

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD AT CARRIG HOUSE, COBH,
ON MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER, 2019.**

Present: Cllrs. P. O’Sullivan, A. Barry, C. Rasmussen, S. Sheppard, S. O’Connor & A. O’Connor.

Officials: Mr. S. O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer.
Mr. P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer
Mr. G. O’Hora, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. C. McDonnell, Cobh Municipal District
Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

An apology was received from Mr. R. O’Sullivan, Executive Engineer for his inability to attend.

**1. UPDATE ON PROPOSED STRATEGIC CYCLE CORRIDOR BURY’S
BRIDGE TO CARRIGTWOHILL:**

C. O’Suilleabháin, Cork County Council, gave the members an update on the proposed cycle path between Glounthaune and Carrigtwohill, which was now nearing the end of the design process and it was hoped that it would be ready for the Part 8 process in December or at the latest January. This cycle path would form part of the wider cycle network which will eventually connect Youghal to Crosshaven via the city. Cllr. Barry stated that he had met several residents and business owners who queried why the proposed route was on the opposite side of the road from the railway line. Cllr. Sheppard said that while a number of concerns raised by residents in the area had been addressed, there were at least 14-16 entrances on the side chosen by the Council for the route, while the opposite side of the road had only about 5. C. O’Suilleabháin stated that the aim of the project was to improve connectivity, the majority of the residences and businesses were on the chosen side and it was safer for pedestrians and cyclists to cross individual entrances rather than a main road. The Council was also engaging with Iarnród Éireann and businesses in the area to increase capacity and formalise parking in some areas and to increase parking in the vicinity of the Glounthaune railway station. Cllr. P. O’Sullivan enquired about the proposed phasing and funding for the project and also if there was an update on the Little Island Transportation Study. C. O’Suilleabháin responded by saying the project was NTA funded and was budget driven and confirmed that tenders had been received in relation to Little Island and were currently being evaluated.

The members thanked Mr. O’Suilleabháin for the update, who withdrew from the meeting.

2. **DEIMNHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ/CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Connor, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th November, 2019 were adopted.

3. **MATTERS ARISING:**

Ballymore/Marlogue Woods, Cobh: G. O'Hora stated that the repeater signs had been ordered.

Ballywilliam Road, Cobh: G. O'Hora stated the hedge had been cut and would try and include the works in the programme for 2020. Cllr. S. O'Connor volunteered to speak to the landowner in the area.

Cobh Connect Bus Stops: G. O'Hora stated that he had discussions with the bus company who were anxious to proceed with the works. Cllr. C. Rasmussen to speak to the landowners to identify suitable locations.

Whitepoint: G. O'Hora stated that having re-examined the area, the only solution would be to install a bollard and remove one of the parking spaces. Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that he would not be in favour of removing any parking spaces at this location.

Doctors Space, West Beach, Cobh: Cllr. S. O'Connor confirmed that when the new doctor started, a parking space would be provided in the private car park on West Beach.

Dangerous Structure on East Beach, Cobh: P. Lynch that he had spoken to the owners' consulting engineers and are engaging contractors to carry out the necessary works.

Autism Friendly Town, Cobh: P. Lynch circulated an email received from the West Cork MD in relation to the role taken by that municipal district in relation to Clonakilty.

Five Foot Way Toilet, Cobh: P. Lynch stated that he had been in contact with the architects department, the original architect for the project had been redeployed and the project would need to be re-assigned to someone else, this was in the process of being carried out.

Streetscape, Cobh: P. Lynch stated that he had met with the architect involved in designing the Cobh Streetscape, funding had been provided to bring the streetscape to the detailed design stage. The capital team are due to bring forward a presentation; P. Lynch will notify the members when this is ready.

Pedestrian Crossing, College Manor, Cobh: G. O'Hora proposed that two uncontrolled crossings be developed for College Manor, Cobh. Engineer to meet residents to discuss exact locations.

Noise Mitigation, TII: P. Lynch confirmed that the motion had been sent forward to full Council.

Killavarrig/Sluggera Cross: G. O’Hora confirmed that these works will be carried out this week.

Carrignavar Playground: P. Lynch confirmed that the issue had been referred to the relevant engineer and he was awaiting a report.

Broadband, Cobh: P. Lynch confirmed that he had written to two broadband providers, one of which had responded. The response from SIRO had been circulated to the members.

Cobh Interchange with N25: P. Lynch stated that TII had responded directly to the CEO of Cork County Council regarding this matter.

Carrignafoy, Cobh: G. O’Hora stated that having visited the area again, that a Yield sign was already in place and queried the need for additional signage. Cllr. S. O’Connor stated that people unfamiliar with the area were driving from the water tower straight out onto the Carrignafoy road, not realising that it was a main road. G. O’Hora suggested that he meet Cllr. O’Connor on site to discuss the issues further.

Bellevue Terrace, Cobh: G. O’Hora agreed to meet Cllr. S. O’Connor on site to discuss the issue further.

Ballydanielmore, Cobh: G. O’Hora stated that a section of this road would be included in the 2020 resurfacing programme.

Carrigtwohill: G. O’Hora stated that he would re-examine the area around the Family Resource Centre with a view to alleviating the problems there.

Station Road, Carrigtwohill: G. O’Hora confirmed that the works had been listed.

Glounthaune Road: G. O’Hora sought clarification from Cllr. P. O’Sullivan on what exactly was required at this location. Cllr. O’Sullivan replied that the verges needed to be tidied up and a white line put down the middle of the road. Engineer to re-examine.

Dark Road, Glanmire: G. O’Hora confirmed that the repeater sign had been put up.

Brooklodge East, Glanmire: Cllr. P. O’Sullivan stated that the road was known locally as “Casey’s Lane”, G. O’Hora to continue to examine the options available.

Little Island: G. O’Hora confirmed that a new sign had been ordered for near the cemetery.

Little Island: G. O’Hora confirmed that the lines had been done.

Allotments, Cobh: G. O’Hora stated that the section of the road within the public domain had been resurfaced last year; the section of the road Cllr. Sheppard referred was in private ownership.

Norwood Hill, Cobh: Cllr. S. Sheppard enquired as to the up to date position. G. O’Hora stated that a speed survey is to be carried out at the location; it was possible that control measures could be included in next year’s programme.

4. **COMHFHREAGRAS/CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 4.1 Email re Autism Friendly Town Status 08 Nov 19 – already discussed.
- 4.2 TII Letter 13 Nov 19 – already discussed.
- 4.3 SIRO Letter 19 Nov 19 – already discussed.
- 4.4 St. Patricks Day Festival Letter 21 Nov 19 – discussed under officers reports.

5. **TUAIRISCÍ ó OFIGIGH/OFFICER’S REPORTS:**

Pay Parking Dividend:

P. Lynch circulated a report on the Pay Parking Dividend. Cllr. S. Sheppard queried the amount set aside for the Jack Doyle Statue as this project was far from completion and asked if these funds could be re-allocated to the St. Patrick’s Day Festival in Cobh for 2020. Cllr. Sheppard stated that the St. Patricks Day Parade did not go ahead in 2019 for reasons other than financial; however a new committee were now in place which was seeking funding in the order of €7,000 for the purchase of items to support the new festival format which would be used year after year. P. Lynch stated that it was up to the members how they wished to allocate the monies collected from the Pay Parking Dividend; there was nothing to stop them re-allocating the funds set aside for the Jack Doyle Statue and re-instating this funding at a later date.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen then raised the amount previously allocated to the Tidy Towns Committees in Cobh, Carrigtwohill and Glanmire had all received the same amount which he felt was a bit unfair, given that Cobh town was so much bigger than the other two and also had a greater number of tourists.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to allocate €6,000.00 each to Cobh Tidy Towns and the St. Patricks Day Festival from the Pay Parking Dividend.

Cllr. S. Sheppard also raised the funding provided to Cobh4Football, which had received a Sports Capital grant in the sum of €78,500; however this was half of what the committee had hoped to receive. She wondered if the Cobh Municipal District would be in a position to provide a commitment for further funding. Cllr. C. Rasmussen enquired if it was possible to use funds from the Town Development Fund for this project as it would improve the fabric of the town. S. O’Callaghan stated that only projects which promoted economic activity were eligible for funding under this scheme and suggested that may be better to discuss both funds at a future date.

Carrigtwohill Traffic Calming:

G. O’Hora presented the members with an update for the Section 38 plan for traffic calming measures in Carrigtwohill. The public consultation had concluded however no submissions had been received from the public or from the Gardaí; G. O’Hora

recommended proceeding with the project. On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry, seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, this recommendation was accepted.

G. O'Hora then proceeded to give the members an update on a development at Whitechurch, a traffic survey had now been carried out; he recommended proceeding with the project and had requested that the RDO prepare drawings for a Section 38.

G. O'Hora stated that the RDO had also been asked to prepare drawings for a scheme at Belvelly and he hoped to have drawings for the next meeting.

6. **TUAIRISCÍ ó OFIGEACH CEANTAIR BARDASACHA / MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER'S REPORT:**

P. Lynch presented the members with the December Report. Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that it was very positive to see a report on litter fines and wished to commend the outdoor staff and the Litter Warden on the proactive approach to tackling litter in the town. Cllr. C. Rasmussen sought a breakdown of the litter fines. P. Lynch stated that due to privacy constraints he was not in a position to provide the members with the details of individual fines; however he did say that the majority of the fines related to signage erected by a single company.

Cllr. S. O'Connor stated that he had received complaints about a number of barrels obstructing the footpath in the Top of the Hill area. G. O'Hora stated that he was engaging with the owner regarding same.

Cllr. A. Barry welcomed funding in the sum of €16,000 for repair of the Battery Strand area in Cobh under the ORI scheme. Cllr. C. Rasmussen sought clarification on what area of the Battery Strand was covered by this tranche of funding. P. Lynch replied that the Council had not been formally made aware of the funding grant but stated that the works sought under the ORI grant referred to the path between the Sea Scout Hall and the Port Ops building leading to the shore.

7. **FOGRAÍ RÚN / NOTICES OF MOTION:**

7.1 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:** "That this Council would assess Ballyleary Road in Cobh, with the intention of resurfacing it in the 2020 programme."

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that the road had been repaired several times but now needed to be completely resurfaced. G. O'Hora stated that he had already submitted a 3year programme earlier this year for funding and the 2020 programme had been finalised and the Ballyleary road was not included. He would endeavour to include it in the 2021 programme, subject to the available funding.

On the proposal of Cllr. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. S. O'Connor, the motion was adopted.

- 7.2 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:** “That this Municipal would look at traffic calming measures in the following areas namely on the Ballyleary Road close to Pat O’Brien Park and also in the area of Roches Row.”

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that a child was knocked recently in the vicinity of Pat O’Brien Park. G. O’Hora stated that excessive speed was an issue for the Gardaí but that he would examine both areas and include extra signage if required.

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

- 7.3 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:** “That this Municipal would look at the signage for Cork at the bottom of Laundry Hill and possibly identify different names for the 2 routes to Cork to avoid chaos at the top of the hill area with tourists trying to figure out the direction to Cork with both signs saying Cork but going different ways”.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the signage was very confusing for tourists and non-locals and had the potential to lead to a traffic accident as cars stopped in the middle of the road trying to figure out the way out of town.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed that the engineer would talk to the Tidy Towns committee to come up with an alternative wording for one of the signs.

- 7.4 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:** “That this Municipal would look at including the road near Belvelly Castle for full resurfacing in the 2020 road works as the surface there has become very dangerous”.

G. O’Hora stated that this road had not been included in the 2020 programme; however he would endeavour to find a source of funding to include it. On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. A. O’Connor, this proposal was adopted.

- 7.5 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:** “That this Municipal Districts writes to Irish Water requesting a detailed report on the Meenane water supply in Watergrasshill and the remediation work needed to return the facility to full use.”

Cllr. Barry stated that Irish Water had closed off the water supply last summer due to contamination by cryptosporidium, however subsequent testing found the levels to be below that which is injurious to human health. Cllr. Barry requested a detailed report into the actions taken by Irish Water and its future plans for the water supply in the area. Cllr. P. O’Sullivan stated that the residents Meenane had also expressed their concerns regarding the future of the water supply to him.

On the proposal of Cllr. Barry, seconded by Cllr. O’Sullivan, the motion was carried.

- 7.6 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:** “That speed reducing measures be introduced in Ard Cashel, Watergrasshill.”

Cllr. Barry stated that this road was a through road and speeding in the area was a major concern. The estate was currently being extended and the issue of speed reducing measures had not been addressed at the planning stage for either the initial development or the current extension. G. O’Hora stated that a speed survey would need to be carried out to start the process.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Sullivan, the motion was adopted.

- 7.7 **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Alan O’Connor:** “That an assessment be made as to how the crossing in Carrigtwohill between the Family Resource Centre and Mace (traversing the road adjoining main street coming from the Barryscourt junction), might be made safer for pedestrians.”

Cllr. O’Connor reiterated that this was a very dangerous corner for pedestrians. G. O’Hora stated that an uncontrolled crossing was being considered for this location and all the junctions in Carrigtwohill were being examined as part of the overall URDF development for Carrigtwohill.

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

8. AON GHNÓ EILE / ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- 8.1 **Cobh Town Centre:** Cllr. Rasmussen stated that some of the footpaths in the town centre had loose slabs which were dangerous for pedestrians. Engineer to examine.
- 8.2 **Dockyard Road, Cobh:** Cllr. Rasmussen queried if the whole road was to be resurfaced outside the Dockyard once the Irish Water Works had finished. G. O’Hora stated that in the matter of resurfacing following construction works, the Council is constrained by the guidelines in the ‘purple book’ and in this case the guidelines stated that the road needs to be re-instated only. Cllr. C. Rasmussen sought further clarification regarding this as he felt that the re-instatement will only lead to other problems in the future. Engineer to revert.
- 8.3 **Preaching House Steps:** Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the overgrowth on both sides of the steps needed to be cleared and that the steps themselves were in need of repair. Engineer to examine.
- 8.4 **Campervan Parking Area, Cobh:** Cllr. C. Rasmussen raised the issue of the caravan which is currently parked at the camper van parking facility on the

waterfront. P. Lynch stated that the issue had been referred to the Solicitors department.

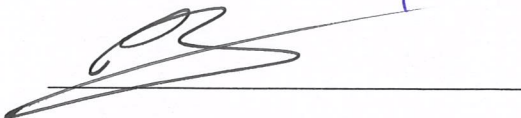
- 8.5 **Watergrasshill:** Cllr. A. Barry raised the condition of road no. L5781, located at Mount Catherine, Watergrasshill. Engineer to examine.
- 8.6 **Scartbarry Cross:** Cllr. A. Barry stated that the road in this area needed to have 'cats eyes' (perma studs) installed. Engineer to examine.
- 8.7 **Whites Cross:** Cllr. Barry stated that the road between the Priests House and Farm Power in the Whites Cross area needed to be lined. Engineer to examine.
- 8.8 **Cobh:** Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that the Citizens Information office, which had relocated to Casement Square, were looking for a disabled parking space. Engineer to examine.
- 8.9 **Top of Hill, Cobh:** Cllr. Sheppard stated that the footpath outside the Spar shop at Top of the Hill needed repair. Engineer to examine.
- 8.10 **Assumption Place, Cobh:** Cllr. S. Sheppard stated a tree inside the square needed to be cut back. Engineer to examine.
- 8.11 **Carrigwell, Carrignavar:** Cllr. Sheppard stated that speed was an issue in the estate and requested that the engineer meet with the residents on site. G. O'Hora to revert.

Cllr. A. Barry congratulated Cllr. P. O'Sullivan on his recent election to Dáil Éireann, wishing him and his family all the best for the future as he takes up his new role. All the other members and officials joined Cllr. Barry in congratulating the new T.D. and wished him well.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



CATHOIRLEACH



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER