

**Minutes of Meeting of the Blarney/Macroon Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroon on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**Present:** Cllrs Kevin Conway (Cathaoirleach), Bob Ryan, Ted Lucey, Des O'Grady, Gobnait Moynihan & Michael Creed

**Attendance:** Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Claire O'Neill, S/Municipal District Officer  
Mr. Andy O'Brien, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Conor Shannon, Assistant Engineer  
Ms. Patricia Lehane, Assistant Engineer  
Ms. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

**Apologies:** Mr. Jim Molloy, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer (*Maternity Leave*)

**In Attendance for Part of the Meeting:**

Mr. Martin Walsh, A/Regional Manager, Bus Eireann

**1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ  
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Minutes of Municipal District Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018  
(Amended)**

On the proposal of Cllr. Lucey and seconded by Cllr. Moynihan, the amended Minutes of the proceedings of the February 2018 Meeting of Blarney/Macroon Municipal District held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

**Minutes of In Committee Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. Lucey, the Minutes of the proceedings of the Blarney/Macroon In Committee Meeting held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2018 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

**Minutes of Municipal District Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018**

On the proposal of Cllr. Lucey and seconded by Cllr. Ryan, the Minutes of the proceedings of the Blarney/Macroon Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

**ÁBHAIR A ÉIREOIDH  
MATTERS ARISING**

**Councillor T. Lucey**

- (a) Road Widening, Sleaveen, Macroon - Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said that the tender would be ready shortly.

- (b) Castleview Cross  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has raised the issue with the TII and is waiting for a response back.
- (c) Cloghduv -Gully  
A O'Brien, EE said it will be put on a Roads Programme and that drainage works would be carried out this year.
- (d) Crookstown  
A O'Brien, EE said he spoke to Irish Water and that temporary re-instatement works would be carried out.
- (e) Briery Gap  
Ongoing
- (f) Dog Control Byelaws  
Ongoing
- (g) Post Office, Macroom  
On going
- (h) Dan Corkery place – Shore  
J. Dwyer, SEE said that the outlet pipe to the sewer needs to be replaced and would be added to a Programme of Works.
- (i) St. Colmans Graveyard, Macroom  
J. Dwyer, SEE said that the tenders received would be opened the following week.

#### **Councillor M. Creed**

- (a) Painting Scheme  
Cllr. Creed queried if it was possible to include Main Street, Macroom. C. O'Neill, S/MDO confirmed that there has been a lot of applications received to date, and said that once all applications have been received and validated, depending on what money is remaining, Members can decide at that point to include Main Street.

Cllr. Moynihan queried that if there were not enough applications could villages be included. C. O'Neill, S/MDO said that they need to look at what applications have been received. In response to Cllr. Conway, C. O'Neil, S/MDO confirmed that applications are still being accepted.

#### **Councillor G. Moynihan**

- (a) Public Lighting Programme - Aghabullogue  
Cllr. Moynihan requested an extra public light. A O'Brien, EE said he would list this for the 2018 Public Lighting Programme.

- (b) Millstreet Cross – Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said the works should be beginning shortly.

**Councillor B. Ryan**

- (a) 2018 Public Lighting Programme  
J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed that the 2018 programme has not been finalised as of yet and asked the Members if they had any suggestions to let him know for the next meeting. He said that most of the 2017 Public Lighting works had been completed.

Cllr. Moynihan asked if the public lighting could be looked at in Farranhavane Church.

**Councillor K. Conway**

- (a) Courtbrack -Update  
A O'Brien, EE said he has written to the Contractors but has not received a response to date but that he would send another reminder.

Cllr. Conway said there was an application in for more houses and that potentially the same problem could arise. A O'Brien, EE said this is a separate issue and can be looked at independently.

- (b) Waterloo Road – Overhanging trees  
A O'Brien, EE said that hedge/tree cutting season commences again in September and the landowner will be written to again close to this date.

- (c) Footpath outside No. 3 Waterloo Road  
A O'Brien, EE said it is on the Programme of Works for this year

- (d) Hedge Road – Footpath  
A O'Brien, EE said the NNRDO plan to carry out a survey in August/September period, once staff are available to do so. He said he will contact the NNRDO in due course regarding this survey.

- (e) Station Road  
A O'Brien, EE said he would meet Cllr. Conway on site to discuss.

- (f) Cork Direction Sign needed on N20  
A O'Brien, EE said he emailed TII and brought it to their attention as it is out of the Area office remit of works.

- (g) Mobile Speed Unit Availability  
J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed that there were none available. Cllr. Conway said as far as he was aware that according to the Department that purpose built mobile signs would be available at Municipal level if needed.

## **MARTIN WALSH, A/REGIONAL MANAGER, BUS EIREANN**

Martin Walsh, A/Regional Manager was in attendance and discussed a number of issues that had been raised by the Members.

### **(a) Bus Depot**

M Walsh confirmed that the bus depot in Macroom was a vital link for the expressway route 40 but acknowledged the current level of dereliction which exists on the site was unacceptable. He stated any development works would be dependent on Bus Eireann securing funding. He confirmed that a scaffolding structure was installed to secure the building and the building was in an Architectural Conservation Area which could complicate any regeneration of the depot. He confirmed that despite this Bus Eireann was open to discussing a joint development proposal with Cork County Council and it was decided that a meeting would be arranged in the coming months.

A discussion took place on the removal of the depot from the Architectural Conservation Area as Members felt this might be possible. Cork County Council to clarify the procedure for same. Members expressed their concern and dissatisfaction with the current state of the depot but welcomed the prospect of development. They asked that in the short term if improvements could be made to the existing bus shelter and toilet facilities currently in place as they feel that these are inadequate.

Cllr. Moynihan asked if the information available to tourists including the advertising of different routes could be examined and suggested the provision of a tourist information board. Cllr. Moynihan also queried if a Tourist Information board with a map similar to one contained in the Tourist leaflet done by the students in McEgan College could be erected in Macroom similar to the one near the bus stop in Ballingearry. M Walsh undertook to pass this information to the NTA.

### **(b) Provision of a bus shelter-Millstreet Cross**

The provision of a bus shelter at Millstreet Cross was discussed. Cllr. Lucey stated that there was a significant amount of Macroom's population on the western side of the town and as such felt this was sufficient justification for the provision of a shelter. M Walsh stated that the provision of shelters was the responsibility of the National Transport Authority (NTA) but confirmed that in order for such consideration to be given a formal bus stop would need to exist at a location. As this is not the case at Millstreet Cross it would require consultation and assessment with Cork County Council. It was agreed that this would take place in the coming weeks. All Members were in agreement that this should be examined as a matter of urgency.

M Walsh informed the committee that any requests for bus shelters could be sent to him or by email to [info@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:info@nationaltransport.ie) He also stated that there were quite a few bus stops without a bus shelter as it is not always

possible to provide shelters due to space restrictions. Cllr. Conway asked that the provision of bus shelters on the Blarney to Tower route would be looked at. Cllr. O'Grady asked that a bus shelter would be provided in Crookstown. Cllr. Moynihan supported the need for a bus shelter in Crookstown and Ballyvourney. She said a Bus Stop was required at the Old Triangle Pub in Macroom. M Walsh confirmed that he would refer the requests of the Members to the NTA.

(c) **Cork to Crookstown and Cork to Macroom services**

Cllr. O'Grady raised his concerns about the Cork to Crookstown service and the Cork to Macroom service. He stated that a number of issues existed in relation to both which included the level of service and the areas served. He stated that one such example was the 22:30hrs Cork to Macroom service which currently allows passengers to disembark at Stage Cross on the N22 which he said was completely unacceptable. A general discussion took place in relation to areas not currently being served. Cllr. Moynihan confirmed that there was a need for a service between Ballygeary and Ballyvourney. M Walsh stated that there were a number of routes which should be considered by the Local Link Unit and undertook to examine the issues raised by Members.

**2. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a) Section 85 briefing note for N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme

The Members noted the Report.

On the proposal of Cllr. Lucey and seconded by Cllr. O'Grady and agreed by all the Members, the approval of the Section 85 agreement was recommended.

(b) Housing Report for Blarney Macroom Municipal District

The Members noted the Report.

They requested further detail in relation to the following:

1. Waiting List Report – countywide and divisional figures
2. Disabled Persons Grant Report – Clarification on the meaning of DPG Minor Works & Extensions categories i.e. M2, M4 etc.
3. Energy Retro fitting and Planned Maintenance Programme – detail on what is proposed for the Programme in 2018

C. O'Neill, S/MDO said she would forward their queries to the Housing Department.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

Noted

**4. DIOL TALÚN  
DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY**

Disposal of Land at Sunberry Heights, Blarney to Gas Networks Ireland DAC for a consideration of €500 per annum plus discharge of Council's costs

Proposed by: Cllr. O'Grady  
Seconded by: Cllr. Conway

**5. CHUN NA RUIN SEO LEANAS ÓN GCOMHAIRLEOIR A MHEAS:  
TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION**

***Cllr Des O Grady***

*To seek a report on the dispersal of the €400,000 funding remaining from the Gateway Scheme in County Cork from 2017. The report to contain the amount granted to the Blarney/Macroom Municipal District and to where it has been allocated in the budget. The report to also contain the amounts awarded to the other Municipal Districts in the County.*

Report

The Budget and Expenditure in support of GATEWAY during 2017 were as follows:

| <b>GATEWAY 2017 – Roads Revenue Detail</b> |                   |                    |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Municipal District</b>                  | <b>Budget</b>     | <b>Expenditure</b> |
| West Cork – Skibbereen                     | 44,444.00         | 5,808.41           |
| West Cork – Bantry                         | 44,444.00         | 43,547.80          |
| East Cork                                  | 44,444.00         | 44,444.42          |
| Macroom/Blarney                            | 44,444.00         | 18,277.47          |
| Cobh                                       | 44,444.00         | 61,811.53          |
| Ballincollig/Carrigaline                   | 44,445.00         | 58,999.53          |
| Kinsale/Bandon                             | 44,445.00         | 24,286.82          |
| Mallow/Kanturk                             | 44,445.00         | 20,191.74          |
| Fermoy                                     | 44,445.00         | 46,267.85          |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>400,000.00</b> | <b>323,635.57</b>  |

The GATEWAY participants finished work at various stages during the year in the different Municipal Districts across the County but the Budget when being allocated did not take cognisance of this.

As the Budget was funded fully from Council's own resources, the overall under expenditure represented a saving to the Council.

The Budget of €400,000 which was set aside for GATEWAY in 2017 has been assigned to Regional and Local Road Maintenance for 2018 and distributed across the Municipal Districts in accordance with the approval formula for the distribution of Regional and Local Roads Maintenance funding.

***Tom Stritch, Director of Services***  
***20<sup>th</sup> March 2018***

Cllr. O'Grady said that Blarney Macroom MD had the lowest road budget in the county and got the least amount of money. He said that those who overspent got more money and that the money should have been distributed back to the Municipal District.

J. Dwyer, SEE said that access to the budget was based on when the GATEWAY staff finished and he did not have permission to use the money once the GATEWAY Scheme concluded.

## 6. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

### **Conor Shannon, Assistant Engineer**

*Promoted to Executive Engineer and moving to Environment Department, Inniscarra*

All Members wished Conor well. They said that he had a great local knowledge, common sense, very approachable and would be missed.

C. Shannon, AE thanked the Members for their good wishes and also for their courtesy and understanding which was shown to him throughout his time in Macroom.

## 7. AON GHNÓ EILE ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### **Cllr. Michael Creed**

- (a) L74063, Ballingeary – Gortafludig – very bad condition
- (b) Rd. From Reinaree to Ballyvourney – Bad condition
- (c) Curragh Lissarda
- (d) Scrahanard – Patch of Road very bad  
C. Shannon, AE said he would get it put on the list for pothole repairs as soon as possible.
- (e) Coachford – towards Aghlish and Nadrid – bad condition  
A O'Brien, EE confirmed that restoration improvement works will be carried out from Nadrid to the Ambush towards Fergus and Dripsey.
- (f) Footpath Programme – Ballingeary up the Reinaree Road  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he hopes to include in this year's programme
- (g) Ballingeary – River Cleaning – Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said that OPW had released €20,000. He said he would be discussing same with the Flooding Section of Cork County Council with the view to progressing the works.

### **Cllr. Ted Lucey**

- (a) Lights at the Bridge, Macroom  
J. Dwyer, SEE said there is no funding from TII to carry out any upgrading works and he will follow up the basic repair with Airtricity.

- (b) GAA Grounds, Macroom  
Cllr. Lucey said there was a lot of anti social behaviour in the area and enquired if CCTV could be installed below the arch to extend to that area.

C. O'Neill, S/MDO stated that the area in question was private property and confirmed that following a meeting with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner a letter had issued in March from the City and County Managers Association, on behalf of All Local Authorities, to the Department of Justice and Equality asking them to pause the CCTV Programme until Data Protection issues have been reviewed and as a result it was not appropriate to discuss an extension of the CCTV system at this time.

- (c) Main Street, Macroom – lags on the street  
Cllr. Lucey requested that Bord Gais are contacted regarding redoing the trenches. C. Shannon, AE said there was a meeting the following week with Bord Gais.

Cllr. Creed enquired why there was a hollow in the road in Cork Street  
C. Shannon, AE said it was because of work which was carried out by Bord Gais and that the permanent reinstatement of the road had yet to be carried out and he would not sign off on the Road Opening Licence until he was happy with the quality of the reinstatement.

- (d) Macroom Bypass  
Cllr. Lucey welcomed the 1<sup>st</sup> Stage of the Bypass.

### **Cllr. Des O'Grady**

- (a) Dripsey – Model Village  
A O'Brien, EE said the works should be carried out in the Summertime

- (b) Roovesbridge, Coachford  
A O'Brien, EE said that the tender had been sent out.

- (c) Road from Farran Wood to the Church – bad condition

- (d) Coolmakee Bridge, Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said there was no update at present



- (e) Grange Manor, Ovens - Update  
It was proposed by Cllr. O'Grady and seconded by Cllr. Moynihan and agreed by all the Members to invite the Director of Services, Planning to the next meeting.
- (f) Light on the N22 – Green Marker missing

**Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Model Village, Dripsey – Footpaths needed
- (b) Coolea – Flood water coming out between the School and Coolea Cross  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will carry out an inspection.
- (c) Inchigeelagh – Speed Monitors – outcome  
J. Dwyer, SEE said on the Macroom side the speeds were higher between 8 a.m. -9 a.m. in the morning and 5p.m. – 7 p.m. in the evening. During the day the speeds were 70km/hour. He said he spoke to An Garda Siochana and they will carry out enforcement measures.

Cllr. Moynihan proposed that Vehicle Activated Signs are needed.

- (d) St. Olans Place, Aghabullogue – Road Into the Estate in poor condition  
A O'Brien, EE said he will investigate.

**Cllr. Kevin Conway**

- (a) Blarney Garda Station  
A O'Brien, EE said the tenders will be going out shortly.
- (b) Fallen Trees in the river, Station Cross, Blarney – who are responsible  
A O'Brien, EE said he will investigate.

**This concluded the business of the meeting**



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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

27/7/18

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**DATE**



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**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER**

27/7/18

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**DATE**

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