

## **Minutes of the November Macroom Municipal District Blended Meeting, which was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

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

**Attendance/Tinreamh:** Ms. Eileen O'Brien, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer  
Mr. Pat O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

**Apologies/Leath scéal:** Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer

### **1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

On the proposal of Cllr. Martin Coughlan and seconded by Cllr. Michael Creed the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 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 Ted Lucey**

(a) Meeting with TII re- Junctions on N22 from Coolcower to Coolmucky Crossroads  
Cllr. Lucey said there was a meeting held with the Senior Engineer Roads, An Garda Síochána and Road Design Office regarding the N22. He said there were two proposals put forward:

- Roundabout at Castlemore Cross which has been sent for approval to the TII
- Right turning Lane at the junction at Pole Cross (Kilconnolly)

Cllr. Lucey said it was a very constructive meeting with a lot of discussion taking place.

(b) South Doc Out of Hours Service, Macroom  
Following Cllr Lucey's query, M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed she had received no response to the correspondence sent and confirmed another letter will be sent to them.

In J. Dwyer, SEE's absence, Cllr. Lucey requested that the following items are held over to next month

(b) Macroom – Water pooling on Main Street

(c) Fitzies Corner, Macroom – lining faded

(d) Pedestrian Crossing in Masseytown / Kilnagurteen

(a) Bus Stop on the Millstreet Road, Macroom

(b) Hedge in Masseytown on the bridge side is very overgrown and encroaching on the footpath

### **Councillor Martin Coughlan**

In J. Dwyer, SEE's absence, Cllr. Coughlan requested that the following items are held over to next month

- (a) St. Colman's Park, Macroom – Dangerous Trees
- (b) Entrance to the Fire Station – looks unsightly.
- (c) Coolcower Picnic Area.
- (d) Plaster to be removed from both sides of the bridge in Macroom Town
- (e) Pedestrian Lights at Super Valu, Macroom need to be synchronised  
M. O'Leary, MDO said she would follow up

### **Councillor Michael Creed**

- (a) Roadside slippage on the Millstreet side of Carriginimma  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the Climate Action Funding should be announced in February 2024. This has been sought to enable the build-up of the embankment.
- (b) Further damage to Hanover Bridge after previous damage had been repaired  
No update
- (c) No lighting in the new Council Estate in Millstreet  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said that Public Lights are now working

In J. Dwyer, SEE's absence, Cllr. Creed requested that the following items are held over to next month

- (d) Temporary flooding protection measures promised for Baile Bhuirne / Baile Mhic Íre about 4 years ago weren't put in place.
- (e) Sign at Fitzies Corner in Macroom to indicate entrance to Cork Marts
- (f) Two holes have appeared on the Old Railway Bridge at the Four Mile Bridge
- (g) Old Railway Bridge at 4 Mile Bridge – in a dangerous state.

### **Councillor Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Bench & Tap in Millstreet Graveyard  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the tap has been installed at the halfway point at the first crossroads. He said they are presently digging the base for the bench.
- (b) QR Code on the Murals in Macroom  
M. O'Leary, MDO said work is continuing.
- (c) Macroom Town Parking – Update  
M. O'Leary, MDO said that there is no update on this matter at present but work is progressing on it.

- (d) Signage - requesting a sign for Mallow and a sign for Killarney at Monument in Millstreet
- (e) Millstreet – Lights installed by the Old Fire Station  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he spoke to the Public Lighting Section and they are waiting for the ESB to connect.
- (f) Speed Activated Signs for Cloughboula  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he hoped the bases would be in in the coming weeks.

In J. Dwyer, SEE's absence, Cllr. Moynihan requested that the following items are held over to next month

- (g) Public sewerage pipe that is due to be replaced in Beal Átha nGhaorthaidh in the center of the village (R584-23).
- (h) Speed Activated Sign in Renairee not operating correctly and might not be working at all
- (i) Manhole covers are sinking in Baile Bhuirne from the Centra shop to the Quilt Centre
- (j) Kilmurry – looking for an extra light between the old HSE building, down to the school
- (k) Castlemore Cross update on re-designing that junction

#### **Councillor Michael Looney**

- (a) Pipehouse Cross, Courtbrack – Residents concerned about the Cross – can anything be done to make it safer?
- (b) Road from Berrings to the Yellow House is very rough  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will include this road in next year's Surface Dressing programme.

#### **Councillor Eileen Lynch**

- (a) Lee Valley Inn, Dripsey – dangerous state  
M. O'Leary, MDO said she is aware that there is an active planning application for this site, but despite that she said further correspondence is being issued to the owners. In response to Cllr Lynch regarding legally what can be done, M. O'Leary, MDO said the correspondence that is being issued has a legal side to it.
- (b) EV Charging Points  
M. O'Leary, MDO said it was planned to set up a Working Group to examine and develop a countywide policy as part of the Climate Action Plan. She said the main focus initially as she understands will be on the higher population towns.

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

#### **(a) Municipal District Officers Report**

Members noted the Report as detailed.



(b) **Discretionary Fund Applications**

<b>Group/Organisation</b>	<b>Brief Description of Request</b>
Erin Kelleher St. Mary's Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Travelling to Kolkata, India with the Hope Foundation as part of the TY School Immersion Programme.</li></ul>
Macroom Community Defibrillator Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consumables such as batteries and pads</li></ul>
Cór Cill na Martra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hiring a sound system for their event on Saturday 25th November <i>This application was proposed by Cllr Moynihan &amp; seconded by Cllr Looney.</i></li></ul>
Millstreet Irish Country Women's Association Guild	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Host a six-week programme, upskilling, educational training and crafts.</li></ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€1,200</b>

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

In response to Cllr. Coughlan's query regarding funding for Defibrillator's, M. O'Leary, MDO said that groups can apply under the 2024 Community Fund Scheme which will be open in January next year.

**4. DIÚSCAIRT TALÚN  
Disposal of Property**

**Fógra Alt 183 / Section 183 Notice**

- (a) Disposal of land at Millstreet Road, Macroom, Co. Cork acquired by Macroom Town Council, now Cork County Council prior to 1976 to Millmac Limited for a consideration of €60,000.00

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. T. Lucey  
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Coughlan

- (b) Disposal of Wastewater Treatment Plant, Macroom to Uisce Éireann for a consideration of €150,000

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. T. Lucey  
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Looney

Cllr. T. Lucey queried if the money received from Uisce Éireann could be ringfenced for Macroom MD. M. O'Leary, MDO said she would enquire if this was possible.

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

- **Cllr. Eileen Lynch**

**Can the Council outline all roads funding allocated to Coachford village under the Active Travel and Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works since 2020 and spend of same. Can an update be provided in relation to the installation of a footpath from the Macroom side of Coachford to the schools, installation of pedestrian crossing at the Co-Op and road improvements on the road from the village to the GAA pitch.**

Taisteal Gníomhach

Ceadaíodh cionroinnt ar fiú €30,000 í faoin gclár 'Taisteal Gníomhach' i 2022 i gcomhair dealraitheacht agus dearadh cosáin a nascfaidh an sráidbhaile leis an scoil náisiúnta, agus an sráidbhaile leis an naíolann. Bhí sé beartaithe go dtabharfadh comhairleoirí faoin dearthóireacht seo i dtosach báire, ach thug oifig an NTA faoi ina dhiaidh sin.

Is í an chionroinnt NTA atá ar fáil do Bhailte agus do Shráidbhailte ar fud Contae Chorcaí le haghaidh 2023 ná €2,640,000 – suim airgid atá i bhfad níos ísle ná an suim a lorgaíodh. Mar sin, ar mhí-ámharaí an tsaol, ní féidir dul chun cinn a dhéanamh maidir le MA5.1 Áth an Chóiste faoi láthair mar gheall ar an gcaiteachas atá geallta cheana féin ar fud an Chontae le haghaidh 2023.

Mar nóta ginearálta, tá sé tábhachtach go leagfar béim ar an bhfíric nár baineadh scéimeanna a cheadaigh an NTA dóibh roimhe seo den chlár. Baineann an cheist atá idir lámha faoi láthair leis an maoiniú a bhí ar fáil i 2023.

Oibreacha Oiriúnaithe agus Athléimneachta um Athrú Aeráide (CARW)

Lorgaíodh maoiniú agus ceadaíodh dó i gcomhair dhá thionscadal ar leith le haghaidh Áth an Chóiste i 2023. Ceadaíodh maoiniú, ar fiú €30,000 é, do phíobú draenach oscailte atá ann cheana feadh an R618 chun tógáil cosáin suas go dtí an naíolann a éascú. Mar sin féin, toisc nach bhfuarthas aon mhaoiniú don chosán molta faoin gclár 'Taisteal Gníomhach' agus toisc gur gá píobú na draenach agus tógáil an chosáin a chur i gcrích ag an am céanna, níor caitheadh an €30,000 i mbliana. Ina theannta sin, níor cuireadh isteach aon iarratas ar mhaoiniú le haghaidh 2024 faoi CARW don suíomh seo mar gheall ar éiginnteacht an NTA i 2024.

Ceadaíodh maoiniú ar fiú €30,000 é chun an baol go dtarlódh tuilte in aice le Páirceanna CLG Áth an Chóiste a mhaolú. An moladh a bhí ann ná poill shúite nua a chur in ionad na gceann atá ann cheana féin agus na silteáin atá ann cheana a nascadh le sruth éalaithe an tseanséaraigh bréin . Mar sin féin, tháinig fadhb chun cinn maidir leis an gcead slí atá ann cheana don séarach bréan agus táimid ag iarraidh bun agus barr an scéil a fháil ó Uisce Éireann sula dtugaimid aghaidh ar an mbealach is féidir linn leanúint ar aghaidh leis an tionscadal. Dá bharr sin, níor caitheadh €30,000 i mbliana agus níor cuireadh isteach aon iarratas ar mhaoiniú le haghaidh 2024 faoi CARW don suíomh seo mar gheall ar an éiginnteacht a bhí ann maidir le costais fhéideartha na n-oibreacha.



### Active Travel

An allocation of €30,000 was approved under Active Travel in 2022 for the feasibility and design of a footpath linking the village to the national school and the village to the creche. It was initially envisaged that this design work would be undertaken by consultants, but it was subsequently undertaken by the NTA office.

The NTA allocation for Towns and Villages across Cork County for 2023 is €2,640,000 – significantly below what was sought. Thus, unfortunately; MA5.1 Coachford cannot be progressed at present due to expenditure that is currently committed for 2023 across the County.

On a general point it is important to emphasise that schemes previously approved by the NTA have not been removed from the programme. The matter at hand is solely one of funding available in 2023.

### Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works (CARW)

Funding was sought and approved for two separate projects for Coachford in 2023. €30,000 in funding was approved for the piping of an existing open drain along the R618 to facilitate the construction of the footpath to the creche. However, as no funding was received for the proposed footpath under Active Travel and as both the piping of the drain and the construction of the footpath needed to be completed simultaneously, the €30,000 was not spent this year and due to the uncertainty of NTA in 2024, no application for funding was made under CARW for this location for 2024

€30,000 in funding was approved to alleviate flooding by Coachford GAA Grounds. The proposal was to replace the existing soakaways and connect the existing gullies into the old foul sewer outfall. However, an issue with the existing wayleave for the foul sewer has arisen and we are trying to find out the background from Irish Water before seeing how we can progress with the project. As a result, the €30,000 was not spent this year and due to the uncertainty in relation to the potential costs of the works, no application for funding was made under CARW for this location for 2024.

Pat O’Sullivan, EE Millstreet

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In response, Cllr. Lynch commented as follows:

- disappointed that the €30,000 approved funding under the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works (CARW) was no longer available as flooding is very concerning at Coachford Pitch and asked what solution could be considered.
- queried if the pedestrian crossing at the Co-Op could be installed independent of the rest of the works and said she was aware that land acquisition would be required.
- Coachford is rapidly expanding and having no footpath going up to the school was not safe and queried what was the best way to progress it.

P. O'Sullivan, EE said as regards the Footpath, the Safe Route to School and the NTA are under the one roof and funding has been issued for this year. He said it might be possible that this Department would look to use the Development Contributions from the new proposed secondary school to expedite the works.

Flooding Issue: P. O'Sullivan, EE said unfortunately there is no easy solution to this issue and will again talk to Uisce Éireann on it.

In response to Cllr. Moynihan, P. O'Sullivan, EE outlined the background to the issue with the existing wayleave for the foul sewer. Cllr. Moynihan queried if there was an alternative plan. P. O'Sullivan, EE said at the moment Uisce Éireann will not allow us to connect to their new foul sewer outfall.

Cllr. Lucey said he was also disappointed the funding is no longer available. He agreed that there is an issue with safety.

In response to Cllr. Lynch, P. O'Sullivan, EE said the speed ramps at the GAA Pitch would not be installed until the flooding issue is solved.

- **Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**

- **Go dheanadh an Comhairle imscrudú ar cé comh féidearthadh a mbeidh sé chun falla Columbarium a suiteáil í Reilig Ghobnatan.**

**That this Council would consider installing a columbarium wall í Reilig Ghobnatan Baile Mhuirne.**

Scrúdóidh an Chomhairle an bhféadfaí balla colmlainne a chur ar fáil ag an reilig atá faoi chaibidil.

The Council will examine the feasibility of providing a columbarium wall at the graveyard in question.

- **Do bhfeicfidh an Comhairle isteach san inmharthanacht de trasrian coisithe a chuir í gClough Dubh.**

**That the Council would look into the viability of installing pedestrian crossings in Cloughduv.(Connecting Ryecourt and Spreading Chestnut and the Church)**

Bhuail mé le duine de na múinteoirí le déanaí chun an moladh a phlé. Tá an chuma ar an scéal go mbeadh sé indéanta pointe trasnaithe a chur ar Bhóthar Inis Chiaráin. Bheadh sé níos dúshlánaí pointe trasnaithe a chur os comhair an 'Spreading Chestnut'. Tá an bóthar sách leathan ag an suíomh seo agus tá na línte radhairc teoranta i dtreo an oirthir. Chomh maith leis sin, bheadh sé riachtanach deireadh a chur leis an bpáirceáil ar an dá thaobh den bhóthar thart timpeall ar phointe trasnaithe ar bith. Iarrfaidh mé ar an Oifig um Dhearadh Bóithre dár gcuid go n-ullmhófaí dearadh dó seo. Is féidir tuilleadh plé a dhéanamh ar an moladh le haon pháirtí atá bainteach leis an tionscadal nuair a bheidh líníocht ar fáil.

I recently met with one of the teachers to discuss the proposal. A crossing point would appear to be possible on the Ryecourt Road. A crossing in front of the Spreading Chesnut is more challenging. The road is quite wide at this location and sightlines are limited to the east. It would also be necessary to



eliminate parking on both side of the road around any crossing point. I will ask our road design office to prepare a design for same. Once a drawing is available the proposal can be discussed further with any parties involved.

James Dwyer, SEE

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In J. Dwyer, SEE's absence, Cllr. Moynihan requested that the NOM's items are held over to next month

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**6. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS**  
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Canovee GAA Junior A on winning the Cork Junior A Football Championship final

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

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

**Cllr. Eileen Lynch**

- (a) Murphy's Tce., Millstreet – on the Footpath List?  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he will look at what funding is available
- (b) Proposed Pedestrian Crossing at Super Valu, Minor Row, Millstreet  
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the Section 38 will be issued in the next few weeks.
- (c) Very Bad Potholes in Model Village, Dripsey by the Grotto

**Public Lighting**

The Members outlined the following public lights that are out of order:

- Millstreet Cross – Pole No. 3
- St. Colmans Park, Macroom – Pole No. 16
- Gurteenroe Macroom – Pole No. 60


M. O'Leary, MDO said she would forward the details to the Roads Office.

**Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú**

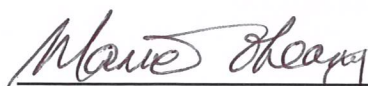
**This concluded the business of the meeting**



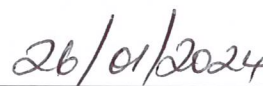
**CATHAOIRLEACH**



**DÁTA**



**OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH**



**DÁTA**