

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

Teach na Cúirte,
An Sciobairín, Co. Chorcaí P81 M624.
Fón: (028) 21299 • Faics: (028) 21995
Suíomh Gréasáin: www.corkcoco.ie
Courthouse,
Skibbereen, Co. Cork P81 M624.
Tel (028) 21299 • Fax (028) 21995
Web: www.corkcoco.ie



MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held at Dunmanway Swimming Pool on 4th November 2019

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

In attendance: John Ahern S.E.E.
Michael Tobin E.E.
Cait Lehane 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. D. Hurley presided.

Apology: Ruth O'Brien S.E.E., Niall Chamberlain E.E., Damien Murphy E.E., Cllrs. Joe Carroll & D. Collins.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

At the proposal of Cllr. Karen Coakley, seconded by Cllr. Katie Murphy the minutes of the Municipal District of West Cork Meeting held at Dunmanway Swimming Pool Meeting Room on 7th October 2019 were confirmed and then signed by the Cathaoirleach.

The MDO confirmed that Bus Eireann has agreed to meet a representative group of members at the Bus Eireann depot regarding the School Tickets problem. The meeting was advised that Bus Eireann were a service provider under the Department of Education and Skills rules. It was agreed that a follow up letter should be sent to Minister John Halligan on the matter.

In reply to a query from Cllr. Katie Murphy regarding Schull Playground, the M.D.O. noted that a framework for the supply of playground equipment has been set up by West Cork and Bandon Kinsale Municipal Districts. A contractor is currently compiling a design plan for Schull Playground, funding for same will then be considered.

In reply to a query from Cllr. P. Hayes regarding Ardagh Burial Ground, Rosscarbery, the S.E.O. noted that landscaping works are currently being carried out on the site.

In reply to a query from Cllr. D. Hurley regarding the opening of the gym at Dunmanway Swimming Pool, the S.E.O. noted that plans for opening same are progressing well.

STATUTORY BUSINESS

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

Lands at Árd na Gréine, Wood Road in the townlands of Meelmane

The construction of 6 no. two storey residential housing units and 11 no. single storey residential housing units comprising of; 6 no. 3 bed houses and 11 no. 2 bed houses.

The M.D.O. noted that the Part VIII above is now in the Bandon Kinsale Municipal District.

- b. Grant of licence for use of lands at Gortnaclohy, Skibbereen to Kieran Hodnett and Helen Hodnett, St. Fachtna's Terrace, Skibbereen by way of licence agreement.

On the proposal of Cllr. Karen Coakley, seconded by Cllr. Katie Murphy, members approved the granting of licence for use of lands at Gortnaclohy, Skibbereen to Kieran Hodnett and Helen Hodnett, St. Fachtna's Terrace, Skibbereen by way of licence agreement for a consideration of one euro per annum for twenty five years and recommended it to full plenary Council for consideration.

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

Proposed by Councillor Paul Hayes
Seconded by Councillor Christopher O'Sullivan

RESOLVED:

That, being satisfied that a public right of way exists over it, and the road is of general public utility, Cork County Council hereby declares pursuant to the provisions of Section 11(1) of the Roads Act, 1993, the following road to be a public road:

Road at Church View Estate, Derrigra, Enniskeane - Road Length – 221 Linear Metres.

- d. Appointment of one Member to the Rural Water Committee

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Hurley, seconded by Cllr. K. Coakley, Councillor Paul Hayes was nominated on to the Rural Water Committee from the Municipal District of West Cork.

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

"That this council would introduce further traffic calming measures on the R599 on both sides of Kilmeen NS".

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

"Kilmeen School is located on the Regional road R599. A 50kph speed limit is in place on the R599 through the village including the approach to and past school. It is a matter for An Garda Siochana to enforce the speed limit. There are a number of driver feedback signs in addition to road markings already in place for traffic in both directions in the vicinity of the school. Northbound Traffic has to negotiate a tight radius bend at the junction with L 4631 to Rossmore which is just before the school and which has the effect of slowing all the traffic down at this point. It is difficult to see what other measures can be reasonably put in place".

Cllr. C. O'Sullivan thanked Ms. Lehane for the report and requested the examination of an engineering solution for same and also asked for a report on the driver feedback signs at Kilmeen N.S.

Proposed by Cllr. K. Coakley, seconded by Cllr. Katie Murphy

- a. I call upon this Council to: reduce the speed of traffic near the school in Drinagh. Parents are very concerned for their children's safety to and from school. Signs and speed ramps need to be installed to prevent an accident.

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

There is a 50kph Speed limit in operation in Drinagh village. The enforcement of the speed limit is a matter for An Garda Siochana. However, it is acknowledged that the road width through Drinagh is wide and that may lead to drivers tending to exceed the speed limit. There are measures which can be implemented that may assist in avoiding this tendency such as reducing lane carriageway widths, hatching with lines and better definition of the road all to create less of wide road effect. We will liaise with the Regional and Local Road Design Office on same and hopefully have a co-ordinated design in place early next year.

Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. agreed to examine the area again with a view to devising temporary works that won't affect a future design solution.

- b. I call upon this Council to: review the crossing at the top of Townshend Street, Skibbereen. People can't cross the road safely as the traffic is continually flowing and won't stop to allow people to cross. I urge the council to install a zebra crossing and to alleviate this problem for pedestrians. In the interest of health and safety of residents in Townshend St, I request a review of the speed of traffic driving up Townshend St.

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

Works are planned in this area under the Skibbereen Public Realm Plan and a crossing for Pedestrians will be looked at and accommodated in the detail design of the junction. We will set up a traffic counter in Townsend St to monitor the speeds on the street in the next few weeks.

Residents are finding it difficult to cross Mardyke Street, Skibbereen as the cars are parked so close together. Some of the residents are elderly and have mobility issues. I request that a slope off the footpath could be installed somewhere on the street so that wheelchair users and people pushing prams can cross the street. In general all our footpaths must be more wheelchair friendly.

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

As part of the Skibbereen Public Realm plan, the new footpaths are more accessible for all with level crossings and dropped kerbs being installed where appropriate. We will look at the situation on Mardyke St separately as it is outside the current scope of the Plan but it should be possible to do some intervention that would address the issue raised.

- c. I call upon this Council to: support Baltimore Sea Memorial: It is hoped to refurbish "The Lawn" area for a remembrance/reflection garden with a memorial to those lost at sea. This would be a great addition to the community and also a great location for the sea memorial.

It was agreed that Cllr. Coakley would liaise with the S.E.O. to arrange a meeting with all interested parties to discuss options of suitable sites and types of memorials.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

The M.D.O. distributed copies of the November Monthly West Cork Municipal District Report which will be circulated with the Agenda and Minutes henceforth. Members welcomed the report and acknowledged the efforts of all involved.

Cllr. P.G. Murphy congratulated Beara Tourism Development Ltd on being nominated for a Pride of Place Award for 2019 and members extended good wishes to all nominees.

In reply to a query from Cllr. P. Hayes regarding the proposed installation of a Bus Shelter at Gullane Walkway, Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. advised the Members that applications for the provision of bus shelters are processed through the Council's Traffic and Transportation Policy Unit. The S.E.E. advised that he would include on the list for 2020 to be considered by TTPU.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. H. Cairns expressed concerns following representations from West Cork Women against Violence, Bantry regarding changes to the management of homeless persons following the moving of the service away from Community Welfare Offices to be administered by Cork County Council from 01-08-19. Cllr. Cairns noted the inconvenience for persons who live in rural parts of West Cork who may have difficulty in travelling to the Housing Office in Clonakilty for assistance. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Housing Director of Services requesting information on how it is intended to administer same in West Cork.

In reply to a query from Cllr. C. O'Sullivan regarding drainage issues at Rossmore village on the road to the G.A.A. pitch, Ms. C. Lehane E.E. undertook to examine same.

Cllr. P. Hayes raised the issue of the inability of many community groups and festivals to obtain public liability insurance and specifically Clonakilty Community Bike Scheme which is having difficulty in sourcing an insurance provider after May 2020. The S.E.O. undertook to contact Irish Public Bodies Insurance Company for advice.

Cllr. K. Coakley queried the possibility of changing the Bus Stop from Bridge Street, Skibbereen to another location as Bridge Street gets congested and emergency vehicles and unable to traverse same.

Cllr. K. Coakley noted that road signs in the West Cork area need to be cleaned as they are illegible. Mr. M. Tobin E.E. asked members to inform the Area Engineers Office of signs requiring attention.

Cllr. K. Coakley requested an upgrade of equipment at Leap Playground.

Cllr. K. Coakley requested that a letter is sent to Faillte Ireland asking for an update of the request to include Union Hall in the Wild Atlantic Way.

Cllr. Katie Murphy asked for an update on a request for public lighting at Dooneen Pier, Kilcrohane.

The M.D.O. informed members that a Water Refill Station will be installed as a pilot scheme at Astna Street in Clonakilty, funded by West Cork Municipal District.

The M.D.O. congratulated Skibbereen Heritage Centre on the recent launch by Sir David Puttman of a series of new Famine films. The short films feature both the causes and effects of Ireland's Great Hunger – from the government's response to the crisis, to local stories about the eviction of the Widow Ganey and the workhouse orphan girls. Jeremy Irons narrated the introduction while local actors Fachtna and Carmel O'Driscoll, Donagh Long, Paul Delaney, Rupert Stutchbury and Tod McCarthy portrayed the voices of the time in these heartbreaking local stories which now form part of the permanent Famine Story exhibition at Skibbereen Heritage Centre. Members also praised Margaret Murphy, an avid genealogist and local historian from Skibbereen Heritage Centre, who was a guest on the Marian Finucane RTE Radio One show on 26-10-19. The multimillion-selling writer John Le Carré visited Skibbereen Heritage Centre recently, to research his West Cork ancestry. Le Carré is the nom-de-plume of David Cornwell whose paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Wolfe, was born near Rossmore. The staff in Skibbereen Heritage Centre were delighted to meet him and welcome him home to West Cork. His 'homeplace' was identified subsequent to his visit and Mr. Le Carré will return in the near future to visit same.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. C. O'Sullivan it was decided to hold the December 2019 Municipal District Meeting at Skibbereen Heritage Centre.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH _____

DATE _____