

**Minutes of the Fermoy Municipal District Meeting  
held on 16th April 2024**

**In Attendance:** Cllrs. Kay Dawson, Noel McCarthy, Deirdre O' Brien, William O' Leary, Frank Roche; Aidan Creagh SEO, Marie McMahon EE, Margaret O' Donoghue MDO, Lydia Kelly ASO.

**at 10.30 am - PRESENTATION BY BALLYHOURA FAILTE**

The representatives of Ballyhoura Fáilte - Margaret Atalla Chairperson, Myra Ryall and Eleanor O' Dea CE Scheme Supervisor were welcomed to the meeting by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. William O' Leary. Margaret Atalla then proceeded to give a very comprehensive presentation to the Members on the promotional activities of Ballyhoura Fáilte in the area. She said they would welcome a representative of Cork County Council to their Board, adding that they have a board member from Limerick County Council. The presentation included details of their financial situation, indicating the requirement of a €10,000 funding contribution towards their annual expenses and costs. Margaret highlighted the fact that they do not have any income source and all members of Ballyhoura Fáilte operate on a voluntary basis.

The elected members welcomed the Ballyhoura Fáilte representatives to the meeting and thanked them for their presentation, commending them on the work they do to promote the area to visitors and tourists, local and otherwise. The elected Members pledged their support to this group going forward, saying that following the local elections in June the CCC Tourism SPC would be requested to consider nominating a representative from Cork County Council to the Board of Ballyhoura Fáilte. The elected Members also declared their intention to investigate possible funding support mechanisms. Margaret O' Donoghue MDO also thanked Ballyhoura Fáilte for the presentation, saying she would be happy to liaise between them and the elected Members going forward. Those in attendance from Ballyhoura Fáilte thanked the elected Members for their welcome today and wished them well in the forthcoming elections. They added a last request that the directional signs from Fermoy to Doneraile be re-routed in the correct direction.

**1. MINUTES**

**a. Minutes of the Fermoy MD March 2024 meeting held on 26th March 2024**

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

**b. Minutes of Fermoy Weir Update Meeting held (at 1.00pm) on 26th March 2024.**

The Minutes were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Kay Dawson, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.

**2. DEPUTATION : KILMAGNER NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

Cllr. Noel McCarthy requested, on behalf of Kilmagner National School, the deferral of the Deputation to the May 2024 meeting of Fermoy MD. The School apologised that they did not realise that the meeting today clashed with the school Confirmation ceremony.

**3. PORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**a. REPORT : April 2024 MDO Report**

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO went through her report, which was welcomed by the elected Members. She confirmed, further to a query, that the closing date for Clár applications to Fermoy MD is 19th June 2024. In relation to a query about the 2024 Painting Scheme, Margaret advised she would make contact with the elected Members in due course with the relevant information.

**b. REPORT : Rathcormac Deputation Report**

Cllr. William O' Leary thanked those who had prepared this comprehensive report and advised he would liaise directly with personnel in the Cork County Council Coastal & Flood Projects section.

**c. REPORT : 2024 Footpath Programme Update**

Marie McMahon EE went through this update, saying the Contractor is currently working on two footpath projects in Ballynoe. The Contractor will then proceed to work through the agreed 2024 Footpath Programme works throughout the district, to completion.

**d. REPORT : 2024 RI Programme Progress Update**

Marie McMahon EE advised that 30% of this programme is now complete. Works in Mitchelstown have ceased for the time being, with the grader and crew having moved to the Fermoy area. Works on this programme will continue, alternating between Mitchelstown and Fermoy, with planned completion by financial year end.

**e. REPORT : Storm Babet Resurfacing Update**

Marie McMahon EE advised that works from this programme are currently ongoing in Kilcor, Castlelyons. They will continue on to Corrin, Fermoy and then on to Kilworth until all works on this programme have been carried out.

**f. REPORT : 2024 Drainage Programme Progress Update**

Drainage works in preparation for surface dressing work, and other ancillary drainage jobs, continue to be carried out by outdoor crews throughout the district. A separate drainage project required in Araglin is being worked on by the Mitchelstown crew.

**g. FOR CONSIDERATION : Greenhill Estate green query**

Marie McMahon EE circulated a drawing showing the small area of ground concerned, this was also displayed onscreen for the information of all at the meeting. She requested the elected Members make enquiries locally prior to Cork County Council proceeding to rescind their interest in this piece of ground (measuring 0.016 acre). The elected Members undertook to revert at the May 2024 meeting with any observations and comments they receive from the public.

**h. RECOMMENDATION : proposed traffic calming measures on Pike Road**

Marie McMahon EE circulated drawings to those in attendance showing the proposals for traffic calming measures on Pike Road, Fermoy consisting of three uncontrolled crossings and one raised table (at the Beechfield Estate junction). Marie advised that a Section 38 will be required and that all traffic movements and the use of this road generally will be examined prior to installation of these proposed measures. Additional signage may also be incorporated here. The elected Members welcomed these proposals as the volume and speed of traffic here is a matter of ongoing concern, as is the use of this route as a short cut by HGVs attempting to avoid the signalised junction at Beechfield and the Dublin Road.

The proposed traffic calming measures, as presented, were agreed on the proposition of Cllr. Noel McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

**4. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

1. “that this Council would get an Engineer’s report on the possibility of ramps being put in place in the village of Ballynoe, Co. Cork”.

**There are plans to install three raised tables (calming devices) across the village when we are resurfacing here under 2025 RI. (BO’G)**

This motion was supported by Cllr. William O’ Leary.

**Cllr. William O’ Leary**

2. “that this Council would again consider replacing some of the older seated benches at St. Joseph’s Square, Fermoy”.

**I will examine and revert. (MO’D)**

Cllr. McCarthy supported this motion, saying great work had previously been done in this location under the Town Cooperation Fund, but that one or two benches remain to be upgraded.

**Cllr. Deirdre O’ Brien**

3. “that this Council would review the sightlines in the interest of safety at Cornahinch Cross following recent upgrade”.

Sightlines at the junction have been hugely improved on foot of previous works at the junction. Any increase in sightlines would require third party land purchase and that is not appropriate at this juncture. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank Roche, who said the landowner at this location may allow the use of the required land free of charge. Marie McMahon EE said if this were the case this request could be reconsidered.

#### **Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

4. "that Cork County Council extend the 80km speed limit on the N72 Tallow Road entrance to Fermoy, in the vicinity of the Community Hospital, in the interest of safety".

The existing 60kph zone already includes the entrance to the community hospital and goes 80m beyond it on the Lismore N72 road. If one wishes to extend the 60kph zone further than this, it goes before the TII for approval in any countrywide review of National Road speed limits. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

#### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy**

5. "that this Council would seek funding to continue the footpath in Curraglass, Co. Cork".

There is no funding source that can fund this request currently. (BO'G)

Cllr. McCarthy asked if this request could be kept on file for consideration should future suitable funding become available.

6. "that this Council would replace the crash barrier on the dangerous hairpin bend at Knocknagapple on the L-5842 road".

Tender issued and contract already entered into and works will proceed in the coming months in conjunction with planned VRS works and resurfacing on the R628 nearby. (BO'G)

#### **Cllr. William O' Leary**

7. "that this Council would liaise with the TII about the possibility of erecting a concealed entrance sign or other appropriate signage on the N72 on the approach to McDonnell Brothers, Coolagown as you approach it from the Fermoy side".

We can raise the issue but to date The TII have not generally installed advance road warning signage for private enterprise. (BO'G)

This motion was supported by Cllr. Frank Roche. Cllr. O' Leary said he thinks something needs to be done here as there is a genuine safety issue, to which Marie McMahon EE replied it will be brought to the attention of the TII for their consideration.

8. "that this Council would provide an up to date position with regard to the establishment of a water supply at the rear of the new Kilcrumper cemetery".

Connection will be completed in the coming weeks. (MO'D)

As an associated matter - Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien informed those present that there is a fund currently available for the provision of either temporary or permanent drinking water stations should there be a requirement for same by any venue or group.

#### **Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien**

9. "that this Council would carry out maintenance on the playground at Doneraile Park".

Agreed. (MO'D)

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO informed those present that the Contractor has now been contacted in relation to this playground and requested to attend to any works required.

10. "that this Council would advise with regard to the two pedestrian crossings at Aldi Mitchelstown".

There is one formal controlled crossing (Belisha) at the raised ramp on the southern side of the entrance and on the northern side there is an uncontrolled courtesy crossing with a central island. Drivers must come to a stop if pedestrians are on the Belisha crossing and pedestrians should only cross an uncontrolled crossings when it is safe to do so or traffic has yielded. (BO'G)

Further to an additional query Marie McMahon EE undertook to examine the planning permission granted to Aldi and check that the planning requirements in respect of the pedestrian crossing have been met. Cllr. Kay Dawson requested the re-painting of the road markings here to which Marie responded she will arrange for this lining work to be done.

### **Cllr. Frank O' Flynn**

11. "that Cork County Council rectify and repair the lights at John Mandeville Monument, New Square, Mitchelstown".  
**We have sought an update from our public lighting section. It was due to be done in March. (BO'G)**
12. "that Cork County Council put a yellow box in place at the entrance to Ramsey's Lane, Main Street, Castlelyons in the interest of safety of all road users".  
**Will be done. (BO'G)**

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **6. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **(1) Cllr. Deirdre O' Sullivan - RE: AOB 8(1) load of stone Farahy Cemetery**

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO undertook to follow up on the provision of this stone, as agreed.

#### **(2) Cllr. Kay Dawson - RE: October 2023 FMMD Meeting Notice of Motion 4(13)**

In relation to previous correspondence sent from Fermoy MD, Cllr. Dawson enquired if any reply had been received from Bus Eireann in relation to the provision of a bus stop at the Glocca Maura. As there was not, it was agreed that Fermoy MD would again write to Bus Eireann seeking a response.

### **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - that Cork County Council rectify, repair, replenish & modify the damaged ramp at Bishop Murphy School Fermoy in the interest of safety of all road users.**

**2. Cllr. Frank O' Flynn - that Cork County Council consider putting a Columbarium Wall in place in Brigown Cemetery Mitchelstown to meet local needs.**

**3. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - deer sign to be erected on road at Glenanaar Garden Centre, one already exists.**

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO undertook to liaise with the Roads Section in relation to the provision of this sign.

**4. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - trees in Abbeyfarm and other estates - requesting the trees be cut back, in particular lower limbs which are hitting passing vehicles.**

**5. Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien - Thursday Market at New Square, Mitchelstown...the disorderliness of the stalls and the rubbish from it.**

Margaret O' Donoghue MDO replied that Cork County Council are currently looking at 'By-Laws' for markets. She undertook to provide signs on the canopies stating they are for public use and advised that a letter drop is to be undertaken to all stall holders advising them on the use of the market area on New Square.

**6. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - that this Council would carry out repairs to the ramp on McCurtain Street, Fermoy opposite Bishop Murphy School.**

Cllr. McCarthy acknowledged that this ramp is there for a reason and is very effective in slowing down traffic, but said there is currently an issue with the ramp and adjacent road surface. Marie McMahon EE undertook to carry out an examination with a view to resolving any issues.

**7. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - that this Council would write to Local Link Cork that they would extend their service to include Ballynoe Village on their route.**

The elected Members supported this proposal and it was agreed Fermoy MD would write to Local Link Cork accordingly.

**8. Cllr. Noel McCarthy - that this Council would get an Engineer's report on the possibility of raised tables (calming devices) in the village of Castlelyons, Co. Cork.**

Marie McMahon EE replied that she will investigate this request in conjunction with Brendan O' Gorman SEE and revert to Cllr. McCarthy and the elected Members.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_