



Minutes of Proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of the Carrigaline Municipal District held in the Council Chamber on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 14:00.

**Present:** Cllr. Marcia D’Alton (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. Ben Dalton O’Sullivan (Leas Cathaoirleach) Cllr. Audrey Buckley, Cllr. Seamus McGrath, Cllr. Michael Paul Murtagh and Cllr. Jack White.

**In Attendance:** Madeleine Healy, Senior Executive Engineer; Nicola Radley, Senior Executive Officer Carol Conway, Municipal District Officer; John Slattery, Senior Engineer; John Forder, Senior Engineer; Ian Broe, Clerical Officer.

### **1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Cllr. Marcia D’Alton asked the minutes to be amended to show regarding the Ringaskiddy fire that better communication is needed locally with a text alert system and that the members were unanimously disappointed with the lack of detail in the report received.

Minutes were proposed by Cllr. Seamus McGrath and seconded by Cllr. Jack White.

### **2. Matters Arising**

Cllr. McGrath asked for an update on the lighting of the skatepark. Cllr. Buckley asked for an update on casual trading permits. Carol Conway informed Cllr. Buckley that casual trading was being looked at on a countywide basis. Vincent Florish informed Cllr. McGrath that the skatepark was being looked at and added that there are shadowing issues which need to be looked at.

Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan asked had there been any response from the NTA to which Carol informed him there had not been. Cllr. Marcia D’Alton asked for updates on the Shanbally Wastewater Treatment, Passage West Hubs, Ringaskiddy Fire and asked had there been a response from the EPA regarding air monitoring. Carol Conway informed there had not been a response from Irish Water regarding Shanbally and that there was no further update on the Ringaskiddy fire. The Passage West hub is currently being looked at. Cllr. D’Alton expressed her discontent regarding the Ringaskiddy Fire and asked that we write to the DOS Environment again. She also asked to write to Irish Water regarding Shanbally. Carol Conway undertook to send these letters.

### **3. Correspondence**

Carol Conway informed members of a town called Newport News in Virginia which has a strong connection with Carrigaline is interested in twinning with Carrigaline. All members welcomed this news. Nicola Radley informed members that we will bring a report to the next meeting.

### **4. Breithniúcháin ar Tuairiscí agus Moltaí / Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

#### **(i) Municipal District Officers Report**

Carol Conway went through the content of her report and invited any questions and queries from members.



Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan proposed that Ballygarvan and Ballinhassig be put forward for this years painting scheme and that the members discretionary fund be kept.

Cllr. Buckley added that she had been contacted with regards to helping with a St. Patricks Day Festival in Crosshaven. She also asked what the breakdown of the paint scheme was. Nicola Radley reminded members that the breakdown of the TDF was a reserved function and that the possible twinning with Newport News would also need to be taken into consideration.

Cllr. McGrath thanked Carol for her report and added that Carrigaline would not be having a St. Patricks day parade this year. He welcomed the provision for playground updates. He asked that the Owenabue Arts Collective receive some funding. He supported Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan regarding Ballygarvan and Ballinhassig however he does have some concerns regarding the scheme. He added that he believed power washing needed to be done at least twice a year.

Cllr. White agreed that the power washing be done twice a year and asked could it be carried out around the judging time for the Tidy Towns. He welcomed the provision of €3,000 for urban forestry in Carrigaline. Cllr. Murtagh supported Cllr. White regarding the urban forestry.

Cllr. D’Alton added that she would like to see more for Christmas lights in Passage West and that she also couldn’t see another mechanism working as well as the paint scheme does. She said that the floral display was critical for Passage West and that one local business comes up with 50 of the money and if the funding was cut the cost would be too big for this business.

Nicola informed members that members comments will be taken on board and a draft will be put together.

Carol Conway went through the derelict sites report and invited question and queries from the members.

Cllr. McGrath asked was there any dangerous structures listed in the MD and added that he believes Cogan’s corner needs to be re-inspected as it is in a dangerous condition. Carol informed Cllr. McGrath that this can be inspected again. Cllr. Jack White asked was there anything that could be done further than adding sites to the register. Nicola added that we can write to the department with any specific queries.

Cllr. Buckley asked that the old shop in Myrtleville be looked at. Cllr. D’Alton asked that the convent in Passage West be added as a dangerous structure and that Dock Terrace be added to the derelict sites list.

Cllr. McGrath asked that the inspection on Cogan’s corner be done as soon as possible.

## **5. Fort Camden Update**

John Forde gave a presentation to members and invited any questions or queries.

Cllr. Audrey Buckley thanked John for the presentation and asked was there a designated liaison person for the Fort. She also asked was there an operations manager in place. Cllr. Buckley added that there has been funding granted for a multi-use gaming area in Camden and asked will there be any provision of extra parking in the area.



Cllr. Jack White also added that an operations manager would be needed for the Fort to run effectively and that public relations around the Fort could be better. Cllr. White believes that there is a disconnect locally with the Fort. He asked was there any marketing resources within Cork County Council which could be used. He also asked could the café be used without paying admission to the Fort itself.

Cllr. Seamus McGrath thanked John Forde the update and added that there will be increased traffic on the Camden Road and that traffic calming measures will be needed.

Cllr. Michael Paul Murtagh said that it is important to give the Fort as much help as possible and asked that the gradient on the Grassy could be looked at.

Cllr. D'Alton asked is there any way annual funding can be secured for Camden.

John informed members that there is a designated contact email address on the website that can be used to contact the Fort. He agreed that an operations manager would be needed, and he hopes to have one in place towards the end of the season. There is currently no short-term plan to extend the parking at the Fort. He also added that there is no marketing arm within Cork County Council and that they do plan on marketing the fort. John said that the fort would work closely with Cork County Council regarding traffic issues on the Camden Road. He added that the Fort takes money from wherever it can get it and that there are very few pots to choose from and that a reserve is needed to co-fund projects. There are 12 different architectural heritage sites within Camden itself. John added that it is the intention of the Fort to work closely with the Carrigaline Municipal District.

#### **6. Part 8 proposals for the R611 Cork Road Pedestrian Crossing & Active Travel Link to the ETB Campus**

John Slattery introduced Michael Dymet who gave a detailed presentation to members. John Slattery added that this scheme had been envisaged for a long time and that it was great to finally get it in place.

Cllr. McGrath added that this is a critical piece of infrastructure which will add to the already excellent active travel links and acknowledged the communication with the residents. He asked would the pathway and gate be operated by the school. John Slattery informed Cllr. McGrath that the gate will be controlled and operated by the school.

Cllr. D'Alton added that this is a welcomed scheme and that great work has been done. John Slattery informed members that the scheme will be advertised this week and will be open to submissions.

Cllr. McGrath raised the issue of the Carrig na Curra junction and the issues that the inner lane near Janeville estate causes. He asked could the option of a public transport corridor be explored. John Slattery added that this would need to be looked at from a road safety and design point of a view and added that this could cause issue with capacity on other roads.

#### **7. 2022 Roads programmes Update**

Madeleine went through the contents of the programmes and added that she will be back with the footpath, safety improvements and drainage programmes.



Cllr. McGrath added that all are very welcome and asked what can be done in relation to car parks. He welcomed the inclusion of Coolmore and Rock Road on the public lighting programme. He added that there are no estates on the restoration improvements programme and that some needed to be done. He asked is there funding available for sections if they're not on a specific programme.

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan welcomed the plan. Cllr. Murtagh also welcomed the programmes of works.

Cllr. D'Alton welcomed the inclusion of Scotsman's Road and also reported issues of speeding on the R613.

Madeleine added that car parks are funded by the MD, but the intention is to do something with both Fountainstown and Owenabue car parks. A lot of estates have been done in the last few years and there are also still some outstanding works to be carried out on Main St in Carrigaline. She added that she is surprised with the reports of speeding on the Ballea Road.

#### **8. Strategic Housing Development Monkstown**

Cllr. D'Alton informed the meeting that this will be dealt with at the March meeting.

#### **9. Chun na Ruin so leanas ón gComhairleoir a mheas:/To consider the following Notices of Motion in the name of:**

##### **Cllr. Michael Paul Murtagh**

1. *"That an extra single speed cushion on the main road through Brightwater estate on the upper side of the tennis club carpark entrance is added to reduce downhill vehicular speed into a tight corner."*

Cllr. Murtagh acknowledged the response received.

2. *"That Carrigaline MD look into the viability of a "Learn to Cycle" track on the Railway walk green at Hoddersfield, the Glen Crosshaven, similar to what has been opened recently in Dungarvan and to write to the RSA to contribute to funding this excellent educational tool."*

Cllr. Murtagh added that he was disappointed with the response received and that he believes it's not a huge amount of money for such an important educational tool. Cllr. White seconded the motion. Nicola added that the executive will seek to find a suitable location and funding source.

3. *"That tracks in Fennels bay Crosshaven are taken in charge by Cork County Council to help facilitate active travel in the Community. These tracks link walking routes from Crosshaven to Fennels Bay and directly on to Myrtleville and Fountainstown in a very direct way. This is an obvious and easy route option for Cork County Council to take charge of and develop to compliment other off-road walking & cycling connections."*

Vincent Florish is currently in talks with Sports Ireland. Agreement needs to be in place with landowners if Sports Ireland are involved for insurance purposes. Cllr. Murtagh asked could



tracks/trails be taken in charge. Carol informed Cllr. Murtagh that she will take his comments away and look at them in more detail.

**Cllr. Audrey Buckley**

1. *"I would ask that we could look at a raised table for the middle road, to slow traffic down when many schools' children use the Chapel Steps to crossover safely to the footpath on the middle road."*

Cllr. Buckley noted that response and added that this would not be a huge task.

2. *"Can I ask that we look at a 'leento' style area by the wall/showers for Fountainstown. Where many swimmers have nowhere to keep their items of clothing dry when they are swimming."*

Nicola Radley added that this had been applied for under the community fund scheme.

3. *"With a busy summer season, and Cork Week 2022 in July. I would ask that we could repaint the train poles and look at the Crosshaven Railway walk to get works done before the summer."*

Cllr. Buckley added that the poles are very rusty and need some work. Madeleine added that she had no objection to this in principal and that she would speak to the district supervisor.

**Cllr. Seamus McGrath**

1. *"To seek a written update report on plans to provide a footpath link between the Forest Hill roundabout and Rosehill. Also, to outline the approximate timeframe for the opening of Castle Heights road to the Forest Hill roundabout."*

Cllr. McGrath added his disappointment with the response received adding that the issues has been raised a number of times and that this is an important link for Carrigaline. He asked could we revert and note the concerns we the timeline and asked that the project be fast tracked. Carol undertook to do this.

2. *"To request that the Forest Hill through road be Taken in Charge and a suitable Traffic Calming Scheme be devised and implemented."*

Cllr. McGrath thanked John Slattery for the response received.

3. *"To seek an update on the request for Speed Flashing signs in Shanbally Village. To ask the Engineer if a gateway proposal could also be developed?"*

Cllr. McGrath thanked Madeleine for the response received.

**Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan**



1. *“That the L- 22271-0, Rearour, Ballinhassig would be added to the roads surfacing program for 2022. This road is in need of attention.”*

Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan noted the response received.

2. *“That the area engineer would investigate improving safety / accessibility for pedestrians from Halfway Village to Walsh’s park.”*

Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan noted the response received.

3. *“That the area engineer would investigate improving safety / accessibility for pedestrians from Lower Road, Ballygarvan to Ballygarvan Village (specifically to the entrance of the estate) (As a reference, from T12 D8KP to the village).”*

Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan noted the response received.

**Cllr. Jack White**

1. *“That this MD would consider making a submission to An Bord Pleanala regarding the SHD at Carrigmahon, Monkstown, highlighting that it materially contravenes both the 2017 LAP & the 2014-2021 CDP. And highlighting infrastructure concerns (lack of road access) for a development of such scale.”*

Cllr. White acknowledged the response received.

2. *“That this MD would consider launching a competition with secondary schools in Carrigaline, to come up with a name for the new Western Relief Road which will open in May/June. A name to recognise the links to Carrigaline’s past and also to reflect its looking to the future. E.g. ‘Pottery Link Road’, etc.”*

Cllr. White acknowledged the response received. Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan seconded the motion. Cllr. McGrath supported the motion adding that he believed it should be open to the general public and not just schools. Cllr. Murtagh, Cllr. D’Alton and Cllr. Buckley also supported the motion.

3. *“As TPREP develops in Carrigaline, that this MD would consider a communications campaign to highlight the positive outcomes / vision for the overall plan. There is a lot of confusion / misunderstanding of what is in the pipeline and getting out early with positive messaging will help bring people on board.”*

Cllr. White added that TPREP is a once in a lifetime opportunity and it will drastically improve Carrigaline and that communication needed to be a key component of this. Cllr. Murtagh seconded the motion adding that communication is vitally important. Cllr. McGrath supported the motion adding that there can be lost opportunities when communication isn’t done properly. Cllr. D’Alton also supported the motion.

**Cllr. Marcia D’Alton**



1. *“That Cork County Council and TII would recognise that both the volume and nature of traffic through Shanbally is unusually heavy and is in close proximity to pedestrians, cyclists and residential cars. That in view of this, Cork County Council would work with TII on reviewing traffic speeds through Shanbally and implementing the most appropriate physical measures to slow that traffic before it reaches the village centre.”*

Cllr. Marcia D’Alton informed the meeting that traffic through the village has doubled since speeding through the village was recognised in the year 2000. The traffic levels are similar to that on the N25 between Dungarvan and Waterford. Shanbally will be bypassed when the M28 is built and operational however this will be at least 5 years and that there are currently about 700 HGV’s passing through each day. This will increase significantly when the Ports container terminal opens.

There are 2 main issues with HGV’s and one of these is the 4 blind spots. The second issue is the length of time it takes to stop a truck. The average braking distance for an unloaded truck at 50 kph is 26m, roughly the length of two double decker buses. The braking distance for a fully loaded truck at 50km is 62m. This doesn’t consider the time it takes the driver to perceive and appreciate a hazard, the subsequent reaction time, the braking capability of the vehicle and whether the road is wet or dry.

If a vehicle is coming into the village from the east the speed limit is 80 kph. The Shanbally sign is almost 70m before the gateway sign before the footpath starts. It is a further 130m before the first 50kph speed sign There is no speed limit sign on the gateway or in the transition zone. There is 10m between the 50kph sign and the villages first uncontrolled crossing. There is 70m between the 50kph sign and the roundabout and it takes 62m to stop at 50kph in dry weather.

Coming from the west heading to Ringaskiddy traffic is coming downhill from a 100kph zone and the sign for Shanbally is in this zone and it is another 100m before traffic is advised to slow to 60kph and another 160m before slowing to 50kph. The first uncontrolled crossing is about 90m further on and the entrance to Ard na Greine is a further 100m. This is all downhill and the eastbound lane at the roundabout is almost straight through requiring very little deflection from the driver.

Cllr. Seamus McGrath has called for a pedestrian crossing in the village and Cllr. D’Alton supports this strongly but there is huge concern in the village of a false sense of security a pedestrian crossing might give children especially if HGV’s have not slowed down to the extent that they can stop safely. TII’s guidance is *“it is imperative that the traffic calming measures applied result in a significant reduction in traffic speeds as traffic approaches the gateway”*

In Shanballys case there isn’t even a speed sign either approaching or at the eastern gateway. Cllr. D’Alton asked for support in writing to TII and requesting that they would urgently review the efficacy of the traffic calming measures in Shanbally, their compliance with their own current standards for traffic calming, their adequacy to deal with current traffic volumes which are twice what the current traffic calming scheme was designed for and to report back to us.

Cllr. McGrath seconded the motion and adding the broader problem needs to be looked at. Cllr. Michael Paul Murtagh supported the motion adding that a number of interventions could be looked at. Cllr. White also supported the motion adding that a scheme like this could unlock the potential of the village. Carol Conway undertook to write to TII.



2. *“That the Carrigaline Municipal District Committee would correspond with ESB Networks in relation to the risk posed to birds in flight by the overhead power lines crossing the Ringabella Special Protection Area, the on-the-ground evidence that these power lines may be causing avian fatalities and request their proposals to address this.”*

Cllr. D’Alton added that for many years’ collisions and electrocutions of birds at power lines has been a silent but a major conservation issue. The lines can be hard for birds to see on the horizon and are at bird flight height. When birds fly in a flock it can be too late to change direction at the last second. It is estimated that collisions with power lines kill more than one billion birds a year.

She described the cork harbour as being of major ornithological significance. It is of global importance due to the number of migratory winter visitors. It supports nationally important wintering populations of 22 species. As a result of this large part of its tidal mud flats are designated as Special Protection Areas (or SPAs) under European legislation. The harbour is also listed as a Ramsar Convention Site and part of the SPA is a Wildfowl Sanctuary.

The estuary of the Minane River at Ringabella was added to the Cork Harbour SPA in 2015 as a compensatory habitat for what was lost for the building of the Dublin Port Tunnel. The land upstream of the dam at Ringabella consists of wet woodland and grassland as well as scrub. The mudflats below the dam provide rich feeding. The inner and mid estuary is largely inaccessible and uninhabited and so is generally secluded and disturbance-free. Since bird counts have been taken since 1997 44 species of waterbird have been recorded of which several are listed in annex 1 of the Birds Directive and during this time, the site has regularly supported numbers of Black-Tailed Godwit that have exceeded the threshold of all-Ireland importance.

Cllr. D’Alton described Ringabella as a magnificent site but added that when the National Parks and Wildlife Service was evaluating the site for inclusion in the Cork Harbour SPA, its assessment omitted the potential physical impact of a main 20 kV line running across the dam, the river and the marshland to the south, conducting electricity from one side of the estuary to the other. There has been local concern that over the last couple of years at evidence that these powerlines are causing fatalities due to collisions. These have been occurring over Gortigrenane Marsh.

Protection of SPAs is legally enshrined and habitat disturbance, degradation and direct impact on species is prohibited. Moreover, Ringabella was designated on foot of an instruction from the European Court of Justice. So I am asking the Members to support my request that we would write to ESB Networks and ask them what they propose to do to minimise the threat that these powerlines cause to this part of the Cork Harbour SPA.

All members supported the motion and Carol undertook to write the letter.





3. *“That the Municipal District would draw up a plan for an upgrade of the children’s playground in Passage West.”*

Cllr. D’Alton acknowledged the response received adding the playground is in much need of an upgrade. Vincent Florish added that this could be looked at.

#### **10. Votes of Congratulations**

Cllr. Seamus McGrath asked that Joey Shaw be congratulated for making ITA Tae Kwon Do team.

Cllr. D’Alton asked that Caroline Millane be congratulated for winning the GAA club committee officer of the year award.

She also asked to congratulate St. Peters Community School on winning the John Murphy cup.

#### **11. Any Other Business**

Cllr. Ben Dalton O’Sullivan asked could a gravel pathway be put in place at Liscleary cemetery.

Cllr. Buckley asked for an update on public bins and toilets for the summer months. She also asked for updates on Anti-Social Behaviour bye laws and the coastguard cottages in Crosshaven.

Cllr. McGrath added he is not happy with the Glenbrook greenway response regarding the shared surface. Cllr. D’Alton supported this. He asked will the trees lost on the Ballea Road be replaced somewhere else.

Cllr. Jack White asked could the drains on Main Street be cleaned before the power washing is done.

Cllr. Michael Paul Murtagh added there is a need to discuss anti-social behaviour with the Gardaí.

Cllr. D’Alton raised the issue of signs needing to be highlighted at Maulbaun and also warning signs for the ramps at Toureen.

Madeleine informed the meeting that the trees lost at Ballea will be replaced elsewhere. The signage at Maulbaun will be highlighted and Toureen signs will also be installed. Power washing is usually done in April, but this can be looked at.

Madeleine informed members that the scheme to improve pedestrian works in the Passage West centre block and general Church Hill area will need to be temporarily paused as the greenway will need to be factored in. She has spoken to Cormac Ó’Súilleabháin and it has been agreed that one contractor will carry out the entire programme of works. Cllr. D’Alton asked will the tender documents need to be revisited. Madeleine informed Cllr. D’Alton that these will need to be revisited in conjunction with traffic and transportation.

The town and village active travel scheme has also been temporarily paused due as to investigate whether the proposed bus connects changes will affect the scheme. Cllr. McGrath thanked

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Madeleine for the update adding that he does not believe that the proposed bus connects route will work. He also added that it makes sense to blend the works together in Passage West.