

Minutes of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held virtually on MS Teams on Friday 28th January 2022

Present/I láthair: Cllrs. Michael Creed (Cathaoirleach), Eileen Lynch, Ted Lucey, Gobnait Moynihan, Michael Looney & Martin Coughlan

Attendance/Tinreamh: Ms. Nicola Radley, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer
Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Pat O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Ms. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Ted Lucey and seconded by Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 26th November 2021 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

2. NITHE AG ÉIRÍ AS NA MIONTUAIRISCÍ MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Ted Lucey

- (a) Briery Gap – Update
Cllr. Lucey said it was great to see works progressing.
- (b) Castleview Cross
No update
- (c) Dog Control Bylaws
- (d) Post Office, Macroom
- (e) Church of Ireland, Macroom
- (f) Bus Stop on the Killarney Road, Macroom
- (g) Bus Depot, Macroom
Cllr. Lucey requested that the pressure is kept on Bus Eireann to carry out works.
- (h) Filter Light coming out of Masseytown heading towards Killarney
- (i) Bridge in Killumney
- (l) Main Street, Macroom – Water pooling
- (m) Speed Limit Review 2022 – Srelane East, Macroom – Update
- (n) Lights by the Roundabout at Fitzgerald's Corner – very dull
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will arrange to replace the lights with LEDs
- (a) Footpath at Masseytown, coming from Coolyhane
Cllr. Lucey complimented the work that was carried out.

Councillor Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Briery Gap, Macroom
Cllr. Moynihan welcomed the works that were being carried out.
- (b) Footpath and Pedestrian Crossing at the GAA Pitch, Coachford
In response to Cllr. Moynihan regarding funding for a pedestrian crossing, P. O'Sullivan, EE said that applications for funding under the Low-Cost Scheme are made in August for the following year. However, he said that there are a lot of other funding schemes that can be looked at in the meantime.
- (c) Pedestrian Crossing – Church Street, Millstreet - Update
P. O'Sullivan, EE said there is an issue with one of the lights and that the Contractor was coming back to have a look at it. He said all the bulbs were being replaced with LEDs to make the area brighter. Cllr. Moynihan said that the sign for the Pedestrian Crossing coming from SuperValu side is turned the wrong way. P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would arrange to have this rectified.
- (d) Commemoration Monument Works Millstreet
P. O'Sullivan, EE said it was hoped to discuss with contractor in early February and that they would be working towards a deadline of Easter for completion of the project. In response to Cllr. Moynihan regarding the removal of the chairs, P. O'Sullivan, EE said he would have to wait and discuss this with the Contractor.
- (e) Section 38 for Béal na Bláth Project
M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed that no submissions had been received to date but that the deadline was that evening. In response to Cllr. Moynihan regarding the next step in the process, J. Dwyer, SEE said that he would prepare a report and if submissions were received it would be brought before the Members and then the final report goes to the Director of Services for Roads for approval as this is an executive function.
- (f) Part VIII Planning for Church of Ireland Building Macroom
M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed that she understands that two submissions may have been received to date but that the deadline was that evening. She said once all submissions had been received, an assessment would be carried out and a CE report prepared which would be presented at Full Council for approval by the Members.
- (g) Carriganimna Speed Survey
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he hopes to have the findings for the next meeting.
- (h) Murphy's Tce. Millstreet – Slow Zone Programme
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he has "Children at Play" signs ordered. He said that unfortunately we had missed the opportunity to include Murphy's Terrace in the Slow Zone Programme as it should have been included in the Speed Limit Review carried out last year, but we will look to include it when the intermediate review is carried out in 2023/24. Cllr. Moynihan requested that Murphy's Tce is included in that review when it comes up.
- (i) Present Pedestrian infrastructure on the Millstreet Road (R582) Macroom
J. Dwyer, SEE said that there are two bodies of work that need to be carried out:
1. An extension on the footpath needed heading north towards Millstreet
 2. Install a pedestrian crossing in the area – near the new service station at a suitable location

Cllr. Moynihan queried the following:

- If speed ramps could be installed.

J. Dwyer, SEE said the presence of a pedestrian crossing will help slow down traffic. Cork County Council has a policy on traffic calming and are not in favour of speed ramps on regional roads.

Both Cllr. Creed & Cllr. Lucey said they were not in favour of speed ramps at this location.

- Install a bus stop on Millstreet Road which would service the eastern end of the town

J. Dwyer, SEE agreed that this might be a suitable location for a bus stop and NTA funding would have to be sought for it.

Councillor Eileen Lynch

- (a) Coachford Footpath – pedestrian crossing

P. O'Sullivan, EE confirmed that it is still at design stage. He said it was hoped to get NTA funding and possibly tie in with the Safe Route to Schools Programme. He said that the NTA funding has been applied for and said that funding under the Safe Route to Schools Programme is dependent on the number of applications received in the county and it is determined on a priority basis.

- (b) Flooding in Coachford – camera survey

P. O'Sullivan EE said that nothing conclusive came out of the camera survey.

- (c) Bridgetown, Cloghroe

- (d) Courtbrack to Killowen Road Drainage / Road edge repairs – any plans to replace the culvert

No update

- (e) Lyons Tce, Coachford – wall

P. O'Sullivan, EE outlined that the budgets for 2022 have yet to be announced and he will have a better idea then.

- (f) Terelton National School – pedestrian crossing

J. Dwyer, SEE said he has applied for funding under the Low-Cost Scheme.

- (g) Crookstown – Cliffords Bar to Béal na Bláth – Flooding Works

No update

- (h) Road at Innsicarra Community Centre – Ballyanly – Blairs Inn

P. O'Sullivan, EE said that more signage would be erected.

- (i) Pipehouse Cross – beyond Courtbrack – Speed

P. O'Sullivan, EE said that the signage was good in the area. He said the geometry of the junction was the problem as there is a house on each of the 4 corners. He said he would look at the road markings in the area but is unsure how long the markings would last due to the road surface. He said there was no easy solution.

- (j) Coachford Greenway – Reduce Speed
P. O’Sullivan, EE said that “Children at Play” signage has been ordered.

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

- (a) Walkway on the Bridge in Macroom – Signage for Cyclists
J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed that the signs were in place.
Both Cllr. Lucey & Cllr. Coughlan agreed that unfortunately they weren’t really making any difference.

Councillor Michael Looney

- (a) Works Carried out in 2021
Cllr. Looney thanked the staff of Cork County Council for all the great work carried in 2021.
- (b) Barracarra Line – Old Shop – Concealed Entrance sign
P. O’Sullivan, EE said he is waiting for the sign to be delivered.
- (c) New Tipperary – Road Marking – Speed Signs
P. O’Sullivan, EE said that he has carried a speed survey and hopes to have the findings for the next meeting. He said it is planned to carry out the anti-skid resurfacing works in the next few months. He said he has spoken to the Design office with a view to tightening the junction – make it look narrow.
- (d) Firmount – Speeding
P. O’Sullivan, EE said he has carried out speed survey and hopes to have the findings for the next meeting.
- (e) Donoughmore – L6777-28 from Mallow – needs to be resurfaced
- (f) Ballyvodane L6829– Road in very bad condition
- (g) Public Lighting – in Rural Areas
P. O’Sullivan, EE said that public lighting is only supplied in the confines of a village.

Councillor Michael Creed

- (a) Footpath in Ovens
J. Dwyer. SEE said it is on the list of works
- (b) Toilets in Inchigeelagh – Who is responsible for Maintaining them?
J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed that they are being maintained by the community.

3. BREITHNIÚCHÁIN AR THUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

MDO Report

Members noted the Report

- Cllr. Michael Creed
Cllr. Creed said the RRDF funding of €395,000 towards the Mill Dam Masseytown and the Church of Ireland will be of huge benefit to these projects and thanked everyone involved in securing it.

- Cllr. Ted Lucey
 - Cllr Lucey said the report was very positive and agreed that the RRDF funding was a huge bonus. He said he was pleased to see that the playground works had finished and looked forward to the launch on 8th February. He queried if the plastic ramp for pedestrians at the Briery Gap was a temporary fixture. M. O'Leary, MDO said that she understands that the Contractors will be changing it.

 - 2022 Village Enhancement Scheme (VES):
Cllr. Lucey suggested spreading out the €68,750 allocated in the budget as follows:
 - €18,000 towards Speed Activation Signs
 - Balance to an agreed village

It was proposed by Cllr. Lucey seconded by Cllr. Coughlan and agreed by all the Members to allocate funding through the Village Enhancement Scheme (VES) for 2022 to Aherla Village and it was also agreed to allocate €18,000 towards speed safety measures.

- Town Development Fund / General Municipal Allocation – Cllr. Lucey expressed his frustration at the current level of funding granted to Macroom MD through the TDF. Based on the population, he feels that the allocation should be higher and asked that it be raised again at CPG. Cllr. Moynihan outlined that it due for discussion at the next CPG meeting. A discussion took place, whereby it was acknowledged that the 2022 allocation cannot be changed but agreed that every effort should be made to try and increase the allocation for subsequent years.

- Cllr. Martin Coughlan
 - Report was very positive and welcomed the RRDF funding.

 - Complimented all the work that has been put into the projects. He said that Macroom Tidy Towns were delighted with all the proposed works.

- Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan
 - Cllr. Moynihan understood that it was agreed to allocate €10,000 toward the speed activation signs under the 2022 VES but was happy to have it increased to €18,000. M. O'Leary, MDO outlined that if two such signs were required in a village that the community group could look at funding one of them and could possibly apply for this funding under the Community Funds. Work is underway at putting together a list of the areas that require such signage.

- Cllr. Moynihan asked that a speed survey be carried out in Aherla as part of the VES. She expressed concern that villages do not know this fund exists and could it be advertised. Following Cllr. Moynihan's query, M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed that this allocation is agreed by the Members.
- Cllr. Moynihan welcomed the RRDF funding and queried how much in total is required to complete the works. N. Radley, SEO said there are two funding streams in the RRDF i.e.
 - Category 2 covers development work which brings the project to a greater level of readiness for capital works
 - Category 1 covers capital projects which are ready to commence

She outlined the support for this project at senior management level.
- Cllr. Moynihan queried if the applications for the 2022 Community Fund were available in Irish. M. O'Leary, MDO said she will find out and come back to the Members. Cllr. Moynihan stressed the importance of working with groups who because of Covid-19 might have difficulty with the match funding. M. O'Leary, MDO outlined that they were working with all groups individually and encouraged any such group to contact the office.
- Regarding the Dereliction Programme, Cllr. Moynihan said it was good to see the properties that are listed on the Derelict Sites Register.
- Cllr. Eileen Lynch
 - Cllr. Lynch fully supports the split for the VES and outlined that she has been contacted by lots of different groups regarding speed safety measures.
 - 2022 Community Fund - Cllr. Lynch said she was pleased to hear that Cork County Council were working with the groups.
 - Derelict Sites Register – Lee Valley Inn, Dripsey - Update
M. O'Leary, MDO outlined that any property entered onto the Derelict Sites Register is in accordance with Derelict Sites Act 1990. She outlined said the owners were contacted regarding urgent works to be carried out to make the building safe. However, fencing had to be erected as matter of urgency as the building posed a risk to the public. Cllr. Lynch urged that pressure be kept on the owners to carry out the works to the building.
- Cllr. Michael Looney
 - Dereliction Programme – Cllr. Looney agreed with Cllr. Lynch that the Lee Valley Inn, Dripsey was getting more dangerous.

4. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

N/A

5. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES.

N/A

6. AON GHNÓ EILE
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Eileen Lynch

- (a) Active Travel Investment Programme €353,000– what will it go towards?
J. Dwyer, SEE said that this application was originally made in 2020 and it is a multi-annual funding programme. He understands that it is a continuation of last year's allocation but will know more when he sees the 2022 breakdown.
- (b) Footpath – Grange Manor to Cuddihys Shop – Update
J. Dwyer, SEE said this is a 2-year programme of works. He said the next stage will be the footpath section between Grange Manor and Beverley Court and that works will be ongoing for 2022.
- (c) Speed Limit Review – Update
J. Dwyer, SEE said this is ongoing and that maps have been drawn up for publication
- (d) Forge Cross, Clonmoyle, Aghabullogue – Deep drain on the road – dangerous for cars passing
- (e) Dripsey to Coachford Road – Turn off to the left for Fergus – Any Plans to carry out resurfacing works in that area?
P. O'Sullivan, EE said there weren't plans to carry out works this year but will keep in mind for next year.

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

- (a) Naming of new Estates in Macroom
Cllr. Coughlan said that while he really welcomed the new housing for Macroom he asked about the naming of 2 new estates in particular:

- Páirc uí Mhuirithe, Oakwood and
- Guirtín Rua, Gurteenroe

He asked if the English version of these estate names could be included and also if a plaque could be erected in an estate to explain the significance of the name of the estate as Páirc uí Mhuirithe is named after TC Murray who has a significance to Macroom with one of his plays influencing the naming of The Briery Gap Theatre.

He expressed a missed opportunity in the naming of Guirtín Rua as it is very similar to the area name and felt it could have been named after a historic figure in Macroom. He asked if the Members could have an input into the naming of estates in their Municipal District.

Cllr. Lucey agreed with Cllr. Coughlan and asked if Housing Directorate could be asked about the process of naming estates and if both languages could be included and agreed with Members having an input into the naming of an estate.

Cllr. Moynihan outlined that she is opposed to the removal of an Irish name on an estate and outlined that Macroom is one of 2 Gaeltacht areas in County Cork, i.e. Gaeltacht Mhuscraí.

Cllr. Creed confirmed that there was no suggestion of removing the Irish name from an estate.

N. Radley, SEO outlined that clarification will be sought from the Director of Housing on the process involved in naming an estate.

Amendment to above, as agreed at Municipal District Meeting of Friday 25th February 2022:

The installation of a plaque was originally suggested by Cllr Moynihan and subsequently agreed by Cllr Coughlan.

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Graveyard, Millstreet – Rubbish being Dumped
In response to Cllr. Moynihan, P. O’Sullivan, EE said that they would consider putting a bin into the graveyard but need to consider the possibility that domestic rubbish could put into it.
- (b) Coolea – install a footpath to the cross up as far as the School
J. Dwyer, SEE agreed with Cllr. Moynihan that there was a need for a footpath and would follow up on it.
- (c) Killumney Bridge Works – Timeframe
J. Dwyer, SEE said that no in-river works can commence at Killumney before May and confirmed that he has had no contact yet with the Contractor. Cllr. Moynihan queried if works could commence on the outside of the bridge before May
- (d) N22 – Speed Through Ballyvourney at the Mills Inn
Cllr. Moynihan said that it is very hard to exit onto the N22 at the following locations:
- Traffic from the Top Road
 - On the Coolea Side into the village – visibility is an issue at Coolea Cross

J. Dwyer, SEE said he has already raised these issues with TII and the speed limit has been pushed back towards the Kerry direction. He said he will liaise with them again to see if there is anything further that can be done. He said that it is planned to put bollards on the Macroom side of Coolea Junction. In response to Cllr. Moynihan, J. Dwyer, SE said that TII do not put Speed Activation Signs on the national routes.

Cllr. Ted Lucey

- (a) Street Cleaning in Macroom Town
Cllr. Lucey proposed using the Pay Parking Dividend be considered if required, to enable the street cleaning measures to continue during the summer months, if need be.
- (b) Pedestrian Crossing Masseytown - Speed Down the Hill
Cllr. Lucey queried if the pedestrian crossing could be raised. J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate
- (c) Install a crossing point at the roundabout at Kilnagurteen
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate the matter.
- (d) Bypass Project – Closing roads Coolyhane and Coolcower at the same time
Cllr. Lucey said that if both roads were closed at the same it could cause a lot of traffic disruption particularly during the summer months. He requested a meeting the Director of Roads to discuss this.

Cllr. Michael Creed

- (a) Top of Teerbeg onto the Clondrohid Road – Very Bad potholes
- (b) Low Cost Scheme – Mount Cross
P. O’Sullivan, EE said he would follow up with the Design office
- (c) Springville, Ovens
Cllr. Creed said that because of road surfacing works carried out, water was running into a farmyard. J. Dwyer, SEE said he would investigate.

Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú

This concluded the business of the meeting

Michael Creed
CATHAOIRLEACH

24-3-22
DÁTA

Maire Sheary
OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH

24-03-22
DÁTA