

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on 16th November 2021**

**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; Karina Cremin SEO, Sarah O' Connor Executive Architect, Housing Directorate.

**1. MINUTES**

**a. Minutes of Fermoy MD Meeting held on 19th October 2021.**

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

**2. HOUSING DIRECTORATE PRESENTATION**

**- Part VIII Proposal at Uplands, Fermoy, Co. Cork.**

**(Karina Cremin SEO and Sarah O' Connor Executive Architect, Housing Directorate)**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien welcomed Karina Cremin and Sarah O' Connor, Housing Directorate, who went through this proposal. Karina informed the elected Members that this development was advertised on 27th August 2021 for public consultation with a closing date for submissions of 24th September 2021. Two submissions were received, the main issues of note being the potential overshadowing and overlooking of an adjoining property and traffic concerns. Design revisions have been made to resolve these issues including reducing the number of two-story dwellings and the relocation of one of the units within the site, with the proposed number of units i.e. eleven remaining unchanged. A layout map, showing the original and revised proposals for the site was displayed onscreen during the meeting and was uploaded to QuickMinutes for the Members information. These revisions will now adequately alleviate the issues raised in the submission. The elected Members thanked Karina and Sarah for their presentation, acknowledging the success of the public consultation process and welcoming the changes made to resolve the concerns which had been raised. The elected Members queried the timeframe involved in the delivery of these units to which Karina responded that this is envisaged to be a 59-week process, of which the agreement of the elected Members today is a valuable and important stage. The drawings will be prepared for the tender process; Departmental approval for funding is required; the contract will go out to tender, the tender process needs to be completed; and the advertisement for and appointment of a Contractor will be required before works commence on site. The Housing Directorate will do everything they can to expedite this development and Karina undertook to keep the elected Members updated. The elected Members again thanked Karina and Sarah, unanimously welcoming the news of this much-needed additional housing stock for Fermoy; and the proposed development, as presented today, was sanctioned on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson and agreed by all the Members.

**3. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**a. REPORT : MDO November 2021 Report (including update on Fermoy Weir Remediation and Fish Bypass Project).**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through her report, which was uploaded to QuickMinutes and displayed onscreen for the Members information. Items of note and discussed were as follows:

- a date to be decided for the meeting between the Members and CCC Estates Section personnel in relation to Shanowen Estate, it was agreed this meeting would convene as soon as possible.
- in relation to the request for funding for Fermoy Library, following a discussion it was agreed that of the €12,000 suggested €7,000 would be provided to the Library (with the €5,000 allocated for repairs to the Pearse Square clock remaining ring fenced for this work, to be done in 2022). This €7,000 grant was adopted on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson and agreed by all the Members.
- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien requested the removal of the bollards at Church Hill, Mitchelstown. During a discussion the pros and cons of these bollards were noted (enhanced pedestrian safety versus loss of parking). Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed to investigate the provision of a set-down space or two adjacent to the church gate and said a footpath on the right side going up may be warranted in due course.

- the Members voiced their disappointment at the date for the planning application for Fermoy Weir and requested the executive endeavour to expedite this planning as soon as possible. Pauline replied that an update on the weir will be presented at the December meeting by project team personnel.
- Cllr. Kay Dawson again requested an update or report be provided for public information on the plans for the RRDF funded Georgian Quarter and ancillary works in Mitchelstown.
- Cllr. Noel McCarthy requested the green ‘faux’ grass carpet on Patrick Street, Fermoy be removed as it has become very shabby since being installed, Brendan O’ Gorman SEE undertook to arrange its removal.
- Cllr. William O’ Leary enquired if any location had been earmarked for 2022 VES funding, to which Pauline Moriarty MDO replied while there are a number of places under consideration, no recommendation has yet been prepared.

**b. RECOMMENDATION : Request for Wheelchair Parking space - Fermoy**

Brendan O’ Gorman SEE informed the elected Members of the requirement for this disabled parking space which is requested at the ETB building (former Gaelscoil), Fermoy. This request was approved on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien.

**c. REPORT : Public Lighting (verbal update)**

Brendan O’ Gorman SEE updated the Members in relation to this programme, saying works at the following locations - Brigown Road and Clonmel Road, Mitchelstown; at Brough Cross, Doneraile and on the Pike Road, Fermoy are complete; while works in Kildorrery and Doneraile are planned for completion in December.

**d. REPORT : NTA/Footpath Programme (verbal update)**

Brendan O’ Gorman SEE updated the Members in relation to the footpath programme. He said Cork County Council work crews are carrying out NTA funded footpath works in Conna, Curraglass and on Doneraile T&V; and the appointed Contractor is currently working in Castlelyons NTA and will move on to Rathcormac next, for completion in early 2022. Also, the TDF approved footpath at Lower Cork Street, Mitchelstown will be done in early 2022.

**e. RECOMMENDATION : Situation: Grant of Right of Way over non-public road at Coolcarron, Fermoy, Co Cork. Area: 0.065 hectares/0.1618 acres. To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose: Yvonne Cremin & Adrian Cremin, Coolcarron, Fermoy, Co Cork. Consideration: €1 to facilitate access to a private residence.**

The Members considered the information provided for this proposal and the Grant of Right-of-Way, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn.

**4. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**Cllr. Frank Roche**

1. “I am seeking an update on the junction improvement at the Castle Tavern, Ballyhooly”.  
*Lining improvement works have been approved but wet weather conditions in the past month have prevented the works. (BO’G)*  
 This motion was supported by Cllrs. Frank O’ Flynn and Noel McCarthy. Cllr. Roche added that the signage is broken and ‘down’ on two roads at this junction to which Brendan replied that all required regulatory road lining has been renewed and signage is in place.

**Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn**

2. “that Cork County Council would put in place safety measures and advance signage at Mallow Road Cross, Doneraile in the interest of safety, which has been the scene of many accidents”.  
*This junction is on our radar for a future traffic calming scheme. Cars parking at the junction during funeral / Mass times are contributing to current difficulties here. All required signage is in place. (BO’G)*  
 Brendan added to this reply that a full Section 38 planning process is required here and funding will be sought for this work for 2023.

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

3. “that this Council would carry out drainage works at the entrance to Duntaheen Relief Road, opposite Texaco garage, Cork Road, to alleviate flooding at this area”.  
There is a small amount of ponding here due to misshapen road levels. An additional gully and spur will be placed to capture all standing water on the radius curve. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

4. “that this Council erect a public light between No.1 and No.2 Beechwood Grove, Mitchelstown”.  
Will be considered under our 2022 PL programme if funding approved. (BO’G)

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

5. “that this Council would consider under future footpath programmes extending the footpath in Rathcormac on the R614 from the GAA pitch out as far as Pyne’s field”.  
Cannot be done currently under our under-funded local footpath programme but we will seek additional active travel funding streams and other possible sources to advance same. (BO’G)  
Cllr. O’ Leary informed the meeting that Rathcormac GAA plan to develop the two pitches over the coming years, and they hope the access footpath between the two pitches can be upgraded as part of that plan.

**Cllr. Frank Roche**

6. that this Council provide a copy of the report following the meeting held on week Oct 20th to 27th between the Director of Roads and James O Connor TD on the issue of the N73 including the date which the meeting took place, length of the meeting, issues discussed etc, commitments made on the N73 etc.”.

**Response**

On 18<sup>th</sup> of October I received a call from Deputy James O’Connor advising that he was in County Hall and he enquired if he could call in to my office to have a quick discussion with me. I agreed as I had a short window available in my diary. I say this to inform the members of the MD of the context of the encounter.

Deputy O’Connor wished to discuss the N25 Castlemartyr Bypass, N73 Clogher Cross to Waterdyke Scheme and also sought an update on a number of active travel schemes in Youghal. The information provided to Deputy O’Connor is the same information as provided to the Northern Committee on the N73 Scheme in September.

He was in my office for approximately 10 minutes and as the meeting was informal there are no notes or minutes of the meeting. The other parts of the meeting related to matters outside of the Fermoy MD, but the information provided to Deputy O’Connor on these locations was consistent with my report and replies to the Southern Committee on the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup> of October.

(PB, Director of Roads)

Cllr. Frank Roche accepted the response from the Director of Roads, but he and the other elected Members said that they and the four TD’s in this electoral area need to work together, putting politics aside, to ensure that the necessary funding is secured to carry out these much required works on the N73 as a matter of urgency. Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien informed those present that there is a delegation to the TII planned for the following week and the strongest possible case will be made in relation to the N73 and also the N72.

7. “there are visibility issues on the approach to Loch cross from the Glanworth side. I am asking that these be addressed urgently”.  
We will write to the landowner in question to maintain in perpetuity, but we will cut back ditch and vegetation here in the interim. (BO’G)

**Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn**

8. “that Cork County Council give a report and timeframe for preserving and improving the safety of the historic piers at the entrance to Clenor Cemetery and other groundwork there in the interest of safety”.

The Council's Monuments Team have commenced on consolidation works at Clenor last week. They will be coming intermittently and as their schedule allows, with a view to completing the following works:

- (a) Repairs/consolidation to medieval wall.
  - (b) Repairs/consolidation to the tomb wall by the entrance.
  - (c) Repairs to the pier (following straightening of pier by others) - the methodology for straightening the pier is currently with the County Archaeologist for review.
  - (d) The entrance gates will need to be cleaned and refurbished by a specialist contractor.
- They are working to the specification and guidance of County Archaeologist (Mary Sleeman) and John Kelly (of David Kelly Partnership). (PM)

Pauline Moriarty MDO added that this is a heritage cemetery and all associated required works methods need to be observed. She said the piers are safe with no immediate need for repair work. An application had previously been made for funding which was unsuccessful, another funding application will be submitted in 2022. Pauline will prepare an update for the next meeting for consideration by the Members.

9. "that Cork County Council repair the damaged wall on the Ballyporeen approach to Kilshanny Bridge, Mitchelstown and look at the possibility of improving pedestrian access on the bridge as it is used by many walkers and cyclists in the interest of safety".  
Repair works will be progressed in the New Year. Reply to Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien's notice of motion at our October meeting refers also. (BO'G)

#### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

10. "that this Council would receive an Engineer's report on the possibility of traffic calming measures being carried out which would include public lighting at Molly Barry's Cross, Kilworth".  
The area is not urban and is located within a 100kph zone on the old N8 (current R639). Whilst traffic calming is not feasible, I will explore with our public lighting section if the junction can be lit although there is no nearby transmission line so costs would be high. (BO'G)  
Cllr. McCarthy asked if Downey's Cross could also be included here as there are many walkers using this loop.

11. "that this Council received an Engineer's report on the possibility of works being carried out at the bend outside O'Callaghan's house, Pike Road, Fermoy".  
This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn. Cllr. McCarthy acknowledged the works undertaken to date on the Pike Road, however, recalling the deputation of two years ago, he said the bend at this particular location is still dangerous with many near misses. Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to examine this locus with a view to providing low level traffic calming, if feasible.

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

12. "that this Council would investigate and introduce further safety measures at the Kilworth National School".  
Cllr. O' Brien informed the meeting that this is a very busy road, with heavy machinery passing and an issue with speeding vehicles and is therefore requesting some measures be introduced to alleviate the situation and make the location safer for school children and other pedestrians. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that the executive will engage with Cork County Council's Road & School Safety Officer to arrange to address the school children, the requirement to appoint a School Warden will be noted and An Garda Síochána will be requested to monitor speeding in the village.
13. "that Cork County Council provide update with regard to proposed upgrading of Bus Shelters/Stops in the towns of Mitchelstown and Fermoy".

#### **Response**

We aim to start with Phase 2 of the Bus Shelter/Accessible Bus Stop Program in December. The construction phase will run for approximately twelve months. The bus stops at Fermoy and Mitchelstown are included in this phase of the program. I will be engaging with the contractor in the

coming weeks to finalise a detailed construction program for Phase 2, I will update you as soon as this is finalised. Jonathan Cahill EE, CCC Traffic & Transportation Section.

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

14. "that this Council would engage with the appropriate bodies in order to have the Shanowen stream in Castlelyons Community Park cleaned and dredged".  
Local road operations will facilitate where we can any proposed works here but we are not the owner nor the lead agency in these proposed works. (BO'G)  
Brendan added to his reply that this river drains a large catchment area. Cork County Council Inland Waters Section, the OPW and Inland Fisheries Ireland are the main agencies involved here and Fermoy MD will cooperate with any works planned or undertaken by them.
15. "that this Council would consider the L29583-0 Glenville for a future RI programme. This road serves as a popular walking route from Glenville to Keame and Ardarou woods".  
We cannot consider long lengths of cul-de-sac routes on our RI programmes currently. However, we could explore the provision of a CIS here if a 10% community contribution is forthcoming. The public road element here is 700m long but there is another 510m of private road beyond that to the river (possible LIS if there are 2 or more agricultural holdings off it). The CIS local contribution would be €5600 (based on 4m wide average) and the LIS local contribution would be €3672 (based on 3.6m). The overall costs of a route upgrade here would be in the order of €92,720. (BO'G)

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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

#### **RE: Item 6(2) - Cllr. Kay Dawson - Update on Ballyaghaderg Bridge**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that the wall will be replaced here and CCC senior management are aware of the situation and requirement in relation to upgrade works at this busy location.

#### **RE: Item 2(a) - Cllr. Kay Dawson - Public update on Georgian Quarter, Mitchelstown proposals**

Mary Hayes SEO replied that she will revert to the Project Team to prepare an update for the Members for the December 2021 meeting.

### **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **(1) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Update on Bicycle Stands**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that the bicycle stands should be installed by December 2021.

#### **(2) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Congratulations to Pauline Moriarty MDO**

On behalf of the elected Members, Cllr. O' Brien offered sincere congratulations and best wishes to Pauline and her husband Nick on their recent wedding. The Members all added their congratulations and good wishes to Pauline and Nick.

#### **(3) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Congratulations to Blackwater Valley Makers**

Cllr. O' Brien conveyed her congratulations and good wishes to BVM on the opening of their new shop on McCurtain Street, Fermoy; and acknowledged and complimented Mary Hayes SEO and Pauline Moriarty MDO on their endeavours to secure the premises and facilitate the return of BVM to trading in Fermoy. The elected Members concurred with these good wishes.

#### **(4) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - proposal to increase parking turnover at lower Library Carpark**

It was agreed plans and proposals in relation to the lower Library carpark, and other car parking issues would be discussed at the special meeting convening on 26th November 2021 to discuss parking arrangements in Fermoy.

**(5) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - additional item from 2022 Speed Limit Review**

Brendan informed the elected Members of one additional item from the speed limit review (omitted at the October 2021 meeting and now uploaded to QuickMinutes) and said the recommendation here is not to make any change to the speed limit at this location as there is no 30kph area provided within a 50kph zone. The elected Members agreed with Brendan's recommendation.

**(6) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Update on Barry's Boreen, Fermoy**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that this is a work in progress, further surveys are being done to advance the land acquisition from the relevant landowner. Brendan will keep the elected Members updated of any progress on this project.

**(7) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - poor visibility at St. Bernard's Industrial Estate**

Cllr. McCarthy highlighted the poor visibility here enquiring if the tree could be cut to improve the situation. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that he would pass on this concern to the CCC Economic Development section who have responsibility for industrial estates and he will also investigate the feasibility of providing an additional sign at this location.

**(8) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Fallen leaves on footpath from College Road to Baile Árd, Fermoy**

Cllr. McCarthy requested these leaves be removed as they are making the footpath slippery, to which Brendan replied he will arrange for them to be swept up.

**(9) Cllr. William O' Leary - Update on O' Leary's Cross**

Cllr. O' Leary enquired for an update on proposals at this location, asking if any works will be undertaken in 2021, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied the design is progressing and some preliminary work may be done in December 2021, with works continuing in earnest in Q1 / 2022.

**(10) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Query re: traffic light signals at Tesco junction, Mitchelstown**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE acknowledged that there were issues with these traffic light signals and informed the elected Members that an order for the upgrade to this entire system is with the Contractor and will be completed imminently. Any issues with traffic light systems throughout the MD can be relayed to Brendan or the Area Offices and will be passed on the Contractor for resolution.

**(11) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - update on collapsed building at No. 49 Upper Cork Street, Mitchelstown**

Mary Hayes SEO replied that this is a complex issue with many stakeholders involved. Endeavours are continuing to reach a resolution to this issue and in the meantime works to improve safety, such the enhancement of the pedestrian crossing facilities and the erection of additional hoarding around the site will be undertaken by Cork County Council. The property rights of the respective owners must be respected here and the role of Cork County Council is somewhat limited. The elected Members will be kept updated at all stages as this situation continues.

Signed



Date

