

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on 17th October 2023**

In Attendance: Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O' Brien, William O' Leary, Frank Roche; Aidan Creagh SEO, Marie McMahon EE, Margaret O' Donoghue MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

Apologies: Brendan O' Gorman SEE; Cllr. Frank O' Flynn.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. William O' Leary, welcomed Aidan Creagh SEO to Fermoy MD and the meeting.

1. MINUTES

a. Minutes of Fermoy Municipal District meeting held on 26th September 2023.

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

2. TAKING-IN-CHARGE

a. That being satisfied that a public right of way exists over it, and the road is of general public utility, Cork County Council hereby declares, pursuant to Section 11(1) of the Roads Act 1993, the following road to be a public road: ESTATE NAME Pairc na gCapall, LOCATION Kilworth, LINEAR METRES 1160

The elected Members noted the documentation and maps submitted in relation to this proposed Taking-in-Charge, and it was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.

3. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. REPORT : MDO Report October 2023

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO went through October MDO report, available on QuickMinutes for the Members information. Queries and comments on the report included the following:

- The elected Members enquired if there were any additional Painting Scheme funds available to which Margaret O' Donoghue MDO replied the scheme has been fully subscribed in Fermoy and Mitchelstown towns but there are some funds available for commercial properties in the nominated villages, the elected Members are welcome to make contact directly with Margaret.
- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien enquired if CCTV could be installed at Church Hill, Mitchelstown following completion of recent works there. Margaret O' Donoghue MDO replied CCTV systems are not an option, however, anti-social behaviour has been reported to An Garda Síochána for their information and investigation. Margaret added that there are additional works to be carried out in this playground.

b. REPORT : 2023 RI PROGRAMME Progress Update (verbal report)

c. REPORT : 2023 RM PROGRAMME Progress Update (verbal report)

d. REPORT : 2023 CIS / LIS (Rounds 1 & 2) Progress Update (verbal report)

f. REPORT : 2023 DRAINAGE Programme Progress Update (verbal report)

Marie McMahon EE informed the elected Members that works on these four programmes are now substantially complete - on schedule, as planned and within budget. All roads works programme projects have been completed in order to meet financial end-of-year requirements, i.e. by mid-November.

e. REPORT : SAFETY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME Progress Update (verbal report)

Marie McMahon EE informed the meeting that Phase 1 of the works planned for O'Leary's Cross are now complete except for the undergrounding of lines. Further works are planned for this location for 2024 and 2025, subject to funding. Works planned under this scheme for Barry's Boreen, Fermoy will be carried out in 2024.

g. REPORT : FOOTPATH Programme Progress Update (verbal report)

Footpath contract works continue to be carried out by the Contractor, as per the agreed programme.

h. REPORT : 2023 CA&R Progress Report

Works under this programme continue to be carried out in the district and will be complete to meet financial end-of-year requirements.

Queries and comments in relation to roads works projects included the following:

- In reply to a question from Cllr. Noel McCarthy, Marie McMahon EE confirmed that upgrade works are to be carried out on the drainage channel and gullies at Richmond Hill while the resurfacing work is being carried out, which will help prevent future flooding issues.
- In relation to flooding and severe weather forecast (Storm Babet), Marie McMahon EE confirmed all known flooding ‘hot-spots’ will be checked and any required drainage measures taken to prevent flooding incidents.
- in reply to a query from Cllr. Kay Dawson, Marie McMahon EE undertook to find out if any further (late) funding will be available for LIS or CIS schemes this year and revert to the elected Members accordingly.
- Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien enquired if there are plans to do future ‘micro-surfacing’ works in the district, to which Marie McMahon EE replied the trial project carried out this year will be examined and monitored and Brendan O’ Gorman SEE will make a decision on this accordingly. The elected Members will be kept informed of future plans with regard to resurfacing and surfacing works.
- Cllr. Noel McCarthy enquired when upgrade works at the entrance to Doneraile GAA will be done to which Marie McMahon EE replied she will check this out and revert accordingly.
- Cllr. William O’ Leary enquired when T&V Renewal Scheme works will be done in Rathcormac village to which Marie replied these works are on the programme and will be carried out imminently.
- Cllr. William O’ Leary commented that recent flooding in Rathcormac was unprecedented and areas had flooded which never flooded before, he is requesting the possible cause for this flooding be examined and a resolution provided. Marie McMahon EE responded that investigations are ongoing and remedial works will be done to prevent future such flood events in Rathcormac village.

i. RECOMMENDATION : Proposed New Disabled Bay outside No. 77 Rathcarrig, Fermoy.

The elected Members considered the recommendation for the installation of this Disabled Parking Bay outside No. 77 Rathcarrig, Fermoy and this was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. William O’ Leary.

4. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn

1. “that Cork County Council would put traffic calming measures in place in Ballynoe village in the interest of safety of residents and road users”.

In the absence of a dedicated traffic calming budget in the district, we cannot move on the request here. However, we will keep on file in the event of a change here. The village will have a requirement for resurfacing in the next three years and at that time consideration will be given to a number of raised speed tables that will aid calming here. (BO’G)

This motion was supported by Cllrs. O’ Brien and McCarthy, however, Cllr. Frank Roche said that Ballynoe village did not want ramps in 2019 and they still do not want ramps in the village. Marie McMahon EE suggested a raised table may be more effective than a ramp as it prevents the banging noise when being traversed by vehicles. It was agreed this could be examined again when resurfacing work is being done, as per the reply given to the motion.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

2. “that this Council carry out works to alleviate flooding at the entrance to Springfield Estate, Fermoy”.

Survey works and investigations are ongoing at the moment (commenced 13th October). All gullies are running clear but there is an obstruction in the main culvert downstream or ingress from underground springs / streams somewhere. We will update members in due course. (BO’G)

Marie McMahon EE confirmed survey works have been done here and alleviation works will be planned and actioned as soon as possible.

Cllr. William O' Leary

3. "that this Council would consider under the Climate Adaptation Fund to apply for funding to incorporate a drainage plan for Castlelyons particularly round the vicinity of previous Kearney's machinery yard".
Was included in last year's funding request but did not make funding. Will of course be resubmitted for 2024. (BO'G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

4. "call on Cork County Council to cut and tidy the embankment on the footpath on the Kildorrery road approaching Mitchelstown".
Works requested here are now complete. (MO'D)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

5. "that this Council approve installation of Disabled Parking Bay at Thomas Street, Mitchelstown P67N797 (Disabled Parking Permit supplied)".
For consideration. (BO'G)
Cllr. O' Brien indicated that she will discuss this matter with Brendan O' Gorman SEE directly.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

6. "that Cork County Council would call on Transport Infrastructure Ireland to consider putting an on/off access road from the N72 at the Hospital Road entrance to Fermoy to the motorway in the interest of safety".
For discussion. (BO'G)
The elected Members agreed that this provision would be desirable and a great asset as an access to the motorway here would, in effect, create a link road / by-pass around the town of Fermoy, easing traffic congestion in the town. Whilst it was acknowledged that a motorway access at this location is (probably) more aspirational than realistic, it was agreed by all the elected Members that correspondence would be sent to TII requesting the provision of this on/off access road.
7. "that Cork County Council give an update and timeframe on the proposed safety works at Christchurch junction, Fermoy".
Likely to go to Part VIII in November 2023 with likely construction phase mid-Summer 2024 (night time works) if approved. (BO'G)
Full update on these proposed works and the timeline involved provided at the FMMD meeting with NRDO personnel held in County Hall on 9th October 2023.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

8. "that this Committee get an up-to-date report on a location for a Skate Park in Fermoy and funding being made available for this project".
Investigations are ongoing to identify a suitable site which meets the requirements for provision of a Skate Park. (MO'D)
This request for a Skate Park for Fermoy was supported by the elected Members. Margaret O'Donoghue MDO advised that it is a matter of identifying and securing a site suitable for this amenity.
9. "that this Committee receives an up-to-date report from Estates Management, Cork County Council on the Manor Housing Estate in Clondulane being taken in charge".
Reply requested from Planning & Development.

Cllr. William O' Leary

10. "that this Council on foot of a general increase for 2024 county wide on low cost safety improvement scheme would consider the provision of including a plan of action for Kenny's Cross on same".
A proposal for Kenny's Cross is one of ten schemes in this district that has already been submitted. Kenny's Cross, Castlelyons is No. 1 on our priority listing. (BO'G)
This reply was welcomed by Cllr. O' Leary, and the elected Members.

11. “that this Council would provide an up to date position as to when bridge rehabilitation works will take place on the R626 Ballinterry, Rathcormac”.
The repair of this bridge as a result of a vehicle strike is with insurance companies at present. We have secured no timeline from our L&RDO re: this repair but members will be advised when we receive updates. (BO’G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

12. “call on Cork County Council to re-direct surface water from property at D56 WV91 Glenville”.
Location to be clarified. (BO’G)
Cllr. Dawson undertook to ascertain the correct Eircode / location for this request and advise the Engineer accordingly.
13. “call on this Municipal District to write to Bus Eireann to provide a bus stop at Glocca Maura Inn to facilitate locals to access their nearest towns”.
For discussion. (MO’D)
This motion was supported by the elected Members who agreed there is a demand for this service and it was agreed a request would be sent to Bus Eireann accordingly.

Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien

14. “that this Council make more visible/clearer directional signage for motorist to stay on N72 rather than turning off at Kilcummer on L-1225 when travelling to Mallow. Many tourists getting lost on the local roads in this area”.
It is ‘Sat Nav’ that is highlighting this local primary road as the shortest route to Mallow. There is very clear National Road signage indicating the N72 to Mallow and it is not appropriate to install additional signage approaching all local road junctions in the matter proposed. (BO’G)
It was agreed by the elected Members that ‘Sat Nav’ is advising imprecise and indirect routes to drivers resulting in vehicles being driven on less suitable roads. On some occasions the possibly longer and less direct route is more suitable if the vehicle is a lorry or large agricultural vehicle more suited to a less windy road; however ‘Sat Nav’ users should choose the correct options when keying in their journey so that the most direct and best roads are included in the directions being furnished by the system.
15. “that this Council would carry out safety measures on the road R667 Monadrishane from R639 Molly Barry’s Cross to Kilworth Village”.
For discussion. (BO’G)
This motion was supported by Cllr. Noel McCarthy saying this is a very busy road and intersection. Marie McMahon EE advised that designs for traffic calming are being prepared for the other side of Kilworth (and for which funding is available) and this location will be examined to determine if any such works can be undertaken here.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Cllr. William O’ Leary

That Council would again write to Bus Eireann and the NTA requesting that extra capacity and resources be put in place particularly on the morning run the bus is full at times before it reaches Fermoy meaning that many who are attempting to go to Cork for college or work are often left stranded in Fermoy / Rathcormac / Watergrasshill.

This was supported by the elected Members and it was agreed this request would be sent to Bus Eireann and the NTA.

2. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

Public Lighting at Ballygiblin School - Upgrade request for safety and improvement.

This request for additional public lighting is to be added to the list for consideration.

3. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

Basketball Court, Ard Mhuillinn - highlighting anti-social behaviour.

Cllr. O' Brien commented that parents should know where their children are and what they are doing, and said this anti-social activity at this location is unacceptable and not what anyone should have to tolerate in their dwelling place.

4. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - public lighting on Kent Bridge, Fermoy.

Cllr. McCarthy sought an update on the much-needed repair works required on the public lighting on Kent Bridge, as with the dark evenings approaching, safety there is a huge concern for pedestrians.

5. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - proposal for a Vote of Sympathy to the family of Tina Satchwell.

This was agreed by the elected Members.

6. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Christmas lights Switch-ON, Fermoy

Cllr. Noel McCarthy reminded all present of the turning-on of Christmas lights in Fermoy on Saturday, 25th November 2023 at 6.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Signed _____

Date _____