

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on 21st June 2022**

In Attendance: Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O' Brien, Frank O' Flynn, William O' Leary, Frank Roche; Brendan O' Gorman SEE, Pauline Moriarty MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

1. MINUTES

a. Minutes of Fermoy MD 'In Committee' Meeting held on 24th May 2022

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

b. Minutes of Fermoy MD MAY 2022 Meeting held on 24th May 2022

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

2. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. REPORT : MDO June 2022 Report

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

- Pauline confirmed that a meeting in relation to the RRDF proposals for Fermoy town will be convened in due course with all stakeholders invited to attend. An 'In Committee' meeting will be convened in early July to update FMMD Members on the Mitchelstown RRDF project.
- Pauline recommended any business interested in the 2022 Painting Scheme submit their expressions of interest at the earliest opportunity, as this scheme is effectively now closed.
- hospitality businesses interested in providing outdoor seating can now apply or re-apply to Fermoy MD for the appropriate licence, further to confirmation that these fees have been waived for the coming year.
- in relation to Mitchelstown playground upgrade works, Pauline confirmed that it should not be necessary to close the playground while these works are ongoing.
- further to a suggestion by Cllr. Kay Dawson, Pauline undertook to liaise with agencies outside of Cork County Council in relation to options for the basketball court in Ard Mhuilleann, Mitchelstown, to include youth and other social groups.

The elected Members thanked Pauline for her comprehensive report, noting the updates on a full range of works, projects and funding streams within the MD.

b. UPDATE : Fermoy Weir Update

This update was included with the MDO report.

c. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 RI Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that this report includes works being undertaken by Cork County Council staff and by the blacktop contractor, Lagans. Brendan had emailed the schedule of blacktop works to the elected Members prior to the meeting today. Works are continuing on schedule in Fermoy and the CCC crew will return to the Mitchelstown area on 8th August 2022 to continue with the programme of works there.

d. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 RM Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that work on the surface dressing in Mitchelstown area is now 45% complete, and that work on the Fermoy area surface dressing list is due to commence on Monday, 27th June 2022.

e. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 CIS Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the elected Members of the six 2022 schemes approved for this year, five have now paid with one outstanding to be paid. These works are planned for Q3 2022.

f. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 LIS Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed that there are two LIS schemes confirmed for 2022 in Fermoy MD, these scheme works planned to proceed in Q3 2022.

g. PROGRESS REPORT : 2022 Footpaths Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed that works continue on this programme as per the email sent to the elected Members earlier today. The Contractor is finished in Glenville, is currently in Castlelyons and will move on to Castletownroche and then Mitchelstown in due course. All works are progressing according to the programme.

h. PROGRESS REPORT : Active Travel Programme

All planned works on this programme are now complete.

i. PROGRESS REPORT : Climate Adaptation & Resilience Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that two projects have been done to date on this programme. Remainder of the planned works are on the footpath tender, due back on 8th July 2022, these works are planned for Q3 and Q4 2022.

j. PROGRESS REPORT : Safety Improvement Scheme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through the two project works planned on this scheme, details of which were uploaded and displayed onscreen for the Members information.

Issues and queries arising from the programme of works updates included the following:

- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien asked if there would be any reduction in the programme of works due to material prices increases, to which Brendan replied it is possible that a curtailment of the surface dressing / wetmix programme may be unavoidable, he will keep the elected Members advised of any changes if and when they occur. He added that any works requiring deferral will be first on the list for 2023.

- Cllr. O' Brien enquired if there is any update on N73 Ballyanehan work, to which Brendan replied this should be sanctioned to go ahead this year, tender prices are currently pending. He will keep the elected Members informed when information is received from the NRDO.

- Cllr. Noel McCarthy enquired for an update on resurfacing / repairs requested for the N72 at Patrick Street, Fermoy to which Brendan replied he has applied for €50k through GeoApp and is awaiting a response. Again, he will keep the Members informed of any update.

The elected Members welcomed all the progress reports and thanked Brendan for his considerable work to date this year, also acknowledging the work of the outdoor staff at this time.

3. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

1. "that this Committee would receive an Engineer's report on the possibility of ramps and Children-at-Play signs being put in place at Heather Way and Blackthorn Way, Forest Glen, Fermoy".

There are already numerous ramps and warning signs erected covering these estates. I will arrange for one additional warning sign at Hawthorn Crescent and replenish shark's teeth road markings on the existing ramps. Entire area is also included in a 30kph speed limit zone. (BO'G)

Cllr. McCarthy thanked Brendan for this reply, saying these proposals are welcome here. Cllr.

McCarthy added an additional ramp would also be appreciated here, if it were possible to provide one in the future.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

2. "that Cork County Council replace the dangerous fencing on the green area in Clondulane in the interest of health and safety".

Will be done. Area has been inspected, quotation sought, received and recently approved. Awaiting timeline for the works from Contractor. (PM)

Pauline added to this reply that the official instruction to proceed has now been given to the Contractor and works will commence imminently. This motion was supported by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

Cllr. William O' Leary

3. "that this Council would consider the installation of a footpath or a defined walking space from the Gleann Bhríde (Bridevale) Estate, Rathcormac as far as the Glenville Junction (R614) including any interim measures to enhance safety here.

This is planned. There are a number of planning applications granted between the estate and the cross roads that will include for footpaths and ditched entrances along their site frontage. Some of these have commenced already. We will work around these and our future footpath programme to complete the request. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Noel McCarthy. Cllr. O' Leary explained that there are numerous children walking to school on this route for whom improved pedestrian facilities are an urgent necessity. He is requesting these works be expedited for installation as soon as possible.

Cllr. Kay Dawson

4. "call on Cork County Council to include Church Hill, Mitchelstown for resurfacing".

Current PSCI rating is 5. The request will be considered for future RI programmes but there is no warrant currently. (BO'G)

Further to a request from Cllr. Dawson, Brendan explained the rating system for roads which, on a scale of one-to-ten with one being the worst and ten being the best, goes towards determining the surfacing work required on any road. As the road in question here has a rating of 5, it is not urgently in need of resurfacing, however, Brendan will take into account the considerable volume of traffic on this road when considering its inclusion in future road works programmes.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

5. "that this Council would replace the gate at the graveyard entrance into St. Mologga's Graveyard".

The inside gate to the cemetery needs attention. As this is a heritage cemetery with a heritage style gate the preference would be to repair the existing gate using the services of a specialist contractor in lieu of a replacement. This will be investigated further to determine the necessary works and associated costs. (PM)

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn recommended getting the old gate 'dipped' to restore it to its original condition.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

6. "that road markings be made more visible at the Taxi Rank on Patrick Street, Fermoy".

Will be renewed in due course. (BO'G)

7. "that road repairs and drainage works be carried out on the L-5772-0 Portduff Road, Kildinan near the home of T56 W628".

We are undertaking a structural overlay north of here in the coming weeks and if there are works required immediately at the residence, they will be carried out. (BO'G)

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

8. "that Cork County Council put in place advance signage and traffic calming measures on the Conna road entrance to Ballynoe in the interest of safety".

There is already signage and a speed detector feedback sign at this location as well as a 50kph speed limit. We are proposing an extension to the speed limit zone here (out to public consultation currently) and can extend the footpath to the estate under our future footpath programmes. Public lighting was already extended. We have no budget allocation for traffic calming. Speed surveys are scheduled. (BO'G)

Brendan O' Gorman SEE recommended the elected Members provide for traffic calming when they are considering the annual budget, which would facilitate these traffic calming works requests.

9. “that Cork County Council would, under the new Building Acquisition funding stream recently announced to support Local Authorities to purchase vacant buildings which can be converted and developed for community use, include the FCA Hall Mitchelstown for the benefit of the Mitchelstown community”.

This is a Town and Village Renewal Measure for 2022. The above hall will be submitted to Management for consideration from the Fermoy MD. Note two such applications can be submitted by the Local Authority. (PM)

This motion was supported by Cllrs. Deirdre O’ Brien and Kay Dawson. Pauline confirmed, further to a query, that it is two applications for all of Cork county (not per MD) and she is hopeful that this proposal will be included as one of the two submitted by Cork County Council

Cllr. William O’ Leary

10. “that this Council would again arrange an Engineer’s inspection of the footbridge on the Bride Walk, Rathcormac. There has been a noted visible deterioration of same of late”.

Detailed Independent Structural and Principal Inspections were carried out in November 2016 and again in September 2019. No appreciable deterioration of the bridge was observed in that interval. We will undertake a new PI as scheduled in Q4 2022 and continue to seek funding to carry out the repairs identified. (BO’G)

11. “that this Council would provide an up to date position with respect to the possibility of a card paying option on all paid parking machines in Fermoy”.

Considerable work has been done in researching the various options and in exploring the most feasible solution. The Council intend to identify the optimum model in the coming months. (PM) Further to a brief discussion, Pauline confirmed that all options are being considered by the Transport Section of Cork County Council, who are dealing with this issue, and nothing is ‘off the table’ in respect of cash payments as well as card payments, pre-payments, electronic payments etc. She will revert to the elected Members as soon as she has received an update.

Cllr. Kay Dawson

12. “call on Cork County Council to repair pot holes from Manning’s Crossroads towards Dunmahon (L-1409-71)”.

Will be done. (BO’G)

13. “call on Cork County Council to repair surface adjacent to drain at traffic lights and sunken man hole in Lower Cork Street on approach from Dublin”.

Will be investigated further as may involve third party contractors / utility companies. (BO’G)

Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien

14. “that this Council would repair the bridge at Ballybeg, Mitchelstown, which is falling into rapid disrepair”.

An inspection will be carried out in due course and following that we will see what urgent repairs are required and the costs involved. (BO’G)

15. “that this Council would survey and install necessary safety measures at Ballygiblin National School”.

We are in discussions with and planning locally with the school authorities to bring about improvements and speed reductions here. We can include the locus for future safety improvement scheme funding here. Speed surveys are scheduled. (BO’G)

4. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

5. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

(i) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - request re: grounds of Fitzgerald Camp, Fermoy

Cllr. McCarthy is requesting Fermoy MD write to the relevant body seeking their plans for the upkeep of the grounds at Fitzgerald Camp, Fermoy as the area is currently in a very untidy and unkempt condition. This was supported by the elected Members and it was agreed that this communication will be sent accordingly.

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

Cllr. McCarthy asked if confirmation could be sought in relation to the installation of the bus shelters in Fermoy as the build-outs on the ground appear different to that agreed (i.e. as presented in the drawings). Cllr. Kay Dawson also asked if a completion date for these works, in both Mitchelstown and Fermoy, could be provided as they seem to be taking an awful long time. Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to enquire accordingly and revert to the elected Members.

(iii) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - re: St. Francis Welfare Home, Fermoy

Cllr. McCarthy requested Fermoy MD write to the HSE seeking an update on the situation which has arisen recently where the provision of respite care has been suspended. This was supported by all the elected Members who stated this issue needs to be highlighted and awareness brought to this situation, which is untenable and unacceptable for the families of those requiring this essential service.

(iv) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - request re: Farahy Cemetery entrance

Cllr. O' Brien is seeking the provision of a load of stone to improve the entrance path to Farahy Cemetery, which has become very muddy underfoot. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to check if stone can be provided here to remedy the situation.

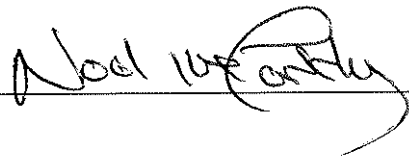
(v) Cllr. Kay Dawson - query re: timeframe for work on Ballinwillin footpaths

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed that this location is on the footpath contract programme and is due to be done in August 2022, following footpath works in Castlelyons, Castletownroche and Lower Cork Street, Mitchelstown.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien thanked the executive, staff and the elected Members for their work, help and cooperation during her year as Chair of the MD.

The executive and elected Members extended their good wishes to Mary Hayes SEO on her departure from Cork County Council.

Signed



Date

