

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD AT COBH HERITAGE CENTRE, COBH ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE, 2020.**

**Present:** Cllr. A. Barry, C. Rasmussen, S. Sheppard, 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. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

**1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020, were adopted.

**2.0 Matters Arising**

**2.1 Land at Glounthaune Railway Station**

P. Lynch stated that the property section had requested maps to progress the lease for the Men's Shed; he also was due to speak to the Traffic and Transportation section to assess the impact, if any, on the proposed cycle path. P. Lynch due to meet representatives of the men's shed during the week.

**2.2 CCTV**

P. Lynch stated that the advice he had been given indicated that there would be GDPR issues in obtaining CCTV footage from businesses in relation to littering.

**3.0 Review of Operation of Pay Parking Bye Laws**

P. Lynch stated that it was a matter for the members to decide if pay parking should be suspended for a period of 3 months, the income for 2019 had been in the region of €120,000; however the Pay Parking Dividend for all Municipal Districts had been reduced to €0.00 for 2020. The members raised a number of issues in relation to parking, all of the members agreed that a time limit of three hours, especially in the absence of any payment, was too long and emphasised that the turnover of parking spaces was essential to rebuilding business activity. The members were concerned about the impact the resumption of the works for Irish Water and the implementation of social distancing on footpaths would have on the availability of parking spaces. Sean O'Callaghan stated that even with the suspension of pay parking, that parking controls would still be enforced. P. Lynch stated that it was possible for the members to amend the time limits and locations by resolution, however any such changes would require the signage be amended, which could cause delays in implementing same.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to defer any decision on amending the pay parking byelaws pending discussion at the next Town Team meeting and clarification from Sorensens' on the works for Irish Water.

#### **4.0 Community Fund Scheme Allocations 2020**

P. Lynch stated that the list of allocations had been circulated previously to the members and all indicated that they were happy with same. P. Lynch had contacted Cobh Red Cross and sent them the necessary forms to complete their application process.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen raised a query in relation to the amount of funding available under the Town Development Fund. Sean O'Callaghan replied that there was a fund of €810,000.00 for the entire county, of that €120,000 was initially allocated to Cobh, however only €37,500 was committed the balance had not yet been allocated and there was no certainty that this balance would now be available for Cobh. Cllrs. C. Rasmussen and S. Sheppard expressed their dismay at this and the lack of input by members into the decision process. Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan sought clarification in relation to the marking scheme and what were the guidelines. It was agreed by the members that clarity in relation to the scheme would be sought at the next full Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **4.0 Municipal District Officer's Report**

4.1 **Cobh Public Realm** – P. Lynch requested a meeting with the members on 24<sup>th</sup> June in the Council Chambers, County Hall to discuss progress on the project.

4.2 **Cork County Council – COVID 19 Community Response Programme** – P. Lynch informed the members that due to a reduction in demand the phone lines would continue to be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. but would only be attended between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### **5.0 Aon Ghnó Eile / Any Other Business**

5.1 **Cllr. S. Sheppard** raised the following issues:

**Norwood Hill** – The Parents Association of Rinn na Coltig school had made enquiries regarding a Digital Speed Sign. Engineer stated a traffic speed survey would be carried out on the road and if the survey showed excessive traffic speed on the school road, then he would apply for funding for a new digital speed sign for the road.

**Top of the Hill** – The drains were blocked again. G. O'Hora stated that road drains at top of the hill were listed for cleaning.

**Cobh Red Cross** – Cobh Red Cross were enquiring as to whether there was any council building or land that could be lease to assist their operations, particularly for parking of the ambulance. P. Lynch stated that the Council did not have any suitable property. Cllr. Sean O'Connor suggested that the group approach the Bishop in relation to the Parish Centre and the former Bons Secours Convent.

**Whitepoint** – Could a 'Children at Play' sign be put up, and could a no parking sign be erected at the turning circle. Engineer to examine.

**Cyclists Signs** – G. O'Hora confirmed that the signs had been ordered and he was awaiting delivery.

**5.2 Cllr. Sean O'Connor** raised the following issues:

**West View** – The concrete section of West View was in need of repair, G. O'Hora confirmed road had been repaired at West view.

**5.3 Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan** raised the following issues:

**Conlonstown Road** – The road from Watergrasshill G.A.A. to the Keypak factory was very busy and required further signage. Engineer to examine.

**5.4 Cllr. A. O'Connor** raised the following issues:

**Carrigane Road** – the Digital speed sign on the Carrigane Road has become obscured. Engineer to arrange for tree branches to be cut back around the sign.

**West View, Cobh** – the residents requested traffic calming measures. Engineer to examine erecting new road safety signage on the road.

**Cobh Zero Waste** – the group were seeking assistance in implementing a public water fountain. P. Lynch replied that the project was a good idea, however until the Public Realm plans had been finalised, it was a bit premature.

**Derelict Site, Carrigtwohill** – not withstanding that a Derelict Site notice had been issued, could the Council be flexible with its implementation given the time of year for wild life. P. Lynch replied that the notice served had a legal basis and as such the Council was constrained by the conditions and time frame, particularly when the owners were willing to engage with same; however the concerns raised would be kept in mind in all future instances.

**5.5 Cllr. C. Rasmussen** raised the following issues:

**Rushbrooke Manor** – Damaged gulley trap needed to be repaired. G. O'Hora confirmed that damaged road gully was listed for repair.

**Lake Road** – when were the railings going to be repaired. R. O'Sullivan replied that a contractor had been appointed but he had had difficulty in sourcing materials during the lockdown, however this issue had now been resolved and work was due to commence shortly.

**Battery Strand** – funding had been provided for a report on the repairs needed for the Battery Strand, when was it going to be ready. P. Lynch stated that he would contact the Coastal Management section for an update.

**Pedestrian Crossing** – what was the status with the uncontrolled crossing at Small's Well. G. O'Hora stated that a scheme drawings for Small's Well would be circulated shortly and he would arrange a meeting with councillors to discuss his proposals.

**Five Foot Way** – what was the up to date position regarding the provision of toilets at the Five Foot Way and repairs to the footpath. Engineer to examine.

**Cobh Footpaths** – the footpaths throughout the town were in need of repair. G. O'Hora confirmed that localised repairs would be undertaken next week.

**Top of the Hill** – how were the ongoing works for Irish Water going to affect traffic flow at the Top of the Hill. R. O'Sullivan confirmed that the road would have to be closed from the school to Bishop Street, but the remainder of the road would stay open.

**Dangerous Structure, East Beach** – what was the up to date position. P. Lynch stated that he had written to the owners, but had received no response to date, he would follow up.

**5.6 Cllr. A. Barry** raised the following issues:

**Aldi, Carrigtwohill** – what was the up to date position with pedestrianisation of the road in front of Aldi. Engineer to examine.

**Carrigane Road** – very bad pothole on the Carrigane Road. Engineer confirmed pothole had being listed for repair would be repaired shortly.

**5.7 A.G.M** – On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to hold the Annual General Meeting at 11.30 a.m. on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June.

**July Meeting** – On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry, seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, it was agreed to hold the next monthly meeting in the Carrigtwohill Community Centre, subject to availability.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

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**Cathaoirleach**

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**Municipal District Officer.**