



## **CARRIGALINE MUNICIPIAL DISTRICT**

**Meeting: 15/1/2024**

Minutes proceeding of Ordinary Meeting of the Carrigaline Municipal District held via teams and in the Council Chamber on Monday 15th January 2024 at 14:00.

**Present:** Cllr. Audrey Buckley (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. Jack White (Leas Cathaoirleach). Cllr. Marcia D'Alton, Cllr Seamus McGrath, Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan, Cllr. Una McCarthy.

**In Attendance:** Denise Kidney, Municipal District Officer; Madeleine Healy, Senior Executive Engineer; Maurice Murphy, Senior Executive Officer; Ian Broe, Clerical Officer; Dylan O'Connell, Clerical Officer.

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

Cllr. Una McCarthy asked could the November minutes be amended to include a congratulations to the girls Gaelic Football team at Gaelscoil Charraig Uí Leighin over their victory over Gaelscoil na Dúglaise at the Sciath na Scol Chorcaí finals. She also supported Cllr. Jack White's third motion, about the lights in the skate park in Carrigaline.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on November 20th, 2023, were proposed by Cllr. Audrey Buckley and seconded by Cllr. Jack White.

An amendment has been made to the response by Madeleine Healy to Cllr. D'Alton's first motion: *"Cllr. D'Alton notes that there is fallen trees on the western side of Raffeen. There is a build-up of litter/debris and requested that this is cleared."*

Madeleine said she will examine and remove and blockages from the road culvert which may lead to flooding of the R610 if not removed. Cllr. D'Alton thanked Madeleine for her response."

This response was confirmed with Cllr. D'Alton and the meeting minutes were adjusted.

### **2. Matters arising**

Cllr. D'Alton would like an update on the flashing lights at Barnahely Junction.

Madeleine Healy said that there is no update on the lights yet but she is currently investigating the matter.

Cllr. White asked is there a date for a meeting with Bus Éireann, which Cllr. McGrath supported.

Cllr. Buckley then explained that she has been tagged on social media in posts about issues with the buses. Cllr. McGrath agreed with this. Denise Kidney said she will write to the NTA, and say she is frustrated with not getting a response. Cllr. White added that confidence is being undermined.



### **3. Correspondence**

Denise Kidney told the councillors that she received an acknowledgement with Irish Water, and she will follow up.

Cllr. D'Alton drew attention to request for correspondence with ESB in relation to power outages in Monkstown, the NTA re request for bus stop at Pfizer, and Cork City Council re trees being on the R610.

Cllr. McGrath also asked about gathering information on Ringaskiddy Road, so the volume of traffic can be analysed. Madeleine Healy responded by saying there are digital speed signs there and information can be downloaded, they just have to work through a technical issue.

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

#### **(i) Draft Local Economic and Community Plan Framework and the Draft Implementation Plan**

Sharon O'Connell presented the Draft Local Economic and Community Plan Framework and the Draft Implementation Plan, and invited questions from members.

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan thanked the group for their presentation and said that rural isolation is a big issue. He asked about getting groups in touch with cultural companions. Sharon O'Connell replied saying Age Friendly is running in conjunction with Muintir na Tíre and this will be a key focus at workshops.

#### **(ii) Road Maintenance Issues**

Madeleine Healy said she will give an update on road issues, at a subsequent meeting once annual budgets are allocated, and she is currently preparing programmes of work for the coming year. She also confirmed that Cork County Council is currently catching up on signage issues and various jobs, within the MD before the roads programme begins in earnest. Madeleine Healy also went through the process that goes into salting roads. Roads classed as priority 1 and 2 are salted by the Council Fleet Department. Roads classed as priority 3 are managed locally and those seen to be of high importance with regard to schools/ residential areas are salted by the Local area team. The local area where possible would also manage salting of footpaths on the approaches to schools but this is limited to what can be achieved with scarce resources. Cllr. D'Alton thanked Madeleine Healy for the overview. Cllr. McGrath was thankful for the update and said the roads around Church Road and Church Hill need salting.

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan was thankful for the update and queried responsibility for bridge maintenance and rehabilitation. Madeleine Healy said that is managed by the NNRDO.

Cllr. D'Alton asked about driver feedback signs and whether an earlier request for a sign for Myrtleville can be included in the current programme of works. Madeleine Healy replied that Myrtleville had not been included in the current rotation but would be considered prior to tourist season and that a specialised sign may be required.

Cllr. McCarthy welcomed the information about speed signs and asked will this be rotated when schoolchildren go on their summer holidays. Madeleine Healy said it is unlikely they will be able to



rotate all the signs that regularly due to pressures of other works and scarce resources. Cllr. McCarthy was thankful for the update and said that the footpaths on Church Hill Passage West were not salted on Monday and Tuesday and they were very icy. Madeleine Healy explained that Cork County Council will never be able to salt 100% of every road and footpath in a MD.

Cllr. White asked for the next step after receiving feedback about the signs, and what happens if a road is still deemed bad. Madeleine Healy said it depends on where the sign is, and a traffic calming scheme could be implemented. She explained that traffic information is very important when figuring out what happens next.

Cllr. McGrath said that the new signs are welcome. Madeleine Healy advised councillor that there are no plans further plans to put in new signs. Cllr. McGrath added there is a need for a slowdown sign in Myrtleville.

Cllr. Buckley raised the issue of road markings, which Madeleine Healy said she will look at. The councillor also asked could salt bins be put in key locations. Madeleine Healy replied that Cork County Council do not provide salt bins for residents to use but they do run a scheme where Residents associations may apply for a salt bin for their locality which the Council will then supply for a nominal fee.

#### (iii) Section 183 Exchange of lands at Church Bay Road

Madeleine Healy explained why there are no plans to build a footpath after going through Section 183, in relation to the lands on Church Road, which was proposed by Cllr. Buckley and seconded by Cllr. McGrath. Cllr. Buckley asked when will the site be taken over and who will pay for the footpath to the houses. Madeleine Healy said there are no plans for a footpath there at the moment but having the boundary set back will be helpful if this is pursued at a later date.

#### (iv) Fort Camden Meagher – Verbal Update

When it came to discussing Fort Camden, Maurice Murphy explained that Cork County Council are in the process of recruiting people to work at the site. He also went through safety and preservation works being addressed on-site.

Cllr. White enquired about the tour guides and Maurice Murphy explained ten people have been included on recruitment panel and the HR Department are in the process of making offers. He also said a tender competition closed last week in relation to the café. Mr. Murphy stated that he would now seek expressions of interest to explore further options for the café. An advertising campaign was also mentioned, and Maurice said that will begin shortly and the re-opening date announced as soon as possible. Cllr. White warned about going ahead with advertising too quickly as it could lead to bad PR for the reopening should it be delayed. It was also announced that the Camden Fort website will come under Cork County Council. Cllr. McGrath was thankful for the update and said an expression of interest approach is the best way to get a business to take over the café site. The councillor then said



that access will be an issue and questioned the timeline on funding. Maurice Murphy confirmed they are looking at all avenues of funding and noted that the heritage aspect lends itself to higher costs.

## **5. Municipal District Officers Report**

Denise Kidney went through the report.

Denise Kidney explained that they went over budget at Christmas and the MD will be reallocating from other areas.

Cllr. McGrath said he supports the playground approach and Cllr. D'Alton asked if any of the equipment could be reallocated or reused. Cllr. McGrath also said that the Carrigaline Community Association are open minded about getting behind the plan but having to raise €100,000 is a huge cost to them.

Cllr. D'Alton explained that Passage had to raise €50,000 to get 95% funding from SECAD.

Maurice Murphy said there are two providers in Europe that meet the standards for the supply of equipment.

Cllr. D'Alton also inquired about the painting of the library in Passage West, and asked will money be carried over. She also said there are Christmas decorations still up.

Denise Kidney explained that the bigger decorations will be taken down shortly, and she will check back with the councillor on the matter pertaining to the Passage West Library.

Cllr. Buckley asked about the cost of a shelter for people waiting for the bus in Ballygarvan, and Denise Kidney said she will get back to her about that. Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan inquired about a seat getting put in at the bus stop.

Cllr. White, when referring to Section Six, requested a meeting with the team. Cllr. McGrath took an issue with Part Eight and said the project is progressing at a slow pace. He asked could Maurice Murphy take this up on their behalf as this has been going on for several years.

## **6. Chun na Ruin so leanas ón gComhairleoid a mhead:/ To consider the following Notices if**

**Motion in the name of:**

### **Cllr. Seamus McGrath**

1. *"To request that the Area Engineer liaise with Bus Eireann and the NTA to provide inbound and outbound bus stops on the R612 near Carrigaline GAA Club."*

Cllr. McGrath said that this is an issue which has repeatedly been raised. Cllr. Buckley seconded this motion. Cllr. McCarthy also supported this motion. Madeleine Healy stated she has passed the request on to the Sustainable Transport Unit, and they will work with the NTA. The request submitted by Cllr. D'Alton for a stop on N28 at Pfizers has also been forwarded to STU. Cllr. McGrath confirmed that the GAA are willing to cede land so a bus stop can be put in.

2. *"Objective CL-GR-02 in County Development Plan provides an ambitious plan for the development of a new Town Park on the western side of Carrigaline, including the provision*



*of playing pitches. I request that our MD engage with the Planning Policy Unit to see how this Objective can be progressed."*

This motion was supported by Cllr. Buckley and Cllr. White, who said that it is criminal that there is no town park in the centre of Carrigaline. Maurice Murphy said we will talk to the divisional manager and see what our options are. Cllr. D'Alton said that we are in the middle of a housing crisis, and it is important to develop land for people to use recreationally. Cllr. McGrath said this is happening two years on from the development plan. He finished up by saying that the skate park in Carrigaline is a fantastic addition to the community.

3. *"To request a Traffic Calming Scheme be devised for Ballinhassig Village similar to that provided for Ballygarvan."*

Cllr. McCarthy said she also had been contacted by residents and they said they are concerned about the speed of the traffic. This motion was then supported by Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan. Cllr. Buckley said she received calls about this issue, and she would also like to know if signs could be added to the area. Cllr. McGrath thanked Madeleine Healy for her written response.

#### **Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan**

1. *"That the area engineer would consider the installation of an additional speed ramp near the GAA club in Ballygarvan. The installation of 2 no. speed ramps on the Western side of the village is having a very positive impact in terms of speed calming. If the proposal is acceptable, I'm asking that the area engineer would initiate a S.38 or similar process."*

Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan thanked Madeleine for her written response.

2. *"To propose that Waterfall village be the recipient of the 2024 Village Enhancement scheme"*

Denise Kidney advised that there would be a meeting regarding this scheme.

#### **Cllr. Audrey Buckley**

1. *"We discussed recently, at one of our MD meetings areas in the Carrigaline MD as 'Poster Free Zones'. With the upcoming elections, can we collectively agree/disagree where these 'Poster Free Zones' should be in the Carrigaline MD."*

Cllr. Buckley mentioned that others would like to be involved in the process. Cllr. D'Alton supported this motion and said hanging posters can be dangerous. Cllr. McGrath supported this motion and stressed his personal issue with posters. Denise Kidney said that she will be meeting community groups, and this will be mentioned. Cllr. D'Alton mentioned the idea of a designed wall or area for posters, which Cllr. White supports. He then suggested consulting with local Tidy Town groups. Maurice Murphy said he would be happy to ask, and he encouraged members to give their views on this. Cllr. McGrath raised the issue about how this will be communicated to outside candidates.



2. *“Residents on the Ballea road have asked that we clean the river on Ballea road of all the debris. Gathering of tree branches that get trapped under the bridge, causing backup/dam, causing more flooding.”*

Cllr. Buckley also said the bridge needs to be repaired. Written response to the Notice of Motion received from Senior Engineer Flooding Section.

3. *“Minane Dam - recently again I have been contacted about the dam in Minane. More damage to the railings and lower blocks has happened since I reported this last year. Can we get a detailed report of the dam, get funding and look into using this great area as a walking amenity over to Ringabella from Fountainstown.”*

Cllr. Buckley said that this is an amazing area and Cllr. White added that the Dam is a fantastic amenity with historical significance. He also mentioned that there was dangerous equipment left on the site by an oyster farm and the materials left on the beach are protruding. Cllr. White then said that Fountainstown residents have reached out and he wants to know does Cork County Council have authority to address this. Maurice Murphy said it is hard to know the scale of the problem without seeing it.

#### **Cllr. Una McCarthy**

1. *“That Cork County Council roads department re-examine the pedestrian crossing in Ballinhassig Village and consider installing a raised crossing along with traffic ramps on either side of the crossing to reduce the speed of the traffic passing through the village.”*

Written response received from Madeleine Healy. The matter is referred to NNRDO for consultation.

2. *“That Cork County Council would extend the existing footpath by approximately 250m from the roundabout on Ballea Road (R613) outside Carrigaline United Soccer Club as far as Abbey View housing estate.”*

Written response received from Madeleine Healy. Cllr. McCarthy explained that families have said that a footpath would make a huge difference, and she understands that this is a resource issue. Cllr. Jack White seconded this motion. He would like this to put on a list for future recommendations. Cllr. McGrath agrees with this.

3. *“That the area office will prune back a portion of the overgrown shrubbery outside St. Mary's Terrace, in Rockenham, Passage West.”*

Cllr. McCarthy spoke to a member of the local Tidy Towns group who maintains the area. They stated that clearance would take considerable time and work. Cllr D'Alton advised that the local Tidy Towns have been looking after the area for the last 12 years, but it has now become infested with scutch grass which is extremely difficult to remove. Madeleine Healy said the area office will assist where possible if assistants is required.



### **Cllr. Jack White**

1. *“That this MD call on the Roads Directorate to clarify if cameras can be added to traffic lights in the district, to monitor driver behaviour- especially the illegal breaking of red lights.”*

Cllr. White thanked Madeleine Healy for her response and said he has seen many people break red lights in Carrigaline. He also said that if driver behaviour is changing, he would like it to be recorded and the information used by An Garda Síochána. Cllr. McGrath supports this motion. Cllr. D’Alton agreed and said similar schemes are used in continental Europe. Maurice Murphy then went through GDPR concerns and explained it is the same in every European Union country. Cllr. Dalton O’Sullivan added that this could be a legislative issue and asked would Cork County Council be the data controller. Cllr. White said the comments he received are good and he would like to reach out to the Gardaí and the Department of Justice. Cllr. McGrath said this is not an easy ask and would a raised crossing be an answer, a point which Cllr. Buckley agreed with.

### **Cllr. Marcia D’Alton**

1. *“That for the Carrigaline Municipal District, the Municipal District Office would identify:*
  - a. *Properties on the Derelict Sites Register in the Carrigaline Municipal District*
  - b. *The length of time each property has been on the Derelict Sites Register*
  - c. *Levies owing for each property on the Derelict Sites Register*
  - d. *Frequency of correspondence with the owner of each property*
  - e. *The number of properties for which Cork County Council has drawn up a list of works under Section 32(1) of the Derelict Sites Act 1990 in the past five years*
  - f. *The number of properties in (e) for which such specified works have been carried out.”*
2. *“That Dock Terrace and the Dock Offices, Passage West, would be added to the Derelict Sites Register.”*

Cllr. D’Alton expressed her frustration at this process and said a register is supposed to be publicly available. Cllr. McGrath supported this motion, but said the council is going in the right direction. Cllr. D’Alton then asked about how direct sites are being tackled. Maurice Murphy confirmed that he met the officer in charge, and he said new officers has been assigned. Cllr. Buckley asked will the list be for all the Carrigaline MD. Cllr. D’Alton also asked how the money will be collected. Maurice Murphy said he doesn’t know how the money will be collected.

## **7. Votes of Congratulations**

Cllr. McCarthy congratulated Éadaoin and Ciarán Farrell from St. Peter's Community school, Passage West after they won first prize in the intermediate group category in Biological and Ecological Science category at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in Dublin. She also congratulated their Science teacher Mr. Daniel Hurley on his hard work in supporting these students with their project.

Cllr. Buckley congratulated Crosshaven Rugby Club team members for organising the inaugural Eddie Buckley Cup on Saturday 30th December. The event was organised to commemorate the life of Eddie



Buckley, and Crosshaven played Highfield RFC, where Eddie Buckley played in his younger years. White supported this and said Mr. Buckley was a real leader.

The elected members of the Carrigaline MD conducted a Vote of Condolence to commemorate the life of Mr. Gerard Woodbury, a local historian from Newport News.

## **8. Any other Business**

Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan proposed to allocate €150 from his 2023 Member's Discretionary Fund. This was seconded by Cllr. Audrey Buckley.

Cllr. McGrath wants the Chief Executive of Eir to be contacted over a defective chamber in the footpath by the Carrigaline Court Hotel. Madeleine Healy said she discuss the appropriate next step with Denise Kidney. Cllr. McGrath said that this has been going on for a long time and Eir are difficult to deal with.

Cllr. McGrath also raised concerns about the Raffeen Junction on N28. Cllr. D'Alton said it is lethal and she would like the capacity of the junction reduced as someone will be killed at that crossing. Madeleine Healy said that this is outside her remit, but she will contact the National Roads design team.

Cllr. McGrath asked about the parents of André Castro Ladeiro, who was struck by a car and killed last year in Carrigaline, coming in and speaking to the council during the February session. Cllr. White supported this motion. Maurice Murphy said it will be considered.

Cllr. D'Alton sought an update on the drainage at Avondale and a follow up on a meeting with John Slattery re inside lane at Janeville. Cllr. D'Alton mentioned the roadside littering on R610, and she wanted an update on resurfacing after the floods. Cllr. D'Alton also thanked Cork County Council for the work done at Barnahely.

Cllr. Dalton also drew attention to a crash barrier which needs repairs on Haulbowline Bridge Road, and so we need to contact the Department of Defence.

Cllr. Dalton also thanked Cork County Council for dealing with a tree that fell and she asked for help dealing with a loose gate at Robert's Bridge.

Cllr. Buckley wants to write to the HSA about an asbestos site in Crosshaven, and she would like an update on the M28 site. Cllr. Buckley finished up by saying there is a speed and access issue on the L226 road by Castlewhite, and Cllr. Dalton O'Sullivan supports this.

Madeleine Healy said an investigation had been carried out into the surface water system found at Avondale. She also said she will ask Liam Ahern for a Janeville update on a designated public transport lane. Madeline Healy also asked for the locations of the litter to be emailed to her. She also confirmed that she will look after the debris by the ferry and investigate the loose gate. Madeleine Healy finished up by saying that she will look at the Castlewhite issue raised by Cllr. Buckley.

Denise Kidney said she will contact the HSA and see what they say re asbestos site.