

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD ONLINE VIA MS TEAMS ON MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2021.

Present: Cllr. 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. R. O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

Mr. G. O'Hora, Senior Executive Engineer apologised for his absence.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Deimhniú Miontuairiscí:

On the proposal of Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan seconded by Cllr. S. O'Connor, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 7th December 2020 were adopted.

2.0 Matters Arising:

Connolly Street, Cobh:

Cllr. S. O'Connor again raised the issue of slope stability at Connolly Street, stressing that the residents were very concerned with the condition of the road. R. O'Sullivan stated that as discussed at the December meeting, the area was listed for works and it was hoped that these would be undertaken in January.

Sale of Cars at Little Island:

R. O'Sullivan stated that activities in the area appear to be greatly reduced, however the area will continue to be monitored.

Leonards Lodge, Cobh:

R. O'Sullivan confirmed that the overgrowth had been cut back before Christmas.

Disposal of Land at Bishop Roche Park, Cobh:

P. Lynch confirmed that this item had been placed on the agenda for full Council for 11th January 2021.

Elton Estate, Cobh:

P. Lynch confirmed that letters had issued to Irish Water and the County Hall in relation to Elton Estate.

Cuskinny Hill, Cobh:

R. O'Sullivan confirmed that a speed survey for Cuskinny Hill was scheduled for next week.

Slatty Pumping Station:

P. Lynch confirmed that letters had issued in respect of same.

Ballinacleithe Bridge:

R. O’Sullivan confirmed that the assessment would commence next month.

Ticknock Hill:

R. O’Sullivan confirmed that the council will add this to the list for the hedge cutter

Carrigtwohill Train Station:

R. O’Sullivan confirmed that this work would be carried out shortly.

Bus Stops at Watergrasshill:

R. O’Sullivan stated that there was no update on the installation of the bus stops.

Road Subsidence, Cobh:

R. O’Sullivan stated that works had been listed in relation to the Road subsidence at Laundry Hill, Hilltop and Cobh Hospital.

Cul de Sac Signs, Cobh:

R. O’Sullivan confirmed that the signs were listed for installation.

Decorative Lights, Cobh:

R. O’Sullivan agreed to obtain a quote for the repair of the decorative streetlights in Cobh town centre.

Garda Checkpoint, Cobh Cross:

P. Lynch confirmed that a letter in relation to the Garda COVID checkpoint on the N25 at Cobh Cross had issued to the local Garda Superintendent.

3.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras:

P. Lynch stated that all the letters requested by the members had been sent, however no response had been received. Cllr. S. Sheppard enquired whether a letter had been sent to KPMG regarding the lights at Cluain Ard. P. Lynch replied that the letter had not yet issued but would this week.

4.0 Officer’s Reports/Tuairiscí ó Ofigigh:

R. O’Sullivan reminded the members that suggestions may still be submitted for LIS/CIS Footpath and Public Lighting schemes for 2021.

5.0 Municipal District Officer’s Report/Tuairisc ó Ofigeach Ceantair Bardasacha:

P. Lynch gave details of the total claims paid out under the 2019 and 2020 grants, in reply to members queries he confirmed that the replacement of plastic store front signage to traditional types is covered under the Paint Scheme, but acknowledged that

this aspect of the scheme needed to be promoted more. P. Lynch to provide an update on the numbers of buildings done up under the scheme for the February meeting at the request of Cllr. Rasmussen.

Cllr. Sheppard queried how long groups had to claim monies under the 2020 Scheme, as the Junior Parkrun had not been able to go ahead for most of the year the group had very few receipts, P. Lynch confirmed that receipts could be submitted until the end of December 2021.

In relation to the public park on Haulbowline, P. Lynch stated that it was his understanding that the Minister had approved the consent, but he had not yet seen the signed document. The future maintenance of the site remained to be resolved, while the site was within the Cobh Municipal District area, access was an issue which had yet to be dealt with.

6.0 Notices of Motion/Fograí Rún:

6.1 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen: “That this Municipal would look at a controlled pedestrian crossing on the high road close to Heidi corners in response to a series of near misses in recent times”.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that he was aware that there was an issue with sightlines in the area, however there was a need to urgently review the situation as there were ongoing concerns with children crossing the road. R. O’Sullivan agreed to ask the Roads Design Office to examine the area, which would also include a review of the junction.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to refer the issue to the Roads Design office.

6.2 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen: “That this Municipal would urgently devise a plan to fix permanently the many sections of road in Cobh that have craters in them with Hot Patching rather than the cold tar method”.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that some of the roads within the town were in very bad condition, including Laundry Hill. Cllr. Rasmussen had identified a total of 25 locations and sent a list of same to the engineer.

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

6.3 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen: “That this Municipal would look at putting new signage in the area of the old Norwood church to show the direction of traffic flow going up past the school as to coming down past the church”.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that some construction traffic and residents of the new estate were taking a short cut against the flow of traffic.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard that the engineer would examine the signage in the area.

7.0 Any Other Business/Aon Ghnó Eile:

Cllr. S. O'Connor:

7.1 Battery Strand

Cllr. S. O'Connor requested a copy of the report for Battery Strand.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the report was to be presented at the February meeting of the Southern Committee.

Cllr. A. Barry:

7.2 Little Island:

Cllr. A. Barry stated that the single white line near the Cork Plastics plant needed to be renewed. Engineer has listed this for the Road Lining Company.

7.3 Harbour Row:

Cllr. A. Barry stated that there had been issues with rubbish dumped on Harbour Row over the Christmas period. Rubbish has been collected

7.4 Fota Road:

Cllr. A. Barry stated that there were problems with traffic overtaking cyclists on the Fota Road, if the land on the tidal side of the road was in public ownership would it be possible to develop a cycle lane? Engineer to examine.

7.5 MD. Meetings:

Cllr. A. Barry stated that while he appreciated that in the current circumstances it was prudent to hold online meetings, he would prefer to have the physical meetings restored as soon as possible. Cllr. S. Sheppard and Cllr. C. Rasmussen expressed their agreement with Cllr. Barry. S. O'Callaghan stated that the decision to go online with meetings was taken by Cork County Council management late last week in response to the deteriorating Covid 19 situation and was likely to be discussed at the upcoming CPG meeting.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan:

7.6 Clash Road, Little Island:

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan stated that dumping along Clash Road had been brought to her attention recently. P. Lynch responded by saying that the Litter Warden had recently issued fines in this area.

7.7 Old Ashbourne Hotel:

Cllr. O'Callaghan stated that Deputy P. O'Sullivan had previously sought addition lighting on the road at the back of the old Ashbourne Hotel, could this lighting be put in in 2021? Engineer to examine.

7.8 Watergrasshill:

Cllr. O'Callaghan stated that the road markings at both ends of Watergrasshill village are worn and need to be renewed. Engineer to examine.

Cllr. A. O'Connor:

7.9 Active Travel:

Cllr. A. O'Connor stated that members had been requested to submit proposals for Active Travel projects and enquired if same were to be submitted to the local engineer or another department of the County Hall. R. O'Sullivan stated that he was not aware of any such scheme but agreed to investigate same.

Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:

7.10 Litter at Harbour Row, Cobh:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen enquired whether the litter warden could access the CCTV images from the Credit Union in an effort to identify the person or persons responsible for dumping on Harbour Row. P. Lynch to enquire whether this would be permissible under GDPR.

7.11 High Road Fencing:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen expressed his thanks for the fencing erected on the High Road.

7.12 Rushbrooke Manor:

Cllr. C. Rasmussen reported a large pothole at the entrance to Rushbrooke Manor. Engineer to examine.

7.13 College Manor, Cobh:

Cllr. Rasmussen enquired when the pedestrian crossing at College Manor is due to start. R. O'Sullivan stated that the works are listed for the Road Lining Company to completed.

7.14 Pat O'Brien Close, Cobh:

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the footpath outside Pat O'Brien Close was in very bad condition. Engineer to examine.

7.15 Coláiste Muire, Cobh:

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the footpath outside the lower gate leading to Coláiste Muire on Bishop Street has a very steep drop. Engineer to examine.

7.16 Whitepoint, Cobh:

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the residents of Whitepoint were very concerned at the numbers of people using the walkway. Cllr. Rasmussen also raised the issue of the numbers using the Promenade and queried if it would be necessary to close

off the seating. S. O’Callaghan stated that any decision to close public amenities would be taken at County level.

7.17 Christmas Lights:

Cllr. Rasmussen enquired whether a final cost was available for the supply and installation of this years Christmas Lights for Cobh, he queried on whether there would be funding going forward to store and install the additional lights acquired this year. Cllr. Barry also queried if funding would be available for the provision of Christmas trees and lights in Carrignavar, Whitechurch and Glounthaune, that an expectation had now been created that these areas would continue to have Christmas lights etc provided and questioned if this funding would have to be provided from the GMA.

Cllr. S. Sheppard:

7.18 Trees at Ramblers:

Cllr. Sheppard stated that residents in the area around the Ramblers pitch want the trees cut back. Engineer to examine.

7.19 Carrignavar:

Cllr. Sheppard stated that it was agreed to provide additional signage near the school in Carrignavar. Engineer to examine.

7.20 Road gritting in Cobh:

Cllr. Sheppard asked if the entire Cobh Connect route could be gritted, not just the main road as this was a vital service for people trying to get to work. R. O’Sullivan replied that it may not be possible to add to the current list of roads being gritted and it was not Council policy to grit roads within housing estates. Cllr. Rasmussen requested that the whole of Ballynoe Hill and not just the end it be gritted. Engineer to examine. Cllr. S. O’Callaghan enquired what the criteria for obtaining a salt bin. R. O’Sullivan replied that they were usually encouraged for housing estates where a Residents Association would take responsibility for filling the bin and distributing the grit.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHOIRLEACH

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER

DATE