

## **CORK COUNTY COUNCIL**

Minutes of Kanturk/Mallow Municipal District meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 10a.m on Floor 16, County Hall, Cork

### **PRESENT**

In the Chair: Cllr Pat Hayes

Councillors: Ian Doyle, Bernard Moynihan, Gearoid Murphy, Liam Madden, Tony O' Shea, John Paul O' Shea, Gerard Murphy, James Kennedy.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer, North Cork, Jim Moloney, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Padraig Barrett, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation Services, Aidan Weir, Senior Engineer, Roads & Transportation Services, Niamh Mullins, A/Meetings Administrator, Anita Leader, A/Meetings Administrator

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

#### **1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Confirmation of the Minutes of May & June Meetings of the Kanturk / Mallow Municipal District held on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 10.00a.m and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020 in the Hibernian Hotel, Mallow – Minutes were approved and signed on the proposal of Cllr. Liam Madden seconded by Cllr. James Kennedy.

#### **2. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **(a) Presentation on N72/N73 Mallow Relief Road – National Roads Office**

This presentation attached was given to members by Mr Tom Cannon, Barry Transportation outlining the different possible routes for the N72/N73 Mallow Relief Road. He advised that this presentation is now ready to go for Public consultation and is intended to be published in the press in the coming week and will also go on display on the window of Mallow Library. Presentation will also be available on NRDO website. Following the presentation members raised the following points:

Cllr Gearoid Murphy asked:

What is the timeframe for the project and what phase is the project currently at?

Cllr Liam Madden asked:

Referring to the N20 project, what is the study area & does this take into account new developments proposed for Mallow?

Cllr James Kennedy made the following observations

The timescale for this project seems to be constantly pushed out, he questioned the impact an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) of 8 -13 years on the project. He asked if there could be a route selection by end 2020?

Cllr JohnPaul O' Shea asked:

Referring to Page 11 of the report if there are 9 options in total and if Option 4 (Dark Blue Line) is the Old Northern Relief Road?

Also requested confirmation that the public consultation process is to get public comment on all options?

He made the point that feedback on constraints is very important.

Cllr Pat Hayes made the following points in relation to this project: previous report had suggested a completion date for this project of 2025, referred to public realm works also due to take place in Mallow, referred to the implication of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel on the project on which a meeting with the Minister will be progressed.

Cllr Gearoid Murphy asked:

Why a new route to Cork Racecourse was not highlighted on this map? Why does an EIA report take 8 -13 years

Cllr James Kennedy referred to the Macroom By-pass, this project was fast forwarded – what was the stage of readiness of this project?

Cllr Gerard Murphy said that he is nervous of the impact that the Freshwater Pearl Mussel will have on the project stating that a lot of money could be invested here. A resolution to this issue needs to be found & again stressed the importance of a meeting with the Minister.

Tom Cannon – Barry Transportation responded as follows:

- Phase 1 of the project is complete, currently at Phase 2, there are 3 stages in this phase, stage 1 is due to commence i.e. presenting the different options. Preferred option should be known by year-end 2020. After stage 2 – TII will need to sign off with an EIAR (Environmental Impact Assessment Report – where there could be possible planning restrictions. Envisaged by Spring/Autumn 2022 the project should be ready for Part 8 planning and Summer 2022 it is hoped to be ready for a CPO process.
- Barry Transportation are also part of the team working on the N20 and are looking at ways to tie this project in. They are aware of all planning applications in the area and are able to establish if there are constraints. They are aware of the 2 large planning applications in the area and a traffic model for these will be incorporated.
- A Cost Benefit Analysis will be completed for the 9 options & links. Longer options may be more costly but may be more beneficial from an environmental point of view.

- Referring to the new route to Cork Racecourse, he confirmed that linkages to the western side of Mallow are being considered.
- Confirmed that there are a lot of process's involved with an EIA hence the timeframe

Padraig Barrett, Director of Service, Roads & Transportation Services replied, as follows:

- It is to be noted that the Macroom by-pass was shovel ready for 3 years with the process started 14 years ago.

Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer confirmed that a follow-up would be made with the Chief Executive Office in relation to arranging a meeting with the Minister regarding the Freshwater Pearl Mussel issue.

The Chairman thanked Mr Tom Cannon for his presentation.

As a representative from the Traffic & Transportation Team was not still present it was decided to take the next items

**(b) Proposal for planned Pedestrian Crossing in Charleville – Section 38 process**

This presentation was given to members by Ms Anna McCarthy- Graduate Architect from Cork County Council Architects Dept. Following the presentation members made the following points:

Cllr Ian Doyle thanked Cork County Council staff for the progress on Charleville Town Park and acknowledged the difficulty in crossing from the car-park therefore he welcomed this proposal

The acceptance of the plan was proposed by Cllr I Doyle and seconded by Cllr JP O' Shea.

A Section 38 finalising safety audit will take 4 weeks for approval by members.

**(c) Concept Design for Charleville Plaza**

This presentation was given to members by Ms Anna McCarthy- Graduate Architect from Cork County Council Architects Dept. Following the presentation members made the following points:

Councillors unanimously welcomed this proposal for Charleville. Cllr I Doyle commenting that it was tremendous opportunity for Charleville both from a retail & tourism perspective, Cllr JP O' Shea commented that community buy-in is very important & requested a time-line of progress?

Councillor J Kennedy made a comparison of this project with the Plaza in Mallow and queried why the trees that were in the Mallow proposal were not planted? He also commented that the plaza in Mallow could be better utilized by businesses

*Mary Hayes – Senior Executive Officer responded as follows:*

- *Next Step for Charleville Plaza project will be Public Consultation, hoping for Part 8 process to begin early/late Aug 2020; the project will then be subject to funding being secured. She also stressed that local buy-in is vital.*

Councillor B Moynihan welcomed the Charleville project however he commented on the subject of the Link Road, Kanturk which he says won't go to tender for another 3 weeks. He said that this is "beyond disgrace a that official involved should be brought to task"

Mary Hayes and Jim Moloney both responded saying that work of Cork County Council officials must be acknowledged and that despite Covid 19 restrictions that every effort has been made to progress the project. J. Moloney stated that while he was not aware of the nature of the current delays, he felt there were very valid reasons and he agreed to seek an update from the Roads Directorate.

**(d) Municipal District Officers Report**

The Municipal District officers report was presented by Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer.

All members welcomed the report. The following issues were raised by Members following on from the MDO report

- Free Parking has had a huge impact on business's
- Moving the Taxi Rank – Cllr P Hayes had confirmed that he had been engaging with taxi drivers & commitment is almost complete, however he asked that this not be made public yet.
- Cllr B Moynihan stated that he will be highlighting the incompetence of Cork County Council through the media
- Cllr Gearoid Murphy welcomed the presence of the new Cork County Council appointed traffic warden in Mallow. He also requested an electronic copy of the draft Mallow Historic Map.
- Cllr J Kennedy requested that time limits in car parks in Mallow be streamlined to prevent confusion. Queried the status of the Central Hotel?
- Cllr JP O' Shea queried the progress of works in Liscarroll Village
- Cllr T O' Shea queried the number of traffic wardens allocated to Mallow & also queried the status of the Central Hotel?
- Cllr I Doyle acknowledged work done by Council staff under Covid-19 restrictions
- Cllr L Madden welcomed the update on the taxi rank. Query with regard to Project ACT funding for Buttevant, is it possible for this funding to be re-purposed? He also thanked Cork County Council officials in relation to work

done in Buttevant in relation to the Cahiramee Horse fair that was cancelled due to Covid-19

*Mary Hayes SEO replied as follows:*

- *It is proposed that the Mallow taxi rank will re-locate outside Katies Newsagents*
- *An electronic draft copy of Mallow Historic Map will be circulated*
- *Confirmed that a review of time limits for carparks will be completed for the next meeting.*  
*Note: Cllr JP O' Shea that this review will co-incide with the end of the 3 month "Free Parking"*
- *In relation to the Central Hotel, Cork County Council have been engaging with the owner. Engineers report is complete. Cork County Council Planning Dept will investigate the façade of the building taking public safety into account. Should be a further up-date in a couple of weeks.*
- *Confirmed that a Part 8 for Lisscarroll Village is currently being reviewed and that consultation will be needed with the wider community.*
- *Confirmed that there is currently 1 warden appointed to Mallow, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> taking up duty shortly.*
- *Noted the issues with on-street parking & noted that Mallow Chamber are currently distributing leaflets to business to encourage use of the car-parks*
- *In Buttevant, confirmed that the trees were in need of re-planting.*
- *Acknowledged and complimented the local Gardai in relation to Cahirmee also.*

Cllr J Kennedy referred to tree planting on the Plaza in Mallow, could the possibility of this be looked at again?

*Mary Hayes SEO replied as follows:*

- *Full support was note there when the plaza was completed again; however this can be looked at again recommending specific trees for urban areas.*
- *Also confirmed that discussions would take place in the coming week with regard to funding for Mallow through Project ACT.*

**(e) Update on Phase 2 of Bus Shelter/Accessible Bus Stop Programme – Traffic & Transportation Team**

This presentation was given by Jonathan Cahill of the Traffic & Transportation Team, Cork County Council. New bus shelters will be introduced in the following locations

1. Ballydaheen, Mallow – 1 Bus Shelter
2. Buttevant – 2 Bus Shelters (Wheelchair accessible)
3. Charleville – 2 Bus Shelters – 1 Southbound, 1 Northbound (Wheelchair accessible)

Members acknowledged and welcomed the 5 projects.

Cllr Gearoid Murphy asked that the following locations be considered for bus stops in the future – Mallow General Hospital, Twopothouse – upgrade of bus shelter. Cllr L Madden made the point that the bus shelter may be more effective on the southbound side of Buttevant. Also made the point that there is a bus stop needed in Grenagh, followed by a bus shelter.

Members agreed to liaise with Jonathan Cahill in relation to any queries on this project.

**(f) Engineers Report**

This was presented by Jim Moloney Senior Engineer. Items included in the report were as follows:

1. Works on RI and RM projects are progressing.
2. Engineering staff have recently been significantly engaged in preparing planning reports on files backlogged due to Covid.
3. Works on the N20 Mallow Southern Approach contract are being advanced – significant surfacing completed recently. Works now progressing on western parapet of Blackrock Bridge. Thereafter work will switch to eastern parapet for a few weeks which will involve closure of pedestrian access to the bridge. Contractor will issue further updates.
4. The Meeting was advised of improvement proposals for the R576 O'Brien St Roundabout in Kanturk which are about to be published for public consultation. It is intended to progress these works under the Safety Improvement Works 2020 scheme.
5. Cumnorr Construction are on annual leave from 17<sup>th</sup> July and on return on 4<sup>th</sup> August Boardwalk contract activity will concentrate on the northern end junction with Park Rd/Bridge St necessitating some stop/go operations and night time works ahead of school re-openings.
6. Project ACT: Significant works have been implemented in the MDs 5 towns following local Town Activation meetings. J. Moloney acknowledged the co-operation and positive input of team members.

Interventions and measures proposed include:

Provision of Age Friendly spaces in Kanturk

Re-location of Taxi rank in Mallow and consideration of providing left turn lane from Main St onto O'Brien St

J. Moloney advised Members that the NTA have indicated their intention to fund temporary pedestrian crossing improvements in Church St, Newmarket and at the Main St, Mallow junctions with St. James Ave, Fair St. and O'Brien St. – all locations identified through ACT meetings. Final approval from NTA is awaited.

7. 2020 Roads Works Programmes - the Meeting was advised of the following Works programmes – details of which were subsequently circulated by email:
  - a. Footpaths
  - b. Public Lighting
  - c. 30kph in Estates
  - d. LIS & CIS

All members welcomed the report. The following issues were raised by Members following on from the Engineers report:

- Cllr J Kennedy in reference to the public lighting programme requested that Narcotts Lane, Mallow and Oliver's Cross be considered for new public lighting. He also made reference to the traffic calming measures on St Josephs Road.
- Cllr Gearoid Murphy referenced to works on the boardwalk and stressed the importance of having works complete before the new school year. He also welcomed the new speed limits and asked if new speed limits can be introduced outside the review?
- Cllr L Madden made reference to the works taking place on the N20 – will there be provision made for a Pedestrian Crossing?
- Cllr I Doyle referencing the public lighting programme, asked about public lighting outside Cork County Council offices in Charleville adding that 2 lights would be sufficient, could this be considered. He stressed the seriousness of lack of lighting at this junction.
- Cllr JP O' Shea made reference to the Age Friendly spaces in Kanturk and asked if one of these spaces could be re-considered? He also acknowledged the new speed limits, asking if signage will be erected and if signs don't work could ramps be considered. He also made reference to a report requested re the effectiveness of signage. Making reference to the LIS & CIS, Cllr O' Shea asked why there were only 2?
- Cllr P Hayes made reference to speed limit review and asked if ramps could be considered on the road at Dromore Drive/Forrest View, Mallow? He also asked if the area around Lisgriffin School could be looked at?

*Jim Moloney, Senior Engineer replied as follows:*

- *Public Lighting at Narcotts Lane, Mallow will be investigated.*
- *Lighting at Oliver's Cross will be considered as part of overlay plans by TII*
- *It is hoped to introduce a Pedestrian Crossing at the lower entrance to Castlepark estate as part of the playground works at Mallow Castle. This will help with traffic calming.*
- *Points with regard to works on-going at the Boardwalk have been noted and has ensured that the public will be given notice of disruptions*
- *30kph in estates is guided by the Dept of Transport guidance document and is restricted to specific locations. It is planned to introduce a phased schedule of 10 housing estates. The next country wide general speed limit review is due to take place in 2022. Members are requested to note and report concerns where signage (30kph) is not working – other interventions may then be introduced. He will endeavor to have a response to this for the September meeting*
- *The request for public lighting in Charleville has been noted.*
- *The issue of speeding at Dromore Drive/Forrest View will be investigated*
- *The issue of speeding at Liscarroll NS will be investigated*

- *There are no plans for a pedestrian crossing to be provided (south of the Annabella roundabout) as part of the N20 works. Pedestrians are directed north to cross the footbridge.*
- *The request with regard to Age Friendly spaces in Kanturk has been noted.*
- *With regard to LIS grants this is the allocation to the Kanturk Mallow MD in 2020 and it will be fully used. Follow up (post Covid) with CIS applicants is required to determine if they are still interested.*

Due to time constraints & all meetings being limited to 2 hours Cllr P Hayes proposed to defer Notices of Motions to the next meeting.

This was agreed by all.

3. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr Gearoid Murphy confirmed that it will be possible to submit new motions for the September meeting.

4. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be confirmed

SIGNED: *P. Hayes*  
CHAIRPERSON

DATE: *4/9/2020*