

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on 17th April 2025 in Fermoy Town Hall**

In Attendance: Cllrs. Nelius Cotter, Kay Dawson, Deirdre O' Brien, Peter O' Donoghue, Frank O' Flynn, William O' Leary, Seamus de Faoite A/DOS, Aidan Creagh SEO, Brendan O' Gorman SEE, Margaret O' Donoghue MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

The elected Members proposed votes of sympathy to the following:

- Catherine Price, ASO Fermoy MD and family on the passing of her mother Josie (Sheehan) Price.
- The family of John Mullin on his recent passing.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anam.

1. MINUTES

a. Minutes of Fermoy MD 'In Committee' Meeting held at 10.30am on 25th March 2025.

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

b. Minutes of Fermoy MD March 2025 Meeting held on 25th March 2025.

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. William O'Leary, seconded by Cllr. Peter O'Donoghue.

2. DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES, TAKING-IN-CHARGE ETC.

a. "to consider the proposed disposal of property as set out here ~ SITUATION: Coolcarran, Cork Road, Fermoy, Co. Cork AREA: Whole Folio CK158929F (Plan 6) FROM WHOM ACQUIRED: Unknown – in Council ownership since 1937 TO WHOM IT IS PROPOSED TO DISPOSE: Crispin Developments Limited, Orchard, Kilworth, Co. Cork P61 XP79 CONSIDERATION: €25,000"

The Fermoy MD elected Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this Disposal of Property, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

3. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a. REPORT : April 2025 MDO Report

Further to Margaret O'Donoghue MDO presenting her report, the elected Members thanked Margaret and the staff involved for the wonderful works recently carried out at both Kildorrery and Brigown cemeteries. Margaret confirmed, in reply to a query, that the TDF proposals for 2025 will be presented at the May 2025 meeting for consideration.

b. UPDATE : 2025 Restoration Improvement RI Programme

Brendan O'Gorman SEE updated those present that works on the 2025 RI Programme are progressing on schedule, within budget and as planned.

c. UPDATE : 2025 Drainage Programme

Brendan O'Gorman SEE advised that drainage works, as per the 2025 Drainage Programme, are continuing as planned and prior to other planned works such as RI and RM works, where required. Any incidental drainage requirements can be notified to Brendan or the relevant area office for attention.

d. UPDATE : 2025 CIS Project confirmations

Brendan O'Gorman SEE confirmed that there are six CIS projects for completion this year. These projects will commence after the main works programmes are completed and on receipt in full of all local contributions. Further to a query, Brendan replied that there are a further fifteen or so CIS applications on file for consideration in future years, pending available funding.

e. REPORT : 'Removal of Hanging Trees, Rathcormac' Report

Brendan O'Gorman SEE informed those present that Conor Neligan, Cork County Council Heritage Officer had inspected the trees on-site in Rathcormac on 28th March 2025. As the two remaining trees are now well beyond their natural lifespan and are in urgent need of removal on Health and Safety grounds, Conor is recommending that they be cut down to a stump height of approximately one foot. It is proposed that an information plaque be installed at these stumps giving a brief history of the trees. Conor is further proposing that a larger, more elaborate information plaque be installed in an appropriate location across the road giving the full history of these iconic trees. Brendan confirmed that numerous saplings have been taken from the trees for replanting at various locations in and around Rathcormac. This recommendation was officially proposed by Cllr. William O'Leary and seconded by Cllr. Peter O'Donoghue. Cllr. O'Leary requested that Rathcormac Community Council be kept informed on all related proceedings to which Brendan replied he will correspond with them accordingly.

4. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn (seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson)

1. "that Cork County Council would provide a disabled parking bay outside Fermoy Bridge Club in the interest of safety to meet the needs of members".

There is already one there and is signed. We will renew the road marking when the adjacent road is resurfaced this summer. (BO'G)

It was agreed to install a second such parking bay beside the existing one.

Cllr. Nelius Cotter (seconded by Cllr. Frank O'Flynn)

2. "that Cork county council would extend a footpath from Killavullen village to Killavullen new cemetery".

That is part of our approved 2025 footpath schedule and VES plan for the village this year. Currently out to tender. (BO'G)

Cllr. Cotter queried the timeline on this job to which Brendan replied it will be done this summer.

Cllr. Kay Dawson (seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien)

3. "call on Cork County Council to repair/resurface the exit/entrance to New Market Square at Paddy Powers betting shop corner".

Will be undertaken in the coming weeks. Extents marked on ground (77m²). (BO'G)

Brendan explained that this work will be done as part of planned hot patching works in the town.

Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien (seconded by Cllr. Peter O'Donoghue)

4. "that this Council investigate the existing signage, and update where required, at Molly Barry's Cross and Manning Cross to highlight no access through Glanworth Bridge to the village of Glanworth".

There are four clear signs in situ - two at Moll Barry's R639 junction - Glanworth side and one each at the Ballyvolock (L5654) and Ballynahow (L1445) junctions. They have gone too far if they have hit Manning Cross. The problem here is that Google Maps do not appear to be highlighting the weight/height restriction on its Sat Nav Guidance. We will follow up with them directly. (BO'G)

Cllr. O'Donoghue added that there are other locations in the district experiencing similar issues with unsuitable heavy vehicles traversing bridges e.g. Mogeely bridge in Conna.

Cllr. Peter O'Donoghue (seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson)

5. "that this Council would repaint the disabled parking spaces in Mitchelstown and consider adding an additional disabled space on Lower Cork Street".

Repainting will be proposed under Town Development Funding this summer. Location for new bay to be discussed. (BO'G)

The installation of an additional 'Age Friendly' designated car parking space was proposed by Cllr. O'Donoghue, seconded by Cllr. Dawson (who had previously requested the provision of this parking space) and agreed by all the elected Members. Outside Doody's Pharmacy on Lower Cork

Street was agreed as the most suitable location and Brendan O'Gorman SEE undertook to arrange for this installation. The cost here will be met from TDF funding.

Cllr. William O'Leary (seconded by Cllr. Peter O'Donoghue)

6. "that this Council would consider the possibility of installing speed tables in Clondulane as you exit the village at the Ballyduff side if funding should ever be available".
Will be kept on the table for future traffic calming interventions. (BO'G)
This motion was supported by Cllrs. O'Donoghue and O'Flynn who agree this location would greatly benefit from traffic calming, if available.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn (seconded by Cllr. Nelius Cotter)

7. "that Cork County Council would repair the damaged wall on the approach to Killavullen bridge in the interest of safety".
No funding available currently to attend to this but we will keep on agenda in the event that additional severe weather funding comes through. (BO'G)
8. "that Cork County Council would remove the trees and debris from the eyes of the wooden bridge over the Funcheon River at Scart, Kildorrery in the interest of safety".
Private Property and ask does not involve Cork County Council. (BO'G)
Brendan O'Gorman SEE suggested that a land search could be undertaken to ascertain the owner of this property, following which Cllr. O'Flynn could make a direct approach with this request.

Cllr. Nelius Cotter (seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien)

9. "that Cork County Council would consider installing lighting along the road from Doneraile GAA pitch along New Road into Doneraile town".
We have long proposed a 50:50 split with the local GAA club towards the provision of solar lighting from the village to the GAA entrance. They have not engaged with us recently in this matter. (BO'G)
This motion was supported by Cllrs. O'Brien and O'Flynn. Cllr. O'Flynn acknowledged with gratitude the generosity of Fr. Aidan Crowley PP in permitting the use of parish property to facilitate works. Brendan O'Gorman SEE confirmed the cost of this (solar) lighting to be €25,000 - 50% of which would be payable by the GAA/local community before any arrangements can be made to progress this project.

(seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien)

10. "that Cork County Council would consider traffic calming measures (ramp or raised table) on Mulberry Road from Captain Keane's Grove to Sarsfield Casey Drive".
When we are resurfacing the remaining section of Mulberry Lane here, we will include for four raised tables (at the three estate junctions and school road junction. (BO'G)
Cllr. Cotter enquired on the timeline for these works to which Brendan replied the earliest will be in 2026 if funding permits, or possibly 2027. This motion was also supported by Cllr. Dawson.

Cllr. Kay Dawson (seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien)

11. "call on Cork County Council to put a litter bin at the entrance to St. Fanahan's Well".
For discussion. (BO'G)
Cllr. Dawson explained that dog owners are currently throwing bags with dog waste into private gardens, which is totally unacceptable. Cllr. Dawson confirmed, further to a query from Margaret O'Donoghue MDO, that it is a 'dog fouling bin' which is required here to which Margaret responded this request will be investigated with a view to installation.

Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien (seconded by Cllr. Frank O'Flynn)

12. "that this Council erect signage indicating 'bad bend' near Eircode P67 R624, also a speed sign signalling the reduction in speed to 60kph".
Bend and other warning signage will be installed. Repeat 60kph signage not advised as it sets a precedent for our entire local road network. (BO'G)

(seconded by Cllr. William O'Leary)

13. "that this Council provide update on all road remarking for Mitchelstown and Fermoy towns following motion raised at full Council".

Not an issue for this district as the lining contractors are based in Clonmel - close to our district. Whilst there is no dedicated roads funding for road lining, we undertake priority lining from our own discretionary roads funding in our urban centres and on our busier local and regional road junctions each year, spending in excess of €50,000 each year. We also got funding from Town Development funding last year to undertake urban lining in Fermoy and Mitchelstown. This will continue in 2025. Whilst road markings are not mandatory, they complement the urban centres when the road surfaces are in good condition. (BO'G)

Cllr. Peter O'Donoghue (seconded by Cllr. Frank O'Flynn)

14. "that this Council would install a bin in the old Kilcrumper cemetery for visitors to dispose of withered flowers and wreaths".

For discussion. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. O'Flynn who paid tribute to the 'Friends of Old Kilcrumper Cemetery' group who do tremendous work in this cemetery. Margaret O'Donoghue MDO confirmed that cemetery maintenance is ongoing here and said the provision of a bin will be considered.

(seconded by Cllr. Frank O'Flynn)

15. "that this Council would introduce traffic calming measures such as speed ramps in the Cluain na Rí Estate on the approach road to Clondulane National School".

Cul-de-sac. Area not suitable for ramps as this is a residential area and on-street car parking narrows down the road. Leg to school is too short to warrant traffic calming here. (BO'G)

Brendan O'Gorman undertook to look at the signage and road marking at this location, saying there is currently no dedicated funding provision for traffic calming measures. Brendan also commented that if there is an issue with speeding in this estate it is most likely to be by local residents and such behaviour needs to be identified and highlighted.

Cllr. William O'Leary (seconded by Cllr. Frank O'Flynn)

16. "that this Council would provide an update on the Town and Village Renewal Scheme for 2025 and the progress of any such projects".

Cork County Council have advertised for Expressions of Interest from Community Groups for potential Town and Village Renewal projects. The details are on our website and the closing date for EOIs submission is the 14th May 2025. Projects submitted will be assessed against the terms and requirements of the scheme and considered for submission for full application in July 2025. Cork County Council are entitled to submit one project of up to €500,000 in value and three projects of up to €300,000 in value across the full county. There is also funding for two Project Development Measures to assist in designing future projects. It is important to note that projects proposed under the Main Scheme must be shovel ready with any statutory consents of planning permissions needed in place. (MO'D)

Cllr. O'Leary advised that the motion should have read the '*Village Enhancement Scheme*' to which Margaret O'Donoghue MDO said the VES proposal for 2025 will be presented for the Members consideration at the May meeting. As previously agreed the villages of Glenville, Killavullen and Glanworth are currently the focus for this scheme with works almost complete in some areas and progressing in others. Cllr. O'Leary enquired if Clondulane village could be considered for future works under this scheme to which Brendan O'Gorman SEE replied that the best way forward to achieve optimum results is to combine and progress varying schemes and potential funding sources to allow for as much work as possible be undertaken. This recommendation was welcomed by the elected Members who agree Clondulane would be a worthy village for future consideration under the Village Enhancement Scheme.

(seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson)

17. "that this Council would begin the process of assessing the need for extra burial ground in the Rathcormac area".

A demand and feasibility analysis for extra burial ground in Rathcormac will be undertaken in accordance with request. (MO'D)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Brendan O'Gorman SEE - County Wide Speed Surveys

Brendan O'Gorman SEE informed those present that Fermoy MD has its own speed survey unit inhouse and speed surveys can be undertaken locally where required / requested / warranted. Appropriate resolution works can then be identified and sanctioned to progress, where needed.

2. Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien - Traffic calming at Ballygiblin School, excessive speed at school times.

Brendan O'Gorman SEE responded that the school is about to submit a planning application for a new set down area to the front of the school. Cork County Council will support their endeavours here through the planning system and any other traffic calming scheme we can bring through here to support speed reduction. New changes to periodic speed limits for rural schools will also bring about improvements here into the future.

3. Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien - Mitchelstown Ring Road update on cleaning/maintenance on the kerbs and a seat to be fixed in the Ice House.

Brendan O'Gorman SEE replied that these works have already been actioned locally.

4. Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien - That yellow box be extended outside Tearmon Ui Chaoimh to enable bus entry.

Brendan O'Gorman SEE replied an order will be raised with lining contractor following inspection.

5. Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien - query re: Fermoy MD liaison with An Gardaí Síochána

Cllr. O'Brien enquired if there is any formal liaison process between the executive of Fermoy MD and An Gardaí Síochána to which Brendan O'Gorman SEE replied that a previous working group which had existed has been paused since Covid. It was acknowledged that this forum had been very advantageous and should, if possible, be reinstated and it was decided that this issue be brought to full Council for consideration.

Signed _____ Date _____