agreed that officials from the Water Services Section be requested to attend the July municipal district meeting to enable further discussion on the matter.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and officials from the Water Services Section attend the July municipal district meeting.

### **KN20/1606**

#### **Draft Kildare County Council (Newbridge) Control of Horses Byelaws 2016.**

The members considered a report from the Environment Section on the Draft Kildare County Council (Newbridge) Control of Horses Byelaws 2016. The report advised that these draft byelaws are being piloted in the Newbridge area and it is hoped in time to expand the byelaws on the control of horses to other municipal district areas.

A discussion among the members followed and Councillor Stafford expressed his concern that there was no reference to animal welfare in the byelaw and he asked if the byelaws could be amended to include an provision for welfare of the animal and also a requirement on the registration of horses. Mr O'Gorman advised that the purpose of the byelaws is to identify areas and locations where horses might be kept and that other bodies with the backing legislation are responsible for the welfare of horses. The members agreed to vote on the adoption of the Draft Kildare County Council (Newbridge) Control of Horses Byelaws 2016 with 5 voting in favour of, 2 voting against and 2 absentees.

**Resolved** that the Draft Kildare County Council (Newbridge) Control of Horses Byelaws 2016 be adopted.

The meeting adjourned with the remaining Agenda Items adjourned to the July Municipal District meeting.