

## **Minutes of Meeting of the Blarney/Macroom Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**

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

**Attendance:** Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Kevin O'Regan, Municipal District Officer  
Ms. Claire O'Neill, S/Municipal District Officer  
Ms. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

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

Mr. Keith Jones, Senior Engineer, Housing  
Mr. Padraig Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing  
Ms. Carol Conway, Staff Officer, Housing

**Apologies:** Mr. Jim Molloy, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. Andy O'Brien, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Conor Shannon, Assistant Engineer  
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer (*Maternity Leave*)

Cllr. Conway, on behalf of the Members and staff of Cork County Council offered his condolences to Andy O'Brien, EE on the sad occasion of the death of his father, Paddy O'Brien. RIP. As a mark of respect a minutes silence was observed.

### **1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. Lucey, the Minutes of the proceedings of the Blarney/Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the A/Municipal District Officer.

### **ÁBHAIR A ÉIREOIDH MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Councillor D. O'Grady**

- (a) Coolmakee Bridge –Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has raised the matter with the NNRDO.
- (b) Feasibility Study on Pedestrian Access to Crossbarry Village – Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said the Area Engineer in Bandon was meeting with the NNRDO to examine same.

- (c) Surface on Roovesbridge, Coachford – Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he would be able to confirm at the next meeting if it is included in the Roads Programme for 2018. In response to Cllr. O’Grady, J. Dwyer, SEE said ESB have no involvement.
- (d) Public Lighting at the Junction at the N22 for Farran Village- Update  
Cllr. O’Grady said this junction was very dangerous and that the light and bollard needs to be replaced.

A discussion took place on the fact that all locations are not easily identifiable on the Airtircity website in the reporting of faults and on response times to carry out repairs. It was agreed to write to the Public Lighting Engineer outlining the Members concerns.

### **Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Public Lighting Programme 2017  
Cllr. Moynihan said that some of the lights had been completed in Inchigeela, however, she said there was one step on the Macroom side of Creedon’s Hotel that people were tripping over. She also said there was one light outside the community hall in Aghabullogue not finished. J. Dwyer, SEE said it would be possible to add an additional light in Inchigeelagh as part of the 2018 programme.
- (b) Speed Analysis Inchigeela – Update  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he had no update at present but was on the list of works.
- (c) Kilmurry School Crossing – Update  
In response to Cllr. Moynihan, J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed that the width of the pedestrian crossing was adequate, along with the ramp to slow down the traffic coming from both directions.
- (d) Grange Manor Estate, Ovens – Taking in Charge  
The Members noted the report.

A discussion took place among the Members and they all agreed that it was vital that a meeting takes place with John O’Neill, Director as soon as possible.

### **Councillor T. Lucey**

- (a) Castlevew Cross – Up to Nutricia  
J. Dwyer, SEE said that there are plannings outstanding in the area and once the decisions have been reached, he would be hopeful that something can be done.
- (b) Bus Depot  
Cllr. Lucey asked for an update. J. Dwyer, SEE provided same.

- (c) Post Office, Macroom – Crossing  
Ongoing
- (d) Dog Control Byelaws  
Ongoing
- (e) Bridge to Millstreet Cross – Resurfacing  
J. Dwyer, SEE said that he is hopeful that work will commence in March. In response to Cllr. Lucey, J. Dwyer, SEE said he could not confirm if the work is being done by night.
- (f) Briery Gap  
Cllr. Lucey said that the Briery Gap is infested with pigeons and requested that something is done about it.

## **2. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **(a) Housing Report for Blarney Macroom Municipal District**

Correspondence received from Maurice Manning, S/Director of Services was noted by the Members.

S/MDO advised members that the appropriate forum for questioning of Housing Officials was at Divisional Committee.

Cllr. O’Grady said he was disappointed with the response but acknowledged that there was not enough staff in the Housing Department. He said the HAP Scheme is being run from Limerick and that the rents go back into central fund. He said the Council are paying for staff to operate the scheme and this is not satisfactory.

Cllr. Moynihan said while she understood that the Housing Department were short staffed, this was a lost opportunity and that there was no point in asking any questions.

Cllr. Creed said that the Members get a report every 3 months and that they can walk into the Housing Department at any time.

### **(b) Derelict Sites Report for Blarney Macroom Municipal District**

S/MDO circulated a report on the current status of derelict sites within Blarney Macroom Municipal District.

Cllr. Lucey said he was disappointed that there were 4 derelict sites on the register since 2010 and no action taken. He said there were a lot of properties that were derelict and that there should be some incentive to renovate them.

Cllr. O’Grady questioned how many sites are still derelict from the 2014 photographic survey. He said while he welcomed the fact that New Street, Macroom was being included in the Dereliction Programme for 2018, he said

there was dereliction all over the Municipal District and that this needs to be addressed.

Cllr. Moynihan said that New Street, Macroom was included in the Paint Scheme last year and questioned how effective the Scheme was.

Cllr. Cowney said it was confirmed at the Chairs Meeting that the Scheme was not very successful in the Blarney Macroom Municipal District.

K. O'Regan, MDO said for property to be deemed derelict it has to meet the criteria of the Derelict Sites Act 1990.

K. O'Regan, MDO outlined the process involved in the declaring a property derelict and suggested that a report on the powers of the Council and actions that can be taken under the Derelict Site Act 1990 would be provided for Members at the next meeting.

P. Barrett, SEE said vacant houses can be put up on the website VacantHomes.ie. He said Housing are looking at the website and any houses that are deemed suitable can be acquired using CPO process. He asked the Members if they were aware of any vacant houses to let Housing know.

Cllr. O'Grady said he would support the CPO process. He said as regards the Vacant Homes Scheme there were 4 pilot schemes being operated, but this Municipal District was not represented.

K. O'Regan, MDO said any property in the County can be included.

In response to Cllr. O'Grady's query regarding NAMA houses, P. Barrett, SEE said any house can be included.

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- (c) Part 8 Planning – Station Road, Blarney  
It was proposed by Cllr. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. Conway and agreed by all the Members that the Part 8 would be referred to Full Council for consideration.
  - (d) Report on Ballingearry Village Enhancement Scheme 2017  
The Members noted the report.

### **3. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Housing Report for Blarney Macroom Municipal District  
See Item 2 (a)
- (b) Flooding at Crookstown  
The Members noted the report.

A discussion took place and while all the Members welcomed the Minor Works Application they agreed that the Council needs to keep the pressure on to get the full funding from the OPW.

C. O'Neill, S/MDO said she would write to the Senior Engineer, Water Services with the Members comments.

(c) Bus Depot, Macroom

J. Dwyer, SEE said he met with Martin Walsh, Bus Eireann. Mr. Walsh has requested alterations to the parking across the road. J. Dwyer, SEE said he raised the issue of making the entrance wider.

Cllr. Lucey said the building is in very bad repair and is an eyesore. He also queried if there could be a bus stop at the other side of Macroom.

Cllr. O'Grady said he agreed with Cllr. Lucey. He said the entrance is an issue and that the whole site is in an appalling state and agreed there should be additional bus stops in the town.

K. O'Regan, MDO said that Bus Eireann receive their funding through the NTA and that any recommendations would have to be made to the NTA.

All Members agreed that Mr. Walsh should be written to and asked to attend the next Municipal District Meeting.

**4. DIOL TALÚN  
DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY**

To consider the lease of land (0.269 hectares) at Riverview Estate, Blarney to Blarney United Football Club Limited for 30 years at a consideration of €200 per annum.

**Proposed:** Cllr. K. Conway

**Seconded:** Cllr. B. Ryan

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

**6. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**  
N/A

**7. AON GHNÓ EILE  
ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Cllr. Bob Ryan**

(a) Pothole Situation

Cllr. Ryan said he has submitted a list of potholes to the Council office in Tower.

(b) Town Development Fund for Blarney Macroom Municipal District

Cllr. Ryan queried if €10,000 has been allocated from the TDF towards the St. Patrick's Day parades in Macroom and Blarney. C. O'Neill, S/MDO said this will be confirmed at the "In Committee" meeting to be held before the March meeting.

### **Cllr. Ted Lucey**

- (a) Road Widening, Sleaveen, Macroom
- (b) Crookstown – Verges
- (c) Carrigadrohid – Potholes

### **Cllr. Des O’Grady**

- (a) Impact on Community CCTV Cameras as Regards Data Protection  
Cllr. O Grady queried if the community CCTV cameras were GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) compliant. Claire O’Neill, S/MDO said she would seek confirmation on the matter.

### **Cllr. Michael Creed**

- (a) Cabragh Road, Clondrohid – Bad State

### **Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Signage of the Graveyard in Coachford and Aghabullogue and the Church in Rylane.  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he would look into it.
- (b) Inchigeela Bridge – When is the work commencing?  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will hopefully have confirmation for the next meeting.
- (c) 60km Signage Speed Limit – Ballingearry towards the Mouth of the Glen Pole needs to be re-erected.

### **Cllr. Kevin Conway**

- (a) Blarney Village Before St. Patricks Day Parade  
Cllr. Conway requested that potholes are filled on the Blarney Relief Road before the parade on 17<sup>th</sup> March next.

### **Claire O’Neill, S/MDO**

- (a) Anti Dumping Initiative  
The S/MDO asked the Members if they had any areas they wanted to include to let her know.
- (b) Pride of Place  
The S/MDO asked the Members to send any nominations to her.

(c) Paint Scheme 2018

The S/MDO said the Paint Scheme will be launched after the March Municipal District Meeting.

Cllr. Lucey enquired about the balance of the money from last years Paint Scheme.

K. O'Regan, MDO said the funding could be used through community groups, e.g. Tidy Towns. He said there was too much dependency on property owners.

Cllr. Creed queried if the property was private, can the community group carry out works. K. O'Regan, MDO agreed that they can provided the owners cannot be located.

Cllr. Moynihan queried if the Scheme was working in other areas.

(d) Promote the Work of Municipal Districts

The S/MDO said it is intended to launch the works carried out in Clondrohid and Ballygeary from Clár funding in conjunction with the community groups involved. Details will be sent to Members in the coming weeks.

**This concluded the business of the meeting**

*Kevin Conroy*  
CATHAOIRLEACH

27/4/2018  
DATE

*Clare Hall*  
A/MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER

27/4/18  
DATE