

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD IN CARRIG HOUSE, COBH, ON TUESDAY, 14th MARCH, 2017

Present - Councillors A. Barry, P. O’Sullivan, K. McCarthy, G. Keohane, S. Sheppard and D. O’Cadhla

Apologies were received from Cllr. C. Rasmussen and Mr. P. Lynch

Officials Present:

Mr. S. O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer
 Mr. G. O’Hora, Senior Executive Engineer
 Mr. R. O’Sullivan, Executive Engineer
 Ms. C. McDonnell, Cobh Municipal District

The meeting commenced with a silent prayer.

1. DEIMHNIU MIONTUAIRISCI – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Councillor G. Keohane, seconded by Councillor S. Sheppard, the Minutes of the Cobh Municipal District Meeting held on 21st February, 2017, were adopted.

2. MATTERS ARISING:

Traffic Calming measures at the bottom of Barrack Hill.

G. O’Hora reported that road signage would be erected in this area.

Road lining and street lighting on the road from Glanmire to Riverstown

G. O’Hora confirmed that this work would be carried out in conjunction with the 2017 Roads Programme.

List of Derelict Sites in the Cobh Municipal District Area

Cllr. Sheppard referred to the request at the last meeting that a listing of derelict sites be provided at this meeting.. S. O’Callaghan stated that an update on this would be provided at the next meeting by the Municipal District Officer.

Cllr. Sheppard asked if there was any update on the problem of flooding by Lidl in Glanmire. G. O’Hora stated that this was a Planning enforcement issue and Lidl was responsible for carrying out the repair work.

Cobh Streetscape

S. O’Callaghan stated that the Council was liaising with Irish Water in relation to the public realm works and also for the provision of underground ducts at the Top of the Hill area. He stated that once this work was costed he would then update the members and the aim is that the work would be rolled out in conjunction with the Lower Harbour Drainage Scheme.

Glenanaar Place

G. O’Hora stated that a cul-de-sac sign would be erected in this area and the pothole at the entrance to the estate was listed for repair.

Traffic Lights at Ballytrasna Cross at Little Island

G. O’Hora stated that a contractor was examining this issue.

Speed ramp at Fernwood, Glanmire

G. O’Hora stated that the Council were undertaking a traffic count in this area.

Double yellow lines at Dromcille Estate, Glenville

G. O’Hora stated that this matter would have to be discussed with the gardai prior to the installation of any double yellow lines.

Drains at Brookville Estate

G. O’Hora confirmed that these were listed for work.

Traffic Lights at the railway station at Carrigtwohill

R.O’Sullivan stated that the traffic light sequence for the right turning lane was causing confusion and would be turned off.

Parking at Killacloyne interfering with the sightlines

R. O’Sullivan stated that the verge would be relayed with topsoil.

Potholes in Carrigtwohill

R. O’Sullivan stated that a number of the potholes had been dealt with and the rest were listed for repair.

3. CORRESPONDENCE**Rent Pressure Zone for Cork City**

S. O’Callaghan read the letter received from Minister Coveney in response to the members request to include the metropolitan area of the Cobh Municipal District in the Rent Pressure Zone for Cork City.

Councillors were very disappointed with the decision as areas such as Cobh and Glanmire were in a dire situation.

It was agreed to write back to the Minister outlining the members’ concerns.

4 OFFICERS REPORTS**a) Village Enhancement Fund**

S. O’Callaghan outlined the details of the scheme which would provide funding of €62,500 to be spent in one of the 3 key villages namely Carrignavar, Glenville and Glounthaune. He asked that any ideas which the Councillors may have for projects in any of these areas be forwarded to P. Lynch for consideration next month.

G. O’Hora added that a lot of traffic calming measures and road lining works had been undertaken in the Glounthaune and Carrignavar area recently, while due to budget constraints only a few area improvement works had carried out in the Glenville area.

Cllr. A. Barry stated that that this was a great fund and a wonderful opportunity for the villages in the Municipal District area.

b) 10/11 Harbour Hill

S. O’Callaghan explained to the members that a Part 8 will be required in respect of the redevelopment of 10 & 11 Harbour Hill, Cobh. He also stated that Mr. Keith Jones A/Senior Engineer, Housing Directorate, and Mr. Tim O’Farrell would like to meet with the members to discuss this issue prior to the April monthly meeting. This was agreed.

c) Park Use Policy

S. O’Callaghan outlined 3 changes from the document circulated to the members at the last meeting namely:-

- 1) The maximum duration of an event has increased from 1 day to 2 days
- 2) A charge of €50 is to be applied for “commercial” events
- 3) Licences cannot interfere with existing Casual Trading Licences.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. G. Keohane, these changes were approved.

5. Disposal of Property at Cul na Greine, Dublin Hill Middle,

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, it was agreed to dispose of property at Cul na Greine, Dublin Hill Middle, Cork to Tina Sexton for the consideration of €1.

6. Disposal of Property – lands adjacent to 18 Harbour Row, Cobh

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, it was agreed to dispose of lands adjacent to 18 Harbour Row, Cobh to Smartspace Developments Ltd., for the consideration of €21,500.

7. Draft Cobh (Overnight Parking) Bye Laws, 2017

The Chairperson informed the meeting that the Council was reviewing the recently adopted overnight Parking Bye Laws by Galway County Council and it was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting

8. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen

“That this council begin a proper programme of road lining in the whole area as at present in the Cobh area a lot of roads have little or no white lines”

As Cllr. C. Rasmussen was not in attendance, this matter was deferred.

9. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen

“That this council plan a proper programme to alleviate the flooding on the Pottery Road as was experienced again this week, where one whole section of the road was impassable”

As Cllr. C. Rasmussen was not in attendance, this matter was deferred.

10. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen

“That this council seek funding to surface and line the Ticknock hill road before the whole road becomes impassable and also that we seek some recourse against Irish water for not fixing the 3 locations properly that they opened recently”

As Cllr. C. Rasmussen was not in attendance, this matter was deferred.

11. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Padraig O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Keohane

“That given the amount of anti social behaviour and vandalism in John O’Callaghan Park, Glanmire, this Council would support the installation of CCTV equipment to monitor the ongoing difficulties in the public park”

Cllr O’ Sullivan stated that the anti-social behaviour in the park was mostly at week-ends. It was accepted that the control of anti-social behaviour is a matter for the Gardaí. Following discussion it was agreed that the Council would engage with the various stakeholders including the Gardaí and revert to the members in due course.

12. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Padraig O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Keohane

“That this Council would carry out an assessment of the condition of Monard Boreen and undertake remedial repairs where necessary”

G. O’Hora stated that he would examine this issue.

13. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Padraig O’Sullivan seconded by Cllr. McCarthy

“That this Municipal District would seek CCTV/monitoring equipment so as to tackle the scourge of illegal dumping and fly-tipping which is prevalent across this Municipal District and that this equipment could be utilised at the various engineers’ discretion to tackle this ongoing problem”.

G. O’Hora stated that there were no resources available to the Cobh Municipal District to purchase such equipment and that the matter should be referred to the Environmental Department.

S. O’Callaghan stated that he would talk to the Director of Service in the Environmental Department.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/AON GHNO EILE:

Cllr. D. O’Cadhla:

Illegal dumping of rubbish at Jack Doyle mural, Cobh

Cllr. O’Cadhla raised the issue of bags of rubbish dumped at the Jack Doyle mural at the end of Church Street.

Cllr. Sheppard stated that this was a huge problem in many areas and asked if a litter plan for the Cobh Municipal District could be drawn up.

G. O’Hora stated that the anti-litter unit should be contacted with the complaints and they would then organise an inspection of the bags with a view to prosecuting offenders.

Cllr. Barry said that offenders are now very vigilant in not leaving any names/addresses in the bags that they dump.

Cllr. O’Cadhla suggested that if the illegal dumping was caused by economic factors where householders could not afford to pay for a refuse collection then maybe the Council should provide a skip where the rubbish could be dumped. Cllr. Barry stated that this course of action could easily escalate the problem.

Cllr. K. McCarthy

Cllr. McCarthy advised the other members that a representative of the Dockyard was willing to meet with councillors either collectively or individually to discuss the treatment of their site in the Draft Development Plan.

Cllr. A. Barry

a) Draft Development Plan Meeting

Cllr. Barry raised the issue of the Development Plan meeting scheduled to take place on 23rd March 2017. He stated that the allocated time of 1 hour to discuss the Cobh Municipal District area was insufficient.

Cllr. Sheppard stated that all members had received a copy of the book of submissions with very little changes that the members had suggested having been included.

Cllr. O’Sullivan expressed his dissatisfaction that those who made submissions in relation to Little Island received nothing more than a generic copy and paste response.

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that S. O’Callaghan would inform the Planning Policy Unit to raise the members’ concerns.

b) Gulley at Ardagh Heights near the Blackman Pub in need of attention

Road gully repaired.

c) Bridge in Knockraha in need of repair

Bridge listed for repair.

d) Bog road, Carrigtwohill sinking

Road potholes repaired.

e) Potholes at Annesgrove in need of attention

Road potholes repaired.

f) Poor Sitrine at Windsor Hill, Knockraha

Cllr. Barry asked if stop signs could be erected in this area.

Engineer to examine

Cllr. G. Keohane

a) Traffic Survey at Lioscara Estate, Killeens

Cllr. Keohane asked if a traffic survey could be carried out at Liscarroll Estate due to excessive speeding in the area.

Estate listed for traffic survey.

b) Speeding from Marwood Estate to Sars Hurling ground

Cllr. Keohane raised the issue of speeding on the road between Marwood Estate and Sars Hurling ground. He stated that it is very dangerous as pupils from 2 nearby schools have difficulty crossing the road to get to the hurling ground

c) Extension to house at Ashington Estate

Cllr. Keohane stated that a resident at Ashington Estate wanted to build an extension to his House and asked whether they could incorporate 63sqm of an unused green area. Cllr. Barry asked if the Council would identify these small areas of land within estates which have no great value and sell them off. It was agreed that S. O'Callaghan would contact the planning department and revert to the Members.

Cllr. Barry also asked if the Council could write to the planning department regarding increasing the number of parking spaces for future housing estates as many areas have insufficient spaces available to them. It was agreed that this would be done.

Cllr. S. Sheppard

a) Residents' parking discs at Thomas Street, Cobh

Cllr. Sheppard asked whether a resident of Thomas Street could obtain a parking permit.

Cllr. Sheppard was advised that residents could only apply for a permit in an area where pay parking/restrictions were in place.

b) Land at Bayview Estate, Cobh

Cllr. Sheppard stated that a shed had been built on a small area of public land in Bayview Estate. R. O'Sullivan stated that this matter had been referred to the enforcement section of the planning department.

c) Drainage works and patching on Walterstown Road, Cobh

Cllr. Sheppard stated that the residents of Walterstown Road wished to thank the council area staff for the recent road repair works carried out.

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan

a) Lining and Signage opposite the Island Gate Restaurant

Cllr. O'Sullivan asked if signage could be erected and road lining could be carried out opposite the Island Gate Restaurant.

G O' Hora advised road lining and signage is listed for location.

b) Traffic Lights at Little Island

Cllr. O'Sullivan asked if the lights at Little Island could be changed to flashing amber.

Traffic Light sequence monitored and working to set parameters.

c) Condition of road at the Elm Tree Restaurant

Cllr. O'Sullivan raised the issue of the condition of the road at the Elm Tree Restaurant.

G O' Hora confirmed road is listed for resurfacing in the 2017 RI roads programme.

d) Electronic Signs at Dunkettle

Cllr. O'Sullivan stated that the electronic speed signs at Dunkettle were very near the bend in the road where drivers would be unable to drive speedily.

G. O' Hora stated that these signs would be moved around to different locations throughout the Municipal District. Traffic speed at this location would be monitored.

e) Trees across from Brooklodge, Glanmire

Cllr. O'Sullivan raised the issue of a forested area across from Brooklodge in Glanmire where a number of people had taken their own lives and asked if some of the lower branches could be cut back.

G. O'Hora stated that this work would be carried out.

f) Traffic Calming measures in future developments in built up areas

Cllr. O'Sullivan asked if it would be possible to ask developers to provide more ramps as part of a grant of planning permission.

R. O' Sullivan stated that this issue was being addressed with the provision of more ramps being requested from developers.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Cathaoirleach

Municipal District Officer