

**MINUTES OF COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2024 AT CARRIG HOUSE, COBH.**

**Present:** Cllrs. S. O’Callaghan, A. Barry, G. Curley, D. Finn, C. Rasmussen & S Sheppard.

**Officials:** Ms. N. Brennan, S/SEO  
P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer  
G. O’Hora, Snr. Executive Engineer  
R. O’Sullivan, Cobh Municipal District  
Ms. A. Walsh, Cobh Municipal District.

**1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024.**

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, the Minutes of the Cobh Municipal District Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were adopted.

**Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes of Budget Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024.**

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. D. Finn, the Minutes of the Cobh Municipal District Budget Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were adopted.

**2.0 Matters Arising.**

**Roadsweeper for Cobh:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the road sweeper would be in Cobh town for two days this week.

**Signage at Coolamber, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the signs had been put up.

**Overgrowth at Carrigaloe & West View:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the hedge overgrowth at Carrigaloe had been scheduled to be cut back next week. He confirmed that some trees had been cut back earlier this year at West View and the area had been inspected again.

**Rahilly Street & Harbour Hill:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the roadway had been repaired at both these locations.

**Ballinvinny:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the contractor had filled the roadside verges with stone.

**Ryan Ahern Place, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that the drains had been cleared.

**Ballard Hill:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that drainage remedial works were listed for this week.

**Cul Ard, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that the area had been inspected and listed for works.

**Plunkett Terrace/Coolamber:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the area had been inspected and the issue referred to Eircom for repair.

**Laheen Bridge:**

G. O’Hora stated that the repair works had commenced and would be completed shortly.

**Watergrasshill:**

G. O’Hora stated that the footpath scheme had been discussed with TII and a contractor appointed to start early 2025.

**Ballyrichard/Carrigan:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that additional safety signs were to be erected between the school and the railway station, there were also plans to install a uncontrolled pedestrian crossing.

**Cul Árd Estate, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that if the members approved, that the area could be planted with grass instead of the tarmac which is currently in place. Cllr. Barry stated that this could attract even more anti-social behaviour and that the ground was sinking. It was agreed that Cllr. Barry would approach the community to see what their views were on what needed to be done.

**Killalough/Gogginstown Road:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the drains had been cleared and the road was listed under the Road Improvement Programme for 2025.

**The Mews, Rushbrooke:**

G. O’Hora sought clarification from Cllr. Finn, who stated that the builders had returned and works had started last week.

**Newtown & St. Marys School:**

G. O’Hora stated that the contractor has been notified and will arrange to replace the bollards.

**Fota Road:**

G. O’Hora stated that Cork County Council would write to landowners and request trees be cut back.

**Barrymore Avenue:**

G. O’Hora stated that the road was scheduled for repair shortly.

**Ticknock:**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked for a timescale for the works at Ticknock, will the works be finished before Christmas? R. O’Sullivan replied that some difficulties had been

encountered by the contractors, which had affected progress. R. O’Sullivan to contact the contractors.

**Joe Reid Place, Cobh:**

Cllr. S. Sheppard asked if the Footpath Programme for 2024 was now completed as works had not yet been completed at Joe Reid Place. G. O’Hora replied that the 2024 footpath programme works had not yet been completed but hoped they would be before the end of this year, he confirmed that the Children at Play signs would be put up.

**Knockraha:**

Cllr. Barry asked if asked if Knockraha was included in the proposed RI programme for Gogginstown to Killalough? G. O’Hora confirmed that the Knockraha to Knockraha West Road was on the 2025 roads programme. The Gogginstown to Killalough road was not on the 2025 roads programme.

P. Lynch stated that he had been in contact with the County Hall regarding the naming of roads and was awaiting an answer, he would revert to the members as soon as clarification came to hand.

**3.0 Comhfhreagras / Correspondence.**

P. Lynch stated that a letter had been received from Cobh Tidy Towns in relation to the adjudicators report on the Cobh Tidy Towns entry, he suggested that a meeting be arranged between the members and Cobh Tidy Towns to discuss how the matters raised could be dealt with. Cllr. Rasmussen agreed, stating the while the report was mainly positive there were still some issues that needed to be addressed, he suggested a meeting in the New Year. Cllr. Sheppard agreed.

P. Lynch stated that an acknowledgement had been received from Uisce Eireann to the letter sent to them.

**4.0 Tuairiscí ó Ofigh / Officer's Reports.**

G. O’Hora presented the Restoration Improvement Programme to the members for approval, this was the first of the road programmes for 2025 with a budget of 2.6m. A total of 21 schemes were presented to the members. Cllr. S. O’Callaghan asked if this list was confirmed or subject to funding. G. O’Hora stated the roads programme is subject to funding and the programme was prepared on receiving the same funding in 2025 as had been received in 2024, so as such it could be subject to change if the same level of funding was not provided. A Surface Dressing programme to tar and chip roads would be presented to the members after Christmas. The members asked if full roads were being resurfaced and sought clarification on a number of specific roads. G. O’Hora replied that in most cases the lengths of roads were between 500m and 1km, in some cases the roads were being resurfaced in phases over a number of years.

Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that it was great to see the number of proposed roads to be improved and pledged that she and her fellow members would do their best to source additional funding at Council level.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the Restoration Improvement Programme as presented, was approved.

P. Lynch stated that he had circulated details of the Community Climate Action Programme was to be launched on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Applications may be submitted until 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025. The details were on Cork County Council's website, a list of groups which received funding under the first section were circulated to the members.

## **5.0 Disposal of Property.**

To consider the Disposal of 3 Connolly Street, Cobh, Co. Cork, to Eamonn Ó Thuama for the consideration of €31,000.00.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to dispose of 3 Connolly Street as per the details above.

## **6.0 Draft Litter Management Plan.**

P. Lynch stated that the Draft Litter Plan had been circulated previously to members and had been updated to take into account the current resources available, he was seeking the members approval to go to Public Consultation, if the members agreed the document would be circulated and the matter would be back on the agenda as early as possible.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. S. O'Callaghan, it was agreed that the Draft Litter Plan would be sent out for Public Consultation.

## **7.0 Tuairisc ó Oifigeach Ceantair Bardasacha / Municipal District Officer's Report.**

P. Lynch circulated the figures collected relating to the Town Development Fund and the figures for Pay Parking for the year to date. He stated that the figures for the Camper Van facility were up on last year, he clarified that the figure for pay parking in November included all payments received from June to October through the new parking application.

He sought suggestions from the members for the allocation of funds from the Village Enhancement Scheme for 2025.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. S. O'Callaghan, it was agreed that Carrignavar would receive funding in 2025 and Watergrasshill in 2026.

P. Lynch stated that there had been a delay in obtaining some of the materials for the Columbarium Walls, which would now not be installed until January.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen stated it was great that this work would finally take place and queried if the members had been presented with a design. P. Lynch replied that there was a standard design and the engineers had agreed a suitable location in both cemeteries.

Cllr. Rasmussen asked when the revised Parking Byelaws would be going out for Public Consultation. P. Lynch replied that some work still had to be done on the wording regarding the new online parking application. The Draft Bye Laws would then be submitted to the County Solicitors Office to ensure that there were no legal issues.

Cllr. Rasmussen asked for an update on the situation regarding the caravans parked in the Campervan facility and whether the public toilet would be open before Christmas. P. Lynch stated that the matter was to be referred to the solicitors' department before the end of the month regarding the caravans and all the civil works in relation to the toilet were complete, but delays persisted in dealing with the non-Irish company in regard to the payment system. N. Brennan stated that she was in constant contact with the company to get the facility open, however there were difficulties.

Cllr. Barry stated that the provision of signage for the footpath in the vicinity of Carrigtwohill railway station was now urgent, however he was disappointed that 2½ years later the provision of an extension to the footpath was still some way off. Cllr. O'Callaghan stated it was one of the biggest issues she encountered while canvassing for the recent general election.

## **8.0 Fograí Rún / Notices of Motion.**

### **1. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Ger Curley:**

As a result of recent road works on the Tay road. Can we install traffic lights at the cross roads on the Tay road or install a mini roundabout. With traffic calming measures at the top of the hill by the entrance to the old graveyard.

*(Consideration of this motion was deferred from the November meeting)*

CCC road design office examined the L2989/L-2993, Cow Cross road junction in 2019. As part of this review the installation of a roundabout and traffic lights was examined. Due to design and funding difficulties, Traffic lights and a roundabout at the junction was not progressed.

A Scheme drawing was prepared by CCC road design office and approved by members to install the following traffic calming measures at the road junction.

1. Narrow carriageway to 2 no. 3m lanes
2. Provide additional public lighting to increase sense of urban area
3. Install footpath on southeast corner of the junction
4. Refresh existing lining where necessary to improve visibility
5. Provide Road studs to aid with junction definition
6. Provide driver feedback signs
7. Provide additional speed limit repeater signs on the northern approach to the junction
8. Provide junction warning signs on the northern approach.

These Works were carried out by CCC in 2019.

CCC will again examine the junction and consider erecting additional road safety signage on the L-2889/L-2993 roads to further slow vehicular traffic speeds on said roads.

Regarding Top of the Hill by the entrance to the old graveyard, CCC will examine erecting additional road safety signage on the L-2989 road.

Cllr. Curley stated that this junction was one of the most dangerous in the area, something must be done other than placing additional warning signs. Cllr. S. Sheppard supported the motion, stating that this area had been the subject of discussion for many years and the opening of the astro turf had made the problem worse. Cllr. Rasmussen added his support for the motion, adding that he was more concerned about the entry into Supervalu and Lidl and asked if the Roads Design Office could take a look at it. Cllr. Barry stated that many of these types of issues are caused when the Planning Department looks at large scale planning applications in isolation instead of taking in the bigger picture of how these applications will affect the surrounding areas. G. O’Hora replied that he would ask the RDO to examine the area and in the interim look at erecting additional road safety signage.

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Curley, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was carried.

**2. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Ger Curley:**

Can we put age action parking spot outside Citizens Advice centre in Pearse Square for elderly people using that service.

The Area Engineer has no objection to a parking bay outside the citizens advise centre in Pearse square. Members should note that these spaces are Courtesy spaces only and cannot be enforced by the Council’s Traffic Wardens.

Cllr. Curley noted that a number of elderly people used the services of the Citizens Advice centre but had difficulty finding parking. Cllr. Rasmussen stated that it had been agreed last year to install an Age Friendly parking bay in the square, but not on the slope outside the premises. R. O’Sullivan stated that the slope was a huge concern. Cllr. Curley replied that something was better than nothing.

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Curley, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the motion was carried.

**3. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

That a review be undertaken at a number of the Cobh Connect Bus stops, such as Park Road and Ballynoe Hill on safety grounds and can we write to Cobh Connect or invite them to meet us to discuss the speed of some of their bus drivers.

Cllr. Rasmussen said the speed of the buses travelling through the town was a major concern, at Belvelly one of the bollards had been hit again, emergency services would

not be able to pass the bus at Park Road. Cllrs. Curley, Sheppard and Finn, all supported the points raised.

The Area Engineer will inspect Bus stop locations at Park Road and Ballynoe Hill, Cobh Town and bring any safety issues to the attention of Cobh Connect Bus Service.

On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. Finn, it was agreed that P. Lynch would write to Cobh Connect inviting them to a meeting to discuss the issues raised.

**4. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

Can a date and commitment be given to renew the footpaths on Ahern Place as was agreed nearly two years ago.

Contractor has been appointed to carry out footpath improvement works at Ahern Place and is scheduled to commence works shortly.

Cllr. Rasmussen welcomed the response of the engineers, supported by Cllr. Curley who stated that 2 wheelchair users lived in the area.

On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. Curley, the motion was carried.

**5. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**

Can a full list and timescale be drawn up to identify the number of traffic and parking signs that need to be changed along with a number of poles that need to be straightened in the town once and for all.

Signs around Cobh have been inspected by CCC staff and a programme of works has been prepared to repair and straighten damaged signs. Works to repair signs will be carried out over the winter period.

Cllr. Rasmussen appreciated that some works had been done, this was one of the issues raised in the adjudicators report for Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Cllr. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. Curley, the motion was carried.

**6. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Dominic Finn:**

That Cobh MD will look at the absence of a proper footpath right outside the gate of Rushbrooke train station and agree to address this issue by installing a proper path.

There is an existing footpath in place on the main road outside Rushbrooke train station. The Area Engineer has inspected footpath and scheduled an extension to the existing footpath over the train station entrance.

Cllr. Finn had met with some of the residents, the current footpath finishes before the entrance to the station.

On the proposal of Cllr. Finn, seconded by Cllr. Rasmussen, the motion was carried.

**7. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Dominic Finn:**

That when the Port of Cork come before us, we also ask them to assist with the cleaning of the pier areas in the town.

MDO has contacted the Port of Cork to agree a date for a meeting. This will be added to the Agenda for the meeting.

Cllr. Finn stated that he had spoken to officials from the Port of Cork in relation to this and they were happy to discuss this at the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. Finn, seconded by Cllr. Rasmussen, the motion was carried.

**9.0 Aon Ghnó Eile / Any Other Business.**

**Cllr. S. O'Callaghan:**

Cllr. O'Callaghan stated that she was delighted with the recent works undertaken in the Trantstown & Condonstown area and noted the poles put up in relation to the speed review. She was pleased to see the new footpath in Carrignavar.

She asked when the public consultation process was due to start regarding the upgrading of the Condonstown junction and Whitechurch cemetery. G. O'Hora replied that the Section 38 Scheme planning drawings were being prepared and should be ready before Christmas.

G. O'Hora to follow up on the bus shelter. P. Lynch stated that the archaeological assessment had been prepared in relation to Whitechurch Cemetery.

**Cllr. C. Rasmussen:**

Cllr. Rasmussen stated that the wall at Seaview was in danger of collapse and a drain was blocked at Belvelly. He stated the Lower Road also had a blocked drain which caused flooding in the area last week. There were several potholes at the Dockyard in the centre of the road, near Mills Garage and Londis.

G. O'Hora replied that the wall at Seaview would be inspected. Drains at Belvelly cleaned and potholes on the R624 by the dockyard repaired.

The poles holding safety buoys on the Five Foot way were rotten at the base. He requested that the M.D. contact Irish Rail regarding the signal box as it was in an appalling condition. The fencing at College Manor required an inspection.



The roadway along the centre of the town, in particular in front of the Titanic Experience Building needed repair as it would appear that the proposed Public Realm works would not take place for several years. N. Brennan replied that talks were ongoing regarding implementing the Public Realm for Cobh.

G. O’Hora replied that the road was listed for repair.

Cllr. Rasmussen reminded the members that the anniversary of Cllr. Claire Cullinane fell at this time and asked that she be remembered 8 years on from her untimely death.

**Cllr. A. Barry:**

Cllr. Barry stated that the car park near the Church in Carrigtwohill had a number of potholes. Also a fingerpost sign was needed at the top of the main street to direct people to the Church.

G. O’Hora replied that the potholes were listed for repair and a new finger post directional sign would be erected.

Traffic from the quarries near Rossmore continued to drive through Carrigtwohill, when it was his understanding that it was a condition of their planning to use the alternative route near Fota.

Engineer to check planning conditions for the quarry site.

Sightlines were obscured at the cross near the Church at Glounthaune, car parking spaces may need to be removed.

Engineer to examine.

**Cllr. G. Curley:**

Cllr. Curley stated that the streetlights were out again and could the M.D. write to Electric Skyline Ltd (Cork County Council’s Public Lighting Maintenance Contractor). There was a bad accident again at the Martello estate, due to parked cars, is there a timeline for getting this estate taken in charge as the lines needed to be extended. Cllr. Rasmussen stated that this was an enforcement issue and that the issue was worse on Sunday mornings. Cllr. Sheppard asked if the traffic warden could be sent to monitor the area during school start and finish times. P. Lynch replied that as the estate had not been taken in charge, the traffic warden couldn’t issue any tickets.

**Cllr. D. Finn:**

Cllr. Finn sought an update on the road lining for Hilltop Park and Cuskinny to Ballymore. R. O’Sullivan replied that some of this work had already been carried out and he will contact the road lining contractor to expedite the rest of the works.

Cllr. Finn requested that the traffic warden attend outside of Colaiste Muire due to issues with parking. Cllr. Rasmussen suggested that the M.D. write to the Gardai to request a greater presence around the school.

**Cllr. S. Sheppard:**

Cllr. Sheppard stated that a drain was blocked near the Monument in Casement Square. Also the footpaths in Springfield Park needed repairs and a drain on the main road near Eurospar needed to be replaced with a bigger one. The road surface in St. Colman's Square was in an appalling condition.

G. O'Hora replied that drains near the Monument in Casement Square and on the main road near Eurospar would be inspected and cleaned. The footpaths at Springfield Park inspected and road at St. Colman's Square listed for remedial repair.

**Retirement:**

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan made a presentation to Ms. A. Walsh on the occasion of her retirement from Cork County Council. The members and staff all wished to be associated with the good wishes expressed by Cllr. O'Callaghan.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

---

CATHOIRLEACH

---

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER.