

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Proceedings of Ordinary Meeting of Ballincollig/Carrigaline Municipal District held in Council Chamber, Floor 2, County Hall, on Monday, 20th November, 2017, at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mary Rose Desmond (Cathaoirleach) presided. Councillors: Derry Canty, Deirdre Forde, Michael Murphy, Marcia D'Alton, Eoghan Jeffers, Daithi O'Donnabhain.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Joe Harris, Seamus McGrath.

ABSENT: Councillor John A. Collins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Kevin O'Regan, Municipal District Officer, Madeleine Healy, Senior Executive Engineer, Jim Molloy, Senior Executive Officer, Sarah O'Sullivan, Assistant Staff Officer.

1: MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. D'Alton and seconded by Cllr. Jeffers, the minutes of the proceedings of the Special Meeting held on 23rd October, 2017, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

On the proposal of Cllr. D'Alton and seconded by Cllr. Jeffers, the minutes of the proceedings of the Draft Budgetary Meeting and Ordinary Meeting held on 1st November, 2017, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2: CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(i) Christmas Parking 2017.

Kevin O'Regan advised that the proposal circulated prior to the meeting includes the same arrangements as 2016 and noted that it is Cork County Council's view to allow Municipal Districts to decide on local arrangements but that they come into effect from 1st December 2017. Members welcomed the proposal and Cllr. Jeffers advised that he is happy to propose the arrangements.

3: CORRESPONDENCE

(i) HSE – Passage West Health Centre.

Cllr. Murphy noted the response and questioned why money is being spent on a building that is not fit for purpose. Cllr. Murphy advised that using the 223 bus route as a means of accessing services in Carrigaline is not acceptable and noted that it is the same response for a number of months. Cllr. Murphy advised that the HSE has never corresponded with the elected Members and noted that information is being received from local residents.

Cllr. D'Alton noted the poor timing of the correspondence as the decision has already been made to close the centre. Cllr. D'Alton welcomed the bus service advances and noted that the HSE has not responded to other representations.

Cllr. Jeffers supported the Members and noted that the decision to close the centre has been made by a person who does not have knowledge of the area.

Following a request from Members, Kevin O'Regan agreed to send an email to the HSE requesting they attend December meeting to discuss the matter.

(ii) An Bord Pleanála – M28 Cork to Ringaskiddy Motorway Scheme Oral Hearing Venue

Kevin O'Regan noted the correspondence circulated to Members prior to the meeting and advised that the matter had been mentioned at the hearing.

Cllr. Desmond advised that the hearing will be reconvening at the Carrigaline Court Hotel in one week and noted that the access at the previous venue was appalling.

4: DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY

To consider the disposal of property at Castlefarm, Monkstown, Co.Cork to Mary Russell, Administrator in the Estate of Patricia Martin, for the consideration of € 350.00 inclusive of administration charges.

Members noted that the proposed disposal had been advertised, that this was a property that the Council deemed should be disposed of and agreed that the matter should be forwarded to Full Council for approval.

5: GENERAL MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION 2017/TOWN DEVELOPMENT FUND 2017

Kevin O'Regan advised that he will discuss the spending of the funding balance with Madeleine Healy and noted that it may be spent on footpath repairs.

6: NOTICES OF MOTION

To consider the following Notices of Motion in the name of Cllr. Deirdre Forde:

1. "That the Engineer gives a written report on solutions to address the danger to residents exiting Douglas Lawn onto Church Road given the bad sight lines, no footpath, volume and speed of traffic."

Cllr. Forde advised that the location is before the Bow Wow Bridge and noted that the matter is going back 16 years when bollards were requested in the area. Cllr. Forde advised that Madeleine Healy was examining the location at one stage and noted that it is difficult for residents to exit the area.

Madeleine Healy advised that the matter had been discussed previously with residents and noted that she will request the Non National Road Design Office to look at the area as a whole. Madeleine Healy advised that there have been solutions tried and noted that it is a traffic movement and speed perception issue. Madeleine Healy advised that there is a request for a crossing in the area and that she has arranged for a speed survey to be carried out. Madeleine Healy advised that she would hope to have a proposed design in 2018. Madeleine also advised Members that any proposed solution will have funding issues that will need to be addressed.

Cllr. Forde requested that the matter be put on the agenda for the April 2018 meeting.

2. "That the Engineer in charge of lighting gives a written report in relation to the lack of activated lighting in Maryborough Downes and Maryborough Mews, the causes of such a situation, and what action can be taken to address the matter."

Members noted report from Kevin O'Regan, which outlines as follows:

This motion and the motion in relation to the taking in charge of Maryborough Downes and Maryborough Mews are linked. As Members will have noted from the previous Motion this area has not been taken in charge and accordingly responsibility for provision of public lighting remains with the developer.

3. "To request a written report on the status of the taking in charge of Maryborough Downes and Maryborough Mews."

Members noted report from Kevin O'Regan, which outlines as follows:

The Planning Department has responded as follows:

A TIC application has been received from the developer but the documentation submitted is inadequate. The developer has yet to confirm the areas within the development that they wish to have taken in charge and areas that will remain private (i.e. will be run by a Management Company). Until this is established, taking in charge cannot progress.

Also, progression of taking in charge will be subject to compliance with (a) new Protocols in place with Irish Water (whose agreement to take Sanitary Services in charge will be required) and (b) legal/engineering issues.

Cllr. Forde thanked Kevin O'Regan for his reports on the matter. Cllr. Forde advised that the residents of the Mews wrote to her advising that there are no street lights working and there is no management company in place. Cllr. Forde asked what can be done to help these residents and noted that the matter should be followed up with the developer.

Kevin O'Regan advised that a developer is not obliged to apply to have an estate taken in charge and noted that the Council cannot force the developer to carry out works. Following questioning, Kevin O'Regan confirmed that the residents can sign a petition to have the estate taken in charge and noted that Irish Water requirements could further delay the matter.

Madeleine Healy advised that the developer has made an application to have the estate taken in charge and noted that Cork County Council will not take an estate in charge unless it is complying with planning conditions. Madeleine Healy advised that there is a management company for the Mews as it is an apartment complex.

Following a request from Cllr. Forde, Kevin O'Regan agreed to ask the engineer in the Estates Section dealing with the matter to contact Cllr. Forde directly.

To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. O'Donnabhain:

1. "That this meeting requires the installation of speed monitoring warning signs at either side of the pedestrian crossing at Manor Hill, Ballincollig."

Members noted report from Kevin O'Regan, which outlines as follows:

Report from Don O'Sullivan, Ballincollig Area Office:

We will carry out a speed survey at this location to ascertain the extent of any speeding issue.

Subject to these results and available budget we will consider whether such signs are warranted.

Cllr. O'Donnabhain advised that complaints have been made to the Gardai regarding motorists driving through the red light at the pedestrian crossing near Manor Hill and noted that signage is required as there is a concern that a pedestrian may be injured by traffic.

To consider the following Notices of Motion in the name of Cllr. Jeffers:

1. "That signage be erected at the Shannon Park Roundabout area, with its purpose to promote Carrigaline as a tourist destination."

Cllr. Jeffers advised that the background of the motion is to utilise the Lower Harbour to its full potential as a tourist destination and noted that motorists could access Carrigaline on the way to the ferry at Ringaskiddy. Cllr. Jeffers asked that thought and scope be given to the use of advertising for local businesses.

Members supported Cllr. Jeffers in his motion.

Following a comment on unsightly and distracting advertising at the roundabout, Madeleine Healy advised that the abundance of signage is a hazard and noted that there is a rule of no signage being allowed as it is a litter offence. Madeleine Healy advised that there is a relaxed approach to community based signs.

A discussion on the matter followed and Members raised the following comments/questions on the matter of signage in the Municipal District:

- There was a discussion at a previous Municipal District meeting regarding the proliferation of business signage on fences, railing and windows in the Municipal District.
- A letter should be sent to the Planning Department requesting a signage policy when granting planning permissions.
- There is an issue with political and commercial interest signage in Ballincollig, which affects the aesthetic of the town and area.

Kevin O'Regan advised that the issues raised are separate to the motion. Kevin O'Regan advised that he will contact the Economic Development Section regarding tourism signage at Shannonpark roundabout and agreed to revert to Members on the matter. Kevin O'Regan advised that the matter can then be discussed with the business association and Carrigaline Tidy Towns.

Following a request from Members, Kevin O'Regan agreed to write to the Planning Department expressing Members concerns regarding unsightly signage in the Municipal District.

2. "That the footpath be fully completed at Ballycureen outside MAE Engineering."

Cllr. Jeffers advised that the gravel path in the area is unsuitable.

Madeleine Healy advised that she is aware of the issue and noted that resources are not currently available to carry out this work.

3. "That we as a district would write to Irish Water asking that proper notice and clarity be given to people when works are planned."

Cllr. Jeffers advised of an incident in Grange 3-4 weeks ago where residents were not given warning of planned works in the area. Cllr. Jeffers advised that he could not get clarity on the matter when he rang Irish Water and noted that these were not emergency works.

Kevin O'Regan agreed to write to Irish Water requesting correspondence be issued to residents prior to any planned supply disruption.

To consider the following Notices of Motion in the name of Cllr. Murphy:

1. "Irish water are working in Monkstown Park that when finished work that they would restore the way it was and maybe install ducting going forward that CCTV could be put in place."

Members noted report from Kevin O'Regan, which outlines as follows:

The contract that Irish Water has in place already has set out the reinstatement works to be undertaken in the Park. If the Council was to request any additional works be included outside of this it would have to be funded from Council resources as the Council is not a party in the contract.

Cllr. Murphy thanked Kevin O'Regan for his report on the matter and requested that CCTV be put in place if funding is available as there were reports of anti-social behaviour in the area previously.

Kevin O'Regan advised that CCTV is not part of the agreed works between Irish Water and the contractor and Cork County Council would be a 3rd party for any additional works.

Madeleine Healy advised that she has had similar requests previously and noted that the price that came back was extortionate as the works were outside the fixed price contract.

2. "To ask Martin Walsh to come before Ballincollig/Carrigaline Municipal District to answer questions on lack of 223 bus service."

Members noted report from Kevin O'Regan, which outlines as follows:

As Members are aware Mr Walsh has previously attended Municipal District meetings to discuss the bus service in general across the District. He last attended in January 2017. This allowed him to update Members on route issues and proposals as well as dealing with specific queries.

I recommend that Members should forward any other queries that they may have to me by the end of this week. Mr Walsh can then be invited to attend a MD meeting but will have the opportunity to ensure that the issues that Members want addressed can be adequately responded to. Whether this should be in December or January is a matter for Members to determine and will be dependent on his ability to attend.

Cllr. Murphy advised that he is getting daily contact from residents and noted that the matter is urgent. Cllr. Murphy advised that people were waiting over 50 minutes in Passage West last Saturday for the bus.

Kevin O'Regan advised that he will email Members to forward queries regarding the bus service, these matters will be forwarded to Martin Walsh and he will be invited to attend the December or January meeting to address the queries raised.

3. "That maybe the Community Toilet Scheme enables local businesses like pubs, restaurants and shops to work together with the Council to make more clean, safe and accessible toilets available to the public. Qualified premises who receive the payment will then display stickers showing male, female and wheelchair accessible Community Toilet Scheme Members. Street signage indicates the name and direction of the participating businesses. Members of the public can use toilet facilities during the premises opening hours and without the need to make a purchase."

Members noted report from Kevin O'Regan, which outlines as follows:

I have looked on line to see what information I could find in relation to such a Scheme. From what I can see there is a Scheme that operates in a number of cities across England and Scotland. There was also reference to Dublin City Council investigating such a scheme circa 2013 but I was not able to find anything to suggest that the Scheme commenced. The Scheme generally would appear to be an initiative to promote tourism and shopping in large commercial areas/cities.

Two aspects of note are that the Scheme provides for a financial payment to be made to participating businesses and that it assists in providing facilities in areas where there are no public conveniences available. Where facilities are available a business would not seem to be allowed participate.

It is something that perhaps could be looked at by the Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism Directorate. However given that in larger towns that have a shopping centre there generally are toilets available its potential would seem to be limited.

Cllr. Murphy thanked Kevin O'Regan for his report on the matter and noted that it would be a great idea as there is no public toilet in his area. Cllr. Murphy suggested using Social and Economic funding.

Cllr. Jeffers supported Cllr. Murphy in his motion and noted that it would allow the building of a relationship between businesses and communities. Cllr. Jeffers advised that the cost of the three public toilets in the Municipal District is €88,000 and noted that the scheme would improve areas where it is not feasible to install super loos. Cllr. Jeffers advised that the scheme was piloted in Rochford and noted that it should be teased out a bit more. Cllr. Jeffers advised that the matter may have also been raised at a West Cork MD meeting.

Kevin O'Regan advised that the scheme was only considered in Dublin and noted that it did not take off. Kevin O'Regan advised that the scheme should possibly come under the Tourism Directorate and noted that it would be suitable in larger areas where there are interactive maps to identify locations. Kevin O'Regan advised that he will ask the Social Inclusion & Community SPC to look at the matter and revert to Members.

7: VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Cllr. D'Alton

Passage West U14 Ladies Team

Cllr. Murphy

Daniella Burke U19 Soccer Team

Cllr. Forde
Douglas GAA

Cllr. Jeffers
Carrigaline U14

8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Murphy

(i) Cllr. Murphy asked that the road surface at the top terrace in Ardmore Terrace be resurfaced as the estate will be 40 years old next year.

(ii) Cllr. Murphy advised that he has received complaints regarding trees at the back of Maple Rise.

Cllr. D'Alton

Cllr. D'Alton asked for clarification as to who was contacting the Housing Department regarding funding towards footpath works at Dock Terrace.

Kevin O'Regan advised that the Members had agreed to contact the Housing Department and advised that will contact the Housing Directorate on the matter.

Cllr. Forde

(i) Cllr. Forde congratulated Madeleine Healy regarding the Inchvale Road project and asked what the criteria is regarding position of crossings as the residents have requested two more crossings. Madeleine Healy advised that two more crossings will be put in place but noted that it is not easy to find locations and the planning is per DLUTS planning. A speed survey will be carried out in the next couple of months and further works can be looked at if required.

(ii) Cllr. Forde advised that a resident has raised the issue of antisocial behaviour and advised of a Cork County Council grant towards 60% of costs. Cllr. Forde asked for the feasibility of putting CCTV in place on the Grange Road and Rochestown Road.

Madeleine Healy advised that she has never heard of such a grant and noted that CCTV is controlled by the Gardai.

Cllr. Desmond advised that the grant is a Garda initiative and the Council are required to apply through the Gardai. The matter of maintenance afterwards will be a Council issue and the CCTV is monitored by the Gardai.

Cllr. Forde advised that she will raise the matter at the Garda Forum.

Kevin O'Regan advised that if there is such a scheme the maintenance and repair of the CCTV will be the responsibility of the Council and will effect funding. Kevin O'Regan suggested the Department of Justice should be responsible for the maintenance costs.

Cllr. Jeffers

(i) Cllr. Jeffers advised of blocked drains in Grangeway, Pinecroft.

(ii) Cllr. Jeffers advised that the paths in Grangeway, Pinecroft are in bad condition and asked that they be looked at if they are not on the footpath programme.

(iii) Cllr. Jeffers advised that the timing of the traffic lights at Frankfield was amended but has reverted to the previous sequence following the recent storm.

Madeleine Healy advised that she has forwarded the matter to Cork City Council.

(iv) Cllr. Jeffers queried the low height of the new speed ramps on Donnybrook Hill. Madeleine Healy advised that the ramps are to current standard and noted that they are located on a hill.

Cllr. Desmond

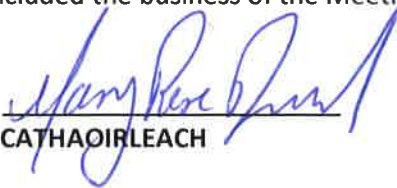
(i) Cllr. Desmond advised of the issue where replacement deeds cannot be gotten for a grave where the deeds have been lost.

Kevin O'Regan agreed to look at the matter.

(ii) Cllr. Desmond requested an update on the N40 South Douglas Road roadworks by Douglas Community School.

Madeleine Healy advised that Peter O'Donoghue can be asked to provide an update at the December meeting.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Signed: 
CATHAOIRLEACH

Date: 18/12/17