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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held at Meeting Room, Dunmanway Swimming Pool on 4th March 2019

Members present: Cllrs. Joe Carroll, Mary Hegarty, Paul Hayes,
Christopher O'Sullivan, John O'Sullivan, Declan Hurley

In attendance: Ruth O'Brien S.E.E.
Michael Tobin S/S.E.E.
Kevin Lynch E.E.
Cait Lehane E.E.
Sarah Sinnott E.E.
Aidan Prendergast E.E.
Mac Dara O h-Ici, S.E.O. M.D.W.C.
Mary T. McCarthy, S.O. M.D.W.C.

Cllr. Danny Collins presided.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

At the proposal of Cllr. M. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. C.O'Sullivan the minutes of the Municipal District of West Cork Meeting held at Áras Beantraí, Bantry on 4th February 2019 were confirmed and then signed by the Cathaoirleach.

STATUTORY BUSINESS

- a. Proposed Amendment to the West Cork Municipal Local Area Plan 2017
Extension to Development Boundary of Skibbereen.

Ms. Lorraine Kennedy, Senior Executive Planner, Planning Policy Unit outlined that the Proposed Amendment is to extend the development boundary of Skibbereen to include a parcel of land (0.5056 ha) and zone as 'Existing Built-up Area'. The Proposed Amendment has arisen as a result of an omission to include the land within the development boundary of Skibbereen as recommended in the Chief Executive's Opinion on the Issues Raised by Submissions & Recommended Amendments Report to Members on the Public Consultation Draft of the West Cork Municipal District Local Area Plan 2017. Details of the Public Consultation Process will be advertised on the Irish Examiner and Southern Star newspapers and on the Council's website. Submissions or observations regarding the proposed Amendment will be invited from members of the public during a six week period following advertising. Submissions received will be uploaded on to the Council's website for public viewing within ten days of receipt with personal information redacted. Members highlighted the importance of making the public aware of the Proposed Amendment.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley, members agreed to proceed to the public consultation process for the proposed amendment to the West Cork Municipal Local Area Plan 2017 Extension to Development Boundary of Skibbereen.

- b. Part VIII of Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2018
Skibbereen Town Hall – Extension and Alterations to the Theatre

– Consideration of the Manager's Report

Mr. J. England M.D.O. informed members that the Public Consultation Process for a proposal to construct an extension and make alterations to the Town Hall Theatre, Skibbereen to improve accessibility to the building, incorporating a Ticket Box Office and provide an accessible public convenience, commenced on 10-01-19 and concluded on 08-02-19 with a further period to the 22-02-19 for submissions by the public. Three submissions were received with a recurring theme of an inadequate heating system, adequate public conveniences and refreshment area. The M.D.O. noted that the heating system and the refreshment area did not form part of the proposed works but that the submissions were noted and may be considered in any future refurbishment plans subject to resources being available. Members welcomed the proposed alterations at the theatre and on the proposal of Cllr. J. Carroll seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes, members agreed that the Manager's Report for Part VIII of Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2018 Skibbereen Town Hall – Extension and Alterations to the Theatre would be forwarded to full council for consideration.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Proposed by Cllr. C. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll

"That this council would name the greenway trail between Clonakilty and the Technology Park after former TD and Minister for Agriculture, Joe Walsh".

Cllr. C. O'Sullivan commended the work of Cork County Council for investing in the greenway trail which will be of huge benefit to Clonakilty. Mr. Joe Walsh was instrumental in the creation of Clonakilty Technology Park which has generated hundreds of jobs. Members supported Cllr. C. O'Sullivan and agreed that Mr. Joe Walsh T.D. and former Minister for Agriculture was a tremendous ambassador for Clonakilty and West Cork and felt it would be a fitting tribute to him.

The S.E.O. noted that the current phase of the greenway is going as far as Gullane Lake, the next phase will take it to Clonakilty Technology Park. The M.D.O. noted that while there is no official policy for the naming of greenways, a public consultation process is normally undertaken.

Cllrs. J. Carroll, D. Collins, P.Hayes, seconded by Cllrs. M. Hegarty, C O'Sullivan, J O'Sullivan, D. Hurley

"That this council would make a case to the TII for traffic calming measures in Leap Village, as a matter of urgency especially in the vicinity of Leap National School. Traffic calming speed indicators have been a huge success in other areas of West Cork and would be the ideal solution for Leap."

Report by M. Tobin E.E. : *"There have been requests from Leap National School and from Leap and Glandore playschool who also use the school building with regard traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Leap School. Leap National School is located within a 50km/h speed limit zone, there is off road parking separated from the road available to it the majority of the time and there are footpaths and an uncontrolled road crossing nearby so the general environment is very favourable to the safety of school users. As part of the recent road improvements the carriageway adjoining the school was kerbed and now has a road width of approx. six meters which is the minimum recommended required road width for this type of road and this is also a traffic calming measure. As part of the road resurfacing the issue of traffic calming was considered and discussed with TII who are the authority responsible for this road. To consider traffic calming there has to be a need and there are a number of issues that need to be considered including what is the perceived problem, what is the extent of the problem and how can this be improved. Depending on the problem there are different steps to take. As part of an initial assessment I will get a speed survey done in the next couple of weeks. Depending on the outcome of that will give a direction on what measures may be needed.*

It is considered that drivers should obey the signage that already exists and it is an offence if this is not being done. The Gardai are the body responsible for enforcing the speed limit and I will talk to them about the location and carrying out Garda speed checks.

Driver feedback signs(dfs) can be considered if it is shown there is a need. It is considered that the impact of dfs signs can be short term. The provision of dfs signs in other areas was provided either by funding under the CLAR Scheme(2017) or have been funded by a combined contribution - 50% contribution by the local community/50% funded by Cork County Council out of CCC own maintenance funds. In the CLAR scheme of 2018 there was no allowance for these types of signs. There was an announcement made by Minister Michael Ring on the 28th February, 2019 and the following measures being funded under the 2019 CLÁR programme are included. The measures are:

- Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety measures
- Measure 2: Play Areas (including Multi-Use Games Areas)
- Measure 3: Community Wellbeing Supports (new in 2019)

Further information to local authorities is to be issued shortly. Leap would qualify as a CLAR area.

If there is support for the provision of signs with community funding it would depend on the number of applications in the Municipal District in the year as there are limited budgets.”

Members reported that they have been inundated with representations from concerned residents from Leap regarding the dangerous speeding of vehicles through the Leap Village since the completion of road resurfacing. Members requested the installation of Traffic Calming and/or Driver Feedback Signs. Members asked Mr. Tobin to immediately commence the procedure required by Transport Infrastructure Ireland to apply for Traffic Calming measures.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Hurley, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll

“That Cork County Council in conjunction with Irish Water designate certain water hydrants in towns/villages for private companies/contractors who use water to carry out drain cleaning and avoid the taking of water from hydrants in housing estates and residential streets.”

Cllr. D. Hurley outlined the problems caused to residents by contractors who use water from hydrants for drain cleaning in towns and villages in West Cork. Residents are annoyed by interrupted water supply and/or sediment in the water supply. Members requested that a letter should be sent to Irish Water to highlight the issue and recommending that I.W. should advise companies on suitable locations for water extraction.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. M. Hegarty

- a. That Cork County Council would write to Irish Water to request the upgrade of the waste water treatment plant in Kealkil so that more houses can be developed in the village.

Cllr. D. Collins outlined the disadvantage to Kealkil and other rural communities in West Cork and the inability to develop houses because they are not served by a waste water treatment system. Members supported the Notice of Motion and requested that a letter should be sent to Irish Water conveying their discontent regarding the issue.

- b. That Cork County Council would put a Traffic Management Plan in place for the residents living between the road closures on the Glengarriff - Kenmare road.

Report from Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. The contractor (McSweeney Bros Ltd) has carried out a letter drop to each of the residents, weeks before the works commenced advising them of the upcoming works. The first phase of the works were carried out using a Stop/Go traffic management set up. Since Monday 18th Feb, a full road closure has been put in place to facilitate the resurfacing element of the works. The existing road width is on average just under 5m wide. Therefore, when laying the hot material, the paving train is taking up the full width of the road, making it impossible to allow any traffic to pass. After the material is laid it requires time for compaction and cooling which could be a couple of hours.

The contractor has informed all residents that they have unhindered access up to 8am and after that, access to individual properties will depend on where the paving train is. They will access their properties from the Kenmare or Glengarriff end of the project. Free access is available when work has finished in the evening until 8am the following morning.

McSweeney Bros Ltd have set up a Whatsapp group with all the residents so as they are informed of the progress of the works during the day and how it affects the access to their properties. The residents contact the contractor liaison person who then advises them on the appropriate direction for access. (Kenmare or Glengarriff or via local road network). The liaison person from the contractor is in constant contact with the residents and they are in contact with him. It is acknowledged that there is inconvenience to residents.

In addition the contractor has deployed specialist traffic management personnel to help with the traffic diversion and also to manage traffic in and out of the site and to respond to any emergencies.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. D. Collins

- a. That Cork County Council would carry out the necessary Drainage and Road Surfacing to the L95933-1 In Drimoleague.

Report by Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E.

"This is a cul de sac road, which therefore is unlikely to be considered under an Restoration Improvement programme. However, I have added this road to the list of roads for drainage and patching. This road may be eligible for a future CIS if the funding is available."

- b. That the Council would seek emergency funding to repair and do necessary works and surfacing to the Road leading to The Creedon Home at Kilnaknappogue, Kealkil.

Report by Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E.

"Mr. Peter Creedon was in contact with Councillors last year, in relation to the condition of the private road accessing his house, at Kilnaknappogue, Kealkil and was advised to submit an application under the Local Improvement Scheme Fund. Mr. Creedon did subsequently submit an application form some time later, in January 2019, but there are currently 17 applications ahead of his. The road in question also serves a Cillíneach, which is accessible to the public and local national school.

The condition of this road has continued to further deteriorate and the river has undermined the private road resulting in erosion, as is evident in the following photographs. It appears that surface water has run down along the side of the road into the river and this would not have helped the situation.

Possible remedial works: There are two possible solutions here, protect the road edge from further erosion, possibly with rock armour or retaining wall, both of which would be expensive and necessary permissions from both Inland Fisheries Ireland and the OPW would have to be obtained.

An alternative solution could be to move the line of the road, by constructing a new road through a field to the east of the existing road. Again this option would give rise to considerable cost.

Furthermore, Minister Michael Ring has outlined that "As part of the scheme in 2019 I am placing a cap of €1,200 on the amount that any individual householder or landowner will be asked to contribute towards the cost of repairs" so I am not sure where the balancing of funding would come for funding these extensive works on a private road."

Members were sympathetic towards the family residing on the private road which has subsided in parts causing access to become dangerous. Alternative sources of funding were explored and Cllr. J. O'Sullivan undertook to establish if the residents would be eligible for Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme (TAMS) which is administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

- c. *That the Council would carry out Drainage and Surfacing work to the Road at Rossnashunsoge, Glengarriff.*

Report by Mr. A. Prendergast E.E.

"The Castletownbere Area Office has determined the roads for surfacing dressing in 2019. In so far as possible and in order to achieve economies of scale and value for money, the roads selected are geographically 'clustered'. The road at Rossnashunsoge (presumably the L-8977-0) will be examined for drainage issues and potholes this year. For 2020 it is the intention of the Castletownbere Area Office to 'cluster' roads for surface dressing in and around the Glengarriff Area (amongst other areas), and this road will be considered as part of that selection process."

Proposed by Cllr. P.Hayes, seconded by Cllr. C. O'Sullivan

"That this council seeks to improve the lighting in the vicinity of Rathbarry Post Office, and will install public lighting to rectify same."

Report by Mr. M. Tobin S.E.E.

"There does appear to be a gap in the public lighting in Rathbarry village between the Post Office and O'Donovan's pub. This has been included for consideration for the proposed 2019 public lighting programme."

EXTENSION OF TIME

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Collins seconded by Cllr. M. Hegarty, an extension of time was agreed to allow for the completion of the business of the meeting.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Public Lighting

Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. and Mr. M. Tobin S.E.E. circulated details of the Proposed Public Lighting Programme for West Cork.

- b. Proposed Traffic Calming – Drimoleague
c.

Members welcomed proposed traffic calming measures as outlined and circulated by Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E.

- d. West Cork Islands Community Fund 2019
- Draft Scheme will be circulated at the meeting

Mr. J. England M.D.O. outlined details of the West Cork Islands Community Fund Scheme 2019. Fifty thousand euros has been allocated to the scheme for 2019 with twenty thousand euros already assigned to the B.A. in Visual Art (Hons) Degree Programme on Sherkin Island. The scheme is closely modeled on the Municipal District Community Fund Scheme and will require match funding of twenty-five per cent from applicants.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll, members welcomed and approved the West Cork Islands Community Fund Scheme.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. A. Prendergast E.E. circulated details of the proposal for the upgrade of the Regional Road R572-312, Castletownbere: Development under Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and notice pursuant to the requirements of part VIII, article 81 & article 120(3) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 as amended – the construction of shared use footpaths and cycle ways, junction improvements and traffic calming at Rodeen, Derrymihan West and Foildarrig, Castletownbere between the Bridewell junction of the R-572-312 and L-4918-0 and a point 363 metres west of the Rodeen Cross junction of the R-572-312 and L-4920-0 for a distance of 2230 metres. On the proposal of Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. M. Hegarty, members welcomed and agreed that the project would go to public consultation.

Members commended community workers in West Cork for their extraordinary voluntary efforts and were especially complimentary towards Mr. Peter Donegan of for his exceptional community work in the Drimoleague area.

Members expressed disappointment regarding the Management Update on the 'Castle Heights' & 'Togher Village' estate in Togher, Dunmanway, Co. Cork, circulated by Mr. I. O'Regan E.E. Estates, Planning Dept, and requested that a member of the Planning Department would meet with residents of the estates to discuss same.

Cllr. J. O'Sullivan requested financial support for the businesses in Ring Village to celebrate the re-opening of the road from Clonakilty on 22nd March which has been closed since 27th August 2018 for works on the Clonakilty Flood Relief Scheme. Mr. M. Tobin E.E. informed members that the contractors Ward & Burke have now applied to extend the Ring Road closure for a further month, from 22-03-19 to 27-04-19.

The S.E.O. informed members that he and the M.D.O. met members of Ballineen & Enniskeane Tidy Towns Association regarding monies set aside for refurbishment of the public convenience in Ballineen. The community group have agreed to discuss how Ballineen and Enniskeane could achieve optimum benefit from the funding bearing in mind the minimal usage of the public convenience.

Mr. M. Tobin E.E. informed members that the Community Involvement Scheme in Castlefrecke Woods is due to commence shortly. Mr. Tobin noted that the results of a review of the inclusion of Union Hall and the Seven Heads Peninsula on the Wild Atlantic Route are due in the near future.

West Cork Municipal District – Allocation of GMA, TDF & Village Enhancement Scheme 2019

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley, members welcomed and approved the West Cork Municipal District – Allocation of GMA, TDF & Village Enhancement Scheme 2019 as circulated and outlined by the M.D.O. and the S.E.O.

Mr. A. Prendergast E.E. suggested re-allocation of Paint Scheme funding from Castletownbere as the Castletownbere Main Drainage Scheme is due to commence in 2019. The M.D.O. undertook to re-examine and select an alternative region for 2019 funding.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

To Mr. Pat Ryan, District Supervisor Skibbereen, on the death of his sister Nuala R.I.P.

To the Daly Family of Tullig, Leap on the death of Kathleen, R.I.P. former employee of Cork County Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH



DATE

01-04-19