

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD AT CARRIG HOUSE, COBH ON MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018.**

**Present:** Councillors P. O’Sullivan, C. Rasmussen, A. Barry, G. Keohane, S. Sheppard, K. McCarthy & D. Ó’Cadhla.

**Officials Present:** Mr. S. O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer  
Mr. G. O’Hora, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. R. O’Sullivan, Executive Engineer  
Ms. C. McDonnell, Cobh Municipal District  
Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

The meeting commenced with a moment of reflection, all standing.

It was agreed by all the members to extend a Vote of Condolence to the family of Andrew O’Brien, Executive Engineer, on the death of his father, Paddy O’Brien.

**1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ**

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, the Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Tuesday 5 February, 2018 were adopted.

**2. MATTERS ARISING:**

**CLARIFICATION:**

P. Lynch stated that Cork County Council had a policy in relation to which Notices of Motion should be discussed at Municipal level and which were appropriate for full Council. In general motions that are of a local nature or deal with an issue wholly within the remit or jurisdiction of the Municipal District shall be dealt with at Municipal District level; if necessary a report should be sought from the relevant Director of Services. Only motions that have broader countywide implications or propose a review/change to an existing county wide Policy/Plan or Strategy should be considered for a referral to full Council.

**PARKING IN COBH:**

P. Lynch confirmed that an engineer was currently examining the parking situation at the Five Foot Way and he would have a report for the next meeting as to how many spaces were available.

**SIGNAGE IN COBH:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that damaged road signage in Cobh would be repaired in the coming weeks.

**NEW HOTEL FOR COBH:**

P. Lynch stated that a meeting scheduled with a senior planner from Cork County Council to discuss the issues raised by members last month in relation to the land at Ballynoe had to be cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions. On the proposal of

Cllr. K. McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. D. Ó' Cadhla, it was agreed to invite the planner to the next monthly meeting.

**WEST VIEW, COBH:**

G. O'Hora confirmed that drainage works had commenced in West View to alleviate the problem of surface water seeping from the cliff onto the road.

**KILCULLY:**

G. O'Hora confirmed that letters had been sent to some landowners in the Kilcully road area in relation to their responsibilities in maintaining hedgerows adjacent to the public road.

**TAXI RANK, COBH**

P. Lynch confirmed that the works are scheduled to be completed by the end of March.

**CARRIGANE TO QUARRY ROAD:**

G. O'Hora confirmed that road repair works in this area are due to begin later this week.

**LITTLE ISLAND:**

G. O'Hora stated that new bollards had to be ordered and damaged bollards will be replaced shortly

**ASSUMPTION PLACE:**

G. O'Hora stated that the drains in the area were blocked, but were included in the Drain Cleaning Programme for 2018.

**GLOUNTHAUNE:**

G. O'Hora stated that the hedging was listed to be cut back shortly.

**KNOCKRAHA:**

G. O'Hora confirmed that the drains in this area were included in the 2018 Drain Cleaning programme.

**FERNWOOD, GLANMIRE:**

G. O'Hora stated that this estate was not in the charge of the Council. Traffic calming and speed ramps in the estate is a matter for the developer.

**PUBLIC LIGHTING, CAR PARK, COBH**

G. O'Hora stated that an additional light for this location had been included in the 2018 Public Lighting Programme.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

P. Lynch stated that no correspondence had been received.

**4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**Pedestrian Crossing at Coláiste Mhuire, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora circulated a preliminary design showing the proposed layout of the Pedestrian crossings for Bishop Street, Cobh. He explained that the series of build outs were designed to slow traffic and that a proposed controlled crossing would be put in place opposite the secondary school. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the members would meet with the engineer on site to review the proposed build out locations.

**Junction at Whites Cross:**

G. O’Hora stated that he had received an additional allocation of funding for the Roads Improvement Programme and he proposed to use these funds to improve the regional road junction at Whites Cross. On the proposal of Cllr. G. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. D. Ó’Cadhla, it was agreed to carry out the works.

**Funfair Application:**

P. Lynch stated that an application for a Funfair had been received from Ms. Sharon Piper for various dates between 2<sup>nd</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> September. The application was accompanied by a Safety Certificate valid until 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2018, the appropriate fee and insurance details. Ms. Piper has operated within the Promenade previously with no complaints or issues. P. Lynch recommended that Ms. Piper be granted a licence to operate the Children’s Carousel for the dates in April, May and June, he also recommend that she be asked to submit an up to date Certificate of Safety for the Carousel prior to 15<sup>th</sup> July – on submission of a satisfactory Certificate of Safety, the Licence can be extended to cover the dates in July, August and September. It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy to grant the licence subject to the conditions outlined.

**Cork Harbour World War 1 Trail:**

P. Lynch submitted a report on the current status of the WW1 Harbour Trail, he stated that locations number 8 – 20 on the circulated list were within the Cobh Municipal District and that he was now bringing the matter to the members to:

- a) To identify if there are any other WW1 locations in the Harbour area of the Cobh Municipal District that Members consider should be included.
- b) To request financial support towards the costs involved in the project. It is proposed that each MD would cover the cost of the plaques erected in their area.

On the proposal of Cllr. K. McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, it was agreed to fund the cost of the plaques.

**5. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER REPORT:**

P. Lynch presented the first of a new monthly Municipal District Officers report to the members. The report outlined details of the numbers of applications received under the General Municipal Allocation, Town Development Fund, gave an update on the Cobh Playground Project, sought nominations for the 2018 Pride of Place competition and gave details of the current Part 8 Proposals. The report was welcomed by the members. Cllr. C. Rasmussen sought clarification on any money left unclaimed under the General Municipal Allocation, S. O’Callaghan stated that in this case the members would be notified and would be able to vote again on re-allocation.

- 6. To set dates for the April, May and June meetings of the Cobh Municipal District.**  
It was agreed that the next three meetings would be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 8<sup>th</sup> May and 5<sup>th</sup> June, respectively.

- 7. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Ger Keohane:**  
“That this Municipal install double yellow lines on both sides and full length of the main entrance to Saint Joseph’s View and Marble Park housing estate and no parking signs to combat illegal parking, these measures will prevent accidents occurring and traffic chaos”.

Cllr. G. Keohane outlined the dangers caused by traffic in this area and stated that another petition had been handed in by residents. G. O’Hora stated that he was concerned that any proposed road lining measures would impact on parking for the Doctors surgery and other shops on this road, he also stated the area in and around the Riverstown Cross area was being examined in the context of the LIHAF project and the road in question would form part of the sightlines for the junction and it was possible that restrictions would be put in place as part of these works. On the proposal of Cllr. G. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Sullivan, it was agreed that the engineer would examine the area again with a view to alleviating the problems in the short term.

- 8. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Ger Keohane:**  
“That this Municipal clear and clean up a derelict patch of waste ground belonging to Cork County Council, this site is adjacent to Beechwood Avenue and Willow Gardens housing estates, this site is overgrown with weeds and brambles, full of rubbish and infested with rats, also to repair the fencing between Willow Gardens and this site”

It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. G. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Sullivan, that the engineer would examine the area.

- 9. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Ger Keohane:**  
“That this Municipal carry out drainage works in the Ballinagaul, Knockraha area, these works will counteract the surface water coming on to the public road, this surface water is having an impact on private residents septic tanks and the percolation areas servicing these septic tanks, also, can this Municipal contact the land owner of these lands to carry out measures to prevent this surface water coming on to the public road.”

G. O’Hora stated that road drainage works in the Knockraha area are listed in the 2018 drainage works programme.

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Sullivan, it was agreed to write to the landowners.

- 10. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

“(A) Owing to the fact that Cobh Tidy Towns and their volunteers had to spend hours clearing all sorts of debris including electrical goods from the green areas near Fosters Haven and Hartlands Point recently that a letter be written to all the residents in the

area requesting them to refrain from doing so again in the future and outline possible penalties for illegal dumping and that we as a council agree a strategy going forward for dealing with such instances.

(B) In an effort to try and instil some pride in the area that this council would erect names plates with the estate names in these estates as there are none there at present.”

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the area was very dirty and untidy and requested that the weeds in the area would be sprayed following the clean up. P. Lynch stated that he would contact the Housing Department in relation to putting up signs at the entrance to the estates. Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that not all the residents in the area were dumping and that it was apparent that people from other areas of town were dumping their rubbish at this location. Cllr. Ó’Cadhla stated that any letter issued by the Municipal District should be sensitive and refrain from accusing the residents of dumping. Cllr. O’Sullivan stated that reference to the upcoming National Spring Clean programme and the assistance provided by the Council to Residents Associations in relation to clean up should also be included. P. Lynch stated that he would contact the Environment Department who on occasion provided CCTV for Litter Black Spots.

It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, that a letter should issue to all residents in the area in relation to Litter/Dumping and a letter of thanks should be sent to Cobh Tidy Towns.

**11. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

“That this council would again write to all businesses in the town of Cobh asking them to sweep up regularly in front of their buildings especially early in the morning and to remind them of their responsibility to keep their refuse bins neat and tidy and not to have them overflowing and that once they are empty that they should be removed to avoid any hindrance they may cause to people walking around the town. As part of his duties the traffic / litter warden should liaise with businesses to ensure that this happens.”

On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed to write to all the businesses in Cobh, Glanmire and Carrigtwohill.

**12. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

“That this council would conduct a survey and generate a list of protected buildings and areas in the municipal district that are in public ownership”

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, it was agreed that P. Lynch would contact the Planning Department to identify the protected structures in public ownership.

**13. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Padraig O’Sullivan:**

“That this Council write to the IDA to ascertain their plans for Wallingstown Castle Little Island. This is a protected structure at risk of falling in to greater disrepair. That the Municipal District be furnished with any plan for landscaping or treatment of the structure itself”

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan stated that he had been in contact previously with the IDA in relation to this matter and as far as he was aware a programme of works and a budget had been put in place to carry out repairs, however this had not happened. On the proposal of Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Ó’Cadhla, that a letter would be sent to the IDA and the Heritage Officer of Cork County Council would be informed.

**14. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Padraig O’Sullivan:**

“That this Council would contact Irish Rail once again to discuss their future plans for Glounthaune rail station, with particular reference to ongoing difficulties with parking”

Cllr. O’Sullivan stated that previous letters had issued from the Municipal district but had not been answered. He stated that he had spoken directly to Irish Rail and felt that a further letter would receive a response. On the proposal of Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed to send a letter to Íarnród Éireann.

**15. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Padraig O’Sullivan:**

“That this Council support the idea of extending the playground facilities at Carrigrenan, Little Island. Significant monies have been fundraised and donated by local enterprise and I call on this Municipal District to support same”

Cllr. O’Sullivan stated that a grant application had been submitted for fencing around the playground, significant funds had been raised locally for other projects in the area including an outdoor gym and the extension to the existing playground. Cllr. O’Sullivan was seeking the support of the other members to bring the project to a conclusion. S. O’Callaghan stated that central funding was available to match funds raised locally. On the proposal of Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed to support any application for funds.

**16. Any Other Business/Aon Ghnó Eile**

**Cobh Connect Bus:**

Cllr. K. McCarthy queried whether the Council had any role in the maintenance of the Cobh Connect Bus Stops. G. O’Hora responded that the maintenance of the bus stops were a matter for the private bus company which operates the route.

Cllr. S. Sheppard then raised the issue of the bus stop near Londis which is causing distress to the home owner. Cllr. C. Rasmussen responded that it had been agreed between the bus company and council officials to move the bus stop, however, it was proving difficult to find a new location.

**Cobh:**

Cllr. K. McCarthy raised the issue of potholes at College Manor, Ballynoe Road and Barrymore Avenue and damaged sign poles at Belvelly. G O’Hora stated potholes and damaged sign are listed for repair.

**Ballyleary, Cobh:**

Cllr. S. Sheppard again raised the issue of hedging obstructing the road at Ballyleary, G. O’Hora stated that the bird nesting season had started on the 01<sup>st</sup> March, however Cllr. Sheppard confirmed that it represented a danger to road users and needed to be cut. Engineer to examine under road safety works.

**Carrigwell, Carrignavar:**

Cllr. A. Barry requested an update on the traffic survey carried out at this location. G. O’Hora responded by confirming that a traffic speed survey had been carried out, however the traffic speed in the area weren’t very high and also pointed out that if speed in the area was an issue, the enforcement of same is a matter for the Gardaí.

**Derelict Sites/Painting Scheme:**

Cllr. A. Barry enquired as to whether the Derelict Sites register was in operation and if a painting scheme was to be introduced this year, could it be extended to include signage outside of businesses? S. O’Callaghan stated that the painting scheme covered signage on buildings but not on streets.

**Carrigtwohill:**

Cllr. A. Barry stated that the surface of the roadway from the G.A.A., going west out of the village was damaged. Engineer to examine.

**IDA Estate, Carrigtwohill:**

Cllr. A. Barry requested that a letter be sent to the IDA to sponsor bus shelters on both sides of the road outside of the IDA estate, as there were at least 15-20 people regularly waiting for buses in the rain, he stated that it was impossible to encourage people to use public transport in the absence of appropriate facilities. Cllr. P. O’Sullivan stated that Bus Éireann should also be written to in this regard and asked that a request to provide an internal light at the existing bus shelter near the Brook Inn, Glanmire be also included.

**St. Patricks Day Parade, Cobh:**

Cllr. Rasmussen raised the exorbitant cost of road closure advertisements in the Cork Examiner and Evening Echo to local festivals and events, such as the St. Patricks Day Parade. He stated that the Council was providing funding for these events and a large proportion of this was being spent on advertising. He suggested that other publications such as the East Cork Journal and local newsletters should also be deemed acceptable for advertising purposes. P. Lynch suggested that the issue should be raised at the Roads SPC.

**Glanmire – Thank you:**

Cllr. G. Keohane stated that the Glanmire Chamber of Commerce, the Business Association and local residents wished to express their thanks for a job well done during the latest bad weather to the Council roads staff.

**Bottlehill:**

Cllr. G. Keohane wanted an update on what was happening at Bottlehill. Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the issue had been raised unsuccessfully at the Environment CPC. Cllr. A. Barry stated that the matter was due to be discussed at the CPG, however much of the information was commercially sensitive and this was the reason for the lack of information.

**Circus Field:**

Cllr. G. Keohane queried whether there was any way of speeding up the removal of fallen trees from the Glashaboy river. Engineer responded by saying, a contractor was appointed to remove the trees, but he was waiting for Parks and Wildlife to grant permission to remove the trees.

**Lotamore, Mayfield:**

Cllr. G. Keohane queried whether Lotamore Estate was in the City or County. G. O’Hora responded that the estate was in the County, however it was a City owned development and not taken in charge by Cork County Council.

**Aherns Place, Cobh:**

Cllr. S. Sheppard raised the issue of the pedestrian lights at Aherns Place, she stated that some motorists do not appear see the lights and requested that signage be put up on the approach through Park Road. G O’Hora to further examine.

**Pipe Band Championships:**

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated she had received an email from the Irish Pipe Band Association (Munster Branch) who wished to stage a competition in the Promenade on the 18<sup>th</sup> June and were seeking funding in the order of €1,000 to €1,500 to help defray the cost of the event. P. Lynch replied that it may be possible to fund this through the Town Development Fund or the Pay Parking Dividend. On the proposal of Cllr. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. Rasmussen, it was agreed to allocate funding to the event

**Public Lighting:**

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan enquired when proposals for the Public Lighting Fund will be presented to the members. G. O’Hora stated that he would have a list for the next meeting and that the proposed budget was in the region of €35,000.

**Little Island Cross:**

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan raised the condition of a road, just off Little Island Cross, containing several houses. Engineer confirmed road was listed for repair.

**Carbertytown, Glanmire:**

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan raised the issue of drainage in Carbertytown, near Forge Cross. Engineer confirmed that road was listed for some drainage works.

**New Line, Glanmire:**

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan stated that there were a number of very bad potholes on the New Line, particular at the Knockraha to Leamlara end. Engineer to examine and list potholes for repair.



**Town Development Fund:**

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan reminded members and officials that it had been agreed that the majority of the money available under this fund would be directed toward the Glanmire and Carrigtwohill area this year. S. O’Callaghan stated that there were specific guidelines in relation to what this money could be spent on, at the urging of the members he agreed to circulate these guidelines again.

**Seachtain na Gaeilge:**

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan enquired as to whether the Municipal District had any specific proposals or budget for Seachtain na Gaeilge which occurred around Easter. P. Lynch stated that if the members had any suggestions, he would endeavour to allocate funding/resources.

**Marinegate, Cobh:**

Cllr. K. McCarthy stated that at least 8 street lights were not working at Marinegate, Cobh since last October. G. O’Hora stated that this estate had not been taken in charge and repairs were a matter for the developer/owner.

**Top of the Hill Festival, Cobh:**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the Top of the Hill Festival was being revived this year and it would take place over the June Bank Holiday weekend and would include a parade from the Fire Station to the Community Centre, the organisers were liaising with the Gardaí in order to avoid the requirement for a road closure.

**Congratulations:**

Cllr. A. Barry wished to congratulate all members of Cork County Council, at all levels, for the work they carried out during and after, the recent cold weather.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

---

*Cathaoirleach*

---

*Municipal District Officer.*