

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on 20th July 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.

**Address from outgoing Cathaoirleach:**

Cllr. Kay Dawson told those in attendance that it was an honour and a privilege to have been Cathaoirleach for the past year. She acknowledged and thanked the elected Members, the executive and staff for all their work throughout the year, saying that Fermoy MD is a tremendous team which had continued to operate and move forward despite the pandemic. She concluded by wishing everyone well and reminding them to 'stay safe' going forward. All the Members thanked Kay for her work and commitment during her year as Cathaoirleach, saying she had done a wonderful job in very difficult circumstances, and they wished her well for the future.

**1. ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH**

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien was nominated by Cllr. William O' Leary for the position of Cathaoirleach, this nomination was seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn. As there were no other nominations for the position, Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien was duly deemed elected to the position of Cathaoirleach of Fermoy MD for the coming year. Cllr. O' Brien said she was honoured to accept the role of An Cathaoirleach and that she looks forward to working with everyone for the coming year. She congratulated and complimented Cllr. Dawson on her term as Cathaoirleach.

**2. ELECTION OF LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH**

Cllr. Frank Roche was nominated by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach, this nomination was seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy. As there were no other nominations for the position, Cllr. Frank Roche was duly deemed elected to the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach of Fermoy MD for the coming year. Cllr. Roche accepted his election, thanking everyone in Fermoy MD saying they were the most wonderful bunch of people he had ever worked with.

**3. MINUTES**

**a. Minutes of Fermoy MD 'In Committee' meeting held on 15th June 2021 at 2.00pm**

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

**b. Minutes of Fermoy MD June meeting held on 15th June 2021**

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

**4. DISPOSALS, GRANTS, LEASES ETC.**

**a. Grant of Right-of-Way at College Road/Uplands, Fermoy :: To consider the Grant of Right-of-Way at College Road/Uplands, Fermoy for access to private residence. From Whom Acquired: Whistler Investments Co. Ltd and To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose: Paul Mulligan, Hillview Lodge, College Road, Fermoy, Co Cork for the consideration of : €1.**

The elected Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this Disposal of Property was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

**b. To consider the proposed disposal of property :: Situation - Old Fire Station, Fermoy, Co. Cork. Area - As outlined on Folio CK125681F. From Whom Acquired - Unknown, predates Council records. To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose - Robert O'Sullivan & Elizabeth O'Sullivan. Consideration - €45,000.**

The elected Members considered the information provided for this proposal and this Disposal of Property was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

## 5. **REQUEST FOR RE-ALLOCATION OF 2020 COMMUNITY GRANT (AMENITY)**

### **Fermoy Tourist Office to Fermoy Forum - Allocation: €4000**

The elected Members considered the information in relation to this request and the re-allocation of 2020 Community Fund (Amenity) Allocation in the amount of €4,000 from Fermoy Tourist Office to Fermoy Forum was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

## 6. **REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **a. July 2021 MDO Report (including update of 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. The Members thanked Pauline for her report and welcomed the updates therein, especially in relation to the raising of the Pride flag and the events planned under the Local Live Performance Programming Scheme. Their comments and concerns in relation to other items in the report included the following:

- the Members acknowledged the emergency services and Council staff for their efficient response to the recent building collapse at No. 49 Upper Cork Street, Mitchelstown. They requested that this situation now be prioritised for resolution at the earliest opportunity.
- the Members welcomed the update on the development of a county policy for Columbarium Walls and fully endorsed Kilcrumper Cemetery, Fermoy as the pilot cemetery for such a facility.
- the Members said the canopies in Mitchelstown were working well but requested additional cleaning be organised and a litter bin provided, to which Pauline replied she would endeavour to arrange for a bin and additional cleaning. In relation to the proposed canopies for Fermoy, it was suggested that Fermoy Town Park be re-considered as a suitable location for the installation of one of these canopies.
- In relation to Fermoy Town Park and the proposed series of planned LLPPS concerts/events, the Members queried the unofficial event advertised to take place on Sunday, 26th July. Pauline said permission for this event had not been sought or granted and that the Gardaí, Fermoy had been informed accordingly.
- Pauline confirmed, further to a query, that one more painting scheme application could be supported by the MD in 2021.
- Pauline advised, further to a query from Cllr. McCarthy that, as there are legal proceedings ongoing in relation to 'The 59' premises in Fermoy, no comment or update can be provided but the situation here is being continually monitored.
- Pauline advised, further to a query, that the submission date for planning for the Fermoy Weir project is undetermined at present.

### **b. Doneraile T&V : Section 38 : Final Report**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that all submissions received in relation to the proposed works in Doneraile have been considered and, taking on board the concerns raised in the submissions, adjustments have been made and are included in the Section 38 Final Report before the Members today. Brendan acknowledged that the open day on 3rd July, held in addition to the public consultation which concluded on 16th July 2021, was a very successful exercise. Brendan is now recommending that the project go ahead as per the Final Report and plans and sought the Members approval to progress the scheme to the next stage (drawings to go out to Tender).

The elected Members welcomed the Final Report as presented today, saying it was a great result achieved through the combined efforts of the executive, the staff involved in the public consultation process and the community of Doneraile. They acknowledged and thanked all who had contributed to date to the process, saying they are satisfied with the outcome and now pleased for the project to proceed as set out in the Section 38 Final Report. On the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien, and agreed by the Members it was sanctioned that the Doneraile Town & Village project would proceed.

**c. R639, Fermoy North Cycle lanes : Section 38 : Final Report**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that the public consultation process has been completed for this project, with one submission received from An Garda Siochana, who are fully in support of these proposals. Brendan further advised that the budget of €85k is in place and once approved, work can commence immediately with a projected completion date of November 2021. The elected Members thanked Brendan for his work to date on the project and on the proposal of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson and agreed by the Members, this R639, Fermoy North Cycle lanes project was sanctioned to proceed.

**d. PROGRESS REPORTS : 2021 RI / CIS / LIS / Public Lighting Programmes**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through progress to date on the programmes in the MD for 2021. Wet mixing and blacktop work is currently underway in Acres, Fermoy and will continue in Kilclare, Conna and then in Upper Aghern. Most of the Mitchelstown area work is done and the overall programme is circa 75% complete at this stage. Brendan informed the Members that work on the R512 at Glanworth Main Street is to be deferred (for budgetary reasons) to next year, with extended works planned for there in 2022. Also, works planned in Conna will be rescheduled to a later date pending the surface water pipe installation work there. Of five CIS jobs planned for this year, one is complete; there is one LIS project approved with the prospect of a second LIS job being done this year. The Public Lighting programme continues with these works and connections being carried out by Airtricity. Brendan also informed the Members that likely savings made (on the cost of works) on the R639 to Rathcormac will be expended on the Cork Road in Fermoy.

**e. PROGRESS REPORT : 2021 RM Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that surfacing dressing operations are ongoing in Fermoy for August 2021.

**f. PROGRESS REPORT : 2021 Drainage Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members drainage programme works are substantially complete. Drainage work is done on all roads for which RM, RI and other works are planned as well as other priority drainage snags.

**g. PROGRESS REPORT : 2021 Footpath Programme**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that 2021 Footpath Programme works continue with Corrinview Estate and John Anderson Place in Fermoy nearing completion. The Contractor will return to Mitchelstown to continue the programme there on completion of the Fermoy locations.

In relation to the works programmes generally the following queries were raised:

- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien enquired if any additional LIS schemes would be done as more funding was recently announced, to which Brendan replied it will not be feasible with the existing heavy workload and planned programme of public road works to be completed before year end.
- Cllrs. O' Flynn and McCarthy approved the deferral of the work in Glanworth to 2022.
- Cllrs. O' Flynn and McCarthy commended Council staff who had treated melting tar on roads during the recent hot weather.
- Cllrs. McCarthy and O' Leary enquired if there was any progress on the resurfacing of Patrick Street and the N72, to which Brendan replied he continues to lobby for works here and at other locations of priority, namely Fermoy town, Kilmagner, N72 county bounds and Ballyenahan on N73.

**7. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

1. "that Cork County Council would provide off street parking in Doneraile to meet the present and future development of Doneraile".

Off street parking in Doneraile will be explored however the provision of off street parking will be subject to available funds. (PM)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Kay Dawson. Pauline added to her reply that this additional car parking need in Doneraile was strongly highlighted in the submissions received during the recent public consultation process.

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

2. “that footpath repairs be carried out on Monument Hill, Fermoy above the entrance to St. Colman’s College”.

*Will be included in future works. (BO’G)*

#### **Cllr. Kay Dawson**

*\* Motions No. 7 Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn and No. 12 Cllr. William O’ Leary were also discussed at this time.*

3. “call on Fermoy MD to call on the TII to review and find solutions to make crossing the road in Kildorrery safer for residents and in particular for children going to school”.

*This locus is under review currently by the Cork County Council, NRO and the TII Road Safety Officer. (BO’G)*

These motions were supported by Cllrs. Noel McCarthy and Deirdre O’ Brien. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE informed the Members that this situation would be discussed between the representative of the TII and the Cork County Council Road Safety Officer on Friday and Brendan will revert to the Members with the outcome of this discussion.

#### **Cllr. William O’ Leary**

4. “that this Council would write to the appropriate bodies requesting that enhanced warning signage would be installed at our motorway slip roads to indicate if a road user was entering the slip road from the wrong direction. Although measures are in place a strong case should be made to further enhance these measures in the interest of safety”.

Cllr. O’ Leary stated that this safety measure is now more warranted than ever considering the recent fatal accident in which a family of three lost their lives and also previous fatal accidents which had occurred when motorists accessed and drove on the motorway in the wrong direction. He was supported by all the Fermoy MD elected Members. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE advised that this issue should be raised with the Roads SPC as it is a concern that crosses all MDs in Cork county and indeed extends nationwide. It was agreed by Cllr. O’ Leary that he would raise this issue with the relevant SPC, of which he is a member, and also Fermoy MD would convey this issue to this SPC for their consideration.

#### **Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

5. “that this Council provide an up to date report on the Taking in Charge of Housing Estates in the Fermoy Municipal Area”.

*Will refer to Planning Department. As previously informed by Planning, Members should, in the first instance, refer their specific queries on each estate to Sean O’Brien, Planning Department, who will arrange a response. (PM)*

Pauline further recommended that Members should have their specific estate enquiries prepared and notified to the relevant personnel prior to Estates Management Staff attending any meeting.

#### **Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn**

6. “that Cork County Council request the OPW to open the entrance known as ‘The Lord’s Gate’ at the top of Doneraile to provide extra access to meet the increased present and expected number of visitors to Doneraile Park”.

*Cork County Council has arranged a meeting with the OPW in relation to issues raised during the recent Section 38 Consultations and this item will form part of our discussions with them. (PM)*

Pauline added that this meeting is planned to convene in September and she will revert to the elected Members thereafter.

7. “that Cork County Council, in the interest of safety of pedestrians and all road users, would call on the TII to improve the pedestrian crossing at Main Street, Kildorrery on the N73 road from Mitchelstown to Mallow with traffic calming measures so that pedestrians and school children are enabled to safely cross the street”.

This locus is under review currently by the Cork County Council, NRO and the TII Road Safety Officer. (BO’G)

This motion was discussed with Motion No. 3.

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

8. “that this Council would replace the railings at the green area in the lower estate of Liam MacGearailt Place, Fermoy”.

The Estate Management unit will investigate Notice of Motion and will revert directly to the Councillor. (Noreen O’Mahony, SEO Housing)

9. “that this Council would put bollards on the footpath outside the home of Mrs. McGrath, Main Street, Kilworth opposite Centra shop to prevent vehicles parking on path”.

Will be done. (BO’G)

#### **Cllr. Kay Dawson**

10. “call on Cork County Council to treat and remove grass weed on Upper and Lower Cork Street and New Market Square, Mitchelstown”.

First Treatment has already taken place. Second treatment scheduled in late July / early August. Treatment efficacy varies to time of treatment. Below is indicative. I will arrange for grass removal in the coming weeks. April 2 months, May 2.5 months, June 3 months, July 3 months, August 4 months, September 5 months. (BO’G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien. Cllr. Dawson will welcome this work here and Brendan added that the second spray has been done this week.

11. “call on Cork County Council to fill pot holes in Derrylahan (V35 HC24) and include this road for resurfacing in the future”.

Repairs will be carried out. Road is scheduled for a RI overlay in 2023. (BO’G)

#### **Cllr. William O’ Leary**

12. “that this Council would write to both the TII and the NRDO requesting that measures be put in place to enhance and upgrade the existing pedestrian crossing in Kildorrery in the interest of safety and to request both bodies to carry out a safety audit of the R512 / N73 junction”.

This locus is under review currently by the Cork County Council, NRO and the TII Road Safety Officer. (BO’G)

13. “that this Council would consider under future footpath programs constructing a footpath from the Owen Bawn Estate to Glenville Village”.

There is a pinch point here due to the encroaching bridge walls but we will consider on road markings and signage going forward. (BO’G)

This motion was discussed with Motion No. 3. Cllr. O’ Leary added that the TII need to come on board with Cork County Council to come up with a resolution for the provision of enhanced and improved pedestrian crossing facilities in towns and villages.

#### **Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

14. “that this Council carry out an investigation in the interest of the safety of children when exiting the playground in Kilworth Village”.

Brendan O’ Gorman SEE suggested using street furniture, for example low-level benches or plants, to change the movement of children causing them to change direction thereby increasing safety.

15. "that this Council carry out repairs on the boundary fence of Roche's Heights and Captain Keane's Grove on Mulberry Lane, Mitchelstown".

The Estate Management unit will investigate Notice of Motion and will revert directly to the Councillor. (Noreen O'Mahony, SEO Housing)

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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

None

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Votes of Sympathy**

A vote of sympathy was extended to Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien on the recent death of her brother-in-law, Mr. Michael O' Brien.

A vote of sympathy was extended to Cllr. William O' Leary on the recent death of his grandfather, Mr. Noel Murphy.

A vote of sympathy was extended to staff members John Kelly and Lydia Kelly on the recent death of Mrs. Marie Kelly.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anam.*

**(2) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Speed Detector N72 at SuperValu, Fermoy**

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed Cllr. McCarthy that 50% of the cost of this device will need to be paid by the subscriber prior to an order being placed with the Contractor.

**(3) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Pedestrian Crossing between SuperValu and Lidl shops, Fermoy**

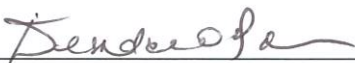
Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed Cllr. McCarthy that this is a matter for the TII and their Safety Officer and he will convey this request to them for their consideration.

**(4) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Cork Road Picnic Area**

Cllr. McCarthy enquired for an update on the vacating of this picnic area by the caravan owners parked there, to which Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that a file is gone to the CCC Legal Department to instigate proceedings.

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

Further to Cllr. Dawson's enquiry, Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that the bicycle stands have been purchased and they will be installed as soon as staff return from annual leave. He confirmed the four towns and villages in the district and the locations therein designated for these facilities.

Signed 

Date 21/9/21