

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on 17th December 2019**

In Attendance: Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O' Brien, William O' Leary, Frank Roche; Brendan O' Gorman SEE, Mary Hayes SEO, Pauline Moriarty MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

Apologies: Cllr. Frank O' Flynn.

At the outset of the Meeting, a vote of sympathy was passed by the Members to Cllr. Frank O' Flynn on the death of his brother-in-law, Mr. Daniel Gallagher. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.*

1. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Fermoy MD November 2019 meeting held on 26th November 2019.

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

2. DEPUTATION

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien REF: November 2019 Item 8(24).

“that this Council would accept deputation, at December Municipal Meeting, from Residents of St. Fanahan's Place and Mitchelscourt, Mitchelstown”.

Cllr. O' Brien introduced Catherine Donegan and Susan Cottrell representing the residents of these two estates and invited Susan to address the meeting. Susan gave a presentation in relation to the concerns of residents about the difficulties they, as drivers, encounter at St. Fanahan's Place and Mitchelscourt as they enter and exit these estates. It is very dangerous and she explained that the issues causing the problem are speeding traffic, the natural bend on the road and the road incline. She acknowledged that the two latter items cannot be changed and she is now requesting a survey be carried out towards finding a resolution to the speeding issues here. She said the residents would welcome any suggestions that would improve the situation. The Members thanked Susan and Catherine for their attendance and offered their full support to them in their concerns. Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed to prepare an Engineer's report for the next meeting.

3. COMMUNITY GRANT RE-ALLOCATION REQUEST

1. 2019 Fermoy Forum €2,000.00 - Fermoy Forum For Festivals

Reason: To re-allocate amount to Fermoy Youth Centre as they ran the festival.

On the recommendation of Pauline Moriarty MDO, this re-allocation request was granted on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and agreed by the Members.

4. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. REPORT: MDO Report

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through this report. The recommendation that the March 2020 meeting be held on 18th March was agreed by the Members. In relation to the Fermoy Christmas Market arranged for 21st December 2019, Cllr. Kay Dawson said the timeline of the notification of funding for this market was a source of huge embarrassment to the Members. This statement was endorsed by the other Members, who remarked that there are other towns and communities organising similar events who do not have the option of securing such funding from the MD. Pauline Moriarty MDO noted these comments for future. All other report items were noted by the Members.

2. REPORT: Kilcor, Castlelyons Residents Deputation Report

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through the provisions of his report, saying the main option for resolution here will be looking at the re-alignment of the junction from a design and cost perspective. He added that An Garda Síochána have committed to long-term monitoring of speed at this junction and on roads in the area. Recommendations will be forthcoming from the Design Engineer which will be presented to the Members in due course. The Members thanked Brendan for this report and will welcome any measures which will make this location safer for motorists.

5. NOTICES OF MOTION

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

1. "that Cork County Council refurbish the piers and entrance gate to ensure the safety of the public at Clenor Cemetery, Doneraile and repair the damaged wall adjoining the roadside and re-erect the headstone which fell when the tree butt was being removed from the cemetery".
Will arrange Engineers inspection and report back on recommendations at next meeting. (PM)

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

2. "that this Council would repair 'old famine wall' at Meadstown Cross, Kildorrery damaged by a motor vehicle".
Will arrange Engineers inspection and report back on recommendations at next meeting. (PM)

Cllr. William O' Leary

3. "that this council would carry out drainage works on a section of the R614-184 Bridestown, Glenville given the fact that heavy volumes of water are lodging on this section of road."
We will work with adjacent landowners here. (BO'G)

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

4. "that this Council receive a Deputation from the residents of Pike Road, Fermoy".
The Members agreed to this Deputation for the January 2020 meeting.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

5. "that Cork County Council put in place a planned programme to make Fermoy a user/age/dementia friendly town to meet the needs of people".
Can be considered under next call for Age Friendly Town Funding. In the meantime any works undertaken will be user/age/dementia friendly where appropriate. (PM)
Cllr. Kay Dawson advised those at the meeting that the adoption of a town as an Age Friendly Town comes about from an application being made by a number of community groups and agencies within that town who have convened to prepare a plan and submit an application to Cork County Council for consideration, which may then be successful. Mary Hayes SEO concurred with Cllr. Dawson's comments saying Fermoy needs to get mobilised behind this incentive to create a submission for consideration for Age Friendly town status.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

6. "that this Council would extend out the 50 kph speed limit to village sign "Killavullen" at Ballymacmoy on the Killavullen to Rahan Road".
Can be considered under the next speed limit review in 2021/2022. (BO'G)

Cllr. William O' Leary

7. "that this council would consider installing lighting on the Bride Walk, Rathcormac as part of any future lighting programmes, particularly the section from the Bride footbridge up as far as Dr. Barry's Bridge".
Cannot be funded currently from our underfunded local roads public lighting programmes but special planning levies and other sources of local community grants can be used to progress an overall plan here. (BO'G)
Cllr. O' Leary enquired if there is any alternative funding source which could be applied for to provide this much needed public lighting at this very important and popular amenity. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that planning levies are imposed on all applications that proceed in this area and this revenue, if/when available, and any other potential funding streams that may become available, could be expended on this public lighting request.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

8. "that this Council install 'Cyclists Dismount' signs on footpath along McCurtain Street in Fermoy, similar to those already installed on the Range (McDonagh Terrace), in the interest of pedestrian safety on McCurtain Street, Fermoy
'No cycling on footpath' signs are more appropriate for this street and will be installed. (BO'G)
Cllr. McCarthy added to his motion that more areas of Fermoy town need to be considered for these signs, or some alleviation measures, as cycling on the footpaths in many areas is now prevalent and problematic. Cllr. Dawson added the same applies to Mitchelstown town. Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed and said the attention of An Garda Síochána will be requested to monitor this activity, in addition to the installation of signs.

6. REQUEST FOR DISABLED PARKING BAY

1. Request for Disabled Parking Bays.

This request is further to clarification sought on the location of a Disabled Parking Bay at Sheare's Street, Fermoy and on the recommendation of Brendan O' Gorman SEE and Pauline Moriarty MDO this request was agreed by the Members.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Cllr. Noel McCarthy RE: Item 8(18) Extra space for taxis in Fermoy.

Cllr. McCarthy enquired if there was any update on this proposal, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied he supports the proposal for the addition of two taxi spaces, and that he is awaiting the approval of the business community in Fermoy given there will be a resultant loss of parking spaces. Cllr. McCarthy will revert to Brendan with this required approval. Pauline Moriarty MDO commented that a statutory process will be required to legally provide for these taxi spaces.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Yellow box between Thomas Street and Edward Street, Mitchelstown.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed this is on the list to be done, pending weather suitable for road marking.

(2) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Update on car park proposed for James Street, Mitchelstown.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE advised that there was a legal impediment here, but that it is hoped work on the development of this car park will commence in 2020.

(3) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Icy conditions at car park near Bunscoil na Toirbirthe, Mitchelstown.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through the usual arrangements for salting operations in the MD and explained that (in recent days) rain on top of ice had created unusually icy conditions which could not be predicted. He recommended the Members encourage schools and other institutions to avail of and use the salt bin facility which is available from the Council and make arrangements to treat their own grounds and environs.

(4) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Thank You.

Cllr. Dawson thanked Brendan for the replacement of missing stones from the bridge in Killavullen.

(5) Cllr. William O' Leary - Update on Speed Radar sign for Courthouse Road, Fermoy.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to email the elected Members in relation to the provision of these signs.

(6) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Knockananig Reservoir, Fermoy.

Cllr. McCarthy enquired if Knockananig Reservoir could be developed as an amenity area for the people of Fermoy and the wider area, saying it is a beautiful place and could become the 'jewel in the crown' for Fermoy. Pauline Moriarty MDO noted this suggestion, saying she would support this proposal as the area needs improvement and could be considered for development. Mary Hayes SEO suggested engaging outside consultants to devise a proper plan as the way forward. Brendan O' Gorman SEE added that the pros and cons of such a development would need to be identified but that he would welcome the development of Knockananig as an amenity, and the provision of a walkway or footpath for pedestrian access from Fermoy town to the reservoir.

(7) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Update on the Clonmel Road, Mitchelstown Dairygold entrance.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE said he had contacted Dairygold in relation to this but had, to date, not received any reply.

(8) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Footpaths in Mitchelstown.

Cllr. O' Brien enquired when footpath works in Mitchelstown will commence, and if temporary repairs could be carried out to the footpath in front of the Spar shop, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied it is planned for the Contractor to start in Mitchelstown in Q1/2020 and that yes, he will arrange interim repairs at this location.

(9) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Potholes in Corrogorm and from Ballygiblin Cross to the Church.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE will arrange for these potholes to be filled.

(10) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Issue with debris falling from 'The 59', Patrick Street, Fermoy.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE confirmed that a window had dropped at this building, and that the matter of the dereliction of this building is being dealt with through the appropriate channels.

(11) Cllr. Frank Roche - Cemetery in Castletownroche.

Cllr. Roche thanked Pauline Moriarty MDO for works undertaken at this cemetery, and enquired if there was any news on the boundary, to which Pauline replied repairs to the existing boundary will be carried out in 2020.

(12) Mary Hayes SEO - Provision of car parking in Council housing estates.

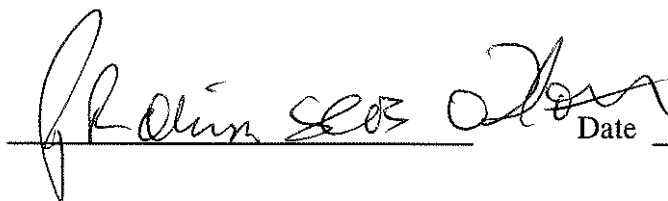
Mary Hayes SEO informed the Members that consideration is now being given to the provision of additional car parking in council housing estates and requested the Members compile a list prioritising those estates with greatest need and forward it to Pauline Moriarty MDO. The Members named Elm Place, Kilworth; Uplands, Fermoy and Doneraile as some locations which could be included on this list.

(13) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - Boundary change from 1st January 2020.

Brendan reminded the Members that from 1st January 2020 the boundary change will take effect and that Fermoy MD roads will be reduced by 200km. Also, that Charleville and Watergrasshill will no longer be in Fermoy MD. He said 2020 budgets may reflect these changes.

Prior to closing the meeting, an Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien thanked the staff of Cork County Council (executive and outdoor), the elected Members and members of the press for their work and co-operation throughout 2019, wished everyone a Happy Christmas and the very best for the New Year 2020.

Signed

 Date 21-01-2020