

Minutes of the Macroom Municipal District Blended Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 27th January 2023

Present/I láthair: Cllrs. Eileen Lynch (Cathaoirleach), Michael Creed, Michael Looney, Ted Lucey, Gobnait Moynihan & Martin Coughlan

Attendance/Tinreamh: Ms. Nicola Radley, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer
Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Pat O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Mr. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

In Attendance for Part of the Meeting / I láthair do chuid den chruinniú

Mr. Ray Higgins, Senior Executive Architect

1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Ted Lucey and seconded by Cllr. Michael Creed the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 25th November 2022 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

Cllr. E. Lynch, Cathaoirleach requested that Agenda Item No. 3: **Presentation by Raymond Higgins, Snr Exec Architect on Church of Ireland Macroom Project funded under Historic Towns Initiative 2022 by The Heritage Council** is discussed at the start of the meeting. All Members agreed.

3. BREITHNIÚCHÁIN AR THUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

R. Higgins, Sr. Ex. Architect gave a comprehensive presentation and update to the Members and responded to the following queries:

Cllr. E. Lynch

- o Complemented all the works carried out.

Cllr. G. Moynihan

- o Is Tower Roof Finished? – *Yes, the main conservation works and structural repairs to the tower are complete.*
- o Steps at the front - is it also wheelchair accessible?– *Not currently but will be under the proposed next phase of works. The existing stone fabric of the steps have been carefully repaired.*
- o Stained Windows are damaged?– *Yes, a lot of damage has occurred to the stained glass windows over the years due to birds and wind. Some windows have been lost but we carried out a full survey of the existing and we will repair as part of the next phase of works.*
- o Heritage Week 16/08/22 which featured the Church of Ireland was a good idea and a great success.
- o Great Tourist Attraction

Cllr. M. Creed

- o There is funding in place for the 2nd stage of the project

Cllr. M. Looney

- o Complimented all the work carried out

Cllr. T. Lucey

- o Completion date – *It's expected that the next phase of works will take between 12-18 months construction period*

Cllr. M. Coughlan

- o Stained Glass Damaged - Cllr. Coughlan said that a lot of the windows were saved due to works carried out many years ago by Macroom Town Council.
- o Some tree branches are obscuring the view and suggested meeting the landowner with a view to pruning or removing them.

**2. NITHE AG ÉIRÍ AS NA MIONTUAIRISCÍ
MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Ted Lucey

- (a) Briery Gap – Update
- (b) Castleview Cross
- (c) Macroom Development Project
- (d) Bus Stop on the Killarney Road, Macroom
- (e) Bus Depot, Macroom
- (f) Macroom – Water pooling
- (f) Lights by the Roundabout at Fitzgerald's Corner – very dull
- (g) Street Cleaning in Macroom Town
Following a query from Cllr. Lucey, J. Dwyer, SEE said that he will arrange for the removal of the chewing gum from the footpaths in time for St Patrick's Day. Cllr. Coughlan supported Cllr. Lucey. Following a query from Cllr. Moynihan, J. Dwyer, SEE said that he will carry out temporary repairs on the slabs that were referenced as being in need of some work.
- (h) Pedestrian Crossing Masseytown - Speed Down the Hill
- (i) Install a crossing point at the roundabout at Kilnagurteen
- (j) Town Development Fund/General Municipal Allocation – Funding Granted to Macroom MD
- (k) Proposed Pedestrian Crossing near the Boys School, Macroom
- (l) Bypass at Killumney – Link Road to EMC roundabout – 3 lights missing
- (o) Debris at St. Colmans Graveyard, Macroom
- (p) Potential Bicycle Lane from 2 to 4 Mile Bridge Macroom

- (q) Car Park Opposite Dunnes Stores, Macroom – Stop Sign request.
J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed that the ramps are fine and that he would put a stop sign at the narrow line
- (r) 21 Apartments over Dunnes Stores, Macroom - made available to address the housing need in the area
Cllr. Lucey said that intense negotiations are ongoing at present to progress this matter and mentioned recent article by Thomas Gould TD in relation to this issue. Cllr. Lynch supported Cllr. Lucey on this matter.
- (s) Staffing issue for Macroom Town and surrounding area

Councillor Michael Creed

- (a) Maulnahorna to Cusloura Road works update
P. O’Sullivan, EE outlined that they hope to carry out works this year, subject to funding.

Councillor Michael Looney

- (a) Knockyrourke Road – bad condition needs to be drained.
Cllr Looney said there is good work being carried out here
- (b) Firmount Traffic Calming
P. O’Sullivan, EE said he had applied for funding under the Low-Cost Scheme. A speed survey has been carried out.
- (c) Dripsey to Blairs Inn - be included on a program next year.
P. O’Sullivan, EE said, a section is included in this year’s programme, subject to funding.
- (d) Ballyhanly Traffic Calming

Councillor Martin Coughlan

- (a) Bridge in Macroom – loose cobblestones on both sides.
J. Dwyer, SEE said it is proposed to carry out the works around the school mid term break.

Councillor Eileen Lynch

- (a) Coachford Flood Study
Cllr. Lynch requested that this Municipal District write to the Director of Water Services requesting an update. Cllr. Moynihan supported Cllr. Lynch.
- (b) Coachford Footpath and Pedestrian Crossing Design
P. O’Sullivan, EE said the developer of the land at the corner has recently submitted a planning application. There is a section of land by the Grotto that we need to identify the owner of. The Proposed Boundary treatment is to be agreed with the Planning Department. We plan on going for a Section 38/Part 8 planning process soon

Cllr. Moynihan welcomed the progress being made.
- (c) Bawnmore to Ardoyne Cross – no update
- (d) Macroom EV Charging Points

- (e) Culbáin Estate, Knockmore, Ovens – lights out of order
- (f) Terelton National School – pedestrian crossing
- (g) Crookstown – Cliffords Bar to Béal na Bláth – Flooding Works
- (h) Toonsbridge - Safety works – Money Allocated
- (i) Toons Bridge – Pedestrian Footpath
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will apply for funding.
- (j) Black Top Roadworks in the Model Village, Dripsey
- (k) Potholes between Shea’s Cross and the turn off for St. Olans, Aghabullogue in the short term and request for this section to be tarred at a later stage.
- (l) Lee Valley Inn in a dangerous state.

3. **BREITHNIÚCHÁIN AR THUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ** **CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

(a) Municipal District Officers Report

Members noted the Report.

M. O’Leary, MDO gave the Members an overview of the report.

- National Pride of Place Awards

Cllr. Lynch congratulated Rylane Community Park Association on reaching the final. She outlined the great achievement it was to get that far which involved a lot of hard work by this voluntary group.

- 2023 Village Enhancement Scheme (VES)

Cllr. Lynch said that Coachford village has grown massively in the last few years and said as the water works are now complete, would it be possible to reactivate the previous grant of €100,000. If this were allowed and were added to the 2023 VES it would allow a lot of necessary works be carried out. M. O’Leary, MDO said she would contact the Department on this matter.

In response to Cllr. Moynihan, M. O’Leary, MDO confirmed that the Members agreed last year that €50,750 would go towards the 2023 Village Enhancement Scheme (VES) with the remaining €18,000 then towards the agreed locations for speed activation signs.

Cllr. Creed agreed with Cllr. Lynch regarding the funding being made available to Coachford, if possible.

Cllr. Lucey said he supported the funding being made available to Coachford but would also like for Cloughduv and Crookstown to be given consideration for this funding in a future year’s allocation.

Cllr. Looney said he also supported the funding being made available to Coachford.

Cllr. Coughlan said he also supported Coachford and asked that Cloghduv/Farnanes be added to the Village Enhancement Scheme as there was a nice population there and they have a committee who has done a lot of good work. M. O'Leary, MDO explained that it is the key villages & villages listed on the current County Development Plan that are deemed eligible for consideration under this Scheme. N. Radley, SEO said Cloghduv/Farnanes could be encouraged to make an application under the Community Fund.

(b) Discretionary Fund Applications

Group/Organisation	Brief Description of Request
Cliona Burgoyne <i>Student at St. Mary's, Secondary School, Macroom & Volunteer on behalf of Hope Foundation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise Money to help slum children and families in Kolkata by providing food and emergency supplies. Compulsory to raise €2,400 to be eligible. (Flights and costs are excluded)
Total	€300

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. G. Moynihan
 Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. T. Lucey

**4. DIÚSCAIRT TALÚN / Disposal of Property
 FÓGRA ALT 183/ Section 183 Notice**

- Disposal of site 6 & 7 Macroom Industrial Estate, Bowl Road, Macroom to. Glanbella Holdings Ltd, Millstreet, Co. Cork for a consideration of €150,000.00

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. M. Creed
 Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Coughlan

**5. CHUN NA RUIN SEO LEANAS ÓN GCOMHAIRLEOIR A MHEAS:
 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING NOTICE OF MOTIONS IN THE NAME OF:**

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- "Iarr ar an Comhairle staidear féidearthachta a dheanamh ar an príomhscráid í mBéal Átha nGhaorthidh chun fáil amach a bhfuil spás ann do trasrian coisithe"

That this Council would carry out a feasibility study on the main street í mBéal Átha nGhaorthaidh to see if a pedestrian crossing could be installed.

Tá nascacht chosáin laistigh den sráidbhaile teoranta agus go hidéalach tá gá é seo a leathnú, in éineacht le pointe trasnaithe sainithe a chur leis. Scrúdóidh mé an ceantar faoi thrácht agus tiocfaidh mé thar n-ais le moltaí féideartha don sráidbhaile.

Footpath connectivity within the village is limited and ideally this would want to be expanded in conjunction with adding a designated crossing point. I will examine the area in question and revert with possible proposals for the village.

Cllr. Moynihan stressed the importance of the safety of pedestrians & connectivity in this busy village. J. Dwyer, SEE responded to outline that he will investigate this matter.

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- “Iarr ar an Comhairle staidear a dheanamh ar an mbothair las muigh do Scoil Naisiúnta Cill Mhuire chun fáil amach cad atá ag teastáil chun an áit a dhenamh níos sábháilte do daltaí agus coisí go ginearaltá”

That this Council would look at the section of road outside Kilmurry National School, road L2002-0 and make the more pedestrian friendly

Suiteáladh trasrian síogach agus rampa ardaithe in 2018 don scoil. D’fhéadfaí cosáin a chur ar thaobh na scoile den bhóthar ach cuirfidh siad seo deireadh leis an úsáid atá á bhaint as an spás sin fé láthair mar áit pháirceála agus pointe fágála. Ba chóir don scoil measúnú a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht áit pháirceála agus fágála a sholáthar, rud a shaoradh spás do bhearta coisithe breise.

A zebra crossing and raised ramp were installed in 2018 to facilitate the school. Footpaths could be added on the school side of the road however these will eliminate space currently used as parking or drop-off. The school should examine the possibility of providing a parking and a drop off area which would then free up space for additional pedestrian measures.

*Séamus O’Dhuibhir, Innealtóir Feidhmiúcháin Sinsearach
James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer*

Cllr. Moynihan outlined that cars park very close to the pedestrian crossing and she also queried if rubble strips could be installed to assist the cars. J. Dwyer, SEE outlined that the downside to rubble strips is the noise from them. He said that traffic calming measures were put in place there in 2019 and that the footpaths could be installed but it would reduce the current parking.

Cllr. Lucey said that rubble strips were not the answer, he said there is a speed limit in place and advised that it is a matter for An Garda Siochana. Cllr. Moynihan outlined that An Garda Siochana are aware of this and feels that there is an issue with parking.

J. Dwyer, SEE said there was no simple solution unfortunately, but he will look at it again.

6. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

N/1A

7. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES.

- Matthew Healy, Berrings
- Sr. Theresa Burke, RIP (sister of Colm Burke TD)
- Tom Meaney, former TD

**8. AON GHNÓ EILE
ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

SECTION 38

P. O'Sullivan, EE presented the following to the Members:

- **PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING WORKS AT R-619 AGHABULLOGUE GAA COMPLEX, COACHFORD, CO. CORK**

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. E. Lynch
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. G. Moynihan

Supported by all the Members

- **PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING WORKS AT L-1119, PRIESTS CROSS, MILLSTREET, CO. CORK**

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. G. Moynihan
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. E. Lynch

Supported by all the Members

Cllr. Michael Creed

- (a) Junction at Mount Cross – Low Cost Scheme Update
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he has applied for funding to acquire the land. He said the design is not finalised. In response to Cllr. Creed, P. O'Sullivan, SEE said a CPO may be needed.
- (b) Barretts Cross to Shanakiel Cross
P. O'Sullivan, EE outlined that will look at including it in the next 3 year programme. Filling potholes and drainage works are being carried out.
- (c) Inchamore Road, Coolea
- (d) Knockavullig Road, Carrigadrohid – Potholes
- (e) Codrum Road, Macroom – very bad pothole
J. Dwyer, SEE said he understands it has been filled
- (f) Reinaree to Inchigeelagh – Potholes
J. Dwyer, SEE said these have been filled
- (g) Terelton Post Office to Dairygold – Potholes
J. Dwyer, SEE said they are due to be filled shortly

Cllr. Ted Lucey

- (a) Lights on the Bridge in Macroom
J. Dwyer SEE said he has received a quotation for the replacement of the entire lamps and hopes to progress that shortly

- (b) Main Street, Macroom post Bypass Opening
Cllr. Lucey said there is a lot of surface water on the ground, the shores need to be cleaned. He said with the bypass opened it is important to get the town back in a good state from TII. He requested that the Municipal District write to Pdraig Barrett, Director of Services and to TII to have the town resurfaced. He said now is the time to get this done.

Cllr. Lynch supported Cllr. Lucey and requested that it is extended to Coachford Bridge. Cllr. Moynihan asked if it could be extended to Hartnetts Cross.

Cllr. Coughlan supported Cllr. Lynch, and said the town has been neglected for many years while waiting for the bypass, however, he acknowledged that lack of staffing was a big issue.

J. Dwyer, SEE said he has spoken to TII regarding the condition of the road and they confirmed there is money set aside to be spent on the town and he will contact TII to get the work done. He said the shores were checked and replaced before Christmas and were fully accessible now. As regards staffing, he said there is a Work Force Plan in place which commits to increase the number of staff.

M. O'Leary, MDO said she would issue correspondence to P. Barrett, Director of Services and TII.

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Ballyvourney, Top Road – Thank you for the work carried out
- (b) Ballyvourney Age Friendly Parking Spaces – outside the Chemist
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will contact the Contractor
- (c) QR Code on the Murals in Macroom
M. O'Leary, MDO said that the Tourism Section oversee the QR codes and are still a work in progress. She said she will endeavour to have them in place for this summer season and if possible in time for St. Patrick's Day.
- (d) Millstreet Graveyard – Tap
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he had no update but would follow it up.
- (e) Drishane to Coole Cross – Footpath
M. O'Leary, MDO said she had hoped to include in a Town and Village application but the measures changed and hasn't forgotten about it. She will keep it in mind if any suitable funding schemes arise.
- (f) Church St., Millstreet – Pedestrian Crossing
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he is dependant on the ESB carrying out their work before the remainder of the works can be completed. He will be talking to them again on the matter.
- (g) Jimmys Cross Junction – not enough signage – who has the right of way
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will have a look at it
- (h) Ballinagree – outside the Church an extra light is needed
P. O'Sullivan, EE said that Cork County Council are replacing all older lights with LEDs and will have a look at it.

Cllr Eileen Lynch


- (a) Coopers Rock to the Pitch in Rusheen – road very bad
P. O'Sullivan, EE said it was damaged 20 years ago – it is kept travelable up to Coopers Rock. He said other areas with higher traffic volumes receive intervention initially – drainage is also an issue. Cllr. Lynch queried if it could be put on a CIS (Community Involvement Scheme) the GAA might be interested. P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would cost for a CIS.
- (b) Potholes Generally
Cllr. Lynch said that she understands that staff in other Municipal Districts work some Saturdays on pothole work in their area and she is wondering if this is something that this Municipal District could consider. J. Dwyer, SEE said he was not aware of overtime having been approved and wasn't sure if an adequate number of staff would be available to work on Saturdays. He will look into this matter.
- (c) Terelton to Coppeen & Barna Cross – Potholes
J. Dwyer, SEE said they are on the list
- (d) Barna Cross – Yield Sign
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will have a look at it.
- (e) Millstreet Footpaths – accident – water
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would contact Irish Water.

Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú

This concluded the business of the meeting



CATHAOIRLEACH



DÁTA



OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH



DÁTA