

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CORK, ON MONDAY, 15th JANUARY, 2018

Present - Councillors P. O’Sullivan, C. Rasmussen and S. Sheppard.

Officials Present:

Mr. S. O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Peter O’Donoghue, Senior Engineer, Traffic & Transportation Section
Mr. P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer

An apology for their inability to attend was received from Cllrs. A. Barry, D. Ó’Cadhla, K. McCarthy and G. Keohane

1. Proposed Development at Little Island

P. Lynch stated that the purpose of the meeting was to seek the consent of the members to commence a Part 8 process in relation to proposed works at Little Island.

P. O’Donoghue stated that his office had been looking at issues in relation to road access on and off Little Island. The proposed upgrade of the Dunkettle Interchange would add to pressure on traffic accessing Little Island via the Eastern access. He stated that the proposal was to upgrade this access through the following works:

- allow both lanes on the N25 off ramp, coming from the Dunkettle area, to turn right onto the existing flyover, where one lane at present was required to turn left to access Glounthaune;
- create a second lane on the flyover for traffic travelling onto Little Island;
- upgrade the Crompán Roundabout by providing a second lane both from Eastgate and from Island Cross. This would require some land acquisition and preliminary discussions had been held with both landowners involved

He stated that these works would facilitate additional capacity from the N25 and at the Crompán Roundabout and should ease traffic flows in this area. He advised that the drawings of the proposed works would go on public display for 6 weeks and members of the public would have a further 2 weeks to make submissions. The proposal, along with all submissions received would then go before a meeting of the Cobh Municipal District. He stated that it was hoped that if the proposal was accepted, and Part 8 permission granted, work would commence during the summer of 2018 to minimise disruption.

Cllr. Rasmussen asked about the level of disruption to traffic during construction. P. O’Donoghue stated that there would be some disruption but scheduling the work for the summer months would minimise the impact on traffic. He stated that it was estimated that the complete project would take 12 to 14 weeks but that some of the works would have a lesser impact on traffic.

Cllr. O’Sullivan asked if the proposed works formed part of the Little Island Transport Strategy. P. O’Donoghue stated that this work was independent of the proposed strategy and that it would have been necessary even if the strategy wasn’t being prepared. However he stated that the work was in line with what the strategy would be proposing.

Cllr. O’Sullivan asked if consideration had been given to using the second access lane on the off ramp for public transport or for car pooling. P. O’Donoghue stated that this wasn’t being considered at present and that the additional capacity being created by the proposed works was required for general traffic needs. However he advised that improving general traffic flows would have a knock-on effect on any public transport accessing the Little Island. He advised that it was hoped to have a Draft Transport Strategy for the members by March or April.

The members agreed to allow the Part 8 process to commence. P. O’Donoghue advised that it was hoped to start the process as quickly as possible, and that he hoped to have the proposal advertised and on public display by the end of the week.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Cathaoirleach

Municipal District Officer