

# Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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Municipal Hall, St. John's Hill,

## MINUTES OF BANDON KINSALE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN BANDON LIBRARY AND ON MICROSOFT TEAMS APP ON 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024

**Members Present:** Cllrs. (Chair), Gillian Coughlan, Ann Bambury, Marie O'Sullivan,  
John Michael Foley, John Collins

### **In Attendance:**

Noreen O'Mahony, Senior Executive Officer (SEO)  
Brian Dunne, Municipal District Officer. (MDO)  
Richard Cahill, Senior Executive Engineer, Bandon (SEE)  
Sabrina Tobin, Executive Engineer, Kinsale (EE)  
Claire Levis, Meeting Administrator.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Alan Coleman

Cllr. G. Coughlan presided.

### **1. Minutes**

**(a) Confirmation of minutes of Municipal District of Bandon-Kinsale meeting held on  
26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024**

*Proposed by Cllr. Bambury  
Seconded by Cllr. Collins*

**(b) Matters arising from minutes dated 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024.**

Cllr Coughlan expressed her disappointment that the extension of free parking in Bandon was not permitted to include the beginning of December. She asked for consultation with the executive for future decisions regarding this.

She informed the meeting that the Bandon Business Association was pleased that there was a period of free parking and wanted to pay tribute to them for all the Christmas decorations and lighting in the town.

Cllr Bambury mentioned that there were many public lights not working in the town, and it was very dangerous and a safety issue for people.

Cllr Collins expressed disappointment at the amount of time it takes to fix the faulty lights. He questioned why the tender was given to a company who did not have the resources in place to meet demand.

Cllr Coughlan agreed with this stating that Watergate Street and the bypass were dangerous. Cllr O' Sullivan mentioned Scilly by the Spaniard was particularly dark because of faulty public lighting.

## **2. Reports and Recommendations**

### **1)Engineers Reports**

#### **a) Installation of a disabled parking bay at No. 8 Connolly Street, Bandon**

Noted

#### **b) Update on TPREP Bandon.**

Richard Cahill provided an update on the Bandon TPREP

**Glasslinn Road** – currently undertaking snagging works and stage 3 Road Safety Audit

**Bridge Street** – Retractable bollard to be installed in Q1 2025 after scaffolding is removed from No 1 Bridge Street.

Cork County Council to engage locally with business owners / church to facilitate access after 11am when required.

**Bridge Lane:-** street furniture to be installed Q1 2025

**South Main Street** – works to recommence to South Main Street on Jan 6th to complete watermain installation.

Works to commence to watermain on Market St on Jan 15<sup>th</sup> to mid February. Market Street will be one way north bound for these watermain works.

Works to commence on footpath on South Main Street at the Bridge Lane junction on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>.

South Main Street works are programmed to be ongoing from mid February until mid August with a road closure to be programmed for mid June (further discussion to take place with contractor in order to minimise time of closure)

It is hoped that 90 % of works will be completed in South Main Street by mid August.

A review of the layout is being undertaken to maximise space for parking bays and location of disabled parking bays. We will be minimising the width of the 2 raised table crossing points on the street to facilitate this.

**Parnell Road** – works ongoing due for completion end of January 2025

Stop go system will remain in place for traffic flow during construction.

**Newcestown Road & Inis Orga road**– ongoing works due for completion by the end of February 2025 and stop go system will remain in place for traffic flow during construction.

**Comments from Members/Queries:**

Cllr Coughlan asked what type of furniture was to be provided by the Fish Shed, The SEE stated that there would be seating and bike racks.

Cllr Coughlan also told the meeting that cars were driving down Bridge Street even though this was not permitted. They were turning left at the end and damaging their tyres on the footpath. The SEE stated that the scaffolding would need to come down before a bollard was installed.

Cllr Coughlan asked why South Main Street would need to be closed? The SEE stated that there may be only one side closed at any one time, but they would need to surface dressing on the entire road.

Cllr Coughlan commended the fact that parking was to be kept in South Main Street, she asked that it be specific for the premises that were next to it, e.g. Disabled bays, age friendly bays etc.

Cllr Bambury asked that more care was to be taken in the planting as bark mulch was spilling around Ballymodan place and it was looking untidy.

**c) Section 38: Traffic Calming Proposal Forthill Summercove Kinsale**

The EE updated the meeting on the planned Section 38 in Summercove.

Cllr O'Sullivan thanked the Roads office for this stating how dangerous it was during the summer with campervans and walkers. She informed the meeting that people were not aware of the narrowness as you go down the hill. She requested that signs installed advising larger vehicles not to use that road. She also requested double yellow lines outside the Bulman Pub.

**d) Engineers Report Bandon – Richard Cahill, SEE.**

The most recent flood here was the 5th biggest flood in Bandon in 50yrs, it was 600mm lower than in 2009 , it was 300mm lower than 2015- note we had 2 big floods in Dec 2015 almost the same level as 1975. The OPW have looked at the event also and measured the event as a 1 in 20 to 30 year event with a massive 250000lt/sec flow under the bridge. They

also estimated that without the flood protection scheme over 100 properties would have been flooded.

Actions taken on items from last months meeting that I would not have updated you on since the meeting.

A councillor raised the issue of upgrading the bus stops at Laragh Ind estate. There was a recent large planning application on the industrial estate and "The applicant shall, on suitable available land, provide a new set back bus bay on either side of the R586 Regional Road (near the industrial estate junction) within a timeframe of completion of the development or any other timeframe or response agreed with the area engineer". Under a planning Compliance Condition: Prior to construction and after discussion with Bus Eireann, the applicant shall submit for the agreement of the planning authority, detailed drawings showing the layout and suitable entry and exit tapers to both new bus stops on either side of the road. The bus stop shall, to the area engineer's satisfaction, include widening the verge for the bus stop in accordance with the "TII Specification For Roadworks" and provide a "Clause 942" wearing course with "Kassel Kerbs", (unless accepted otherwise by the area engineer). All suitable road markings shall be provided in accordance with Chapter 7 of the Traffic Signs Manual. The location of the bus stop on the southern boundary shall be set back an accepted distance to allow for any road widening in the future, should a right turn lane into the Industrial Estate ever need to be provided without hindering sight lines from the industrial estate.

Please note The Sustainable Travel Unit of Cork County Council has responsibility for bus stops. All new bus shelters are subject to NTA approval, but it certainly helps if we have a developer that will do the ground works as then the NTA would only have to fund the shelter.

A similar issue was raised about the lack of bus shelters in Innishannon. Again, I made contact with the sustainable travel section, and they have since surveyed the village to see if they can identify suitable locations for a shelter. Note they said that the NTA have done an audit of bus shelter needs across the network for a Programme called Connecting Ireland and this audit highlighted that Innishannon had a need for improved facilities.

The existing bus stop locations are challenging for bus shelters due to inter alia footpath widths, parking, trees, width of carriageway, required offset distance from kerb to bus shelter roof, residents, businesses.

The process of getting an improved bus shelter has number of gateways or processes to pass through prior to installation and funding also has been available, but it is a good news story that the process has commenced.

The next issue was a parking issue where a car received a ticket in Bridge Lane and the owner believed that they it was not clear if you could park there or not. John Duggan has agreed to look at the issue and see if extra signage is required.

Since the last meeting we did 2 low-cost safety projects. On the R602 the road edge had slipped into the adjacent stream at Dangan and the slip was in danger of closing the road. We placed rock armour and concrete to rebuild the embankment and we also then placed a new crash barrier along the road edge which greatly increases the safety at the road edge, an ongoing issue has been resolved as we speak. The pedestrian crossing on the bridge in Bandon has been upgraded. However, as part of the upgrade the supply cable on the bridge along with the minipillar had also to be upgraded. As of yesterday, the works are now all complete.

Over the past year, the Bandon Kinsale Team have carried out over 59 projects. The projects are RI, RM, Climate adaptation works, CIS to smaller and LIS schemes. The total value of the works is almost 6m euro. The works are normally carried out over 10 months of the year February to November, which is not far off a weekly spend of 150k every week. That is 150k week in, week out. Before any money is spent, safety has to be in order, the HSA and Gardai as they must be aware of the works, tendering has to be completed and appointments of contractors where we use same must be completed. I must compliment the team for managing again to deliver almost 150k of capital works each and every week. In 2024 we completed 33km of RI and 50k of RM, giving a total of over 83km of road that has received a new surface in 2024. In amongst doing all this, town bins have to be emptied, streets swept and potholes filled and drainage channels opened, issues raised by the public have to be attended to or replied to.

Just compliments to every member of the team for a job well done again in 2024 and finally, many thanks and compliments to yourselves, even though some of you are new members, each and every one of you has helped Sabrina and my team to deliver a range of solutions and projects, which really helps us all to achieve so much. Thanks a lot and have a great Christmas.

**e) Engineers Report Kinsale – Sabrina Tobin, EE.**

I will begin by addressing some items which were raised at our last meeting:

A concern was expressed regarding the parking of cars opposite the doctor's surgery in Kinsale which was subsequently blocking the ramp access, we will be freshening up the lining here this week (weather permitting) to address this issue. Also raised was the issue of cars travelling at speed down the Bandon Road, we will be adding some additional line marking the road here this week also to address this.

The past month has seen us undertake some road repair works in the town, namely on New Road in town where there were patches of subsidence. We also did some resurfacing at the junction of Bandon Road & Abbeyview, where the surface had deteriorated. It's important that you know that we have intentionally postponed any permanent resurfacing works in this vicinity due to the pending Active Travel works planned for the area.



In other news, footpath works in Garretstown are progressing well; concreting works are expected to be complete by the end of the week. Line marking will follow. Lighting will also be going in at the junction of Boathouse Cross in the near future.

Today will see the roll out of our new bins in the town, the locations chosen based on areas of high footfall. The areas include Archdeacon Duggan bridge, Pearse St, the town carpark by our seating area, the bus-stop & at the main junction in the town. We will also be placing a bin at Boathouse Cross in Garretstown, an area popular with walkers & beachgoers.

Gully clearing works have continued this past month in our towns & villages. Potholing works remain ongoing throughout the area.

**Queries /Comments from Members**

Cllr Foley complimented the outdoor staff for all the works done in the year and since he was elected. He particularly complimented the drainage works done on the roads before resurfacing. Cllr Foley stated that he had noticed many trees and shrubs cut in the cemeteries and said that this made a huge difference to the look of the cemeteries.

Cllr Bambury complimented the team also and said that the works done were very noticeable. She informed the meeting the feedback on the road to Inis Órga was very positive.

Cllr Coughlan thanked the roads office and their team for all the works done in the last year. She also mentioned Charlie McCarthy the previous SEE, and preparation work he had done for this to be possible.

Cllr Coughlan thanked the roads office also for the future bus stop in Lauragh, she asked that a cycle path be considered there also.

She welcomed the future bus shelters in Innishannon stating that they were much needed.

**2) *Municipal District Officer's Report.***

**Municipal District Officers Report 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024**



**Municipal District Meeting indicative times and dates**

28 <sup>th</sup> January	25 <sup>th</sup> February	25 <sup>th</sup> March	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	27 <sup>th</sup> May
Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library

**Projects completed in 2024**

1. Significant work was undertaken on dereliction and engagement with property owners to advise them on schemes to upgrade their properties. As at September 2024 12 properties were on the register. We will bring updated figures to the members hopefully by the January meeting.

2. Upgrade works at playgrounds including a €70,000 investment in Timoleague with additional minor works in Ballinspittle, Innishannon and Kinsale
3. Allocation of €208,000 for activities across the Municipal District including €140,000 on community grants. A further €183,000 was allocated under the Town Development Fund and Village Enhancement Scheme
4. Payment of €82,000 to 6 community groups under the Community Recognition Fund
5. Funding of the Ballymartle Walk in Riverstick at a cost of €24,000. We are working with the community group and Coillte to finalise this project in the coming months.
6. Cruises - Cork County Council welcomed a total of 7 no. cruise calls to Kinsale in 2024 – 4 different ships operated by 4 different cruise companies. These ships brought a combined total of 898 passengers into Kinsale. Cork County Council remains actively engaged in promoting the Cork region and works closely with cruise companies and their tour operators to showcase what the destination has to offer. This summer, we hosted site inspections by two cruise companies which will result in more new itineraries and tours in the future.
7. In conjunction with the HSE we launched the Sun Smart pilot project whereby we provided sunscreen dispenser boards and posters to the largest/busiest beaches in each MD area.
8. Upgrade of the Stoney Steps Kinsale at a cost of over €7,000
9. €4,500 was allocated for a Music Scheme which promotes and funds music events in towns in the summer months.
10. Kinsale has received funding of €49,050 from the Department of Rural and Community Development for a topographical survey of the Short Quay area. We aim to advance this in the new year.
11. The Municipal District awarded funding to 16 Tidy Town groups and Community Associations in 2024 totally €53,300 through the Community Fund Scheme, all who are carrying out great work in their local areas and were awarded with recognition at the recent awards ceremony.
12. We worked closely with the HSE on the Connecting for Life programme to promote suicide awareness in the Kinsale area.
13. The Municipal District marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kinsale-Newport twinning with a reception and reaffirmation of the arrangement at the newly refurbished Kinsale Library
14. Essential repairs upgrade for the public conveniences at Garrylucas and Garretstown
15. Introduction of new compactor bins in Kinsale to assist with litter prevention.

### **1. Old Bandon Playground**

Work has commenced on upgrading this area with the replacement of the swings, flooring, and other equipment. We aim to have this work concluded by the end of this week.

### **2. Kinsale Library**

#### **a) Woods Award 2024**

As part of the Woods Awards 2024 Cork County Council were announced as winners under the Restoration Conservation and Resue category for their work on Kinsale Library. Wood Awards Ireland (WAI) is organised by Forest Industries Ireland (FII) in partnership with the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) and Enterprise Ireland (EI) with support from the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Food and

the Marine. It promotes wood as a sustainable material in innovative projects in Ireland and overseas.

b) My Open Library (MOL)

This out of hours service is hopefully due to start in Kinsale Library in the new year. This will mean that extended opening hours will be offered to library members on a self-service basis outside of normal opening hours, seven days per week, from 8:00am to 10:00pm, 365 days per year. There will be no staff present during My Open Library hours (8:00am – 9:30am and 5:30pm – 10:00pm). MOL members will be fully trained and inducted in how to use the service in advance of their membership being activated. Regular opening hours will remain unchanged and Kinsale Library will be staffed as usual outside of MOL hours (Tuesday – Saturday 9.30am – 5.30pm). It will be introduced on a gradual, phased basis with the first few weeks only being open to a limited number but is anticipated it will be expanded quite quickly. More information on a “go live” date will issue in the new year.

### **3. Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) – Call 1 Part B**

Cork County Council launched a supplementary call (Call 1 Part B) for the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP), Strand 1 on **Wednesday 11th December 2024**. The call for applications will remain open for a period of six weeks, with a closing date of **Wednesday 22nd January 2025, 16:00**. The application process is open to eligible applicants who did not apply under the initial call (Call 1, December 2023) and successful projects must be delivered within 10 months of the awarding of funding. Cork County Council strongly recommend prospective applicants to contact the Community Climate Action Officer, at [climate@corkcoco.ie](mailto:climate@corkcoco.ie) in advance of any submission to confirm eligibility. Further details on the CCAP Call 1 Part B are available here shortly: <https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/resident/environment/community-climate-action-programme-ccap>



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action-programme-c

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### **4. Architectural & Archaeological Heritage Grant Schemes 2025**

Schemes for the protection of Architectural and Archaeological Heritage in County Cork are now open for application. Such schemes include the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS), Historic Structures Fund (HSF) and the Community Monuments Fund (CMF). These are national schemes operated at the local level by each Local Authority. Owners and custodians (Members of the public, Heritage Groups, Cork County Council departments etc) of Heritage buildings and monuments are now being invited to apply for funding to safeguard these structures and archaeological monuments into the future.



Details of the schemes are available on Cork County Council's website ([Schemes for the Protection of Architectural and Archaeological Heritage in County Cork | Cork County Council](#))

#### 2025 Historic Structures Fund

The 2025 Historic Structures Fund will offer up to €200,000 for projects that deliver a major community benefit. The Primary focus of the Historic Structures Fund 2025 is to assist the conservation and enhancement of historic structures and buildings for the broader benefit of communities and the public.

The deadline for submission of completed applications is 4:00pm on Friday, 17th January 2025 in respect of the Historic Structures Fund 2025. Applications can be made by emailing [conservation@corkcoco.ie](mailto:conservation@corkcoco.ie) or a hard copy may be submitted to the Heritage and Conservation Office, Cork County Council, Floor 3, Planning Department, County Hall, Carrigrohane Rd, Cork.

#### **The Community Monuments Fund 2025**

The Community Monuments Fund will enable conservation works to be carried out on archaeological monuments, which are deemed to be significant and in need of support. It aims to build resilience in monuments enabling them to withstand the effects of climate change. The fund also aims to encourage access to monuments and improve their presentation. The Scheme has three streams of funding, all of which offer up to 100% of eligible costs.

Stream 1: Grants up to €100,000 for essential repairs and capital works for the conservation of archaeological monuments.

Stream 2: Grants of up to €30,000 for the development of Conservation Management Plans/Reports and detailed Specification of Works aimed at identifying measures for conservation and maintenance of archaeological monuments.

Stream 3: Grants of up to €30,000 for the enhancement of access infrastructure, interpretation projects (including virtual/online) and small scale emergency conservation works, at archaeological monuments.

#### **5. Kinsale Harbour Toilets**

Works will begin on renovating these today with the upgrade of 2 toilets and more durable whiteware. A wash area will be maintained in the entrance for users of the harbour.

#### **Comments from members.**

Cllr Foley complemented the MDO for all his hard work throughout the year. He also paid tribute to the SEO for her involvement and help.

He asked re the graveyard Courtapteen and the further erosion which had happened recently. The MDO responded that it is being closely watched.

He also complimented the MDO in the works done in the toilets in Courtmacsherry.

Cllr Coughlan complimented the municipal and the roads office for all the works done in the year.

**3. Statutory Business**

None.

**4. Notice of Motions**

None

**5. Any Other Business**

Cllr O'Sullivan mentioned the mains replacement works underway by Uisce Éireann in Kinsale. She also complimented MD staff and the County Engineers office for pushing this matter.

She also queried the maintenance of council housing estates; she asked if the municipal district should be paying for the maintenance. She queried if housing should be paying for this? She said there should be handrails replaced and installed as most of these estates had aging populations. The SEO stated that this a road function and funding was to come from roads. Cllr Bambury stated that Kinsale and Bandon had age friendly status and perhaps this could supply the funding.

Cllr Collins asked for traffic calming in Crossmahon. The SEE stated that perhaps the safe routes to school program could fund it. He will look into it.

Cllr Collins asked for bus stops in Gaggin. The SEE said that this was a TII issue and the whole junction would have to be looked at.

Cllr Bambury queried a safe route to school program for Ballinspittle? Can the Department be written to?

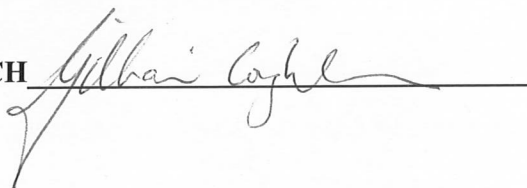
She asked if driver operated speed signs be installed in Ballinspittle? The EE stated that they were already procured and would be installed soon.

She congratulated Cllr Collins brother Michael Collins on being elected TD and commiserated with Cllr Coleman on not being elected.

**Next meeting Tuesday 28th January at 10.00 a.m.**

***This concluded the official business of the meeting.***

**CATHAOIRLEACH**



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Gilhan Coghlan', is written over a horizontal line.

DATE 25/1/2025.