

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on 26th November 2019**

**In Attendance:** Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O' Brien, Frank O' Flynn, William O' Leary, Frank Roche; Brendan O' Gorman SEE, Mary Hayes SEO, Pauline Moriarty MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

Housing Department: James Keane SEO, Richard Fenton Executive Architect, Karina Cremin SEO and Ruth Henry Senior Architect.

Prior to commencing the business of the November meeting, an 'in-committee' information presentation was made to the Members by James Keane and Richard Fenton of the Housing Department in connection with their intention to publish the Part 8 Notice in relation to the provision of seventeen new social houses at Convent Road, Doneraile. James gave a brief outline of the proposal and the timeline for its progression and Richard went through the plans and particulars of the scheme. Information notes and drawings of the proposal were circulated to the Members. James and Richard answered the Members queries and noted their comments which related to the need for adequate car parking and in relation to the heating systems. The Members thanked James and Richard for their attendance and wholeheartedly welcomed this much-needed social housing proposal, which will come back before the Members, and go to full Council in due course.

**1. MINUTES**

**1. Minutes of Fermoy MD October 2019 meeting held on 15th October 2019.**

These Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

**2. DEPUTATION**

**Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien ref: October 2019 meeting Item 5(18).**

**"that this Council would receive a Deputation from the residents in relation to improving and further enhancing the R666 approach into Fermoy on Rathealy Road".**

*\* As the residents were satisfied with the previous response received in relation to their concerns about this location, it was not necessary for them to attend in Deputation today.*

**DEPUTATION**

**Cllr. Frank O' Flynn :**

**"that Cork County Council receive a deputation from the residents of Kilcor, Castlelyons".**

As Cllr. O' Flynn had arranged for this Deputation to be in attendance at today's meeting, it was agreed, following a brief discussion in relation to procedures, that the deputation could proceed. Cllr. O' Flynn introduced Edele Burke and Martin Dorgan to address the meeting. Edele gave a detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to the serious concerns of residents and other road users about the ongoing dangerous situation for motorists at O' Leary's Cross, Castlelyons. She circulated a petition with 160 signatories, photographs and a satellite image in support of her presentation. Martin, speaking on behalf of Castlelyons Community Council, fully endorsed Edele's presentation. They are requesting a change to the lay-out at this junction to improve visibility and make the location safer. The Members in turn all welcomed the Deputation, complimented them on their presentation and fully supported them in their concerns about and requests for O' Leary's Cross. They acknowledged that speed is a huge issue here and that increased Garda enforcement is paramount. Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed to prepare an Engineer's report for the next meeting.

When the deputation had left the chamber, several of the Members queried the protocol with regards to deputations and to the notice required therefore. Pauline Moriarty MDO responded, confirming that it had been previously agreed that one month's advance notice must be given, by way of Notice of Motion, for a Deputation to be brought before an MD meeting.

**3. BALLYDINEEN, DONERAILE - UPGRADE OF EXISTING TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES**

**1. Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 – 2018**

**Lands at Ballydineen, Doneraile - upgrade of existing traveller accommodation facilities.**

James Keane SEO, Karina Cremin SEO and Ruth Henry Senior Architect went through the plans and particulars for this proposed group housing and upgrade of halting site facilities at Ballydineen, Doneraile and of their intention to commence the Part 8 Planning process. They answered any queries the Members which related to the proposed cost which is €1.92 million and the timeframe for delivery which is envisaged as being late 2020/2021. They also noted the Member's comments and concerns in relation to the development, which pertained mostly to possible unauthorised camping there in the future, and the site potentially being used by a higher number of people than that provided for in this proposal. James replied that the site is specifically for the seven families currently residing here and Karina confirmed that this proposal is part of the agreed 'Traveller Accommodation Programme'. The Members accepted the proposal as presented and thanked James, Karina and Ruth for their attendance and presentation. The proposal will come before the Members at full Council in due course.

**4. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO RURAL WATER COMMITTEE**

**1. Appointment of Member to Rural Water Committee.**

Firstly Cllr. William O' Leary was nominated by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, this was seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien. Cllr. Kay Dawson was then nominated by Cllr. Noel McCarthy, this was seconded by Cllr. Frank Roche. With two candidates nominated, Cllrs. O' Leary and Dawson, a vote was held which resulted in a tie at three votes each. An Cathaoirleach, who had the casting vote, requested the decision be made by way of draw. The name of the candidate drawn was Cllr. Kay Dawson, who was duly appointed to the Rural Water Committee.

**5. 2019 PAY PARKING DIVIDEND**

**1. 2019 Pay Parking Dividend.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through her proposals for the pay parking dividend, a copy of which was circulated to the Members. Some of the works listed were approved at the March 2019 meeting, and approval is now sought for additional works to the value of €34,160.00.

The following issues were discussed and agreed:

- an 'in committee' meeting would be convened in 2020 to discuss a preliminary plan for Pearse Square, Fermoy. This project will require significant funding which Mary Hayes SEO suggested could be applied for from the RRDF. There will be public consultation at all stages.
- Cork County Council cannot subsidise the M8 toll, and as this is a private business it is unlikely this toll will be reduced/removed, but it was acknowledged that traffic through Fermoy town is ever increasing in volume and becoming problematic and something will have to be done to incentivise motorists, particularly HGV drivers, to use the motorway.
- that two amendments to the proposals will be made to facilitate a grant of €2,000 each to the *Thomas Kent Symposium* and the *Fermoy Tourist Office*. Pauline will make these changes accordingly. Also, that a Fermoy MD Member will sit on the Tourist Office committee.

All the Members welcomed the proposals and this planned expenditure in Fermoy of monies which are collected in Fermoy. The Pay Parking Dividend, with changes as detailed above, was then adopted on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

**6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**1. REPORT: MDO Report.**

Pauline went through the contents of her report, uploaded to *DecisionTime* for the Members consideration. In relation to the public toilets in Mitchelstown, it was decided that it would be timely to consider the construction of alternative facilities towards the end of the current USL contract. In conjunction with this, the policy around the provision of public toilet facilities in the MD can also be discussed. Other items of the report were noted by the Members.

## **2. UPDATE: Doneraile Landscape Improvements.**

Mary Hayes SEO went through the numerous improvement proposals (streetscape and planting/landscape works) contained in this scheme, a copy of which was circulated to the Members. This proposal is currently at discussion stage and, if agreed, the estimated €145k cost will be funded from the Town and Village Fund. Mary outlined the steps for this process: the Members are asked for their feedback today; then the public consultation process; the Engineer will finalise plans and then the commencement of the tender process. Mary answered any queries the Members had and noted their comments which included:

- Cllr. Kay Dawson saying a high level of community involvement will be required for maintenance after installation due to the number of plants and shrubs being provided.
  - Cllr. Frank O' Flynn requested an upgrade on the wi-fi provision in Doneraile.
  - Cllr. Kay Dawson requesting that age-friendly seat style and planters be used for the scheme.
- The Members welcomed the proposal and agreed for the scheme to proceed to the next stage.

## **3. RECOMMENDATION: R513 Mitchelstown Pedestrian Crossings - Section 38 Final Report.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that there were no public submissions received during this public consultation process, and An Garda Síochána have no objections to these proposals. These works are to be funded from the Age Friendly Scheme and he is recommending that this project proceed as planned. This was approved on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson and agreed by all the Members.

## **4. UPDATES : 2019 WORKS PROGRAMMES (verbal updates):**

### **(a) 2019 Footpath Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works are ongoing, and will be for the next three months, in Watergrasshill, Conna, Mitchelstown and Kilworth to get the 2019 footpath programme complete. Cllr. Kay Dawson expressed her disappointment that no footpath works had been undertaken in Mitchelstown in 2019, whilst acknowledging she understood this was outside the control of the executive.

### **(b) 2019 Restoration Maintenance Programme (Surface Dressing)**

### **(c) 2019 Restoration Improvement Programme**

### **(d) 2019 CIS**

### **(e) 2019 LIS**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works on these four programmes were 100% complete.

### **(f) Safety Improvement Scheme R639 Amber**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works, which are being carried out by Cork County Council's own crew, are ongoing and will be complete in three/four weeks. The public lighting will be upgraded and new road lining will be installed as part of the project.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien raised her motion No. 8(5) "*that this Council would investigate, in the interest of safety, the visibility for motorists at the junction entering the R639 from L-1512-0, Ballyarthur*" at this point and said she is satisfied that these works will resolve this issue.

Brendan assured Cllr. Noel McCarthy, further to his query, that this project when complete will alleviate the flooding which occurs opposite Amber on the main road R-639. The Members welcomed the work to date and look forward to its completion.

## **7. REQUESTS FOR DISABLED PARKING BAYS**

### **1. Requests for Disabled Parking Bays.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through a list of seven applications for Disabled Parking Bays. Of the seven requests, refusal is recommended for five as the locations are unsuitable. The remaining two are recommended for installation, with Brendan O' Gorman SEE seeking to confirm the exact location of one in the Oliver Plunkett Hill area of Fermoy. The Members accepted the executive recommendations on these DPB applications.

## 8. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

### **Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

1. "that Cork County Council receive a deputation from the residents of Kilcor, Castlelyons".  
\* *This deputation was received at the start of the meeting.*

### **Cllr. William O' Leary**

2. "that this Municipal District would consider the possibility of applying for the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund to obtain funding for the refurbishment of the Weir in Fermoy, given the fact that other towns have had success recently in obtaining major funding for regeneration projects via this scheme".

This motion was supported by all the Members. Cllr. O' Leary explained that this money is available and there could be scope for an application here. Mary Hayes SEO responded that there has been success to date to progress the works required at Fermoy Weir with consensus of effort by all parties. She added that only 'shovel-ready' applications can be submitted for these RRDF grants and that the RRDF favour 'community hub' style projects and she recommended that Fermoy MD wait until they have a project that is more likely to succeed in its application as there will only be one opportunity to apply for this funding. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn added that there are other potential funding opportunities coming up under which Fermoy Weir may get funding, for example the Horizon fund.

### **Cllr. Kay Dawson**

3. "call on Cork County Council, in the interest of safety, to remove shrubs and weeds to allow safe access to footpath on flyover of L-1406".  
Will be done. (BO'G)

### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

4. "that this Committee gets an Engineer's report on the possibility of road works being carried out on the back lane between Redmond Street and Clancy Street, Fermoy".  
A 53m section has been identified and already prioritised for DBM works in 2020, subject to Department Approval. (BO'G)

### **Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

5. "that this Council would investigate, in the interest of safety, the visibility for motorists at the junction entering the R639 from L-1512-0 Ballyarthur".  
There is no interference currently to visibility at this junction. New yellow hatching lining installed in connection with new gateway project will ensure no unauthorised parking close to this junction going forward. (BO'G)

### **Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

6. "that Cork County Council extend the public lighting on the Mallow road entrance to Doneraile out as far as Cornahinch cross, in the interest of safety".  
For consideration under our future P.L. Programme 2020 to be approved by all Councillors. (BO'G)
7. "that Cork County Council put traffic calming measures in place in the vicinity of Araglin Community Centre in the interest of safety".  
When a traffic calming budget is made available to local road operations, the proposal can be looked at in more detail. (BO'G)
8. "that Cork County Council repair the footpath at Abbey Farm Mitchelstown in the interest of safety".  
Local repairs will be carried out. (BO'G)  
Cllr. O' Flynn to advise exact location within Abbey Farm to Brendan O' Gorman SEE.

9. “that Cork County Council put in place two extra public lights at the Mall, Curraglass in the interest of safety of pedestrians and all road users”.  
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE advised the Members that requests for public lighting need to be minimised to conform to Cork County Council’s policy in respect of reducing energy usage.

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

10. “that this Council would carry out an audit of Kenny’s Cross, Castlelyons given the fact that there is poor sight lines particularly as you turn right from the Castlelyons junction on to the main Fermoy / Conna Road”.

There is some scrub / hawthorn bush growing through an existing chain link fence that if removed could improve sightlines looking east at the Castlelyons side of the junction. Will be carried out without additional delay. (BO’G)

Brendan O’ Gorman SEE confirmed there is a 10m stretch here which will be cleared to improve visibility. Cllr. O’ Leary also requested if road lining could be re-instated here, Brendan will consider adding this location to the road marking wish-list.

11. “that this Council would provide an up to date position with regards to the capacity of the new Kilcrumper cemetery, to include if people are in a position to pre purchase new plots if they wish to do so”.

The capacity of New Kilcrumper Cemetery (which opened in 1973) is approx 4,105 plots of which approx 1,944 have been sold. The next Section to be sold is Section H which is on the right hand side near the cross. The capacity of the unused area on the right hand side in New Kilcrumper Cemetery is 2,008 plots of which 1,381 plots where one burial is possible, 435 plots where two burials may be possible and 192 plots where no burial is possible. New beams have been installed in Section O which is on the left just inside the main gate. This Section contains 291 plots (including 37 plots where two burials may be possible). In December 2014, following a survey of the ground conditions the policy whereby no pre-sale of plots was allowed, was formally agreed and signed off by the Director of Services. This policy remains in place. (PM)

Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien’s motion No. 8(22) “*that this Council would provide update report on future plans for provision of burial plots for the people of Fermoy and its environs in view of the inaccessibility to the existing unused area in Kilcrumper New Cemetery*” was discussed at this time. Both Cllrs. O’ Leary and Cllr. O’ Brien highlighted the dissatisfaction and anxiety being experienced by people prevented from pre-buying plots in Kilcrumper Cemetery and requested a different long-term solution be introduced. Pauline Moriarty MDO clarified the justifiable reasons behind the current pre-sales policy which still applies; and re-assured the Members that there is no shortage of space for burial plots in the cemetery.

12. “that this Council would consider installing water refill stations in suitable locations in Fermoy Town”.

Cllr. O’ Leary informed the meeting that this facility had been introduced in Clonakilty on a pilot basis. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to make enquiries accordingly of Clonakilty personnel and revert to the Members.

13. “that this Council would consider resurfacing a section of the road from the Lenihan residence to Ballymacphillip bridge on the Rathcormac to Ballyhooly Road L-1502-23”.

A 680m section has been identified and already prioritised for HRA works in 2020. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Kay Dawson**

14. “call on Cork County Council to request landowner to cut hedge on the Brigown road from Park United club house to Ballybeg Road (same side as Park United)”.

Landowner has been written to. (BO’G)

15. “call on Cork County Council to resurface the above road”.

Works to the value of €95,625 have already prioritised for HRA works here in 2020 as per three year plan circulated in Q1 2019. (BO’G)

16. “call on Cork County Council to re-instate speed monitor on the Brigown Road on approach to Brigown Cottages”.  
A new speed detector unit will be purchased for Mitchelstown in Q1 2020 and will be mobilised at this location for a period. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

17. “that this Committee carry out footpath repairs at the entrance to The Manor housing estate, Clondulane, Fermoy. The footpath is on the main road opposite Fitzgerald Terrace in the village”. Some local subsidence/settlement visible. Bay replacement will be carried out in the next week or so. (BO’G)
18. “that this Committee receive an Engineer’s report on the possibility of two extra spaces being put in place for taxis on Terence McSweeney Street, Fermoy”.  
This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE agreed to examine this suggestion and enquired if the business community in Fermoy are in support of this proposal. Cllr. McCarthy said he would check and convey the reaction of the Fermoy business owners to Brendan in due course.
19. “that this Council get an update on when repairs will be carried out on Ballymacphilip Bridge, Ballyhooly”.  
Confirmed repairs are been handled by our bridge rehabilitation contract team - Current update: Tender documents for the structure were issued Friday 22nd November. Works to be carried out in Q2 / 2020, subject to statutory approvals. Funding is ring fenced for the project. (BO’G)
20. “that this Committee writes to the Lighting Section of the Council to find out who is responsible for the street lighting on Kent Bridge, Fermoy”.  
Cork County Council and our public lighting section are the agency responsible for maintenance of the lights on this section of road. Replacement of fittings / poles etc. is a matter for the TII. (BO’G)  
Further to Cllr. McCarthy saying there are six or seven of these lights not working, and that Airtricity have declined to attend to them; Brendan O’ Gorman SEE undertook to bring this to the attention of the Cork County Council Public Lighting Engineer.

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

21. “that this Council would remove moss and algae from the footpath on Georges Street, Mitchelstown”.  
Will be done. (BO’G)
22. “that this Council would provide update report on future plans for provision of burial plots for the people of Fermoy and its environs in view of the inaccessibility to the existing unused area in Kilcrumper New Cemetery”.  
See response to NOM No. 11 above. (PM)
23. “that this Council would put plans in place for burial of urns (Rose Garden) in Kilcrumper New Cemetery”.  
Current Cemetery Bye-Laws dated 2016 include for “Columbariums” the definition of which is “a room or building with niches for funeral urns to be stored”. The Bye-Laws state that each standard niche in the columbarium is sufficient for two standard receptacles. Larger niches can take up to four receptacles. Ashes must be contained in standard receptacles as specified by the Council. From my investigations, Cork County Council does not have detailed policies and procedures in relation to the construction and layout of “Columbariums” to enable this MD put a Rose Garden in place in Kilcrumper New Cemetery. In addition there is currently no source of funding for such works. (PM)

Further to a brief discussion, Mary Hayes SEO said the Council in West Cork had done some work on this matter and she undertook to liaise with the new Director of Services as this service needs to be examined and possibly provided for in the future. Cllr. Kay Dawson suggested that if a pilot for this facility is to be introduced, it should be in Kilcrumper New Cemetery.

24. "that this Council would accept deputation, at December Municipal Meeting, from Residents of St. Fanahan's Place and Mitchelscourt, Mitchelstown".  
This was agreed.

## 9. **REQUEST FOR CIVIC RECEPTION**

**1. Request for Civic Reception - "that this Council would accord a Civic Reception to Fermoy Karate Club on their success at the recent World Championships".**

**This request was amended at the meeting to include Kildorrery Karate Club.**

This request for a Civic Reception was agreed by all the Members. Pauline Moriarty MDO informed the Members that the Civic Reception for Stephen O' Leary is scheduled to take place at 6.00pm on Friday, 6th December 2019. An alternative date in 2020 will be arranged for the reception for Seán Clancy as he is not available on that date; and the receptions agreed today will be organised in 2020.

## 10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

## 11. **TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. EMAIL RE: Lack of bring disposal facility in the Fermoy area.**  
and

**2. EMAIL RE: referral to Environment SPC for Civic Amenity Site for Fermoy.**  
Noted.

**3. BALLINWILLIN PARK : Ballinwillin Park Amenity Park Survey Feedback.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO asked the Members for any comments they may have in relation to plans for this project. Cllr. Kay Dawson requested the installation of public lighting, which Pauline said is to be included; and Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien requested that public visibility be improved to increase safety and act as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour. It was agreed that this proposal can now go forward for public consultation.

**4. Fermoy MD Defibrillator List.**

Noted.

**5. UPDATE RE: Illegal parking of mobile homes in Fermoy.**

Noted.

**6. Request for amendment to October 2019 Minutes.**

Cllr. Kay Dawson requested the wording of Minutes Item 9(5) be amended to include the location Araglin.

## 12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Birthday greetings to Cllr. Kay Dawson**

On behalf of all the Members, Cllr. O' Flynn wished Cllr. Dawson a happy special birthday, which happened to be on the day of the meeting.

**2. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Fermoy Swimming Pool timetable**

Cllr. McCarthy asked if the timetable could be adjusted to retain the 11.00am to 12.00noon daily session as a public session due to its popularity with some swimmers. This had been changed for child protection purposes to facilitate school sessions before and after this public session. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to re-examine the timetable and revert to the Members.

**3. Cllr. William O' Leary - School Warden in Ballyhooly**

In the absence of a School Warden in Ballyhooly village, Cllr. O' Leary is requesting that a 'push button' facility be introduced at the school crossing. Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to convey this request to the TII and revert.

**4. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Potholes on laneway parallel to Lower Cork Street**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE will arrange to have these potholes repaired.

**5. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - update on entrance at Dairygold, Clonmel Road**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that he had contacted Dairygold in this regard, with no reply.

**6. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - 2019 North Cork Business & Tourism Awards**

Cllr. O' Flynn commended all those involved in the inaugural celebration of these awards, saying it was a very successful and worthwhile event and these awards should continue to take place annually.

**7. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - CCTV update**

Cllr. O' Flynn advised the Members that the CEO will be giving a report on the issue of CCTV installation and regulations to the next meeting of the CPG.

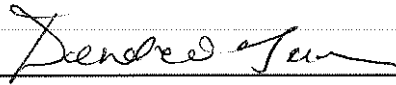
**8. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Update on Wi-Fi for Fermoy**

Cllr. O' Flynn if there was any news on the provision of wi-fi in Fermoy, to which Pauline Moriarty MDO replied none to date.

**9. Cllr. Kay Dawson - Potholes in Corrogorm, Mitchelstown**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE will arrange to have these potholes repaired.

Signed



Date

