

Maynooth Community Council Meeting Notes 08/03/21

New Members to MCC:

We are delighted to co-opt & welcome new community members representing Lyreen Park, Pebble Hill, College Green, An Nuadha Players, Carton Square, Silken Vale, Zero Waste Maynooth, and Younglife Maynooth.

Kildare Co. Council Community Grants:

- PPN information evening on **16th March** on all aspects of the grants available. It is advisable to attend the PPN evening as there are changes to the application process this year e.g. all applications must be submitted on-line.

Sign up for information evening here: <http://bit.ly/KCCGrantEvening>

Closing date for submission of grant applications is **7th April**.

Treasurers Report:

- Delighted to announce that Intel has made a further donation to MCC of €670 from their Covid Relief Fund which we gratefully accepted on behalf of the Community.
- Grant application submitted to KCC under the 2nd round of COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

Sub- Committee Updates:

County Development Plan:

- A wide-ranging and comprehensive submission made by the Planning & Development Sub-Committee (P&D) on the pre-draft County Development Plan consultation.
- Highlighted that Maynooth is zoned for large number of housing developments and the message from MCC is that the corresponding services/infrastructure is not being provided. Maynooth is crying out for a Performance and Arts Cultural /Community Centre, Primary Care Centre, Swimming Pool/Community Sports Complex.

Greenfield Shopping Centre:

- Submission also made by P&D Sub-Committee and observed that planned development is too high for location, parking issues may arise for residents in neighbouring estates, access to Straffan Road etc.

Celbridge Road:

- 105 units are planned for this site which is well situated for residential development between Rockfield and the MERR. The proposed development is a good mix of houses, duplexes and a creche. P&D Sub-Committee plan to make a submission before the deadline on March 16th.
- Councillors advised that they had met with representatives from Rockfield RA who relayed their concerns regarding 3 storey height of buildings with balconies that overlook existing homes in Rockfield. The entrance to the new estate on to the Celbridge Road in close proximity to the 2 primary schools is also a major concern from a safety perspective.

Affiliates Updates:

- **Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community:** A Webinar on Solar Energy for Households is scheduled for **23rd March**. All you ever wanted to know about solar - Open to everyone.

Register here:

<http://www.twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=I+am+attending+https://www.eventbrite.com/e/everything-you-need-to-know-about-domestic-solar-tickets-145243127103?ref=estw>

MEC PTA:

- Concern expressed about the lack of demarcation between cycle and pedestrian on shared footpaths along the Moyglare Road leading to Post Primary School Campus and the dangers this creates for cyclists and pedestrians.
- This problem will only be exacerbated when full complement of 1,500 students is back in school. NTA funded projects require signage only to indicate shared space however Councillors will pursue once again with NTA and highlight dangers posed to students.

MCC will keep this item on the agenda.

Group Discussions:

Remembrance Ceremony:

- Discussion around the possibility of holding a community based remembrance day (post Covid) to remember those lost and grieving as a result of the pandemic. MCC will form a working group to explore this further. All input from public very welcome.

Derelict Building:

- Sunny Dry Cleaners Main Street – roof is collapsing. The fact that building is now in state of collapse changes mechanism used by KCC to deal with this issue as buildings on Main St. are protected structures. Cllr Durkan to pursue with Environment Section SEO.

Developer Levies

- Developer levies and the provision of services were discussed. Members want such levies ring fenced for development of social infrastructure projects in Maynooth.

Litter Management:

- A lengthy discussion around the ongoing litter management situation in Maynooth as volume of litter has exploded due to Covid restrictions. The service is totally inadequate in terms of frequency of collections (no weekend service), complete absence of litter bins in some areas (e.g. Moyglare Road from Pound Park to MEC) and over reliance on TidyTowns volunteers who are currently providing weekend service.
- Suggested by TT Rep that the litter warden should be doing more patrols and imposing hefty fines on litter offenders which would be a deterrent.
- Suggested that pay parking revenue be used to fund additional litter collections in Maynooth.
- Cllrs repeatedly raise with KCC however response is always ‘lack of budget’.
- Take away Pints - It was clarified that due to loophole in legislation there is no restriction on sale of take away pints. Bye-Laws on the Control of Consumption & Possession of Alcohol in Public Places enacted December 2020 should be fully enforced.

Royal Canal Greenway Launch

- Nationwide filming in Maynooth ahead of Waterways Ireland official launch of the Greenway. Nationwide programme to be aired the same week.

Cllr Updates:

NTA funding:

- €200K for Mill Street upgrade hopeful it will be completed this year.
- €500K for permeability will be used for connection of existing cycle paths to a new path through Beaufield & Meadowbrook Road.
- €60K each for design of cycle/pedestrian upgrades on Celbridge Road & Kilcock Rd Hopeful that Consultants will be procured by the end of the summer.
- €3.2 million for Royal Canal Greenway upgrade works from Maynooth to Leixlip (to the county line).
- Bollards on Dublin Road installed for social distancing reasons - will be removed at behest of MD Members once Covid crisis has passed.

Planning Updates:

- Cllr Durkan updated on the SHD of 197 units (including apartments) ready for planning application behind CastlePark –

- Site at Mariavilla for SHD (Dunboyne Rd. Opposite Castle Park) An Bord Pleanala seeking further information from CAIRN Homes.

Decarbonised Low-Carbon Town:

- All Local Authorities are required to develop one 'decarbonisation town' in their LA area in accordance with Action 163 of the Climate Action Plan 2019
- Nominated towns must be notified to Dept of Housing by 30th April. Cllr Hamilton has written a motion for the KCC March Plenary to ask for a strategy and a direction on this. Maynooth has many of the attributes required e.g. Train Service, University etc.
- Financial supports will be available for innovative projects.

Swimming Pool

- KCC made a joint application with MU for government large-scale sports infrastructure funding which unfortunately was unsuccessful. An appeal lodged by KCC last Sept however Director of Services awaiting response from the Dept.
- KCC have set aside €2m for this €11m joint project and are very willing to work with the Dept. to progress this.

Carparking:

- To redress the loss of parking spaces on Dublin Rd (Covid Measures) KCC have been requested to open the car park on Doctors Lane which has over 100 parking spaces

Meadowbrook:

- Taking in charge being actively pursued and will take approx €300K to complete to TIC standard.
- Cllr Feeney stated that there are 10 estates in the MD waiting to be taken in charge and total costs to bring to standard will be over €1m. Bonds system not very successful. Dedicated unit now established in KCC to monitor bonds and expiry dates etc. which is positive development.

Carton Ave:

- Concerns raised that residents are putting in own pathways to access Ave. Some trees cut back at base. Residents are urged to engage with KCC and not to undertake any works without the approval of KCC.

Canal:

- The lights have been finally switched on at the canal.