

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY 7th JUNE 2022.

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

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

1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes of MD Monthly Meeting held on 3rd May 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd May 2022 were adopted.

2.0 Matters Arising.

2.1 Top of the Hill:

G. O'Hora stated that the ESB were working on the lights and they should be connected shortly. Cllr. S. Sheppard enquired whether this included the new pedestrian crossing and stated that the problem of the lights facing into the sitting rooms of 2 houses had to be sorted before the lights were connected. G. O'Hora stated that he was aware of the problem and would ensure that changes to the position of the lights were made.

2.2 Knockraha:

G. O'Hora stated that the ESB had visited the Pedestrian lights site and the works and the associated lining had been completed and the ESB were scheduled to switch on the lights.

2.3 Kilquane Cemetery:

G. O'Hora stated that works should be completed this week.

2.4 Ballynagoul Cross:

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

2.5 Station Road, Carrigtwohill:

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

2.6 Anns Grove Road, Carrigtwohill:

G. O'Hora confirmed the loose chippings on the road had been swept.

2.7 Little Island:

G. O'Hora confirmed that the school sign had been repaired.

- 2.8 Woodstock:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that repairs had been completed.
- 2.9 Carrigtwohill/Knockraha road:**
G. O’Hora sought clarification of the exact location of the problem.
- 2.10 Carrigtwohill:**
G. O’Hora stated that works to modify the footpath for motorised wheelchairs would be included in the Footpath Programme for this year.
- 2.11 Five Foot Way Carpark, Cobh:**
R. O’Sullivan stated that double yellow lines would be installed on the left hand side of the road and the Disabled space highlighted again. Cllr. Rasmussen requested that more bollards be placed on the road closer to the car park, where the footpath had been damaged by vehicles.
- 2.12 Pearse Square, Cobh:**
G. O’Hora stated that the manhole cover was part of the foul sewer system and request for repair had been passed on to Irish Water.
- 2.13 Carrigane Road:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that the manhole cover had now been repaired.
- 2.14 Caherlag:**
G. O’Hora stated that the velocity patcher had repaired the road last week.
- 2.15 Watergrasshill:**
G. O’Hora stated that the dog bin had been put up.
- 2.16 Annsgrrove Road:**
G. O’Hora stated that the signs would be replaced over the next week.
- 2.17 Maple Rock, Carrigtwohill:**
G. O’Hora stated that the matter of the abandoned car was being investigated.
- 2.18 Bayview Estate, Cobh:**
G. O’Hora stated that the Children at Play sign would be replaced in the next week.
- 2.19 Pottery Road:**
G. O’Hora stated that the signs should be put up in the next week.
- 2.20 Aherns Corner:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that the pothole had been repaired.
- 2.21 Fota Road:**
G. O’Hora confirmed that road cleaning works had been carried out.

2.22 Cobh:

G. O’Hora stated the lining of the loading bay outside of Centra was listed with the road lining contractor as were some other areas within the town.

G. O’Hora stated that the water feature in the Promenade had been switched off for the last number of years and queried whether given the emphasis on water conservation whether it should be turned on. Cllr. Rasmussen replied that it was his understanding that the main part of the water feature, i.e. ‘the man in the boat’, did not use a lot of water but that the fountain added to the overall atmosphere of the Promenade, Cllr. Sheppard agreed. It was agreed that any necessary repairs and servicing would be carried out to activate the main fountain but that the smaller fountains on either side would remain turned off.

G. O’Hora stated that he was pursuing the repairs of the manhole covers in Hermitage Drive and other areas with Irish Water. Cllr. Rasmussen stated that these issues had been raised at every Council meeting for the last six months and little if any progress had been made with Irish Water. G. O’Hora replied that he had discussed the issue with the Irish Water engineer and was treating them as a priority.

3.0 Agree Date for Annual Meeting of Cobh Municipal District.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed that the Annual Meeting would take place on 4th July with the Monthly meeting. The members expressed a preference for a return to in person meetings, however due to various commitments it was agreed that the July meeting would be held virtually, with a return to in-person meetings from September.

4.0 Comhfhreagras / Correspondence.

P. Lynch stated that no correspondence had been received since the last meeting.

5.0 Tuairiscí ó Ofigigh / Officer's Reports.

Tidy Towns Report

P. Lynch stated that further to the Notice of Motion raised by Cllr. Rasmussen in relation to the Tidy Towns report several bins had been replaced as requested, near the Cathedral and at Newtown, these bins would be monitored by the litter warden and would be removed if abused i.e. used for the dumping of domestic rubbish. Big Belly bins would be placed in the Promenade from Monday next on a trial basis. Additional crews had been in operation during the bank holiday weekend to carry out street sweeping and empty bins, the use of the street sweeper would be maximised during the summer months. Cobh Tidy Towns are to employ a contractor to paint the public toilets, funding for which would come out of the Dereliction Fund, as well as removing graffiti. The M.D. crews would monitor signage and clean as required. The litter warden would continue to monitor illegal signage.

Cllr. Rasmussen asked what the policy was in relation to the clearing of weeds around the centre of town. R. O’Sullivan replied that there was no programme in place to remove weeds from the sides of the roads within the town. Cllr. Sheppard expressed her thanks for the work done over the long weekend by both the Council staff and the Tidy Towns volunteers.

Cllr. Rasmussen asked what the up to date position was in relation to trading at the Five Foot way carpark. P. Lynch replied that the current Casual Trading Byelaws covered all the areas in the town that the public had a right of access, while a separate policy allowed licences to be issued for trading in public parks such as Haulbowline and the Promenade. Sean O’Callaghan stated that there was a difference between Casual Trading, which was regulated under the byelaws and trading, which was a matter for the members. Further legal clarification was being sought, but it would appear that if the members agreed, it was possible to allow trading from Council owned lands and suggested a special meeting be called to discuss same. The members were in favour of same and a date agree .

Section 38. Proposed School Zone Initiative at L2992 Bishops Street and associated Traffic Calming Works at L2989 (Aherne Place, Midleton Street, Canon O’Leary Place) and L9635 College Manor, Cobh, Co Cork

G. O’Hora outlined the proposed scheme works and discussed scheme drawings with councillors. G O’Hora requested members approval to commence a Section 38 for the scheme and informed members the Section 38 would be advertised in the Examiner newspaper on Friday 17th June 2022.

Councillors approved the Section 38 School Zone initiative to proceed.

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

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed that the amount allocated to the O’Sullivan’s Place Residents Association would be increased by €100.00.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the changes to the grants allocated to Cobh Golf Club and Ard Aoibhinn were agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to permit a funfair for dates proposed by Ms. Sharon Piper, subject to the appropriate insurance and safety certificates being supplied.

P. Lynch stated that refurbished parking machines were currently being installed throughout the town and that the re-introduction of parking fees would commence on Monday 13th June.

The members agreed to Eirgrid’s offer of an update in relation to the Celtic Interconnector Project, which was scheduled for 4th July.

7.0 Disposal Of Property.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Connor seconded by Cllr. C Rasmussen it was agreed to Dispose of lands at Bishop Roche Park, Carrignafoy, Cobh, together with Right of Way as marked on accompanying map to Moorea Griffin, for the consideration of €150,000.00.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. O'Connor it was agreed to Dispose of lands at Belmont Terrace, Carrignafoy, Cobh, to Patrick Kinsella and Marian Kinsella, for the consideration of €1.00

8.0 Aon Ghnó Eile / Any Other Business.

Cllr. S. O'Connor:

8.1 Carrignafoy Terrace:

The roadway at Carrignafoy Terrace is still subsiding. G. O'Hora replied that repairs were listed.

8.2 Assumption Place, Cobh:

Could the green area be pushed back to accommodate more parking spaces. G. O'Hora replied that to carry out any such works would be expensive as the footpath would also need to be replaced. Cllr. O'Connor explained that the location suggested by residents did not necessitate the relocation of the footpath. Engineer to examine.

8.3 ESB Pole at Ballywilliam:

R. O'Sullivan stated that he had requested a quote from the ESB to move same.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan:

8.4 Monard Lane:

The grass verge to be removed, no footpath for Pedestrian walkers. Engineer confirmed new road safety signs would be erected on the laneway entrance roads.

8.5 Dog Litter Bin:

Residents of Little Island and Carrignavar looking for dog litter bins to be installed. G. O'Hora replied that the Council would supply the bins if the local community took responsibility for monitoring and emptying same.

8.6 Killahora Hill:

A stream or broken mains is running down the hill and cutting a groove in the road. Engineer confirmed drainage works was scheduled to be carried out on the road during August.

8.7 Watergrasshill:

Road lining required in the village. Engineer confirmed areas had been listed for road lining.

8.8 Ballinaboitre Road:

Road lining required. Engineer to examine.

8.9 Ardnageehy Road:

Thanks to engineers and staff for the works which were carried out.

Cllr. A. Barry:

8.10 Pottery Road:

Some of the hedges along the road were cut, but one section still needs to be trimmed back. Engineer confirmed only emergency hedge cutting was being carried out, but he would examine the location.

8.11 Glenmore Stores:

Pothole outside of shop. G. O'Hora replied that this had been filled.

8.12 Ballinabottig Road:

The road is badly worn as a result of cattle crossing. G. O'Hora replied that he would arrange for road to be inspected and repaired.

8.13 Cois Cille/Castle Close:

Children climb the wall between the 2 estates and walk along it, its dangerous as there is a very steep drop on one side of the wall. R. O'Sullivan to meet with Cllr. Barry on site to discuss.

Cllr. S. Sheppard:

8.14 Whitepoint Estate:

The area where the pumping station was located needs to be grassed. Engineer to examine.

8.15 Rushbrooke Links:

House in the estate is in very bad condition following a fire and the death of the owner. Neighbours are complaining about severe rodent infestation. P. Lynch stated that the Council were unable to enter into private property, however he had referred the matter to the Environment Section on health grounds.

8.16 Ellen's Kitchen, Rushbrooke:

Would it be possible to move the railings outside the café to allow the owner put tables and chairs on the grass. Engineer to examine.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen:

8.17 Whitepoint:

The railings are in a terrible state, broken in several places. Engineer to follow up with the fabricator.

8.18 Potholes, Cobh:

Very bad potholes in the centre of the road near the old Customs House, near the Old Town Hall, Whitepoint and also near Ticknock by the filling station. Engineer confirmed road locations has been listed for repair.

8.19 Drains, Cobh:

New cover for drain needed at end of Burma Steps. The shore at Top of the Hill is blocked. Engineer to examine.

8.20 Dawn View, Cobh:

Tree stump needs to be removed. Engineer to examine.

8.21 High Road, Cobh:

The footpath is in very bad condition. Engineer confirmed footpath had been listed for repair.

8.22 Lake Road/Glenanaar Place:

Double yellow lines are needed in both locations. Engineer to examine.

8.23 Campervan Facility:

Now that the new meter has been installed, would it be possible to monitor the area to ensure that the campers are paying what was due.

8.24 Russell Heights Residents Association:

Cllr. S. Shepperd stated that the Residents Association had applied to the City Council in error for a one off Summer Event they wish to hold, would it be possible for them to get funding now? P. Lynch explained that the Residents Association had received the standard grant in this year's allocation already and that there was €300.00 left in the fund.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Shepperd, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry it was agreed to give the Russell Heights Residents Association a grant of €200.00 towards the summer event. It was agreed that Cllr. Sheppard would arrange for the organisers of the event to contact the P. Lynch in relation to the paperwork required.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER