



Minutes of Proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of the Carrigaline Municipal District held via Microsoft Teams and in the Council Chamber on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2021 at 14:00

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

**In Attendance:** Madeleine Healy, Senior Executive Engineer; Nicola Radley, Senior Executive Officer Carol Conway, Municipal District Officer; Pio Condon, Senior Executive; Ruth Henry, Senior Architect; Keith Jones, Senior Engineer; Richard Fenton, Executive Architect; John Forder, Senior Engineer; Ian Broe, Clerical Officer.

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

The minutes of Septembers meeting were proposed by Cllr. Seamus McGrath and seconded by Cllr. Audrey Buckley

### **2. Matters Arising**

Cllr. McGrath asked for updates on the feasibility study for the lighting of the skate park in Carrigaline and also the provision of disabled parking at Luck Beach. Carol informed Cllr. McGrath that the skate park was still being examined. Madeleine informed Cllr. McGrath that she had started engagement regarding the parking.

Cllr. D’Alton asked for an update on the 90-degree bend behind the Pace building in Passage West and also an updated on the bus shelter in Monkstown. Carol informed Cllr. D’Alton that she is waiting on a report on the 90-degree bend. Madeleine informed Cllr. D’Alton that she has been in discussions with the Traffic and Transportation section regarding the bus shelter.

### **3. Correspondence**

Carol read a response from the NTA regarding the bus going up Carrigmahon hill. Cllr. McGrath suggested that the MD make a submission to the Bus Connects programme. Cllr. D’Alton suggested having a special meeting to discuss this. All members agreed. There was a correspondence published regarding URDF and also regarding the Passage West greenway.

### **4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

- (i) Lease of Land at Fort Camden

John Forde went through a report giving the background and reasoning for the proposed lease of land at Fort Camden and invited questions from elected members.

Cllr. Buckley added that she understood the need for extra parking and asked would the land be completely under the control of the Fort Camden group. She mentioned the apparent lack of communication between the group and the community. John added that Cork County Council does not want to exclusively own the land and that would be more than happy to share the resources. He also added that the group are to seek funding to hire a manager which enhance the Fort and could



accommodate up to one hundred thousand visitors a year. He added that the Fort could be open 7 days a week and with a good bus service the area would not be overwhelmed with traffic.

Cllr. McGrath thanked John for the report and added that members and the community have not been given the level of communication that they would have liked. He asked could the members be given biannual updates and also asked who the directors of the group were. Cllr. McGrath also asked for a financial update and also if the GAA club had been consulted. Finally, Cllr. McGrath asked are there any plans to look at traffic calming measures.

Cllr. Murtagh noted that he is delighted to see work at Camden but also echoed Cllr. McGrath's comments regarding traffic. He believes that improving access from the Grassy would be key and also added that a second entrance by the GAA club house would be of benefit. He added that he would not like to see access to the beach affected and that this should be added into the lease.

John added that he no problem giving updates and that this lease vitally important for being able to secure funding to develop the Fort. John informed Cllr. McGrath that the company was solely Cork County Council owned and that he and Sean O'Sullivan were the directors.

Cllr. D'Alton noted that she had asked for a masterplan a number of years ago and that this is still desired. She asked that access to Graball be added to the lease.

John informed Cllr. D'Alton that there is no master plan. The process to develop a masterplan with no funding was not possible, however a number of projects have been identified which would maintain and redevelop the fort. Cllr D'Alton asked could these projects be outlined at the next meeting to which John agreed.

Cllr. Murtagh proposed and Cllr. O'Connor seconded the lease.

## **5. Speed Limit Review Proposals**

Members agreed to defer this item and hold a special meeting to discuss.

## **6. Proposed Housing Development at Coastguard Cottage Site, Crosshaven**

Ruth Henry informed members that Keith Jones has been working with the OPW on this project and that Richard Fenton is the executive architect for the project.

Keith added that Ruth has been leading the design and that the project is a great success story for the area. Ruth has said that there is pressure to develop brownfield sites and that this is a great site to develop. There has been a lot of stakeholder engagement and the senior planner is supportive of the proposed development.

Richard Fenton gave a detailed presentation on the proposed development and invited questions from members.

Cllr. Murtagh added that the access to the development looks fantastic however he added that a few things will be contentious. There is concern about the splitting up of the coastguard cottages. He believes it is not necessary for the footpath at the rear of coastguard station to be there. He also



asked what is intended to be done with Rocket House. He also believes that the entrance near the school is not appropriate and not safe and asked that a solution behind the coast guard station be looked at. Cllr. Murtagh however noted that it is fantastic to see the site developed. Cllr. Buckley asked why the original access road was not being used and asked if the possibility of a one-way system had been explored. She also asked if they were social housing or affordable housing and how many units in total. Cllr. Buckley also enquired where the parking for the 7 cottages would be and raised issues regarding access at the RCYC.

Cllr. McGrath said that it was great to see the plan progressing. He asked where the units were within the layout. He also raised concerns about the entrance near the school and asked what other layout options were explored.

Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan said there were some valid concerns but that it was a positive development which is to be welcomed. He added that he is delighted to see units designated as age friendly.

Cllr. D'Alton added that it is fantastic to see the project progressing. She added that improved permeability from parking to houses is needed. She added that the lower entrance is great as well as secure parking for Gardaí. She echoed queries regarding Rocket House and asked who will maintain the road and how can safe access at the top be guaranteed.

Ruth informed members that Rocket House was not included in the scheme. The issue with paths can be looked at. There will be a path to help access to the school which will help with safety concerns. It is not possible to have access from behind the coast guard station due to the topography. She added that the age friendly units will be ground floor in the 1<sup>st</sup> block. She added that there will always be some resistance to a project of this size. There had been a lot of discussion with stakeholders with many different designs looked at. Ruth added that there are 31 units in total – 24 new builds and the 7 old cottages and these will all be social housing.

Cllr. McGrath thanked Ruth for the design and added that the main concern is the upper vehicular access and asked could members be given an engineer's report prior to part 8, he added that the overall design was excellent. Cllr. D'Alton thanked all for the report and asked for a brief overview again before going to Part 8.

## **7. Members Discretionary Fund**

### **(i) Street Café for Corks Homeless**

Cllr. Buckley nominated this for her discretionary funding adding that the group run street cafés for the homeless on Thursday nights. All members agreed.

## **8. Municipal District Officers Report**

Carol Conway went through the contents of her report.

€200 has been allocated to Passage West Creates, all members agreed. There has been extension from the department to the shop front improvement scheme.



Cllr. Buckley thanked Carol for the report and added that the work in the Point area was very appreciated and affective. She added that there won't be any Halloween festivals and asked could this money be applied to something else. Carol replied that this can be looked at. Cllr. McGrath thanked Carol for her report and asked how the disability audit came about. He also asked that there would be some flexibility with regards to festival funding.

Carol added that she had been contacted by Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan regarding the audit.

**9. To consider the following Notices of Motion in the name of:**

**Cllr. Seamus McGrath**

1. *To request that the uncontrolled crossing by Forest Park, Upper Kilmoney Road, be upgraded to a Zebra Crossing.*

Cllr. McGrath stated that this area is a hive of activity and there is a need to update the crossing as he has had reports of near misses. Madeleine informed Cllr. McGrath that this can be looked at in 2022.

2. *This Municipal District calls on Irish Water to immediately and permanently address the ongoing odour issues at the Shanbally Wastewater Treatment Plant.*

Cllr. McGrath added that there are odours coming from the plant and it is an issue. There had been promises that this would not happen. He noted the response and asked that we write to Irish Water. Cllr. D'Alton seconded this and added that the contract would have stipulations regarding odours etc. Carol agreed to write to Irish Water.

3. *To seek a written update on the Eastern Corridor/Bothar Guidel junction upgrade scheme. When is work expected to commence?*

Cllr. McGrath welcomed the response received.

**Cllr. Audrey Buckley**

1. *I would ask that the council would look at implementing speed safety measures on the point road before the Crosshaven Boatyard entrance. With the new owners using access onto the road with large vehicles and machines, the volume of traffic and the many walkers on the point road has increased.*

Cllr. Buckley welcomed the response received.

2. *I would like to see Carrigaline MD in the future, plan to have areas/verges cut back before school starts back in September. Children's access to schools from laneways/footpaths should be free of verges/brush and if need be laneways cleaned down for safe passage for school going children.*

Cllr. Buckley added that she was not happy with the response received. Cllr. D'Alton agreed with Cllr. Buckley adding that problems with contractors are frustrating. Cllr. Murtagh echoed these



comments also. Madeleine added that there are over 20 schools in the MD and that there are limited resources and the best is being done with the resources available. Landowners have their own responsibility also.

- 3. I would like an update please on the proposed safe passage walk/route from Fountainstown to the Minane Bridge access road.*

Cllr. Buckley welcomed the response received.

**Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan**

- 1. That the Footpaths at Fernlea, Carrigaline would be included in the next footpath replacement program.*

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan thanked Madeleine for the response.

- 2. That a footpath would be constructed from the GAA field in Waterfall, to the existing footpath in the village. I note that there is a considerable distance from the GAA field to the village, I would request that the Local Roads Design Office would look at this as a part of an NTA fund or an appropriate funding scheme.*

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan added that this is not a new request and asked for the reasoning behind the NTA's refusal. He asked could anything be done regarding land acquisition. Madeleine agreed that it is a worthwhile project and said that she could ask the NTA for a reason. She said she would be in favour of putting the scheme forward for funding again.

- 3. That a gully would be installed on the R613 at the gate of the Marian Hall, Ballinhassig.*

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan acknowledged the response received.

**10. Votes of Congratulations**

Cllr. Buckley asked that the MD congratulate the Crosshaven U13 hurlers for winning the division 1 shield.

**11. Any Other Business**

Cllr. O'Connor asked has there been any update on the free Wi-Fi for Carrigaline. He added that bin collections in Carrigaline on Saturday mornings has stopped and that it is causing issues especially with the bins near the Owenabue car park. He also noted the removal of arrows at the Ashgrove roundabout which are causing problems.

Cllr. Murtagh stated that commercial units are taking up parking spaces at Fountainstown beach and asked could some spaces being dedicated for disabled and age friendly parking. He also added that there are more keep left pass right signs needed on greenways.

Cllr. McGrath echoed Cllr. O'Connor's comments regarding bins and Ashgrove roundabout. Cllr. McGrath asked if the road in Warrens Court where Irish Water are working had been taken in charge. He added that the issues on greenway signage had been brought up many times. Cllr.



McGrath asked for an update on the surfacing of Main Street in Carrigaline and also noted that many lights are out on the Passage West to Rochestown greenway.

Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan asked for an update on the bus stop opposite Maurland Estate.

Cllr. Buckley asked could the solar lights be extended to Rabbit Island and also added that a list of bus stops and poles had been compiled and sent to the NTA and asked for an update on this.

Cllr. D’Alton asked for an update on the Passage West canopy and also the walk behind sweeper.

Cllr. D’Alton seconded other members comments regarding bus stops/poles etc. She added that panel signage on greenways was supposed to be updated during Project ACT and has yet to be done. She also raised the issue of new early morning cleaning in Passage West which is badly needed and does not want it to be forgotten.

Madeleine informed members that bin collections have reverted to the pre summer schedule, but problems can be looked at. Arrows will be installed at Ashgrove roundabout and designated spaces at Fountainstown can be looked at. Greenway signage and lighting issues will also be looked at. Extension of solar lighting can be looked at in 2022. The walk behind sweeper has not arrived yet. Madeleine informed members that a request for a footpath between Minane Bridge and the school did receive active travel funding and the consultant has come up with an options report and will be put out for a section 38 shortly. No land acquisition is required. Madeleine also added that there are not designated staff cleaning specific areas and that they are doing their best with the resources available.

Cllr. Liam O’Connor announce that today was his last meeting as a Councillor and he wished to thank all members and staff for the work that has been done in recent years and wished them all the best for the future. All members and staff thanked Cllr. O’Connor for his hard work, engagement and professionalism and wished him all the best going forward.