

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY 3RD MAY, 2022.

Present: Cllrs. C. Rasmussen, A. O'Connor, S. O'Connor, S. Sheppard, A. Barry & S. O'Callaghan.

Officials: Mr. P. Lynch, S/Senior Executive Officer
Mr. G. O'Hora, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. R. O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

An apology was received from Ms. Mary McSweeney, S/Municipal District Officer for her inability to attend.

1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes of MD Monthly Meeting held on 4th April 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Connor seconded by Cllr. S. O'Callaghan, the minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2022 were adopted.

2.0 Matters Arising.

2.1 Top of the Hill:

G. O'Hora stated that the civil works were more extensive than first envisaged and this had delayed matters, however works were progressing and should be completed shortly.

2.2 Knockraha:

G. O'Hora stated that he was still liaising with the ESB regarding the works and EBS committed to powering up the Pedestrian lights soon.

2.3 Kilquane Cemetery:

G. O'Hora stated that the ongoing issues with water ponding at the cemetery road had been listed for works and would commence shortly.

2.4 O'Shea's Boreen, Watergrasshill:

G. O'Hora confirmed that the works had been completed.

2.5 Cathedral Road, Cobh:

G. O'Hora confirmed that some works had been completed, but there were more to follow.

2.6 Whitechurch School:

G. O'Hora confirmed that the light had now been installed.

2.7 Ballynagoul Cross:

G. O'Hora confirmed that the potholes had been repaired.

- 2.8 Low Road, Cobh:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that all the repairs had now been completed.
- 2.9 O’Sullivan’s Place, Cobh:**
G. O’Hora stated that the trees would be examined and trimmed in September after the bird nesting season.
- 2.10 Rushbrooke:**
G. O’Hora stated that the trees were on private lands and the owners would be written to requesting trees to be cut back.
- 2.11 Carrignafoy Terrace:**
G. O’Hora stated that he was waiting on a contractor to commence works.
- 2.12 Car Park at Connolly Street:**
G. O’Hora stated that the tree was not dangerous, but it was blocking the public light and would be trimmed.
- 2.13 Carrigaloe:**
G. O’Hora stated the footpaths were in good condition and asked if Cllr. Sheppard wanted them widened, which would have the effect of narrowing the road, which he did not recommend.
- 2.14 Pay Parking:**
G. O’Hora stated that a new pay machine had been installed at the campervan facility.
- 2.15 Carrigane Road:**
G. O’Hora stated that the road had been repaired.
- 2.16 Station Road, Carrigtwohill:**
The engineer confirmed that while some works had been carried out, more were scheduled.
- 2.17 Anns Grove Road, Carrigtwohill:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that the road had been recently surface dressed and swept and that further sweeping works were scheduled at this location.
- 2.18 Little Island:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that the school sign was scheduled to be straightened and repaired.
- 2.19 Woodstock:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that further repairs involving the velocity patcher were scheduled for this road.
- 2.20 Cobh:**
G. O’Hora stated that a yellow box would be installed at Small’s Well when the lining contractor returned to Cobh. Irish Water had been contacted in relation to the various manholes throughout the town which were in need of repair. Potholes

at Top of the Hill had been repaired and sections of the road through College Manor had been listed as part of the remedial works programme, as had the road between Ahern's corner and Pottery Road. Kirkwood Villas to Ballyleary had been listed for repairs and some repairs had been carried out at Lynch's Quay and the Lake Road, but further works were required.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the buses were causing problems in College Manor and expressed his thanks for the works at Kirkwood Villas. He expressed concerns that the pedestrian lights at the junction of Midleton Street and Bishop Street were causing problems for a resident. R. O'Sullivan replied that it was intended to turn the light so that it was not shining into the house.

Cllr. S. Sheppard expressed her thanks for the resurfacing works carried out and asked when the road lining contractor was carrying out road lining at the Five Foot Way carpark, that lining would also be carried out at Whitepoint. R. O'Sullivan requested clarification of the exact location of the requested works, as it was his opinion that there wasn't room to define parking spaces, but he would examine same with the contractor on site.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan stated the lights at Knockraha were still not working. G. O'Hora stated that he had contacted the ESB on several occasions and was awaiting the ESB to connect power to the Pedestrian lights.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan said there would appear to have been a misunderstanding in relation to the location of the road repair works required on the Woodstock road, as no repairs had been carried out. Cllr. S. O'Callaghan to contact the engineer with the exact location.

3.0 Comhfhreagras / Correspondence.

No correspondence had been received since the last meeting.

4.0 Tuairiscí ó Ofigh / Officer's Reports.

Section 38 Report on Rushbrooke

G. O'Hora outlined the proposed works, the submissions received in relation to same and the Councils response. Cllr. S. Sheppard expressed her thanks to the team for the work done to date and was happy to see some of the proposals in the submissions taken on board. Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the location of the pedestrian crossing on the R624 road was key to the process, if this was in the wrong place, then it would not be used. G. O'Hora stated the location for the pedestrian crossing would be re-examined as part of the scheme design.

On the proposal of Cllr. Sheppard seconded by Cllr. Rasmussen, the Section 38 proposal was adopted.

Section 38 Report on Carrignavar

G. O'Hora presented the members with a second revised drawing of the layout for Carrignavar. Cllr. A. O'Connor stated that the drawing was substantially different from the original proposal. He queried if the integrity of the project was still intact and

whether a further period of public consultation was required. Cllr. S. O’Callaghan stated that the road was marked in anticipation of the proposed works and it was very easy to see where the build outs etc were to be positioned, the big issue was the one way system. Cllr. S. Sheppard stated she agreed with most of the changes but queried the amount of changes introduced after the public consultation period had been completed. She asked if a further public consultation period would jeopardise the funding for or start of the project. G. O’Hora replied that it was up to the members to decide if a further period of public consultation was required, if this was agreed it would not delay the start of the works and the funding was secured from the NTA.

The members agreed to a further Section 38 process, to be begun in the next week.

5.0 Tuairisc ó Oifigeach Ceantair Bardasacha / Municipal District Officer's Report.

P. Lynch presented the members with the updated claims for the General Municipal Allocation. Carrignavar Community Association had requested an extension of time to their grant to complete the works on the Tennis club. On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, this was granted.

Knockraha Area Community Association had also requested an extension to their grant, on the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry seconded by Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, this was granted.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. A. O’Connor, the application for a Funfair Licence by Ms. Sharon Piper for 8th May was granted.

Cllr. A. Barry stated that he had been approached by the residents of a new estate in Carrigtwohill who had missed the deadline for the amenity grant. On the proposal of Cllr. Barry seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard it was agreed to grant the applicants €400.00 and Cllr. Barry is to confirm the exact number of houses in the estate.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that a new group, Cobh Autism Friends were seeking the installation of a sensory board in the playground and queried whether funds from the camper van facility could be used to supply same. P. Lynch replied that the members had approved a payment of €800 to Watergrasshill last year for a similar project. On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to grant €800 for the board to the Cobh Autism group.

6.0 Fograí Rún/Notices of Motion.

- 1. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:**
That this council expedite the opening of the newly constructed road connecting Station Road with Main Street in Carrigtwohill. This would alleviate a lot of the traffic congestion on Main St and also enhance connectivity with the railway station.

Cllr. Barry stated that the road was finished, lined and street lighting was in place, the opening of this section of road would greatly facilitate the residents of Castl lake in accessing the railway station. G. O’Hora replied that the road had not been taken in

charge by Council, the developer had to initiate the process and to date he had not done so.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor the motion was carried.

2. **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:**
That this council erect warning signs for motorists at Killacloyne on the Carrigtwohill/Knockraha road, as a preventive measure given the number of incidents of cars ending up in the same field.
G. O'Hora replied that traffic speeds on the road would be examined, and new road safety signs erected.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, the motion was carried.

3. **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:**
That the footpath on the Northern side of Main Street Carrigtwohill between Aldi and the entrance to Ban Na Greine be made suitable for motorised wheelchair use.

Cllr. Barry explained that he recently been in the company of someone who uses a motorised wheelchair and had become aware of the difficulties users had in accessing certain locations. In this case the footpath heights are preventing users from accessing the shops. G. O'Hora responded by stating that plans were in place to 'dish' the footpaths in locations around Carrigtwohill.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the motion was carried.

4. **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**
That this Municipal would look again at the entrance to the five-foot way car park and in particular at the hill on the way down to see what can be done to make the whole area safer for pedestrians.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the buses were now returning as the tourism season kicked off and were once again mounting the footpath as they negotiated the hill to the car park as traffic refused to give and the road was not wide enough to take the bus and a car. R. O'Sullivan stated that several sections of footpath had been reinforced and it was possible that a few more bollards could be installed near the end and the edge of the road defined with double yellow lines.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was carried.

5. **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**
That this Municipal would look to adopt the Furney Environmental Report commissioned by Cobh Tidy Towns in an effort to win the overall title in the National Tidy Towns award and would set about implementing some of the recommendations in the report as soon as possible.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the Furney report was by an adjudicator familiar with the process and it was hoped that it would facilitate the town of Cobh in gaining the next

level in the competition. He praised the Tidy Towns volunteers and Cobh Municipal District workers for their work to date. Cllr. Rasmussen queried whether the Paint Scheme could be used to replace the plastic signs on businesses for more traditional heritage ones. P. Lynch stated that the paint scheme had not yet been advertised and that the replacement of signage could be supported from this fund.

Cllr. Sheppard stated that she fully supported the motion and that the success of Cobh in the Tidy Towns competition was as a joint effort between the volunteers and staff. She especially supported any initiative to replace plastic signage with the more traditional style.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was carried.

P. Lynch stated that a meeting of relevant MD staff was due to take place in the coming days to look at the issues raised in the report. He confirmed that following that meeting, a further meeting would be held with members and with the Cobh Tidy Towns Committee with a view to bringing forward costed proposals to the June meeting of the MD.

7.0 Aon Ghnó Eile / Any Other Business.

Cllr. S. O'Connor:

7.1 Pearse Square, Cobh:

A manhole cover in the square is very loose, several complaints have been lodged by local residents and tourists. Engineer to examine.

Cllr. A. O'Connor:

7.2 Carrigtwohill:

Traffic lights at the railway station in Carrigtwohill are out of order. Engineer confirmed traffic had been repaired and were working again.

7.3 Carrigane Road:

Some of the potholes on the Carrigane Road had been filled, however there is one particularly bad one around a drain cover which hadn't been touched. R. O'Sullivan confirmed that this was a storm drain and was listed for repair shortly.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan:

7.4 Caherlag:

The road to Caherlag cemetery was in a shocking state. Engineer confirmed road was listed for repair.

7.5 Watergrasshill:

Would it be possible to install a dog litter bin on the walkway/cycle path at Watergrasshill? G. O'Hora replied that if members of the local community were willing to empty it, CCC would provide one. Cllr. O'Callaghan to revert.

7.6 Ardnageehan Cemetery:

Cllr. O'Callaghan expressed her thanks for the works done.

Cllr. A. Barry:

7.7 Anns Grove Road:

The 50km signs had been removed to facilitate road resurfacing works and need to be replaced, also a speed repeater sign is required. Engineer to examine.

7.8 Derelict House in an estate in Carrigtwohill

This house was becoming a health and safety issue due to the presence of rodents. Engineer to examine.

7.9 Maple Rock, Carrigtwohill:

A car would appear to be abandoned at Maple Rock estate. Details to be sent to the engineer.

Cllr. S. Sheppard:

7.10 Bayview Estate, Cobh:

A car crashed into the Children at Play sign, new sign required. Engineer to examine.

7.11 Pottery Road:

Have the speed repeater signs ordered for Pottery Road arrived? Engineer confirmed road signs would be erected shortly.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen:

7.12 Aherns Corner:

Pothole has reopened near Aherns corner, Belvelly. Engineer to contact Irish Water.

7.12 Fota Road:

There are several manholes covers on the left hand side of the road going to Cork which are a potential danger to vehicles. Engineer to contact National Broadband installer.

7.13 Cobh:

The loading bay outside of Centra, West Beach still needed to be sorted. Several areas in the centre of town need to have the lining renewed. The fence at the Five Foot Way still has not been repaired. The water feature in the Promenade needs to be reactivated. Engineer to examine.

The manhole covers in Hermitage Drive need to be repaired and sections of Harbour Row in need of repair. The engineer to pursue with Irish Water.

The residents of the Crescent want to get the road resurfaced as part of a CIS scheme. The engineer replied that the road had not been taken in charge by CCC.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER