

Minutes of the Macroom Municipal District Blended Meeting, which was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 22nd September 2023

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

Attendance/Tinreamh: Ms. Nicola Radley, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Eileen O'Brien, 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

Apologies/Leath scéal: Cllr. Michael Creed

1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Looney and seconded by Cllr. Martin Coughlan the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 28th July, 2023 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

2. NITHE AG ÉIRÍ AS NA MIONTUAIRISCÍ MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Bench & Tap in Millstreet Graveyard
P. O'Sullivan, EE said it is hoped to have both in place by the end Oct/early November.
- (b) QR Code on the Murals in Macroom
M. O'Leary, MDO said the information regarding the murals is up on Cork County Council's website and that the next step is to erect a plaque for each mural and then create a QR code for each one.
- (c) Bus Éireann's Route 257 service, servicing Macroom to Killarney – Update
No update.
- (d) 2023 Historic Towns Initiative - Update
In response to Cllr. Moynihan's query regarding the Castle Wall, M. O'Leary, MDO said she met with the Trustees in relation to potential developments for the Castle Demesne. They are working with Heritage in relation to their future plans for the area.
- (d) Additional Directional Road signage on the N22 bypass – Update from TII
M. O'Leary, MDO said she emailed the Director of Roads with the list of locations that were mentioned as requiring this signage and has of yet have not had any response but will follow up again.

(e) Macroom Town Parking – Update

M. O’Leary, MDO said they are presently looking at all potential car parking solutions and outlined the Council’s lease with Super Valu for car parking to the rear there that are available to the public and informed the meeting that they are also looking at potential bus parking areas.

Cllr. Lucey agreed that more parking was needed but said there is also parking near the GAA Pitch in the Castle Grounds. He said there is no easy solution to this.

Following Cllr Moynihan’s query, M. O’Leary, MDO asked Members if they had any potential parking solutions that might work to let her know and they will be investigated.

In response to Cllr. Coughlan’s query regarding signage for Super Valu parking, J. Dwyer, SEE said the signage was on order. Cllr. Coughlan asked the ground is marked out.

N. Radley, SEO said that parking remains a priority for Cork County Council both in the immediate and longer term.

Councillor Eileen Lynch

(a) Toonsbridge – Pedestrian Footpath - safety works – money allocated.

J. Dwyer, SEE said it was not realistic at that location, that the houses on the R584 would benefit more from a footpath.

(b) Lee Valley Inn Dripsey - Update.

M. O’Leary, MDO said there has been another planning application submitted, but that she is seeking legal advice on this matter to progress under the Dereliction Sites Act 1990.

(c) Coachford - Update

- Flood Study

P. O’Sullivan, EE said consultants have been appointed to start the flood study.

- Footpath

P. O’Sullivan, EE said the NTA have stated that the works are being integrated with the Safe Route to School Scheme

(d) Signage – Model Village, Dripsey

P. O’Sullivan, EE said a list was sent to the contractor and he will follow up.

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

(a) Bridge in Macroom Town

- Plaster to be removed from both sides of the bridge.

J. Dwyer, SEE said it was hard to give a definite answer on this but will carry out a trial patch to see if that works.

- Lamp on the Bridge

J. Dwyer, SEE said it will be December at earliest before the works can be carried out.

(b) Old Estates – Any funding for old estates where areas are dug up after water works.

Cllr. Coughlan suggested a plan to look at carrying out works every 3 to 4 years in these estates. J. Dwyer, SEE to look at this option.

(c) Coolcower Picnic Area – Barrier left open – Grass Area not Cut – looks unsightly.

Cllr. Coughlan suggested that the front area is kept as a picnic area and the back area is set with trees. J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate.

- (d) Entrance to the Fire Station – looks unsightly.
M. O’Leary, MDO said she contacted the Fire Officer regarding the condition of the grounds and the planting at the entrance and will follow up again. Cllr. Lucey said he also contacted the Office of Public Works (OPW).

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Moynihan and seconded by Cllr. M. Looney that the Municipal District write to the Director of Services with the responsibility of Fire Services regarding this issue.

- (e) Bollards located at the Graveyard in Macroom and located in surrounding Areas
In response to Cllr. Coughlan’s request to remove & replace the bollards, J. Dwyer, SEE said he will progress this.

Councillor Michael Looney

- (a) Junctions Overgrown – dangerous
Cllr. Looney said prohibiting verge trimming to 1st September is too late. He said a lot of the foliage is gone back and that the date should be brought back to the middle of August. J. Dwyer, SEE said this is a national issue.

Councillor Ted Lucey

- (a) Macroom – Water pooling
J. Dwyer, SEE outlined that TII will be doing works in Macroom and this issue will be completed then.
- (b) Carrigadrohid Bridge – Debris Falling – Concern
J. Dwyer, SEE said the Bridge Design Section will carry out a survey.
- (c) Pedestrian Crossing at Muskerry Vets, Macroom is partly gone
J. Dwyer, SEE said it is on the Programme of Works

3. BREITHNIÚCHÁIN AR THUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Municipal District Officers Report

Members noted the Report.

- Heritage Week Event
Cllr. Lucey said the event was a great success
- 2023 Historic Towns Initiative – Update
In response to Cllr. Moynihan regarding the Castle Wall, M. O’Leary, MDO confirmed that the heritage assets of the town will most likely be included in the Plan that is being finalised. She said that Southgate Associates were liaising with the Trustees.
- 2023 Town & Village Renewal Scheme
In response to Cllr. Moynihan query, M. O’Leary, MDO confirmed that a total of 4 applications can be submitted to the Dept from Cork County Council and an additional one from the islands. She said that senior management make the decision on the final applications for submission.

(b) **Discretionary Fund Applications**

Group/Organisation	Brief Description of Request
Dripsey Tidy Towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Further develop the 'Pollinator Corridor' through the Dripsey area by building a stone bed for pollinator friendly plants at Dripsey bridge
Donoughmore Active Retirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Purchase of a Defibrillator
Total	€600

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. M. Coughlan

Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Looney

**4. CHUN NA RUIN SEO LEANAS ÓN GCOMHAIRLEOIR A MHEAS:
To consider the following Notice of Motions in the name of:**

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- (1) **Íarr ar an Comhairle scrudú a dheanamh ar na comharthaí boithre ar fuid Gaeltacht Mhurscraí, chun cinntú go bhfuil sé ag cloi le hAcht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla.**

That this Council would survey its road signage on Gaeltacht Mhurscraí roads, in order to make sure it is, conforming with Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla

Mar a iarrtar, déanfar an suirbhé sna míonna amach romhainn de réir mar a bheidh acmhainní innealtóireachta ar fáil. Déanfar soiléireacht maidir le riachtanais an Lámhleabhair um Chomharthaí Tráchtá i gceantair Ghaeltachta a lorg.

The survey as requested will be carried out over the coming months as engineering resources being available. Clarity will also be sought regarding the requirements of the Traffic Signs Manual in Gaeltacht areas.

James Dwyer, SEE

- (2) **Íarr ar an Comhairle an t-eolas is déanaí a thabhairt don cruinniú faoi an Active Travel Scheme (Seachtbhothair N22)**

That the Council would furnish an update on the Active Travel Scheme (N22 Bypass)

D'fhostaigh Comhairle Contae Chorcaí, i gcomhar le Bonneagar Iompair Éireann, Comhairleoir Teicniúil le gairid chun cabhrú le foireann thionscadal CCC chun an chéad chéim eile de Thionscadal Taistil an N22 ó Bhaile Bhuirne go Maigh Chromtha a fhorbairt. Tá sé i gceist leis an gcéad chéim eile srianta ar an tionscadal a aithint laistigh den limistéar staidéir, rud a chuirfidh bonn eolais faoi roghanna féideartha a aithint don scéim

Cork County Council, in conjunction with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, have recently engaged a Technical Advisor to assist the CCC project team in the developing the next stage of the N22 Baile Bhuirne to Macroom Active Travel Project. The next stage involves

the identification of project constraints within the study area, which in turn will inform the identification of possible options for the scheme.

Sean Callery, SE
National Roads Office

Cllr. Moynihan said she will seek clarification as to what the Active Travel Funding entailed. Cllr. Lucey requested that Sean Callery, SE should be invited to a future meeting when he has an update.

5. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- JJ and Jeremiah Delaney, Rusheen on their gold medal win at the recent All-Ireland Ploughing Championships

6. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES.

- Ber Kearney, retired Staff Member, on the death of her husband Stephen Kearney
- The Collins Family, Masseytown on the death of Mary Collins

7. AON GHNÓ EILE
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

- (a) St. Colman's Park, Macroom – Dangerous Trees
Cllr. Coughlan said that a number of palm trees require immediate attention as they are leaning against other trees.
- (b) Barretts Place, Macroom – Across the road from the estate - Overhanging tree in a private garden
Cllr. Coughlan said the tree is making it very dark at night and asked if it could be trimmed back. J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate.
- (c) South Doc Out of Hours Service, Macroom
Cllr. Coughlan said there are rumours circulating that South Doc will be going from Macroom and asked that clarification is sought from South Doc Management. A discussion took place and it was unanimously agreed that correspondence be sent requesting an update.
- (d) Lights on the Bridge in Macroom
J. Dwyer, SEE said it will be December at earliest before the works can be carried out.
- (e) Abandoned Cars - Macroom
Cllr. Coughlan said there is an abandoned car in Sunnyside, Macroom.

Cllr. Michael Looney

- (a) Pipehouse Cross, Courtbrack – Residents concerned about the Cross – can anything be done to make it safer?
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will investigate

- (b) Ballyanly Road Markings
Cllr. Looney said despite the speed survey results it is still a dangerous road, he said that something needs to be done.
- (c) Donoughmore Cross to Creans Cross – Continuous white Line Removed
Cllr. Looney said some residents have requested that the continuous white line be reinstated. P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will investigate.
- (d) Berrings Cross – Road Markings Faded
- (e) Coachford – Possible footpath on the Donoughmore Road
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would meet with the landowner to discuss survey
- (f) Road from Berrings to the Yellow House – 100/150 m is very rough
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will look at including it in next year's Surface Dressing Programme
- (g) Footpath Stuake School to Donoughmore Cross
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will keep it in mind if funding becomes available at a future date.
- (h) Welcome Sign at Cloghroe Village
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he is waiting on the Supplier to send a draft of the sign.

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Canopy in Millstreet
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the replacement leg delivered by the supplier of the canopy was the wrong size. As we had been waiting months for the leg to be delivered, rather than sending it back again he has asked a local fabricator to supply the leg. As this will take time to fabricate and galvanise, plus the installation of the Christmas Lights, the canopy won't be in back up until the new year. Cllr. Moynihan requested that the proper leg is ordered again from the manufacturer.
- (b) Signage - Was it possible to get a sign for Mallow and a sign for Killarney at Monument in Millstreet
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will investigate
- (c) Millstreet – Lights installed by the Old Fire Station
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will follow up with the Lighting Section to see if they have been energised
- (d) Traffic Warden in Millstreet
M. O'Leary, MDO said the Traffic Warden covers Macroom and Millstreet but Macroom takes priority as it has pay parking. However, the Traffic Warden goes to Millstreet regularly. Following query from Cllr. Moynihan. M. O'Leary, MDO will investigate in relation to cars parking on footpath at Minor Row.

Cllr. Ted Lucey

- (a) Carrigadrohid Bridge Mahallagh – very large potholes
- (b) Coolmakee Road – Rocks sticking up
J. Dwyer, SEE to investigate

Marie O'Leary, MDO

Transfer of Nicola Radley, SEO

M. O'Leary, MDO informed the Members that this meeting was Nicola's last meeting as she is transferring to the Planning Department. She thanked Nicola for all her dedication and hard work and said that the Municipal District flourished under her watch where she spearheaded lots of successful projects including Beal na Blath, Briery Gap to name a few. She said she had a great work ethic and will be hugely missed. She wished her every success in her new role. M. O'Leary, MDO then welcomed Eileen O'Brien, SEO who will replace Nicola. All Members concurred with the sentiments expressed and wished Nicola well for the future. They also welcomed Eileen O'Brien, SEO.

N. Radley, SEO thanked everyone and said she was humbled by the lovely comments. However, she said it was a joint effort and all projects delivered were delivered together. She said she was very lucky with the team she had in Macroom and expressed thanks to everyone.

Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú

This concluded the business of the meeting



CATHAOIRLEACH



DÁTA



OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH



DÁTA