

# Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023



## 1. General Municipal Allocation

To date, the following claims have been submitted in relation to the Amenity, Capital and Community Contract allocations under the GMA.

- 2020 - €180,219.51
- 2021 - €159,204.80
- 2022 - €112,083.47

## 2. Town Development Fund

To date, the following claims have been submitted in relation to the Town Development Fund under the GMA.

- 2020 - €84,300
- 2021 - €54,700
- 2022 - €49,152

Below are images of recent improvements and drainage works carried out to the soccer pitches by Inniscarra Community Centre. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.





### **3. Drishane Picnic Area Project Update**

This project was funded by Millstreet's Town Development Fund allocation and involved the following elements to the project:

- Removal of existing old fencing & replace with new bollards
- Replace the benches with new disability accessible picnic benches & seats
- New tarmacadam paths throughout this picnic area
- Reseed & grass entire area
- 2 car parking spaces added

This additional amenity will provide another pleasant space for groups to socialise & enjoy the outdoors. Below are some before and after images of the project.





#### **4. Art Exhibition & Culture Night 2023**

This year during September there is an Art Exhibition upstairs in Town Hall. This current exhibition ties in with Culture Night & runs until 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The exhibition entitled 'Faint/Sustain' is a group exhibition in which it considers four artists and their very different approaches to nostalgia, dreams and storytelling.

Also, as part of the Culture Night festivities there will be a number of events in Baile Mhuirne including the screening of a film entitled "The Dying Days" about General Liam Lynch, an art exhibition commemorating him will also be held showcasing works by Dolores Lyne, together with some other music events in the village.

#### **5. Heritage Week Event**

An event to showcase the historical & heritage assets of Macroom with a particular focus on traditional shopfronts and signage was held in August during National Heritage Week. This very successful workshop & event was launched by Cllr Lucey, Cathaoirleach of the MD and included talks by Raymond Higgins, CCC Architect, Flor & Chris from Southgate Associates and with a practical demonstration by artist Cormac Sheil on the skills involved in traditional signwriting on the fascia board of No 41 Main Street. This walking tour of the town returned to the Town Hall for chat & discussion on future development & improvements for Macroom. Below are some pictures taken from the event.





## 6. 2023 Town & Village Renewal Scheme

The 2023 scheme launched in late July with today, 22<sup>nd</sup> September being the closing date for the submission of Expressions of Interest from community groups under this Scheme.

The 2023 TVR Scheme places particular emphasis on tackling issues such as vacancy and dereliction and supporting projects that will bring additional footfall into town centres. It will also support outdoor projects such as new plazas, parks, playgrounds and green spaces. This year there will be funding available for towns and villages that wish to develop their own farmer or artisan markets.

Local Authorities can submit up to 5 applications up to the value of €1.5m per local authority (6 applications where inhabited offshore island applies, up to €1.75m per authority) under the 2023 Scheme as follows :

- 4 applications for funding - €20,000 to €250,000
- 1 application for funding - €20,000 to €500,000

Full details on the Scheme criteria is available on the Council's media outlets.

## 7. 2023 Historic Towns Initiative - Update

Work is continuing apace on the development of this plan for Macroom. During the National Heritage Week event Southgate Associates partook in that event & engaged locally. The next step as part of this plan has been the preparation of a leaflet with detailed questionnaire and a public consultation workshop & meeting will be held in The Castle Hotel Macroom on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September from 7pm to 9pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this open meeting and engage on the future of the town.

*Marie O'Leary*

---

Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council