

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD IN CARRIG HOUSE , COBH, ON TUESDAY, 10th JANUARY, 2017

Present - Councillors A. Barry, C. Rasmussen, P. O’Sullivan, K. McCarthy and G. Keohane.

Apologies were received from Cllr. S. Sheppard.

Officials Present:

Mr. S. O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer
 Mr. P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer
 Mr. G. O’Hora, Senior Executive Engineer
 Mr. R. O’Sullivan, Executive Engineer
 Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District
 Ms. C. McDonnell, Cobh Municipal District

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a minutes silence was held in respect of Cllr. Claire Cullinane (RIP).

1. DEIMHNIU MIONTUAIRISCI

On the proposal of Councillor C. Rasmussen, seconded by Councillor K. McCarthy, the Minutes of the Cobh Municipal District Meeting held on 13th December, 2016, were adopted.

2. MATTERS ARISING:

Extinguishment of Public Right of Way over pedestrian way between 58 and 59, Barnavara Crescent, Mayfield

S. O’Callaghan stated that he had looked at different sources for the above and had found no other source of funding; the proposed works would have to be funded by the Municipal District only.

Balance of Pay Parking Dividend:

S. O’Callaghan stated that public realm works were to go ahead under the Harbour Scheme with priority given to Casement Square and Pearse Square and the instalment of ducting at West Beach. In response to a query from Cllr. Rasmussen he stated that he hoped that the drawings for this would be completed later this month.

Update on Estates Taken in Charge:

P. Lynch stated that the application in relation to Ballynoe Farm was deemed invalid as it did not contain any of the standard requirements i.e. application form, as constructed drawings,

surveys of the sewers and watermains etc. These were subsequently requested but were never submitted. As it appears that the developer is no longer active on site, an application signed by a majority of house-owners in the development will be required to progress this further.

Castlelake, Carrigwohill:

S. O'Callaghan confirmed that he had raised the issue with planning department.

School Warden between Colaiste Muire and St. Joseph;s National School, Cobh:

G. O'Hora stated that to install a Beacon type pedestrian crossing at this point would cost in the region of €20,000.00, a Push button pedestrian crossing would cost almost €28,000.00. S. O'Callaghan stated that this issue had been discussed at a Roads SPC meeting, and that a suggestion had been made that additional funding could be made available for School Wardens. He stated that he would clarify if additional funding was available prior to the next meeting.

Glyntown Road:

G. O'Hora stated that road lining was listed for early 2017.

Cul Ard, Carrigwohill:

G. O'Hora stated that a road speed survey would be undertaken.

Woodstock Stream

G. O'Hora stated that the works had been completed.

Carrigwohill Girls School

G. O'Hora stated that a railing would be considered as part of works due for 2017 and in conjunction with the construction of the pedestrian crossing.

Cow Cross, Cobh

G. O'Hora stated that under the speed limit review, the speed limit in the area was to be reduced from 60Km to 50Km. It was not possible to put rumble strips in this area, but that additional signage would be installed.

Traffic at Aileen Terrace, Cobh

Cllr. McCarthy stated that the Roads SPC had been advised that temporary flashing lights could be used at traffic bottle necks and asked if this could be considered for here. G. O'Hora stated that the installation of solar powered road speed signs at this location would cost in the region of €6,000. Two signs would be required. Purchase of signs would be subject to a traffic survey and available funding.

Glashaboy Flood Relief:

P. Lynch stated that the funding from the OPW under Flood Relief Scheme does not apply to empty sites and that any flood relief works in the Circus Field, Glanmire would have to be provided for from Municipal District Funds.

Clogheen/Kerry Pike:

G. O’Hora stated that road surfacing works in this area would be looked at as part of the 2017 Road Improvement programme, and any works would be subject to funding. Cllr. P. O’Sullivan stated that S. McLoughlin, Architects Department had drawn up a Village Plan for Kerry Pike but that Managerial approval was required to proceed further

Road at Ballygohig to Kilrusane:

G. O’Hora stated that road repairs had been carried out.

Priest’s Hill, Gounthaune : overgrowth

G. O’Hora stated that the landowner had carried out limited hedge cutting works and would be asked to undertake further works at this location.

Road in Little Island : Harbour Point

S. O’Callaghan stated that he had been advised by the Head of the Planning Department that it was the policy of Cork County Council not to take Industrial Estates in charge. He stated that a management company may have to be set up to take charge of any maintenance issues, particularly as Irish Water were now also involved. P O’Sullivan asked if the roads in the estate were brought up to a suitable standard, would the Council consider taking the estate in charge then, as the Sitecast industrial estate had taken in charge by Cork County Council. S. O’Callaghan replied that despite anomalies in the past, the current policy of Cork County Council not to take industrial estates in charge was being enforced.

Potholes at Lake Road:

G. O’Hora stated repairs had been carried out.

Tree Bases in Cobh

G. O’Hora stated that the proposal in relation to the filling the tree bases along the main street in Cobh would be very expensive. He stated therefore that the Council would put in earth to level the bases.

Signage at Carrigaloe:

G. O’Hora stated that the signage would be erected in the next month

Potholes:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen raised the issue of the use of the velocity patcher for filling potholes within the Cobh Municipal District. He stated that Cobh M.D. use was much lower than that of other municipal districts and that it appeared to be the way forward and queried why it was not being used more within the district. G. O’Hora replied by stating that the Cobh MD road area was smaller than the other MD’s and there were substantial costs involved in using the patcher and also that the patcher was more suitable for rural roads rather than urban asphalt bases roads in areas of heavy use such as busy local primary roads and regional roads, of which there were many within the Cobh M.D. area.

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

- (i) Acknowledgement was received from Minister Simon Coveney's office in relation to the Members request that the Rent Pressure Zone for Cork City be extended to include the Metropolitan Area of the Cobh Municipal District.
- (ii) Invitation from Cobh Red Cross to attend Cobh Senior Citizen's Dinner on 15 January
- (iii) A number of letters were received regarding a plaque erected at Philip O'Neill Place, Cobh.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that a number of local residents had objected to the erection of the plaque, despite the fact that the family had received permission for same from the Council. Cllr. K. McCarthy agreed with Cllr. Rasmussen that it was a very emotional issue for the family involved. P. Lynch stated that a draft policy was being prepared by the Council to clarify how such roadside memorials were to be dealt with throughout the County and no further permissions would be granted until this policy was approved. Cllr. Barry enquired as to whether permission had been granted for the memorial as is and whether an amended design would be acceptable to all parties. R. O'Sullivan stated that his understanding was that the memorial would be laid flat on the ground rather than standing erect. It was agreed that P. Lynch and R. O'Sullivan would talk to both sides to try to get a compromise solution.

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Speed Limit Review – Cobh M.D.:

G. O'Hora went through the Speed Limit Review in detail, he stated that No. 109 (Cuskinny section of the Tay Road – L2993) proposed speed reduction to 30Km was an error and should be 50Km. This amendment was proposed by Cllr. C. Rasmussen and seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy.

The proposed Speed Limit Review as adopted, with the above amendment, by Cllr. P. O'Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. G. Keohane.

County Cork National Speed Limit Review:

G. O'Hora presented that County Cork National Road Speed Limit Review Submissions. The members approved the document with no amendments.

5. DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY:

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. K. McCarthy, it was agreed to the disposal, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, of the freehold interest in house and plot of at 8 Innishmore Park, Cobh to Shane O'Donnell & Edel Curry, for the consideration of € 350.00 inclusive of administration charges.

6. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pádraig O’Sullivan; seconded by Cllr. Barry:

“That this Council would give a timeframe for the mooted Traffic and Transportation Study for Little Island. That this plan would be expedited as a matter of urgency to help alleviate current traffic congestion, but to also plan for the addition of further traffic given the approval of additional industrial and retail developments”

Cllr. P. O’Sullivan sought clarification of what stage the Traffic and Transportation Study for Little Island was at. P. Lynch stated that he had received a report from Peter O’Donoghue, from the Traffic & Transportation Section in relation to this matter. He stated that the Council hoped to appoint a consultant during February to carry out this study. The consultant would carry out a public consultation process in April with a view to having a first draft ready for the members by the end of 2017 or early 2018. If agreed, the final draft would then be completed early in 2018. Cllr. P. O’Sullivan responded by stating that the Council continued to grant planning permission for large developments in the area and very little changed in relation to the infrastructure. P. Lynch stated that the strategy will take into account the future development of the area.

7. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pádraig O’Sullivan; seconded by Cllr. Keohane:

“That this Municipal District would be furnished with a full report on the acquisition and development of what’s known locally as Dooley’s Lane (the proposed interconnecting road between the Hazelwood Road and Riverstown)”.

P. Lynch stated that the Council’s Land Purchase Officer is currently negotiating with the landowner in relation to acquisition of these lands. Once the land has been acquired, the Roads Design Office will then progress this project.

8. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry; seconded by Cllr. McCarthy:

“That the old N25 between The Elm Tree and the Little Island junction be considered for resurfacing due to its poor condition at present”.

Cllr. Barry reiterated that the road was in a very bad condition, not fit for purpose and needs to be included in the next programme of works. G. O’Hora responded by stating that it was hoped to include a section of this road in the 2017 RI Programme of Works and the extent of the works carried out would be dependent on available funding.

9. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen; seconded by Cllr. McCarthy:

“That this council consider removing the 2 doctor parking spaces beside the mural of Jack Doyle on Church Street and that a second doctor space be returned to join the original one at the bottom of the Cathedral steps. Also that a disabled parking space be located close to the two doctors surgeries at the top of or close to O’Rahilly Street to facilitate the large number of elderly people visiting the two surgeries”.

Cllr. Rasmussen requested that the current doctors’ parking spaces be re-located in order to provide tourists with an unobstructed view of the mural. Engineer to investigate.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/AON GHNO EILE:

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan :

- (a) Watergrasshill to Knockraha – Cllr. P. O'Sullivan raised the issue of potholes on this road. Engineer to examine and list for repair.
- (b) Dromgarraff North – Cllr. O'Sullivan concerned with the number of potholes on this road also. Engineer to examine and list for repair.
- (c) Windsor Hill – Cllr. O'Sullivan stated that excess water was flowing off the land in the vicinity of Corry's Field housing estate and causing flooding. Engineer to examine.

Cllr. K. McCarthy:

- (a) Ballymore Village to Byrds Hill – Cllr. K. McCarthy raised the condition of this road, the potholes were very bad. Engineer: section of road to be included in 2017 surface dressing programme.
- (b) Walterstown School – Cllr. McCarthy stated that cars were parking near the junction and causing an obstruction and requested additional signage. Engineer to examine.
- (c) Russell Heights – Cllr. McCarthy stated that 2 additional dog litter bins were required in this area. Engineer to examine.
- (d) Glavin Terrace & Joseph Mary Plunkett Way – Cllr. McCarthy requested nameplates for these locations. Engineer to examine.

Cllr. Ger Keohane

- (a) Brookville Housing Estate – Cllr. G. Keohane requested that the trees at the entrance to the estate be examined. Engineer to examine.
- (b) John O'Callaghan Park – Cllr. Keohane stated that there is a severe litter problem in this location. G. O'Hora replied that if the residents organised a clean-up, the Council would collect same and dispose of collected bags.
- (c) Lidl & John Barleycorn Bridge – Cllr. Keohane stated that flooding was a problem in the area. Engineer reported road flooding being caused by a blocked road Gully. Gully was constructed as part of the Lidi store development. Area office in discussion with Contractor to repair gully.
- (d) Nash's Boreen – Cllr. Keohane requested additional 'No Dumping' signs and stated that the Gardaí would support the imposition of a One-Way system. Engineer to examine.
- (e) Cara Junior School – Cllr. Keohane requested an update on the Pedestrian Crossing at the school. Engineer to examine.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen:

- (a) Cobh – Cllr. Rasmussen enquired as to whether a date had been determined in relation to the footpaths along the main street. Engineer confirmed footpath remedial repair works to commence shortly.
- (b) Christmas Lights – Cllr. Rasmussen congratulated the Council on the new Christmas Lights in Cobh.

- (c) Harbour Hill – Cllr. Rasmussen requested an update on the derelict buildings. P. Lynch to get an update from the Housing Section for the next meeting.
- (d) Litter – Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the collection of litter over the Christmas period in Cobh was unsatisfactory. Engineer reported area staff were working over the Christmas holiday collecting litter and emptying litter bins in Cobh town.
- (e) Carrig Eoin – Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the trees at Carrig Eoin estate needed attention. Engineer to examine.
- (f) Carrig House – Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the hedging outside of Carrig House needed to be cut back. Engineer reported Carrig House is a private site and hedge cutting is the owner's responsibility. It was agreed that P. Lynch would contact the owner to get this work carried out.
- (g) LAMA Awards – on behalf of Cllr. Sheppard, Cllr. Rasmussen requested financial assistance for Hendrick Verwey to attend the awards ceremony for Volunteer of the Year. It was proposed by Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. Barry, that the Council would pay for tickets for the event for Mr. Verwey, Cllr. Sheppard and their spouses.

At a previous meeting expenses of up to €300 had been allocated to John Flynn in relation to a visit to Dublin in connection with the Bridewell Prison in Cobh. It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. Keohane that similar expenses would be allocated to Cllr. K. McCarthy to enable him to travel also.

Cllr. A. Barry:

- (a) Cllr. Barry raised the issue of railings at Woodstock Stream. Engineer to examine.
- (b) Slatty Bridge – Cllr. Barry enquired as to whether the works at Slatty Bridge were complete. R. O'Sullivan stated that their machinery had been unable to access part of the site to complete the works but that the matter would be looked at again.

P. Lynch stated that the Planning Policy Unit wished to brief the members on the Draft Development Plan; it was proposed that this would occur at 2 p.m. on 14th February, 2017. An alternative date would need to be found for the Tidy Towns meeting scheduled for that date. P. Lynch to organise.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Cathaoirleach

Municipal District Officer