

Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

28th June 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 - €192,089.50
- 2023 - €112,544.47

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 Cloughduv Hurling Club to replace the floodlighting in two pitches. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.





3. CLÁR Fund 2024

3no applications submitted to Macroom MD have formed part of the Council's submission to Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) under Clár 2024.

We expect a decision from DRCD during Q4 2024. All groups who have made applications under this Fund will be notified in writing if their application formed part of the final 15 being submitted from Cork County Council.

These applications are outlined below:

M1 Projects:

Community Facility Name	Project Description	Total estimated costs including Admin / Prof fees	Match Funding Amount - 10%	CLÁR funding being requested
Millstreet Community Council with Cork County Council	Refurbishment and upgrade of Millstreet Public Toilets at Carnegie Hall	€62,425	€12,245	€50,000
Mullach na Réidh Teo, Ionad Áise, Réidh na nDoiri	Improvements to the Ionad Áise Community Building's rear yard to enhance and increase options to provide a social hub for all ages.	€49,075	€4,908	€44,167
Boeing Community Group Millstreet	Upgrade facilities at the Boeing Amenity on the banks of the Blackwater River which is also part of the Beara-Breifni Way and Blue Way.	€44,999	€4,500	€40,499
	TOTAL	€156,499	€21,833	€134,666

4. 2023 Paint Scheme Update

Under the 2023 Paint Scheme, 72 applications were approved. In 2023 26 applications were completed and paid. As this Paint Scheme was due to expire in December 2023, it was agreed with the Members to extend the 2023 Scheme into 2024 and not run a

2024 Scheme then. Accordingly, incomplete applicants were contacted and 18 applicants indicated their intention to accept the Extension of Time to complete their project. The remaining 28 applicants who didn't opt for the extension of time are no longer included in this year's consideration under the Scheme.

This Scheme is due to close on 30th August 2024 for the 18 extension of time applicants to complete and submit their claims. No further extensions of time can be considered. The plan will be to run a new Paint Scheme then in 2025, subject to funding being available. The table below, outlines the applications per area:

Name of Town/Village	Applications completed in 2023	Applications with Extension of Time	Total per Area
Macroon	17	6	23
Millstreet	2	6	8
Cloughduv	3	0	3
Coachford	3	1	4
Inchigeelagh	0	3	3
Cill Na Martra	1	2	3
Totals	26	18	44

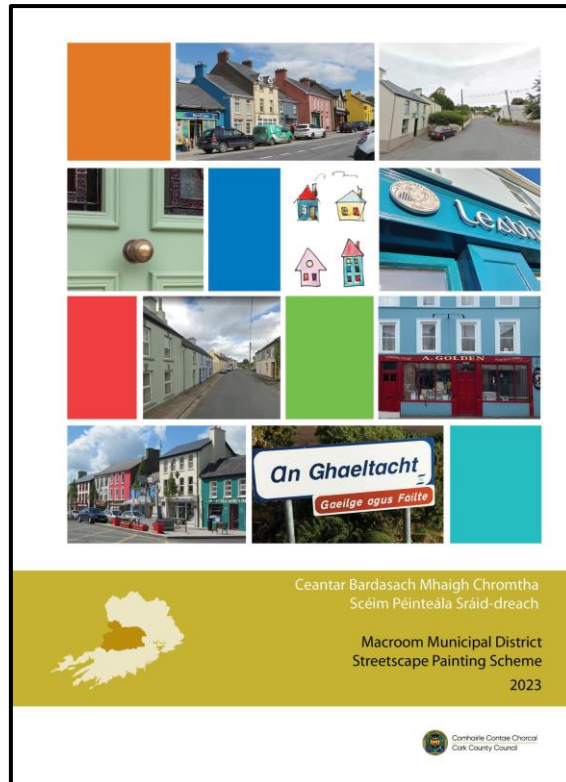
Below are images of a recently project under this Scheme in Macroon.



Before



After



5. Macroom Development Project _ Public Realm & Church of Ireland

Under RRDF Category 1 4th Call the Department of Community & Rural Development had granted this project funding of €7,212,103 in November 2022 as a Phase 2 project.

As part of the Verification Process in relation to progressing this project, I am very pleased to announce **an increase in this funding to €8,479,673** for the increased inflationary uplift with the project.

This project will be transformative for the town of Macroom and will see St. Colman's Church, currently unoccupied, developed into a focal & significant destination for the people of Macroom town.

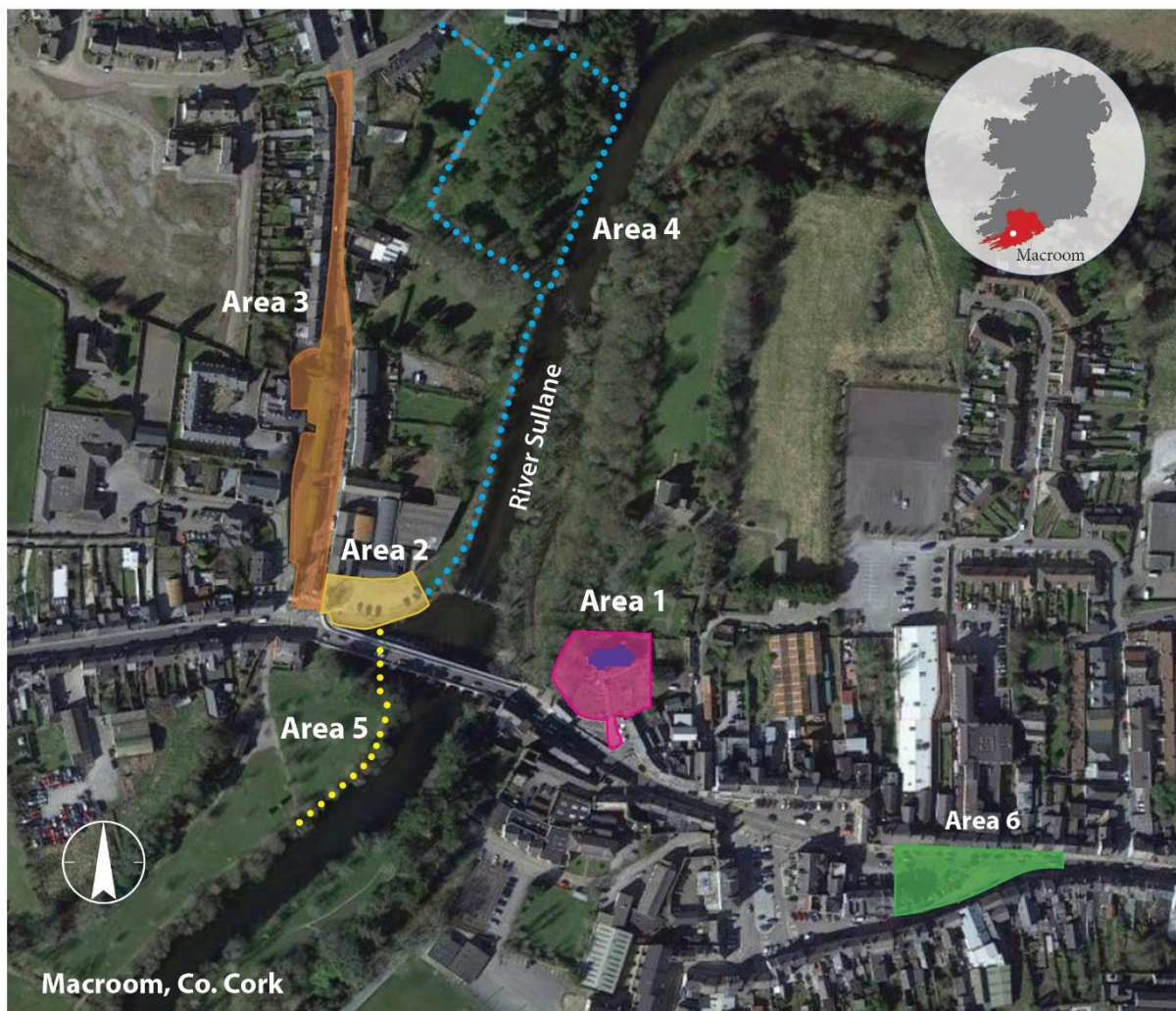
This project relates to a number of interventions in the town centre of Macroom, developed through Category 2 funding, involving:

- The refurbishment of the vacant, disused and deteriorating St. Colman's Church off the Main Street and its re-use as a flexible arts, community, cultural and heritage location.
- Reconfiguration of O'Riada's car park and surrounding footpaths to fully utilise the available lands for public amenity
- Public realm development at Mill Dam/Masseytown to showcase the river and the dam and provide for a raised viewing area




- The development of a riverbank walk linking O’Riada’s Car Park to the existing Fairy Garden Park and the connection of Mill Dam/Masseytown to the town park and Macroom Castle.
- The development of enhanced public realm on South Square, following completion of the bypass next year, to provide for a better public space

These projects emerged from a collaborative approach between the Council and a number of key partners, all with the collective vision to deliver a flagship urban regeneration project to conserve and re-establish Macroom town centre as the economic, cultural and community hub of the town.

Below is an image of the key areas for development :

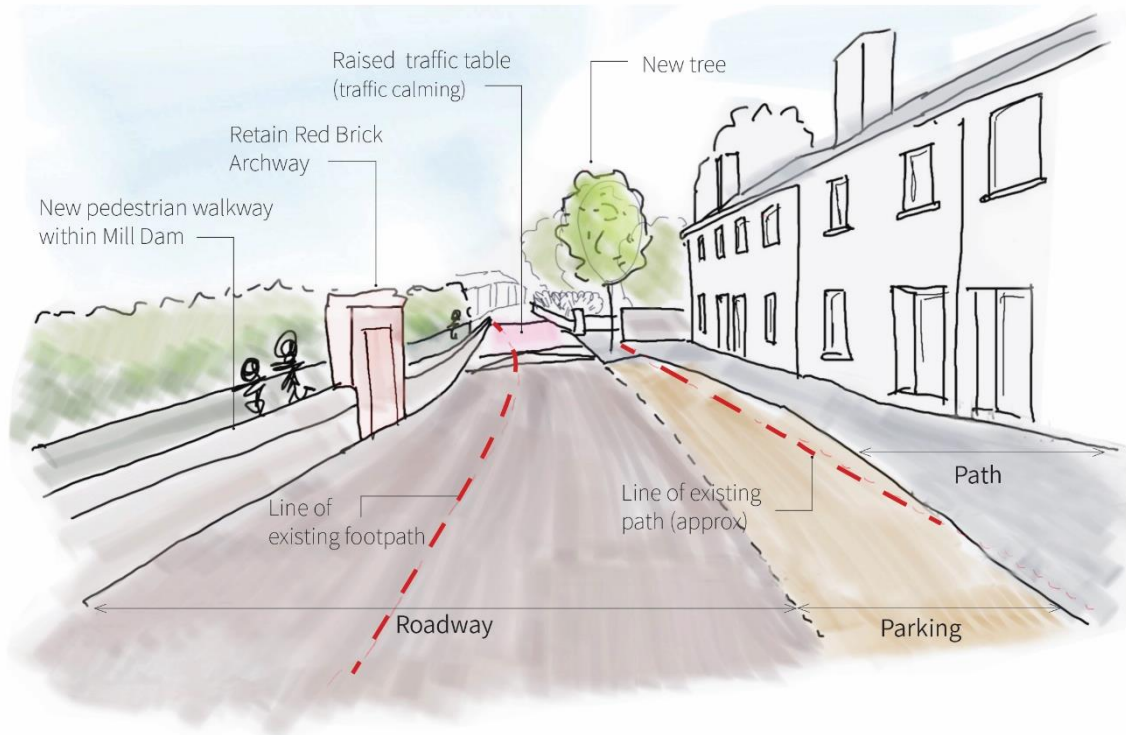


Aerial view showing locations of the development areas in Macroom (6 in total)

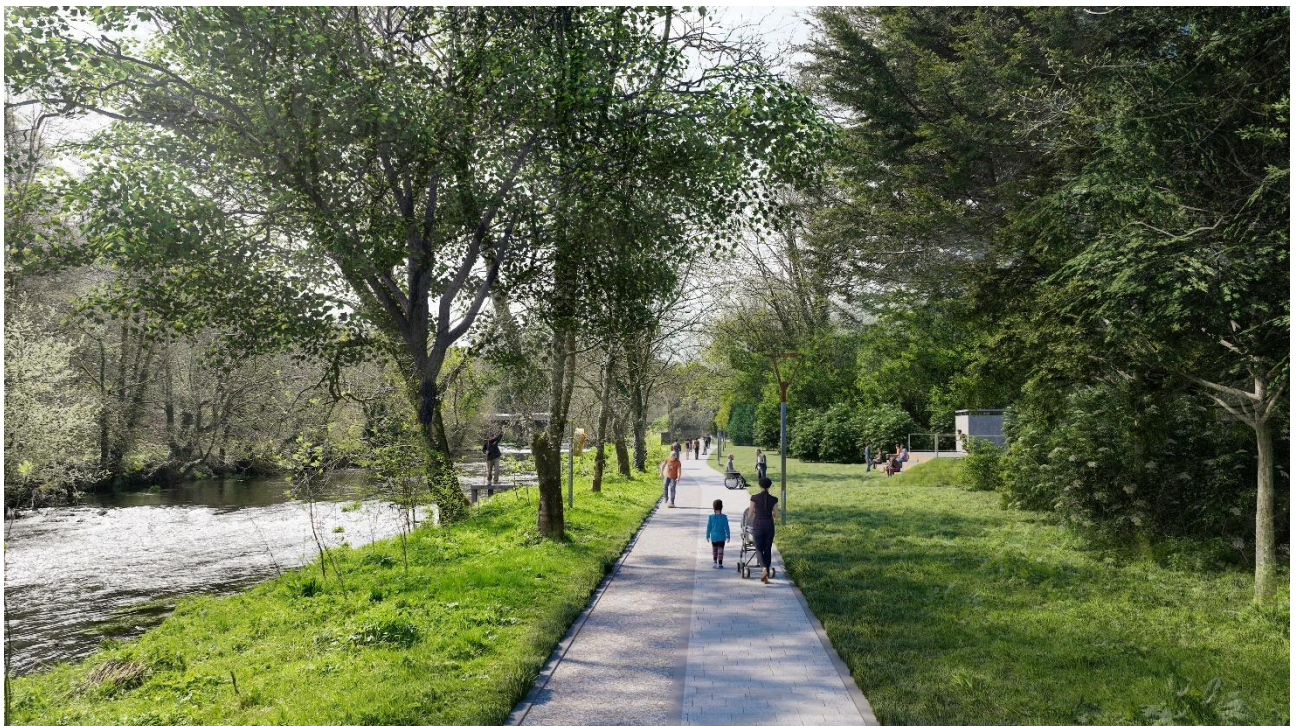
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|---|---|---|
|  Area 1: St. Colman's Church |  Area 3: Millrace Pedestrian Walkway |  Area 5: Eye of the Bridge |
|  Area 2: O'Riadas Carpark |  Area 4: Riverbank Walk |  Area 6: South Square |

Below are some artists impressions of what the completed project could look like.

Proposed intervention in celebration of the Millrace and the town's heritage and public realm improvements



Proposed Intervention – a paved riverbank walkway connecting the town centre to local amenities such as the fairy garden.



Proposed intervention by day – Positive and welcoming atmosphere, congestion free, pedestrian friendly. A reactivated town centre core.



Proposed Public Realm Works (amenity and recreational area)



6. Macroom Music Festival

The Lee Valley Enterprise Board (LVEB) sponsored by Cork County Council held its second Macroom Music Festival over last weekend, with the culmination of the festivities being the concert on Saturday headlined by The Stunning. This event has been a great community effort & success for the town. A special note of thanks to Traffic Warden, Marcella for assistance regarding traffic & to James Dwyer & his team on the excellent cleanup of the town undertaken by them early on Sunday morning.



Marie O'Leary

Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council