

**Minutes of Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on Tuesday, 16th January 2018**

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

**1. MINUTES**

**(1) Minutes of Fermoy MD meeting held on 19th December 2017.**

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

**(2) Minutes of items discussed 'In Committee' on 19th December 2017.**

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Ian Doyle.

**2. REPORTS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

**1. Emmet Street, Fermoy: Proposed Part VIII - Pedestrian Crossing.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE gave an update to the Members, saying that the public consultation and planning process had commenced and would take three months (up to 9th March 2018). The cost of the project is estimated at €40k and it is to be funded from the Safety Improvement Scheme. After the 9th March, a Final Report on the scheme will be presented to the Members for their review and approval. The project, subject to funding confirmation, will then go to full Council following whose adoption works can commence. Brendan answered any queries the Members had and they welcomed the progress to date on the proposed installation of this pedestrian crossing.

**2. UPDATE: Fermoy MD Public Lighting 2017 Programme.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works are continuing on this programme, which should finish within three weeks. On completion of the installation works, sites will be handed over to the ESB for 'lighting up'. He reminded the Members that there is a mere €50k budget for this public lighting programme, and as much work as is possible is planned with this limited fund. Brendan answered any queries the Members had and they, in turn, commended him on the provision of this much-needed additional public lighting throughout the district.

**3. Clar 2016 - Section 38 Report - Castletownroche Pedestrian Crossing.  
and**

**4. Castletownroche - 2017 Village Enhancement Project.**

As required documents (updated drawings and TH audit) are not yet available, Brendan O' Gorman SEE recommended the deferral of these two items to the February 2018 meeting. This was agreed by the Members.

**5. MDO Monthly Report - January 2018.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through her report, uploaded for the Members consideration.

Pay Parking Dividend Planned expenditure of (part of) the Pay Parking Dividend in Fermoy, the only town with pay parking in the MD, is included in the report and was agreed by the Members.

2018 Village Enhancement Scheme Pauline informed the Members that details and drawings of the proposed works in both villages selected this year, Kilworth and Newtownshandrum, will be presented to them prior to any work commencing. The Members welcomed and supported the proposals as outlined; and the 2018 VES was adopted on the proposition of Cllr. Ian Doyle, seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn and agreed by the Members. Mary Hayes SEO confirmed that villages in the MD are preparing, or are being encouraged to prepare, plans and strategies for their areas that can be considered for future inclusion in this scheme.

2018 Dereliction Scheme Following a discussion, during which Cllr. Kay Dawson sought clarification on the criteria applied when choosing which town should benefit from this fund, it was agreed, on the proposition of Cllr. Ian Doyle, seconded by Cllr. June Murphy, that the scheme would proceed as recommended in the MDO's report. Pauline Moriarty MDO, further to this discussion, undertook to examine and present details of all funds provided to date in the three towns under the various schemes, for comparison purposes.

2018 Community Grant Scheme Pauline highlighted the closing date for receipt of these applications which is 16th February 2018. In relation to the application process, she requested the Members to encourage applicants to utilise the on-line version as much as possible, as this will facilitate a more efficient and timely processing of the applications, but confirmed that 'hard copy' application forms are available and will be accepted.

The Members noted the contents of the report under other headings.

### **3. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

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

1. "that Fermoy Municipal area would put in place a programme of events as part of Bliain na Gaeilge 2018".

I have spoken to the Council's Irish Officer and she has confirmed that the Council are planning a programme of events which will be rolled out throughout the County. Members and public will be kept informed as the process continues. (PM)

This motion was supported by all the Members. Pauline Moriarty MDO informed the meeting that it is planned to hold a series of events in Council libraries throughout the year; and agreed that there are independent groups who would be capable of organising events to celebrate this *Bliain na Gaeilge 2018*.

#### **Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

2. "that this Council carry out necessary repairs to Ballyglissane Bridge in Rathcormac".

This bridge on a local secondary road has already been structurally assessed on foot of previous NOM's and representations and only minor repairs are recommended. Any repair here into the future will be subject to adequate funding from our Bridge Rehabilitation Programme and will be determined in terms of category and condition rating and its current rating indicates this is not high priority. (BO'G)

Brendan further confirmed to Cllr. O' Brien that this bridge had been assessed, it does require some remedial works but is not rated critical, and these works will be carried out when funding becomes available.

#### **Cllr. Ian Doyle**

3. "that Cork County Council would continue resurfacing Coolasmuttane / Clonmore road in Newtown looking at possible drainage of side to make road wider".

625m of this road is proposed in 2018 under our RI Programme. Localised widening can be considered. (BO'G)

#### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

4. "that this Committee write to the Finance Section in County Hall to receive an update on when the Parking Dividend for 2017 will be paid to this Municipal Authority".

The Municipal District received notification of the Pay Parking Dividend from the Head of Finance on 20th December 2017. See MDO January Report. (PM)

**Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

5. "that Cork County Council would put in place traffic calming measures including ramps in the interest of safety of all road users".

The Fermoy MD has 130 such ramp devices across our municipal district covering our major towns/villages. We have also legacy calming schemes on major roads. In the event of a suitable budget been identified, then the district could put in place a future schedule of works. Presently, if the particular urban road is on a Resurfacing Programme, we are installing tarmac ramps by default as we resurface. (BO'G)

Cllr. O' Flynn said that he had omitted the text *in Pike Road, Fermoy* from the wording and said this motion is being raised due to the ongoing concern of speeding cars on this road. The motion was supported by Cllr. Noel McCarthy. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that ramps are not a viable option here currently as there is no funding but also due to proximity of residential units and inherent noise nuisance from the ramps. He said the Gardaí had been requested to monitor this area and he would contact them again in this regard; and said the speed detection radar monitor will be moved to this location in the near future which may help to deter speeding motorists.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy proposed a meeting be arranged between the six Members and the Garda Superintendent to discuss this and other road safety issues, this was seconded by Cllr. Ian Doyle. Cllr. O' Flynn, in his role as Chairperson of the JPC, undertook to arrange this meeting.

6. "that Cork County Council give an up to date progress report on its plans for the former Fire Station in Fermoy".

The Council considers the former Fire Station site in Fermoy to be suitable for a new infill Social Housing Development comprising two self contained apartments. The site has been electronically surveyed and an initial plan has been prepared. A Stage 1 application seeking approval will be made to the Department of Housing in due course. (Maurice Manning S/DOS, Housing)

All the Members welcomed this proposal for housing on this site and, further to a request from Cllr. O' Flynn, Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to enquire on the timeframe involved.

7. "that Cork County Council would undertake a study of traffic to identify ways to improve the traffic flow at Beechfield Junction, Fermoy".

Any signalised junction on the R639 attracting 16,000 vehicles / day will impact on traffic flow. The only logical way to improve flow is to reduce the volumes coming through the town by the introduction of weight and axle restrictions at certain times of the day. This is not practical for a rural town like Fermoy and is not recommended. It must be remembered that the town has a motorway and consequently a by-pass but people still choose to avoid the tolled road and queue through the town. This is a personal choice and not one the executive can solve. (BO'G)

A discussion took place in relation to this issue during which Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that this newly-installed system is now working to its maximum capacity and effectiveness and no further adjustments are feasible.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy agreed there are now very welcome health and safety improvements at this junction. Acknowledging the ongoing issue of increasing traffic volumes opting to travel through the town of Fermoy instead of using the motorway, he proposed a meeting be convened between the Members and Direct Route to discuss a potential resolution. This was seconded by Cllr. O' Flynn. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to arrange this meeting.

8. "that Cork County Council would give an up to date progress report and timeframe for the taking in charge of Sliabh Álainn Estate in Mitchelstown".

The Council has engaged with the bond provider and consultants acting on behalf of the Liquidator in agreeing a Site Resolution Plan for this unfinished estate development. Works have substantially progressed on this Plan and, when complete, the estate will be recommended for Taking In Charge, subject to securing the agreement of Irish Water to take responsibility for sanitary services in the estate. (John O'Neill, Director of Service Planning)

Further to a request from Cllr. O' Flynn for the timeframe involved here, Pauline Moriarty MDO will make enquiries accordingly.

**Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

9. "that this Council remove fallen tree in St. Mologa's /Aghacross Graveyard".  
On Contractors list and will be removed as soon as possible. (PM)  
Pauline Moriarty MDO informed the Members that following the recent storms and hurricane, there were many fallen trees to be removed throughout the district. Those on roads were given priority and have been removed, and those in cemeteries and other locations will now be done.
10. "that this Council provide further lighting at St. Mologa's Church, Shraharla".  
Will be added to the public lighting wish-list but unlikely to receive funding any time soon. (BO'G)  
This motion was seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn.

**Cllr. Ian Doyle**

11. "that Cork County Council would look at Newtown Village 2018 Village Enhancement Scheme at proposals already discussed".  
See MDO January Report. (PM)
12. "that Cork County Council, in conjunction with Irish Water, would look at storm drain at Ballysally, Charleville".  
The issue here is that there is an Irish Water water main going through a storm water chamber causing restrictions at high flow. Our Charleville Roads Office has this issue in hand presently.  
(BO'G)
13. "that Cork County Council would look at possibility of push button pedestrian crossing from schools on Smiths Road, Charleville to Car Park".  
Proposal can be looked at under a future safety improvement scheme. Junction and proposal will be surveyed in 2018 with a view to progressing a scheme here. (BO'G)
14. "that Cork County Council would give update on plans for Charleville Town Park re: Town Development Fund".  
See MDO January Report. (PM)

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

15. "that this Committee write to the Housing Section in Annabella, Mallow with reference to dampness in houses at St. Mary's Crescent, Fermoy requesting work to be carried out to eliminate this ongoing problem".  
This motion was seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to write to Maurice Manning, S/DOS Housing requesting these remedial works.
16. "that this Committee gets an Engineer's report on the possibility of a Disabled Parking Space outside the house of Nora Morrissey, 19 Devlin Street, Fermoy. Doctor's letter provided".  
Application form to be completed and submitted to MDO for process. Recommendation will come before Members in due course. (PM)
17. "that this Committee receives an Engineer's report on the possibility of a cycle lane on the Fermoy to Mitchelstown road".  
There is adequate width within the existing hard shoulder to facilitate cycle lane(s) on the majority of this rural 13km (excluding junctions/overbridges etc) but the stumbling block is of course one of funding. Lining / signage costs would be in region of €120K. (BO'G)  
This motion was supported by all the Members. Brendan O' Gorman SEE said there would be an issue with the number of junctions on this road. However, he suggested that, given the current interest in healthy lifestyle and benefits from cycling and exercise generally, a feasibility study should be considered in relation to the provision of this facility. Mary Hayes SEO said it may be possible to secure funding from new resources such as the *Healthy Ireland* initiative and undertook to investigate same and revert to the Members.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**5. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Cllr. Ian Doyle - Christmas campaign**

Cllr. Doyle congratulated the MD on the Christmas lights installations, Christmas parking arrangements and 'Shop Local' campaign in the three towns, which he said were very successful.

**(2) Cllr. Ian Doyle - Cul-de-Sac L-95151**

Cllr. Doyle said the L-95151 is in a serious state of disrepair. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied he would pass onto Charleville personnel for repairs consideration.

**(3) Cllr. Ian Doyle - Pothole repairs required on L-5531**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed Charleville Area Office would be looking after this.

**(4) Cllr. Ian Doyle - Enquiry re: appointment of School Warden, Charleville**

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied there are ongoing discussions in relation to this appointment and she will revert to the Members in due course. Further to an enquiry from Cllr. Kay Dawson, Pauline confirmed that interviews for the Mitchelstown School Warden position had been arranged for 22nd January 2018.

**(5) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Flooding in Killavullen**

Cllr. O' Brien enquired why the road in Monanimy, Killavullen had not been closed off while it is flooded, saying there were no barriers or warning signs erected. Brendan O' Gorman SEE said that the road should have been closed, as per prior agreement, and he undertook to investigate if this had not happened and revert directly to Cllr. O' Brien.

**(6) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Derelict premises 'Pat's Bar', Lower Cork St., Mitchelstown**

Cllr. Dawson said there are now slates falling off this roof which is dangerous. Further to a request from Pauline Moriarty MDO, Cllr. Dawson said she would verify the exact location and owner details with Pauline to facilitate the necessary action.

**(7) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Timing on Traffic Lights at Cork Road, Fermoy**

Cllr. McCarthy said that since these traffic lights had been restored, the timing sequence had changed, allowing too little time for (some) pedestrians to cross. Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to have this checked out, and the necessary adjustments made, by the Contractors.

**(8) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Potholes and Water at Hag's Cross, Castlelyons**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE will pass onto Council personnel for attention.

**(9) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Compliments to Fermoy Flood Relief personnel**

Cllr. McCarthy complimented all personnel, Council staff and Contractors, who had worked at the weekend on Fermoy flood defence system.

**(10) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Christmas arrangements**

Cllr. O' Flynn complimented the MD executive on the Christmas parking arrangements and Christmas lighting in the three towns, which he said worked very well.

**(11) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Cork County Council weather updates**

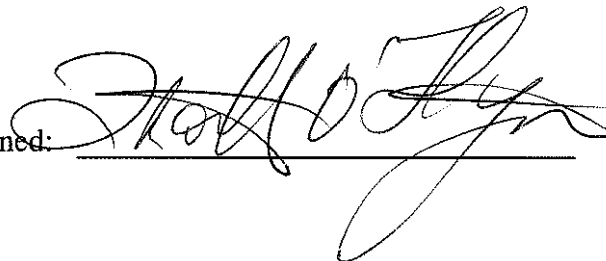
Cllr. O' Flynn complimented Cork County Council on their ongoing updates, alerts and notifications in relation to weather events, saying it is a great service.

**(12) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Query re: timeframe for slipway works, Fermoy**

Cllr. O' Flynn asked when these works will be complete as there is a loss of parking spaces while they are ongoing. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied these works should be finished in two to three weeks.

**(13) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Fermoy Weir update**

Cllr. O' Flynn enquired if there was any update on Fermoy Weir, to which Pauline Moriarty MDO replied there was no progress to report, and saying this item will be on the Agenda quarterly with updates.

Signed:  Date: 29/2/2018