

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on 21st December 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.

Diarmuid Cahalane and Michael Vaughan, T.J. O'Connor & Associates, Consulting Engineers.

1. MINUTES

a. Minutes of Pre-Budget Meeting held on 2.11.2021

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

b. Minutes of Budget Meeting held on 2.11.2021

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

c. Minutes of 'In Committee' Meeting held on 16.11.2021 RE: Part VIII, Uplands Fermoy

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, seconded by Cllr. William O' Leary.

d. Minutes of Fermoy MD November 2021 Meeting held on 16.11.2021

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

e. Minutes of CDP Review Stage 10 Meeting held in County Hall on 17.11.2021

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

f. Minutes of 'In Committee' Meeting held on 25.11.2021 RE: Shanowen Estate, Rathcormac

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. William O' Leary, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

g. Minutes of 'In Committee' Meeting held on 26.11.2021 RE: Pay Parking, Fermoy

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

2. PRESENTATION : Fermoy Weir Remediation and Fish By-Pass Channel

Diarmuid Cahalane of T.J. O'Connor & Associates went through his comprehensive and very informative presentation, displayed onscreen throughout for the attendees information. He explained the technical data and other material contained therein which included virtual images showing 'before' and 'after' representations of the project. He informed the Members that all the reports mentioned will be incorporated into the planning process. The next steps for the process are listed in the report and Diarmuid went through the proposed timeline for the project with January 2022 being the target date for the submission of planning. The elected Members sincerely thanked Diarmuid for his presentation and the extensive work to date on this project. They wholeheartedly support and endorse the project and proposals as presented. The Members said they are satisfied with the level of public consultation to date and trust this will continue as the project progresses and they look forward to the future of this project and its completion date. Diarmuid Cahalane acknowledged the Members comments and gratitude, also saying that while Covid-19 had impacted on the preparatory work the project is ready now to move forward and he hopes for a positive reaction from An Bórd Pleanála to the plans.

3. DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES ETC.

a. To Consider Situation - Disposal of land at Knockacappul, Fermoy, Co. Cork :: Area - 0.32 hectares/0.79 acres as comprised in Folio CK159458F :: From Whom Acquired - Bernadette Lynch :: To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose - Katherine Wachman & John Paul Magnier :: Consideration: €1.

The Members considered the information and map provided for this proposal and the Disposal of Land, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

b. To Consider Situation - Disposal of House at No. 2, Lissore, Pike Road, Fermoy, Co. Cork :: From Whom Acquired - Fermoy Town Council :: To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose - David Bratchford :: Consideration - In exchange for house at No. 19, St. Mary's Terrace, Fermoy, Co Cork.

The Members considered the information and map provided for this proposal and the Disposal of House, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.

c. Taking-in-Charge Ard na Rí, Castlelyons "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 Section 11(1) of the Roads Act 1993, the following road to be a public road:- ESTATE NAME Árd Na Rí LOCATION Castlelyons LINEAR METRES 477".

The Members considered the information and map provided for this proposal and the Taking-in-Charge, as detailed above, was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. William O' Leary.

4. REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF DESCRIPTION OF 2020 COMMUNITY FUND (AMENITY)

a. Removal of Cultivator and Shredder from the grant description and in its place include purchase of Lawnmower for Rathcormac Village.

Having considered this request this change of description was granted on the proposition of Cllr. William O' Leary, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and agreed by all the Members.

5. PART VIII PLANNING - Fermoy Swimming Pool

a. Part VIII Planning - Installation of PV Panels at Fermoy Swimming Pool

Pauline Moriarty MDO explained the proposals here to fit a new cladding roof over the existing roof and to install solar panels, the energy generated therefrom to be used onsite. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn enquired what the likely pay-back from this installation may be to which Mary Hayes SEO replied she will make the relevant enquiries and revert to the Members. The proposal was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

6. REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

a. RECOMMENDATION : Fermoy Pay Parking Arrangements

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through details of these proposals which are included at Item 1 on the December 2021 MDO Report. The elected Members welcomed the new parking arrangements as recommended and the proposals were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

b. MDO December 2021 Report

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:

· in relation to the continued provision of campervan facilities at Kevin Barry Hill section of Fermoy Library carpark, the elected Members considered the pros and cons of this setting and suggestions of other locations in Fermoy town which may be more suitable, such as a section of the Mill Island carpark or Ashe Quay. It was decided to defer a decision on this until Quarter 1 of 2022 as there is no immediate requirement for this facility at this time of year.

- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien enquired if Mitchelstown could be considered for additional funding for Christmas lights in future to which Pauline Moriarty MDO replied an application could be made under the Town Development Fund or Community Fund.
- Mary Hayes SEO commended Finbarr Jones on his work on the Barnane Walk project.
- Cllr. Noel McCarthy, as Chairperson of Fermoy Christmas Lights Committee, enquired if Fermoy Park could be 'lit up' at Christmas in future, this was supported by Cllrs. O' Brien and O' Flynn. Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that the lighting-up of the park is a big job but she will examine this in 2022 and revert to the Members. Also, the provision of a power point will be examined to facilitate amplification and lighting at events in the park. Cllr. Kay Dawson suggested (some of) the power generated from the solar panels to be installed at the Leisure Centre could be used for lighting in the park. Mary Hayes SEO advised the Members that TII funding will be sought for public realm works at the Mallow Road junction in Fermoy and it will be considered if lighting in Fermoy Town Park and environs could be included as part of the scope of these works. She later added that improvements to the public lights on Fermoy Bridge could also be included here.
- Cllr. Kay Dawson enquired if the position of School Warden still existed for the crossing at Upper Cork Street as the crossing is, in effect, closed. Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that the usual School Warden is out on long-term leave; there is a vacancy in Mitchelstown for a School Warden and when someone is employed to this position they will be (temporarily) operational at the new pedestrian crossing near the Post Office.
- Cllr. Frank O' Flynn enquired if the public lighting is sufficient at Nos. 49 & 50 Lower Cork Street, Mitchelstown where the hoarding has been erected. Pauline undertook to check this out and revert to the Members.

7. NOTICES OF MOTIONS - to consider Notices of Motions (15)

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

1. "that Cork County Council acquire the FCA Hall and Grounds at Barrack Road Mitchelstown for the benefit of Mitchelstown community".
Cork County Council has considered the matter over the last number of months, consulted with the OPW, obtained technical advice, and can confirm that we are not interested in either purchase or long term lease. (PM)
This motion was supported by all the elected Members who think it is a shame to see this protected building idle and vacant when there are several groups in Mitchelstown who would be interested in its use. This building has been the subject of much discussion to date. The OPW are seeking €90k as the price for the property. Mary Hayes SEO endorsed the MDO reply to the motion but did say that if an interested community group formulated a plan which included provision for insurance and the long-term management of the building in cooperation with the OPW, this could be an option for consideration.

Cllr. William O' Leary

2. "that this Council would consider applying for funding for Glenville under the Town and Village Renewal scheme before the end of this Councils term in 2024".
Glenville will be considered along with all other MD villages. Will meet with Elected Members prior to March MD meeting and agree priorities. (PM)
This motion was seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn. Cllr. O' Leary said that Glenville has been 'left by the wayside' in terms of public funding as it has changed area administratively three times over the past number of years. He is now asking that Glenville be given due consideration before 2024.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

3. "that this Council would carry out drainage works on the Mart roundabout, Corrin to prevent the lodging of water following heavy rain".
Works are scheduled after the Christmas recess. (BO'G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

4. "call on Cork County Council to fill pot holes at Killee junction".
Will be done. (BO'G)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

5. "that this Council, with regard to recent occurrences, carry out survey to the removal of playground in Stag Park Estate, Mitchelstown".

For discussion. (PM)

Cllr. O' Brien enquired if the green area in Stag Park would be better utilised with the provision of perhaps public seating or a green area, as the playground facility is being vandalised regularly and there is disturbance to nearby residents. Pauline Moriarty MDO agreed that, in consultation with the residents and the CCC Housing Estates Section, alternative use of the space could be considered and she will make enquiries accordingly and revert to the Members.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

6. "that Cork County Council select Glanworth and Killavullen villages for the 2022 Cork County Council village renewal funding".

Glanworth and Killavullen will be considered along with all other MD villages. Will meet with Elected Members prior to March MD meeting and agree priorities. (PM)

This motion was supported by Cllr. William O' Leary. Pauline Moriarty MDO advised that all villages not MD funded thus far will be examined for all potential funding streams, accordingly Glanworth, Killavullen and Glenville (see Notice of Motion 2) will be considered. Mary Hayes SEO added that towns and villages will be examined to ascertain suitability to meet the required national funding criteria for applications, while Brendan O' Gorman SEE recommended that community groups who hope to receive such funding need to identify and prepare their plans and objectives in readiness.

7. "that Cork County Council replace and refurbish the damaged footpath at lower Main Street, Glanworth in the interest of safety and include it in the 2022 footpath programme".

Localised repairs will be carried out here in 2022. (BO'G)

Cllr. William O' Leary

8. "that this Council would provide an up to date position with respect to the potential roll out of ASD Communication Boards in Playgrounds within the MD as per previous motion in 2020".

Update from SPC - "*ASD communication boards have been put into any new or refurbished playgrounds as part of the works. To install in all 75 playgrounds would be a costly exercise and there is currently no budget identified to address this. The further roll out of these boards will require Director of Services approval and funding*". (PM)

This motion was supported by all the elected Members. Cllr. O' Leary made a strong case for the provision of these, or one of these, ASD boards and further to a brief discussion it was agreed that Pauline Moriarty MDO would revert to the DOS requesting the provision of an ASD board in Castlelyons playground on a trial basis in 2022.

9. "that this Council would investigate the possibility of finding a suitable location within one of the carparks in Fermoy for the Fermoy Red Cross to park their vehicles. Arrangements of this type are in place between the Red Cross and other Local Authorities".

For Discussion. (PM)

This motion was supported by Cllrs. McCarthy and O' Flynn. Pauline Moriarty MDO explained that the provision of such parking to one group may set a precedent for other groups to look for the same facility and that any provision of such parking would result in the loss of parking spaces, which she cannot recommend. Also, covered parking space is not available within Fermoy, which is required by the Red Cross. Cllr. Noel McCarthy suggested Fermoy Hospital be requested to provide this parking facility (as there may be sufficient space within the grounds there) and Cllr. O' Leary undertook to revert to Fermoy Red Cross accordingly.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

10. “that this Committee would receive a update report on progress being made on the proposed walkways between Glenabo Woods and Knockananig Reservoir, Fermoy”.

The works grant funded by the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme at Barnane includes for the following improvement works:

- (a) Re-surface Glenabo Car Park with hardcore and replace the fencing at Carpark.
- (b) Place hardcore stone to improve the surface at the walking trail entrance at Glenabo Bridge (towards Fermoy).
- (c) Place and lay hardcore material along the surface for the first 800m, further raised timber surface treatment will be necessary at some areas.
- (d) Install handrailing at the pedestrian bridge.
- (e) Replace the small trail ‘bridges’ (gangways) with new wider gangways - four number required.
- (f) The fencing along a section needs replacing at the Glenabo side. Additionally, the surface at the same location is very poor and surface improvements works are required.
- (g) Three number additional turnstile gates required to replace fencing.
- (h) Replacement of existing fencing at locations as timber has rotted.
- (i) New Maps and Information signage boards to be erected.
- (j) Stone walls repairs at Barnane Walk section (near Rowing Club).
- (k) Edging of Tarmac pathway along Barnane Walk.
- (l) Replacement of a section of ravelled tarmac pathway near the entrance to the field.
- (m) Provide five number seating benches at areas.

The works are to be located in the map below, along the purple route.



Tenders have been sought and tender returns are in early Q1 2022. It is envisaged that works can commence in Q2 2022 and be completed by Q3 2022.

Regarding a link to Knockananig Reservoir, that is not included in the ORIS Funding application. A connection to the Reservoir from the existing Avondhu Way Trail which connects Barnane / Glenabo Trails would require the permission of Coillte and this matter will be raised with them in the New Year. (PM)

All the elected Members welcomed the proposed works outlined here and commended the executive and Finbarr Jones, Executive Engineer (who will be managing the project) on the work to date securing funding and preparing plans. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE informed those present that the footpath link from Duntahen Road to Glenabo will also be done, with Mary Hayes SEO adding that additional signage will be provided to raise awareness of this facility.

11. “that this Council would repair potholes at Ballinvoher Road, Castletownroche P51 KR50”.
Will be done. (BO’G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

12. “call on Cork County Council in the interest of safety to put marking on the road at the junction R-513-0 (Limerick road) and L-5632 (Demesne road)”.
Will be renewed where required. (BO’G)

13. “call on Cork County Council to consider erecting a light on the existing pole at the entrance to Abbey Farm, Mitchelstown”.
Will be referred to Public lighting for investigation and report. (BO’G)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

14. "that this Council would investigate, with view to safety of the public, step into Old Court Graveyard, Doneraile".
For discussion. (PM)
As referenced in her MDO report, Pauline Moriarty MDO said an inspection will be carried out here and remedial works, if / as required, will be carried out.
15. "that this Council look at making access to James Street car park from George's Street and also erect further signage".
The residents on James Street made a submission at the planning stage for the car park to prevent this. For discussion. (BO'G)
Cllr. O' Brien is requesting the relocation of where the 'one way system' starts on James Street to facilitate easier access to the new car park for motorists coming down from George's Street, as currently they have to turn left onto the Square, navigate the square and congested main street, drive through the pedestrian crossing and turn back up James Street to access the entrance. She is also requesting that the two-hour parking be extended from Upper Cork Street up to the carpark entrance and that additional signage be provided. Further to Brendan's reply Cllr. O' Brien undertook to liaise with the residents of James Street and revert to Brendan with their feedback to facilitate progress on this issue. In relation to the extension of the two-hour parking, Pauline Moriarty MDO advised that a change to the by-laws would be required here, however, she has been liaising with Mitchelstown Business Association in this regard and any changes required will be considered and enacted in due course.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None

9. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Dangerous light pole Kildorrery

Brendan O' Gorman SEE said that a public lighting pole had been knocked over during works here and he has contacted the relevant agency to arrange for immediate repairs.

(2) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Pedestrian safety concerns on Kent Bridge, Fermoy

Cllr. McCarthy asked if any safety measures could be taken at Kent Bridge as, in an effort at social distancing for Covid-19 reasons, pedestrians are stepping off the footpaths on to the roadway, endangering themselves in the traffic. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that safety rails on the footpaths are not an option here, but that a feasibility study for an 'overhang boardwalk' (similar to that provided in Mallow) is to be undertaken with a view to the installation of same, which would rectify the situation. In the meantime improved awareness and health and safety concerns need to be emphasised to pedestrians using the bridge.

(3) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - Approval for '15-minute' parking spaces, Mitchelstown

Brendan sought the elected Members approval for the provision of two or three '15-minute' parking spaces in the vicinity of Mitchelstown Motor Factors, Upper Cork Street. The elected Members agreed to the provision of two such spaces at this location.

(4) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - Duntaheen Relief Road

Brendan advised the elected Members that accommodation works have been agreed and land purchase is progressing for the works planned at this location and he will keep them updated accordingly. This was welcomed by the Members.

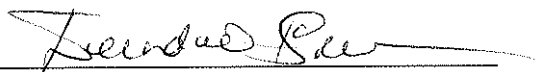
(5) Fermoy MD Votes of Sympathy

The following Votes of Sympathy were proposed and agreed by the elected Members:

- (i) to Mr. Michael O' Sullivan, Ballyhooly on the death of his mother Mrs. May O' Sullivan.
- (ii) to the Egan family, Moneen, Glanworth on the death of Pat (Patsy) Egan, retired staff member of Cork County Council.
- (iii) to Mrs. Kathleen Tobin and family on the death of Bill Tobin, retired staff member of Cork County Council.
- (iv) to Mr. Patrick O' Connor, District Supervisor, Fermoy on the death of his uncle Mr. John (Johnny) O' Connor.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anam.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, thanked everyone for their work and cooperation during the year, and extended her good wishes to all for a Happy Christmas and the New Year 2022.

Signed 

Date 26/1/2022