

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District  
2020 Budget Meeting and October 2019 Meeting  
held on Tuesday, 15th October 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.

Prior to commencing the business of the meeting, an Cathaoirleach Cllr. Frank O' Flynn welcomed five representatives of Blackwater Valley Makers (BVM) and Valerie Murphy CEO Avondhu Blackwater to the chamber to present the Fermoy MD grant of €7,000 from the Pay Parking Dividend to BVM in support of their gallery and craft shop opened in 2018 at Pearse Square, Fermoy. The Members congratulated and complimented BVM on their premises and endeavours, saying the increased footfall from their visitors and customers is of benefit to businesses throughout the town and wished them continued success for the future. Mary Hayes SEO commended BVM on their business model saying it is a standard-setting example of collaboration between the artists, the building owner, Avondhu Blackwater, the Local Authority and others; and was delighted to announce that BVM is short-listed for a 'Chambers Award'. Siobhain Steele, on behalf of BVM, sincerely thanked Fermoy MD for the contribution and everyone who had been involved with this project since its inception and said they looked forward to its continued success. Valerie Murphy conveyed her congratulations on the project, agreeing that co-operation is key to the success of a project such as this, and finished with the motto 'onwards and upwards Fermoy'.

### **FERMOY MD 2020 BUDGET MEETING**

#### **1. To discuss draft 2020 Budgetary Plan for the Fermoy Municipal District.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO introduced and went through the budgetary proposals for the coming year under each of the divisions, saying that despite changes to the boundary there is no change in requirement from previous years and that she is satisfied that what she had sought she had been granted. Mary Hayes SEO commented that with the boundary changes and reduction in area, the budgets are up proportionately on last year.

The following issues were then raised by the Members:

- Cllr. Kay Dawson enquired if there is any provision for a service as an alternative to a Civic Amenity Site in the MD? Pauline replied that as this is an Environment Department service no budgetary provision is made in the Fermoy MD budget; and Mary Hayes SEO undertook to raise this issue with the relevant Director and bring to the appropriate SPC for consideration and a response.
- Cllr. Noel McCarthy enquired if a permanent toilet facility could be constructed in Mitchelstown instead of the ongoing lease of the USL with its associated high cost? Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to examine the contract for this facility and revert in due course with a response to this proposal.
- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien enquired if there is an increase in the roads budget, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied yes, but with less from the Department and with a chance that central funding across all the budgets may be reduced.
- Cllrs. Kay Dawson and Noel McCarthy re: their joint Notice of Motion: Item 5(5) "*that this Council would receive an up-to-date report on when funding would be made available for the new proposed cycle route from Fermoy to Mitchelstown*" queried if a provision could be included in this budget? Pauline replied that the budget presented today is a Revenue budget which would not include for Capital projects such as this proposal. Brendan O' Gorman SEE suggested that plans and perhaps preliminary works for this project could be prepared using 'Presentation of Towns' funding which has been under spent over the past number of years and this suggestion was welcomed and agreed by Cllrs. Dawson and McCarthy, and the Members. The budget as presented was accepted and on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and agreed by all the Members, was adopted.

### **FERMOY MD OCTOBER 2019 MEETING**

#### **1. MINUTES**

##### **1. Minutes of 'In Committee' Meeting (with Housing Dept.) held on 17th September 2019.**

These Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.

## **2. Minutes of Fermoy MD September 2019 Meeting held on 17th September 2019.**

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

### **2. DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES ETC.**

#### **1. To consider grant of right-of-way at James Street, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork to Nicholas Frewen and Sheila Frewen for the consideration of €1 plus discharge of Council's costs.**

The Members considered the information provided in relation to this proposal and the grant of Right-of-Way was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn.

### **3. LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **1. To select Fermoy MD Nominee on Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Frank O' Flynn put himself forward as the Fermoy MD representative on this Committee, this was seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and agreed.

### **4. REPORTS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **1. REPORT: MDO Report**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through this report. The issue of the long timeline for repair works to Kilworth Playground was raised and Pauline agreed, further to a request, to inform the Members of the start date and the projected completion date for these works. Vandalism at Rathcormac Playground which has resulted in this facility being closed was highlighted by Cllr. William O' Leary and he enquired if it were feasible for playgrounds to be staffed (locked at night and opened for use during daylight hours). Pauline replied that she will consider this suggestion in consultation with the community for the Rathcormac playground once repairs have been carried out. All the Members agreed that the issue of vandalism and how unacceptable this behaviour is has to be emphasised to the public. All other report items were noted by the Members.

#### **2. UPDATE: Fermoy Weir**

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through the update on Fermoy Weir, which included information and details pertaining to the contract and role of the recently appointed Consulting Engineers. As the Consultants will be reporting directly to the County Engineer's Department, Pauline proposes preparing quarterly updates about this project going forward, this was agreed by the Members. The Members noted the content of the update and welcomed the progress on this important matter.

#### **3. UPDATE: 2019 Footpath Programme - Verbal Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE updated the Members on this programme, saying the Contractor will be working in Watergrasshill, Fermoy, Kilworth, Doneraile and Mitchelstown and this programme should be finished within four months. Further to a query from Cllr. O' Leary, Brendan confirmed that jointing repairs to the footpath in Rathcormac will be done by CCC own crews.

#### **4. PROGRESS REPORT: 2019 Restoration Maintenance Programme (Surface Dressing)**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that this programme is now 95% complete; works are continuing on schedule and within budget.

#### **5. PROGRESS REPORT: 2019 Restoration Improvement Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works on this programme are practically complete, with only a small number of 'second-seals' to be finished.

#### **6. UPDATE: 2019 CIS - Verbal Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that the CIS in Kildorrery is complete; that there are three more CIS projects to be done, which will take approximately ten working days to complete.

#### **7. UPDATE: 2019 LIS - Verbal Update**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that there are three of the LIS jobs now finished, with one left to do which will be done by end of October.

## **8. UPDATE: Safety Improvement Scheme R639 Amber**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works have commenced here and will be ongoing for approximately three weeks to a completion date in mid-November. Further to a request from Cllr. Noel McCarthy, Brendan will endeavour to put a sign in place, beyond the entrance to the Amber truck park facility, to discourage trucks from using Pike Road.

## **9. REPORT: Rockmills Deputation Report**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through this report and further to a query from Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, confirmed that the timescale for the installation of the proposed facilities here is four to five weeks. The report and proposed measures were welcomed by the Members and on the proposition of Cllr. O' Flynn, jointly seconded by Cllrs. McCarthy and Dawson, the report was agreed and adopted.

## **5. NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

1. "that this Committee gets an Engineer's report on the possibility of more traffic calming measures being put in place opposite the entrances of the Texaco garage, Cork Road, Fermoy".  
Relining of arrows / warning text / yellow bars will be undertaken here in the coming weeks. No additional calming is proposed here as there is already a calming gateway to the South. (BO'G)  
This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn. It was agreed that this is a very busy and potentially dangerous location with many vehicles from varying locations merging here.  
Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised the Members that funds are earmarked for long term solution here, ideally a roundabout. He undertook in the meantime to arrange for the installation of a yellow box and to meet with the filling station operators to discuss possible alleviation measures which could be introduced.

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

2. "that this Council would carry out an assessment and any necessary repair works on the footbridge covering the Bride Walk in Rathcormac".  
Structural Assessment already in place (CC-L5615-001.00) and we are awaiting funding confirmation and appointment of bridge contractor for the required works to the legacy value of €20,660 (costed in late 2016). (BO'G)

### **Cllr. Kay Dawson**

3. "call on Cork County Council to make recommendation to the TII to extend the white line on the Mitchelstown side of N73 (P67 DY82)".  
Will be referred to the TII via our TII GeoApp defect notification and considered by them. (BO'G)

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

4. "that this Council would consider putting in place parking spaces specific for elderly and/or disability at Doneraile P.O. for ease of accessibility and safety".  
For discussion. (BO'G)  
Cllr. O' Brien explained that elderly and disabled persons have to park some distance away and walk to the Post Office as the street is very busy at times. Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to examine the feasibility of this request and will revert to the Members at the next meeting.

## **JOINT MOTION**

### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy & Cllr. Kay Dawson**

5. "that this Council would receive an up-to-date report on when funding would be made available for the new proposed cycle route from Fermoy to Mitchelstown".  
No funding source identified at this time. (PM)  
*\* This was discussed and at Item 1 - draft 2020 Budgetary Plan.*

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

6. “that this Council would carry out footpath repairs at Strawhall, Fermoy”.  
Will be considered under our 2020 Discretionary Footpath Programme. (BO’G)
7. “that this Council would write to TII with reference to road surfacing work carried out at Castlehyde, Fermoy and ask for Engineer’s report outside the house of Kenneallys (Eircode P61 E294) if further works need to be finished”.  
I have sought a reply/comment from Bob’ O’ Shea of our NRDO, who are overseeing the current resurfacing contract. (BO’G)  
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE said he is awaiting a reply on this and will circulate same to the Members when it is received.
8. “that this Council receive an Engineer’s report on how visibility can be improved at Leacht Cross, Ballyhooly with reference to turning right to the N72 going to Fermoy”.  
National Road N72 Junction. Junction has been recently audited under a HD17 programme of works. Private land to be secured to improve visibility to the west. A private garden and agricultural land will need to be secured, with the boundaries being returned 2-3m back from the road. Procurement of lands required so project will be advanced by the TII/NRDO. (BO’G)

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

9. “that this Council would consider resurfacing a section of the Glenville to Mallow Road (L-1219-82) as part of any future Restoration Improvement Programmes”.  
Works carried out here in 2017 and 2018. No further works required on this section. Works on the L1219-49 will be considered in future programmes. (BO’G)
10. “that this Council would consider resurfacing the L-1509-19 Bridestown to Coolea Cross as part of any future Restoration Improvement Programmes”.  
1.5km already on the 2021 Provisional RI Programme submitted to Councillors previously. (BO’G)
11. “that this Council would investigate measures to help reduce the speed of traffic on the R628 approach to O’ Leary’s Cross from the Conna side in the interest of the residents living on this road”.  
Garda Speed enforcement matter. All warning and regulatory signs and lining in place. (BO’G)  
This motion was supported by Cllrs. O’ Flynn and McCarthy. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE said the problems here can be attributed to bad driver attitude and behaviour and he undertook to write to An Garda Síochána requesting increased enforcement at this location.
12. “that this Council would consider the possibility of installing plastic recycling bins similar to those used for glass and clothes in the towns and villages for the Fermoy MD”.  
This motion should be referred to the Environment SPC as it has countywide consequences. (PM)  
Following a brief discussion, Pauline Moriarty MDO said she would bring this proposal to the attention of the Environment Department for their consideration and response.

**Cllr. Kay Dawson**

13. “call on Cork County Council in the interest of safety to review signage on approach to roundabout at the Cross-of-the-Groves, Mitchelstown”.  
All warning and regulatory signs and lining in place. Driving through the roundabout without yielding is a matter for Garda enforcement. (BO’G)  
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE will investigate the potential for additional signage at this location.
14. “call on Cork County Council to upgrade Ballinwillin Park”.  
Draft upgrade plans attached for discussion. (PM)  
Pauline Moriarty MDO requested the Members examine the draft proposal and contact her directly with any observations or questions they have. Mary Hayes SEO advised the Members that the sooner they agree and sign off on these plans, the sooner the public consultation can be arranged and works subsequently progressed.

15. "call on Cork County Council to consider the provision of a yellow box outside garage on Edward Street, at corner house on Thomas Street".  
For future consideration. (BO'G)  
Brendan O' Gorman SEE will arrange for the appropriate lining to be provided here.

**Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

16. "that this Council consider providing additional car parking space to the residents of 22 to 28 Glenview Estate, Doneraile".  
Housing Directorate.  
Cllr. O' Brien explained the background to and reason for this request and Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed to 'dish' the footpath outside the house of wheelchair user. Mary Hayes SEO said she will highlight this issue to the new Director and Divisional Manager in conjunction with the Housing DoS to come up with an action list for future implementation.
17. "that this Council make safe for pedestrians, on the footpath, as they cross the entrance at Dairygold Retail Store, Clonmel Road, Mitchelstown".  
Issue has been referred to both Eircom and Dairygold themselves. (BO'G)  
Brendan O' Gorman SEE will make contact with Dairygold in relation to safety for pedestrians at this entrance.
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".  
This was seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and agreed.

**6. REQUEST FOR CIVIC RECEPTION**

**1. Request for Civic Reception - "that this Committee would honour Steven O' Leary with a Civic Reception for getting a bronze medal at the Special Olympics in March".**

This request agreed by all the Members. On the recommendation of Pauline Moriarty MDO it was agreed that this Civic Reception and the one previously agreed for Seán Clancy (at the September 2019 meeting) would be hosted jointly.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**1. LETTER TII 10.10.2019 RE: N72 at Patrick Street, Fermoy**

Cllr. Noel McCarthy voiced his dissatisfaction with this reply and asked if the TII would reconsider, or if this work could be done using Fermoy MD own funds. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied saying the entire 2019 Fermoy MD budget of €76K for National Secondary roads is insufficient for these works and the multi million contract work requested cannot be undertaken from our own budgets. The TII/NRDO have approved and completed works in 2019 to the value of €200K only and will be prioritising resurfacing of sections on the N72 east of Fermoy Town for future years. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed this issue would be raised at the next Northern Committee roads meeting, with a view to being forwarded to the relevant SPC for consideration.

**8. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. Cllr. Kay Dawson RE: Item 10(5) John Barrett, Clonkilla**

Cllr. Dawson requested a written response for John Barrett in relation to this drainage issue, which Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed to forward to her by email.

**2. Cllr. Kay Dawson RE: Item 6(12) Issues in Castletownroche Cemetery**

Cllr. Dawson said that further contact had been made with the Members and Pauline Moriarty MDO in relation to the issues at this cemetery, and she is requesting a further update. Pauline replied that a response has been issued and works are to be carried out before year end.

**3. Cllr. Kay Dawson RE: Item 10(7) Upgrade of ramps at Barrack road and Ballinwillin**

Cllr. Dawson thanked Brendan O' Gorman SEE for the upgrade to these ramps, saying they are a great improvement.

**4. Cllr. Noel McCarthy RE: Item 10(10) Contractor staff parking on relief road, Fermoy**  
Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that he had contacted the Housing Department and the Contractor, and it is not currently feasible for staff to park within the site as they are finishing off the front portion of the estate, but these works are nearing completion which will restore off-road parking for staff within the estate driveways/roads.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Traffic speed on Pike Road, Fermoy**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to write to An Garda Síochána requesting increased enforcement on Pike Road, Fermoy which is a 50kpm zone. He will keep this location in mind for traffic calming if and when a budget for such works becomes available.

**(2) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Request for barrier at Glenabo Bridge, Fermoy**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that, short term, he will arrange for delineators to be put in place here and, long term, a crash barrier will be installed in 2020.

**(3) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Request for traffic calming and ramps at Conna N.S.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE will continue to examine the situation at Conna NS. He will keep this location in mind for future traffic calming if and when a budget for such works becomes available.

**(4) Cllr. O' Flynn - RE: caravans at (a) Kilcrumper Cemetery and (b) Cork Road, Fermoy**

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that in relation to (a) a court case was to be held on 11th October 2019 and she would enquire as to the outcome of that and in relation to (b) she had met with An Garda Síochána but more stakeholders, such as the Housing Department, need to become involved to achieve a solution here.

**(5) Cllr. Kay Dawson - flooding due to extreme rainfall on Monday 14th October 2019**

Cllr. Dawson enquired if anything could be done to alleviate the risk of flooding as had occurred at many locations in Araglin on Monday night. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that drainage works to the required standard are done at all locations but acknowledged that there had been localised flooding due to the extreme rainfall, equal to a one-in-five-year-flood, where 70mm rain had fallen within a short number of hours.

**(6) Cllr. Kay Dawson - traffic signals in Mitchelstown, junction of Baldwin Street etc.**

Cllr. Dawson said the right-turn arrow seemed to be 'gone' from these signals, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied he would arrange for their operation to be checked by the contractor.

**(7) Cllr. Frank Roche - issue at roundabout at Castle Tavern, Ballyhooly**

Cllr. Roche said traffic is shooting through this roundabout without yielding, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied this is bad driver behaviour and illegal.

**(8) Cllr. William O' Leary - Traffic Calming measures in Rathcormac**

Cllr. O' Leary understands the ramp on the main street in Rathcormac is to be removed and queried what will replace this, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied he will be presenting a design for new (traffic calming) measures to the Members at the November 2019 meeting.

**(9) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Gullies in Glenabo Heights, Fermoy**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to investigate this as footpath works are currently being carried out here.

**(10) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Query re: update on Defibrillator List**

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that there is a difficulty getting the information as to the locations of defibrillators in the MD as they are installed by independent groups and there is no one lead agency dealing with them. Mary Hayes SEO recommended appealing to the public to come forward with this information so that a full list can be compiled; this was agreed by the Members.

**(11) Cllr. William O' Leary - Query re: Invitation to NTA to attend meeting.**

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that there had been no reply from the NTA to correspondence sent from Fermoy MD.

**(12) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Query re: update on roundabout at Mallow Road junction.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied there was no update available yet on this proposal.

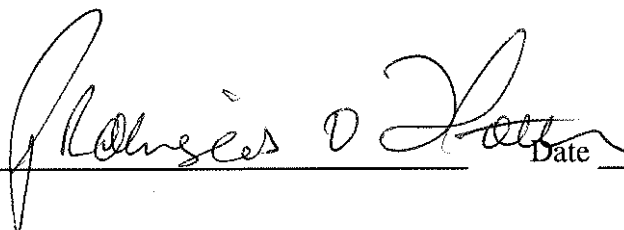
**(13) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Query re: subsidence on road at entrance to Balmace Estate.**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that he would investigate to determine what can be done to resolve this situation.

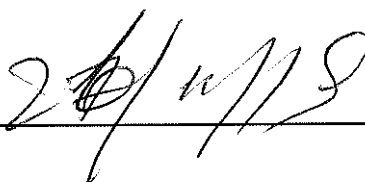
**(14) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Enquiry re: increasing number of spaces at Fermoy taxi rank.**

As there are now eleven taxis operating in Fermoy, Cllr. McCarthy enquired if the number of spaces at the taxi rank can be increased from two. Mary Hayes SEO suggested that the loading bays be made 'dual function' with a view to being used as taxi ranks by night. Pauline Moriarty MDO and Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to investigate this and other options and revert to the Members in due course.

Signed

 Francis O'Leary

Date

 24/11/19