

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on 21st January 2020**

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

**Apologies:** Mary Hayes SEO.

**1. MINUTES**

**1. Minutes of the Fermoy MD December 2019 meeting held on 17th December 2019.**

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Frank Roche.

**2. DEPUTATION**

**1. Deputation - Cllr. Noel McCarthy REF: December 2019 Item 5(4)**

**“that this Council receive a Deputation from the residents of Pike Road, Fermoy”.**

Further to a request from Cllr. McCarthy it was agreed that this deputation would be deferred to the Fermoy MD February 2020 meeting.

**3. APPOINTMENT TO FERMOY TOURIST OFFICE COMMITTEE**

**1. Appointment of Member to Fermoy Tourist Office Committee.**

Cllr. Noel McCarthy was proposed for this role by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn, seconded by Cllr. William O' Leary and officially selected as the Fermoy MD representative on the Fermoy Tourist Office Committee. Cllr. McCarthy has regularly attended these Committee meetings previously.

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

**Situation: Grant of Lease, Right-of-Way and Wayleave at Bottlehill, Co Cork and Grant of Option to avail of same.**

**From Whom Acquired: Coillte Teoranta**

**To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose: Brookfield Renewable Ireland Limited**

**Term: Option Agreement: 5 years with option to renew. Lease Agreement: 30 years with option to renew (renewal subject to further Section 183 approval)**

**Consideration: Option Agreement: €10,000 upon signing of agreement and €10,000 payable on each anniversary of commencement date thereafter. Lease Agreement: From signing of lease to rent commencement date, construction rent is payable being €200,000 per annum pro rata.**

**From rent commencement date, rent payable is 9% of the gross annual income (Ex. VAT) from the sale of electricity generated by the turbines on the demised property, subject to minimum rent of €20,000 per annum per turbine.**

Mr. Liam Singleton, SE Environment Department was in attendance and gave an information briefing to the Members in relation to this proposed development, circulating maps and location schemes. He said this proposal is scheduled to go before full Council on 10th February 2020 and advised that the scheme will go ahead with or without Council's approval by way of relocation of the turbines to outside Council owned lands. He added that the proposal will go through the statutory process with An Bórd Pleanála.

There followed a discussion during which comments made by the Members included the following:

- it is unacceptable that the (safety) information being circulated is that provided by the Developer.
- the current guidelines are outdated, being published twenty years ago, and they await the new guidelines which are due to be published imminently.
- that they consider there has been insufficient and inadequate consultation with the public and that the real and valid concerns of the residents are not being acknowledged.

The Members of Fermoy MD were unanimous in their rejection of this proposal as presented, requesting a deferral of this planning application by the Developer until the new guidelines are in place.

## 5. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1. REPORT: MDO Report

Pauline Moriarty MDO circulated her report to the Members. She informed them of two additional items which are (i) the need to close off access to the Tourist Office and public toilet building on O' Neill Crowley Quay due to the danger of the shattered glass wall, damaged by vandalism on 26th December 2019; and (ii) the need to cordon off the public footpath around 'The 59' premises on Patrick Street, Fermoy due to state of dereliction of the building. Pauline said that legal proceedings are ongoing in relation to this situation and facade repairs are expected to commence within a few days.

Observations in relation to Pauline's report/update include:

- re: Clenor Cemetery, Doneraile - removal of further tree butts here to be investigated.
- re: 2019 VES, Rathcormac - confirmation that full public consultation will take place here.
- re: 2018 T&VRS, Mitchelstown, Age-Friendly Measures - the proposals here were welcomed by the Members, with the timeframe for completion of the works envisaged as end April 2020. There is a concern around the planter style proposed, which will be re-considered.
- the vandalism to the tourist office/toilets building in Fermoy was strongly condemned by the Members, who said the culprits will have to be identified and this type of behaviour stamped out.
- re: the footpath closure at 'The 59', the Members said it is imperative the required work is done here and the footpath re-opened as soon as possible.
- re: proposed car park at James Street, Mitchelstown - further to a query Brendan O' Gorman SEE said there is no start date determined yet for this development.

### 2. REPORT: St. Fanahan's Place and Mitchelscourt, Mitchelstown Deputation Report

Cllr. O' Brien thanked Brendan O' Gorman SEE for this report, saying the proposal to install two ramps at this location is an acceptable and satisfactory resolution.

## 6. NOTICES OF MOTION

### Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

1. "that Cork County Council put in place a footpath at the Mill Road entrance to Kilworth in the interest of safety".

There are already plans afoot to bring the existing limestone edge footpath back into play in Q1/Q2 2020 as per agreed 2019 Footpath Programme schedule. (BO'G)

### Cllr. Noel McCarthy

2. "that this Committee would enforce the removal of the caravan parked outside Kilcrumper Graveyard immediately".

Councils actions here will be dependent on outcome of today's court case. (PM)

All the Members fully supported this motion. Pauline Moriarty MDO agreed to update the Members with the result of the court case, when available.

### Cllr. Kay Dawson

3. "call on Cork County Council for an update on work to be carried out at P67 X427 as water pooling has become a problem since road has been resurfaced (L-5635-0 Cooleregan)".

Some drainage works and improvements will be carried in the general area in the coming weeks. (BO'G)

### Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

4. "that Cork County Council would investigate the drainage issue on N73 at P67 R863 at Glenahulla".

This is a legacy snag from NRDO/TII resurfacing and issue has again been forwarded to Bob O' Shea, S.E., Glashaboy office. (BO'G)

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that the Director is currently paying particular attention to snag items left unfinished by the NRDO/TII resurfacing contracts, and also instances of insufficient re-instatement by Irish Water, which may result in a more satisfactory completion of these works going forward.

**Cllr. William O' Leary**

5. "that this Council would take urgent steps to make whatever improvements necessary to improve the safety at the Dr. Barry's Bridge junction, Rathcormac adjoining to the main Cork / Dublin Road". The majority if not all of the incidents at this junction stem from poor driver behaviour and driver errors. All required warning and regulatory signage and road markings are in place. The position of the bridge adjacent and the road alignment of course reduces forgiving roadside here. I have proposed in the past to include this junction for an extension of the speed limit zone to include for a step down to 60kph here. Also it is my intention to include for public lighting at this junction when P.L. funding for the amenity walking loop route is confirmed. (BO'G)  
This motion was supported by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

**Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

6. "that Cork County Council put signage for 'children at play' from Douglas Cross to Macronee, Kilworth in the interest of safety of all road users".  
Not recommended owing to the cost precedent it would set for our entire local/regional rural road network. (BO'G)
7. "that Cork County Council put public lights in place at Beechmount, Ballyderowne, Kilworth".  
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. O' Flynn's proposal that this request be put on a list for future consideration was supported by Cllr. William O' Leary.

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

8. "that this Council increase the amount of time available for cars turning right at the junction of Cork Road in Fermoy (when turning onto Duntahane Road) as green light time is too short".  
Existing traffic loops damaged due to poor road surfaces and therefore not informing the system for junction optimisation. Works to provide Microwave Vehicle Detectors and replacement loops have been approved for here and will be installed in due course. (BO'G)
9. "that this Council conduct a safety report at the dangerous bend at Upper Killclare, near Conna, Co. Cork".  
This is a bend on the R628 on the approach to Conna from the Rathcormac direction. It is approximately 350m west of the built up area. Regional road realignment funding has been long unavailable to Cork County to advance schemes such as this. Two reported accidents in the system at this bend, 2014 and 2017 - material damage only for both. As this regional road has numerous bends like this locus it is not practical to propose realignment. I will endeavour however to resurface the road in HRA in 2022 which will improve the surface ride, drainage and safety generally. Warning signs are already in place. (BO'G)
10. "that this Council consider installing a zebra crossing at the corner of O' Neill Crowley Quay and Pearse Square (R639) in Fermoy, in the interest of pedestrian safety".  
Warranted and is to be included in any planned upgrade of Pearse Square. As the quays will require signalisation going forward, a pedestrian phase is required here. (BO'G)  
Brendan O' Gorman SEE said this request could be considered for installation either as a safety improvement scheme for this crossing or included in the overall future scheme for Pearse Square. He will look at this from a 'low-cost' remedial measure; and said any traffic signals introduced on the quays will have to be devised 'in-sync' with all other traffic signals on Pearse Square. Either way, a pedestrian crossing or full traffic signals will be installed here in due course.
11. "that this Council would carry out road repairs and drainage works at Boherderrogue, between Cotters and Browns, and consider a full road resurface at this location in the future".  
Repairs will be done and considered for a RI wetmix overlay in 2022. (BO'G)

**Cllr. Kay Dawson**

12. “call on Cork County Council for update on proposed date for the Mick Meany capsule”.  
Project is progressing, Council is liaising with relevant contractors on final design currently with a view to installation thereafter. (PM)  
Further to a query from Cllr. Dawson in relation to the timeframe involved, Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that she would provide a further update at the next meeting.

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

13. “that this Council put in place a numbering identity system in New Kilcumper Graveyard”.  
The Council has a numbering identity system in place; however this is not visible on the ground. As a result the Council appointed a contractor to make and install plaques to identify the ‘Sections’ within the new cemetery and installation of these plaques is due to commence in the coming weeks. This will make locating the Sections a lot easier. Separately the newly installed beams have each plot numbered on the ground. (PM)
14. “that this Council would erect a sign for ‘Mitchelstown’ on the signpost exiting Glanworth Village for Ballindangan”.  
Existing sign stolen. New one ordered. (BO’G)
15. “that this Council would carry out drainage works at Ballytrasna, Fermoy at P61 WD53”.  
Scheduled and pending in agreement with landowner. (BO’G)
16. “that this Council would investigate large crack on bridge connecting Pollardstown roundabout to Kilshanny”.  
Expansion crack failure observed on road surface on M8 overbridge on the R665, Pollardstown. Settlement of roadside kerbs also observed. Issue has been forwarded to TII / NRDO for action. (BO’G)  
Brendan O’ Gorman SEE reassured Cllr. O’ Brien that there is no safety concern here.

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**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

17. “that this Council would receive a deputation from the residents of Killamurren / Ballynoe Bartlemy”.  
This was agreed.
18. “that this this Council would consider installing a footpath from Ballynoe National School as far as the bridge on L-1528-0 in the interest of student safety”.  
No funds available to undertake this work. Work would cost ~ €70,000. There would still be a gap of over 500m between the terminus and the village core. (BO’G)  
Cllr. O’ Leary acknowledged that this is an ambitious motion but would appreciate if consideration could be given to providing this much warranted facility on an incremental or piecemeal basis.  
Cllr. Noel McCarthy asked if the local community could become involved. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied that he will firstly consider utilising CLÁR funding, which is ring-fenced for schools, as an option here; and that it may be feasible for a community involvement type project to be undertaken. Cllr. O’ Leary will revert to the National School and the Community Council and report to Brendan accordingly.
19. “that this Council would carry out an audit of the traffic lights in the square in Fermoy particularly from the courthouse side given the slow and quick frequency of change particularly at peak hours”.  
We have sought additional green time for the Waterford road (N72) approaching this junction. The junction is governed by traffic loops hence the quick changeover. However we have decided on giving additional priority to Patrick Street. (BO’G)  
This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn.

20. “that this Council would provide an up to date position and timeframe with regards to the approved lighting upgrade for the St. Bernard’s Estate, Fermoy”.  
Slight delay on the confirmed upgrade. Our public lighting section has confirmed that Airtricity will prioritise the installation once the final design has been agreed - likely to be in March. (BO’G) –

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**  
None.

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

**RE: 5(5) Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn - Fermoy town achieving Age-Friendly status**

Further to Cllr. O’ Flynn’s request, Cllr. Kay Dawson replied that Fermoy is already being ‘age-friendly’ with a number of incentives and groups that are in place. She advised that to move this process forward a consultation group should be formed; a policy adopted; a walkability study be undertaken; the guidelines appraised and any works going forward should be from an ‘age-friendly’ perspective with the long-term goal being to apply for and achieve ‘age-friendly status’.

**RE: 5(6) Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien - Speed at Ballymacoy, Killavullen**

Cllr. O’ Brien enquired if anything could be done, in the interim before the next speed limit review, to resolve the issue of speeding at this location. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied that there is currently no funding for traffic calming measures. Subsidised speed feedback and detector signs could be purchased here by the community.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Private entrance on N72**

Cllr. McCarthy said the householder here is not happy with how the entrance was left and is requesting Brendan O’ Gorman SEE contact the TII accordingly to carry out further works. Brendan agreed to this request.

**(2) Cllr. William O’ Leary - Update on Playgrounds**

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that works in Kilworth playground are complete; a tender is being prepared for the works required at Rathcormac playground and that any other repairs required in MD playgrounds will be included in a separate tender, also currently being prepared.

**(3) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - re: keyholder for barrier to access River Blackwater at Barnane**

Pauline Moriarty MDO advised Cllr. McCarthy there are a number of official key-holders for this barrier including Fermoy Rowing Club, an Garda Síochána, Fermoy Sub-Aqua and she would suggest anyone requiring access to the river to make contact accordingly.

**(4) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Icy footpaths in Mitchelstown**

Cllr. Dawson enquired what measures can be taken in the event of icy footpaths, particularly in the vicinity of the schools and church. Brendan O’ Gorman SEE advised that the schools, church or any business can procure a subsidised salt bin and salt from the Council for use during frosty conditions.

**(5) Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien - Footpath to GAA pitch in Castletownroche**

Further to Cllr. O’ Brien’s enquiry, Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied, as advised previously, that this could be progressed via a future CLÁR application and funding and will be proposed when the next round of funding comes around.

**(6) Cllr. Frank O’ Flynn - Meeting with Irish Water**

Cllr. O’ Flynn informed the Members that he had arranged a meeting with Mr. Kevin Morey of Irish Water to be held in Mallow on Monday, 27th January 2020 at 10.00am and requested the Members be in attendance, to which the Members agreed.

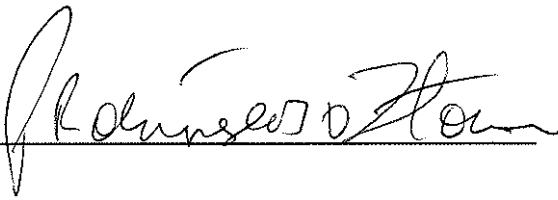
**(7) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - re: 'The 59' premises, Patrick Street, Fermoy**

Brendan informed the Members that, as the public footpath outside this premises is currently cordoned off due to the dereliction of the building, the Funeral Director has been asked to request people attending funerals to queue on the 'other side' in the interest of health and safety, i.e. down the street towards the Mart car park.

Before the conclusion of the business of the meeting votes of sympathy were passed by the Members to the families of Mr. Harry Kenny, ex-Cork County Council and Mr. Patrick (Paddy) Sheehan, ex-Cork County Council on their recent bereavements. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anam.*

The Members also passed a vote of good wishes to Mr. Pat Walsh, Cork County Council Water Services on his forthcoming retirement.

Signed



Date:

