**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting**

**held on 17th January 2023**

**In Attendance:** Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O’ Brien, Frank O’ Flynn, William O’ Leary, Frank Roche;

Seán O’ Callaghan SEO, Brendan O’ Gorman SEE, Margaret O’ Donoghue MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

**1.**  **MINUTES**

**a.** **Minutes of Fermoy MD December 2022 Meeting held on 20th December 2022**

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Frank Roche.

**2.** **MITCHELSTOWN RRDF (Raymond Higgins, Senior Executive Architect)**

**a.**  **Approval of Members to commence Part 8 process.**

**Raymond Higgins went through an onscreen presentation of the proposals for the RRDF project in Mitchelstown showing the finally devised drawings for the four locations proposed for development in this project which are New Square, King Street, George’s Street and King Square. The elected Members thanked Raymond for the presentation, saying this is a very exciting, advantageous and worthwhile opportunity for Mitchelstown to go forward for RRDF funding for this project. The next step is to proceed with the public consultation by way of the Part 8 process, whereby the public is encouraged to engage, seek out information and to make submissions on the proposals.**

Seán O’ Callaghan SEO requested the elected Members to encourage members of the public to engage fully in this process, saying a submission stating ‘I fully endorse these proposals’ is as valid and to be welcomed as any submission with objections or suggestions. Seán added that completion of the **Part 8 process** is critical to proceed for RRDF funding. He went through the timeline involved which gives ample opportunity for public submissions, six weeks in total from the day of publication, which will be fully advertised. The submissions will then be considered and incorporated, if validated, into the Chief Executive’s Report which will be presented to the elected Members for their approval prior to then going to full Council for adoption. The elected Members concurred that this is indeed a unique and fantastic, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Mitchelstown and on the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy, approval to commence the Part 8 process for the Mitchelstown RRDF was sanctioned by all Fermoy MD elected Members.

**3.**  **DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES ETC.**

**a.** **to consider the proposed disposal of property as follows - Situation: Disposal of Old Fire Station, Fermoy, Co. Cork. Area: as outlined on Folio CK125681F. From Whom Acquired: unknown - predates Council records To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose: Cheryl Corcoran Consideration: €61,000.00**

The Fermoy MD elected Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this Disposal of Property, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

**4.**  **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**a.** **REPORT : January 2023 MDO Report**

Margaret O’ Donoghue MDO went through her report, which was uploaded to QuickMinutes and displayed onscreen.

∙ **2023 Community Fund Scheme - Cllr. William O’ Leary enquired if an application can be made by a group who maintain an amenity which is on private land, to which** Seán **O’Callaghan SEO replied all applications can be submitted and will be considered. Any group involved with an amenity on private land would need to include the landowners permission. Cllr. Noel McCarthy asked if private housing estates can be included for funding under this scheme this year, to which Sean O’ Callaghan SEO responded that applications under this funding can be sent in by all groups**

**for consideration. He did caution, however, that this fund is limited and likely to be insufficient to meet all applications / requests and allocation of grants will be determined accordingly. It is envisaged the budget will be the same as 2022. Margaret O’ Donoghue MDO added that any group who require assistance with the application process is welcome to make contact with the Fermoy MD office and help / guidance will be provided.**

∙ Fermoy RRDF project - t**he elected Members welcomed the update and further to a query** Seán **O’ Callaghan SEO again confirmed that the meeting with all interested stakeholders will be convened when the time is appropriate. These proposals are not yet quite ready for circulation and the elected Members will be the first to see them on completion. Cllr. Noel McCarthy requested that Fermoy Forum be included on the list of interested stakeholders for this meeting.**

**5.**  **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn**

1. “that Cork County Council put traffic calming in place in Old Doneraile Road, Castletownroche by Shinnick Place, in the interest of road safety”.

Traffic speed surveys will be undertaken here. No traffic calming budgets available in the district. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

2. “that this Committee would carry out drainage works outside the home of P61 EY44, Cork Road, Fermoy to alleviate flooding at the entrance to the house”.

Additional roadside gully is planned for Q1 2023 here. (BO’G)

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

3. “that this Council would organise for the footpaths in Killavullen to be cleaned owing to the appearance of moss etc.”.

Sections of footpath that may be deemed hazardous underfoot will be addressed in due course. (BO’G)

This motions was supported by all the elected Members who said this now appears to be an issue in many areas.

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

4. “that this Council grant disability parking bay at Clonmel Road, Mitchelstown P67 YV27 (documents supplied)”.

Not recommended. For discussion. (BO’G)

Further to a brief discussion in relation to the requirement here, Brendan agreed that a yellow box would be more appropriate and agreed to arrange for the installation of same.

**Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn**

5. “that Cork County put in place signage indicating Glenabo Woods, Fermoy from the approach roads in order that visitors to the area would be aware of the great asset that the woods are in the area”.

Two signs, one at junction of Relief Road / Cork Road and one at Duntaheen Cross would be beneficial. Could be funded by MDO. (BO’G)

Additionally in relation to this motion, Cllrs. O’ Flynn and Noel McCarthy enquired if anything could be done to improve the car park surface at this location. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied this is the property of Coillte, and it was agreed that Fermoy MD would request Coillte to carry out surfacing work here.

6. “that Cork County Council would repair the damaged wall on Bridgetown Bridge, Castletownroche in the interest of safety”.

Is due for works in 2023. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

7. “that this Committee would receive an Engineer’s report on the possibility to widen the Farahy Road, Kildorrery”.

There are no plans or budgets available to widen a local secondary route that has wide and deep open drains either side and numerous existing entrances. Widening the road here will increase traffic speeds which is something we should seek to avoid here. We will of course bring the route back to its pre-existing condition prior to the N73 closure and detour once the Clogher section is opened to traffic. We will install some low number passing bays in due course however. (BO’G)

This motion was supported by the elected Members. Brendan agreed that it is important to support safety on this road and confirmed three or four passing bays will be provided when road verges have dried out.

8. “that this Committee would receive an update report on works to be carried out at the junction of Barry’s Boreen, Duntaheen Road, Fermoy”.

We have an alternative scheme proposed here and have sought funding from the 2023 safety Improvement Scheme countywide allocation to advance same. Members will be briefed when a new design drawing is produced. (BO’G)

Further to a query on the timescale involved here, Brendan O’ Gorman SEE said he is hopeful this project will be completed this year.

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

9. “that this could Council would again consider the provision of a crash barrier on the bend of the road by residence P61V966 Bluebell, Bartlemy”.

Not high in our priority of works and no funds currently available for this. Existing longstanding dwelling here and bend so no change in circumstances. (BO’G)

Further to an appeal by Cllr. O’ Leary for reconsideration of this request on the basis that it is a dangerous location, Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied that SIS funds are very limited with high demand and reaffirmed this location is not high priority for such work. Brendan did suggest installing additional road signage and reflective chevrons here which should improve the situation.

10. “that this Council would consider the possibility of further advance warning signage in the approach to Glanworth Bridge from the Kilworth side”.

More than enough signage in place and existing signage ignored. Also illegal interfering with existing overhead barriers observed. We will be carrying out carriageway narrowing approaching the bend and bridge to prevent wide sided vehicles from entering during 2023. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

11. “that this Council make safe Guerin’s Cross, Mitchelstown”.

For discussion. No issues evident and all warning signs/lines in place. (BO’G)

Cllr. Frank Roche said he also had representations in relation to this location. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE informed those present that it is the TII who is responsible for all signage on this national road, however, he pointed out that it is not feasible to light up every junction on this road. He added that it is poor driver behaviour which is at fault here.

12. “that this Council replace the small gate at St. Mologga’s Graveyard”.

I will examine and revert to Members. (MO’D)

**6.**  **REQUESTS FOR CIVIC RECEPTIONS**

**a.** **To hold a Civic Reception to include the following, previously agreed in 2019 but deferred owing to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Date for same to be determined.**

**(a) "in recognition of his great success, Sean Clancy, Fermoy who became ‘World Boxing Council Muay Thai Super Lightweight Champion of the World’ beating Italy's Alessandro Sara on 20th July 2019".**

**(b) "Fermoy Karate Club and John Hurley on their success at the recent World Championships".**

**(c) “Kildorrery Karate Club on their success at the recent World Championships".**

This deferred Civic Reception was unanimously agreed on by all the elected Members. It now remains for the date for same to be decided. The Members will make contact with the recipients involved and revert accordingly.

**b.** **That Fermoy MD would hold a Civic Reception for Fermoy Concert Band who, having being formed in 1923, now celebrate their Centenary Year.**

This Civic Reception was unanimously agreed by all the elected Members who said that this group (Fermoy Concert Band) are eminently deserving of this honour as a mark of the high esteem in which they are held. The suggested date for this Civic Reception is June 2023, to be confirmed.

In relation to Civic Receptions, Cllr. Kay Dawson enquired if it were possible to hold any more such receptions this year as she would like to nominate Ballygiblin GAA for a Civic Reception

to honour their outstanding success winning two County titles, two Munster titles and an All-Ireland.

**Additionally, Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien would like to propose a Civic Reception for the National Liam Lynch Commemoration Committee, based in Fermoy, who will mark the centenary this year of the death of Liam Lynch. Margaret O’ Donoghue MDO undertook to contact Corporate Affairs to find out if more than two civic receptions can be held and will revert to the elected Members accordingly.**

**7.**  **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**8.**  **TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**RE 7(1) Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien - Water flowing down road at Brigown, Mitchelstown.**

Cllr. Kay Dawson enquired if there was any update on this drainage issue on the soccer pitch (Park Utd.) road to which Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied there are alleviation and drainage works planned for this location.

**9.**  **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn - request for safety improvements on L-5673 Grange, Fermoy**

Further to a request for improved safety on this road which is used by athletic and cycling groups for training, Brendan replied that, unusually, this local secondary road has a formalspeed limit of 50kph and overtaking is restricted due to narrow road widths so driver behaviour is a key factor here. Brendan added that there is a proposal to install a school flashing sign and additional signage in the vicinity of Grange NS, on the local secondary route, which may improve matters.

**(2) Cllr. William O’ Leary - condition of R639 surface between Watergrasshill and Rathcormac from interchange at Curraghprevin to Kilshannig junction.**

Brendan O’ Gorman SEE confirmed that, despite there being additional noise and vibration while driving sections of this roadway, this positive texture is within all road design standards and there are no safety issues.

**(3) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - request for dog fouling bin in Waterloo Lane, Fermoy**

Cllr. McCarthy requested this bin on behalf of Fermoy Tidy Towns Committee, saying dog fouling is a scourge in towns and villages throughout the MD.

**(4) Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien - works required at Mitchelstown Playground**

Cllr. O’ Brien enquired when works, including repairs to or replacement of the matting will be done. These works were carried forward from 2022. Cllr. Noel McCarthy added that such work is also required in Clancy Street playground, Fermoy.

**(5) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - request relocation of speed detector at O’ Leary’s Cross**

Cllr. McCarthy said motorists are now used to the detector at this location and proposed Fermoy MD request An Garda Síochána to monitor this location for speeding. Cllr. William O’ Leary proposed Fermoy MD write to the speed van contractor (Go-Safe Gatso) to attend at this location, this was agreed and Brendan O’ Gorman SEE agreed to make contact accordingly.

**(6) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - issue with traffic congestion in Fermoy town**

Cllr. McCarthy said Fermoy Forum and others are concerned about the level of traffic congestion in Fermoy town, and highlighted the recent occasion where the malfunction of the red light at a pedestrian crossing outside the town park caused significant tailbacks and disruption. He is now requesting Fermoy MD meet with An Garda Síochána to discuss this issue and general traffic management in Fermoy town.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_