

Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

8th December 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 - €118,477.00

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 - €53,068

Below is an image of the recently completed ball wall by Aghabullogue GAA. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.



3. CLÁR Fund 2022 Update

Four projects were granted funding under 2022 Clár Fund. The project by Millstreet Mens Shed, together with Cork County Council to complete essential renovations to Millstreet old fire station to facilitate weekly group meetings & workshops.

The works carried out included the following:

- Roof works + fascia, soffit & gutters
- Refurbishment of Tea Station to include new kitchen units, flooring, tiling & new furniture in room to facilitate weekly group meetings
- Refurbish toilet – new flooring, sanitary ware, grab rails
- Painting of exterior & interior
- Entrance improvement works – surface treatment & drainage + tarring the area to allow cars to park
- Side entrance improvements + addition of security gate
- Grab rails inside & outside
- Replace windows & doors and Slab & skim ceiling

The overall aim of this project was the refurbishment of this vacant unused building to bring it back into use for the community & to facilitate weekly meetings & workshops by Millstreet Mens Shed and thus enhancing the overall appearance of the building in the town. With this newly refurbished meeting space, it has encouraged additional members to this groups who are delighted with this very successful outcome.

This project costing €46,000 was granted Clár funding of €38,700 and has been fully completed. The Mens Shed group are thrilled with their newly refurbished facility which provides an attractive, cosy & inviting new space. It allows them to meet in comfort & to share ideas & socialise. It is a great community resource & outlet for the older members of Millstreet and the workshop allows the members to build items for the benefit of the entire community. The community engagement during this project was great & there is now a renewed interest in this group.

Below are some images before & after pictures of the newly refurbished facility.



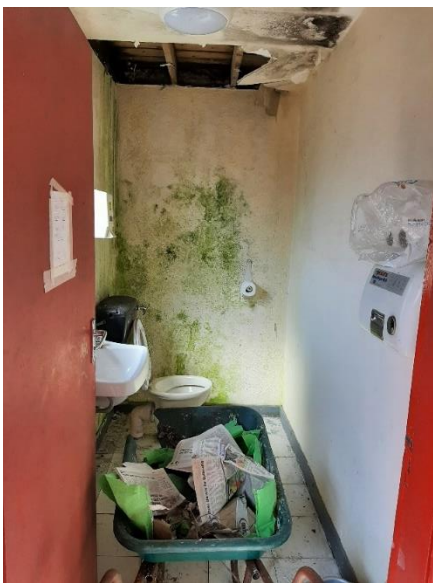
Before



After



New Tea Station



Before



After

4. Outdoor Recreation & Infrastructure Scheme (ORI)

The Macroom River Sullane Crossing Project has been successful under the ORI Project Development Measure and has received a grant of €50,000 to develop this project. The proposal is to design a pedestrian bridge to link the North of River Sullane section of Town Park to the South section of the park.

Cork County Council working together with the Trustees of the park wish to create walking connectivity to improve access from the town to river walkways & improving the tourism offering of Macroom. This project will form part of recreational walking trails connecting the town to the River & the rural amenities. The bridge will allow for the off-road connection between the North & South of walking trails through parks & woodlands. This will require planning and this PDM funding will facilitate design and associated planning reports that may be required.

5. 2024 Arts Grants Scheme

Applications are currently being invited for the Arts Grants Scheme 2024.

The following funding strands are open for online applications until Tuesday 9th January 2024:

- Arts Grant Scheme
- Artists in Schools Scheme
- Na hEalaíona atá bunaithe ar Ghaeilge/ Irish Language Arts
- Artists' Funding Schemes (open to practicing artists only)

The Arts Grants Scheme is the Council's general grant scheme for funding events and activity.

In order to support persons who may have difficulty with typed forms, the Arts Service in conjunction with the Council's Customer Services Team has developed an accessibility feature for the 2024 Scheme to enable the submission of a video or audio application.

Applications can be made online at www.yourcouncil.ie. The closing date for receipt of applications for all schemes is **5.00 pm on Tuesday 9th January 2024.**

6. 2023 Macroom Christmas Market

Macroom Municipal District will be holding our Christmas Market in Macroom Town Square this **Tuesday 12th December 2023 commencing at 9.00 am.**

The road at the public toilets will be closed for the day. A marquee will be erected in the Square to accommodate 11 pitches. We expect to have an additional 16 traders to add to the usual 12 that trade every Tuesday. Upstairs in Town Hall will be opened up & there will 7 schools showcasing 20 mini companies as part of the Student Enterprise Programme that is run through the Local Enterprise Office (LEO). In addition, a free Christmas card making demonstrations by Macroom School of Art will be available in the Town Hall. We encourage everyone to come out to this free family event.

Just a reminder that there is 2 hour free car parking on all onstreet parking for the month of December and all car parks are free of charge & are only a short distance from the Square.






7. 2023 IPB Pride of Place Awards

Rylane Community Park Association (RCPA) was entered into the 2023 All Island IPB Pride of Place competition and this group were successful in reaching the finals which were recently held in Armagh. This group had a big success on the night by receiving a Special Award from the Place of Place in the competition. The group were delighted & thrilled with this very successful result, amid stiff competition. Below are some images from the night.



8. 2024 Funding Streams under Heritage and Conservation

The Council is inviting owners and custodians to apply for funding to safeguard protected structures and archaeological monuments. Three funding streams have been announced :

-  Community Monuments Fund
-  Built Heritage Investment Scheme
-  Historic Structures Fund

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is 4.00 pm on Thursday 18th January 2024 for the Built Heritage Investment Sch & Historic Structures Fund and the later date of 4.00pm on Wednesday 31st January 2024 for the Community Monuments Fund. Applications can be made by emailing corkheritage@corkcoco.ie or a hard copy application may be sought from Heritage & Conservation Office, Floor 3, Planning Department, County Hall. Further information on these Schemes can be found on www.corkcoco.ie or www.yourcouncil.ie

9. Public Toilets at Gougán Barra

The public toilets at Gougán Barra have been given a facelift with them being newly painted inside & out. Below are some images of the newly painted toilets.





Marie O'Leary

Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council