

**Minutes of Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on Tuesday, 18th July 2017**

**In Attendance:** Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Ian Doyle, June Murphy, Deirdre O' Brien, Frank O' Flynn; Brendan O' Gorman SEE, Mary Hayes SEO, Pauline Moriarty MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Noel McCarthy

**1. MINUTES**

**1. Minutes of the Fermoy MD Meeting held on Tuesday, 20th June 2017.**

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

**2. REQUESTS FOR DISABLED PARKING BAYS:**

1. Hannah McCarthy, Main Street, Rathcormac, Co Cork.
2. Cork Mental Health Foundation. Residential property at 8 Moher Crescent, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.
3. Request for removal of Disabled Parking Bay at Robert Street, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.
4. Request for removal of Disabled Parking Bay at New Square Mitchelstown, Co Cork.

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through her recommendations for these DPB requests, referring to the report she had prepared. Brendan O' Gorman SEE indicated that he will examine the request from the Cork Mental Health Foundation (at No. 2) and revert to the Members at the next meeting. On the proposal of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, it was agreed that the DPB's requested at Nos. 1, 3 and 4 would be granted and that a decision on No. 2 would be deferred until the September 2017 meeting.

**3. AMENDMENTS TO CHARLEVILLE PARKING REGULATIONS**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through the uploaded schedule of proposed amendments to parking provisions in Charleville. These proposals include requests that have been the subject of Notice of Motions and other requests. She advised that maps have been prepared and the revised Traffic and Parking Regulations Schedule will now be advertised and subject to a public consultation process. Following this, a report will be prepared and presented to the Members for their consideration and adoption. The proposed amendments, as presented, were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Ian Doyle, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

**4. REPORTS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

**1. HOUSING REPORT Fermoy MD July 2017**

Pauline Moriarty MDO introduced this report to the Members and briefly went through the contents, which were noted by the Members. She confirmed that this is now the format by which updates from the Housing Section will be communicated to the Members and advised that any housing queries or issues can be addressed directly to CCC Housing personnel.

**2. PROGRESS REPORT 2017 RI and Discretionary RI Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that recent industrial action had led to a slight delay in the programme, but that this had been resolved for the time being and works were now ongoing. Progress to date on this programme is currently at 50-55% completed.

**3. PROGRESS REPORT 2017 RM Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works are progressing on schedule and satisfactorily on this programme and that progress to date is at 70% on regional roads and 60% on local roads.

#### **4. PROGRESS REPORT 2017 Drainage Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that there were a lot of roads on this programme to be done and it is now 100% complete, as these drainage works are carried out prior to the commencement of the RI and RM programmes.

#### **5. PROGRESS REPORT 2017 Footpath Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that the 2016 appointed Contractor is working through his remaining programme (i.e. Upper Cork Street, Mitchelstown /Abbey Street, Fermoy) and making satisfactory progress. He answered any queries the Members had and confirmed that work in George's Street, Mitchelstown under the new 2017 appointed Contractor is likely to commence in September 2017.

Further to a query from Cllr. O' Brien at this time, Pauline Moriarty MDO confirmed that the railings of Fermoy Town Park will be painted later this year.

#### **6. Conna 2017 Low Cost Scheme / CLAR Part VIII**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE circulated planning packs for these works, which included a comprehensive set of maps and drawings, and went through the proposals therein with the Members, which include R628/L1516-118 junction improvement works, a new village park, traffic calming and new car parking adjacent to the school. He said there are a number of elements included in the works proposed for Conna, all of which have been discussed and agreed with the Tidy Towns, Community Council and local businesses. Brendan has also met with the Principal/Relevant Landowner of the National School and aspects of these proposed works have been discussed and agreed in principle. A landscaping plan, being devised by the Tidy Towns group in conjunction with a Landscape Architect, will be available for the Members consideration in due course. The funding for the scheme is in place and to meet claim requirements for this funding the works will need to be complete by November 2017. To this end, it is planned to proceed to Part VIII straight away with a view to starting work in September 2017. All the Members welcomed the proposed works, saying they will be of long-term benefit to and will greatly enhance Conna. Mr. John Leahy's contribution of land near the school was gratefully acknowledged.

The scheme, as presented, was proposed by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. June Murphy and agreed by all the Members. Mary Hayes SEO highlighted the benefit of utilising public funding, which is available from the Council's budgetary provisions, for schemes such as this and advocated the Members be mindful of this when considering future (county) budgets.

Brendan added that when the works are complete an appropriate sculpture is to be installed by Conna Tidy Towns and Cllr. Kay Dawson requested that any seating that is being provided be 'age-friendly' in design.

#### **7. James Street, Mitchelstown - Car Park**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that he had met recently with some local residents living adjacent to the proposed entrance to discuss the issues here with the proposal for this car park. He added the Part VIII is not yet ready but will be available for publication by September 2017, by which time the topic will be back on the agenda for consideration. He cautioned the Members to make any queries or pass on any observations they had in connection with this early in the process to avoid conflict over issues further down the line.

Brendan re-iterated that the car park proposal is wholly supported and desired by Mitchelstown business community as additional car parking is greatly warranted in Mitchelstown, especially on Thursdays. Brendan also highlighted the financial implication of not proceeding here, as funding is in place and will have to be refunded if not used (special planning contributions). Brendan answered any queries the Members had and they agreed the proposal should proceed to public consultation. Cllr. June Murphy enquired if the Fire Department plan to re-locate the Fire Station to another site, as previously suggested, as any proposed car park layout will change as a result. Brendan undertook to make enquiries in this regard of the Fire Department. Cllr. Murphy also queried if the site (on the basis that the Fire Station does move and it becomes vacant) could not be used for some other amenity, especially in light of Mitchelstown now being designated an age-friendly town.

## **8. MDO REPORT July 2017**

Pauline Moriarty MDO introduced and went through this detailed and comprehensive report which has updates and funding information on activities in the MD for 2017.

In relation to public conveniences (Item 2), Cllr. Ian Doyle welcomed the planned cleaning and maintenance works to the facility in Charleville, saying this will greatly improve its appearance. In relation to Kilcrumper New Cemetery (Item 4), Pauline drew the Members attention to the non-compliance of this Cemetery with the Bye-Laws and the intention to restore it to its designation as a 'lawn cemetery'; which will require an alteration to 136 graves. This is to facilitate ongoing maintenance of the cemetery. In relation to this, and further to a query from the Members, Pauline agreed to send the Members a list of the cemeteries designated 'lawn' cemeteries in the district; and will confirm that this status is advised to people when plots are purchased.

## **9. REPORT RE: Deputation regarding maintenance of Old Kilcrumper Cemetery.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through the report circulated in relation to the upkeep of this cemetery and confirmed that works had commenced and were ongoing to restore the cemetery to its previous high standard. When these works are complete, the maintenance of the cemetery will be reviewed and a full maintenance schedule will be put in place to ensure that the Cemetery is properly tended thereafter. In addition, the existing stone walkways will be examined and consideration given to the possibility of replacing some of the existing stone pathway near the entrances with concrete to enhance wheelchair accessibility. This will be subject to staff resources and the provision of an appropriate budget.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn emphasised the importance of these measures being undertaken, saying many members of the public had contacted him about the cemetery. Cllr. Ian Doyle suggested a voluntary group be encouraged to carry out work here, as is the case in Shanballymore.

Pauline went through the current requirements and provisions for the upkeep of the fifty-eight cemeteries in the municipal district, which fall into three different categories. She undertook to prepare a full report on all the cemeteries, their status and maintenance arrangements, for the September 2017 meeting.

## **10. REPLY RE: Deputation from O' Neill Crowley Terrace residents.**

Cllr. Kay Dawson and Cllr. Frank O' Flynn said that this reply from the Housing Department was disappointing and unsatisfactory, which was agreed by the Members. It was decided to write again to Housing Operations requesting further co-operation with the works required to restore this laneway. Brendan O' Gorman SEE clarified to the Members that while this laneway is a Council owned road, it is not a public road.

## **5. NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

1. "that Cork County Council would remove all the debris and trees below Kent bridge on the River Blackwater, Fermoy".

These works were completed at the start of June. All trees were removed by external contract, working from O' Neill Crowley Quay. There is no debris left on the weir or below Kent bridge, save for the sand banks on the river itself, which are protected spawning grounds. (BO'G)

### **Cllr. June Murphy**

2. "request Fermoy MD to carry out a health and safety assessment at the junction by the two Garages before turning up for the Cross of the Groves".

This is a 'T' junction. The side road approaching the main road is at a skew which would require vehicles to come to a stop. Sightlines are also restricted by the parking up on the hard shoulder / grass margin of HGVs and similar vehicles, sometimes overnight. I have just carried out new lining and yellow hatching removing the slip lane on the R639 which should remove the parking issue.

Depending on the success or otherwise of this measure, we also have Presentation of Towns Funding allocated to new kerbing in this area. (BO'G)

**Cllr. Ian Doyle**

2. “that Cork County Council would look into providing water tap at Ballyhea New Grave Yard”.  
Will be investigated with IW/Water Services. Not advised. (PM)

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

4. “that this Council remove the debris of trees from the River Blackwater at O’Neill Crowley Quay, Fermoy”.  
These works were completed at the start of June. All trees were removed by external contract, working from O’Neill Crowley Quay. There is no debris left on the weir or below Kent bridge, save for the sand banks on the river itself, which are protected spawning grounds. (BO’G)

**Cllr. June Murphy**

5. “request Fermoy MD to write to Mitchelstown Business Association asking them to communicate with Pharmacies to consider opening on rotation for two hours on a Sunday to facilitate the Community”.  
This motion was seconded by Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn and agreed by the Members. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to write to Mitchelstown Business Association in this regard.
6. “request Fermoy MD to reline the road markings by the Cross of the Groves”.  
Has been done previously and is not required again. (BO’G)
7. “request Fermoy MD to clean road signage around Mitchelstown”.  
This has already been rolled out across the MD in our towns and villages and further improvements in Mitchelstown will feature strongly over the summer months. (BO’G)
8. “request the Housing Directive to consider road sweeping Council Estates and power wash where needed in Mitchelstown”.  
Road sweeping on public roads in Mitchelstown is a matter for Road Operations and not the housing directorate, and sweeping is routinely carried out in outlying estates but generally confined to the Main Street and busy arterial routes. If there are specific estates that need attention urgently, we will address same. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Ian Doyle**

9. “that Cork County Council would give an update on works in Charleville Town Park particularly resurfacing of Walkway”.  
Overall enhancement plan for the Town Park is being developed in conjunction with the Council’s Architects Team. FMD road reinstatement contractor (tarmac surface) will carry out repairs to Walkway in August/September, when park is less busy. Dangerous section currently cordoned off. (PM)
10. “that Cork County Council would look at soil and waste tip in Charleville Graveyard with view to heightening the surrounding wall”.  
Will investigate and revert to Members. (PM)  
Pauline Moriarty MDO said she will arrange for this to be cleaned up and will then consider the situation here to determine if any further remedy is required.
11. “that Cork County Council would ensure the grass cutting in Ballyhea Old Graveyard is carried out as soon as possible”.  
Will be done. (PM)
12. “that Cork County Council would finish green area in Orchard Estate Charleville”.  
Will be done in Q4/2017. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

13. "that this Council carry out necessary drainage works from road from Ballinahown Cross to the bridge midway and that at Ballinahown Cross south the dykes be removed due to vehicles driving onto and bringing earth on the road leading to nuisance".  
Will be done. (BO'G)
14. "that this Council investigate a large tree in the Graveyard at Marshalstown in view of danger as with storms other large trees have fallen".  
Will investigate. (PM)  
Cllr. O' Brien to provide a more specific location within the graveyard in respect of this tree.
15. "that this Council carry out necessary works by way of clean up and ease of future maintenance on the stream at the Sandville Road, Glanworth from the village to the bridge".  
Cleaning of the open drain will be done in the coming weeks. (BO'G)  
Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that County Council staff only undertake works that do not encroach on work traditionally carried out by local volunteers. He also requested that Members communicate to community groups that they take a logical approach when carrying out improvement works in their localities, such as not painting crash barriers a decorative colour or using paint near waterways which may cause pollution.

**Cllr. Frank O'Flynn**

16. "that Cork County Council put in place traffic calming measures on the approach roads to Ballinamona Cross, Shanballymore on the N73 in the interest of safety of all road users to include reduce speed limit advanced signage including on road signage. Also, ask the TII to undertake a traffic audit".  
As the request is for works on a National Road, I will write to the TII and copy our NNRDO office also. It is this writer's opinion that as the junction is on a stretch of road where the maximum 100kph speed limit currently applies, and is on a rural stretch of road, that traffic calming proposals will not be entertained. Junction is already lined and all warning signage in place. (BO'G)  
This motion was supported by Cllr. June Murphy. Following a discussion it was agreed that this issue should be highlighted to the Transport SPC, of which Cllrs. Ian Doyle and Noel McCarthy are members. Pauline undertook to draft a motion for the Members consideration and, when agreed, to forward to the Transport SPC.
17. "that Cork County Council accede to the request of the residents of Convamore, Ballyhooly to have a speed limit sign of 50kph erected in Convamore, Ballyhooly down from present limit of 100kph, in the interest of safety of the local residents and all road users".  
The local authority is ultimately responsible for setting speed limits on its roads within its administrative area. As the locus is on a National Road the TII is responsible for co-ordinating proposals. I will write to the TII and copy our NNRDO office also. This locus is on a stretch of road where the maximum 100kph speed limit currently applies, and is on a rural stretch of road without public lighting. The request is at odds with our current review and general guidance on National Road speed limits on the N72. Speed limits should not be reduced for isolated road hazards. (BO'G)  
Cllr. O' Flynn informed those present that he had a petition with thirty-six signatures supporting this request. Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed that this area had been assessed and was not identified as requiring any change in the current review; however, the location can be added to the next speed limit review for consideration.
18. "that Cork County Council put in place traffic calming measures on the Labbycallee Road, Glanworth in the interest of safety".  
No traffic calming budget in the district presently. The area is governed by the default 80kph zone in a rural location with no public lighting. There are a number of residential clusters on this road but the road environment is generally rural. Speed limits should not be seen by drivers as the setting of a target speed or as being appropriate in all conditions, nor are they intended to be. (BO'G)

Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to examine the location with a view to providing additional 'dangerous bend' signs.

19. "that Cork County Council raise the pedestrian table at the pedestrian crossing Main Street, Kildorrery in the interest of safety of residents, pedestrians and all road users".

Issue raised by NOM at June MD meeting also by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien:

(2) "that this Council put in place 'Raised Speed Tables' in the following locations (a) Glenahulla and

(b) Kildorrery".

We have a written reply back from the TII with a commitment to investigate the previous request for Glennahulla and Kildorrery. No ramps / raised tables currently permitted on National Roads (Current TII National Policy). (BO'G)

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter TII 7.7.2017 RE: Speed Ramps on N73 at Glenahulla and Kildorrery. and

2. Letter TII 14.7.2017 RE: Speed Ramps on N73 at Glenahulla and Kildorrery.

The replies from the TII have been noted by the Members and will be forwarded to the Transport SPC for their consideration.

## 7. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

## 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Request for update on proposed works to Fermoy Weir.

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that further to a meeting with IFI (Inland Fisheries Ireland) it was agreed that Cork County Council would carry out works to the weir by September 2017. A consultant has been appointed who is currently drafting a proposal, taking into consideration planning requirements and land and property issues. Temporary works are to commence and will hopefully be complete by September 2017. Funding is in place for these works. The cost here is estimated at approximately €40 thousand, a more exact figure will be available when the proposal is complete.

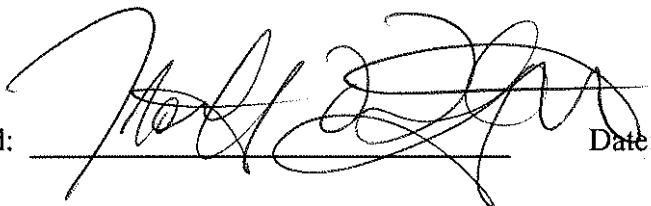
Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that this location is a SAC (Special Area of Conservation). He said that taking this into consideration, and the particular Health and Safety implications for this job, it is a huge undertaking to meet all the requirements here and that there can be no compromise.

Mary Hayes SEO informed the Members that longer-term works are also being considered here, to include the fish by-pass channel. An application to the Department will have to be made for funding for these future works, which will cost in the region of circa €2.2 million.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn thanked the executive for the update and proposed writing the the Department to apply for this funding, this was agreed by the Members and Pauline Moriarty MDO will write this letter and email the Members accordingly.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

 19/7/19