

**Minutes of Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District Meeting
held at 10.15 a.m. on Wednesday, 19 July 2017
in the Council Chamber, Aras Chill Dara**

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

Apologies: Councillor F McLoughlin Healy.

Officials Present: Mr T McDonnell (District Manager), Mr N Morrissey (Director of Services), Mr D Hodgins (Senior Executive Engineer), Mr L Dunne, Ms E Wright (Senior Executive Officers), Mr D Hughes (Municipal District Engineer), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms P O'Rourke (Executive Parks Superintendent), Mr B Martin, Ms V Cooke (Administrative Officers), Ms AM Conneely (Community & Enterprise Development Officer), Ms F Skehan (Meetings Administrator) and Ms J Doyle (Meetings Secretary).

KN01/0717

Minutes and Progress Report

The members considered the revised minutes of the monthly Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District meeting on 15 March 2017 and the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 21 June 2017, together with the progress report.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Kennedy and seconded by Councillor Aspell, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 21 June 2017 be confirmed and taken as read. The progress report was noted.

KN02/0717

Matters Arising

The District Manager welcomed and introduced the new Meetings Administrator Fiona Skehan.

Small town centre improvement upgrade at Athgarvan (KN11/0617)

Councillor Lynch asked that a request be made for central funding and would like a report.

Councillor Doyle asked for Athgarvan to be included in the Newbridge Traffic Management Plan. The Director of Services advised this would not be possible.

Landscaping and Flood Relief Works at Dara Park, Newbridge (KN21/1611), (KN02/1612) (KN03/1701), (KN21/1702)

Councillor Pender stated having spoken with the landscaping consultant that she was concerned that work was going to be signed off and fall short of what was promised, in terms of landscaping asked if the 3 year plan originally suggested was still being considered.

Mr Dunne advised he will bear that in mind and would wait to see what the certificate contained.

Progress Report on the Traffic Management Plan for Kildare-Newbridge (KN14/0617)

N Morrissey, Director of Services informed the members that the last meeting with the National Transport Authority (NTA) was not very successful. The Roads Department put a lot of work into bringing projects to the NTA for funding but were being turned down. The NTA were looking for the council to reduce the number of projects and a traffic management plan for Kildare town was one of the projects not continuing. However, the NTA were prepared to continue with a plan for Newbridge. The Director of Services suggested they look at updating the existing plan for Kildare Town.

Councillor Doyle expressed disappointment and dissatisfaction with the report. She felt that development in the town should be restricted due to the lack of a traffic management plan. The previous plan adopted was to allow the draw down of funding at the time and members had expressed their concerns when that plan was adopted and had hoped to review it within 6 months.

Councillor Stafford expressed disappointment stating that the members set aside €100,000 for the plan and that he would be bringing his concerns to TD's.

Councillor Pender expressed disappointment stating that this was unacceptable given the level of development in the town and that the roads were already choked up.

The Director of Services stated that the members' comments were quite clear. No one was saying it shouldn't be done, just that the NTA would not fund it. He asked the members for the space to look at the existing plan and see what can be done. He would then brief them before the next meeting.

In response to a query from Councillor Lynch regarding how long the plan for Newbridge would take, the Director of Services advised that they were trying to agree the specifications as the NTA reversed their position from last year and there were other projects ready for construction. They would progress it as soon as possible.

Walkway at Moore Avenue (KN02/1603), (KN04/1604), (KN03/1701) & (KN02/0517)

Ms Wright provided an update to the members advising that the lands being transferred were agreed with the Receiver. This is now a matter of priority for the council's legal services.

Councillor Doyle queried what would happen if there was a delay in the developer delivering the closure. Ms Wright stated she would have to confirm with the Planning Department but that it may be a condition of the planning permission.

Councillor Doyle asked for the matter to be discussed in committee.

Councillor Stafford asked for it to be explored and the closure to be a condition of the land transfer.

KN03/0717

Update on the Municipal District Road Works

The Municipal District Engineer updated the members on the Municipal District Road Works. The contract to carry out road improvements in Kildare Town was completed. The contract to carry out road improvements at Sex's Road / Barrettstown Road area is expected to commence in late August, to include a road closure to do the works safely and to manage traffic. This will be advertised in the coming next week.

KN04/0717

Funding for Teach Dara

The members agreed to take item 32.

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

Can we accommodate a presentation from Teach Dara the municipal district with a view to assisting facility with Local Property Tax (LPT) funding, acknowledging scope and value of work within the community?

A report received from the Community and Cultural Services Department informed the members that this is a matter for the members to decide.

On the proposal of Councillor Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Pender and all agreed to move €27,000 from the LPT fund to Teach Dara.

KN05/0717

Resources for the Town Hall, Newbridge

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

That the council explores and reports back to the members on the possibility of the council or an affiliate investing in additional resources for the Town Hall in Newbridge to fully utilise the building on a daily basis if possible.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch and seconded by Councillor Pender.

The District Manager informed the members that K Leisure was responsible for the running of the Town Hall. He stated it was not suitable for all uses and the members needed to be mindful of that.

Councillor Pender suggested using money from the public toilet facilities in Newbridge for the Town Hall.

Ms Wright informed the members that an assessment on public facilities would be brought before the members soon as the contract is due to expire.

Councillor Lynch stated the Town Hall should be opened daily and that it wasn't functioning as a Town Hall.

The District Manager stated that it was previously suggested Library staff or K Leisure would assist and suggested that Councillor Lynch speak with the Community and Cultural Services Department in this regard.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Pender that Councillor Lynch discusses the motion with the Community and Cultural Services Department.

KN06/0717

Draft Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2017 for Newbridge

The members considered the Draft Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2017 for Newbridge.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Kennedy and agreed by all the members that the Draft Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2017 for Newbridge be adopted in accordance with Section 84 (as amended by section 15 of the Road Traffic Act 2002) of the Road Traffic Act 1961.

KN07/0717

Taking in Charge of Coill Dubh

The members considered a report on the taking in charge of roads and services in Coill Dubh, (former Bord na Móna Housing Scheme including Willow Lawns), County Kildare in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

Councillor Doyle queried why the estate was not taken in charge through the normal process under the Planning Department.

Councillor Stafford advised the estate pre dates this process and only roads and services can be taken in charge. He expressed his satisfaction that this was happening as residents were having to fund insurance.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Stafford, seconded by Councillor Doyle and agreed by all the members that all of the public infrastructure in Coill Dubh (former Bord na Móna Housing Scheme including Willow Lawns), County Kildare be taken in charge.

KN08/0717

Eyre Street, Newbridge

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Power.
That the council outline its' plans for Eyre Street in Newbridge and provide a time frame for same.

Proposed by Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Kennedy.

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members that Eyre Street is to be included as part of the Integrated Mobility Plan for Newbridge town. It is anticipated that the NTA will part fund the plan and are working with the council on an agreed scope of work.

In response to query raised by Councillor Power, Ms Wright informed members that they were still in discussions with the NTA and that there was no costing available.

In response to a query raised by Councillor Kennedy regarding the content of the plan, Ms Wright informed members that there would be a public consultation process.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Power, seconded by Councillor Kennedy to note report received.

KN09/0717

Toilet Facilities, Newbridge Train Station

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Aspell.
That this council write to Iarnród Éireann and the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to demand the reopening of toilet facilities in Newbridge Train Station.

Proposed by Councillor Aspell and seconded by Councillor Kennedy.

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members that this is a matter for the members to agree.

Councillor Aspell spoke of how this situation was totally unacceptable and did not accept the reason of anti social behaviour to close the facilities.

A discussion ensued among the members, with all members stating their support for the motion.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Apell, seconded by Councillor Kennedy the council write to Iarnród Éireann and the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to demand the re-opening of toilet facilities at Newbridge Train Station.

KN10/0717

Traffic Lights, Athgarvan Crossroads

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

That the traffic lights at Athgarvan crossroads be modified to provide for a comprehensive pedestrian crossing at the junction, and that the committee be informed of associated costs for providing same.

Proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Pender.

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members that this issue had been referred to the Technical Assessment and Advisory Group (TAAG) and a report will issue to the members following completion of the assessment.

In response to query raised by Councillor Doyle, Ms Wright informed members the Traffic Control section were part of TAAG and will look into providing a costing.

Councillor Doyle raised how requests sent to TAAG were prioritised.

Ms Wright advised TAAG was working on a list of requests dating back to 2016.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Pender that the Traffic Control section, provide a costing for a comprehensive pedestrian crossing at the junction.

KN11/0717

Lane Way between Maryville and Assumpta Villas

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

That the lane way between Maryville and Assumpta Villas be examined for a means of closure in order to mitigate anti social behaviour in the area in examining same, consideration might be given to utilising some of the space to rear of the shop for additional Old Person's Dwellings (OPDs).

Proposed by Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Stafford.

Report received from Housing Department informed the members that this matter is currently under investigation and will issue findings at the next Municipal District meeting.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Doyle and seconded by Councillor Stafford that a report will issue at the next Municipal District meeting.

KN12/0717

Langton Road, Newbridge

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

That the council resurface Langton Road, Newbridge with a view to taking the road in charge.

Proposed by Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Power.

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members that Langton Road is not in charge of Kildare County Council and no resurfacing works are scheduled at this location.

Councillor Stafford advised that residents are agreeable to contributing towards the cost of works.

Councillor Aspell stated he had a similar motion last year and the area engineer at the time suggested setting aside LPT funding to carry out works.

Councillor Stafford stated the Municipal District Engineer suggested funding could be provided elsewhere.

The Mayor requested that reports from the previous motion be made available to the members.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Stafford, seconded by Councillor Power that the reports from the previous motion be provided to the members.

KN13/0717

Cycle Lane, The Curragh

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

That the council investigate the possibility of sourcing national or European Union (EU) funding to develop a cycle lane parallel to some of the road network around the Curragh?

Proposed by Councillor McCabe and seconded by Councillor Kennedy.

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members the NTA is the funding agency for cycle tracks in the Greater Dublin Area. The council is not aware of any source of EU funding for Cycle Tracks or Greenway schemes.

Councillor McCabe spoke of his experience on a recent twinning trip to Bad-Lippspringe, Germany where the Mayor showed him a 20km cycle route connecting the town and environs. Councillor McCabe believes there is a real opportunity here to protect the use of The Curragh, by removing cars that currently drive down the middle of it and to connect Kildare and Newbridge towns by a cycle route promoting tourism and amenity or Greenway. Councillor McCabe asked to expedite meeting with the Department of Defence.

The Mayor spoke of how unique The Curragh was but it was being neglected and nothing further done in respect of actions proposed in a previous report. He requested that a meeting be arranged with the Department of Defence.

Ms Wright informed members that she appreciated their comments and agreed with their sentiments. The NTA was the national agency for funding but she was not aware of any

other funding schemes. She advised members there was a Greenway consultation underway in the Department of Transport and also, raised the issue of the cost of managing and maintaining cycle lanes after they have been built. She suggested that this motion could be discussed at the Curragh Forum due to The Curragh being protected.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor McCabe, seconded by Councillor Kennedy that that a meeting be arranged with the Department of Defence.

KN14/0717

Crossing near Athgarvan Crossroads

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

Can the council confirm that a commitment was given to improve the crossing close to Athgarvan crossroads, in view of the danger being experienced by children going to and coming from the local school, and if the council could further confirm when these works will be carried out, the cost of the works, and how this cost will be borne?

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members that this issue has been referred to TAAG and following completion of assessment a report will issue to members.

The report was noted.

KN15/0717

Commercially Operating Pits

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

Can we have a report on all commercially operating pits in the municipal district, with details of speed limits on access routes and audit of signage to support safe road usage?

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed the members that there will be consultation with the Planning and Environment Departments with regard to compiling this report.

Councillor Doyle advised that her question was preemptive due to the increase in activity. She felt the council should be looking into the levies and what issues there are.

Ms Wright advised that they would have to look at the types of pits, controls, permits, licences etc and following consultation with the other departments provide a report.

The report was noted.

KN16/0717

Footpaths in the Churchview Estate, Suncroft

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

Can Kildare County Council assess the footpaths in the Churchview Estate in Suncroft and carry out all necessary works needed to make them safe and accessible?

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed the members that the location is not included in the Roadworks Programme for 2017 and no funding has been indentified for works. The Municipal District Office will continue to carry out remedial works as resources permit.

The members may wish to consider funding for works at this location as part of the LPT or Pay Parking 2018. A detailed assessment and costing can be completed at that time. Councillor Pender advised the work needed to be carried out and photographs issued show it is quite unsafe.

The report was noted.

KN17/0717

Ramps at the Brownstown Crossroads

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

Can Kildare County Council install table top ramps on the approach roads to the Brownstown crossroads?

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed the members this issue has been referred to TAAG and following completion of the assessment a report will issue to members. Councillor Pender advised cars speeding through the junction make it very unsafe.

The report was noted.

KN18/0717

Accessible Parking Bay, Milltown

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

Will the council install an accessible parking bay in Milltown adjacent to Scoil Bhride National School?

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members this is under consideration by Roads Section who will carry out a technical assessment on the suitability of the location for an accessible parking bay. It is anticipated that this assessment will be completed in Quarter 3 2017.

Councillor Stafford requested this item remain on the progress report.

The report was noted.

KN19/0717

Road Safety Measures at Shee Bridge, Allenwood

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

Can the council consider the installation of road safety measures at the foot of the Shee Bridge, Allenwood, in particular to assist traffic turning left on the R403 towards Derrinturn/Carbury?

Report received the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members this issue was referred to TAAG and following completion of an assessment a report will issue to members. Councillor Stafford stated there was a very sharp left turn which is dangerous and requested Roads Section look into the possibility of a mini roundabout.

The report was noted.

KN20/0717

Lighting in James's Lane, Newbridge

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

Can the council install additional lighting in James's Lane, Newbridge to help reduce anti-social behaviour.

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members the Public Lighting Section visited the location at James' Lane . The request for lighting will be assessed under Kildare Lighting Infrastructure Priority Schedule (KLIPS). Lighting schemes will be scored on various factors and placed within KLIPS accordingly.

The report was noted.

KN21/0717

Park and Stride Facilities

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

What is the progress and status of the agreed park and stride facilities as per the County Development Plan for both Newbridge and Kildare Town, whereby parents can drop children at a dedicated location, to safely walk to school and not clog towns up with traffic and to help exercise children?

Report received the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed members while the council recognises the importance of walking for well being and health, there are no dedicated parking facilities under consideration for development at this time in the vicinity of these schools. The council continues to invest in upgrading and repairing footpaths in the town and the Road Safety Officer is working with the schools to promote safe walking. Councillor Lynch stated there was one unofficial site working well and felt these sites were needed for a town the size of Newbridge.

Ms Wright stated if there were already safe sites near schools, then the schools and the Road Safety Officer could encourage parking and walking and asked members to identify any further sites for assessment.

The report was noted.

KN22/0717

Grant Scheme for Private Estates

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

That the council will review its' grant scheme for private estates to assist with grass cutting in the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District, to take into account the area and size of the green

area(s) in addition to the number of houses in the estate, such review should also include whether additional provision should be made for houses which are let under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

Proposed by Councillor Stafford and seconded by Councillor Power.

Report received from Community and Cultural Services Department informed members all housing estates within the county are eligible to apply for Residents' Associations grants. Two schemes are in operation: - Private estates (administered by the Environment Department) and Council estates (administered by the Community Department). The Environment Section has an allocated budget for 2017 in the amount €16,600. If members wish to increase funding for estates it will be necessary to increase the allocation in Budget 2018 and/or to supplement grant assistance to Residents' Associations through the LPT.

Councillor Stafford stated he received numerous representations regarding this matter as residents' associations find it difficult to collect funding for grass cutting. Residents are paying their LPT and in some other municipal districts the grant is topped up from the LPT.

In response to query raised from Councillor Stafford with regards to HAP, RAS and council tenants in private estates, the District Manager advised that he would need to check who would be responsible for paying for grass cutting and report back to the members.

In response to query raised from Councillor Stafford regarding newer estates getting more funding. Mr Dunne informed members the rationale behind it is that newer estates need more assistance at the start to get up and running.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Stafford, seconded by Councillor Power that the District Manager check who would be responsible for paying grass cutting fees for HAP, RAS and council tenants in private estates.

KN23/0717

Tree Planting at Cutlery Road

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

That the council liaise with Newbridge Tidy Towns to clear up and carry out a light native tree planting operation on the unregistered small green patch of land at Cutlery Road, Newbridge.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch and seconded by Councillor Power.

Report received from Community and Cultural Services Department informed members that clarification would be required as to the exact location referred to; whether it is in council ownership before the location could be examined to see if the site is suitable; or whether the proposal is feasible.

Councillor Lynch stated the land was not registered and unsure who owns it but will forward the details.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Lynch and seconded by Councillor Power that the report be noted.

KN24/0717

Breakdown of Grants for Grass Cutting

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

Can this municipal district receive a breakdown of monies that Kildare County Council give in grants for grass cutting for private housing estates?

Report received from Environment Department informed members that a budget allocation is made each year for each Municipal District. The grant scheme is advertised in January with a closing date in March. The full budget is allocated between all applicants. The funds are allocated as follows:

1. 70% of overall budget is based on number of houses;
2. 15% of overall budget is based on age of estate - divided into 0-5 years, 5-10 years, 10-15 years and 15 years and over;
3. 15% of overall budget is based on size of green area maintained by Residents' Associations : - 0-1 acres, 1-2 acres, 2-3 acres, 3-4 acres, 4-5 acres and over 5 acres.

A total amount of €16,600 was allocated in the current year within the Kildare Newbridge Municipal District area to 78 housing estates. Details were circulated and approved at previous municipal district meeting.

Councillor Aspell stated he did not agree with newer estates getting more funding.

In response to query raised by Councillor Aspell regarding how the funding is allocated Mr Dunne informed members this way of allocating was new since this year as they wanted it to be consistent across all of Municipal Districts.

Councillor Pender was out of the room when the previous motion regarding grass cutting was discussed. The Mayor agreed that she could now state her support for that motion.

The report was noted.

KN25/0717

Bin Outside McDonnell's Public House

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

In view of a previous commitment, can the council arrange to have the bin outside McDonnells (public house) in Newbridge replaced? (which was accidentally removed by a vehicle).

Report received from Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department informed the members the Municipal District Office plans to address all bin related issues in Quarter 3 2017, resources permitting.

The report was noted.

KN26/0717

Building Control, Millfield Manor

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

What steps have been taken to determine as to why the homes at Millfield Manor, Newbridge were allowed to be signed off on and sold, and what processes have been put in place to ensure similar issues do not occur in new housing developments in the future?

Report received from Economic, Community and Cultural Development Department informed members in the first instance, it should be stated that Kildare County Council did not "sign off" on any houses nor was it the council's legal or statutory responsibility to do so. At the time of the construction of Millfield Manor, the Building Control Code relied, to a significant extent, on the statutory responsibility of practitioners in the construction industry to design and construct buildings in accordance with the Building Regulations. The random inspections undertaken by Building Control Authorities (in this case Kildare County Council) are essentially supplementary to this primary statutory obligation.

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government guidelines issued to Building Control Authorities shortly after the adoption of the Building Control Act 1990 indicated that the Building Control Authorities should carry out inspections on between 12-15% of new buildings notified to it in Commencement Notices. This level of inspection was exceeded in Kildare in the period 2005 to 2009.

It was not a requirement of the Building Control Regulations for the developer to provide the Building Control Authority with any certificates of compliance with the Building Regulations in the period that Millfield Manor was built. This situation has changed since the introduction of the new Building Control (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 9 of 2014), which came into effect in March 2014.

Certificates of Compliance with the Building Regulations should have been provided to the purchasers (or their agents) of houses and apartments in Millfield Manor at the time of purchase.

It should also be stated that the Fire Service had no role in relation to the fire safety of the houses in Millfield Manor, i.e. there is no statutory function for the Fire Service in terms of "sign off" as Fire Safety Certificates are not required for houses.

Councillor Lynch stated he appreciated the response and that with new legislation hopefully it would never happen again.

Ms Cooke informed members the council did not have any role in inspecting houses prior to their sale.

Councillor Lynch stated that 'sign off' was not the right language to use but inspections were carried out by building control and that no one seems to be responsible.

The District Manager informed members that the report was correct for the legal and factual situation. Site visits were made by building control were not to inspect completed houses before sale.

The report was noted.

KN27/0717

Community Facilities Grant Scheme 2017

The members considered the Community Facilities Grant Scheme 2017.

Report received from Community and Cultural Services Department informed members the Community Facilities Capital Grants Scheme was announced in March by the Department of Housing, Community & Local Government. The aim of the scheme is to enhance communities, address disadvantage and improve social cohesion by providing access to small scale capital projects. Following advertisement of the scheme 23 applications were received.

An allocation of €65,000 is available. All applications have been assessed, marked and five projects (one per Municipal District) was considered by the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) for recommendation. Of the five applications received from the Kildare-Newbridge MD, the LCDC recommended Newbridge Family Resource Centre be awarded €13,000.

In response to query raised by Councillor Pender, Ms Conneely informed members that this was the first year of the scheme and unsure if it would be an annual scheme. It was brought through the LCDC, where they decided to allocate the funding to smaller capital projects i.e. one per MD.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Pender and seconded by Councillor Aspell to adopt the Community Facilities Grant Scheme 2017.

KN28/0717

Tree planting plan for the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Power.
That the council provide full details of its' tree planting plan for the Kildare-Newbridge Municipal District.

Proposed by Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Lynch.

Report received from Community and Cultural Services Department advising members of list of locations trees were planted in Kildare- Newbridge MD in February and March of this year.

In response to query raised by Councillor Stafford as to why only places in Kildare and Newbridge were on the list. Mr Wallace advised trees were planted in Rathangan but will look at requests made for other areas.

Resolved on the proposal of Councillor Power and seconded by Councillor Lynch that the report be noted.

KN29/0717

Upkeep and Maintenance of the Town Hall Grounds

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor McCabe.
Can the council get one department to look after the upkeep and maintenance of the Town Hall grounds rather than two departments which is the case at present?

Report received from Community and Cultural Services Department informed members the Parks Department now have a firm arrangement in place to regularly attend to the grass area at rear of the Town Hall. The Service Level Agreement (SLA) with K-Leisure only applies to Town Hall bookings.

The report was noted.

Mr Wallace introduced Paula O'Rourke, new Executive Parks Superintendent to the members.

The meeting concluded.