

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 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. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District

**1.0 Part 8 – Little Island Sustainable Transport Interventions:**

On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed to suspend standing orders to hear the presentation by the Traffic and Transportation section on the sustainable transport proposals for Little Island. C. O'Suilleabháin outlined the benefits of the scheme to the residents and the commuters, gave a brief outline of the steps taken to date and gave details of a number of modifications to the plan following consultation with various stakeholders.

Cllr. A. O'Connor outlined his support for the proposals stating that the plans will benefit the residents as well as the large numbers employed in Little Island.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that he had some concerns about the proposals, particularly the possibility of anti-social behaviour near the proposed pedestrian access. He wanted clarification that the members could in the future close off this access. Cllr. Rasmussen was assured that as this was a reserved function, it was entirely within the remit of the members to close this access at a future date. C. O'Suilleabháin stated that the concerns raised in relation to anti-social behaviour had been taken very seriously by the design team and had taken every measure to mitigate against anti-social behaviour in this area.

Cllr. Sheppard expressed her concerns regarding anti-social behaviour, but welcomed the plan overall, particularly the benefits to the residents.

Cllr. O'Callaghan welcomed the improved travel choices for residents and commuters but expressed concern at the removal of the railing along the Post Office road.

Cllr. Barry stated the proposals would bring huge benefits and there was great potential for connectivity, his concerns were alleviated by the knowledge that the pedestrian access could be closed off. He queried what the procedure was if the Cobh MD members rejected the project. P. Lynch replied that any decision on the Part 8 must be made by full Council, the Cobh MD members were only being asked to make a recommendation to full Council, if it is rejected there, then the entire project fails.

Cllr. S. O'Connor stated that he was delighted to accept the proposals as presented.

Cllr. O'Callaghan queried why if the pedestrian access was being opened up at all if it could be closed off in the future. Michael Lynch, Cork County Council, replied that this was the optimal route and that is why Cork County Council had done as much as possible to mitigate against anti-social behaviour and had built in a review process.

On the proposal of Cllr A. O'Connor, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, it was agreed to recommend the project to full Council.

## **2.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí/ Confirmation of Minutes of Annual and Monthly MD Meeting held on 12th July 2021:**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated that the minutes as presented did not reflect the decision taken in relation to the Section 38 for Bishop Street. He stated that it was decided to defer making a decision on the public consultation process until the September meeting, not start the process in September.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Callaghan seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, the amended Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were adopted.

## **3.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí/ Confirmation of Minutes of Special MD Meeting held on 12th August 2021:**

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 were adopted.

## **4.0 Matters Arising:**

### **Norwood Park Sign:**

G. O'Hora stated that the sign was now up and working.

### **Bayview Estate:**

G. O'Hora stated that the sign was now up.

### **West View:**

G. O'Hora stated a contractor had been appointed.

### **Carrignafoy Road, Cobh:**

G. O'Hora stated a yellow box was listed for main road entrance to College Manor.

### **Burma Steps, Cobh:**

G. O'Hora stated the works should be completed over the next few days. Cllr. Rasmussen stated the lights should be turned on as soon as possible.

### **Drainage on High Road, Cobh:**

G. O'Hora stated that the programme of drain cleaning was ongoing.

**Ballymore Graveyard:**

G. O’Hora stated that the grass had been cut and a maintenance programme had been drawn up.

**Hartlands Point, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that the clean-up was ongoing.

**West End, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated the road had been listed for repair.

**Tay Road, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that more slow signs and yellow line markings along the road verge was planned.

**Ballynoe Farm, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that remedial works would be carried out if the bond was released.

**Norwood School:**

G. O’Hora stated that a drawing had been prepared in relation to traffic calming works and the school and residents would be consulted.

**Elton Estate, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that Irish Water had been contacted.

**Old Church Cemetery, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated the grass had been cut and the bins emptied.

**Whitepoint:**

G. O’Hora stated that the only place for the buses to park was along the waterfront at Whitepoint, R. O’Sullivan stated that the residents of Whitepoint Cottages who were parking on the hill were also contributing to the problem. Additional parking for the residents could be provided by taking away the green area at the end of the hill, but the engineers were reluctant to do this. Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the house on the corner was for sale and could land be acquired under a CPO to widen the road at this point. G. O’Hora stated that it was better to engage with the landowners than to go down the CPO route.

**Donegal Hill**

G. O’Hora stated that he had met residents on site and clearing works would be carried out on the corner.

**Greenway at Glounthaune**

G. O’Hora stated that he had spoken to the Traffic and Transportation section and a road safety audit would be carried out and any issues identified.

**Ballinaltig Cemetery:**

G. O’Hora stated that repairs would be carried out by a contractor. Cllr. O’Callaghan stated that she felt that the cemetery needed a better wall than the current cavity block one. G. O’Hora responded stating that there was currently no funding available to replace the current wall with a new a stone wall.

**Glavins Terrace, Cobh:** G. O’Hora stated that road lining had been listed for this location,

**Top of the Hill, Cobh:** G. O’Hora stated road remedial repairs were due to be carried out this week.

**Belmont, Cobh:** G. O’Hora stated that works would be carried out in the next few weeks as part of the RI roads programme.

**Kirkwood Villas, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated resurfacing of the estate would be part of a future R.I programme.

**Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that the Committee were to submit drawings showing the locations of the Community Alert Signs.

**Barryscourt, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that he was awaiting a response from TII.

**Woods Quarry, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that this matter had been referred to Irish Water.

**Assumption Place, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that the tree was not dangerous. Cllr. O’Connor stated that the tree was overhanging a parking space used by a couple with a severely disabled child and causing them considerable trouble. G. O’Hora enquired if the members wished to remove the tree all together. Cllr. Sheppard replied that this was the preferred option by the residents. However, G O’Hora sought confirmation that all the residents were in agreement before taking further action. It was agreed that the members would contact the residents in relation to removing the tree.

**Elmwood Grove, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that the sign would be put up soon.

**Valley Road, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that repairs would be carried out in the next few weeks.

**Harbour Row, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that he had examined this issue and at the moment the only possible solution was an extension of the current laybys.

**Bishop Street, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that works had been listed.

**College Manor, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that works would be carried out shortly.

**Assumption Place, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that the grass had been collected.

**Roundabout at Carrigtwohill:**

Cllr. Barry stated that it was scandalous that 2 years on TII had not yet put up signage on the roundabout, it was a popular walking area and there were safety issues at this location.

**23/24 West Beach, Cobh:**

Cllr. O'Connor enquired as to the up to date position? P. Lynch replied that there was a live Planning Application in relation to the site. However, Cork County Council had been in contact with both owners and a report from an independent engineer was awaited.

**Connolly Street:**

Cllr. S. O'Connor asked for an update. P. Lynch replied that there had been no response.

**Carrigaloe**

P. Lynch stated that Irish Rail had indicated previously that they were due to commence works in September.

**Whitechurch Road:**

Cllr. A. O'Connor asked if there was a timetable for the lining of the newly resurfaced road south of L29582. G. O'Hora replied that this work would be carried out in the next few weeks.

**Bus Stops:**

Cllr. A. O'Connor asked if a meeting had taken place in respect of the bus stops at Belvelly and Carrigaloe. G. O'Hora confirmed that it had, the matter has been referred to the road design office, who would carry out a road safety audit and draw up a report.

**5.0 Comhfhreagras / Correspondence**

P. Lynch stated that no correspondence had been received.

**6.0 Tuairiscí ó Ofigigh / Officer's Reports**

**6.1 Section 38 Carrignavar**

G. O'Hora presented his report and stated that two submissions were received on foot of the public consultation period on the proposed Section 38 works for Carrignavar. Cllr. S. O'Callaghan stated she was concerned about vehicles reversing out into traffic. Cllr. S. Sheppard and Cllr. A. Barry thanked the engineers for their work on this project.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Callaghan seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to proceed with the Section 38.

**6.2 Section 38 L2970, Glounthaune**

G. O'Hora stated that that the Public Consultation process was ongoing at the moment and he would have a Section 38 report for the next meeting.

### **6.3 NTA Funding**

G. O’Hora stated that he had received additional funding from the NTA for proposed works at 3 locations in Cobh and a further 3 in Watergrasshill. He stated that no decision had been taken in relation to applications for Carrigtwohill.

### **6.4 Cluain Ard**

G. O’Hora stated that he had received additional funding for public lighting and proposed 8 additional lights on the main road/footpath from Cluain Ard and Cooline.

### **6.5 Litter Plan**

P. Lynch stated the report on the Litter Plan was not yet complete and would be presented at next month’s meeting.

### **6.6 Carrigane Road**

P. Lynch stated that he had been advised that works on the Carrigane Road were due to start on 6<sup>th</sup> September and should be complete by 5<sup>th</sup> October.

## **7.0 Tuairisc ó Oifigeach Ceantair Bardasacha / Municipal District Officer's Report**

P. Lynch presented this month’s Municipal District Officers report to the members.

### **7.1 Municipal District Paint Scheme:**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen proposed that €2,200 be allocated from this fund to the Community Centre, Cllr. S. Sheppard seconded.

### **7.2 Parking Issues**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked if there was any further information on the amount of the Parking Dividend due. S. O’Callaghan replied that he would contact the head of Finance again.

## **8.0 Allocation of Balance of Community Fund Scheme**

P. Lynch stated that as a few events had not gone ahead there was now a surplus in the fund, with amount of €7,925.00 available for allocation from the GMA and €6,750 available from the Town Development Fund. Cllr. Rasmussen proposed that the members email P. Lynch with any suggestions, which would be circulated prior to the next meeting instead of making a decision now. The rest of the members concurred.

## **9.0 Fograí Rún / Notices of Motion**

### **9.1 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

That this Municipal would get final agreement at replacing the old parking meters in the town of Cobh and that a plan would be drawn up in time for the next tourist season in relation to handling parking in Cobh to avoid the chaos of recent months gone by.

**9.9 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:**  
That Cobh MD would relook at my request for an online text/digital parking system for Cobh.

It was agreed that Motions no. 1 and no. 9 would be dealt with together.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the biggest issue in the town of Cobh was parking and was not helped by the meters constantly breaking down, he suggested the setting up of a subcommittee to discuss the issues. Cllr. Sheppard stated that the machines were not fit for purpose and that the parking fees raised money for the Cobh area which funded vital projects and that turn over had to be improved. Cllr. Barry stated he fully supported both motions, but that something needed to be done sooner rather than later and if changes are to be made, they must be implemented before the next season. S. O'Callaghan agreed with the members parking was an issue, particularly when 23 spaces had been given over to outdoor dining. The contractors had been onsite and were in the process of preparing a report, some machines were beyond repair. He stated that changes needed to be made to the parking system particularly as a cashless society was envisaged as the future, this matter had been raised at Director of Service level and was a County wide issue.

On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. Sheppard, it was agreed that a sub-committee would be formed to discuss the parking situation and P. Lynch would go through the minutes of previous meetings to draw up a list of issues to be discussed.

**9.2 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**  
That this Municipal would allow the new residents association of Ballynoe Farm to get the amenity grant for 2021

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

**9.3 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan:**

That Cobh MD would apply for funding to resurface and pipe drains to increase width where possible on the Kilahoura Road L7000-0 particularly on the severe bends close to "Kilahoura House".

Cllr. O'Callaghan explained that the new estate was filling up and that the road was only a by-road and needed upgrading. G. O'Hara stated that the road was resurfaced last year, and drainage works had been carried out on the road as part of these works. He had recently listed road drainage ditches to be checked and cleaned on the road

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Callaghan seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, the motion was carried.

**9.4 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sheila O’Callaghan:**

That Cobh Municipal District Engineers would ensure that adequate drainage is also put in place to prevent surface water eroding the newly laid road surfaces as is the case in Coome East and West.

G. O’Hora stated that drainage works had been carried out on the road and the problem in this area was water running off private land onto the road.

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

**9.5 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sheila O’Callaghan:**

Funding must be sought to improve and upgrade the Public Playground in Carraig na bhFear Village. Currently the equipment is only suitable for under 7’s.

Cllr. O’Callaghan stated that the playground equipment should be extended to cater for the u/12’s. P. Lynch replied that the budget only allowed for the maintenance of the playgrounds, not for any extensions to existing playgrounds or the provision of new ones. In the past where playgrounds had been extended or upgraded, it was due to substantial investment from local communities.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O’Callaghan seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the motion was carried.

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

That this Municipal would undertake a capacity review of the number of remaining burial slots in the 3 Cobh graveyards namely St Colman’s Cemetery, Old Church Cemetery, Templerobin Cemetery in Ballymore, Cobh.

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that a local undertaker had expressed concern at how fast the graveyards were filling up. P. Lynch replied that a review of the number of available spaces had been undertaken in the Old Church Cemetery last year and a columbarium was planned also for this cemetery, he was not aware of how many spaces were available in Ballymore. St. Colman’s Cemetery was not in the ownership of the Council and would be out of the scope of any review. Cllr. Barry enquired as to the status of the Knockraha cemetery extension, G. O’Hora replied that the consultant had issued a report and made a recommendation.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen seconded by Cllr. A. O’Connor, the motion was carried.

**9.7 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Alan O’Connor:**

That this municipal district would write to the National Transport Authority with a request that consideration be given to scheduling a more frequent bus service between the city and Whitechurch, and also to request that better bus-stop infrastructure be installed in Whitechurch. One daily weekday service from Whitechurch to Cork currently operates, with two services in the opposite direction. Infrastructure indicating the presence of bus stops is lacking.



On the proposal of Cllr. A. O'Connor seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, it was agreed that Cllr. O'Connor would draft a letter to be sent to the National Transport Authority.

**9.8 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:**  
That Cobh MD would look at putting a yellow box out at Belvelly before the bridge, turning into the estate by Wyse house.

G. O'Hora stated that the road was due to be resurfaced shortly and a yellow box would be installed after this.

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

**9.10 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:**  
That Cork County Council consider installing speed control measures at Pearse Place Carrigtwohill.

Cllr. Barry stated that the demographics of the area had changed and there were now quite a few families with young children.

G O'Hora confirmed a traffic survey would be carried out on the estate road and erecting additional road safety signs examined.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry seconded by Cllr. A. O'Connor, the motion was carried.

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

### **Cllr. S. O'Connor:**

#### **East Hill/Summerfield:**

Overgrowth in 2 locations overhanging the footpath and road. Engineer to write to Landowners advising them of their responsibility to cut their overgrown hedges.

#### **Harbour Row:**

Footpath paving outside the Credit Union, Cobh is subsiding. Engineer has examined and listed footpath for repair.

#### **Ballywilliam:**

A more prominent sign is needed at the crossroads. New stop sign to be erected at crossroads.

#### **Pearse Square:**

Manhole cover loose. Engineer referred matter to Irish water.

#### **Glenmore Road:**

Road listed for remedial repair.

**College Manor/The Spires:**

Dangerous trees on the boundary. Engineer to examine.

**Cllr. S. Sheppard:**

**Whitepoint:**

The footpaths are badly in need of repair from repeated water breaks, Irish Water will not be replacing the pipes in this area for at least 4 years. Engineer awaiting decision from Irish Water as to when water main replacement works are planned.

**Joe Reid Place:**

The footpaths need repair, very bad potholes also. Footpath listed for repair.

**College Manor:**

The signage on approach to the uncontrolled pedestrian crossing needs to be bigger as cars are just driving through. Engineer confirmed new road safety signs to be printed on the road to slow traffic.

**Rushbrooke Manor:**

Trees in the area need to be cut back. R. O'Sullivan stated that the trees in question belong to the Convent.

**Rushbrooke Links:**

Trees in this estate need to be cut back. R. O'Sullivan stated that normally the Residents Association would take care of this as part of their maintenance programme.

**Cllr. A. Barry:**

**West End, Carrigtwohill:**

The verges need to be cut back near the G.A.A. field. Engineer to examine.

**Bin:**

Bin near the bus stop needs to be replaced. Engineer confirmed new bin put in place by the bus stop.

**Cycle Path:**

There is no speed sign on the road near the new cycle path. Engineer to examine.

**Cul Ard, Carrigtwohill:**

Overgrowth is interfering with traffic sightlines near the bend at Cul Ard. Serious subsidence in the back gardens and in the laneway behind the houses. Engineer to examine.

**Slatty Bridge:**

What is the up to date situation regarding the pumping station at Slatty Bridge. P. Lynch stated no response had been received to date, will send another letter.

**Cllr. S. O’Callaghan:**

**St. Josephs Cemetery, Little Island:**

There is subsidence in front of the cemetery, also are there any plans to expand the cemetery. Engineer confirmed road subsistence listed for repair and CCC presently have no plans to extend cemetery.

**Courtstown Road, Little Island:**

The grass along the road is very overgrown, too much for the residents to handle and trees are encroaching on the footpath. Engineer confirmed road verge is listed for grass cutting.

**Harbour Point Business Park:**

Road lining to be put in place at the entrance to Harbour Point Business Park, there is no indication as to what traffic must give way. Engineer confirmed the Harbour Point Business Park has not been taken in charge by CCC. The estate developer is responsible for the estate road.

**Cllr. C. Rasmussen:**

**Cobh:**

Any progress on bus shelters for Cobh. Engineer to refer matter to CCC’s traffic and transport Dept.

**Hardware House/East + West Beach, Cobh:**

The corner outside Hardware House is in very bad condition. The road in the centre of town is very badly rutted. Engineer to examine and list for repair.

**Playground:**

The gate to the playground needs to be fixed and the surface is fraying. Engineer confirmed gate has been fixed.

**Dawn View, Cobh:**

Dawn View need a cul de sac sign. Engineer confirmed new sign will be erected at the estate entrance.

**College Manor:**

Parts of the estate are very overgrown and encroaching on the footpath. Engineer confirmed footpath section of green area listed for cutting.

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

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**Cathaoirleach**

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**Municipal District Officer.**