



KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & WATER STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE 6TH MARCH 2019
@ 2:15PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS CHILL DARA**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Seán Power, Brendan Young, Fintan Brett, Michael Coleman, Íde Cussen,
Fiona McLoughlin Healy

Sectoral Interests: Tom Malone, Emer Conway, Padraic O'Luanaigh

Officials: Joe Boland, Director of Services
Liam Dunne, Senior Executive Officer
Colm Flynn, S.E.E., Environment
James Mulligan, S.E.E., Kerdiffstown Project
Marie Callaghan, ASO, Environment

1. MINUTES

Minutes of meeting of the 5th December 2018 were agreed.

Proposed by Tom Malone and seconded by Cllr Fintan Brett.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- Requests were made for updates on the concerns referred to planning. (greenhouse gases and planning guidelines) Joe Boland agreed to follow up.
- Emer Conway asked that the Tidy Towns Committees be linked to the Pollinator Plan. Liam Dunne agreed to follow up on this item.

3. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Correspondence received from Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment was circulated. It will be linked to Kildare County Council's website.

www.mywaste.ie Website

4. Kerdiffstown Landfill Remediation Project

To receive presentation from James Mulligan S.E.E.

Mr Mulligan outlined a brief history of the site, including the fire, and then played a video of the plans proposed and what the project would look like when completed. He stated that the area covered over 80 acres and had plenty of open space. The ponds would become water features, the pitches shown were marked as GAA pitches but could also be lined and available for Rugby and Soccer. He stated that it was the intention to maximise the benefits of these pitches by building them as astro-turf pitches, which would provide rental income. The plans also included a playground, cycle paths, track runs and walkways. The park would involve planting of trees, and also pollinator plants for the bee population. The park would be age friendly and wheelchair accessible. A Business Plan is being developed in regard to the running of the park.

He stated that Kildare County Council had met with the local Community Liaison Group and that they had requested the name “Kerdiffstown Park” so that their address would be associated with a modern park rather than a problem landfill area.

He informed the Committee that Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) had been approved by An Bord Pleanála, the waste licence has issued and Notices to Treat had issued. The road network would be improved on a phased basis. The proposed boundary works should be completed over the summer. The final archaeologist report is still awaited. The E-tender for prequalification of the main contractor should go out before the end of the year. It is estimated that Kerdiffstown Park would be opened towards the end of 2024.

The members welcomed the presentation and asked to be kept updated. Concerns were raised in regard to the control of lechees and feeder streams into the Morell River. Mr Mulligan assured the Committee that regular testing and monitoring were being carried out to prevent any issues.

The Chair thanked Mr Mulligan for the informative presentation and asked that the Committee be kept updated on progress.

5. Eastern & Midlands Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities

To receive report on Waste Action Priorities for 2019

Mr Colm Flynn S.E.E. gave an update on Kildare County Council's Environmental Priorities for 2019 and its dealings with WERLA. Some of the key challenges are:

- How to tackle the problem of the "Man in the Van"
- Household Waste - management
- Commercial Food Waste – checking and enforcement
- Hazardous Waste - including C&D – enforcement officers role
- Waste Facilities and their capacity – Dredid is one of only 5 in country
- Organic waste – treatment and export
- Historical landfill sites – impact on water and air

The following topics were discussed:

- Composting facilities – brown bin not suitable for spreading on land
- How will green waste be dealt with
- Flooding of Peatlands (Dredid) – planning issue for extension
- Can cost of disposal be reflected back to producers, not just end users
- C&D – clarification – not categorised as a by-product
- Quarries
- Single use plastics
- Tyres – being exported
- Funding from WERL Grant schemes for 2019 – not yet announced
- All hazardous waste exported - Lack of facilities in Ireland to treat
- Ethnicity of exporting waste
- WERLA is the bridge between Department and Local Authorities
- Key objective - Minimise waste – treat it

6) Litter Management Plan 2020 - 2023

To note commencement of Public Consultation process

The Committee noted that the Public Consultation process for the Litter Management Plan would take place over the next few months.

7) Work Programme

- To consider Draft Schedule for 2019
- Schedule of matters considered previously

The Committee noted that the Draft Work Programme for 2019.

REFERRED NOTICE OF MOTIONS

8) Notice of Motion - Full Council Item 26/1218 - Cllr Cussen

To consider this Notice of Motion – Referred from Full Council 17th December 2018

“That the members of Kildare County Council supports the request from Féileacáin to waive the fees for family grave plots where a baby will be buried; and that we write to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to request that; all local authorities waive the fees for family grave plots where a baby will be buried; that the Department should instruct all local authorities to waive the fees for planning permission for headstones where a baby will be buried; and that a Children's Funeral Fund be established in Ireland “

Cllr Cussen informed the Committee that she has arranged to meet Minister next week regarding funding. Joe Boland agreed to write to the Department supporting the proposed Children's Funeral Fund.

It was agreed that Cllr Cussen would meet with Joe Boland and Liam Dunne to consider the details of a scheme which would operate in Kildare, pending instructions from the Department.

9) Notice of Motion - Full Council Item 16/1118 - Cllr Cussen

To consider this Notice of Motion – Referred from Full Council 26th November 2018

“That Kildare County Council prepare a proactive tree policy for Kildare, a policy that encompasses the care of, pruning, felling and replacing programme.”

It was noted Simon Wallace of the Parks Department indicated he is looking at policy for 2019 and it was agreed to await his report.

Joe Boland agreed to pass on the Committee's concerns to the Parks Department with regard to tree pruning; Tidy Town Association involvement; contractors and ride on mowers; trees being knocked for no apparent reason; preservation of trees on construction sites; necessity of removing hedgerows and the enforcement of policy.

10) Notice of Motion – Celbridge Leixlip MD CL 26/1118 - Cllr Cussen

To consider this Notice of Motion – Referred from Celbridge Lexilip MD 16th Nov 2018

“That the Parks Department work with this municipal district to initiate a Trees and Leaves Programme, with some new initiatives, as a pilot programme for the county.”

Cllr Cussen had concerns where a large collection of leaves could cause problems for elderly persons within housing estates. She informed the Committee that South Dublin County Council has a machine that is used to remove leaves. It is scheduled in different areas, similar to the road sweeper scheme.

However, Liam Dunne informed the Committee that KCC does not collect leave but encourages local communities to compost them locally. He suggested that a pilot scheme be initiated where the Council's Environmental Awareness Officer would work with a local community to help retain the leaves and use them for composting within the local area. It was agreed to investigate this further.

11) Referral from Protocol Committee to each MD

As agreed at the previous SPC meeting Cllr Power met the leaders of the various parties / independents to discuss the matter of election posters. The following was agreed and referred to each MD:

With regard to the upcoming local elections 2019, that each Municipal District contact their own Tidy Towns group or relevant community organisations asking them to identify areas they would like to keep "poster free" and seek their views in relation to having a cap on the number of posters, per candidate, per Municipal District.

12) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Removal of dead animals from roadway
It was clarified that dead animals would be removed if it was a road safety issue otherwise nature takes its course
- The Chair, Cllr Seán Power, thanked the Committee members and Council officials for their contributions over the term of this SPC. He was delighted to see the establishment of the Climate Action Regional Office within Kildare. He wished everyone involved in the SPC every success in years ahead.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.