

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held on MS Teams at 11.00am on 5th July 2021

Members present: Cllr Ross O'Connell, Katie Murphy, Paul Hayes, P.G. Murphy,
Declan Hurley, Deirdre Kelly, Joe Carroll

Apologies: Cllrs. Karen Coakley

In attendance: Kevin Costello, S.E Water
John Ahern, S.E.E Roads
Ruth O'Brien, S.E.E. Roads
Mac Dara O h-Ici, S.E.O. M.D.W.C.
Clare Zuk, M.D.O. MDWC
Martina O'Driscoll, C.O. M.D.W.C.
Anthony Holmes, Age Friendly Homes Coordinator

Cllr. D. Collins presided

ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr. P.G. Murphy was proposed by Cllr. D. Kelly and seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley.

There were no other nominations and therefore Cllr. P.G. Murphy was elected Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of West Cork. Cllr. P. G. Murphy presided over the remainder of the meeting.

ELECTION OF LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr. D. Hurley was proposed by Cllr. D. Collins and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll.

As there were no other nominations Cllr. D. Hurley was elected Leas Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of West Cork.

Members congratulated the Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach and said they looked forward to working with them in the year ahead. The Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach thanked councilors for their support and said they looked forward to working as a team.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Proposed by Cllr. D. Kelly

Seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes

Resolved:

"That the minutes of the MDWC Meeting held on 11th June 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach."

MATTERS ARISING

In reply to Cllr. P. Hayes's request for an update on the Baltimore Leasing project Mr. O'Hici S.E.O. noted that there was no update.

Cllrs. P. Hayes and D. Hurley requested an update on the previously requested staffing report, to which the Mr. O'Hici S.E.O. responded that staffing was a matter for the Executive and as already stated at previous meetings that it was inappropriate for the members to be discussing staffing matters at a meeting of the Municipal District. The members agreed that staffing was an executive responsibility, but they again requested on a report on staffing levels. In response to Cllr. P.G. Murphy's request for an 'In Committee' meeting with the Divisional Manager to settle the issue, Mr. O'Hici stated that he will consult with the Director of Roads and the Divisional Manager before reporting back to the members.

Mr. O'Hici S.E.O. clarified that burial plot purchase prices did not include maintenance costs and the cost of plots was relevant to the cost of developing burial grounds, including the cost of land purchase in response to Cllr. J. Carroll's request for an update on graveyard maintenance. Cllr. P.G. Murphy asked for a report on graveyard maintenance for a future meeting.

Cllr. D. Kelly requested that the Dunmanway Swimming Pool expand its hours to include Sundays and other high-use times. Members agreed with Cllr. Kelly's suggestion and about the necessity for a marketing strategy to promote pool usage and membership. Cllr. D. Hurley noted that the gym is open but lacks a trainer to help consumers use the equipment. Ms. Clare Zuk M.D.O. informed members that the pool was at 60 percent capacity and that a marketing campaign was being devised to boost the number of people visiting the facility and the development of a website to allow for online bookings is being reviewed. The existing capacity would have to be filled before the opening hours would be expanded. The M.D.O. also requested members to consider renaming the pool the West Cork Regional Leisure Centre - Dunmanway in order acknowledge its status as a regional facility and to promote the pool's state-of-the-art status for the greater West Cork region.

Rosscarbery Flooding Report

Mr. Kevin Costelloe briefed members on the recent Rosscarbery Flooding report and addressed members queries. Members congratulated Mr. Costelloe for his thorough report, and Cllr. D. Hurley inquired about the timetables for resolving the issue, as well as an update on Chapel Street in Dunmanway. Mr. Kevin Costelloe stated that the TII is prioritizing the flooding issue in Rosscarbery, and that a meeting with the OPW will be scheduled to discuss the pumps being updated in Dunmanway.

STATUTORY BUSINESS

Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001

In accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 29th June 2021.

<u>Situation:</u>	Grant of lease of land at Tawnies Lower, Clonakilty, Co Cork, to develop sports pitch.
<u>Area:</u>	0.0805 hectares/0.198 acres
<u>Term:</u>	35 years
<u>Consideration:</u>	€200 per annum

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Hayes seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley, members approved the Grant of Lease of lands 0.0805 hectares/0.198 acres at Tawnies Lower, Clonakilty, Co. Cork to Gaelscoil Mhichíl Uí Choileáin, Fernhill Road, Clonakilty, Co Cork for a consideration of €200 per annum and recommended it to full plenary Council for consideration.

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

“I call upon this Council to revise the opening hours of Skibbereen Amenity Site and introduce lunch time and Saturday opening to facilitate locals and tourists vacating holiday home rentals.”

Cllr. K. Coakley's apologies for being unable to attend the meeting were accepted by Ms. Clare Zuk M.D.O, who also informed members that Cllr. Coakley had requested that her notice of motion be read into the record.

Members expressed support for Cllr. Coakley's motion and Cllr. P. Hayes advised members that in the Civic Amenity site in Clonakilty was open on a Saturday and closed on a Monday in lieu of the weekend opening hours. Cllrs. J. Carroll and D. Collins pointed out that the opening hours were problematic for those who worked outside of Skibbereen town and whose only opportunity to do recycling was at the weekend and also requested that the openings hours of Derryconnell and Castletownbere be extended also. The S.E.O. Mr. O'Hici informed members that he would seek a response from the Director of Environment and circulate it to the members.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes

“I call upon this Council to provide a pedestrian crossing at the Black Field, Union Hall”

Report from John Ahern, S.E.E.

Cork County Council will assess the suitability of the proposed location. An application for funding for the provision of a crossing at this location will be made if is subsequently deemed suitable.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Health Age Friendly Homes Programme

Mr. Anthony Holmes gave a presentation to the members on the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme. The programme benefits included the following:

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Coordinator will carry out a needs assessment to establish what supports are required to enable you to continue living independently in your own home for longer. A person-centred support plan will be developed post assessment. If you feel your home is no longer suitable and you would like to move to a more appropriate home, the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Coordinator can provide you with information on right sizing within your community/county/city. They can provide information on adapting your existing home and the relevant grants available to support you to make those changes, with a focus on universal design and energy efficiency. They can provide you with access to a range of housing, health and social care supports to help you decide on what you need to enable you to live the life you want to the best of your ability within your community.

Municipal District Officers Report

Members applauded the work of those involved as the MDO distributed copies of the Municipal District Officers Report – 5th July 2021, and the MDO noted the following queries expressed by members.

Cllr. Hayes reported that camper vans and food trucks were parking on the grass verge of the sand dunes at Inchadoney beach and requested that the traffic warden monitor this issue. Ms. Clare Zuk M.D.O. advised that an awareness campaign to raise the profile of the Special Area of Conservation in Clonakilty and a plan to encourage more bird watching in the area is underway and temporary signage by the Inchadoney Dunes group is due to be installed.

Cllr. P. Hayes praised the Council for the Michael Collins Trail signage which was recently installed.

Cllr. Hayes requested an update on the new Clonakilty Fire Station, and Cllr. J. Carroll noted that there were worries about the shortage of fire apparatus in the local Fire Stations. On the issues presented, Mr. O'Hici S.E.O. stated that he will obtain an update report from the Director of Environment.

In response to Cllr. Hayes's request for an update on the Skibbereen Skate park Mr. John Ahern S.E.E. noted that the contractor should start the works towards the end of July.

Cllr. J. Carroll reported that he was receiving complaints about the dirty road signs in West Cork and requested that road signage be kept maintained and clean, and reported that road lining needed to be reinstated in some areas where the markings had worn off. Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. requested a list of places that required line marking from Cllr. Carroll and she would follow up on them.

Cllr. J. Carroll has asked Cork County Council to organize a reception for the rowing members who will be competing in the 2021 Olympics. Ms. Clare Zuk M.D.O. stated that she is collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce to plan events to recognize their accomplishments.

Cllr. D. Collins expressed his gratitude to the Engineering and outdoor staff for the road works at Ballyrisode and the outdoor dining in Durrus village.

Ms. Clare Zuk, M.D.O. agreed to correlate a report for the members in response to Cllr. P. G. Murphy's request for an MDO report to be issued to the members in August.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Clare Zuk M.D.O. read into the record Cllr. K. Coakley's items for AOB as follows: Cllr. Coakley reported that a pedestrian crossing needs to be installed on the Tragumna road to facilitate both the Abbeystrewry national school and Jellybean playschool. Cllr. Coakley also reported anti-social behavior going on at the Community Orchard in Skibbereen with the little shed being littered and vandalised. In response Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. noted the queries and agreed to follow up on them.

Cllr. D. Hurley reported his concerns with the flood remedial works on Chapel Street in Dunmanway, as well as the poor condition of the road surface on Main Street, and asked for an update on the projected remedial works' deadlines. Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. stated that the flood remedial works at Chapel Street and road reinstatement would follow the same timetables as previously discussed.

Cllr. D. Hurley reported that the sight lines at the Idle Bridge in Dunmanway was affecting motorists using the junction and also the directional signs had fallen down and needed repair. Mr. John Ahern S.E.E. noted the issue and would remedy the reported issues.

Cllr. J. Carroll informed the members that the subject of the development of Union Hall pier would be taken up at the Seanad this week, in addition to a letter being submitted to the Minister of Fisheries.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH _____

DATE _____