

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on Tuesday, 18th September 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 Annual Meeting held on Tuesday, 17th July 2018.

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

2. Minutes of Fermoy MD July 2018 Meeting held on Tuesday, 17th July 2018.

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

2. UPDATE BRIEFING ON 'VISIT CORK'

1. Update Briefing on 'Visit Cork' by Seamus Heaney, Head of Visit Cork.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. June Murphy, welcomed Mr. Seamus Heaney to the meeting and invited him to proceed with his presentation. Mr. Heaney said the 'Visit Cork' incentive captured two tourism strands for Cork which are business tourism and leisure tourism and that his objective today is to introduce the promotion concept for the leisure side of this incentive which is the 'purecork.ie' brand and website. The website was launched in May 2018 and is being promoted through road shows, media coverage, at international conferences and in the tourism industry (e.g. airline) magazines. He assured the Members that the website is devised to serve all of Cork county, not just the city and it is envisaged the every town in the county will have its own page. It is intended to run local meetings/workshops to engage local business owners and groups. He explained that the work involved in the setting-up and maintenance of the website has been sub-contracted to a small IT company, for whom relevant and up to date content and good quality imagery is key. Any organisation, business or agency with an event or business to promote can register (free of charge) with the website and forward on their event details, this will be vetted and uploaded within forty-eight hours. He requested the Members endorse and promote the website as much as possible to the public, as the more current information is available thereon, the more successful the website will be. The Members, in response, thanked Seamus for his presentation and welcomed the news of this dedicated website. There was some comment that currently there are many, varying tourism websites/agencies with no correlation between them, but agreed that, given a chance, this website could prove to be the 'umbrella' under which all other links and promotions could be contained. They agreed to highlight the availability of this promotional tool to businesses and groups in the district, saying that increased business from tourism would be welcome and beneficial to all.

3. DISABLED PARKING BAYS

1. Request to remove Disabled Parking Bay at rear of houses in McCurtain St., Fermoy (up hill from Rowing Club).

Brendan O' Gorman SEE explained that the requirement for this DPB no longer exists and that local residents are now requesting its removal. This was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

2. Recommendation on Disabled Parking Bay request at 48 St. Bernard's Place, Fermoy.

On the recommendation of Brendan O' Gorman SEE, this DPB was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. June Murphy.

3. Disabled Parking Bays at 42 Devlin Street, Fermoy.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE explained to the Members that there is a request for a DPB at 42 Devlin Street, Fermoy but that there are already two DPBs on this street. He is requesting the Members consult with the relevant residents here with a view to temporarily relocating one of the two existing DBPs to this location. The Members agreed to make enquiries and to revert for the next meeting.

4A. Newtownshandrum Amenity Grant 2017

1. 2017 Newtownshandrum Amenity Grant of €3,000 Re-Allocation request.

On the recommendation of Pauline Moriarty MDO, this re-allocation of grant was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Ian Doyle, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

4B. REQUESTS RE: FUNDING.

2. Request for funding from Fermoy Forum towards Fermoy Festival and 2018 Taste of Fermoy events.

Pauline Moriarty MDO informed the Members that Fermoy Forum had retrospectively requested funding towards events which had been organised as part of the Fermoy Festival, as these events had incurred a deficit. She said there is no finance currently available, but this request could possibly be funded, with the Members approval, from the Pay Parking Dividend. The Members agreed that this Festival had been a well-organised and worthwhile event, and agreed in principle to granting this funding request. The application will be considered when future income becomes available.

5. 30 KPH SPEED LIMIT PROPOSALS 2018

1. Presentation of Documents RE: 30 kph Speed Limit Proposals 2018

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that there are two Fermoy MD locations included in these proposals. These have gone for public consultation, and with no objections or submissions being received, are now to go before full Council for consideration and adoption. He will update the Members accordingly in due course.

6. REPORTS and RECOMMENDATIONS

1. PROGRESS REPORT Newtownshandrum Village Enhancement Scheme.

Pauline Moriarty MDO advised the Members that this scheme will be carried out before the end of the year and distributed a sketch of the proposed build-outs and their locations.

2. PROGRESS REPORT Derelict Sites.

Pauline Moriarty MDO drew the Members attention to this report, saying if they have any questions or observations; they are welcome to contact her at any time. Report noted by the Members.

Cllr. Kay Dawson's motion No. 7(24) was discussed at this time:

"call on Cork County Council, in the interest of health and safety, to make safe two houses in Upper Robert Street, Mitchelstown".

Cllr. Dawson said there are loose slates falling from the roof of this property making it unsafe for car owners to park on the street.

Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to have an Engineer's report prepared and the Derelict Sites process to be initiated for this property.

3. UPDATE Memorial to Mick Meaney.

The Members noted the style and design of the proposal for this memorial, uploaded for their consideration. Pauline Moriarty MDO confirmed the proposed location as being the corner of New Square (near the Clongibbon) and advised the Members that if they had any queries or comments, they could address them to her at any time. The Members said it was a clever and interesting design.

4. REPORT on Rescinding Part III of the Gaming and Lotteries Act 1956 for Fermoy MD.

Pauline Moriarty MDO advised the Members that despite getting planning permission an applicant cannot proceed with opening a gaming arcade without having procured a licence (from the courts); the granting of planning permission does not in itself allow a development to be carried out without compliance with other laws and statutes of the land. Pauline is awaiting one final clarification on a point of legal information which should be available for the October meeting, at which the Members can then consider how to proceed with rescinding Part III of the Gaming and Lotteries Act 1956. Cllr. Kay Dawson urged caution when making any changes, as it is important to protect and maintain the 'status quo' which currently exists in this regard in Mitchelstown and in Fermoy town centre.

5. UPDATE Charleville Town Park Refurbishment.

Mary Hayes SEO informed the Members that there is now an Architect specifically dedicated to this project, with whom she has had discussions. Works here will include traffic calming works, enhanced pedestrian access and improvements to the playground. Meetings have been arranged for the coming two weeks to advance this project. Cllr. Ian Doyle thanked Mary and Pauline Moriarty MDO for their work on this project, saying the town park in Charleville is the jewel in the crown. He requested that the bark mulch be restored temporarily in the meantime, as previously agreed.

6. REPORT 2018 RI Progress Update.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through this report, uploaded for the Members consideration. He said the programme is now 80% done with work continuing. There are two jobs to be finished by Lagans, the blacktop contractors.

7. REPORT 2018 RM Progress Update.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through progress to date in this programme, saying works are 75% complete. Works are to commence on Monday next on the seven roads remaining to be done in Charleville. Work on the Broghill road will cost in the region of €50k, this will be done as a road material recycling job.

8. REPORT 2018 Drainage Progress Update.

Works in this programme are now 100% complete.

9. REPORT 2018 Footpath Programme Update.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that the Contractor has started on this programme and some works have been carried out. Work on Oliver Plunkett Hill, Fermoy is due to commence next week and other works on the list will be done thereafter. The Members complimented the work carried out to date, saying it is of a high quality and very satisfactory.

Cllr. Ian Doyle's motion No. 7(11) was discussed at this time:

"that Cork County Council would give an update on the footpath repair programme in Holy Cross Place".

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed localised repairs are committed to and will be done in due course.

Updates were also given in relation to the following:

(a) Public Lighting Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that public lighting installations in Conna were being provided through the CLÁR scheme, and all other works on this year's programme will be done. Also, the 2019 Public Lighting programme is currently being prepared.

(b) CIS and LIS 2018 works.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that of eight CIS projects this year six are approved and paid and two are approved and to be paid. All eight projects will be done this year. These works are on public cul-de-sac roads and will commence in October and finish by end November. In relation to LIS works there are four schemes to be done this year, one in Ballyhoura, one in Ballynoulty and two in Carrigacunna. These works will also be completed before year end.

(c) Three-year Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works for the next three years are being planned and will be submitted for approval and funding.

(d) Staff

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that thirteen new employees joined the district outdoor staff on 17th September 2018, with two more employees due to commence shortly. This will bring the total number of new starts to fifteen with five staff being deployed in each of the three towns Fermoy, Charleville and Mitchelstown. The Members welcomed news of these appointments.

All progress reports from Brendan O' Gorman SEE were agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

1. "that Cork County Council would give an up to date progress report on the Council's planned repair of the weir and fish pass in Fermoy".

Update will be provided on the day of the meeting. (PM)

Further to a preliminary survey carried out by Consulting Engineers, T.J. O' Connor and Associates, a series of six drawings of the current condition of Fermoy weir and fish pass were circulated to the Members. Mary Hayes SEO informed the Members that the scope of the works for this project is now to be extended as the works required are now identified, recognised and known. A brief is currently being prepared with a view to imminently procuring a new Consulting Engineer. This newly appointed Consulting Engineer will prepare designs, following which a planning application will be made and funding will be sought. Cork County Council will commit some funding to this project. The cost of repair works to the weir is estimated to be around €1.6 million. This issue has now achieved some positive traction and representations are being made at national level. Further to a request from Cllr. O' Flynn, Mary agreed to prepare a written report for the Members. The Members thanked Mary for the update, saying it is good something is finally happening to progress this project. It was agreed that this item will be included on the Agenda each month going forward.

Cllr. Ian Doyle

2. "that Cork County Council in conjunction with housing would look into cleaning and replacing the ditch between Batt Donegan Place and Orchard's Heights, Charleville".

The ditch will be inspected and rubbish removed if required. Due to budgetary constraints there is no funding to replace the existing ditch with fencing. (Maurice Manning, Director of Services)

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

3. "that this Committee would carry out road repairs and fill potholes on Ardra to Ballyvolane road, Castlelyons, Co. Cork".

On this years RI programme for overlay works in September/October. (BO'G)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

4. "that this Council replace the supporting symbols road sign on R639 at exit from Gortnahown to Mitchelstown".

Brendan O' Gorman SEE asked Cllr. O' Brien to clarify if it is the replacement of the signs or road symbols that is being requested here. Further to a discussion, it was agreed that works recommended by Brendan at this junction would be undertaken in 2019.

Cllr. Kay Dawson

5. "call on Cork County Council to repair footpath adjacent to Number 25, Upper Robert Street, Mitchelstown".

Localised repairs will be carried out. (BO'G)

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

6. "that Cork County Council would indicate the commencement date for the much needed housing developments at (a) Crann Árd Estate, Pike Road, Fermoy and (b) Respond development, Duntaheen Road, Fermoy".

Having been referred to Housing Directorate for reply with no response provided, Cllr. O' Flynn voiced his dissatisfaction. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to contact Housing Directorate personnel again seeking a reply.

7. "that Cork County Council would put advanced signage at Propogue Cross, Propogue, Araglin in the interest of safety as this is a bus collection point for school children".
Will be done. (BO'G)
8. "that Cork County Council would repair the damaged security fencing at the Playground at Stagpark, Mitchelstown in the interest of safety".
Fencing will be inspected and repairs carried out if required. (Maurice Manning, Director of Services).
9. "that Cork County Council give an update and outline the plans and timeframe for the proposed housing development on the site of the old Fire Brigade station, Fermoy".
Having been referred to Housing Directorate for reply with no response provided, Cllr. O' Flynn voiced his dissatisfaction. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to contact Housing Directorate personnel again seeking a reply.

Cllr. Ian Doyle

10. "that Cork County Council would look into the resurfacing of the Ballincolly road as this road is being used as a bypass for the town particularly with the road works just done".
This road is likely to feature in our 2019 RI Programme, subject to funding confirmation. (BO'G)
11. "that Cork County Council would give an update on the footpath repair programme in Holy Cross Place".
This motion was discussed in conjunction with Item 6(9) Footpath Programme Progress Report.
12. "that Cork County Council would give an update on the progress of the CCTV cameras in Charleville".
No further update. Project on hold pending resolution of data protection issues regarding CCTV at a national level. (PM)
Further to discussion, Cllr. June Murphy said she had a motion in this regard going to full Council with a view to having this issue raised nationally for resolution.
13. "that Cork County Council would look into putting a ramp on the Milford side of Newtown village".
There is currently no dedicated traffic calming budget for the District and this includes for ramps. All new ramp locations have to go through a full public consultation in compliance with countywide policy. The request will be kept on file. (BO'G)
Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed that there is one ramp in situ here on a trial basis, but that, to date, not everyone is in favour of it. He said that going forward, tarmac ramps will be used if universal consensus is arrived at; these at an approximate cost of €4k each.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

14. "that this Committee would arrange meeting with the TII to discuss with them on why the works on the footpath on the N72 opposite the Church of Ireland in Fermoy have not commenced".
The works have not commenced as the approved tender and preferred contractor indicated late in the day that due to staff shortages they were unable to fulfil the contract and were withdrawing their tender. The second contractor on the list has indicated that they will carry out the work. Their insurances are currently being checked and it is hoped that they will be on site late September 2018. (BO'G)
This motion was supported by Cllrs. Kay Dawson and June Murphy. Cllr. McCarthy declared himself very dissatisfied at how Fermoy was being treated by the TII in this regard and is now demanding a meeting with them to demand this work be done. Brendan O' Gorman SEE pointed out that this is not a simple footpath repair job but an important structural contract. He added that many

background works have been carried out here including geotechnical works and surveys and that it is not the fault of the TII that the (first) appointed Contractor was unable to proceed. Cllr. McCarthy proposed that the TII be given until the end of September 2018 to advance these works and that following that a meeting will be demanded. This was agreed by Cllrs. Kay Dawson and Frank O' Flynn.

15. "that this Committee would fill potholes on the Kilphilibeen to Ballymonteen Road, Ballynoe".
Will be done. (BO'G)
16. "that this Committee receive an Engineer's report on the possibility of a speed detector being put in place at the Pike Road, Fermoy".
The current speed radar sign on the Duntaheen Road will be relocated to the Pike road for a period, as agreed previously. (BO'G)
Cllr. McCarthy asked if more of these speed radar signs could be purchased and left in permanent locations, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied these signs lose their effectiveness after six weeks.
17. "that this Committee would carry out road repairs and fill potholes on the road between Cullenagh and Ballylusky, Ballynoe, Co. Cork".
Will be done. This road is likely to feature in our 2019 RI Programme, subject to funding confirmation. (BO'G)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

18. "that this Council would erect signs on approach roads to Mitchelstown indicating '2 hour free parking in Mitchelstown' ".
Following a discussion, it was agreed that any existing such signs would be cleaned and cleared around, and that, if warranted, additional signs may then be provided.
19. "that this Council would consider implementing traffic calming at Ballynoe, Kildorrery".
There is no dedicated traffic calming budget for the District. In any event, this area is on a National Road where a 60kph transition zone leads into a 50kph zone. The locus is not suitable for traffic calming. (BO'G)
20. "that this Council will investigate making safe the crossroads from Glocca Maura to Curraghagalla".
Brendan O' Gorman SEE said that this locus is within the 80kph zone and there should not be an issue with safety at this junction, however, he did concur that while the M8 was recently temporarily closed, this would have increased traffic volumes significantly here. He undertook to request An Garda Síochána to monitor this location for speeding.
21. "that this Council would grant Disabled Parking Space at Main Street, Shanballymore (details attached)".
There is no pressure on car parking spaces on the main streets in Shanballymore village. The request is declined. (BO'G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

22. "call on Cork County Council to cut back trees and hedge growth on the approach to Linden Hill as it is blocking all light from streetlights in the area".
Will be done. (BO'G)
23. "call on Cork County Council to repair footpath adjacent to Aldi across from Maxol Station".
These works are currently in hand by Aldi and their agents who are completing the pedestrian crossing upgrades in connection with their approved planning permissions 15/5283, 17/4240 and ABP P.L. 04.248386. (BO'G)

24. “call on Cork County Council, in the interest of health and safety, to make safe two houses in Upper Robert Street, Mitchelstown”.
This motion was discussed in conjunction with Item 6(2) Derelict Sites Report.
25. “call on Cork County Council to cut and prune hedge and trees in Fanahan’s Court, Stag Park, Mitchelstown”.
Tree Surgeon will be engaged to assess requested pruning. (Maurice Manning, Director of Services)
This motion was supported by Cllrs. Noel McCarthy and Deirdre O’ Brien.
- 8. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 1. EMAIL T. Murphy AO, Hsg. 8.8.2018 RE: Caravan at Batt Donegan Estate, Charleville.**
Noted.
- 2. EMAIL L. Duffy DoS 24.8.2018 RE: 'No Dog Poo' signs.**
Noted.
- 3. EMAIL C. Looney O'Sullivan, Corporate Services 3.9.2018 RE: 30kph speed limit in estates.**
Noted.
- 4. LETTER OPW 13.9.2018 RE: Doneraile House**
Noted.
- 9. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
None.
- 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- (1) 2019 Budget Meeting - to agree date for meeting.**
The Budget Meeting was arranged to be held on Friday, 2nd November 2018 at 11.30am in Fermoy.
- (2) Cllr. June Murphy to propose Civic Reception for ‘Thomas Kent History Festival’**
Further to a request received, it was agreed, on the proposition of Cllr. June Murphy and agreed by all the Members, that a Civic Reception would be held on 28th September 2018 at 4.30pm for Monsieur Didier Samain, Mayor of Guillemont, France who is visiting Fermoy as a guest of the Thomas Kent History Festival Committee.
- (3) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Extend yellow lines in Cluain Dara, Fermoy**
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE undertook to examine this request with a view to providing this additional road lining.
- (4) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Query re: Barry’s Boreen**
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE advised that the process to purchase the land required to widen this road has been deferred.
- (5) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Update on caravans illegally parked at Kilcrumper Cemetery and Picnic area, Cork Road, Fermoy**
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE advised that this issue involves more than one directorate in Cork County Council (Roads, Housing etc.) and that steps are being taken to resolve this situation.
- (6) Cllr. Ian Doyle - Looking for update on recruitment of School Warden in Charleville.**
Pauline Moriarty MDO said this proposed appointment will be included for consideration when the budget is being prepared.

(7) Cllr. Ian Doyle - Congratulations to Eileen Noonan, Newtownshandrum.

Cllr. Doyle requested Fermoy MD write to congratulate Ms. Noonan who has been nominated for a 2018 'Tidy Towns Community Heroes' award. This was agreed.

(8) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Hedge in Fermoy Town Park

Cllr. O' Brien queried the type of hedge recently planted inside the railings of Fermoy Town Park, saying it is not suitable for this location. Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that this is the hedge which was recommended by the Landscape Contractors, and will be cut/maintained by them.

(9) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Congratulations to Avondu Blackwater.

Cllr. Dawson requested Fermoy MD write to Avondu Blackwater congratulating them on their recent success in procuring funding for Ballard waterfall and and Killavullen walkway amenities.

Signed



Date 16-10-2018.