

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held at Áras Beantraí, Bantry on 10th May 2019

Members present: Cllrs. Mary Hegarty, Paul Hayes,
Christopher O'Sullivan, P.G. Murphy, Declan Hurley

In attendance: Ruth O'Brien S.E.E.
John Ahern S.E.E.
Michael Tobin E.E.
Kevin Lynch E.E.
Cait Lehane E.E.
Niall Chamberlain E.E.
Aidan Prendergast E.E.
Mac Dara O h-Ici, S.E.O. M.D.W.C.
Justin England M.D.O. M.D.W.C.
Mary T. McCarthy, S.O. M.D.W.C.
Seamus De Faoite, S.E.O. Housing
James O'Halloran, Cluid Housing
Representatives from JCA Architects

Cllr. Danny Collins presided.

Apologies: Cllrs. Joe Carroll & John O'Sullivan, Ms. Sarah Sinnott E.E.

The Cathaoirleach expressed appreciation to members, staff and press for their professionalism and courtesy during the term of office of the current council. Good wishes were extended to Cllr. Mary Hegarty, who has decided not to contest the 2019 election and to all other members in their quest for re-election. The meeting acknowledged the huge contribution by Cllr. Hegarty since 2004 and thanked her for her support and friendship. Cllr. Hegarty said she was proud to have been selected by the people of Bantry to serve them and thanked her fellow councillors, executive and press for their assistance. Cllr. Hegarty noted the many changes in the Bantry area during her term and expressed a wish for improved sports facilities and a performance centre in Bantry in the near future.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

At the proposal of Cllr. M. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley the minutes of the Municipal District of West Cork Meeting held at Schull Harbour Hotel on 1st April 2019 were confirmed and then signed by the Cathaoirleach.

STATUTORY BUSINESS

- a. Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2017
Change of use of former Mercy Convent, Bantry to Social Housing

Members welcomed an update by Seamus De Faoite, S.E.O. Housing on the Notice under Article 179(3) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 for change of use of former disused Mercy Convent Bantry to social housing and recommended the Chief Executive's Report to Full Council for consideration.

- b. Disposal of Freehold Interest in 4 Home Rule Terrace, Skibbereen to Cornelius O'Driscoll

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. P.G. Murphy, members approved the Disposal Freehold Interest in 4 Home Rule Terrace, Skibbereen to Cornelius O'Driscoll for a consideration of €350.00 inclusive of administration charges, and recommended it to full plenary Council for consideration.

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

"That this council address the long standing problem with street parking on Castle Street in Dunmanway, to alleviate the need for residents having to park their cars on the public footpath, which is obstructing and preventing pedestrians from using sections of the public footpath on the street."

Ms. C. Lehane E.E. acknowledged the problems on Castle Street and informed members that a Traffic Count will be taken to establish the busiest times and restrictions may then be placed on sections of the street.

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

- a. *I request an update from Cork County Council on works and takeover of the estate Fán Mór Cois Farraige, Kilcrohane.*

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

A written request from the residents for the Council to take the estate in charge was submitted to the Planning Authority 5th December 2017. During early 2018, the Planning Authority sought and received 'as-constructed' drawings for the estate from the developer, along with CCTV Surveys of the sewer network (foul and storm water).

Ian O' Regan, Estates Engineer subsequently inspected the estate with the Water & Wastewater Networks Engineers and issued a snag list and prepared a Site Resolution Plan. The Council have a cash security of €20,000 in place, however the cost of the works required to the estate are in excess of this amount, therefore additional funding will be required from another source.

The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government issued documentation in relation to the National Taking In Charge Initiative (NTICI) Fund just last week and Ian O' Regan has prepared an application for this funding. If the application is successful, the necessary works could then be carried out to bring the estate up to standard for taking it in charge.

- b. *That Cork County Council would upgrade road number L 95943 1 at Knockgorm, Caheragh to include drainage and resurfacing works.*

Road Number L95943-1 will be added to the Roads Maintenance Programme.

- c. *That Cork County Council would write to the O.P.W. to request upgrading works on Toor Pier West of Goleen.*

Members requested that the M.D.O. would write to the O.P.W. requesting upgrading of the steps and the installation of a hand rail at Toor Pier, Goleen.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE / TUAIRISCI & COMHFHREAGRAS

West Cork Islands Community Funding 2019

Members welcomed the allocations for the West Cork Islands Community Fund Scheme 2019 as outlined by the M.D.O. and expressed a wish that the budget of €50,000 would be increased in future years.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In reply to a query from Cllrs. C. O'Sullivan and P. Hayes regarding the potential of the delaying in the development of social housing at Beechgrove, Clonakilty because of the presence of Japanese Knotweed, Seamus De Faoite S.E.O. confirmed that the tenders which are currently being assessed include the control of the invasive species and noted that C.C.C. are acutely aware of the need to progress the development. It is expected that the Tender Assessment will be submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government with construction commencing in the summer of 2019.

In reply to queries from Cllrs. D. Collins and M. Hegarty regarding the poor condition of many piers in West Cork, the S.E.O. noted that the Draft Bye Laws for Piers and Harbours have been approved by the Coastal Management Committee and will shortly go for Public Consultation. The S.E.O. noted that a new engineer has been appointed to undertake a review of all piers and in conjunction with Harbour Masters will prepare a list of required works on same.

Cllr. D. Collins requested works to Zetland Pier in order that it can be re-opened to the public.

Cllr. P. Hayes referred to a recent meeting with members of Skibbereen Chamber of Commerce regarding Public Realm works at Main Street, Skibbereen. The Skibbereen Chamber members expressed a wish to keep an area at Main Street pedestrian friendly with no parking spaces. Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. noted that the Public Realm Public Consultation Process was advertised in 2014 and a submission was made by a retailer requesting that parking spaces would be retained outside his premises. Following consideration of the submissions the Manager's Report recommended that some parking spaces would be re-instated and this report was approved at Full Council. The S.E.O. praised the area engineer's staff that are progressing the works competently at present and suggested that on completion of the scheme the issue could be reviewed.

Cllr. P. Hayes enquired about traffic calming measures for St Mary's N.S. in Enniskeane and Derrinacahara N.S. in Dunmanway C. Lehane E.E. to email him a response to his queries.

The S.E.O. confirmed that a traffic warden would be available to monitoring parking on Inchydoney over the summer months, following a query from Cllr. P. Hayes.

Cllrs. P. Hayes and C. O'Sullivan enquired about the closure of Kent Street Car Park during the summer months to facilitate Clonakilty Flood Relief Scheme and asked that signage would be put in place to direct members of the public to Deasy's Car Park and additional parking at The Show grounds on Park Road. The MDO confirmed arrangements were being put in place for same.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH



DATE

10.6.19