

**Attendance (by Team)**

CLLrs: J Neville (JN), A Connolly, A Feeney, C Kenny, M Stafford, P. Ward  
Officials: Evelyn Wright (DoS), P Pender, Donal Hodgins (DH), Declan Keogh (DK),  
John McGowan ((JMcG)  
& GD (PPN)

**Road Traffic & Roads Bill 2021**

Brief discussion about legislation currently going through the Dáil which included the legalisation of e-scooters. There was concern about scooters “killing” elderly people on footpaths. I pointed out the reality of fatalities caused by cars.

**Parking**

There was a discussion on parking in the context of standardisation of periods of free parking for drivers. The Director of Services referred to a possible review of parking in the county. I suggested that any review should include a consideration of the reallocation of road space.

**Briefing from Declan Keogh, Road Safety, Cycling & Sustainable Transport Officer**

I asked that a copy of the Bikeweek Report which the NTA requires as part of the funding be circulated to Committee members. I also asked if KCC contributed to the Bikeweek costs and was informed that it had allocated c€1500.

**Presentation from Donal Hodgins, Senior Engineer, Sustainable Transport**

DH outlined that in 2022, 9 schemes would be going to public consultation and 7 would be going to construction. The schemes are located in most of the larger urban centres in Kildare. In addition, it was hoped that the Sustainable Transport Section would start design work on a number of the GDA network schemes, work on signalised and unsignalized crossings and provision of cycle parking. DH was of the view that interest in proposed parking locations would be declared via the Municipal Districts (and Area Engineers).

**Corporate Policy Group (CPG)**

Each SPC will provide a summary slide to the December full council meeting of progress on Climate Change. The proposed metrics include the number of NTA projects underway/kilometre of footpaths & cycleways delivered. I proposed that the level of service would be included (the level of service indicates the quality of cycle facility). JMcG stated that approximately 10,000 out of 28,000 lights had been replaced with LED light since c2016.

**Sustainable Forum**

There was no information on when the Sustainable Forum would be set up or who would be on it. The Cycle Forum was supposed to be incorporated into the Sustainable Forum but that was only spin as it has effectively been abolished. There was a discussion of the overlapping policy areas of the Transport and Climate Action SPCs. The Chair and Director of Services agreed that the Sustainable Forum would be the appropriate place for Transport and Climate Action to discuss joint policies.

## **Work Programme**

At the previous meeting, I proposed that the Work Programme be uploaded to the internet and that the various associated documents be linked to it. I also wanted the date of resolution be included so that viewer could see the lack of progress. The Programme was uploaded. You can see it [here](#). Prior to the meeting, a new Work Programme was circulated. It include some more information but referred to associated reports but omitted to include any link to them. It also failed to indicate when a decision was made on the items.

Under AOB, I informed the Chair that the Transport Linkage Group wanted to know how items were ranked in the Work Programme. The (new) Director of Services said that there was no order and that the officials were working through the list. This was incorrect. At the early meetings of the SPC, the Chair specified which items would be considered at the following meeting but this is no longer the case.

I also informed the meeting that the Linkage Group wanted to know how to impact/influence the Agenda and that there was no mention of the item in the Standing Orders. I said that there little or nothing of importance related to cycling in the Work Programme. The Chair said that those were what was suggested to him. I pointed out that my proposals had been sent to him in advance of the work Programme and that I had responded to his invitation for items, they were not included.

## **Standing Orders (31 May 2021)**

Prior to the meeting, I was sent a copy of the revised Standing Orders. The Orders were dated 31 May 2021 but were forwarded on 10<sup>th</sup> November.

The Orders state that if the Chairperson is absent and has not nominated a member as acting Chairperson, the members of the committee shall choose a member from among the councillors to preside as acting Chairperson. However, in contravention of the Orders, the Chair changed the date of the meeting - to a day where a number of members were unable to attend due to having attend another meeting scheduled. As attendance of substitute members are not permitted at meetings, there appears to be one rule for Chairs and another rule for ordinary members.