

## **Minutes of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting which was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

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

**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

### **1. CATHAOIRLEACH A THOGHADH ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH**

Ainmniúcháin do Cathaoirleach / Nominations for Cathaoirleach

Outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr. E. Lynch said she thoroughly enjoyed her year and thanked the Municipal District staff and Members for their help and support. She said it was a great honour to be elected Cathaoirleach and outlined the positive projects that happened during her term including the opening of Macroom Bypass, the Centenary Commemoration of Michael Collins at Béal na mBláth, works to St Colman's Church of Ireland Building, the current refurbishment of the Briery Gap and the associated public realm works.

N. Radley, SEO thanked Cllr. Lynch on behalf of the Executive saying she brought energy to the role and had a very positive attitude. She said it was a very busy year and wished her well in the future.

All Cllrs passed on their congratulations on Cllr Lynch's very successful tenure as Cathaoirleach and wished her well for the future.

Cllr. M. Creed proposed and Cllr. M. Coughlan seconded Cllr. T. Lucey for the position of Cathaoirleach. As there were no other nominations for the position, Cllr. T. Lucey was duly elected and then took the Chair.

Cllr. T. Lucey thanked his proposer and seconder and said he was looking forward to the year ahead and the local elections in 2024. He said it was great to have Macroom Bypass opened and that the Briery Gap should be opened in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of next year. He said he will be pushing for more parking in Macroom town and that the Municipal District was a big area and there was a lot to do.

Cllr. T. Lucey then invited Nominations for the election of Leas Cathaoirleach.

### **2. LEAS-CHATHAOIRLEACH A THOGHADH ELECTION OF LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH**

Ainmniúcháin do Leas-Cathaoirleach / Nominations for Leas Cathaoirleach

Cllr. M. Coughlan proposed and Cllr. G. Moynihan seconded Cllr. M. Looney for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach and he was elected unopposed. Cllr. M. Looney thanked his proposer and seconder and said he was delighted to be elected Leas Cathaoirleach. He said Macroom MD was a great place to work and was looking forward to the year.

### 3. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Eileen Lynch and seconded by Cllr. Michael Creed the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

### 4. NITHE AG ÉIRÍ AS NA MIONTUAIRISCÍ MATTERS ARISING

#### Councillor Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) QR Code on the Murals in Macroom  
M. O'Leary, MDO said they are currently being translated into Irish will have an update for the next meeting. Cllr. Moynihan said once they are set up it will be important that they are advertised.
- (b) Millstreet Graveyard – Tap  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said it would be August/September time at the earliest before the tap was installed.
- (c) Drishane to Coole Cross – Footpath  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he was waiting for drawings to be prepared and said it would be the end of July/start of August before he would receive them.
- (d) Jimmys Cross Junction – not enough signage – who has the right of way  
No update
- (e) Extra Handrail at Chapel Hill – Update  
No update
- (f) From the Mills inn going up to Coolea by De Rosite's by the Speed Limit - Water Flowing onto the Road  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will include it in a future roads programme.
- (g) Graveyard Millstreet - Bench  
No Update
- (h) Naming of Roundabout at Coolcower after Cumann na mBan  
M. O'Leary, MDO said she has written to the Director of Roads who is waiting on a response from TII. Cllr. Moynihan said she is anxious to get it moved on. M. O'Leary, MDO said that correspondence was sent a couple of months ago and will again follow up on it. She said if a reply comes before the next meeting she will send it out to the Members.
- (i) Query re Live Music in the Square  
M. O'Leary, MDO outlined that if any groups wish to avail of this or if Members get any queries to direct them to the Town Hall and they will be assisted subject to insurance etc. In response to Cllr. Looney, M. O'Leary, MDO said there would be no charge. Following a query from Cllr. Moynihan, M O'Leary, MDO outlined that this function comes under the remit of the Arts Office and N. Radley, SEO confirmed that the MD is fully supportive of this and if anyone approaches the MD, we will drive it locally but it will be decided on a case by case basis. In response to Cllr. Moynihan's query, it was outlined that general advertising would be the role of the Arts Office.

- (j) Footpath connecting Aghabullogue National School to the community hall on L2753-38  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would arrange to have "SLOW" markings painted on the road in the next few months. He said as regards the walkability study, it was too close to the holidays but it could be arranged for September.
- (k) Bus Éireann's Route 257 service, servicing Macroom to Killarney – Update  
M. O'Leary, MDO said Bus Éireann responded to her correspondence saying that Route 257 now sees all services operating via Millstreet, serving the bus stops in the town centre and it was their hope that the improved timetable will be benefit to the community in Millstreet. They said regarding the request for a bus pole in Ballydaly, this would require approval form the Local Authority Engineer and the National Transport Authority and that they would be liaising with both and will keep the Members up to date on further developments. In response to Cllr. Moynihan's query regarding if any reference was made to having a timetable on the poles in Millstreet and Ballydaly, M. O'Leary, MDO said it was not referenced but would contact them for clarification.
- (l) Minor Row Millstreet – Cars Parking on the Footpath  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he met with An Garda Síochána and they agreed to write to the homeowners. He will follow it up with An Garda Síochána.
- (m) Canopy in Millstreet - Update  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he is wating for the leg that was damaged to be delivered and hopes to have Contractor on site shortly.
- (n) Aubane – Loose Chippings  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the sweeper has been working on other jobs but it is on the list of works.
- (o) Coolavokig Old School – Humps and Hollows on the Road which are getting worse  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he had no update but will chase it up with TII.
- (p) Light at the Bridge in Béal Átha nGhaorthaidh  
J. Dwyer, SEE said it is on the 2023 Public Lighting List and hopes the work will be carried out around September. He said the power source could be a problem, he said they may have to use solar energy.
- (q) Ballinagree National School to the Playground – Footpath/Cycle Path installed  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he contacted the NTA office who confirmed there was no funding available, he said the biggest issue is land take which is not easy to solve. Following a query from Cllr. Moynihan, P. O'Sullivan, EE outlined that using the back of the school could be an issue especially when the school would be closed and confirmed that there's no easy solution.
- (r) N22 by the Mills from Coolea and From the Top Road – Lack of Visibility  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will arrange to erect bollards.

### **Councillor Eileen Lynch**

- (a) Coachford Flood Study  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said they are in the process of preparing the tender documents and it is hoped to go for tender in the next fortnight or so.
- (b) Coachford Footpath and Pedestrian Crossing Design  
No update

- (c) Macroon EV Charging Points  
M. O'Leary, MDO said she had previously spoken with the Director of Roads who confirmed that a Working Group would be set up to examine and develop a countywide policy.
  - (d) Toonsbridge – Pedestrian Footpath -Safety works – Money Allocated  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he is working on it at present.
  - (e) Lee Valley Inn in a dangerous state.  
In response to Cllr. Lynch, M. O'Leary, MDO said that she was aware that the planning was withdrawn and that she had written to the legal reps of the owners but that they were currently on annual leave. She said she would hope to have an update for the next meeting.
  - (f) Rylane School – Yellow box & lines  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the lining will be put in place by September which will be yellow painting with the word "Scoil" written on it.
  - (g) Speed Survey Ballyanly  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the results had come back. He said the speed limit is 60km/hr and the average speed recorded was 61 km/hr. In response to Cllr. Lynch, P. O'Sullivan, EE said confirmed there were other villages with higher traffic scores plus there is no school or church in Ballyanly. Cllr. Lynch said that while it was not a village it was a massive sports facility which has to be looked at. P. O'Sullivan, EE said that Driver Speed Back Signs could be an option. He said the first priority was road markings and said he will arrange to meet with the community.
- Cllr. Looney said he was disappointed with the results and said that a lot of traffic use that road and that 60km was a dangerous speed for it. He requested that a further effort is put in place to make it safer, he said the locals want something done. Cllr. Lucey supported this.
- (h) Leades Cross - L7474-0 – very bad potholes

### **Councillor Michael Creed**

- (a) Junction at Mount Cross – Update  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he is waiting to get a design from the Roads Design Office.
- (b) Kilcrea Cross  
No update
- (c) Kilmurry – provide another lane for traffic exiting onto the N22 going towards Macroon  
J. Dwyer, SEE said this would not be very straight forward, he said he will meet with the TII to discuss.
- (d) Sullane Weirs – Sewer - Roots of Trees in it  
J. Dwyer, SEE said it is on the list of works.
- (e) Cul de Sac – Liois Bui, Kilnamartyra – Potholes  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate
- (f) Lee Valley Inn, Dripsey  
Cllr. Creed said this building was a shocking eyesore and said something needs to be done.

- (g) Macroom Music Festival 23-25 June 2023  
Cllr. Creed complimented all involved in organising the festival, he said it was great for the town and was a great night.

**Councillor Michael Looney**

- (a) Foxes Bridge to Courbrack – from the Cross – Lag on the Road  
P. O’Sullivan, EE said this may be included in a Low-Cost Scheme next year.
- (b) Traffic Calming Firmount – update  
P. O’Sullivan, EE said the survey had been completed and that he was awaiting the design.

**Councillor Ted Lucey**

- (a) Bus Depot, Macroom  
M. O’Leary, MDO said the works are almost completed.
- (b) Macroom – Water pooling  
No Update
- (c) Pedestrian Crossing Masseytown - Speed Down the Hill  
No update
- (d) Lack of Staffing in Macroom Town  
M. O’Leary, MDO said she communicated the Members concerns regarding the lack of staff to the Director of Roads who confirmed that staff and resources are fully reliant and dependant on budgetary provision. The matter of staff resources was discussed at CPG and will be further considered as part of the 2024 Budgetary process later in the year. In the interim General Operative grades are being filled on an ongoing basis which includes Macroom MD.

N. Radley, SEO said she was aware that a Countywide review is underway, and the objective was to regulate resources which will form part of the CPG Budgetary process. She said Macroom MD will be a priority as she has made representations on the Members behalf. She said Cork County Council appreciate the work Macroom Tidy Towns do but they don’t want to be dependent on them.

Members complimented the clean-up that was carried out after Macroom Music Festival. N. Radley, SEO confirmed that the Director of Roads agreed to allocate funding to put additional manpower in place for the cleanup after the festival.

- (e) Public Toilets, Macroom  
Cllr. Lucey & Cllr. Coughlan expressed their dissatisfaction at the condition of the public toilets in Macroom and queried if they were being cleaned on a regular basis. N. Radley, SEO there were contract cleaners in place and confirmed that they would review the contract that is in place.

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

**(a) Municipal District Officers Report**

Members noted the Report.

### RIAI Awards

- "Béal na Bláth Centenary" project  
Cllr. Lucey said it was a huge achievement to scoop two awards at the RIAI Awards ceremony.  
Cllr. Lynch congratulated all involved.

### 2023 Paint Scheme

In response to Cllr. Lucey, M. O'Leary MDO said there was 72 applications received and the scheme was now closed.

Cllr. Moynihan said the Paint Scheme is a huge success every year and said it would be great if it was expanded even more to include signage which would help build on the success. M. O'Leary, MDO said that funding for this could be an issue.

### Art Exhibitions

Cllr. Moynihan said the latest exhibition about Irish Road Bowling should draw a lot of interest. She said it was great to have the space to hold the exhibitions.

Cllr. Looney said he was delighted to see that the latest exhibition was about Road Bowling.

### 2023 Historic Towns Initiative – Update

In response to Cllr. Moynihan M. O'Leary, MDO said it was proposed to take an overview of the heritage value of the town and make recommendations for future improvements that can be carried out.

### Macroom Music Festival

Cllr. Lynch & Cllr. Creed extended congratulations to the Lee Valley Enterprise Board on the success of the festival which drew a huge crowd to the town.

## **(b) Discretionary Fund Applications**

Group/Organisation	Brief Description of Request
O'Mahoney's Tce & Radharc na Croise Residents Association Dripsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Purchase of plants and shrubs</li></ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€300</b>

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

## **6. VÓTA COMHGHAIRDEAS** VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Seamus O'Sullivan, Ballinagree who won gold in the Special Olympics in the Team Bocce event.

**7. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN**  
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES.

- Mairead Lucey, SEO, Corporate Affairs on the death of her father Sean Lucey RIP
- Brendan Mulcahy RIP

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

**Cllr. Michael Creed**

- (a) Terelton to Knockane – Potholes
- (b) Line Painting, Cill na Martra  
No update
- (c) Road Closed at Silvergrove Cill na Martra to Inchigeelagh  
J. Dwyer, SEE said a bridge had collapsed. He said work is due to start there in the next month.
- (d) New Inchigeelagh Graveyard – Water pipes not connected  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate.

**Cllr. Michael Looney**

- (a) Yellow Lines at Inniscarra Boating Centre  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the work would be carried out during the summer.
- (b) Cloghroe Footpath Overgrown  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will get the hedges cut.
- (c) "Welcome to Cloghroe Village" Sign  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he is in process of arranging this and will agree the location.
- (d) Junctions Overgrown  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the hedgecutter is working its way through the list.

**Cllr. Martin Coughlan**

- (a) Bridge in Macroom Town
- Plaster is hacked off on both sides of the bridge.  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will look at it.
  - Lamp on the Bridge  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has no date yet when he will receive the replacement lamp. He said he hopes to have it by the end of the Summer.
- (b) Potholes:
- Kilmurry – Near the School
  - Cliffords Bar, Crookstown
- (c) Bus Eireann  
Cllr. Coughlan requested that Bus Eireann is written to about the state of the Bus Station in Macroom, he said it is very unsightly. Cllr. Moynihan seconded that request. J. Dwyer, SEE said works are progressing and they are making an application for an exemption.

- (d) St. Colman's Park, Macroom – Light Out  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he spoke to Public Lighting who confirmed there was a faulty wire in the footpath and will follow it up.
- (e) Old Estates – Any funding for old Estates where areas are dug up after Water Works.  
J. Dwyer, SEE said there isn't any available funding as there is a big demand on resources for roads. He said he has raised the issue with Uisce Éireann as regards reinstating areas after Water Breaks and outlined that this is an ongoing issue.

#### **Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Ballyyourney – Pedestrian Crossing Very Unsafe  
Cllr. Moynihan said that drivers don't realise that the pedestrian crossing is there
- (b) Extra Pedestrian Crossing for Macroom  
J. Dwyer, SEE said there is no update but will follow it up
- (c) Ballygroman Lower – coming out of Killumney heading West –Turn off at the Greenfield Roundabout – 50 km/hour up to 80 km/hour at the houses - Speed  
J. Dwyer, SEE said there are white lines in front of the houses and signage could be added and outlined that speeding is a matter for An Garda Síochána.
- (d) Béal Átha nGhaorthaidh – Signage on N22 Bypass at Roundabout  
J. Dwyer, SEE said this is part of TII Route – Cork County Council have no authority over it. He said Cork County Council can put up appropriate signage on the former N22.
- (e) Disability Parking Space Outside Twomeys Macroom – Kerbing is Broken  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will arrange to carry out repairs.

#### **Cllr. Eileen Lynch**

- (a) Bus Stop on the Killarney Road, Macroom  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he met wit Bus Eireann and they looked at various locations closer to the town and are in the process of finalising a location. He said that a bus stop would help to slow down traffic. Cllr. Moynihan & Cllr. Lucey welcomed this.
- (b) Dripsey Cross Heading to the Model Village – 60 km – Signage  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would investigate.
- (c) Vicarstown Cross by the Shebeen Pub - Dangerous junction - Visibility very bad especially on the Kerry Road from Tower  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said they removed part of a tree stump which has greatly improved it

#### **Cllr. Ted Lucey**

- (a) Sign over the Castle Gates advertising Car Parking in the GAA Grounds  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has a preliminary drawing completed.
- (b) Carrigadrohid Bridge – Lots of Debris Falling off it – Big Concern  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has requested a full inspection to be carried out. He said he wrote to Google Maps to add a warning on their system highlighting a narrow bridge, however, they have come back confirming this is not something they can do. He said signs can be erected at either end of the bridge warning vehicles.



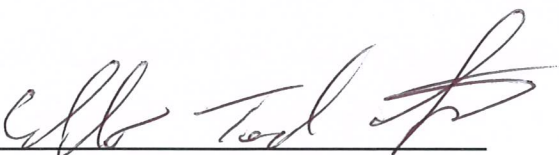
- (c) Dan Corkery Place, Macroom  
J. Dwyer, SEO said he is in the process of getting a quote.


**Nicola Radley, SEO**

N. Radley, SEO said on behalf of the Executive she wished Cllr. Lucey well in his new role and said she looked forward to working with him.


**Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú**

**This concluded the business of the meeting**

  
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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

  
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**DÁTA**

  
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**OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH**

  
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**DÁTA**