

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting
held on Tuesday, 18th February 2020**

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, Lydia Kelly ASO.

1. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Fermoy MD January 2020 meeting held on 21st January 2020.

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

2. DEPUTATIONS (2)

1. Cllr. Noel McCarthy REF: December 2019 Item 5 (4) deferred from January 2020 Meeting "that this Council receive a Deputation from the residents of Pike Road, Fermoy".

Cllr. McCarthy introduced Kathleen Lee and Maura Galvin representing the residents of Pike Road and invited them to address the meeting in relation to their concerns about speeding on Pike Road. Maura spoke first and said she had lived on Pike road for 34 years and in that time the number of houses had increased from twenty to over 300 with more being constructed. With the cars from these households, the traffic from at least three businesses on the road, and others that use the Pike road as a 'cut-through' to the factory on the Rathealy Road, the volume of traffic and the speed of this traffic is now a huge issue and concern for residents, for whom it poses a daily threat. Kathleen added that, having lived at Pike Road for more than 45 years, what was originally a boreen has not been developed sufficiently to facilitate the current traffic volumes and that the road is totally inadequate, despite steps been taken to address this issue. The speed of this traffic is of the utmost concern and she feels it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident. She said the residents are now requesting Fermoy MD/Cork County Council examines this situation with a view towards providing a solution. The Members in turn thanked Maura and Kathleen for their attendance and presentation and offered their full support to them in their concerns. Further to a request, Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed to prepare a report for the next meeting.

2. Cllr. William O' Leary REF: January 2020 Item 6 (17)

"that this Council would receive a Deputation from the residents of Killamurren / Ballynoe Bartlemy".

Cllr. O' Leary introduced Oliver O' Connor and Mary Murphy representing the community at Bartlemy, Hightown and Watergrasshill and invited them to address the meeting. Oliver spoke first saying that there is no criticism of works carried out to date by Cork County Council but there is still a danger for road users at Grove Cross where two local roads intersect. There is poor visibility and newer drivers in the area, who are unaware of the danger, are not yielding to other road users at this busy junction. Mary concurred with Oliver's representation of the situation. The Members welcomed the deputation and offered their full support. Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to meet with Cllr. O' Leary on site and see the situation firsthand, and to then prepare a report for the next meeting.

3. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. REPORT Fermoy MD 2020 RI / RM Programmes

Brendan O' Gorman SEE presented the 2020 Restoration Improvement and Restoration Maintenance (Surface Dressing) programmes of works and went through the details thereof for the Members information. Taking into consideration the reduction in road length due the boundary changes (minus 20km) the 2020 budget represents a slight increase on 2019 figures. Advance drainage works will be done on all roads on the programme and progress to date information will be provided at each monthly meeting going forward. The Members welcomed the programmes and Brendan answered any and all questions they had in relation to the proposed works. The Members were very complimentary to Brendan and all CCC staff involved in these works year on year and look forward to the progression of these 2020 programmes. On the proposition of Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy and endorsed by all the Members the 2020 RI and RM Programmes were agreed.

4. ALLOCATION OF OFFICIAL GARDA PARKING SPACES

1. Allocation of official Garda Parking Spaces on Upper Cork Street, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE explained that as the Fermoy district Roads Policing Unit will be moving from Fermoy to Mitchelstown in the near future it is going to mean that extra official Garda vehicles will be attached to Mitchelstown Garda Station and as such, An Garda Síochána are now enquiring if it would be possible to allocate three parking spaces directly outside the Garda Station on Upper Cork Street. Brendan added that public consultation and a change to the by-laws will be required in order to facilitate this request. Cllr. Kay Dawson asked that Fermoy MD be mindful of the parking for the businesses in this vicinity and Brendan replied that spaces will be chosen accordingly with as minimal a negative impact as possible on public parking, possibly moving the spaces north away from the commercial hub.

5. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

1. "that this Council would receive an Engineer's report on the possibility of a continuation of a footpath from Grange Stud to Grange National School and the cost associated with same".

No budget to continue same. Costs would be in the region of €125,000. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn. Cllr. McCarthy presented the meeting with a petition containing twenty signatures and a document from the residents outlining the reasons for and merits of this footpath and said he would welcome any progress towards the provision of this amenity, in full or in part.

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

2. "that Cork County Council give a progress report and timeframe on the proposed repairs for Ballymacphillip bridge, Ballyhooly".

No changes to timelines previously outlined. Both parapet walls are in need of repair and the works are scheduled for summer 2020, subject to all approvals being in place. (BO'G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

3. "call on Cork County Council to re-instate damaged road surface on Mill Road, Castletownroche".
Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that there is a planning application pending for this location and all footpath, drainage and public lighting works required here have been incorporated into the plans and particulars of the proposed development.

Cllr. William O' Leary

4. "that this Council would receive a Deputation from the Barrycourt Estate in Fermoy".
Prior to deciding on this deputation, Mary Hayes SEO enquired of the Members if issues could be resolved internally rather than bringing deputations to MD meetings. She said a deputation should be a last resort, not a first resource and that deputations should not be seen as a way of getting an alternative response to something that has already been raised and replied to in a motion. Brendan O' Gorman SEE agreed with this, saying a reply to a deputation would take four weeks to the next meeting and a lot of these local issues could be resolved immediately without any delay, if brought to the attention of the executive directly. There followed a brief discussion following which it was agreed that all elected Members would stick to the suggested guidelines with regard to significantly reducing the number of deputations. Accordingly, Cllr. O' Leary will discuss the issues in the estate with Brendan directly and this deputation will not go ahead.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

5. "that this Council receive a Deputation in relation to Killesane Graveyard, Castletownroche".
Cllr. O' Brien explained that the proposal to bring in a deputation in relation to this cemetery relates to the number of issues, ongoing here, which she considers need to be brought into the public domain. Mary Hayes SEO said she had arranged for a member of Fermoy MD staff to meet with the concerned members of the public at the cemetery with a view to resolving the issues here, and will email the Members with an update thereafter. Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that this cemetery is a Council-owned property and that Cork County Council are meeting the requirements as set out for the by-laws of this cemetery.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

6. “that the speed ramp on Beechfield road to the Pike road be repaired”.
Repairs will be carried out. (BO’G)
7. “that this Council would carry out road repairs and drainage works on the Corroghorm and Knockanevin roads and consider a full road surface at these locations in the future”.
There are no pending structural overlay requirements on local roads in this area. Routine drainage and patching repairs will be carried out as usual. (BO’G)
8. “that this Council prepare an Engineer’s report on ways to address speeding on the L-5770 at Corrin, Fermoy following concerns from residents living in the area”.
Rural road where the default speed limit of 80kph refers to this local secondary route. Speed enforcement is a matter for the traffic authority, i.e. the Garda Authorities, but speeds are unlikely to exceed 80kph here. (BO’G)
Cllrs. McCarthy and O’ Flynn will highlight this speeding issue to An Garda Síochána for their attention.
9. “that this Committee receive an update from the Housing Section in Mallow on when the wall at the entrance to Cúl Móna and Lissore housing estates will be repaired”.
Motion sent to Housing Section, Mallow for reply.

Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn

10. “that Cork County Council receive a deputation from the residents of Kenny’s Cross, Castlelyons”.
In accordance with the agreement reached earlier in the meeting in relation to deputations, Cllr. O’Flynn will make contact with Brendan O’ Gorman SEE directly to seek a resolution to the issues being experienced by the residents at Kenny’s Cross.
11. “that Cork County Council put public lighting in place at Convamore/Glenafauna dwellings on the Mallow road entrance to Ballyhooly in the interest of safety”.
On a point of principle, no new public lights will be installed outside urban areas to serve individual settlements/clusters. It is Council policy to attempt to reduce our energy consumption and emissions not to increase them. (BO’G)
12. “that Cork County Council extend the public lighting on the Conna Road entrance to Ballynoe in the interest of safety”.
Dark spot between estate and village lights. Two lights will be considered under our 2020 PL programme requirements. (BO’G)
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE advised the Members that the 2020 Public Lighting programme will be available for their information at the next meeting.
13. “that Cork County Council put public lighting in place at Fant’s Cross, Strawhall, Fermoy in the interest of safety”.
On a point of principle, no new public lights will be installed outside urban areas to serve individual settlements/clusters. It is Council policy to attempt to reduce our energy consumption and emissions not to increase them. (BO’G)

Cllr. Kay Dawson

14. “call on Cork County Council to close drains on edge of footpath on George’s Street, Mitchelstown”.
Having regard for the amount and sometimes intensity of surface water that can come down George’s Street on both sides of the road, it is advisable to leave long standing drains open rather than culvert them. In the event of a major refurbishment of the street (scheduled in 2021), we may be able to pipe some sections of the street. (BO’G)
There was unanimous support for this motion from all the Members. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE said that the open shore is part of the heritage and protected features of the street; but acknowledging that Mitchelstown town has Age-Friendly status and given the age profile of George’s Street residents,

said that the shore could be 'bridged' at some locations along the street edge to facilitate residents accessing their cars.

15. "call on Cork County Council to investigate and, if possible, to provide 'lay-way' in the interest of safety on the Castleblagh Ballyhooly road".
Further to Cllr. Dawson explaining the reason for and proposed location of this request, Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to examine the area with a view to providing this facility.
16. "call on Cork County Council to get owners of vacant house in Ballymacmoy, Killavullen to cut back hedge as it is blocking access to footpath".
Cllr. Kay Dawson will ascertain the landowner here and revert to Brendan O' Gorman SEE who will then take the required action.
17. "call on Cork County Council for an update on the 'taking in charge' of Ross Park, Killavullen".
Estates Section replied to Cllr. Dawson directly.

Cllr. William O' Leary

18. "that this Council would contact eir to have an old telegraph / phone pole replaced in Ballygown, Doneraile which is still in use as residents are afraid that it will fall down".
MDO will follow up.
19. "that this Council would consider installing a pedestrian crossing at a suitable location in Glanworth Village".
Traffic volumes and pedestrian crossing movements are low in the village. Will be considered for future safety improvement scheme funding. (BO'G)
This motion was supported by all the elected Members.
20. "that this Council would urgently liaise with the Environmental Section of Cork County Council to come up with a solution to the ongoing issue of full Skippo bags with domestic inside being left on the green section of the Dun Éala Estate, Fermoy by some residents. The issue has now become a health and safety risk".
While council cannot comment on individual cases, we confirm that our waste enforcement team have undertaken inspections and provided compliance advice to households using skip bags in this manner. Instructions have issued to remove the bags and contents and provide evidence of authorised disposal. Further enforcement action shall be taken should the matter persist. To report littering or illegal dumping or request to speak with your area Warden you can contact the Councils anti-litter unit at 021 4285417 (9am-5pm Mon-Fri). (Environments Response) (Note: CCC anti-litter unit has been contacted in this instance by Brendan O' Gorman SEE)
All the elected Members were in support of this motion saying the lack of regulation and enforcement in respect of the use / mis-use of Skippo bags needs to be addressed. It further highlights the need for a dedicated bring site in the district to provide this much needed public service. It was agreed, further to a discussion, that this issue would be raised at the appropriate SPC for consideration and resolution.
21. "that this Council would put in place traffic calming measures in the Berry Hill Estate, Castlelyons".
Private Estate. (BO'G)
Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to relay the concerns of the Members to the Estates Section in order for them to check that all provisions of the relevant planning permissions have been upheld. Further to a query from Cllr. McCarthy, Brendan confirmed that if residents wish to fundraise and carry out works themselves, this is permissible provided the works are within the scope of the grant of planning permission and in agreement with the Estates Engineer and in compliance with estate guidelines and standards.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

22. "that this Council would provide continuation of footpath on N73 from Kildorrery Village to Ballyanihan, this being part of the Gort na Sí Looped Walk".
On a National Road and subject to TII decision on funding. Unlikely to get their approval, noting they did not extend the footpath previously when resurfacing the road adjacent under a large Capital Project. (BO'G)
Brendan O' Gorman SEE commented that he will consider this footpath continuation for installation using CLÁR funding, if it becomes available.
23. "that this Council would re-erect warning sign at the Ballyporeen side of the Ballygiblin Bridge in the interest of safety of motorists".
Will be investigated. (BO'G)
24. "that this Council investigate and have necessary measures carried out to the Road at Slatterys Hill, Kilclooney in view of recent accidents. Eircodes P67 NY94 and V35 AW90".
Brendan O' Gorman SEE responded that there is very little scope here (narrow width) to carry out improvements, however, he will arrange for drainage work to be done and will inspect the location with a view to carrying out any other improvement measures.
25. that this Council investigate flooding on the road at Gorteenatarriff, Mitchelstown which is causing flooding at Eircode P67 KP99".
Will be investigated. (BO'G)
There is a blockage on the existing shores from across the road. Brendan O' Gorman SEE will arrange for alleviation works.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. RE: Item 6(12) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Update on proposed date for Mick Meany capsule

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that he has (recently) taken charge of this project and will have a concept design in three months for Members consideration.

2. RE: October 2019 Item 5(4) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Update on parking spaces for elderly and/or disability at Doneraile P.O.

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed Cllr. O' Brien that these spaces will be provided in Doneraile, but that enforcement will not be feasible as there is no relevant by-law in place for this rural village.

3. RE: December 2019 Item 9(12) - Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Update on provision of additional car parking in Council housing estates.

Mary Hayes SEO advised that she is seeking locations from the elected Members for the provision of this additional car parking and, to that end, the following estates were nominated by the Members for consideration: Churchview, Bartlemy; Elm Place, Kilworth; Glenview, Doneraile; Uplands, Fermoy and Shinnick Place, Castletownroche.

4. RE: Item 5(1) - Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Update on start date for James Street carpark

Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that, following the boundary alteration and resultant changes in personnel, there is currently a reduction of one Executive Engineer in the district and consequently there are now resource issues in getting this project off the ground.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Cllr. Frank Roche - Broken railing on hill in Castletownroche

Cllr. Roche requested repairs to this unsightly broken rail to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied he will arrange for this to be inspected and repair works carried out where necessary.

(2) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Update on bus shelters for Fermoy MD

Brendan O' Gorman SEE will seek an update from the NTA on the provision of these requested and much-needed bus shelters throughout Fermoy MD.

(3) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Danger to motorists at M8 J13 slip-way

Cllr. Dawson highlighted the danger to motorists travelling from Curraghalla to Mitchelstown from motorists exiting the M8 at Junction 13 as overgrown vegetation is blocking the sight distance (from both sides). Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to contact the TII requesting they take some remedial action here.

(4) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - 2020 Grass Cutting Contract

Cllr. McCarthy requested that conditions be included in the 2020 grass cutting contract that would require the Contractor to collect and remove the cuttings from all cuts throughout the contract to prevent the re-occurrence of the dissatisfaction experienced last year. Brendan O' Gorman SEE assured the Members that this tender and contract is currently out to the market place and that the **first cutting** must be collected / removed and that sixteen cuts will be undertaken between 31st March and 31st October 2020, and the terms of the contract will be strictly enforced.

(5) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Request for additional public light at pedestrian crossing, McCurtain Street, Fermoy

Cllr. McCarthy said there is a light on only one side of this pedestrian crossing (at Avondhu office side), making it difficult for drivers to see pedestrians waiting to cross. Brendan O' Gorman SEE said he will endeavour to have a light installed on the 'old ESB' side to improve safety, funded under our new Public Lighting Programme in 2020.

(6) Cllr. William O' Leary - Bus shelters on all Fermoy MD stops on Route 245

Cllr. O' Leary requested Fermoy MD make a strong case for the provision of these bus shelters, to which Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied he will bring to the attention of the Engineer who is the Cork County Council NTA liaison officer.

(7) Cllr. William O' Leary - Update on repairs to Rathcormac Playground

Brendan O' Gorman SEE said that he would get an update on the repairs required here and email the Members accordingly.

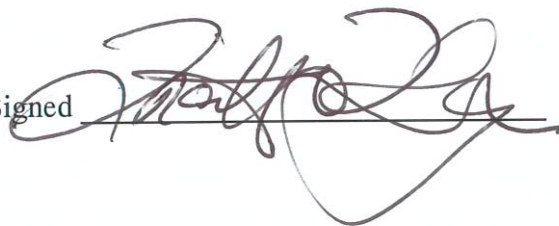
(8) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - 'Letter of Friendship' from Lithuanian Community

Cllr. O' Flynn is enquiring for this document, which had been received by Fermoy MD in November 2019, with a view to arranging its signature. This will be considered by the MDO and the Members will be updated in due course.

(9) Brendan O'Gorman SEE - Application for €150k for town resurfacing projects

Brendan advised the Members that he had sought funding from the TII to the value of €150k for resurfacing works on the National Road (N72) in Fermoy town, but had not yet received a reply. He is hopeful this funding will be sanctioned and he will keep the Members updated.

Signed



Date

6/5/2020