# Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

Halla an Bhaile, Cnoc Naomh Eoin,

Cionn tSáile, Co. Chorcaí, Éire.
Fón: (021) 4772154 · Faics (021) 4772615
Suíomh Gréasáin: www.corkcoco.ie
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## MINUTES OF BANDON KINSALE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN BANDON LIBRARY AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS APP ON 25th February 2025.

**Members Present:** 

Cllrs. (Chair), Gillian Coughlan, Alan Coleman, Marie O'Sullivan,

John Michael Foley, John Collins

#### In Attendance:

Padraig Barrett, Municipal District Manager (MDM) Brian Dunne, Municipal District Officer. (MDO) Richard Cahill, Senior Executive Engineer, Bandon (SEE) John Duggan, Executive Engineer (EE) Sabrina Tobin, Executive Engineer, Kinsale (EE) Claire Levis, Meeting Administrator.

#### **Apologies:**

Cllr. Ann Bambury. Noreen O'Mahony, Senior Executive Officer.

Cllr Coughlan opened the meeting and cast votes of sympathy former councillor Sean O'Donovan on the death of his mother Theresa O'Donovan. Cllr Coughlan also extended a vote of sympathy to Executive Engineer John Duggan on the death of his brother.

Cllr Coughlan stated that she had been asked by Cllr Foley to suspend the standing orders of the meeting. He wished to discuss the recent flooding which affected many parts of the municipal district and beyond.

Cllr Foley stated that many rivers and streams burst their banks over the last few days making roads impassable and causing severe damage to roads. Many of these streams and rivers need deepening and clearing and landowners are not permitted to do this without repercussions. Cllr Foley stated that as important as protecting wildlife is, human life is as important. Many roads were flooded preventing access to fire brigades and were a threat to human life.

Landowners need to be clear on what they can and cannot do to rivers and streams attached to their land.

Cllr O'Sullivan stated that we should mitigate against the weather and its affects.

Cllr Coleman concurred with the above and stated that this was a political issue and would only be solved through political pressure. He requested that the Dept of the Environment be written to asking for clarity.

Cllr Foley stated that Cork County Council had done tremendous work dealing with the after effects of flooding, but more should be done to prevent it happening in the future.

He stated that there is a perception that Cork County Council are responsible for maintaining rivers and streams and this is not the case.

The MDM responded to this stating that there was unprecedented rainfall over the last few weeks and many rivers burst their bank. He had huge sympathy for landowners and those affected by this.

He stated that Cork County Council have no responsibility for issues on private lands. He asked that all landowners removed loose debris and fallen trees from rivers as soon as possible to prevent any issues because of them. The landowner may find himself liable if not. He said that this is a legislative issue and any letters written on behalf of the Municipal District should align with that sent from full council.

### 1. Minutes

(a) Confirmation of minutes of Municipal District of Bandon-Kinsale meeting held on 28th January 2025.

Proposed by Cllr. M. O'Sullivan Seconded by Cllr. J.M. Foley

(b) Matters arising from minutes dated 28th January 2025.

None.

### 2. Reports and Recommendations

### Engineers Reports Bandon - Richard Cahill, SEE

At this meeting I will open with the recent weather. 200mm rainfall is regarded as a wet month and rainfall gauge in Dunmanway recorded 312mm of rainfall over the last 30 days. That is 50% over what would be regarded as a very wet month. Then we had the rainfall over the weekend, and it created significant issues in the MD as water levels were already so high. We had a landslide on the L3204 which closed the road for a while and some of the R603 was also washed away when the river overflowed its banks. We would be hopeful that the R603 could be reopened later this week.

Obviously, there will be a lot of potholes in a lot of locations when you get this level of rainfall in 30 days. We even had crews out over the weekend.

Issues that were brought up in the last meeting:

There was an issue which highlighted that 4 streetlights on the Glasslyn road were no longer working and since the last meeting this issue has been rectified but the fix was significant as the cable feeding these lights failed and a new cable had to be laid between the lights. Similarly, the pedestrian lights at the Courthouse in Bandon that is a very busy crossing had to be turned off due to a fault in the supply and the remedy will require a new ESB connection and ducting to be installed. This will take some time and the contractor has installed solar lights as a temporary fix until such time as we can reinstall a new supply.

I can confirm that there will be a new railing at the top of the steps at Coolfadda this will prevent anyone from running on to the Dunmanway road.

There was water running into a garden at the top of the hill on the N71, I can confirm that the drains were cleared there to prevent this happening again.

### RI program

L-2006L2006 Enniskeane Line from Junction to Beal na Blaith. Plane out and replace any damaged sections and surface dress 3km of the road

L-2057 L2057 St Patrick's Quay Bandon town. Plane out damaged section and relay surface of the road.

L-4018L4018 from junction west of Darrara school towards school crossroad. Full overlay from Ardgehane reservoir junction towards Ring. Will require further work to complete.

R-589 R589 Littlesilver junction to the junction for Crookstown. Plane out any and replace damaged sections and surface dress the road.

L-2038/L2037 L-2037/L-2038 to Dunkereen Overlay from the top of Church Hill in Innishannon to junction at Dunkereen.

L-2011L2011- Convent Hill towards Laragh Full over and significant drainage work from the bottom of the hill towards the ICBF EMM Service Centre.

L2007 Newcestown GAA road. Road into Newcestown from Enniskeane Line down by the GAA pitch. Overlayed the worst patches and then surface dress the road.

R601 Courtmacsherry significant works along the main street in the autumn, it will involve planning out and replace failed surface.

L2015 N71 to Desert Plane out and replace any damaged sections and surface dress approx. 3km of the road. L2015 from the N71 at Murragh to the R586 would then have been upgraded

L2033 L2033 Convent Hill to Curraclough. Overlay the road to end of the urban zone

R602 Bandon to Timoleague road must go to tender yet but the expectation is to replace any damaged sections and surface dress over 2km of the road.

### Engineers Report Kinsale - Sabrina Tobin, EE.

I will begin with addressing some of the items which were raised as last month's meeting.

The Church Lane area in Kinsale was mentioned and in particular in relation to people parking in a manner which was causing an obstruction to other road users. We are monitoring this and if we feel the addition of double yellow lines will remedy the situation, we will arrange that. However, it is a careful balancing act between making it safe for all road users whilst also providing carparking spaces, but as mentioned we will monitor it for the time being.

Also mentioned was the footpath in Kilbrittain village in need of attention. We have inspected this and propose to undertake some remedial works in the coming weeks. This issue here is that the tree roots are coming up through brick paving which is the cause of the uneven footpath surface. To prevent this issue from reoccurring we are looking at possibly removing the trees. We will be engaging with Kilbrittain Tidy Towns on this to agree an alternative and suitable solution. Planter boxes or similar may be a better option. Also mentioned was the bridge wall by Coillte roads which is in need of repair. We hope to have this remedied in the coming weeks also.

The issue of flooding in the Riverbank Estate in Belgooly was also raised. Just to keep you all aware, a meeting has been arranged for this week with our colleagues in Coastal and Flooding; we will assess the area and it is hopeful that an application for funding to undertake flood mitigation measures will be put forward.

Moving onto this month's report, this past month we have had crews out undertaking prep works ahead of the commencement of our resurfacing schedule which will be commencing from March, all going to plan.

I will now run through the list of roads which will form our RI programme for the year. We have carefully selected these by considering all towns and villages within the Municipal District and also taking on board representations previously made by the members.

We have nine roads included in our programme and these are as follows:

- No 1 is the R600 in Dromderrig on the approach road to Kinsale town. There are two separate sections here which will undergo complete resurfacing. Heading closer into the town we will also do further sections on Pier Road.
- Still in Kinsale, No 2 on our list is the R605 along the Glen area of the town.
- Staying in Kinsale our third road is the Guardwell/Main St road where we will resurface the full length.

- Moving out to our towns and villages and north west of Kinsale to the Killountane area, we will resurface 500m of the L3201 which is the road which takes you out onto the N71.
- In the Sandycove area, the L-3224 which is the main road to the beach will undergo over a km of resurfacing.
- Moving to Nohoval, we will resurface approx. 1km of the L3215 which is the main road through the village. While in this area, we will also do approx. 200m in Ballinclashet, just east of the crossroads.
- The townland of Dromdough in the Ballinspittle area will also see over a km of resurfacing of the L-3233 which is the road just off the regional road R600.
- The R600 between Ballinspittle and the Causeway bridge in Kilbrittain will be resurfaced. We will also undertake resurfacing of the R604 on the Ballinspittle to Garretstown road.
- Finally, staying in Kilbrittain, you will all be very much aware of the damage over the weekend to the R603 as a result of the torrential down fall through Saturday night and into Sunday morning. We have allocated a portion of this year's RI money to undertake repairs to this road and we hope to have repairs to the road completed by Friday of this week.

In other news, you may recall a Section 38 was presented to you at December's meeting relating to a proposal for traffic calming measures in the Forthill area of Kinsale, by means of a raised table. The four-week public consultation period for this came to a close last month and we can report that we did not receive any submissions. This work will now progress to construction stage. At this stage, we are planning for the works to be undertaken in April.

Staying with Section 38s and to provide an update to you all, we are still going through submissions for the Rivertstick Traffic Calming Proposal and will present findings when the review process is complete.

In other news pothole repairs remain ongoing throughout the area; we are prioritising the heavier trafficked roads and getting through as many as we can.

### **Comments/queries from Members:**

Cllr Coughlan commented that planning is very important as is the practical side and she appreciated all the works being done by the road's office.

Cllr Coleman queried if would it be possible to apply for extra funding for the Kilbrittain road?

The MDM stated that the council would request funding however some funding was received last year and it may not be forthcoming so soon again.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked that the pedestrian crossing on South Main Street be improved.

Cllr Foley asked if the truck parking space at the side of Glasslyn road could be formalised for trucks as there were cars parking there and making it difficult for trucks to park?

Cllr Coughlan queried if there would be new street furniture at the junction between St Finbarr's and Pearse street, John Duggan said that there would be.

She also welcomed the review of parking in Bandon and thanked the roads office for the footpath from Inis Órga

### TPREP Update - John Duggan, Executive Engineer.

**Glasslinn road** – *no change since last meeting*: Undertaking snagging works and stage 3 RSA

**Bridge Street** – *no change since last meeting*: Retractable bollard to be installed May 2025 after scaffolding is removed from No 1 Bridge Street. Cork County Council will engage with local business owners / church to facilitate access after 11am when required.

Bridge Lane:- street furniture to be installed over the next two weeks.

**South Main Street** – watermain installation complete and commissioned.

Currently testing and commissioning new watermain on Market Street from Jan 15th – 19th February. Market Street will be one way north bound for the duration of the watermain works.

Commenced footpath works on the southern side of South Main Street at the Bridge Lane junction on Feb 21<sup>st</sup> working westwards to the Market Street junction until May 6th.

Works to footpath to the northern side of South Main Street starting at Hickeys Corner are scheduled to start in or around on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

Discussion ongoing with contractor in relation to road closure timeline on South Main St for mid June to facilitate raised table crossing installation.

It is hoped that 90 % of works will be completed in South Main Street by midAugust.

### 2) Municipal District Officer's Report.

### **Municipal District Officers Report 25th February 2025**



25 <sup>th</sup> March	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	27 <sup>th</sup> May	24 <sup>th</sup> June	29th July
Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
Teams and	Teams and	Teams and	Teams and	Teams and
Bandon Library	Bandon Library	Bandon Library	Bandon Library	Bandon Library

### **Actions from January meeting**

Correspondence has been issued to

- a. Cormac O'Suilleabhain to thank him for his work with Cork County Council and wishing him well in his new role.
- b. Office of Public Works on the future of Desmond Castle.

### Circular Economy Fund 2025

Cork County Council's Environmental Awareness Office have launched the 2025 Circular Economy Fund with the aim of empowering local action to drive a more circular economy. The fund aims to support communities to move away from the traditional linear 'take-make-use-dispose' model towards more circular living where resources are reused or recycled as much as possible, and the generation of waste is minimised. The theme once again focuses on the reduction of single-use plastics, inviting schools, community groups, sports clubs, and festivals to submit proposals aimed at minimising single use plastics throughout their activities. The deadline for applications was last Friday 21st February 2025 at which point applications will now be assessed by the environment team.

### **Municipal District Community Fund 2025**

The aforementioned scheme closed on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. Applications are currently being reviewed with the intention of presenting our recommendations to the members shortly. To date we have received the 75 applications categorised as follows.

- Amenity Fund = 45
- Capital Fund = 14
- Community Contracts = 16

In previous years a separate sports grant scheme funded through the General Municipal Allocation was advertised. This year it is not our intention to continue with this scheme meaning that all sport groups will be considered under the wider umbrella of the community fund.

### Dereliction.

Cork County Council has continued its work over the last 3 months on tackling dereliction in the municipal district. You will note that the data below, as of 31/12/2024, shows significant increases in certain categories compared to the report of Sept 2024 which was previously shared with members.

### **Bandon Kinsale Municipal District**

### Reporting Period: Up to 31st December 2024

Category	Number	Details
Properties on the Derelict Sites Register as at 31/12/2024	15	Bandon (9)  • 3 St. Patrick's Hill – Date entered on DS register 20/12/2022  • 2 Oliver Plunkett Street – Date entered on DS register 30/12/2022  • 3 Oliver Plunkett Street – Date entered on DS register – 30/12/2022  • 4 Oliver Plunkett Street – Date entered on DS register 30/12/2022  • 4 Oliver Plunkett Street – Date entered on DS register 30/12/2022  • 14 McSwiney Quay – Date entered on DS register 06/06/2024  • 22 McSwiney Quay – Date entered on DS register 06/06/2024  • 1 Bridge Street – Date entered on DS register 06/06/2024  • Brady's Lane – Date entered on DS register 06/06/2024  • Well Rd/Casement Rd – Dated entered on DS register 06/06/2024
		<ul> <li>Kinsale (6)</li> <li>Patsy's Corner, Market Place – Date entered on DS register 06/06/2024</li> <li>Workshop Barrack Hill – Date entered on DS register 11/07/2024</li> <li>The Ramparts/Green Hill – Date entered on DS register 11/07/2024</li> <li>Warehouse Lower O'Connell St – Date entered on DS register 18/12/2024</li> <li>Former Kinsale Cabs – Date entered on the DS register 18/12/2024</li> <li>Former Daisy Chain, Pearse St – Date entered on the DS register 18/12/2024</li> </ul>

Properties being considered for entry onto the Derelict Sites register as at 31/12/2024	22	<ul> <li>Bandon (10)</li> <li>Kinsale (10)</li> <li>Innishannon (1)</li> <li>Timoleague (1)</li> <li>Bandon (1)</li> </ul>
Properties removed from the Derelict Sites Register in 2024		• bandon (1)
Technical Assessments Completed (Derelict Sites Reports) in 2024	27	<ul><li>Bandon (11)</li><li>Kinsale (16)</li></ul>
Mapping /Boundary Exercises completed in 2024	14	• Bandon (14)
Properties approved for activation under the URDF Call 3 Vacancy and Dereliction Programme		<ul> <li>The settlement of Bandon has now become eligible for URDF Call 3 (Tackling Vacancy and Dereliction) Funding in 2024.</li> <li>An exercise is underway to identify sites that are eligible for this initiative.</li> </ul>
Properties compulsorily acquired in 2024	3	• Bandon (3)
Statutory notices served under the Derelict Sites Act in 2024	42	<ul> <li>19 no. Section 8(2) (Intention to place on the register)</li> <li>11 no. Section 8(7) (Placed on the register)</li> <li>8 no. Section 22 (Market Valuation) for 2024</li> <li>1 Section 8(4) Removal of a property from the DS register</li> <li>3 Section 15 (Notice of intention to compulsorily acquire)</li> </ul>

### **Civic Reception**

Bandon Kinsale Municipal District proudly celebrated the achievements of Olympians David Harte and Nicola Tuthill at a special reception held at Bandon Town Hall on Friday February 7<sup>th</sup> 2025. The event, led by Chair Cllr. Gillian Coughlan, brought together fellow elected members, family, and friends to honour the athletes for their outstanding performances at the 2024 Paris Olympics. The evening was a heartfelt tribute to their dedication, perseverance, and success on

the world stage, highlighting the pride and admiration they have inspired in their local community.



Cllr Coleman welcomed the works done on dereliction. He queried how long the time scale was for CPO.

The MDO responded stating that each case was different.

Cllr Coughlan queried if there was a statutory function for members? The MDO responded that there was not. Cllr Coughlan paid tribute to Cork County Council for actively helping regeneration.

### 3. Statutory Business

- a) Installation of disabled parking bay at Mill Street, Timoleague

  The EE explained to the meeting that there had been no objections to this, and the members had no issue with the installation.
- b) Section 38 L3234 Market Street Kinsale
   The MDM informed the meeting that the observations of the members would be taken to Managers Group and processed from there.

### 4. Notice of Motions

None

### 5. Any Other Business

Cllr Coughlan informed the meeting of water on the road by the Railway Bar. There is an issue with the pipe draining the water from there. The SEE responded that the trash screen had been removed by someone and lots of debris had gotten stuck in the pipe. This had to be removed and the landowners upstream needed to agree the location of another trash screen to prevent this happening again. If a new pipe going across the road was to be considered, funding would have to be requested for this.

Cllr Coughlan mentioned the issue in Crossbarry where the residents are nervous that the sewage system will fail. This has been an issue since Úisce Éireann has taken over from Cork County Council and she asked what the resolution would be. The MDM stated that it was indeed an Uisce Éireann issue, he stated that he did have sympathy for the residents, but that Cork County Council had no responsibility for this now.

Cllr Coughlan commented on the condition of parts of the Dunmanway road, the SEE stated that Uisce Éireann were to put a pipe down in the next few months and there would nothing be done on it until then.

Cllr Coughlan informed the meeting of lights being out at the Halfway and on the Archdeacon Duggan bridge. The EE stated that they were reported but not fixed yet.

Cllr Coughlan asked re the green area in Courtmacsherry and the plan for it? The MDO stated that nothing was decided yet.

Cllr Coughlan informed the meeting that there was a Point to Point planned for the Woodland Kilbeg and if works could be done there beforehand.

Cllr Coughlan asked for an update on the new toilets in Kinsale.

The MDO responded to say that the conservation issues were being addressed and while a date with the installer has not been agreed, we are treating it as a priority.

Cllr O'Sullivan stated that the tourist office was getting constant complaints re the current toilets. She said that local businesses were allowing non customers to use their facilities in the meantime. Cllr Coughlan queried the new parking proposals for Bandon. The MDM responded that they were concluding a report to be brought to the managers group.

Cllr Coughlan asked if the walkway by Black Sticks was progressing. The MDO stated that yes it was and that we hope to progress works over the next few months.

Cllr Coughlan asked if there was any progress on a retail strategy for Bandon. The MDM stated that there had been a managers meeting in Bandon and any progress would be after the TPREP works had been completed. He commented that he would take this to Economic Development in the meantime.

Cllr Foley asked about funding for the Bandon Bypass, The SEE stated that we would hear about this during the week.

Cllr Coleman asked that any works being done on the Archdeacon Duggan Bridge be done on off season. The EE stated that it was planned for Sept.

Cllr Coleman queried funding for flooding around the Babbling Brook in Riverstick. Funding had already been received previously but more was needed. The EE stated that her office would do anything they could do within their scope.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked that double yellow line be put between the Friary and Catholic Walk as during Sunday mass a fire brigade was unable to make its way through because of parking.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked that the trees be checked on the Eastern Road as it had been mentioned that some had Dutch Elm disease and one had fallen during the bad weather.

Cllr Coleman asked for a report on The Rock? The MDM stated that this was to be done in increments and the situation observed to see the effects.

Cllr Coughlan informed the meeting that she had been invited to Philadelphia in the next few months but that there was no liability to the council.

Next meeting Tuesday 25th March 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

This concluded the official business of the meeting.

DATE\_\_\_\_\_