

CARRIGALINE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Meeting: 20/7/2020



Minutes of Proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of the Carrigaline Municipal District, held on Floor 16 County Hall on Monday 20th of July 2020 at 14:00.

Present: Cllr. Aidan Lombard (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. Seamus McGrath, Cllr. Marcia D'Alton, and Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan.

Apologies: Cllr. Audrey Buckley & Cllr. Liam O'Connor

In Attendance: Madeleine Healy, Senior Executive Engineer; John Slattery, Senior Engineer; Noelle Desmond, Municipal District Officer; Sophie Ryan, Assistant Staff Officer; Ian Broe, Clerical Officer.

1. Confirmation Of Minutes

Cllr. D'Alton asked that the minutes of the meeting from June 15th 2020 be amended to show that in her first motion that Gardai had already received a report into speed signage in Ballygarvan and in her second motion that she was very frustrated at the lag in appointing consultants to the Carrigaline TPREP & Public Realm Enhancement Plan.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

"Draft Chief Executive's Report re Part 8 Planning for provision of improved pedestrian & cycle facilities in Carrigaline on the L2464 Ballinrea Road, R611 Ashgrove Roundabout, and the R611 Cork Road at Heron's Wood"

John Slattery stated that the original Part 8 planning had begun in late 2018/early 2019 and following 17 submissions from the public, the scheme being extended to such a degree that original scheme was terminated and a new initiative started. Initial consultation began in April and there was an extension of the public consultation process.

John Slattery stated that there had been 23 public submissions in total and that the project is largely supported. The majority of concerns relate to the removal of trees. There is 21/22 minor trees and 12 major trees which need to be removed. John Slattery informed members that it may be possible to retain 6 minor trees and 4 major trees. John Slattery noted that the purpose of the report was to allow MD members to view submissions before they went before full council.

In relation to Forest Hill housing estate, a speed survey was carried out 7 day period from February 28th 2020. This survey was carried out prior to the introduction of Covid-19 related restrictions and therefore was representative of real time traffic. The survey showed that there was just under 3,500 daily drivers and that the 85th percentile speed was 54.9 km/h, the 95th percentile speed was 60.2 km/h and the mean speed was 46.98 km/h.

John Slattery added that there was an appendix which was developed in conjunction with the road safety officer by which it prioritises areas for traffic calming measures. The score required for this 60 and Forest Hill only scored 42.1. A speed survey can only sometimes be a snap shot of reality and this can be reassessed at a later date.

Cllr. McGrath thanked John Slattery for attending the meeting. However Cllr. McGrath said factors other than speed should be taken into consideration such as traffic volume and also asked would the council take in charge the road through Forest Hill. John Slattery noted that there is insufficient justification for the taking in charge of the road as it is a spine road rather than an estate road. John

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Slattery also said there would be no desire on behalf of the council to reduce the speed limit on the road but that he can appreciate the residents' concerns and that everything can be reassessed at a later date.

Cllr. McGrath said that he would be disappointed if this issue was not assessed further citing Herons Wood housing estate as an example of an estate with traffic calming measures in place. Cllr. McGrath also noted that the Ballinrea Scheme keeps moving to which John replied that this will be the next scheme carried out.

Cllr. McGrath raised the concerns of residents of Carrigcourt and the issue of illegal parking and the possibility of installing raised curbs to deter illegal parking. John Slattery informed Cllr. McGrath that the junction will be tightened to prevent any illegal parking and that raised curbs can be looked at in the design phase as they won't change the scope of the project. John Slattery also informed Cllr. McGrath that the issue of yellow boxes could also be explored in the design phase.

Cllr. McGrath also asked would it be feasible to replant trees that would be removed during the works. John Slattery replied that it may not be possible to replant existing trees but that for every tree removed another one would be planted in its place in another location.

Cllr. McGrath raised the issue of a lack of shared path near the Ashbourne roundabout. John Slattery noted that this could be looked at. Cllr. D'Alton also raised this but also the issue of the transition from the shared path. John Slattery also noted the planned crossing had been removed as they intended to avoid land acquisition delays.

Cllr. McGrath said that 3 controlled crossings in such a short stretch of road could be problematic as it could cause traffic issues. John Slattery noted that he would take these concerns on board.

Cllr. D'Alton asked if all works being carried out covered under planning and at what stage a road safety audit would be carried out. John Slattery informed Cllr. D'Alton that all works are currently covered under planning and that it is too early for a road safety audit.

Cllr. D'Alton also stated that the maturity of the trees being removed needs to be a major focus as to try and not lose some really mature trees. John stated that a lot work is being done to try and resolve this issue.

3. Matters Arising

Cllr. McGrath asked if there is an update from the Environment Directorate on more regular monitoring of the water outflow on the Crosshaven Road. Noelle Desmond informed Cllr. McGrath that they have heard nothing back but will follow up on the matter.

Cllr. McGrath asked was there any update on the installation of speed signage on the Ballinrea Road. Madeleine Healy stated that there had been a delay in receiving the signage but that it had been delivered and they will get the signage up as soon as possible.

Cllr. McGrath sought an update on the footpath link between the Forest Hill roundabout and Rosehill. Cllr. McGrath asked if it would be possible to ask to developer to put in their section of the path as the area has become a popular walking route. Madeleine said that the developer would be under no obligation to that but that there was a draft layout being prepared for the area and that land acquisition would be needed to achieve this.

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Cllr. D'Alton asked has the NTA come back with an update relating to taking out a portion of Greenway. Noelle informed Cllr. D'Alton that this request went through Cormac O'Suilleabhain's office and that as of now there is no update but that she will follow up.

Cllr. D'Alton also asked is there any update on the possibility of the deep cleaning from the Project ACT initiative being extended to smaller settlements such as Ringaskiddy etc. Both Noelle & Madeleine noted that they have received no indication that this will be happening. Cllr. D'Alton noted that Passage West Tidy Towns sometimes coordinate with the area office on such matters.

Cllr. D'Alton thanked the area office for the installation of the stop sign on the Hovione to Ringaskiddy road. She also noted that since the last meeting Coillte had withdrew their plans for Garryduff Woods.

Cllr. D'Alton also raised the issue of the capping on the wall in St. Marys Cemetery, Passage West. Noelle Desmond stated that due to Covid-19 and associated works there hasn't been enough time to get to cemeteries. She added that a wider plan was being developed.

4. Correspondence

Cllr. D'Alton asked if a response been received from NAMA regarding the Harbour Heights roundabout. Noelle stated that a response had not been received but that she will follow up.

Cllr. McGrath noted the quick response from the Minister of Education's office regarding Ringaskiddy National School and expressed the hope that a teacher will be instated at the school.

5. Disposal of Property

(i) *Substation at Ballea Waterworks to ESB Networks*

The disposal of this property was noted by all members.

6. Municipal District Officer Report

Noelle Desmond noted that all proposals approved have come through the Project ACT initiative and were approved for funding through the Town Development Fund. She noted that there had been a delay in acquiring certain materials required for some works; however she hopes to see more work on the ground in the coming weeks.

Noelle Desmond stated that there hadn't been any immediate work carried out on the parklet yet but that the Tidy Towns hut had been moved. The parking plan put in place through Project ACT leaflets are in print and Noelle would be meeting contractors tomorrow regarding signage.

With regards to ACT works in Passage West, Noelle Desmond stated that a number of works had been completed such as the Project ACT graphics on the Passage West Convent. She also informed members that the end of Greenway and Pontoon signage would be installed soon. The Monkstown Cut & Cover Mural is currently being worked on in conjunction with the Arts Office and will have input from elected members. As in Carrigaline there has been a delay with certain materials such as bollards and they will be installed outside the Shamrock as soon as possible.

Noelle Desmond added that the running track in Carrigaline was on schedule and weather dependent should be opening in August.

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Noelle stated that with regards to Carrigaline TPREP & Public Realm, that consultants had been appointed and that they hoped to schedule the 1st round of stakeholder engagement meetings with MD members in September.

Cllr. Marcia D'Alton asked who the consultants that had been appointed to TPEP/Public Realm were. Noelle Desmond said that she would find out. Cllr. D'Alton also asked Madeleine Healy when signage is being put up could members be liaised with prior to the installation and also asked as to when the new litter bins will be installed. Madeleine Healy stated that they will be notified with regard to signage and that the new bins would be installed next week.

Cllr. McGrath believes that is time to get on with the parking plan for Carrigaline before it loses momentum and asked about posters for businesses with information on the plan. He also asked could the Owenabue Car Park extension be opened without the additional fencing in place. Cllr. Lombard agreed that the plan will lose momentum unless a set date for the plan to begin is put in place. He said he believed that the date doesn't need to be immediate but that it would help to keep the plan on track. Madeleine said that a few issues need to be finalised including linking and signage works before a date can be given and that they should be in a better position by the end of the week.

7. Members Discretionary Fund

Noelle Desmond reminded members the Members Discretionary Fund was still in place. She added that members can nominate 2 groups each for their allocation of funding and that these be brought before the MD for approval.

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan stated that one of the groups he wished to allocated money to was Waterfall - Ballinora Community Association noting that they will then use this money to print information leaflets for the area.

Cllr. McGrath noted that he would like to see the process for allocating this fund reviewed at the end of the year. Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan said he believed the fund was beneficial and should be kept.

8. Notices of Motion

Cllr. McGrath

- (i) *To request a report on the maintenance of Cemeteries in our Municipal District. Please outline the nature and frequency of maintenance activities, whether the work is carried out by Council staff or contractor in each case.*
 - (ii) *This Municipal District requests that the Cross at the All Saints Cemetery be illuminated.*
 - (iii) *To request that a plan be prepared for the future use of the Community/Circus field in Carrigaline.*
- (i) Cllr. McGrath thanked Madeleine Healy for her report and said he understands that due to Covid-19 restrictions it wasn't possible to begin maintenance works until May of this year. However he noted that cemeteries are sensitive places and that people often become upset when they aren't maintained correctly. He noted that one corner of the

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cemetery in Carrigaline has become a 'dumping ground' and has asked what can be done about this and where possible any improvements would be welcomed. He also asked could a sign be put in place to deter the dumping and also to look at an employment scheme for someone to maintain the cemeteries. He noted that older parts of certain cemeteries aren't as well maintained as the newer sections and asked that this is rectified. Madeleine informed Cllr. McGrath that soil left from gravediggers is the major problem here and that it is very hard to keep on top of. With regards to the employment scheme it can be looked at however Madeleine Healy noted that disposal of waste is a matter for cemetery bye-laws.

Cllr. Lombard supported the motion. Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan welcomed the motion and asked could more care be given to the older section of Ballygarvan Cemetery. Cllr. D'Alton stated that she had a near identical motion on the agenda in 2018. She asked since the boundary change has there been a budget change due to the loss of 3 large cemeteries to which Madeleine Healy noted that the cemeteries budget has been lowered this and that effort is being made for the council to maintain cemeteries as to save money on paying contractors. She also noted that the cemeteries that have transferred to the city previously had their own budget, so their budget has not been redistributed by Cork County Council.

- (ii) Cllr. McGrath asked could the Municipal District write to the City Council to get the cross in All Saints illuminated once again as it was once illuminated. He stated that this cemetery was a very historic place and that the families of the people buried there deserve to have this illuminated. Noelle Desmond noted that this area was now in the jurisdiction of the City Council and Madeleine Healy noted that she believed the cemetery was in the ownership of the HSE. Noelle Desmond will follow up on the matter.
- (iii) Cllr. McGrath stated that in recent time the Circus Field had become overgrown and that it had become an area for anti social behaviour because of the cover it provides. He said he was aware of a feasibility study carried out by Carrigaline Tidy Towns for a nature walk in the area and he believes this would be a good idea. He asked has the council any plan for the area and it is a substantial area of land in an ideal location. Cllr. Lombard supported the motion and said that a plan is needed for such a substantial piece of land. Noelle said that this can certainly be looked at. Noelle Desmond noted that she would follow up with the property section.

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan

- (i) *To thank the area engineer and the area office for works carried out during the month at Briar Hill, L6300 and Five Mile. It was much appreciated, and the residents extend a word of thanks and to ask that a sign (which will be visible at night), to be placed at the junction between Ballinphellic and R600. A sign was here previously but needs to be replaced. This would be to aid residents going to Ballinphellic on dark evenings etc.*

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- (i) Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan thanked the area office for the work carried out at Briar Hill and at Five Mile. He also passed on the thanks of the residents of these areas. Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan asked that a sign which will be visible at night would be placed at the junction between Ballinphellic and R600. The sign which was here is no longer there and needs to be replaced. He stated that he has received a number of enquiries about this as money people are missing the turn to Ballinphellic as a result of no sign. Madeleine Healy said that she will do what she can.

Cllr. D'Alton

- (i) *"That the Members of the Carrigaline Municipal District resolve to request that Cork County Council would pursue the registered owners of properties on the Derelict Sites List in the Carrigaline Municipal District for non-payment of levies
Furthermore, in view of the relevance of this motion to all Municipal Districts in Cork County, the Members would consider forwarding this motion to Full Council for approval for the County at large."*
- (ii) *"That this Municipal District would identify the actions taken by Cork County Council subsequent to the serving of a Section 55 notice on the Dockyard, Passage West on 28th February 2005 to secure the Waste Permit identified by the Environmental Protection Agency as necessary for scrap storage and handling activities."*
- (i) Cllr. D'Alton had previously asked the Southern Director for the amount of levies for derelict sites. She stated that she was grateful for the information received. However she stated that there are at least €117,000 outstanding levies, one property has been on the register since 2011 and owes over €47,000 in outstanding levies. Cllr. D'Alton said that however menial the 3% levy is, that it must be pursued. Cllr. D'Alton said that dereliction was a scourge on any town and it hinders towns from developing. She also noted that NAMA owned some properties on the register and that they had not been paying their full levies. Cllr. D'Alton said that many times the Derelict Sites Act had been criticised but she said that it may work if used to its full capacity. Derelict property owners need to be held accountable. Cllr. D'Alton said that these levies should be chased up by the legal department if not paid. She also noted that the charge does nothing to penalise the owner if the property is sold and only penalises the new owner of the property.

Cllr. Lombard supported the motion and agreed that the charge was penalising the wrong person following the sale of the property. Cllr. McGrath noted that he supports the motion and that he has tried to put focus on this in the past. He wanted the levy to be increased from 3% to 10% to deter people from leaving properties slip into dereliction. As it stands there is no incentives for property owners to act, however if the levies were to be pursued more aggressively it might encourage property owners to act. Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan also welcomed the motion and asked would it be possible for members to receive a list of all derelict sites in the Carrigaline MD.

- (ii) Cllr. D'Alton noted that planning was granted in 1987 and that a more modern waste permit would introduce more environmental considerations specific to the activities that



are occurring at the site. Residents have raised concerns about the noise and other issues coming from the area. Cllr. McGrath said that residents have raised ongoing issues at the site and that he supports the motion. Noelle Desmond said that the environment directorate are to prepare a report.

9. Votes of Congratulations

Cllr. D'Alton asked that the MD congratulate the organisers and participants of a Facebook Talent Show organised by the community in Passage West which raised €11,000 for Marymount Hospice.

Cllr. D'Alton asked to congratulate the Carrigaline Court Hotel who won a number of Irish Hotel Awards including General Manager of the year and Kitchen Porter of the year.

10. Any Other Business

Cllr. McGrath said that on the Coolmore Road between the grotto and the cross there is 2 light poles without any heads, he asked would it be possible to erect heads on these poles outside of the public lighting scheme. Cllr. McGrath also raised the issue of verges needing to be cut on many roads and said he believed that any verge within 2 km of a large settlement should be cut at least 2 times a year. Madeleine informed Cllr. McGrath that the budget for town approaches was used to fund a lot of the Project ACT works and that the same level of service cannot be provided. However she said that they will try and get another cut in before the end of the summer.


Cllr. D'Alton enquired about the possibility of putting outdoor seating outside the Ferryboat Inn, both Madeleine and Noelle informed Cllr. D'Alton that they had received an application for outdoor seating and it had been approved.

Cllr. D'Alton also noted that the footpath into Ringaskiddy was covered in pine needles which become slippery when wet and asked could this be cleaned. Madeleine said that this can be looked at. Cllr. D'Alton also noted that the city council had trimmed the overgrowth on their section of the Rochestown – Passage West Greenway and that the county side needed to be trimmed also.

Cllr. D'Alton also asked could 2 large tree branches in the Gobby Beach car park be moved.

Cllr. D'Alton also asked that the pollinator plan be kept on the agenda for future meetings.

Cllr. Lombard informed Madeleine that the tap in Roberts Cove is disconnected. Madeleine Healy said she will look into this.



21/9/20