

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of West Cork held on MS Teams at 14.30 on 9th April 2021

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

In attendance: John Ahern S.E.E
Ruth O'Brien S.E.E.
Aidan Prendergast E.E.
Mac Dara O h-Ici, S.E.O. M.D.W.C.
Justin England M.D.O. M.D.W.C.
Clare Zuk, S.S.O.
Mary T McCarthy S.O. M.D.W.C.
Martina O'Driscoll C.O. M.D.W.C.

Cllr. D. Collins presided.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

*Proposed by Cllr. K. Coakley
Seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley*

Resolved:

"That the minutes of the MDWC Meeting held on 1st March 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach."

*Proposed by Cllr. D. Hurley
Seconded by Cllr. P.G. Murphy*

Resolved:

"That the minutes of the MDWC Corporate Development Plan Meeting held on 12th March 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach."

MATTERS ARISING

- In reply to a request from Cllr. R. O'Connell for an update on a request for facilities and parking at West Cork beaches, the S.E.O. noted from an Ecologists report that the area adjacent to Barleycove Beach Car Park is designated a Special Area of Conservation thus could not be considered. The S.E.O. noted that it would be necessary to acquire land outside of the S.A.C. and invited members to convey any information on suitable properties to the M.D. The S.E.O. agreed to discuss the issue further with Cllr. O'Connell. Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. noted that the Ballyrisode road is on the 2021 RI Programme and it is also proposed to widen same.
- In response to Cllr. K. Coakley's request to have the gate to a walkway from the new Skibbereen Community School to the West Cork Campus opened for longer hours, the S.E.O. agreed to examine same and to contact the Education Training Board to discuss this request.
- In reply to a query from Cllr. P. Hayes regarding requests for the installation of Beach Friendly Wheelchairs at other West Cork beaches, following on from the success of the one at the Warren, Rosscarbery, the S.E.O. noted difficulties with regard to the management of same as personnel are required for the daily signing in and out and securing of them at night. The S.E.O. invited members to notify the MDO of any groups locally who might be prepared to assist with the storage and management of Beach Friendly Wheelchairs at other locations around West Cork.
- a. In reply to a query from Cllr. D. Collins regarding his Notice of Motion at the March 2021 MD Meeting requesting support for a twinning between Allihies and Leadville Colorado, the S.E.O. noted that Corporate Affairs require the completion of a report outlining the proposed benefits and value to the local community and costs involved. A sub-committee comprising of Cllrs. D. Collins, J. Carroll, P.G. Murphy agreed to complete the report required and submit to Senior Management for approval. It would then be forwarded to the C.P.G. for endorsement. The S.E.O. reminded members that all twinning arrangements are with the Municipal District not with any particular town or area.

STATUTORY BUSINESS

- a. Grant of Right-of-Way at Tralispean, Skibbereen, Co Cork (60m x 2m wide) to Nicholas Woodhouse & Mary Jane Mowat, Tralispean, Skibbereen, Co Cork.

On the proposal of Cllr. K. Coakley seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll, members approved the Grant of Right-of-Way at Tralispean, Skibbereen, Co Cork (60m x 2m wide) to Nicholas Woodhouse & Mary Jane Mowat, Tralispean, Skibbereen, Co Cork. for a consideration of €1 and recommended it to full plenary Council for consideration.

- b. Grant of Right-of-Way (7m x 5m) wide at Burgatia, Rosscarbery, Co Cork to Stephen Hennessy & Michelle Browne, Burgatia, Rosscarbery, Co Cork.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Carroll seconded by Cllr. D. Hurley, members approved the Grant of Right-of-Way (7m x 5m) wide at Burgatia, Rosscarbery, Co Cork to Stephen Hennessy & Michelle Browne, Burgatia, Rosscarbery, Co Cork for a consideration of one euro and recommended it to full plenary Council for consideration.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. D. Collins

- a. "That this council would prioritise the resurfacing of the Western Road in Clonakilty, and associated works, to coincide with the completion and allocation of houses in the new Pairc Thiar estate."

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

The developer of the housing estate has some significant Civil and drainage works to complete on the Western Road. These works will involve substantial excavations on the road. Cork County Council cannot programme any road restoration works until such time as these works have been completed and associated guarantee time periods in accordance with the terms and conditions of the road opening licence have lapsed.

Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. D. Collins

- b. "That this council would explore the possibility of renaming Chateaulin Park in Clonakilty and re-dedicate it to acknowledge our twinning arrangement with Scituate."

Members discussed the proposal and the S.E.O. advised that it would be preferable to consider naming a new development after Scituate rather than changing an existing amenity which has historical importance to the people who were involved in its conception. The Members agreed to consider this proposal so above motion not approved at this meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. R. O'Connell

- a. "That Cork County Council would extend the footpath from Schull to Cadogan's Strand and that double yellow lines or bollards are installed to prevent cars from parking at the turn of the road at the strand. "

Report from Mr. Niall Chamberlain E.E.

Potential for similar works were discussed at previous beach management meetings. The extension of the footpath to Cadogan's strand would involve construction of a footpath in an 80kph zone outside which is not preferable in terms of road safety. Furthermore, the area is not illuminated which would also be a concern. A section of private land would need to be acquired to complete the works. It may be possible to start with looking at a review of the speed limits and potential land acquisition. The installation of public lighting and footpaths could then follow, subject to funding.

It should be noted that, under the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking Regulations) Act, a vehicle shall not be parked in a manner in which it will interfere with the normal flow of traffic or which obstructs or endangers other traffic. While the degree of compliance is likely to be low, a "No Parking" sign on a bollard can be installed on a temporary basis to see if the situation improves.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. K. Murphy

- b. "I request an update on my Notice of Motion from the MDWC Meeting of 07-09-20 for traffic calming measures near the church at Adrigole and repair of collapsed walls at the lay by. "

Report from Mr. Aidan Prendergast E.E.

The walls at the lay by are not the responsibility of Cork County Council as they are effectively boundary walls. Cork County Council is responsible for the retaining element of roadside walls. In the past the area office has provided materials to the community to repair sections of the walls and would, subject to cost be willing to do again.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Hurley, seconded by Cllr. D. Kelly

- a. "That this council erect caution signs on the L 4614-0 at Dromleena (from the top of Castle Street to the Show Grounds) to alert motorists of walkers on the road."

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

As this is busy local walking route on a section of local primary road without a footpath, Cork County Council will put up the appropriate road warning signs W140- Pedestrians along this section of road L4614.

Cllr. D. Kelly supported this motion and requested that it be extended to Besses Cross to the Mullough Loop as this is a very busy walking route without a footpath and very dangerous corners.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Hurley, seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes

- b. "That this council erect bollards on the road by the flag poles on the Sam Maguire Plaza in the town centre of Dunmanway to prevent traffic from making U-turns and causing obstructions to the flow of traffic"

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

The present layout of the junction of the roads on the R586 at the east of the Sam Maguire Plaza, has been in place since the Square was redeveloped some twenty years ago. Cork County Council will look at this particular issue on the ground, including layout of existing parking restrictions and identify any potential improvements as any alteration may have unintended consequences and affect traffic movements elsewhere.

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Proposed allocations for GMA, TDF & Village Enhancement Scheme 2021

General Municipal Allowance 2021

Capital Grants	€50,000.00
Community Contracts	€92,000.00
Amenity Grants	€30,000.00
Community Hedgecutting Scheme	€20,000.00
Skibbereen - Resurfacing Main St. Car Park (behind Supervalu)	€40,000.00
Climate Action Pilot Scheme - Glengarriff Woodland	€23,000.00
Bantry - Screens for outdoor seating	€30,000.00
Schull - Replacement of Outdoor Gym Equipment	€10,000.00
Design and Tender Fee for Ballineen Public Convenience	<u>€19,000.00</u>
	€314,000.00

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Hurley, seconded by Cllr. D. Collins, members approved the 2021 General Municipal Allocation of €314,000.00 as outlined by the M.D.O.

Town Development Fund 2021

Town CCTV Running Costs	€6,000.00
Castletownbere - St Peter's Church - Outdoor Venue / Space	€43,000.00
Dunmanway - Former ETB Site	€20,000.00
Bantry - Pocket Park for Harbour View Upper Car Park	€15,000.00
Skibbereen - Tennis Courts & Outdoor table tennis	€45,000.00
Clonakilty Deasy's Quay - Feasibility Study to develop Amenity Area	<u>€20,000.00</u>
	€149,000.00

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Collins, seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes, members approved the 2021 Town Development Fund Allocation of €149,000.00 as outlined by the M.D.O.

Village Enhancement Scheme 2021

Union Hall - Playground & Paved Plaza Area	€34,325.00
Ardgroom Public Realm Works	<u>€34,325.00</u>
	€68,650.00

On the proposal of Cllr. K. Coakley, seconded by Cllr. P. G. Murphy, members approved the 2021 Village Enhancement Scheme Allocation of €68,750.00 as outlined by the M.D.O.

- b. Extinguishment of the public right of way over L- 4713 Dromleigh North, Bantry

Mr. R. O'Brien S.E.E. briefed members on the background and the formal process which will be undertaken for the Extinguishment of the public right of way over L- 4713 Dromleigh North, Bantry.

- c. Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programme 2021

Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. and Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. shared details of the Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance Programme 2021, which will be circulated to members.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Cllr. D. Hurley requested a report for the next M.D. meeting on the number of outdoor staff employed in the West Cork region and the number of staff in 2011. Members agreed with Cllr. Hurley that there are insufficient numbers of outdoor staff in West Cork resulting in the poor condition of roads and drains. Cllr. Carroll outlined that a number of staff seconded to Irish Water are included in the official number of West Cork staff which is not the case on the ground. The S.E.O. agreed to seek a report and reminded members that the recruitment of staff is an Executive Function. The S.E.O recommended that members should discuss the issue with the Directors of Roads and Water Services at the next Western Committee Meeting.
- In reply to a query from Cllr. R. O'Connell regarding the installation of Schull Pontoon for the summer of 2021, the S.E.O. noted that it will be installed on the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions on construction.
- In reply to a query from Cllr. R. O'Connell regarding an abandoned vehicle in Bantry, Ms. R. O'Brien S.E.E. undertook to contact the Environment Department regarding same.
- In reply to a query from Cllr. R. O'Connell regarding proposals for Roycrofts Mill at Skibbereen, the S.E.O. noted that substantial national funding will be required to develop the property as part of Skibbereen Heritage Centre.

- Cllr. P. Hayes requested the removal of Christmas lights which are still in place throughout various towns in West Cork. The M.D.O. advised that these works will take place when Covid 19 restrictions are relaxed.
- Cllr. K. Coakley expressed thanks to Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. and Mr. D. Murphy E.E. for the recent installation of zebra crossings at Bridge Street and Townshend Street, Skibbereen and noted that they were a great addition to the town.
- In response to Cllr. K. Coakley's request for speed ramps to be installed on the road beside the Union Hall playground, Mr. J. Ahern S.E.E. noted the policy on traffic calming would need to be adhered to and agreed to assess the location in the coming weeks.
- Cllr. D. Kelly advised members that she had recently made an application for a Rural Link bus from Clonakilty to Dunmanway and requested the support of members for the application. Cllr. P.G. Murphy advised that as a board member of the West Cork Rural Transport he would follow up on the matter. Cllr. K. Murphy praised Cllr. D. Kelly's initiative and noted that a Rural Link for the Mizen area to Bantry would be a worthy follow up initiative.
- The S.E.O. advised members of a public consultation process due to take place on the proposal to install a barrier at Baltimore ferry pier.
- Members, the S.E.O. and M.D.O., expressed their well wishes to Mary T. McCarthy on her retirement from public service and spoke fondly of their time dealing with her and commended her on her personable approach and ensuring the members were always well looked after. The S.E.O. and M.D.O. also expressed their congratulations and appreciation to Mary Deasy and Betty Keane of the Municipal District of West Cork are on their retirement at the end of April 2021. Members agreed that when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted a reception should be held in honour of staff who retired during the pandemic.

Members agreed to hold the May M.D.W.C. meeting on the morning of Friday 7th May at 11.00 a.m., as the first Monday in May 2021 is a public holiday.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH _____

DATE _____

