

Minutes of Macroom Municipal District Statutory Meeting, which was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Friday 24th May 2024

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

Attendance/Tinreamh: Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer
Mr. Maurice Murphy, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Pat O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer
Ms. Gráinne Ní Mhuirthile, Assistant Staff Officer
Mr. Denis O' Shea, Assistant Staff Officer

M. O'Leary, MDO informed the Members that today's meeting was a statutory meeting, so while there would be Matters Arising, there wouldn't be Notice of Motions or Any Other Business.

1. **DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

On the proposal of Cllr. Martin Coughlan and seconded by Cllr. Michael Creed, the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 26th April 2024 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 Gobnait Moynihan

- (a) Macroom Town Parking – Update
M. O'Leary, MDO said that progress on this is at the final stages involving the Legal Department. She hopes to have an update on it within a week or so and will notify Members once finalised.
- (b) Signage - requesting a sign for Mallow and a sign for Killarney at Monument in Millstreet
P. O'Sullivan, EE said that he hopes to erect the signs shortly, depended on crew availability.
- (c) Castlemore Cross update on re-design of that junction
No update
- (d) Bus Route No. 220 - No longer stopping at Grange Manor Ovens
M. O'Leary, MDO outlined response received from Dept of Transport as requested by the Members at the previous meeting and read the response she had received:

From the outset, I would like to clarify that the Minister for Transport has responsibility for policy and overall funding in relation to public transport, and neither the Minister nor his officials are involved in the day-to-day operation of public transport services.

The statutory responsibility for securing the provision of public passenger transport services nationally rests with the National Transport Authority. The NTA works with the public transport operators, who deliver the services and who have responsibility for day-to-day

operational matters. As such, they remain best place to assist you with any specific queries you may have regarding the implementation of BusConnects Cork.

I understand that there have been issues with some bus services in Cork City in recent months, and that these issues have been having a negative impact on the travelling public. The NTA have advised the Department that they are specifically aware of the ongoing punctuality and reliability issues in Cork City and that they are working closely with Bus Éireann to address these issues. They have further advised that there are a number of routes in Cork City that are being prioritised for planned service improvements in 2024, including the 220 route referenced in your correspondence. To this end, Bus Éireann are working with the NTA to examine what steps can be taken to improve service provision in the city, and counter the impact of issues such as traffic congestion. Further, recruitment campaigns for drivers are underway in Cork to address shortages which will also improve service provision in the city.

Beyond that, the planned Cork Network Redesign will involve the creation of new bus routes and improved bus frequencies to help transform the public transport network to meet anticipated growth and future demand in the region. It is currently anticipated that the Cork Network Redesign will commence implementation from 2025 subject to funding and resource availability. The service issues on route 220 highlight the fundamental importance of ensuring bus priority measures, such as those proposed as part of BusConnects Sustainable Transport Corridors.

Cllr Moynihan outlined her concern that the Minister had focussed efforts on improving the service in Cork City, rather than improving the service in the area under Cork County Council.

- (e) Pedestrian Crossing, Millstreet near the Post Office
P. O'Sullivan, EE said that a consultant had been appointed to do a safety audit, and subject to their recommendations, the Section 38 will be progressed.
- (f) Bridge at Carriganimna – Damage
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the tender process is underway with an assessment of tenders to be carried out over the coming weeks. At present, no funding is in place for the crash barriers adjacent to the bridge, but he hoped that funding could be arranged under a Low Cost Scheme in 2025.
- (g) Ballydaly – Install footpath and Public Lighting from the village out to the Community Hall
P. O'Sullivan, EE said there is no public footpath between the village and the community hall, but given the funding limitations for new footpaths, it would be more of a long-term project. However, he said if the local community applied for planning similar to what Millstreet Tidy Towns did, they may be able to access other streams of funding. He has spoken to the Public Lighting section about connecting the two existing lights to the public light system.
- (h) Bus Station, Macroom – Update Surrounding the Entrance
J Dwyer, SEE outlined that consultants, Fehily Timoney and TII are working on a design for the town centre. The Active Travel Unit are involved and consideration from the Safe Route to School point of view is being taken into account. He is hoping for an outcome from these deliberations soon.

- (i) Safety barrier for exit out of Rye Court Wood
J. Dwyer, SEE said there was no definite answer yet for this issue.
- (j) Canopy in Millstreet
P. O'Sullivan, EE said the plan is to re-erect the canopy within two weeks.

Councillor Michael Creed

- (a) Hollymount Bridge, Millstreet - in a poor state – has it gone for tender
P. O'Sullivan, EE confirmed it wasn't included in the list of bridges that had gone out for tender.
- (b) Morrisons Bridge- in a poor state – has it gone for tender
P. O'Sullivan, EE confirmed it wasn't included in the list of bridges that had gone out for tender, but the Bridge Engineer is looking at realigning the road at the Rusheen side.

Clr Coughlan said a new bridge was needed here as he feels the existing bridge is now only suitable for cyclists and walkers.

Clr Moynihan asked was it included in the Bridge Safety Audit several years ago. P. O'Sullivan, EE said that it was.

M. Murphy, SEO, told the Members that the condition of bridges is a significant issue countywide which will require investment.

- (c) Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – are there new forms
J Dwyer, SEE confirmed forms haven't changed, with the existing one still in use, which are available online or at the Town Hall.
- (c) Mount Cross Junction
J. Dwyer, SEE said the design is progressing.
- (d) Carrigadrohid to Bealnamorrive
P. O'Sullivan, EE said that he planned to include the last quarter on the 2026 RI Programme.

Councillor Eileen Lynch

- (a) Lee Valley Inn, Dripsey – update
M. O'Leary, MDO said the legal documents are currently being prepared to progress this issue.
- (b) Coachford Village
P. O'Sullivan, EE outlined that the topographical survey is underway, and they are undertaking CCTV of the existing storm water sewer. The Council's Flooding Section are working on an overall plan.
- (c) Road in Clonmoyle – L6768-31
P. O'Sullivan, EE said he plans to carry out drainage works here at the end of the year.

- (d) Dripsey Bridge – Morter on bridge crumbling - Update
P. O’Sullivan, EE said this is at the Design stage and he is in contact the Bridge Design Engineer for an update.
- (e) Convent Cross, Rylane – extra Signage
P. O’Sullivan, EE said the markings have been improved. Also, the signs have been delivered and he will arrange to erect them.
- (f) L6802 – Off the R5879 – Past Ballyshonnen towards Rea
No update
- (g) Newcastle Road – flooding
P. O’Sullivan, EE said no contact has been made with the landowner yet, but that he is hoping the work can be done later in the year.
- (h) Land outside GAA Pitch in Coachford
P. O’Sullivan, EE said that once he can get a works crew together, he will ask them to tidy up this area, which is owned by Cork County Council.
- (i) Terelton School Signage and Pedestrian Crossing
J. Dwyer, SEE said that the school signage is on the list, but that he didn’t have an update on the Pedestrian Crossing for the moment.

Councillor Michael Looney

- (a) Berrings to Yellow House – road quite bad and requires resurfacing.
P. O’Sullivan, EE said that as it has deteriorated, he has removed it from the Surface Dressing Programme and now plans to put it onto next year’s RI Programme with a full overlay being done on it at that point.
- (b) Berrings School
Cllr. Looney said this work had started and he wished to express thanks.
- (c) Cloghroe Signs
P. O’Sullivan, EE said the signs have been delivered and as soon as a work crew is available, he will arrange to erect them.

Councillor Martin Coughlan

- (a) High Street, Sleaveen over to the Church – Fallen Wall – Weeds/Briars growing onto the Road.
J. Dwyer, SEE said he has spoken to the Contractor and will chase it up with them again.
- (b) Macroom Playground – shrubbery and trees overgrown.
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will speak to a Contractor about arranging to have this work done.
- (c) Lights on Macroom Bridge
J. Dwyer, SEE said he is working on this issue.

- (d) Road markings for tow right hand turns between the 2 mile and 4 mile bridges between Macroom and Lissarda
J. Dwyer, SEE said that the Council must work through the TII on issues relating to National Routes, so he will be in contact with them.
- (e) Flagpoles at the Town Hall, Macroom – Require replacing.
J. Dwyer, SEE said he is happy with the proposed location of the 3 no. flag poles, and he is putting a plan in place to put them in place.

Councillor Ted Lucey

- (a) Macroom - Water Pooling on the Main Street
No update
- (b) Bus Stop on the Millstreet Road, Macroom
J. Dwyer, SEE said that the residents are happy with the proposed location and that he is waiting to hear back from Bus Eireann.
- (c) Cloghduv Village/Killumney Village – lining faded.
J. Dwyer, SEE said it is planned to replenish the lining in the next few weeks.
- (d) Public Light in need of being upgraded at the Tanyard, Millstreet.
P. O’Sullivan, EE said he has reported this to the Public Lighting Section and is waiting on a response.
- (e) Rusheen Road – near the Sandpit – Road in Bad Condition
No update
- (f) Pedestrian Crossing, Masseytown
M. O’Leary, MDO said she had written NNRDO in relation to proposed pedestrian crossing at Masseytown and that they had responded as follows:

“The R&LRDO has produced draft layout proposal for discussion with the Roads Operations team. The proposed layout of the pedestrian crossing at Masseytown Macroom has been agreed in collaboration with the Roads Operations team. The R&LRDO has now progressed to finalising the technical drawings of the pedestrian crossing for a Section 38 application. The R&LRDO anticipates these Section 38 application documents will be finalised by the end of May 2024.”

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

(a) Schedule of Municipal District Works

M. O’Leary, MDO said that the road grants have been included in this report.

Proposed/ Ar Moladh:	Cllr. T. Lucey
Seconded/ Cuidithe:	Cllr. E. Lynch

(b) **Municipal District Officers Report**

Members noted and welcomed the Report as detailed.

- 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme – Approved Project
Cllr Creed welcomed the €117,000 funding for the purchasing of a vacant property by Millstreet Community Council to refurbish it as an active community space. He said it will be of huge benefit to Millstreet.

Cllr Moynihan asked about the time frame and M. O’Leary, MDO said that because the Community Council had full planning and a fire cert secured, that the project was ready to get started.
- Anti-Dumping Initiative 2024
In response to Cllr Lucey, J. Dwyer, SEE said that the €10,000 allocated would be used for cleaning up, fencing, and landscaping.

Cllr Coughlan welcomed the funding, and further suggested that the area on the river side be considered for a low maintenance biodiversity project.

M. Murphy, SEO, said Cork County Council has recently appointed a Biodiversity Officer who will be in a position to advise on projects such as this.
- Macroom Library and Briary Gap Theatre Project Update
All Members expressed the view that the handing back of the Briary Gap Theatre has been a highlight of their term and that great credit was due to the Architects, the Builders and Cork County Council staff.

Cllr Moynihan expressed a wish that parking, that was cordoned off during the project, be restored until public realm works commenced.

M Murphy SEO, said that before the Public Amenity Space works were started in the next couple months, some benches might be put in place.

Cllr Lucey asked that the area either be re-opened for parking, or a short-term plan be put in place.
- Town Centres First: Town Team Support Fund
In response to Cllr Lynch, M. O’Leary, MDO said that a Town Regeneration Officer will be putting a structure on this, and that more will be known in a month or two.
- 2024 CLÁR Fund
Cllr Moynihan expressed the view, that given the size of Cork County, that the Dept of Rural & Community Affairs should allow Cork County Council to submit a great number of applications.
- 2024 Community Recognition Fund (CRF)
- Eurovision Street Party
All Members expressed thanks to the Lee Valley Enterprise Board for organising this event within 48 hours, and congratulated Bambi Thug for representing Ireland so well and for coming 6th in the competition.

Cllr Moynihan asked that the MD write to Bambi Thug to congratulate them on their success.

Cllr Lucey, together with the other Members agreed with this request.

**4. FÓGRA ALT 183
Section 183 Notice**

Extinguish Wayleave on Folio CK187840F at Vicar's Glebe, Coachford, Co. Cork for a consideration of €1.00.

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. M. Coughlan
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Creed

Discretionary Fund Applications

Group/Organisation	Brief Description of Request
• Katie Power	• Travelling to the World MMA Championships in Abu Dubai in August to defend her gold medal.
Total	€300

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. T. Lucey
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. E. Lynch

**5. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

Bambi Thug on their eurovision performance.

**6. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES – NONE ON THIS OCCASION.**

Cllr. Lucey wished all his colleagues the best of luck in the forthcoming Local Elections. He said the six Councillors worked very well as a team over the period. He also expressed thanks to all the staff in Macroom and Millstreet Areas, both indoor and outdoor staff.

Cllr. Creed agreed and expressed his gratitude to the Engineers and staff, along with the five other Councillors, who he wished the best of luck in local elections.

Cllr. Lynch expressed heartfelt thanks to indoor and outdoor staff, who along with her colleagues, couldn't have been more helpful in giving guidance to her as a first-time councillor over the previous five years.

Cllr. Coughlan said he felt that Macroom and Millstreet staff, indoor and outdoor, along with his fellow Councillors all worked well together over the term, and the visible success of this partnership could be seen throughout the MD.

Cllr. Looney said it was a privilege to be an elected Member for the MD over the last five years, and that his fellow Councillors were great colleagues, both individually and collectively.

He thanked all the staff, including James and Pat for their ongoing assistance. He also took the opportunity to thank Cork County Council itself.

Clr. Moynihan agreed with Clr Looney and said it was a privilege to be chosen by the electorate for this job. She thanked the indoor and outdoor staff and wished her colleagues all the best.

M. Murphy SEO, speaking on behalf of the Executive, said that a culture of success starts with the leaders in an organisation, in this case, the Councillors. He said they represent what the public wants and have overseen significant changes. He said with the opening of the Bypass, Macroom is moving on to a new stage and that Millstreet has been transformed. He wished all the elected Members the best of luck.


JUNE MEETING

M. O'Leary, MDO said the meeting will be held on Friday 28th June at 11.00 am with detailing going out closer to the date.

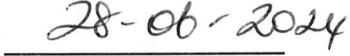
Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú

This concluded the business of the meeting


CATHAOIRLEACH


DÁTA


OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH


DÁTA