

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD AT CARRIG HOUSE ON MONDAY 7th MAY, 2019.

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

Officials Present: Mr. P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer
Mr. G. O'Hora, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. R. O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

An apology for his inability to attend was received from S. O'Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer.

The meeting began with a moments' reflection.

1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ:

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday 1st April, 2019, were adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the Minutes of In Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April, 2019, were adopted.

2. MATTERS ARISING:

Traffic Management Survey for Cobh:

P. Lynch stated that he was to meet representatives of the Traffic and Transportation section during the coming week and would revert to the members. Cllrs. Sheppard and Rasmussen queried whether the survey should be a condition of any planning application by the Port of Cork for a second cruise liner terminal.

'Pick up after your Dog' Campaign, Cobh:

P. Lynch stated that a total of five children would receive their prizes for the above competition at the library at 3.30 on Wednesday 8th May.

Port of Cork Meeting:

P. Lynch stated that the Port of Cork Company had informed him that the proposed meeting between the members and the Port in relation to issues concerning rights of way had been linked to a proposed event in relation to the preparation of the Masterplan for Marino Point. As the Masterplan was not yet complete, this meeting would be delayed.

Traffic Calming/Signage for Cobh:

1. Cobh Cathedral – G. O'Hora stated that he had examined the location and proposed new signage.

2. Coolamber Estate – G. O’Hora stated a new stop sign would be erected and the estate road entrance relined.
3. College Drive – G. O’Hora sought clarification on the exact location and stated he would re-examine the issue.
4. Cuskinny – G. O’Hora stated that noise was associated with rumble strips and he was not in favour of installing them near houses. He also stated that the speed limit had been reduced in the area and that unfortunately there was no room on the road verge for kerbing.

Cobh Maintenance:

P. Lynch stated that while he had been in contact with both the Tidy Towns and the Chamber of Commerce, a joint letter had yet to issue. G. O’Hora stated that there were 15 dog bins located throughout the town centre and there were no plans to erect more. Cllr. S. Sheppard enquired about repairing the railings at the Promenade. R. O’Sullivan replied that it was proving difficult to source replacement parts; however he was working with a local contractor regarding same.

Carrigtwohill Junction:

G. O’Hora stated that he had contacted the Roads Design Office in relation to same and was awaiting feedback.

Little Island:

G. O’Hora, having examined the location, stated that additional signage would be provided advising road unsuitable for HGV’s.

Factory Hill, Glanmire:

G. O’Hora stated that the road junction would be lined when road surface dressing were completed.

Knockraha Village:

G. O’Hora stated that he would arrange to meet with the local landowner in a bid to improve sightlines in the Maryville/Pigeon Hill area. He stated that the pothole at the entrance to the village had been filled and he was in contact with the adjacent landowner regarding ongoing issues there.

Castlejane, Glanmire:

G. O’Hora stated the pothole had been filled.

Fota Rock:

G. O’Hora stated that the through road had been added to the road sweeping schedule, both Fota Rock and College Manor, Cobh.

College Lawn, Cobh:

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that there were still ongoing issues with the green area at College Lawn, 3 different contractors had been approached to cut the grass and all had refused.

John O’Connell Street, Cobh:

G. O’Hora confirmed that a yellow junction box would be printed on the narrowest part of the road.

Brooklodge Road, Glanmire:

G. O’Hora stated a survey had been carried out and confirmed that speeding did occur on the road, it was agreed that a Driver Feed Back sign would be installed at the location.

Heritage Centre, Cobh:

G. O’Hora confirmed that the roundabout in front of the Heritage Centre was working well and had no plans to remove it.

Carrigaloe, Cobh:

G. O’Hora stated that repair work would recommence on the walls over the summer.

West Beach, Cobh:

G. O’Hora confirmed that new parking signage was due to be put up shortly and the sign outside the AIB would be repaired.

Oakfield, Glanmire:

G. O’Hora confirmed a contractor had been appointed to install the speed ramp.

3. PRESENTATION BY EIRGRID ON CELTIC INTERCONNECTOR:

Eoghan Tuite, Eirgrid, updated the members on the progress of the Interconnector which was now in the Initial Design and Pre-consultation phase, plans were submitted to An Bord Pleanála in December 2018. Knockraha has been identified as the most suitable location for connection to the electricity grid in Ireland, where it is proposed to build a Converter Station on approx. 10 acres. Five landfall locations were identified, with the most likely location being Redbarn or Claycastle beaches near Youghal. The public consultation process would continue until the start of June.

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. A response to the notice of motion raised by Cllrs. A. Barry & P. O’Sullivan at the March meeting in relation to a master plan for Glounthaune was received from the Planning Policy Unit and circulated to the members. Cllr. Barry expressed his disappointment at the response received, stating that over 1,000 units were proposed for the area and that the current proposals would not create a sustainable community.
2. An invitation from the Cobh/Ploermel Twinning Group to travel to France in July was circulated to the members. It was agreed to consider the invitation again at the June meeting.

5. **OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

No reports were circulated.

6. **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER REPORT:**

P. Lynch updated the members on the number of claims under the General Municipal Allocation and the Town Development Fund. He outlined the current progress of the three Part 8 proposals being undertaken. P. Lynch invited the members to submit proposals under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme, 2019, projects up to €20,000 can be submitted for consideration.

7. **Town Development Fund Scheme Allocations 2019**

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, the allocations which had been circulated to the members under the Town Development Fund Scheme 2019, and discussed at the in committee meeting held on 23 April, were approved as listed below:

Organisation	Amount
Barrack Hill Ball Roll	€ 1,600.00
Cobh & Harbour Chamber - Tourist Office	€ 5,000.00
Cobh & Harbour Chamber - Erection of Christmas Lights	€ 7,000.00
Cobh & Harbour Chamber - Purchase of new Christmas Lights	€ 5,000.00
Cobh Carillon Committee	€ 2,000.00
Cobh Peoples Regatta	€ 3,500.00
Cobh Sea Fest	€ 1,000.00
Cobh Summer Swing	€ 3,000.00
Cobh Tourism Company	€ 7,500.00
Cobh Tourism Promenade entertainment	€ 2,000.00
Cobh Ukelele Festival	€ 1,300.00
Cork Chapter Munster Branch Irish Pipe Band Association	€ 3,000.00
Readers and Writers Festival Cobh	€ 1,000.00
See You in Cobh	€ 1,500.00
Vitality Cobh 2019 Care of Cork Mental Health Foundation	€ 1,500.00
Upper Glanmire Community Association	€ 1,500.00
Carrigtwohill St. Patricks Day Parade Committee	€ 1,500.00
Cobh Polish Irish Integration Group	€ 800.00
Glanmire Area Community Association	€13,000.00
Cobh Museum	€ 1,500.00
Carrigtwohill Community Council - Christmas Lights	€ 7,000.00
Carrigtwohill Community Council -Promotion	€15,000.00
Cobh 1916 Commemoration Committee	€ 3,300.00
Repair & Upgrade of Historic Town Trail Signs & Boards	€10,000.00
Repairs to Battery Strand, Cobh	€15,000.00
Municipal District Paint Scheme	€10,000.00

8. Disposal of Property

To consider the Disposal of freehold interest at 28 James Glavin Terrace, Cobh, Co. Cork, to Sean O'Connor, William O'Connor, Kevin O'Connor, Rory O'Connor, Colum O'Connor and Mary Flanagan for the consideration of €350

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy the disposal of the above property was approved.

9. Part 8 Planning Application for Construction of Marina consisting of Installation of ramp access to existing landing pontoon and Installation of a floating breakwaters and pontoons with capacity for 25 no. berths at Whitepoint, Cobh, Co Cork

Eamonn Mullally of Cork County Council outlined the proposals for a 25 berth marina at Whitepoint. He stated that this was a revision of plans submitted in 2015, where the number of berths was reduced. He outlined the three submissions received. Cllr. C. Rasmussen thanked Cork County Council for the support for the project on behalf of Cobh Sailing Club. Cllr. S. Sheppard welcomed the proposal and thanked S. O'Callaghan, Senior Executive office for facilitating the application and providing funding. On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to forward the Part 8 to full Council for approval.

10. Proposed Part 8 Planning Application for Development consisting of removal of existing playground from the carpark, and installation of new playground adjacent to the carpark, installation of Multi-Use Games Area and reconfiguration of layout of carpark to accommodate proposed market area adjacent to the existing Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co Cork

P. Lynch stated that funding was being provided through the Town Development Fund and the Town & Village Renewal Scheme for the development of the carpark and a market area adjacent to Carrigtwohill Community hall. The proposed development consisted of the removal of the existing playground in the centre of the carpark, and its relocation to a green area adjacent to the existing pitches in the lands to the rear of the carpark; the installation of a Multi Use Games Area, for which Carrigtwohill Community Council had sourced funding; and the reconfiguration of the carpark to maximise its space and to provide for occasional use as a market area. He stated that the County Architect's Department were working with the Municipal District in relation to drawings for the proposal. On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen it was agreed to commence the Part 8 process on completion of all of the relevant drawings and documents..

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

“That this Municipal District would look at proper road calming measures in the area of the Tay road close to Cow Cross.

That this Municipal District would look at installing ramps on the section of road near Park road and Aherne place to reduce speeding motorists and on foot of a signed petition received by residents in the area

That this Municipal would remove all the new poles in the town centre earmarked for some new signage which 6 months later have not had the signs erected on them.”

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated he appreciated the work done in the Tay Road area, but was concerned that the measures undertaken had not improved the situation. G. O’Hora stated that driver feed-back signs were due to be placed in the area and the junction was to be re-lined.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that speed was an issue at the straight section of road near Ahern Place. Cllr. S. Sheppard stated new signage had been put up last month. G. O’Hora to examine the possibility of a build out in the area.

Cllr. Rasmussen reiterated his proposal to remove the poles which still did not have the signs put up, G. O’Hora confirmed that the signs would be put up shortly. Cllr. Rasmussen then requested that the poles be painted black to blend in with the others in the town, R. O’Sullivan confirmed that the poles were to be covered with black sleeves.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was approved.

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

“That this Municipal District would consider changing the direction of traffic outside Norwood School owing to the opening of the new housing estate beside Norwood School and possible other housing developments in the area.”

Cllr. C. Rasmussen raised concerns about the impact the extra traffic exiting from the new estate would have on the area and wanted to explore the possibility of reversing the one way system. G. O’Hora responded saying that the issue had been examined in depth before and the current system was working well.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed that a survey of traffic in the area would be carried out.

13. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:

“That this municipal district request that the ownership of Harpers Island reserve remain with Cork County Council. Taking into account the excellent collaboration between the local community, Birdwatch Ireland and Cork County Council which has achieved amazing results to date.”

Cllr. Barry stated that no guarantees had been received from the National Parks and Wildlife Service to indicate that the contributions from the local community would be recognised. The NPWS had not formally accepted the offer of lands

and should now be requested to relinquish all claims to it and return the reserve to the Council.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard the motion was approved. It was agreed that P. Lynch would write to the Deputy Chief Executive in relation to this motion.

14. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Kieran McCarthy:

“That this Council offers its full support to the Cobh 1916 Commemoration Committee, in its efforts to organise and mark the centenary of the towns name change from Queenstown to Cobh, next July.

And that this Council affords the organising committee with all logistical and financial assistance it can with its efforts, and that it will further work in cooperation with Cork County Councils Commemoration Committee/ Heritage Department to that end.”

In response to a query from members, P. Lynch stated that it may be possible for funding to be provided from the unspent portion of the Town Development Fund for 2019 and that the issue could be considered in the context of funding received by the Municipal district in 2020.

On the proposal of Cllr. K. McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. D. Ó’Cadhla, the motion was adopted.

15. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Diarmaid Ó’Cadhla:

“To request clarification as to whether Port of Cork company, or its agents, have permission to close off part of the public roadway and parking spaces in the area between the Camper Van bays as far as Port of Cork’s property to the east of it. If Port of Cork do have Council’s permission to close off this area is there a fee being paid for overnight stays, much as the Camper Vans pay? Finally, what are the insurance arrangements to cover liability for up to 80 busses per day that pass the playground area.”

P. Lynch stated that the Port of Cork, with the consent of the M.D.O. and the Executive Engineer, assist in managing the traffic flows through the Five Foot Way to minimise disruption to all road users, the Port of Cork do not close off public roads but do and are entitled to, limit access during berthing operations to the Deep Water Quay, which is private property. P. Lynch stated that no special insurance arrangements are in place for buses using the public car park, their normal insurance cover is sufficient. Cllr. Ó’Cadhla regretted that protests were ongoing at the Deep Water Quay and stated a letter from the Port of Cork acknowledging the public right of way would resolve the issue. Cllr. K. McCarthy suggested that the members of Cobh Municipal District could act as mediators between the Port of Cork and the protestors.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó’Cadhla, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, it was agreed that P. Lynch would write to the Port of Cork seeking an urgent meeting regarding the right of way issues.

16. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Diarmaid Ó'Cadhlá:

“Does a license to trade in the Promenade area cover the placement of tables and chairs, if so, to what extent and what are the implications for insurance liability, and are these being charged for? Can we get clarification as to the terms and conditions of such licensing and when the current issued licenses expire.

P. Lynch stated that there were no restrictions regarding the placing of chairs and tables in the licences given to the Farmers Market, Coffee Stall or Summer Swing. All licence holders must provide insurance indemnifying Cork County Council. Currently the Farmers Market do not hold a valid licence, the Coffee Stall has an annual licence valid from 1st April and the Summer Swing have a licence for specific dates during the summer months.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó'Cadhlá, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy the motion was approved.

17. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Diarmaid Ó'Cadhlá:

“Has Council carried out any survey on the levels of non-ionizing radiation emanating from the radar installations at the Port of Cork operations centre at Connolly Street /Bishop Roche Park, and are we satisfied that these conform to EU and national safety levels?”

P. Lynch stated he had received a response from the Environment section which advised that the Council had no role in monitoring of emissions and that the Dept. Of Communications, Climate Change & Environment was the relevant body.

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Ó'Cadhlá, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, it was agreed that P. Lynch would write to the Department and the Port of Cork.

18. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:

“That Cobh Municipal Council would look into CCTV for along the town front, due to the anti social behaviour of the public toilets being set on fire for the third time this year.”

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that there was a government scheme to fund the installation of CCTV in public areas, 60% of the costs were covered by the grant. Cllr. Sheppard also stated that, according to her information, that the introduction of GDPR did not prevent a local authority from installing CCTV in towns. P. Lynch responded that not all the installation costs were met by the scheme and that GDPR places the onus on local authorities to comply with the regulations, to this end Cork County Council are continuing to examine how best to meet the requirements placed on it in relation to monitoring.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the motion was approved.

19. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:

“That Cobh Municipal Council would look at the speed limits out by Inis Alainn Estate and some new signage for children crossing.”

Cllr. S. Sheppard explained that the footpath near the estate was being extended necessitating the erection of new signage and also suggested that the speed limit needed to be reviewed. G O’Hora responded by saying new children at play signs would be erected on the estate road.

On the proposal off Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the motion was approved.

20. Any Other Business/Aon Ghnó Eile.

20.1 Promenade, Cobh:

Cllr. K. McCarthy enquired when the old flagpole in the Promenade would be removed. Engineer confirmed old flagpole would be removed shortly.

20.2 Cllr. A. Barry sought clarification of where and when flashing amber lights would be installed. G. O’Hora replied that driver feedback signs were to be placed at Killard, Cow Cross, Kirkwood Villas and the New Line road, Glanmire. Next year one would be provided for at Knockraha village. Traffic calming measures were scheduled under a low cost safety scheme for Carrigtwohill.

20.3 West End, Carrigtwohill:

Cllr. A. Barry reported a problem with the footpath at West End. Engineer confirmed footpath was listed for repair.

20.4 Rossmore, Carrigtwohill:

Cllr. A. Barry reported a pothole on the road to Rossmore. Engineer to examine.

20.5 Battery Strand:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen enquired what was the up to date position on the Funding application for repairs to the strand. P. Lynch is awaiting a response from Coastal Management.

20.6 Listening Park, West View, Cobh:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked for an update on the provision of a viewing platform at this location. He stated that concerns have been raised in relation to tourists climbing on walls on the Bishop’s Road to get a view of St. Colman’s Cathedral. He also stated that he had concerns in relation to a recent minor rockfall in the park. R. O’Sullivan stated that the area where the rockfall had

taken place was fenced off and inaccessible to the public. He had also spoken to the owner of the property that the material came from. He agreed to look at costings for a platform and report to the members.

20.7 Footpath at Ashford Heights:

Cllr. G. Keohane stated that the footpath at Ashford Heights was in need of repair. G. O'Hora to list for repair.

20.8 Fence at College Manor:

Cllr. S. Sheppard referred to issues with the fence at College Manor. Cllr. K. McCarthy stated that there were reports of ongoing anti-social behaviour in this area. R. O'Sullivan to refer matter to Estates Section.

20.9 Cobh Pitch & Putt Club:

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that she had spoken to representatives from Cobh Pitch & Putt Club in relation to their financial position. They had been under the assumption that they could not apply for a Community Grant and they were now in a very difficult position. It was agreed that any application they submitted would be looked at in the context of other groups not drawing down their grants.

20.10 Speeding on Glasson's Avenue:

Cllr S. Sheppard stated that speeding on Glasson's Avenue was an issue. R. O'Sullivan to look at the possibility of erecting signage.

20.11 Drains in Thornberry View:

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan stated that the drains at Thornberry View in Glounthaune needed cleaning. G. O'Hora to list estate gullies for drain cleaning.

20.12 Ballinglanna Road:

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan stated that the Ballinglanna road was in need of repair. G. O'Hora to list road for repair.

20.13 Noonan's Lane:

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan stated that the road surface at Noonan's Lane was in need of repair. G. O'Hora stated that this was listed for repair

20.14 Little Island:

On the proposal of Cllr. P. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed that P. Lynch would write to the Director of Services for Planning seeking an Amenity Plan for Little Island.

20.15 Local Elections:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that he wanted to wish the best of luck to all of the outgoing councillors who were running for election either for Cork County Council or Cork City Council. Cllr. Sheppard stated that she wanted it noted that this meeting was the last Council meeting that Cllr. McCarthy would attend as an elected member after 25 years representing the people of Cobh, either at Town Council and County Council level.

P. Lynch and G. O’Hora thanked the members for the courtesy shown to their staff during the lifetime of the Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER