

# Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

24<sup>th</sup> May 2024



## 1. General Municipal Allocation

To date, the following claims have been submitted in relation to the Amenity, Capital and Community Contract allocations under the GMA.

- 2021 - €193,907.75
- 2022 - €184,089.50
- 2023 - € 84,831.66

## 2. Town Development Fund

To date, the following claims have been submitted in relation to the Town Development Fund under the GMA.

- 2021 - €54,967
- 2022 - €86,218
- 2023 - €21,391

Below are some images of recently completed project by Rylane Community Park Association on a new playground in Rylane Village. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.







### 3. 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme – Approved Project

Under the recent announcement by the Department of Rural and Community Development Millstreet Community Council’s application was 1 of 4 successful applications for Cork County.

This project, submitted by Millstreet Community Council for the purchase of vacant property at West End and to refurbish it into a vibrant and active community space has been successful in securing a grant of €117,000 for this transformative project for the town.

This funding will allow for the transformation of this building into a new and extended community gym and community space for the town and surrounding areas.

### 4. Anti-Dumping Initiative 2024

Macroom Municipal District submitted 3 projects under the Anti-Dumping Initiative 2024 and has been successful in securing the funding for all 3 projects, as follows:

Project No.	Project Title	Total Amount Approved
1	Clean up of Picnic Area at Coolcower Macroom	€10,000
2	Clean up - Kilnaglory / Barnagore	€3,000
3	Clean up – Glen Road Waterloo	€3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>€16,000</b>

### 5. Macroom Library and Briery Gap Theatre Project Update

The Macroom Library and Briery Gap Theatre project has reached a significant milestone as Cumnor Construction officially hands the keys back to owners Cork County Council.

Construction works on the new Briery Gap building commenced in January 2022. Phase One of this substantial project has been completed with Cumnor Construction



undertaking the construction and renovation of the building. Phase Two will involve the fit out of the library and theatre and is due to commence in the coming weeks.

The project has been funded through grants from the Department of Community and Rural Development and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media, together with substantial funding from Cork County Council.

Deputising for the Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr. Ted Lucey welcomed the completion of this complex project, “The Briery Gap occupies a prominent position in the centre of Macroom and is a focal point for social and economic development within the town. There has been much excitement and anticipation as this building project took shape and its return to active use for the people of Macroom is very much welcomed by all with great plans for its future now beginning to take shape.”

Chief Executive of Cork County Council, Valerie O’Sullivan added, “The completion of this high quality, landmark building marks a crucial step in our revitalisation plans for Macroom Town. Plans are also underway for a public realm enhancement project in the South Square area surrounding the Briery Gap. With thanks to support from the Department of Community and Rural Development, works will get underway later this year, further enhancing the town centre.”

The project has been expertly designed and led by Cork County Council’s Architects Department together with their team of consultants; Consulting Engineers Horgan Lynch and EDC, ASM Group, CK Fire and Theatre Plan and Cumnor Construction. The project was steered to completion by the Council’s Design and Project Team.

The completion of this phase marks a significant step towards the official opening of the building in Autumn 2024.

Below are some images that were captured from this historic milestone event.











## 6. Town Centres First : Town Team Support Fund

Minister Humphreys has announced that Macroom is one of 3 towns in Cork County who will benefit from €10,000 each for Town Team Support Fund. The other two towns are Mitchelstown and Bantry. This funding will go toward establishing a Town Team, as envisaged below.

### 2. Purpose and Total Amount of Funding

A Town Team is a group of local residents, business people, community representatives and other stakeholders who come together to make their area a better place to live, work, visit and invest. They represent diverse sectors and backgrounds, and all have a defined link to the area. They have a unique position in the community to become 'local experts' on their area and to take a lead on the development of interventions that can make positive long-term changes for the town.

This funding can be used to help support the following:

1. Establishment of town teams where they are already not established and support capacity-building activities for town teams that are established/at an early stage of development (for example via targeted training/ mentoring, communication and consultation/community engagement initiatives); and
2. Data collation and research which will help them to identify the key priorities for their towns and of assessing the vitality, resilience and performance of town centres in order to develop high quality project applications for available funding schemes.

Each town selected under this measure will be supported up to a total funding amount of €10,000.

## 7. 2024 CLÁR Fund

The internal closing date for 2024 CLÁR Scheme was May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Expressions of Interest that have been submitted will be assessed with a final 15 applications selected as the Cork County Council submission to the Dept of Rural & Community Development under this Scheme. 5 applications have been submitted in Macroom MD which now go forward for adjudication.

## 8. 2024 Community Recognition Fund (CRF)

Application Window 1 has now closed for the above Fund as the internal closing date for submissions under was 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024. However, there are two further Application Windows to come and I will notify you when Window 2 will be open for applications.

As previously mentioned, any eligible unsuccessful applications under Window 1 will be considered in the subsequent Windows for applications.

The application windows are as follows:

Application Window 1	Up to 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
Application Window 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Aug to 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
Application Window 3 (min 20% of allocation ring-fenced)	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2025 to 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2025

Over 60 applications across Cork County have been submitted under this Fund which will now be assessed for final submission by Cork County Council to the Dept of Rural & Community Development for consideration and approval under this Scheme.

## 9. Eurovision Street Party

To celebrate the great achievement of Bambi Thug reaching the Eurovision Final, a large screen was erected in Macroom Square to host the event live with families invited to this free street party event. The town was decorated for this event with shops being encouraged to decorate their shopfronts for the event & families are asked to wear green to support Bambi on the night. Bambi Thug recorded a piece asking everyone to come out to support them. This event was organised really quickly following their success at the Semi Final and really shows what can be done when everyone comes together in support. This event, co funded by the Municipal District was hugely successful with hundreds gathering in the Square on the night to celebrate Bambi's achievement in finishing 6<sup>th</sup> overall. Below is an image from the event.

# EUROVISION

SONG CONTEST



## Eurovision Song Contest 2024

Macroom supporting our own Bambie Thug with a Street Party and live screening the finals at 8pm at Macroom Square



Don't miss out and make sure to wear **GREEN!**

Prize for best dressed witch!

Face painting and street entertainment







*Marie O'Leary*

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Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council