

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 8TH JUNE 2021.

Present: Cllrs. S. Sheppard, A. Barry, C. Rasmussen, A. O'Connor, S. O'Connor & S. O'Callaghan.

Officials: Mr. S. O'Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer
Mr. G. O'Hora, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. R. O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Ms. C. McDonnell, Cobh Municipal District

1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes of MD Meeting held on 8th June 2021:

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Connor seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th May 2021 were adopted.

2.0 Matters Arising:

Norwood Park Sign:

G. O'Hora stated that the new digital traffic speed sign had been purchased and the sign would be erected on the Norwood Park road during mid-June.

Traffic Calming at Bayview Estate, Cobh:

G. O'Hora stated that children at play signs would be erected at the estate entrance shortly.

Belvelly/Carrigaloe:

G. O'Hora stated that a meeting on site with the bus operators, Gardai and residents to discuss bus stop locations would take place in July.

Anchorage:

G. O'Hora confirmed that the pillar had been repaired.

West View:

G. O'Hora confirmed that the water on West View was as a result of a damaged surface water pipe and would be repaired shortly.

Five Foot Way, Cobh:

G. O'Hora stated that the damaged footpath had been repaired. R. O'Sullivan stated that the railings would be repaired towards the end of the contract, possibly August.

Old Church Cemetery:

G. O'Hora confirmed that a contractor had commenced grass cutting at the cemetery.

Potholes in Cobh:

G. O’Hora confirmed that the programme of works filling potholes throughout the town was ongoing.

Connolly Street, Cobh:

P. Lynch confirmed that a further email had been issued to Coastal Management.

College Manor, Cobh

R. O’Sullivan stated that he had spoken with the Estates section of Cork County Council regarding the closure of the ditch bordering College Manor near the water tower.

23/24 West Beach, Cobh

P. Lynch stated that a report was being prepared for the County Solicitor’s Office and for the Director of Services.

Derelict Sites in the Cobh Municipal District

P. Lynch confirmed that a special meeting would be held on 16th June to discuss Derelict Sites.

Review of Litter Plan

P. Lynch confirmed that the litter plan had now been advertised with a closing date of 16th July for receipt of submissions. The item will be placed on the Agenda for the September meeting.

Lands at Glanmire

P. Lynch stated that the FAI had applied for an extension to their planning application as due to Covid, there were unable to complete the works within the 5 year lifetime of the planning permission.

Pedestrian Safety measures at Norwood School, Cobh

G. O’Hora stated that this area had been examined and that a traffic calming plan for the road was being prepared.

Provision of public lighting between the entrance to Cluain Ard and Cooline on the Ballyleary Road, Cobh

G. O’Hora stated that this would be examined as part of the 2022 public lighting programme.

Overgrowth at Carrigaloe

P. Lynch stated that a letter had issued to Íarnród Éireann asking them to carry out the work.

Provision of yellow box on the Carrignafoy Road, Cobh

G. O’Hora stated that a yellow box and additional signage would be provided.

Electrical Cables on the Burma Steps, Cobh

R. O’Sullivan stated that the public lighting cables would be dropped by Airtricity and encased in concrete by Cork County Council.

Castleview, Cobh

G. O'Hora confirmed that the dangerous tree at Castleview had been removed. Cllr. A. O'Connor stated that the residents would like to replace the tree. G. O'Hora said that he had no issue with that but maybe not in the exact same location as ground conditions for tree planting was poor.

Knockraha/Windsor Hill

G. O' Hora confirmed that the large, exposed rock has been removed.

Ahern Place, Cobh

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the residents were looking for a speed ramp in the area as signage was insufficient. G. O. Hora stated that this will be examined once the road has been resurfaced and new road safety signs erected.

Glasson's Avenue

As residents in the area are looking for the instalment of a speed ramp, G. O'Hora stated that he would first arrange to have a traffic speed survey carried out on the road.

Footpaths at Norwood Park and the entrance to Elmwood Grove, Cobh.

G. O'Hora confirmed that the repair of these footpaths was listed in the 2021 footpath programme.

Traffic Flow on Harbour Row, Cobh

G. O'Hora confirmed that 2 extra lay byes would be installed to facilitate traffic flow.

The Fairways, Little Island

G. O'Hora confirmed that the Cul de Sac signs had been erected.

School Road, Whitechurch

G. O'Hora stated that he was happy with the existing road safety signage in place prior to the pedestrian crossing and that no further signage was necessary.

Footpaths at Whitepoint Estate, Cobh

G. O'Hora stated that temporary footpath repair works would be carried out as it maybe be a few years before Irish Water replace the water main.

Pumping Station at Slatty Pond

P. Lynch stated the County Engineer has requested information from the contractors which should be available within 2 weeks.

Sewerage issue in Elton Estate, Cobh

P. Lynch stated that Cork County Council had submitted details to Irish Water but were notified that it is not on the priority list for 2021.

Parking at the old Town Hall car park, Cobh

P. Lynch stated that Cork County Council staff could not enforce parking regulations in this area. The site is privately owned by the Port of Cork who have leased it to the current occupant.

3.0 Comhfhreagras / Correspondence

P. Lynch read email from Cobh Sea Angling Club in which they wish to avail of free parking at the carpark at the bottom of barrack hill during the Championships from Monday 20th to Friday 24th September 2021.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. O'Connor, it was agreed that free parking would be made available to participants on those dates.

4.0 Tuairiscí ó Ofigigh / Officer's Reports

Additional Outdoor Infrastructure Fund:

G. O'Hora outlined the schemes and areas which will benefit from the additional Outdoor Infrastructure Funding.

Climate Adaptation & Resilience:

G. O'Hora outlined the schemes to be carried out with the funding received under the Climate Adaptation and Resilience fund.

School Zone Initiative – Cobh – Section 38

G. O'Hora informed the members that he was examining the provision of a school zone on the L-2992-24 road, Bishop Street, Cobh adjacent to the schools and would be commencing a section 38 for the scheme. G O'Hora explained the design objective of a school zone is to slow traffic and encourage vehicles not to stop outside school entrances.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that he was totally opposed to this plan due to the removal of car parking spaces.

Cllr. S. O'Connor also voiced his opposition to the plan.

G. O'Hora stated that the green school initiative is designed to make the area safer for school children but would involve the removal of 12 parking spaces. He advised that the Section 38 plan would be advertised in the papers and site notices erected and would be open to public submissions.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked who makes the final decision. G. O'Hora to confirm and revert to the members.

Cllr. A. O'Connor stated that he would be in favour of anything that would make school areas safer for children.

Cllr. A. Barry congratulated G. O'Hora for his success in getting the funding. He said that in theory, making the area safer for schools is good but removing 12 spaces will cause major problems. He asked if the elected members have any say in the process.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan congratulated G. O'Hora on securing the funding but feels that removing 12 parking spaces will be a big problem.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked when the Section 38 would be advertised and what is the process. G. O’Hora stated that he would revert to the members with dates.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked if members could stop the process.

S. O’Callaghan said that he was unsure as to what powers the members have, but he will examine the issue and will revert to the members.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked if the start of the Section 38 procedure could be delayed until the issue is clarified.

5.0 Tuairisc ó Oifigeach Ceantair Bardasacha / Municipal District Officer's Report:

P. Lynch circulated the Municipal District Officer’s report.

Capital Grant Allocation

P. Lynch told the Members that Whitechurch & Waterloo Community Association received a Capital Grant of €10,000 for development of tennis courts in 2020. They are now looking for an extension of time until May 2022 to carry out the works.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O’Connor seconded by Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, this was agreed.

Funfair Licence Application

P. Lynch told the Members that a funfair application had been received from Ms. S. Piper for 9 dates in July and August 2021.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. O’Connor it was approved to issue the licence for the requested dates, subject to the appropriate insurance documents, fee and up to date Safety Certificate being supplied.

6.0 Agree Date for Annual & July Monthly Meeting

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting and July Monthly Meeting would be held on Monday 12th July.

7.0 Nomination of 2 Representatives to Celtic Interconnector Community Forum

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O’Connor seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, Cllr. A. O’Connor was nominated to the Celtic Interconnector Community Forum.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, Cllr. A. Barry was nominated to the Celtic Interconnector Community Forum.

8.0 Disposal of Property at Inishmore Park, Cobh

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O’Connor seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen it was agreed to dispose of land for ESB substation site at Inishmore Park, Cobh, Cork, to ESB Networks for the sum of €1.00.

9.0 Fograí Rún / Notices of Motion

1. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:

That Cobh municipal district would look at drainage issues in and around the high road, Ellen kitchen corner area.

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that there is constantly water flowing down past the tennis club which is flooding the houses and the shop in the area.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen it was agreed that the engineer would examine the area.

2. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:

That Cobh MD would look at allocating funding either through our paint scheme or another source of funding available to us for the painting upgrade of Cobh Hospital and Cobh Community Centre.

P. Lynch stated that neither Cobh Hospital nor the Community Centre would not qualify for funding under the paint scheme. However, depending on the uptake of the paint scheme and if there are any unallocated Funds from the amenity grants, then it may be possible to allocate funding. He also said that both organisations should submit prices for the work in the meantime.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, it was agreed to defer a decision until July.

3. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:

That this Municipal would make arrangements to carry out all the necessary work to maintain the Council owned graveyard in Ballymore, Cobh.

G. O’Hora stated that traditionally, the grass at the cemetery was cut once during the summer by CCC staff and thereafter by local community groups.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard it was requested that the grass cutting would be examined.

4. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:

That this Municipal would arrange a full grass cutting programme in Hartlands Point Cobh and that the grass would be cut and maintained regularly.

G. O’Hora confirmed that the grass on the open space area was recently cut by CCC staff and would be cut every few weeks by CCC staff.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed that the grass would be cut shortly.

5. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:

That a plan would be put in place to clean all the drains in the town of Cobh and in any of the estates that need drain cleaning also.

G. O’Hora stated that once the roads programme was completed in late June, drainage works and drain cleaning would begin.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was adopted.

6. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Alan O’Connor:
That an assessment be made of measures which might be taken to increase safety on the L-2951 road, particularly the stretch between Ballinvarrig and Whitechurch.

G. O’Hora stated that the road was currently listed for resurfacing and as soon as this was complete, a centre white line would be painted, and additional signage erected.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. O’Connor seconded by Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, the motion was adopted.

7. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Alan O’Connor:
That an assessment be made of measures which might be taken to increase safety on the L-2964 road approaching and passing through Knockraha village from the north.

G. O’Hora stated that the uncontrolled pedestrian crossing outside the school would be upgraded to a full controlled pedestrian crossing over the summer and new road safety signage erected.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. S. O’Callaghan.

8. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:
That Cork County Council check the path in the new playground in Carrigtwohill, as the gravel never set as promised by the contractors. It is now scattering on the rubber surface and is quite dangerous.

G. O’Hora stated that his staff had examined the path and listed path for repair.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. A. O’Connor.

9 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:
That this Municipal District ask the Environmental Dept to carry out bathing water tests at Cuskinny and Brown Island during the Summer months.

P. Lynch stated that communities and individuals can make submissions to the Environment Department via beaches@corkcoco.ie prior to 17th June, 2021. The environment department suggest that it would be better if individuals make submissions directly rather than through the MD Office as it may be necessary to raise some further questions with those making the proposal.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen.

10. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:

That the road accessing the back of the houses at West End be resurfaced as it is in very poor condition.

G. O’Hora stated that his staff had examined the road and road was listed for repair..

The Motion was seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen

10.0 Aon Ghnó Eile / Any Other Business:

Cllr. A. O’Connor:

Speeding at the Tay Road, Cobh

On foot of recent accident, can more signs be erected.

Engineer stated that the speed limit on the road is 50 Km/hr and excessive traffic speed is an enforcement matter for the Gardai. CCC have erected road safety signage and VMS signs on the road to try and slow traffic speeds.

Cllr. S. O’Callaghan:

Ballinaltig Cemetery

A skip is required.

G. O’Hora is examining the matter and has already spoken with the graveyard caretaker.

Community Funding

Asked if it is necessary to pay for all the works in advance of getting the grant as some organisations have very little money but would have volunteers to carry out the work.

Sean O’Callaghan stated that last year there was flexibility in so far as the works had to be completed but not paid for when accepting the grant allocation. He said that the same flexibility would be given this year.

Cllr. A. Barry:

Woodstock Road to Gurtamucky

Can signage be erected on this road for the exit point. Engineer to examine.

Gym Equipment for Carrigtwohill

Can Cork County Council install the gym equipment recently purchased by Carrigtwohill Community Council.

Cúl Árd, Carrigtwohill

As this is a through road could it be made part of the Council's cleaning rota and have it swept by the road sweeper. Engineer to add road to council's road sweeping programme.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen:

Footpath at Rushbrooke Links

Can this footpath be repaired. Engineer confirmed footpath listed to be repaired next week.

Drain by Tom Kelly's Bar, Cobh

The pipe needs dropping. Engineer confirmed drain listed to be cleaned this week.

Update on Toilet at 5 Foot Way

P. Lynch stated that the provision of the toilet is now subject to building control regulations.

Sean O'Callaghan suggested that a meeting take place between himself, P. Lynch and the Architects' department to discuss the issue. P. Lynch will organise the meeting.

Condition of Roads in Cobh

Lake Road, Cathedral Road and the Dockyard by the train station are in bad repair. Engineer confirmed road is listed for repair.

Cllr. S. Sheppard:

Estate Maintenance in Ballynoe Farm, Cobh

Can some of the bond in place be released to carry out some work. Engineer to examine.

Playground at Five Foot Way, Cobh

Can a latch be put on the gate to facilitate closing it. Engineer confirmed playground walkway to be repaired by a contractor this week.

Footpath at Belmont Place, Cobh

Can the footpath be repaired? Engineer confirmed footpath listed to be repaired next week.

Norwood School, Cobh

The members will meet the engineer on site on Wednesday 16th June to look at the proposed new signage.

Traffic Calming in Carrignavar Village

G. O'Hora said that he is working on a design for new pedestrian crossing in the village.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHOIRLEACH

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER.