



MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held on MS Teams at 11.00am on 6th May 2022

Members present: Cllrs Caroline Cronin, Danny Collins, Declan Hurley, Deirdre Kelly, Joe Carroll, Paul Hayes, Ross O'Connell.

In attendance: Mac Dara O H-Ici, SEO. M.D.W.C.
Jacqueline Mansfield MDO M.D.W.C
John Ahern S.E.E Skibbereen
Ruth O'Brien S.E.E. Bantry
Martina O'Driscoll, Meeting Administrator M.D.W.C.
Joanne Crossland, Exec Architect Housing
Karina Cremin S.E.O. Housing

Apologies: Cllrs. Patrick Gerard Murphy, Karen Coakley

Cllr. D. Hurley presided.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of Municipal District meeting (as circulated) of 4th April 2022

Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by Cllr. D. Collins

Resolved:

"That the minutes of Municipal District meeting (as circulated) of 4th April 2022 be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach."

MATTERS ARISING

In response for an update on the list of community and amenity grants the SEO noted that the list would be made available to the members as soon as it was compiled.

In reply to a query in relation to the list of villages for the Village Enhancement Scheme the S.E.O. noted that a list of the villages will be circulated to the members.

The S.E.O. responded to a member's request for an update on the recruitment process at Dunmanway Swimming Pool and the plan to extend opening hours by noting that two new members of staff had started at the pool yesterday and that more lifeguards were due to start next week, and that once staff were inducted, the new opening hours would be available and swimming classes would begin in June. The SEO also stated that the gym was now closed and on standby for usage in the event that it was required due to the Ukraine refugee issue.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Members agreed the suspension of Standing Orders to debate the proposed works at Glandore Pier, as requested by Cllr. D. Hurley. Local residents and pier users were concerned that proposed improvements to Glandore pier would reduce boat storage by 80%, and that the new measures were excessive. The SEO explained the background of the proposed measures to the members, pointing out that the county has 216 piers and slipways, the vast majority of which were in the West Cork MD. He mentioned that financing was authorized under the Brexit Scheme at the end of April, and that 102 submissions were received in response to a public consultation on Glandore pier. The suggested improvements were part of a larger project that would increase safety at the pier. He stated that a meeting with local pier users would be held at the pier to discuss the proposed work and address any concerns. The members were pleased that a meeting will be held and requested that a site notice outlining the proposed works be posted at the pier to allow locals and pier users to view the proposal, as well as site notifications be posted at all pier locations for future upgrading work.

NOTICES OF MOTION/ FOGRA RUN

Cllr. R. O'Connell proposed, Cllr. D. Collins seconded

"That this council would provide clarity on who owns and is responsible for the upkeep of Kilcoe Church Ruin (Monument No CO 140 33 02) and that a conservation report, by a suitably qualified conservation consultant/engineer, would be carried out within the coming months on the monument".

The SEO agreed that it was best practice to have a report into the church and the burial ground in general before conducting any works on the site, and while the council is responsible for burial grounds, obtaining financing to compile reports and carry out the necessary work was problematic. He suggested that a study of all burial grounds be carried out, from which a priority listing of works could be compiled. He told the members that money may be put aside in Budget 2023 or taken from GMA funds. A report on the Kilcoe Church ruin would be costed, and a review would be conducted to see whether any financing was available. The members asked if Heritage grants would be available to fund these projects and the SEO noted the matter for follow up with Mary Sleeman.

Cllr. J. Carroll proposed, Cllr. P. Hayes seconded

"That this council would request TII to increase the warning signs at New Court corner just west of Skibbereen. There has been an amount of accidents in the last few years and most of these accidents are by strangers to the town who are not aware of the dangers. Additional signage like chevrons would be a huge help."

Report from Ruth O'Brien S.E.E.

New Court is an 80kph speed limit with advance warnings already in place. It appears that vehicle speed and/or driver error, especially westbound, seems to be the main issue. It is noted that any incident in the last few years has never been reported to the area office by the driver of the vehicle themselves. The speed limit, road width and layout are enough to ensure most drivers pass through without incident. Space for chevrons is very limited by roadside boundaries. It may be more practical to use road markings as additional warnings on the approaches e.g. "SLOW" or the pictogram for sharp bend (W052L). An application can be made to TII for such works subject to their approval.

Cllr. D. Collins proposed, Cllr. R. O'Connell seconded

"I am calling on the council to look at creating car parking spaces on land I believe they own as seen attached and marked out at the top adjacent to Barrack Street along Marino Street".

Report from Ruth O'Brien S.E.E.

A proposed layout is currently being designed for this Housing Department site and therefore the site would not be available for public parking. It should be noted also that the site is in an Architectural Conservation Area.

Cllr. D. Collins proposed, Cllr. J. Carroll seconded

"On the recent announcement by Bord Pleanála on the proposed new Cable Car and Visitor Centre in Dursey, I am calling on Cork County Council to write to An Bord Pleanála and seek a urgent meeting with them and with the councillors and executive to explain their decision on not opposing the Friends Of The Irish Environment court case against the development".

The SEO cautioned members that there was a case before the courts and they were advised not to discuss the issue until the case had concluded. The member requested that a letter be sent to An Bord Pleanála regarding the matter but the SEO advised members that following completion of the case before the courts he would check with the Planning Department to seek advice regarding the propriety of writing to the Bord.

Cllr. D. Collins proposed, Cllr. J. Carroll seconded

"And I am seeking now do the council intend in looking at a different proposal for there if their case is successful".

The SEO cautioned members to await the outcome of the High Court case before discussing the issue.

Cllr. D. Collins proposed, Cllr. R. O'Connell seconded

"Calling on the council to extend the street lighting on the N7 from Newtown to Bantry Bay golf Club".

Report from Ruth O'Brien S.E.E.

The extension of public lighting from Newtown to Bantry Bay golf club along the N-71, is on our public lighting list for future approval / funding.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Proposed Part VIII for Carrig Rossa, Rossmore

Ms. Karina Cremin outlined the following proposed Part VIII to the members :-

Cork County Council proposes to undertake the construction of 2 no. residential units, each being a two storey two-bedroom house. New access and parking to connect to existing road. Hard landscaping, including boundary walls, footpaths and street lighting. Soft landscaping including green areas, planting and trees. Connection to public and private existing utilities and all associated site works.

Cllr. P. Hayes queried the submission from the GAA regarding the foul waste capacity in relation to the new proposed development. Ms. Cremin noted that sewerage works carried out in 2019 had remedied any previous issues with the foul waste capacity. The members welcomed the new housing development in Rossmore and thanked Ms. Cremin and Ms. Crossland for their work on the project.

(b) Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programme 2022

Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. and Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. shared details of the Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programme 2022, which will be circulated to members.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Due to the Public Holiday on Monday 6th June 2022, members to agreed to an alternative date for June monthly meeting of Friday 10th June 2022 at 11am.

Ms. Ruth O' Brien advised the members about the Bantry FRS Public Participation Day in Áras Beanntraí on the 18th May from 4.00pm to 8.00pm. There will be an information session for the Councillors at 3.00pm that afternoon in Áras Beanntraí before the event opens to the public at 4.00pm.

The members expressed their thanks to Mr. J. Ahern and welcomed the commencement of the drainage works on Chapel Street, Dunmanway.

Cllr. D. Hurley welcomed the new disabled bus shelter recently installed in Dunmanway and queried whether a similar bus shelter would be installed for the East access through the town. Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E advised that a further bus shelter will be installed once the drainage works at Chapel Street are complete.

An abandoned campervan at Rock Villas in Bantry was reported and Ms. R. O'Brien noted the matter for follow up.

Ms. R. O'Brien advised members of the proposed extinguishment of public right of way on a 66m section of the former N71 at Ardaturrish More, Glengarriff, Co. Cork. It is recommended that Cork County Council commences the statutory process to extinguish the public right of way over the public road as outlined in Section 12 of the Roads Act 1993.

In response to a request for an update on the allocations under the Active Travel & Town First scheme the SEO advised members that full details were not available as yet but if any groups such as Tidy Towns could contact the MDO if they had any queries.

Following a query on seasonal public conveniences being provided at local beaches the SEO noted that the matter was being reviewed with a view to going to the market for pricing for this service for the summer season 2022.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH _____ DATE _____

