

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held at Áras Beantraí, Bantry, on 2nd September 2019

Members present: Cllrs. Karen Coakley, Holly Cairns, Danny Collins, D. Hurley,
Katie Murphy, P.G. Murphy, C. O'Sullivan, P. Hayes,

In attendance: John Ahern S.E.E
Ruth O'Brien S.E.E
Michael Tobin E.E.
Kevin Lynch E.E
Cait Lehane E.E.
Aidan Prendergast E.E.
Mac Dara O h-Ici, S.E.O. M.D.W.C.
Justin England M.D.O. M.D.W.C.
Mary T. McCarthy, S.O. M.D.W.C.

Cllr. Joe Carroll presided.

Apology: Mr. Niall Chamberlain E.E.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Cllr. D. Hurley requested the Suspension of Standing Orders to discuss the current situation in relation to the lack of School Bus tickets in West Cork and to seek the agreement of members to write to Mr. John Halligan Minister of State at the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and the Department of Education and Skills to highlight same. Members discussed various families in different parts of West Cork affected by the problem and agreed that a letter should be sent to the Minister of State seeking additional funding for School Transport in West Cork. Members also requested that the M.D.O. would write to Bus Eireann requesting a meeting to discuss the issue.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

At the proposal of Cllr. D. Hurley, seconded by Cllr. K. Coakley the minutes of the Municipal District of West Cork Meeting held at former Town Council Office, Skibbereen on 1st July 2019 were confirmed and then signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. K. Coakley requested that an official invitation to visit Skibbereen Heritage Centre would be sent to the Mayor of Penmarch, Brittany.

In reply to a query from Cllr. D. Collins regarding the shortage of burial plots in Glengarriff, the S.E.O. noted that the Council's Property Section is actively seeking land for burial grounds.

Cllr. P. Hayes thanked members for approving his attendance at the 30th anniversary twinning celebrations of the twinning between Clonakilty and Waldaschaff, Germany.

Following a query from Cllr. K Coakley regarding Skibbereen Tourist Office, the M.D.O. noted that the M.D.W.C. has not received a reply from correspondence sent to Failte Ireland. Members noted the admirable work being undertaken at Skibbereen Tourist Office and expressed their disappointment at the lack of acknowledgement

from Failte Ireland. The S.E.O. undertook to seek assistance from the Council's Tourism Department on the matter.

STATUTORY BUSINESS

a. Declaration of Public Road - Section 11 of Roads Act 1993

In accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), Cork County Council gives notice of its intention to consider the making of an order under Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, to declare the **the estate road serving the residential housing development known as 'The Stags' comprising of 9 no. dwellinghouses at Killeenleagh, Caheragh, Drimoleague, Co. Cork and built under planning reg. no. W/99/3025 be declared a public road.** Road Length – 78 Linear Metres.

The M.D.O. advised members that in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), Cork County Council intends to consider the making of an order under Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, to declare the road at "The Stags", Killeenleagh, Caheragh, Drimoleague, Co. Cork to be a public road. The advertisement will be published in the Southern Star newspaper on 07-09-19. A map indicating the road will be available for inspection at the Area Engineer's Office, Bantry up to 7th October 2019. Objections and representations may be made in writing up to 23rd October 2019.

b. Grant of 2m-wide wayleave at Dromleigh South, Bantry, Co. Cork to Bernadette Keogh, Dromleigh South, Bantry, Co. Cork.

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. K. Murphy, members approved the granting of a 2m-wide wayleave at Dromleigh South, Bantry, Co. Cork to Bernadette Keogh, Dromleigh South, Bantry, Co. Cork for a consideration of one euro and recommended it to full plenary Council for consideration.

c. Disposal of site at School Road, Durrus to Mr. Dominic O'Brien, (Unused Housing Land)

Members requested further information on the disposal above and requested that the item would be placed on the agenda for the October M.D.W.C. meeting.

d. "Nomination to fill vacancies on the Traveller Consultative Committee – One Member to be nominated from each Municipal District.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. H. Cairns, Cllr. Paul Hayes was elected as the representative from the Municipal District of West Cork on the Traveller Consultative Committee.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Proposed by Cllr. C. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes

a. "That Cork County Council would resurface the Old Tubereen Road, Clonakilty"

Cllr. C. O'Sullivan requested resurfacing, drainage and footpath works on the Old Tubereen Road, Clonakilty which is in poor condition following additional traffic during recent works on the Ring Road and the N71.

Mr. M. Tobin E.E. acknowledged the requirement for footpath improvement drainage works. Mr. Tobin noted that footpath works will be carried out on completion of the Floor Relief Scheme; Drainage works which could cost up to one hundred thousand euro is also necessary but funding for same is not available. Old Tubereen Road will be included in the 2021 Road Restoration Programme.

- b. "That Cork County Council would take over the road at Desert , Clonakilty which was recently improved under an L.I.S"

Cllrs. C. O'Sullivan and P. Hayes requested the commencement of the process of the Taking in Charge of the road at Desert, Clonakilty.

Cllr. J. Carroll & Cllr. D. Hurley

"That Cork County Council would immediately address the problem of the invasive species Ragwort on roadsides and on council property."

Report from Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E.:

"Ragwort is designated as a noxious weed under the Noxious Weeds Act 1936 and it can be eradicated by pulling, ploughing, cutting or chemical control. It is acknowledged that there is an issue with Ragwort in the West Cork Area and it is intended to treat infestations / clusters of ragwort on Cork County Council owned land or on roadside verges where practicable and insofar as budgets allow."

Proposed by Cllr. K. Coakley, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll

"I call upon this council to revise the opening hours for Skibbereen Bring site. It is a fantastic facility but the opening times are not favourable for anyone working Monday to Friday especially as it closes at lunchtime. This lack of access will lead to dumping especially on our country roads. More staff will be required to deal with illegal dumping and this will lead to higher costs. The site needs to be more accessible for people and there should be more incentives for people to use it. I call upon this Council to open this bring site on Saturdays."

Report from Mr. L. Singleton, Senior Engineer, Waste and Climate Change, Environment Directorate:

"Skibbereen Bring Site currently opens Monday to Friday 9.00-5.00 and closes 1.00-2.00. The site has been upgraded with a tarmac surface and lighting and will accept black bag waste along with those recycling streams currently accepted. The lunch time opening hour is being changed to 12.30-13.30 to give an opportunity to users to access the service during their lunch hour which would normally be 13.00-14.00."

The Councillors for west cork having been making representations to have a site open to facilitate tourists and holiday home operators disposal of waste on a Monday, which this now provides.

The service to users on Saturday remains unchanged with Derryconnell and Clonakilty open.

The changes to Skibbereen bring site does not reduce the opening hours, provides for black bag waste and meets the Councillors request of having a facility open on Monday for tourists and tourists operators; therefore the site will continue to operate its current opening days".

Cllr. K. Coakley expressed dissatisfaction with the report and requested that the Notice of Motion would be included in the Agenda for the next Western Committee Meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. C. O'Sullivan

- a. "That, in light of recent changes to the public realm and ongoing flood defence works, this council would initiate a full traffic review of Clonakilty, incorporating traffic flow, on-street parking, disability access, pedestrian safety, cycle ways and potential new one-way systems."

Report from Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E.:

" A Traffic and Transportation Plan for Clonakilty was completed in 2011 and presented in Draft Format which was not subsequently adopted by the elected members at the time. Whilst Clonakilty may benefit from a refreshed plan with updated data, it would be best to be undertaken only when all the works have been

completed and when every element is back functioning as it should be again. Such a plan is likely to be costly and one which we do not have a budget for".

The M.D.O. undertook to circulate the 2011 Traffic & Transportation Plan for Clonakilty at the next Municipal District meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley

- b. "That this council will resurface the entrance to Brook Park in Dunmanway, to improve its appearance."

Report from Ms. C. Lehane E.E.:

'Surfacing works is being priced for the section of road at the entrance to Brookpark Development off the R599 (owned by C.C.C., but not on the road schedule), subject to funding being available from central funding.'

Cllr. D. Hurley noted that he had made representations in this regard to Ms. C. Henehan, D.M., and Mr. J. Fogarty D.M.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. K. Murphy

"I'm calling on Cork County Council to work with Coillte who are supposedly willing to pay for repair on roads in Borlin leading to Derreenacollig Forestry and roads in Maugha and Derrynafada where there is damage to a bridge leading to Coomacrobeg Cappaboy Forestry."

Report by Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E.:

"Coillte have been harvesting timber from a forest located at the end of local secondary road, L-8783-0 in Derreenacollig, Borlin. A joint pre-condition survey was carried out by Coillte and CCC and preparatory works were agreed and carried out by CCC in relation to cleaning water tables and replacing road culverts. Cork County Council and the Coillte representative are in regular contact with residents along this road. CCC is aware of the haulage activity on this road and is regularly repairing potholes along the road during the haulage period, at residents' request and in fact are currently carrying out patching repairs there and recently replace a collapsed culvert along that road. Residents have also been advised that the road will be reinstated to a condition no worse than it was prior to the commencement of haulage activities, through a combined effort of Coillte and Cork Council Council. Residents have also been advised that, finances permitting, some improvements might be carried out, through a combination of Coillte and Cork County Council.

CCC has been advised that further harvesting of timber is planned for 2020 and 2021 and as the haulage works are not yet complete, it would not be feasible to carry out reinstatement works at this time. In the meantime, Cork County Council will continue to respond to residents' requests for attention to the road.

Cork County Council have contacted Coillte in relation to the damaged parapet wall on the bridge at Coomacrobeg and they have advised that the bridge wall will be repaired in the near future."

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. J. Carroll stated his dissatisfaction following his request for a traffic survey at North Street, Skibbereen. Cllr. Carroll recommended that Traffic Lights should be installed in North Street as there are problems daily for vehicles with many broken mirrors etc. The S.E.O. noted that the issue can be assessed as part of the public realm works at The Square but it would be necessary to have experts in the field report on the proposal and the feasibility of same before any actions could be taken as the proposal would have an effect on other traffic movements within the town.

Cllr. J. Carroll informed the meeting of representations received by a number of councilors from a community group in Rosscarbery requesting the erection of a wall at Ardagh Burial Ground. The S.E.O. outlined that following purchase of the land a section of the site was developed and that the erection of a wall would interfere

with future development thus the construction of a fence would be preferable and practical. Members requested that costs are sought for the construction of a wall.

Cllr. C. O'Sullivan proposed that the official opening of the Joe Walsh Greenway in Clonakilty would be held on Saturday 21st September 2019. Cllr. O'Sullivan commended John Ahern S.E.E., Justin England M.D.O. and Seamus Daly, Town Foreman for the development of such a fantastic facility.

In reply to a request from Cllr. C. O'Sullivan to circulate the Structural Report on the Old Town Hall, Clonakilty, the M.D.O. outlined that the Flood Relief Scheme is being advanced by the Office of Public Works, who commissioned the reports. A request has been submitted to the OPW seeking permission to circulate the reports to the elected Members.

Cllr. D. Collins proposed the development of additional car parking and a Public Toilets at Ballyrisode Beach, Schull.

In reply to a query from Cllr. D. Collins regarding the recent absence of administrative staff from Schull Area Office, the S.E.O. noted that it is not possible to have full cover in all offices during the summer period and on occasions personnel are located to larger offices and telephone service transferred to same.

Members proposed that a Civic Reception should be held on Monday 23rd September 2019 to acknowledge Bantry Tidy Towns, Bantry Area Engineer's Office, the Community Employment Scheme and Bantry Projects Group following the recent announcement that Bantry was declared Ireland's Best Kept Town in a ceremony at Farmleigh House, Phoenix Park, Dublin.

In reply to a query from councillors P. Hayes and C. O'Sullivan about the installation of Water Refill Stations in West Cork towns and villages, the S.E.O. noted the matter had been discussed at Full Council.

It was agreed to hold a meeting to consider the Municipal District Draft Budgetary Plan for 2020 in the afternoon of Monday 21st October.

The MDO raised the issue of twinning with Scituate and the proposal to visit in the Autumn. The SEO outlined that the twinning was established and it was envisaged that once the links were established by the council that the local committee would take a more prominent role in organising the events, Cork County Council had financially supported the Skibbereen Chamber of Commerce to this end last year. If a formal invite was received to visit Scituate then the members of the Municipal District would have to decide who would go to represent them and assign money to cover the expenses from the General Municipal Allowance.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Fionn Ferreira (Age18) from Ballydehob, a student of Schull Community Collete who was named the overall winner of the 2019 Google Science Fair, an annual science competition open to students all around the world between the ages of 13 and 18.

Skibbereen Rowing Club members Paul O'Donovan and Fintan McCarthy who won gold medals in the Lightweight Men's Double at the World Championships in Austria on 31-08-19.

Cork Minor Football Team and Management on winning the All Ireland Minor Football Final on 01-09-19.

The organisers of the very successful Bantry Agricultural Show on 01-09-19.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH _____

DATE _____