

Minutes of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting which was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 28th July 2023

Present/I láthair: Cllrs. Ted Lucey (Cathaoirleach), Michael Creed, Michael Looney, Eileen Lynch, Martin Coughlan & Gobnait Moynihan

Attendance/Tinreamh: Ms. Nicola Radley, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer
Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies/Leath scéal: Mr. Pat O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer

1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

On the proposal of Cllr. Eileen Lynch and seconded by Cllr. Michael Creed the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 30th June 2023 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

2. NITHE AG ÉIRÍ AS NA MIONTUAIRISCÍ MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Ted Lucey

- (a) Macroom – Water pooling
J. Dwyer, SEE outlined that that TII will be doing works in Macroom and this will be completed then as funding is available.
- (b) Pedestrian Crossing Masseytown - Speed Down the Hill
J. Dwyer, SEE said this is with the Roads Design Office for a drawing.
- (c) Public Toilets, Macroom
M. O'Leary, MDO said there is a meeting arranged with the cleaning contractor
- (d) Sign over the Castle Gates advertising Car Parking in the GAA Grounds
J. Dwyer, SEE said will potential signage proposals to the Members for consideration.
- (e) Carrigadrohid Bridge – Debris Falling – Big Concern
J. Dwyer, SEE said this is with the Bridge Repairs Section to assess the works to be carried out.
- (f) Dan Corkery Place, Macroom
J. Dwyer, SEE said he is due to meet with the contractors.

Councillor Eileen Lynch

- (a) Toonsbridge – Pedestrian Footpath - safety works – money allocated
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has no update at present.

- (b) Lee Valley Inn in a dangerous state.
M. O’Leary, MDO said she is in the process of progressing it to the next stage under the Derelict Sites Act 1990.
- (c) Bus Stop on the Killarney Road, Macroom
J. Dwyer, SEE said he met with Bus Eireann and it was agreed to locate it closer to the town. Cllrs. Lucey and Moynihan both welcomed this.

Councillor Michael Creed

- (a) Kilmurry – provide another lane for traffic exiting onto the N22 going towards Macroom
J. Dwyer, SEE said while this is a good idea, but it is not straight forward. He outlined that even if the verge was cleared, it still isn’t wide enough for two cars to pass and therefore would involve land purchase if it were to be further considered.
- (b) Terelton to Knockane – potholes
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate.
- (c) New Inchigeelagh Graveyard – Water pipes not connected

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

- (a) Bridge in Macroom Town
- Plaster to be removed from both sides of the bridge.
J. Dwyer, SEE said he looked at it and is uncertain if power washing would help but is due to meet the contract cleaners on site to discuss. Cllr. Coughlan said in the long term it might be beneficial to remove the plaster as it would probably look better overall. J. Dwyer, SEE agreed and said he will investigate.
 - Lamp on the Bridge
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has no update
- (b) St. Colman’s Park, Macroom – light out
J. Dwyer, SEE said he had no update
- (c) Old Estates – Any funding for old estates where areas are dug up after water works.
J. Dwyer, SEE said there isn’t any special funding to carry out this work. He said a lot of estates need work done and it would be a case of balancing the needs of the estates with the busy roads. Cllr. Coughlan said old estates need to be looked after and suggested starting with an estate that is in the worst repair and possibly doing one every couple of years after that.

Councillor Michael Looney

- (a) Junctions Overgrown – dangerous
Cllr. Looney said the overgrown ditches along roadsides are urgently in need of trimming and asked if additional pressure could be put on landowners to cut them. J. Dwyer, SEE outlined that under the Wildlife Act 1976, verge trimming is prohibited annually from 1st March to 31st August and it is an offence for any cutting to be done during that period. In response to Cllr. Moynihan, he said there is a programme in place for the N22. He said that once the season is over all landowners are contacted and if they do not comply, they will be taken to Court.

Councillor Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) QR Code on the Murals in Macroom
M. O'Leary, MDO said they have been translated into Irish and have been submitted to be included onto Cork County Council's website. She said once they are up on the website the QR codes can then be set up and then attached to the plaques. She said this would realistically take a couple of months and confirmed once they are finalised they would be advertised.
- (b) Extra Handrail at Chapel Hill – Update
J. Dwyer, SEE said the handrail has to be attached to a private wall and permission is required.
- (c) Graveyard Millstreet - Bench
M. O'Leary, MDO said as far as she is aware it will be September before this will be in place but would need to confirm it with P. O'Sullivan, EE.
- (d) Bus Éireann's Route 257 service, servicing Macroom to Killarney – Update
In response to Cllr. Moynihan's query regarding having a timetable on the poles in Millstreet and Ballydaly, M. O'Leary, MDO said she has written to Bus Éireann regarding this matter and will follow up with them.
- (e) Light at the Bridge in Béal Átha nGhaorthaidh
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has no update.
- (f) Coolavokig Old School – Humps and Hollows on the Road which are getting worse
J. Dwyer, SEE confirmed no funding has been allocated for this work.
- (g) Naming of Roundabout at Coolcower after Cumann na mBan
M. O'Leary, MDO said that the Traffic Signs Manual which has legislative standing states that the name used should bear some geographical significance to the area it is located in.

Cllr. Moynihan said the naming of the roundabout is a Reserved Function and proposed naming it Cumann na mBan Roundabout. Cllr. Looney seconded this proposal.

Cllr. Lucey said the legislation was very clear and this cannot be done.

Cllr. Creed said they have a clear understanding of TII's manual and proposed naming the roundabout Coolcower Roundabout. Cllr. Coughlan seconded this proposal.

Cllr. Lynch said she did not feel that the naming of a roundabout was the most appropriate forum in which to honour Cumann na mBan and continued that the instruction in the TII manual is clear that any roundabout name must have a geographical significance.

Cllr. Lucey said a plaque erected on the Town Hall commemorating Cumann na mBan might be more appropriate.

N. Radley, SEO confirmed that the TII Traffic Signs Manual has a legislative basis and instructs that a name must have a geographical significance to the location and there is no scope outside of this legislation. She stated that Cork County Council is happy to consider commemorating Cumann na mBan locally and any suggestions the Members have in relation to a plaque, or a mural would be welcome. She stated that the suggestion of a plaque on the Town Hall building could be looked at in conjunction with the Heritage & Conservation Sections.

N. Radley, SEO said that as there was an alternative proposal of Cumann na mBan as a name for the roundabout, Members should vote on both options being put forward:

(a) Cumann na mBan Roundabout

For

Cllr. G. Moynihan
Cllr. M. Looney

Against

Cllr. T. Lucey
Cllr. M. Creed
Cllr. E. Lynch
Cllr. M. Coughlan

(b) Coolcower Roundabout

For

Cllr. T. Lucey
Cllr. M. Creed
Cllr. E. Lynch
Cllr. M. Coughlan

Against

Cllr. G. Moynihan
Cllr. M. Looney

Cllr. Lucey said as per the votes cast, naming the roundabout Coolcower got the most votes.

Cllr. Looney said that Cllr. Moynihan had made a good suggestion and queried if there was any other way around it. Cllr. Lucey said it was the legislation.

N. Radley, SEO said the outcome of this vote would be relayed to the Roads Directorate, TII and to Full Council.

3. BREITHNIÚCHÁIN AR THUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) Municipal District Officers Report

Members noted the Report.

(a) 2023 Historic Towns Initiative - Update

Following a query from Cllr. Moynihan, M. O'Leary, MDO outlined that this plan will look at all of the heritage assets within the town core, including the Castle Demesne and any suggestions offered would be relayed to the Castle Demesne Trustess. Cllr. Coughlan said any repair works suggested for the Castle gates would probably need to be Council led. He said there are slates falling off the entry through the Castle Gates and queried whose responsibility it is to rectify. Cllr. Lucey suggested a meeting with the Trustees might be worthwhile.

(b) Traditional Signage

In response to Cllr. Moynihan, M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed that there is no funding available specifically for traditional signage.

(b) Discretionary Fund Applications

Group/Organisation	Brief Description of Request
Dripsey Community Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purchase of Paint for the painting of the Community House and surrounding walls.
The Boeing Community Group Millstreet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To provide age friendly seated area with wheelchair access and plant some native flowers and shrubs to enhance the area
Total	€523

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. E. Lynch
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. G. Moynihan

**4. DIÚSCAIRT TALÚN
Disposal of Property
Fógra Alt 183 / Section 183 Notice**

Disposal of lands at Cooilyhane, Macroom, Co Cork (as per condition original land acquisition contract to facilitate N22 Baile Bhuirne-Macroom Road Project).

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. T. Lucey
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Creed

**5. CHUN NA RUIN SEO LEANAS ÓN GCOMHAIRLEOIR A MHEAS:
To consider the following Notice of Motions in the name of:**

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- 1) **Íarr ar an Comhairle Chontae Chorcaí imscrúdu a dheanamh ar luas na feithicilí ag tiomaint ar Scraid Chorcaí (n22), í MaighChromtha.**

Ask that Cork County Council survey the speed on road n22 Cork Street, Macroom.

Tá comhairimh tráchta/suirbhéanna luais roimh agus tar éis Oscailt Sheachbhóthar N22 déanta cheana féin ag Bonneagar Iompair Éireann laistigh den bhaile. Gheobhaidh mé cóip den suirbhé atá i gceist le haghaidh cúrsaíochta chuig na Baill Thofa

TII have already carried out pre and post N22 By-Pass Opening traffic counts/speed surveys within the town. I will get a copy of the survey in question for circulation to the Elected Members

*Séamus O'Dhuibhir
Innealtóir Feidhmiúcháin Sinsearach*

- 2) **Íarr ar an Comhairle Chontae Chorcaí scríobh chuig TII is íarr ortha athmhachnamh a dheanamh ar an eagsulacht comharthaí atá le usáid acu ar an seachtbhothar n22.**

Ask Council to write to TII, urging TII to reconsider the limited road signage on the N22 bypass.

Tá na Baill Thofa ar an eolas faoi chritéir dhiana BIÉ maidir le comharthaíocht ar aon Bhealaí Náisiúnta. Níl aon agóid agam i gcoinne an mholta seo ach is dóigh liom gur chóir go mbeadh an CB níos sonraí maidir leis na comharthaí atá á n-iarraidh aige.

The Elected Members are aware of TII's strict criteria regarding signage on any National Routes. I do not have any objection to this proposal however I think the MD should be more specific in what signage it is requesting.

*Séamus O'Dhuibhir
Innealtóir Feidhmiúcháin Sinsearach*

Cllr. Moynihan requested that a letter is sent to TII asking them to reconsider erecting signage for drivers on the Macroom Bypass to direct them where to turn off for:

- Béal Átha nGhaorthaidh
- Cill na Martra
- Gaeltacht Mhúscraí

All Members fully supported Cllr. Moynihan's motion.

Cllr. Lucey asked that if the Members had any additional areas to be added to let J. Dwyer, SEE know and he will put a list together to send to the TII. He said the two local TDs could also be contacted on this issue.

6. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

N/A

7. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES.

- Leah Cooke, Corporate Affairs on the death of her grandmother.

8. AON GHNÓ EILE
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Michael Creed

- (a) Coachford – Large pothole on Donoughmore Road near entrance to the old Railway
J. Dwyer, SEE said that Uisce Éireann have carried out works and need to reinstate the road. He said this road was resurfaced a number of years ago.

Cllr. Lucey said this needs to be looked into as a matter of urgency. J. Dwyer, SEE said he will check to see if there is a bond in place. Cllr. Lynch agreed that this pothole needs urgent repair.

- (b) Kilmurry to Boxers Cross – bad potholes
J. Dwyer, SEE said this is not on the 2023 Programme but would be included in a future Programme.

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Potholes on the N22 – Whose responsibility is it to fix them?
J. Dwyer, SEE said an application is made to TII but the immediate maintenance is carried out by Cork County Council. Cllr. Moynihan said the road urgently requires repair at Coolnacarah on the turn heading west.
- (b) Removal of Carrigaphooka Roundabout
Cllr. Moynihan requested that Macroom MD write to TII reconsider the removal of the temporary roundabout. Following a discussion, the Members acknowledged that this temporary roundabout is located in the middle of the bypass route and is dangerous but at the same time supported the people from the Mons and Cill na Martra areas.
- (c) Macroom Town Parking
Cllr. Moynihan outlined that parking is an issue and said extra bus parking spaces are needed. She said since the bypass has opened the town is under pressure as regards the lack of parking spaces available. She said the old Lidl site has 60/80 parking spaces and is always full. She asked once this site is no longer available where do these cars go. She queried if there was potentially any space available in the Council yard.

Cllr. Lucey agreed and said it is presently being looked into.

N. Radley, SEO said that M. O’Leary, MDO was actively looking at car parking spaces for the town. She said as part of the Heritage Regeneration Plan they are looking at potential car parking and bus stops.

Cllr. Eileen Lynch

- (a) Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) - Further Funding Announced
In response to Cllr. Lynch regarding applications on the waiting list, J. Dwyer, SEE said he welcomed the news and would have a look at the details.
- (b) Barriers on the N22 – Macroom side of 4 Mile Bridge
J. Dwyer, SEE said that this work is being carried out by TII and it has commenced.
- (c) Pedestrians around Macroom
Cllr. Lynch said a lot of the footpaths are uneven and suggested carrying out a Walkability Study. J. Dwyer, SEE said that TII are looking at the old N22 as part of Active Travel and accessibility.

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

- (a) Coolcower Picnic Area – Barrier left open
- (b) Entrance to the Fire Station – looks very unsightly
Cllr. Coughlan said while he supports bio-diversity, the ragwort at the entrance not a bio-diversity plant.

Agreeing with Cllr. Coughlan, Cllr. Lucey said he has contacted the Office of Public Works (OPW) on this issue and was told verbally that it was a Cork County Council issue. Cllr. Moynihan supported this issue.

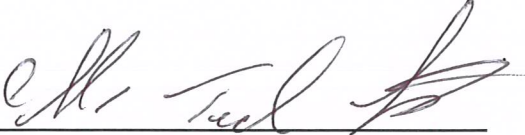
- (c) Bollards located at the Graveyard in Macroom and located in surrounding Areas
Cllr. Coughlan said that these bollards were designed for Macroom Town Centre and were not suitable for those locations as they are made of solid iron. Cllr. Coughlan requested that these bollards be removed and replaced with possibly collapsible bollards or steel ones whichever is more suitable. J. Dwyer, SEE said he would investigate.

Cllr. Ted Lucey

- (a) Speaking Time during MD Meetings
Cllr. Lucey reminded Members of the Standing Orders for MD Meetings and in particular to Standing Order No 29 in relation to the 5-minute speaking time limit for items listed on the Agenda.
- (b) Pedestrian Crossing at Muskerry Vets, Macroom is partly gone
- (c) Millstreet Cross
Cllr. Lucey requested an update for the next meeting.

Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú

This concluded the business of the meeting



CATHAOIRLEACH

22-9-2023

DÁTA



OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH

22-09-2023

DÁTA