

Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting

held on Tuesday, 18th May 2021

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, Pauline Moriarty MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

1. MINUTES - Minutes of Fermoy MD April Meeting held on 20th April 2021

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.

2. MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION for Fermoy Town Council Town Development Plan 2009

Pauline Moriarty MDO explained the context of this material contravention to the Members, the details and timeline for which was uploaded for their information. This was duly noted and welcomed by all the Members.

3. TAKING-IN-CHARGE - Declaration of a public road at Ross Park, Killavullen

That, being satisfied that a public right of way exists over it, and the road is of general public utility, Cork County Council hereby declares pursuant to Section 11(1) of the Roads Act, 1993 the following road to be a public road: **ESTATE NAME** Ross Park **LOCATION** Killavullen **LINEAR METRES** 280.7

The Members noted the documentation and maps submitted in relation to this proposal, and it was agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn.

4. REPORTS and RECOMMENDATION

a. May 2021 MDO Report (including update on Fermoy Weir Remediation & Fish Bypass Project)

Pauline Moriarty MDO went through her comprehensive report, which was uploaded to QuickMinutes and displayed onscreen for the Members information. The report was welcomed by the Members who raised the following queries and comments:

- RE: Painting Scheme - The Members welcomed the extension of time for this scheme. There was a query if upgrades to shop / business signage could be incorporated into the Painting Scheme to which Pauline replied yes, there is an element for signage work already included and this work can be taken into consideration within the scope of the scheme. A Colour Consultant is available for advice on suitable colour schemes if required. An Irish Signage grant is also available, if desired by any business owner.
- RE: Free-Standing Canopies / Seating - the style, type, location and maintenance of these communal sheltered seating areas was queried by the Members who enquired as to how this rollout is going to work with regards to bins, cleaning etc. with concerns about the potential for littering and vandalism. Pauline replied that this scheme is being introduced across the county on a trial basis this year to aid businesses returning to operation and will be monitored on an ongoing basis. It is hoped the business owners will cooperate with maintaining and cleaning these areas but Council staff will also be mobilised in their maintenance. As the marquees are a fixed 5m x 5m size this will determine the location as they will not fit in some of the suggested locations. Pauline answered all Members queries in relation to these canopies.
- RE: Fermoy Public Toilets - the recent vandalism to the public toilets was strongly criticised by the Members who stated it is shameful and unacceptable behaviour and they hope the perpetrators will again be identified and dealt with by An Garda Síochána. Recent vandalism at Brigown Cemetery and Mitchelstown Playground was also condemned by the Members.
- RE: Project ACT provisions. The question of reinstating some of the car parking spaces in Fermoy and re-introducing the litter bins was raised. Brendan O' Gorman SEE replied that, with the Members approval, the majority of the false grass on Patrick Street can now be removed (leaving a small section for a pedestrian crossing point at Dealz) and this was agreed; with the installation of 15 minute parking bays chosen as the most beneficial arrangement at this location. In relation to the bollards at Kingston College, Mitchelstown Brendan agreed that the bollards can be removed and the installation of a footpath maybe considered at this location.

- RE: Campervan Facility - the introduction of parking at Kevin Barry Hill in Fermoy for campervan and motorhomes this summer was welcomed by the Members.
- RE: Car Parking Fees - Mary Hayes SEO cautioned that allowing free parking in Fermoy continue to year end will incur budgetary issues as the income from pay parking is an integral element of the annual budget and there is a corporate involvement here. On the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Frank O' Flynn and agreed by all the Members it was decided to extend the free parking in Fermoy town carparks for another three months, that is to end August 2021.
- RE: Town & Village Renewal Scheme funding. Mary Hayes SEO informed the Members, further to a query, that a town or village can re-apply for the Town & Village Renewal Scheme when they have had a previous unsuccessful application, that all expressions of interest for projects can be lodged and will be considered for future applications, either for this funding or a more suitable alternative funding source, where available. There is one scheme per MD applied for each year.
- RE: Georgian Quarter, Mitchelstown - Pauline Moriarty MDO confirmed that the green area at King Square and New Square, Mitchelstown are to be included in the plans being prepared for these RRDF scheme works. These proposals will be presented to the Members in due course and all stakeholders will be contacted and included when proposals are available for consideration and forward progression.

b. Doneraile Town & Village Section 38

Brendan O' Gorman SEE went through the proposals for the works at three locations within Doneraile under the Town & Village Scheme, advising the Members that plans and drawings will be forwarded to them imminently. He commented that there may be some loss of car parking on the street but is hopeful, following consultation with the OPW, that there may be some availability of additional car parking on their site within their park in Doneraile. There is a public consultation process planned to take place in Doneraile in two/three weeks and the Section 38 will go for publication once this has occurred. Mary Hayes SEO added that there has been immense effort put into getting this project to this stage, with the appointment of external consultants to produce a suitable plan and feasibility options. This scheme will further enhance Doneraile as a destination for visitors while creating a dedicated sense of place for residents and business owners. Two requests were made to be considered within the scope of these works which were (i) an electricity supply at the Turnpike for the Christmas crib, to which Brendan replied a duct will be provided and (ii) speeding an issue on the long road to which Brendan responded he will arrange for additional signage to be installed.

All the Members were enthusiastic in their approval of the plans and scheme and will welcome progression of this exciting project.

c. 2021 RI Programme Progress Update

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works in this programme are progressing as planned, are on schedule and within budget with around 30-35% complete at this stage. In relation to 2021 CIS works, one scheme is complete (Ballinvoher, Kilworth) and there are four more to be done by the end of the works season. The progress report is uploaded to QuickMinutes for the Members information.

d. 2021 RM Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works in this programme will continue for the next two weeks, and will then recommence in July. These works are circa 40-45% complete at this stage.

e. 2021 DRAINAGE Programme Progress Update

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that works on the Drainage Programme are progressing as planned. Drainage works are carried out at all sites/locations on the roadworks programmes prior to those works commencing.

f. 2021 FOOTPATH Programme

Brendan O' Gorman SEE informed the Members that the footpath Contractor is now back on site, working in Mill Road, Kilworth. Town Development Fund works in Mitchelstown are next on the schedule and the Contractor will then continue to work through all the footpath works outstanding from the 2019 and 2020 programmes, as well as those on the 2021 programme.

In relation to the works programmes generally the following queries were raised:

- Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien enquired if there were any works being funded under LIS this year, to which Brendan replied yes, there are two projects to be undertaken in August/September.
- Cllr. Frank O' Flynn requested a footpath be provided in the vicinity of Cornahinch, to which Brendan replied this location is outside the Fermoy MD area and is not included in the planned safety works at this junction.
- Cllr. Frank O' Flynn asked if the speed limit can be extended at the entrance to Doneraile GAA to which Brendan replied this will be considered when the 2022 review is being undertaken.
- Cllr. Noel McCarthy requested repairs be carried out on the damaged footpath near the back lane in Casement Row, Fermoy to which Brendan replied yes, this will be done.
- Cllr. Kay Dawson asked if footpath works at Lower Cork Street will be done, to which Brendan replied yes, this will be done with reuse of the existing limestone slabs but with new bedding mortar.

5. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

1. "that Cork County Council undertake a safety audit at the dangerous junction where the Kiltrislane road LS-5711 meets the N8 road on the Mitchelstown side entrance/exit and put in place safety measures to make the junction safer for all road users".

Existing layout is a legacy arrangement from when this local secondary road was part of the old National route. The existing orientation of the junction does not permit easy access south in or out. I will include the junction as a safety improvement scheme proposal for 2022 that will include for a detailed design. May include for land purchase to facilitate a new junction alignment here. I will arrange for patching here as well as re-positioning some road signs in the interim that will improve sightlines. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllrs. Kay Dawson and Deirdre O' Brien.

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

2. "that this Council would carry out footpath repairs on Main Street, Kilworth from No. 19 The Butcher's Bar to No. 23. Carey's household".

Will be included in our footpath programme proposals for 2022. (BO'G)

Cllr. William O' Leary

3. "that this Council would install a disabled parking bay in the vicinity of the Post Office in Castletownroche".

It might be more appropriate to install age friendly parking bays. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllrs. O' Flynn and Roche and Brendan's recommendation of an Age Friendly Parking Bay was agreed.

Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien

4. "that this Council would put in place speed control measures, for safety improvement, at Ballindangan National School".

Some additional school markings will be installed here. We will also advise Garda Authorities to carry out some additional enforcement of the existing 50kph zone here. (BO'G)

Cllr. Frank O' Flynn

5. "that Cork County Council, in the interest of road safety, investigate and put in place works and road signage to make Monanimy Bridge, Killavullen safer for pedestrians, cyclists and all road users".

Footpath proposed here and some additional road narrowing signs will be erected. (BO'G)

6. “that Cork County Council put in place ‘Children at Play’ signs in the vicinity of Glanworth Community Playground in the interest of safety”.
Existing school and child warning signs already erected. Will erect one additional warning sign.
(BO’G)

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

7. “that this Committee would get an engineer’s report on the possibility of a raised ramp being put in place at the pedestrian crossing from Springfield Estate to Clancy Street, Fermoy”.
There are existing bolted on low impact ramps 35m either side of the existing crossing so there is no opportunity to gain speed here. Also this is a school bus route and I cannot encourage an additional raised crossing here. It would also have drainage implications. (BO’G)
Further to an additional appeal by Cllr. McCarthy in relation to this motion, Brendan said he will consider making alterations to an alternative style of ramp at this location, which will be put on the works list for 2022.
8. “that this Committee would put a ‘Children At Play’ sign at the entrance to Dún Éala Housing Estate, Fermoy and if possible an extra ramp be put in place between No.1 and No. 6 The Grove, Dún Éala”.
It is proposed to place this entire estate within a 30kph speed zone under our next speed limit review in 2022. No additional ramps or signs are advised and existing warning sign placed at entrance.
(BO’G)

Cllr. William O’ Leary

9. “that this Council would consider a full resurfacing of Glenville Village when possible”.
Provisionally included in our 2023 RI Programme to the value of €300,000. (BO’G)
Cllr. O’ Leary enquired if interim repair works could be done here in the meantime, to which Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied yes, he will arrange for interim patching to be done.
10. “that this Council would further consider lighting a section of the R628 Bride Walk from Dr. Barry’s Bridge as far as the footbridge under appropriate funding schemes”.
The NTA have already funded lighting from the village to Dr. Barry’s Bridge in 2020 under active travel measures. We will seek additional National funding when it becomes available. Cork County Council could not fund the request here but we have got some special planning contributions from residential developments that will part fund same when they commence construction. (BO’G)

Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien

11. “that this Council would provide update on planned works at Mulberry Lane, Mitchelstown”.
Scheduled for 2022 RI , subject to final funding confirmation. (BO’G)
Cllr. O’ Brien stated, in relation to this motion, that this is now a very busy area with a lot of pedestrians due to increased numbers out walking and asked if anything could be done here in the interim. Brendan replied that it is 99% certain that this road will be included in the budget next year and these budgeted works will include for soft ramps. He recommended An Garda Síochána be contacted in the meantime to monitor speeding at this location.
12. “that this Council would erect sign on the L-5403-0 at turn off for Ballynageehy indicating ‘Cul de Sac’ at the forest”.
Will be done. (BO’G)

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

RE: Item 4(4) - Cllr. Kay Dawson - lighting in Templeroe Estate, Shanballymore

Cllr. Dawson asked if there was any update on this item, to which Brendan O’ Gorman SEE replied the process here has started but he has not yet received a progress report or reply from the public lighting section.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Lump of tar left by Irish Water outside No. 8 Roche's Heights

Brendan O' Gorman SEE undertook to report this to Irish Water as Cllr. O' Brien said this lump of tar is blocking the drain / water run-off.

(2) Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Section of Glanworth Cemetery grass not being cut.

Pauline Moriarty MDO undertook to investigate this and arrange for this section to be cut.

(3) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - The 59 Club, Fermoy

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that she is being updated on this every two months and the situation here is being continually monitored.

(4) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Knockananig Reservoir

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied to this query that submissions and suggestions are welcome from any group or individual who wishes to prepare and submit same. Cllr. McCarthy also suggested that the elected Members visit Knockananig to view the amenity when the proposals for same are available.

(5) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Glenabo Footpath

Brendan O' Gorman SEE said a footpath link will be provided here using discretionary funding.

(6) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Junction of N8 / N72 at Church of Ireland, Fermoy

Brendan O' Gorman SEE said there is €300k allocated for this project in 2021 and a Part 8 is pending for later in the year.

(7) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Surfacing works on Patrick Street, Fermoy

Brendan O' Gorman SEE said he is hopeful of securing future funding from the TII to carry out this work. He also stated there are two or three other locations on the N72 which require safety improvement works (one being the bend at Fermoy Hospital) and these will be prioritised for TII funding.

(8) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Pollinator Plan update

Pauline Moriarty MDO replied that she is awaiting contact from the Contractor for a list of suggested locations etc. and she will revert to the Members as soon as she has an update.

(9) Cllr. Noel McCarthy - Stone dumped at Brian Boru Square, Fermoy

Brendan O' Gorman SEE stated that this is a legal matter between two private parties and Fermoy MD will not be involved; but there is sufficient access for emergency vehicles should the need arise.

(10) Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - Knockananig Reservoir

Cllr. O' Flynn said Fermoy MD should welcome comments and suggestions from Blackwater Leader in relation to Knockananig Reservoir. Brendan commented the message will go out that Fermoy MD are inviting submissions and ideas for this project.

(11) Cllr. Kay Dawson - Mitchelstown Heritage Town elected Members meeting

Mary Hayes SEO advised Cllr. Dawson that a meeting with the Architect's Department was to be held within two weeks, following which an update will be prepared for the elected Members.

(12) Pauline Moriarty MDO - Rathcormac Playground

Pauline informed the Members that the playground in Rathcormac is to be closed for use for one week owing to the recent local outbreak of Covid-19 in the village.

(13) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - Extinguishment of Public Right-of-Way, Rathcormac

Brendan explained that this extinguishment of public right-of-way is being done in conjunction with Rathcormac village enhancement scheme plans and proposals and will facilitate other proposals within the village plan.

(14) Brendan O' Gorman SEE - Cycle Stands Fermoy MD

Brendan informed the Members that cycle stands are to be provided within Fermoy MD with funding from the NTA. The main site suggested for Fermoy is near the Tourist Office on Ashe Quay on the existing disabled parking spaces, which will be redesignated. This area needs to be free to access the flood scheme pumping apparatus beneath it and a cycle stand here would be preferable to cars parked there. Cycle stands will also be installed in Mitchelstown, Rathcormac and Kildorrery from this NTA funding and submissions for locations will be invited. This news was welcomed by all the Members.

Signed Kay Dawson Date 15. 6. 2021.