

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on 16th May 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 Municipal District 'In Committee' meeting held (at 11.15am) on 18th April 2023.**

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

**b. Minutes of Fermoy Municipal District meeting held on 18th April 2023.**

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

**2. DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES ETC.**

**a. to consider the disposal of property as follows - Situation: Disposal of land at Corrin, Fermoy, Co Cork on the basis of longstanding possession. Area: 0.07 hectares/0.18 acres. From whom acquired: Record not available. Land acquired by Cork County Council in 1937. To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose: Catherine Mary Owers. Consideration: €1.**

The Fermoy MD elected Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this Disposal of Land, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy seconded by Cllr. William O' Leary.

**3. 2023 DERELICTION FUND**

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO introduced the proposals for this fund which provides for the 2023 Painting Scheme. As the 2023 Painting Scheme is extended this year to include villages within the municipal district, villages were discussed on the basis of the number of commercial premises present which may benefit from the scheme. Further to a discussion the following villages were selected and agreed - Glanworth, Rathcormac, Doneraile and Killavullen.

On the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson and agreed by all the elected Members, the 2023 Dereliction Fund (incorporating the Painting Scheme) was adopted. All that remains is for an official launch of the scheme to be arranged with the location, date and time to be determined.

**4. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO went through the MDO report for the information of those present. The elected Members enquired when the next update on the RRDF Mitchelstown would be given, to which Sean O' Callaghan SEO replied a meeting will be arranged with the Members to discuss the submissions. They also again requested in relation to the Fermoy RRDF that full consultation with the public and all interested stakeholders be undertaken from the outset. The Members welcomed news of the grant for Killgullane Cemetery, saying this was good news.

**b. (i) RECOMMENDATION : Lights to John Mandeville Statue - New Square, Mitchelstown.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed those present that it is necessary to upgrade the lighting of the John Mandeville statue in New Square as there are maintenance and Health and Safety issues with the existing lighting. The replacement lighting proposal is for the installation of 'up-lights' which will illuminate the statue from the ground up. This recommendation was accepted on the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

**(ii) RECOMMENDATION : Lights at Kent Bridge, Fermoy**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised those present that it is proposed to upgrade the public lighting on Kent Bridge, Fermoy which is inadequate with some of the lights not working and unlit for some

time. The existing units are obsolete and cannot be repaired and it is now proposed to replace the existing lanterns with double headed bracket down-lighters. These upgrade works can commence imminently, if approved. This proposal was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn.

**c. RECOMMENDATION : reduced special speed limit of 80kph - N73 Clogher to Waterdyke, Shanballymore.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised the elected Members that he was waiting on confirmation correspondence from the TII in relation to this proposed change to speed limit. The intention is to return the speed limit at this location to the original 100kph from the current temporary limit of 80kph. This will be presented to the elected Members for their approval in due course.

**d. REPORT : 2023 RI Programme Progress Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE updated the elected Members that Lagans are the blacktop contractors appointed for 2023. The grader is due back in Mitchelstown in two weeks time and when finished there will return to programme works in Fermoy. All works on the RI Programme are continuing as planned and on schedule to date this year.

**e. REPORT : 2023 Drainage Programme Progress Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE updated the elected Members that works on the 2023 Drainage Programme are continuing as planned. Drainage work is carried out in advance on all roads included on the RI and RM works programmes. Brendan advised that works on Brigown Road are dependent on third party permission / agreement being given to enter lands to enable required drainage work.

**f. REPORT : 2022 / 2023 Footpath Programme Progress Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed those present that works on the 2022 Footpath Programme are continuing and are now 'up to speed'. The appointment of the 2023 footpath contractor has not yet been finalised, this is currently awaiting publication of tender documents for this contract. The 2023 works will commence when 2022 works are complete and a new contract has been established. The elected Members thanked Brendan and commended the contractor on the new footpath in Castletownroche saying it is a great amenity. In relation to a query from Cllr. Kay Dawson about Convent Hill, Mitchelstown Brendan replied that widening of the footpath, planned for this location, is required to prevent the parking of cars, which causes an obstruction, on the side of the street. Cllr. Noel McCarthy said the section of footpath which was done between Hanley's Shop and The Pantry restaurant on Pearse Square, Fermoy is deteriorating and asked if anything could be done to remedy this, to which Brendan replied interim urgent repairs will be carried out here. He added that this entire area will potentially be included for upgrade within the scope of the Fermoy RRDF.

**g. REPORT : 2023 CA&R Progress Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that works on this programme are continuing as planned and on schedule to date this year.

**5. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

1. "that Cork County Council renovate and paint the cross in Killavullen graveyard".  
**Will be done. (MO'D)**

**Cllr. Kay Dawson**

2. "call on Cork County Council to pick up grass when cutting Ballinwillin Park".  
**First cut is to be picked up everywhere. All remaining 15 cuts are mulched. (BO'G)**  
Brendan added to this reply that the contractors now appointed are Shannonvale Landscaping Ltd. and they have now commenced operations. They will be working in Fermoy initially and will then go through the extensive list of locations for grass cutting throughout the district.

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

3. “that yellow box be put in place on Connelly Street, Fermoy on the exiting of Newmarket Street and the Library car park, Fermoy”.
- Will be done. Double yellow lines are there currently but the additional yellow box will act as a further deterrent to illegal parking. (BO’G)

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

4. “that this Council would urgently liaise with the contractor who undertook works in Main Street, Rathcormac on behalf of Irish Water with regard to a waste water connection and to call on them, once and for all, to arrange for a proper reinstatement of the section in question owing to the substandard and shoddy temporary reinstatement that was put in place”.
- We will ask again for Uisce Eireann and their appointed contractor to comply with the terms and conditions of their governing road opening permit and use the powers of the state to ensure said reinstatements are completed correctly. The defects concerned have already been inspected and reported on within the ROL process, by this office. (BO’G)
- Cllr. O’ Leary highlighted the urgency of this issue which needs to be rectified as soon as possible. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE assured Cllr. O’ Leary that this issue is being dealt with and is not being treated lightly. The situation was discussed by the elected Members and, further to that discussion and on the recommendation of the executive, it was agreed that this motion would be forwarded for attention of Northern Committee.

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

5. “that this Council would investigate into the condition of footpath on Kildorrery Road on the right from the junction at George’s Street to the entrance for Liam Lynch Estate”.
- There is localised spalling damage / deterioration to the footpath paving slabs. The majority of the footpath is in good to fair condition. These will be attended to later in the year. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn**

6. “that Cork County Council give an up to date report on the timeframe for the planned resurfacing works at Patrick Street, Fermoy”.
- N72 Fermoy Town - Phase 1: Preparation of Tender documents for appointment of Technical Advisor already underway. PARR report and tender documents to be progressed during 2023. Construction expected in Q4 2023 / Q1 2024. (BO’G)
- Cllr. McCarthy supported this motion saying that this resurfacing work needs to be done as it is very important for Fermoy.
7. “that Cork County Council give an up to date report on the taking in charge of Ross Park Estate, Killavullen”.
- Already taken in charge since May 2021. Road No. L-5410 refers. (BO’G)
- Ross Park, Killavullen PI Ref 98/2629 was taken in charge on 18th May 2021 - residents request. (Claire Looney O’Sullivan SEO, Planning & Development)

**Cllr. Kay Dawson**

8. “call on Cork County Council to fill pot holes adjacent to Killacluig Church (on Demesne side)”.
- Will be done. (BO’G)
9. “call on Cork County Council to fill pot holes on L-56561-0 Gloccamaura”.
- Will be done. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

10. “that this Committee receive an Engineer’s report on the possibility of the crossing from Dealz to Hanna’s Restaurant, Patrick Street, Fermoy being authorised as a pedestrian crossing at this location”.

The Executive would like to see a formal pedestrian crossing here subject to Section 38 Approval but have been advised to date that the loss of parking required to introduce such a measure cannot be entertained by the elected members. If this position has changed, then we can commence the design process and liaise with the NRO/TII. (BO'G)

A discussion took place in relation to this motion and the provision of a pedestrian crossing at this location. Brendan explained to the elected Members the difference between a controlled crossing versus an uncontrolled crossing and said that the preferred option for this location would be for a controlled crossing, however this would have to involve a reduction in the number of parking spaces. Ultimately, it is the TII who will have the final say on this matter and on the proposal of Cllr. McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson, it was agreed that Fermoy MD would enquire of the TII for a recommendation here. Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to make the relevant contact with the NRO and the TII accordingly.

11. "that this Committee receive a progress report on safety measures to be carried out on Barry's Boreen, Duntaheen Road, Fermoy, Co. Cork".

Land acquisition is nearing completion. 2023 Safety Improvement scheme funding of €20K and Special Development Contribution from planning already paid will advance the project in Q3 2023. Works about to go out to tender under a bundle. (BO'G)

#### **Cllr. William O' Leary**

12. "that this Council would consider applying under the 2024 Low Cost safety Improvement Scheme for works at Kenny's Cross, Glenarouske".

We have included this locus each year for a scheme funding request and will continue to do so. (BO'G)

Cllr. Noel McCarthy enquired if any other measures could be utilised here to emphasise this dangerous junction to which Brendan replied that VMS (variable message signs) could be placed here, similarly to those at O' Leary's Cross, subject to funding.

13. "that this Council would again consider a future scheme similar to that of the one which was successfully rolled out last year whereby a small number of extra car parking spaces were installed in a number of hand picked housing estates, if the executive would agree that this was a major success and if they would comment on the feasibility of doing this again".

Pilot scheme rolled out last year to three estates in the Fermoy MD has been successful at relatively minor costs. We will ask our Housing Directorate to again fund a scheme in 2024 in consultation with Estate Management/MDO. (BO'G)

Further to this motion and reply, Brendan asked the elected Members to submit by email the housing estates they wish to prioritise for this retrofitting of carparking spaces. The list can then be sent to Housing to support this request for funding.

#### **Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

14. "that this Council would reduce green area size to allow accessibility for emergency services at 32-36 James Street, Mitchelstown".

This will be a matter for the Housing Directorate / Estate Management to approve and advance. Local road operations would have no say in these matters. (BO'G)

Cllr. O' Brien said she would make direct contact with Housing Directorate / Estate Management.

15. "that this Council would write to Tesco to have bulbs replaced in lighting on steps from Tesco Car Park to Mitchelstown Community Leisure Centre".

It was agreed that contact would be made with Tesco in relation to the remedial works required on the lighting at this location within their Mitchelstown campus.

#### **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

None. Cllr. Noel McCarthy enquired if any reply had been received from the IDA in relation to the industrial site at Dublin Road, Fermoy. As there has been no reply to date, it was agreed that Fermoy MD would again correspond with the IDA requesting a meeting.

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

**(1) RE: Item 7(1) Fermoy MD meeting with management of Living Health, Mitchelstown**

Cllr. Noel McCarthy said the meeting between the elected Members and the Living Health management had been a positive and informative meeting, and he expressed the appreciation of the elected Members to the Living Health personnel for facilitating this meeting.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Brendan O' Gorman SEE : Removal of over spill parking for Crèche, Brigown, Mitchelstown**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE explained that the temporary set-down area previously provided at Bright Sparks Childcare Centre now has to be reinstated as a green area and he sought the agreement of the elected Members. On the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson this re-instatement was approved.

**(2) Brendan O' Gorman SEE : Traffic calming Curraglass Village (Conna side of National School)**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the elected Members that, due to a change in ownership of the relevant property, ramps (which were originally proposed but objected to by the previous owner) are now requested for installation at the above location. This was approved on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

**(3) Cllr. William O' Leary : "that that this Council would provide a progress report with respect to progress works at O' Leary's Cross, Castlelyons with respect to funding under the safety improvement scheme i.e. what works would it hoped to be complete before 2023".**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE gave the following update in relation to the proposed works at this junction - we have secured funding of €75,000 from the Cork County Council 2023 Safety Improvement Scheme allocation. This will allow us to complete land purchase on Phase 1 to the south, finish off embankment works on Phase 1, commence land acquisition on Phase 2 to the north and prepare Phase 2 to Part VIII Planning in 2023. Overall Phase 2 scheme likely to cost €250,000 for which we will seek funding under a Strategic Grant.

**(4) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn : "that Cork County Council outline its grass cutting programme for 2023 in the Fermoy Municipal District".**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that the grass cutting contractor has now been appointed (Shannonvale Landscaping Ltd.) and cutting operations have commenced in the district this week. The 'cuttings' from the first cut will be collected and removed by the contractor.

**(5) Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien : Update on works to alleviate water flowing from Car Park in back entrance of Catholic Church.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that this item is on a snag list and will be attended to during the summer months.

**(6) Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien : Disabled Parking Bay request at Lower Cork St., Mitchelstown.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the elected Members that the location for this DPB is now agreed and installation will be carried out. He requested the Members hold any further such requests until Q3/2023 as the parking by-laws for the towns need to be updated and associated mapping work is to be undertaken during the summer months.

**(7) Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien : Junction at St. George's - concern for traffic coming from Church Street to junction and crossing traffic at green light to Georges Street, a request for safety audit at this junction.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that traffic needs to allow for the full cycle to proceed at the lights system here including for the pedestrian crossing time included in the loop. Accordingly, if traffic signal system used correctly here there should be no safety issue for users at this junction.

**(7) Cllr. Noel McCarthy : that public lighting be considered between Brennan Place, Kilworth and Ballyderown Cross, Kilworth.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed that this locus can be proposed for consideration in a future Public Lighting programme.

**(8) Cllr. Kay Dawson : confirmation of date for Civic Reception for Ballygiblin GAA**

Cllr. Dawson proposed this Civic Reception be held on Wednesday, 14th June 2023 which was agreed by the elected Members.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_