

Macroom Municipal District Officer's Report

25th October 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 - €194,907.75
- 2022 - €197,689.50
- 2023 - €118,444.47

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 Macroom GAA to add new equipment to their exercise area for use by members. This project was completed with assistance from the Community Fund.





3. 2024 CLÁR Fund - Announcement

On 7th October 2024, Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, announced over €11.4 million to deliver 264 projects under the CLÁR Programme.

The investment will support the development of sports and outdoor facilities such as playgrounds, astro-turf pitches, running tracks and spectator stands, together with community centres and local halls seeing upgrades and given a new lease life as part of the initiative. There is a big focus too on supporting schools by investing in play areas for our children.

In Cork County, all 15 applications submitted to DRCD under this Fund have been successful. In Macroom Municipal District, there has been success for 3 local projects, as follows:

Local Community Group	Brief Project Overview	Grant
Millstreet Community Council & Cork County Council	Refurbishment of Public Toilets in Millstreet	€ 50,000
Mullach na Réidh Teo, Ionad Áise, Réidh na nDoirí.	Improvements to the Ionad Áise Community Building's rear yard.	€ 44,167
Boeing Community Group Millstreet	Upgrading facilities at the Boeing Amenity Area on the banks of the River Blackwater	€ 40,499
	TOTAL	€134,666

4. 2023 Community Recognition Fund - Update

Under the 2023 Community Recognition Fund, €249,500 funding was granted to communities in Macroom Municipal District area who welcomed Ukrainians into their community and to provide facilities to their community as part of this Fund. Below are details on two projects that have been recently completed and funded through this Fund.

1. Outdoor Bowls Area at Millstreet Boys National School

Millstreet Boys National School, together with the Actived Retired Group were successful in being granted funding of €25,000 towards the development of an unused area to the rear of the school and developing it into an outdoor bowls and sensory area that will be available for the schoolchildren and community. This area is also located adjacent to the local town park. This project has been hugely successful and

a great addition for the community of Millstreeet. Below are some images of the project:



Figure 1 Before



Figure 2 After

2. Enhancements to the Community Island Park Inchigeelagh

Croi na Laoi Community Group Inchigeelagh were successful in grant funding of €25,000 towards enhancements and upgrades to the Community Island Park in Inchigeelagh. These works included:

- the upgrade of walkways,
- the tennis court by acquiring tennis nets and basket ball hoops
- repair of the pedestrian bridge that links two sections of our community park
- designing and purchasing community information boards
- strengthen the bank of the river to secure the walkways for many years to come

This project has now been completed and below are some images from the project:

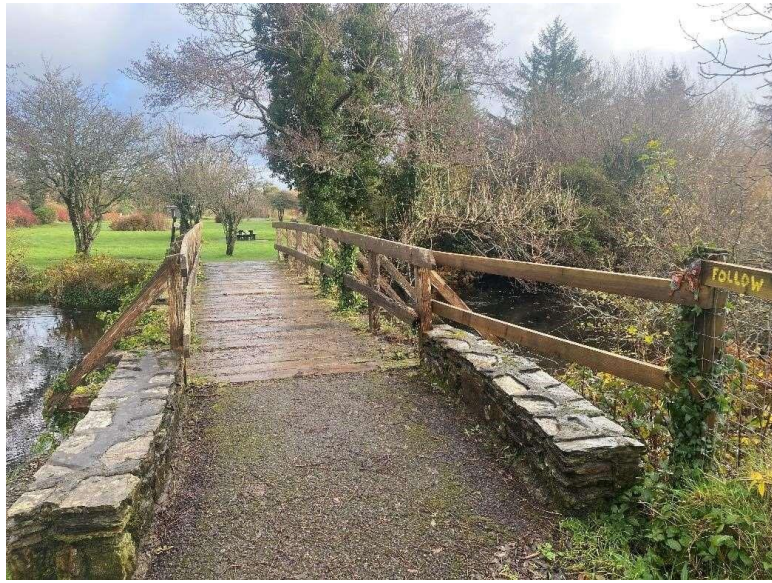


Figure 3 Before



Figure 4 Before



Figure 5 After



Figure 6 After



Figure 7 After

5. Macroom Christmas Market

Macroom Municipal District intends to hold its traditional Christmas Market in Macroom Town Square on **Tuesday 10th December 2024 commencing at 9.00 am.**

The plan is to close the road at the public toilets for the day to facilitate the erection of a marquee in the Square to accommodate additional stalls and to allow for the safe passage of visitors through the market. We are currently inviting interested stall holders to contact the Town Hall to book a place at this market. Due to the level of interest in this market, stall positions are filling up fast. The local schools are also being contacted to see if their Transition Year students would be interested in taking a stall at this market. We also plan to open upstairs in Macroom Town Hall to accommodate additional stall holders. As parking in the Square will be removed on this day, we encourage visitors to use the free car parks available in the town centre & adjacent to the Market.

This year we again plan to engage Macroom School of Art who will hold workshops upstairs in Macroom Town Hall and do Christmas card making demonstrations and these workshops will be available to the public free of charge. These workshops have proven to be very popular and gained great support over the past couple of years. Also, we plan to have a balloon making artist on site for the duration of the event.

On 10th December, this Christmas Market will be opened & launched by the Cathoirleach of Macroom MD, Cllr Michael Creed and everyone is welcome to attend and we encourage people to come out & enjoy this wonderful event that each year is increasing its visitors & the number of stalls too has increased year on year.





Marie O'Leary

Macroom Municipal District Officer



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council