

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on 19th July 2022**

In Attendance: Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O' Brien, Frank O' Flynn, William O' Leary, Frank Roche; Matthew Farrell A/SEO, Maurice Sheehan AE, Pauline Moriarty MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

Apologies: Brendan O' Gorman SEE

Address from outgoing Cathaoirleach:

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, thanked the executive, the outdoor staff and the elected Members for their cooperation and help during the past year, acknowledging the achievements and challenges of her year as Cathaoirleach. The elected Members in turn thanked Cllr. O' Brien and commended her on her work and commitment during her term as Cathaoirleach.

1. ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr. Noel McCarthy was nominated by Cllr. Kay Dawson for the position of Cathaoirleach, this nomination was seconded by Cllr. Frank Roche. As there were no other nominations for the position, Cllr. Noel McCarthy was duly deemed elected to the position of Cathaoirleach of Fermoy MD for the coming year. Cllr. McCarthy said it was an honour for himself and his family to be elected as Cathaoirleach and he pledged to work hard in the coming year for Fermoy MD, with emphasis on the provision of additional housing throughout the district, national road improvement works in Fermoy town and the development of a hotel in Fermoy.

2. ELECTION OF LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr. Frank Roche was nominated by Cllr. Noel McCarthy for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach, this nomination was seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson. As there were no other nominations for the position, Cllr. Frank Roche was duly deemed elected to the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach of Fermoy MD for the coming year. Cllr. Roche accepted his election, thanking everyone for this honour.

3. MINUTES

a. Minutes of Fermoy Municipal District meeting held on 21st June 2022

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

4. DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES ETC.

a. To consider - Situation: Grant of Wayleave at Lana Chill na Mallac, Doneraile, Co Cork, to facilitate services for Council housing scheme.

Area: 169m x c. 7.8m wide

From Whom Acquired: Presentation Sisters

To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose: Irish Water

Consideration: €1

The Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this Grant of Wayleave, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.

b. To consider - in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) Cork County Council gives notice of its intention to consider the making of an order under Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, to declare the estate road set out in the schedule hereunder to be public:-

ESTATE NAME Ballinlegane LOCATION Ballynoe, Conna LINEAR METERS 78

The Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this intention to declare this estate road to be public, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. William O' Leary.

5. FERMOY MD SPEED LIMIT BYE-LAWS REVIEW 2022

Maurice Sheehan AE presented the updated proposals for the speed limit by-laws review for 2022, which had been presented to the elected Members, in draft form, earlier in the year. Maurice went through each of the proposals as detailed on the associated maps, displayed onscreen for the Members information. Further to an enquiry, Maurice undertook to ascertain the timeline for the adoption and introduction of these altered speed limits and revert to the Members via email. The elected Members thanked Maurice for the presentation. The proposed changes to the speed limits, as presented, were adopted on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson and agreed by all the Members.

6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. REPORT : MDO July 2022 Report

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through her report, uploaded and displayed onscreen for the attendees information. Issues, queries and comments included the following:

- Pauline informed the Members that the meeting room in Fermoy Town Hall is to be upgraded to facilitate blended meetings and should be ready by September 2022.
 - The elected Members unanimously agreed to the Painting Scheme allocation of €3,000.00.
 - further to a query in relation 'The 59' in Fermoy, Pauline replied that Fermoy MD is working closely with the owner here, there are ongoing legal proceedings so any further comment is not possible.
 - in relation to the Derelict Sites Register, Pauline commented that some items of information cannot be included on this list in accordance with GDPR requirements.
 - welcomed the proposal in relation to the mural at Clancy Street playground.
 - welcomed the allocation of funding for acquisition of the old FCA Hall in Mitchelstown.
- The elected Members thanked Pauline for her report, noting all other items included therein.

b. REPORT : Derelict Sites Update

Included with the MDO Report.

c. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 RI Programme

Maurice Sheehan AE went through this progress report, informing those present that the surface dressing crew will be back at work, following annual leave, in August and will work through the remainder of the programme to completion.

d. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 RM Programme

Maurice Sheehan AE informed those present that works in this programme are progressing according to schedule, on time and within budget.

e. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 CIS Programme and

f. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 LIS Programme

Maurice Sheehan AE informed those present that works on the Community Involvement and Local Improvement Scheme jobs will commence following the main roadworks programmes, that is in late August/September 2022 (only where contributions in full have been paid).

g. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 Footpaths Programme

Maurice Sheehan AE informed those present that the footpath contractor is progressing through the programme of works on footpaths as circulated earlier in the year.

h. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 Active Travel Programme

All works planned in this programme are now complete.

i. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 C A & R Programme

Maurice Sheehan AE informed those present that some of the works on this programme are now complete, namely drainage and barrier installation works. Also, works at Glenseskin, which were paid for from alternative funds, are also complete. All remaining works planned in this programme will be undertaken by either CCC own crew or contracted out, and will be complete before year end.

j. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 Safety Improvement Scheme

Maurice Sheehan AE informed those present that there are two projects proposed under this scheme. Pre-construction works will be commencing in the next few weeks. There are changes needed to the geometry and geographical requirements to carry out these works, as soon as these changes are made and plans are prepared, proposals will be put before the elected Members.

k. RECOMMENDATION : PROPOSED LOADING BAY - O' Neill Crowley Quay, Fermoy. It is now proposed to move the initial preferred location 19m to the west towards the front of the furniture shop.

Pauline Moriarty MDO explained the slight change to the original proposal circulated for this loading bay. The new proposal was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

7. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

1. "that Cork County Council would put in place extra car parking spaces at Shinnick Place, Castletownroche for the benefit of local residents".

No funding currently in place to attend to the request but will be considered following the completion of our pilot project in the district in Q4 2022 where we are providing new spaces to estates in Kilworth, Doneraile and Bartlemy. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllrs. Frank Roche and Noel McCarthy. Cllr. Roche commented that an emergency vehicle could have difficulty accessing this location at times with the current parking situation.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

2. "that this Committee would consider a 'Children-At-Play' sign on the L-90806-0 Road, Mondaniel, Rathcormac to remind motorists to drive slowly in this area".

This is a rural county road and it is not feasible to install these signs as they would need to go in everywhere. This road is used in the main by local residents /farmers. (BO'G)

Cllr. McCarthy added that there are currently thirteen young residents living on this road, and again requested a 'Children At Play' sign be provided in addition to the 'Slow' sign already in place.

Cllr. Kay Dawson

3. "call on Cork County Council for an update on the proposed upgrade to the park in Ballinwillin'.

Initial concept/design in place. Needs to be brought to the community and cost and source of funding for works identified. Can be progressed to next stage - community engagement. (PM)

Cllr. Dawson requested the public consultation for this proposal be carried out after the summer holiday, to which Pauline Moriarty MDO agreed. Pauline added that this project may potentially be funded from Town Development funding. The motion was supported by Cllr. O' Brien.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

4. "that this Council repair parking area outside Kilcrumper New Cemetery and give consideration to lining for diagonal parking".

The road surface is tar and chip and in keeping with the adjacent public road surface. The introduction of formal lining here would reduce the spaces available for those attending a large funeral event. (BO'G)

Further to a brief discussion, the Members concurred with Cllr. O' Brien that road lining here would guide people parking for funerals. Accordingly, the Members are now seeking a reconsideration of the request for lining at this location.

Cllr. William O' Leary

5. "that this Council would assess some of the trees that are overhanging in Knockmourne Graveyard, Conna. Some of the trees are overgrown to the point where they are covering graves and headstones and it would be desirable to have them pruned where necessary".
Some works were carried out here by Caretaker earlier this year. Following a recent inspection: minor branches and branches overhanging graves within 2m of the ground could be cut back again by Caretaker and I will arrange same. There are some large trees overhanging on the southern side of the cemetery which could be pruned heavily but this is a job for an arborist. We can program for next year when budget available. (PM)

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

6. "that Cork County Council would put in place car parking at Ross Street, Killavullen".
On-street car parking is available but perhaps new off line layouts could be introduced in any new village plan which we are encouraging for this general area. (BO'G)
Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to ask Avondhu Blackwater to incorporate this request for parking in the village plan for Killavullen.
7. "that Cork County Council would write to Bus Eireann to request that Bus Eireann would utilise and advertise the already existing bus stop and shelter at Cork Road, Fermoy".
This motion was supported by Cllrs. McCarthy, O' Leary and O' Brien. The elected Members agreed that having this bus stop, which meets all requirements, sited there unused does not make sense and further to a brief discussion, it was agreed that Bus Eireann would be requested to provide a response as to their future plans regarding this stop on the Cork Road, Fermoy.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

8. "that this Committee receive an Engineer's report on the possibility of improving visibility at Ballyroskillakeen Cross near Kilcrumper New Cemetery, Fermoy".
Improvements to the visibility here would require demolition of a protected heritage wall bounding the cemetery. (BO'G)
Cllr. McCarthy clarified the location at which he is requesting works be carried out to improve safety, similar to those already done at Ballyarthur Cross. Maurice Sheehan AE undertook to revert to Brendan O' Gorman SEE to see if any works can be done here, or additional signage provided, to improve the location for the safety of motorists
9. "that this Committee would put ramps on the footpaths crossing from Devlin Street to College Road to facilitate wheelchair users and mobility scooters to cross the road".
This is already included in our agreed 2022 Footpath Programme approved by Members in Q1/2022. (BO'G)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

10. "that this Council have road repaired at Scart, Kildorrery following the installation of new public lighting".
Has been referred already to our Public Lighting section / Contractor for completion / snagging. (BO'G)

Cllr. William O' Leary

11. "that this Council would provide an up to date position when road verge repair works will be carried out on the L-5855-10 Clashaganna, Conna".
This is scheduled for early September. Contractor appointed. (BO'G)
Cllr. O' Leary welcomed the reply, saying this issue is 'fairly urgent' at this stage.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Letter : HSE : 14.7.2022 RE: St. Francis Welfare Home, Fermoy

The elected Members welcomed this reply from the HSE, saying it is positive response.

9. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

RE: 6 (ii) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - request for confirmation re: bus shelters, Fermoy

Cllr. Kay Dawson enquired if any update had been given in relation to completion works on the bus shelters, saying it is essential that the safety barriers are removed and works finished on the Mitchelstown bus stop prior to 'Independence' Festival. Maurice Sheehan AE replied that most of the snag list works are almost complete now and he undertook to seek an update from the Contractor in relation to these works and update the elected Members accordingly. Cllr. Noel McCarthy asked if a meeting with Jonathon Cahill could be requested to go through the works in Fermoy as the bus stop actually installed does not seem to match the proposals circulated prior to their installation. Accordingly, Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to invite Jonathon to attend the next MD meeting.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Photograph at Town Hall, Fermoy at 5.10pm today.

Cllr. McCarthy requested the elected Members join him in Fermoy for a press photograph on his election as Cathaoirleach.

(ii) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Items for 'Any Other Business' at MD meetings.

Cllr. McCarthy, in the role of Cathaoirleach, reminded the elected Members that any items they wish to discuss as 'Any Other Business' at MD meetings must be conveyed to the MDO prior to the meeting and there is a limit of two such items per elected Member per meeting.

(iii) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Request for re-instatement of one-way arrows at Wolfe Tone Park

Further to this request for renewed road markings, Maurice Sheehan AE undertook to contact the road marking contractor and arrange for this to be done.

(iv) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Vermin at Mitchelstown Playground

Further to a request from Cllr. O' Brien, Pauline Moriarty MDO said she would make the necessary arrangements for vermin removal / control to be carried out at this location.

(v) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Request for removal of overgrown vegetation at Junction 13, M8

Further to a request from Cllr. O' Brien, Maurice Sheehan AE said he would contact the relevant agency and request the cutting back of this overgrown vegetation at the entrance slip road to the M8 at Junction 13 southbound.

(vi) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Request for Fermoy MD support re: reported plans by AIB to render bank branches cashless.

This proposal by AIB was unanimously deemed unacceptable by the elected Members of Fermoy MD who agreed to support any action which may be needed to prevent this contentious proposal going ahead.

(vii) Cllr. William O' Leary - Removal of Ukrainian flag from flagpole in Pearse Square

Cllr. O' Leary enquired if now is the right time to consider removing this flag from Pearse Square.

A discussion ensued which included the following observations -

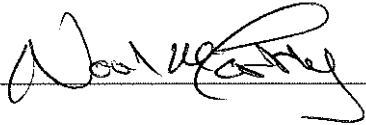
- agreement that the gesture of raising the flag was the right thing to do at that time.
- acknowledgement that it is a very sensitive issue.
- protocols in relation to the raising of flags circulated and agreed at the June 2022 meeting.

Following the discussion, it was decided the flag would be lowered and removed following the August Bank Holiday weekend (on 2nd August 2022).

(viii) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - request for rural link bus from Clondulane to Fermoy

Cllr. O' Flynn proposed Fermoy MD make contact with the NTA and Local Link requesting they introduce a rural link bus service between Fermoy and Clondulane, a much needed and important service. This was seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and supported by Cllr. William O' Leary. Pauline Moriarty MDO will make contact with the relevant agency requesting a response.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Noel McCarthy", written over a horizontal line.

Date 27/04/2022