

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 26th Nov 2024

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

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)
Marie Kelleher, Assistant Engineer, Bandon (AE)
Michal Dymet, Executive Engineer, (EE)
Claire Levis, Meeting Administrator.

Apologies: Cllr. John Collins

Cllr. G. Coughlan presided.

1. Minutes

(a) Confirmation of minutes of Municipal District of Bandon-Kinsale meeting held on 22nd Oct 2024

*Proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan
Seconded by Cllr. Foley*

(b) Matters arising from minutes dated 22nd Oct 2024.
none

2. Reports and Recommendations

1) Engineers Reports

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

This was presented and agreed at the previous meeting.

- b) Section 38: Report relating to Traffic Calming measures in Riverstick
Michal Dymet from the Regional and Local Roads Design Office presented a design of the traffic calming measures in Riverstick.

Cllr Coughlan asked that the design be cognisant of turning farming vehicles which would use this road on a regular basis.

- c) Section 38: Convent Hill

AE Marie Kelleher provided the meeting with an update on this and stated that no objection was received by the public or Gardaí.

Cllr Bambury queried whether there would be lighting on the new footpath?
The SEE answered there would be ample lights.

- d) Engineers Report Kinsale – Sabrina Tobin, EE.

I will begin by addressing some items which were raised at our last meeting. There was a request to remove dead trees from The Meadows in Belgooly – we have been engaging with the contractor and I expect for the works to occur within the next week or so.

Also mentioned was a request for double yellows in Riverstick at the junction with the R600 & Brookdale. We have organised for this and the works will be undertaken within the next few weeks.

Moving onto our RI programme, as I mentioned to you last month, we had additional funds which we decided to put towards the resurfacing of the Old Head road. Here we will be resurfacing approx. 1.8km between the Lusitania Museum to the junction with the R605. We also managed to address a section of the road around the corner from the museum heading towards Garrylucas which had deteriorated and whilst there we also resurfaced the pull-in area for those who stop to take in the Old Head views. Our line marking contractor will be lining the road this week.

Staying in this area you might be aware of the significant works currently underway in Garretstown. You may recall we presented a Section 38 in the summer regarding NTA funded footpath works along with an uncontrolled crossing at the junction of Boathouse Cross. This work is now almost at completion stage with all concreting work now complete.

There is still some lighting to go in there and we expect our lighting contractor to be installing the lighting columns in the coming weeks. In addition to this footpath at the junction, we have managed to secure additional NTA money, which will enable us to complete an additional 100m of footpath from Garretstown House to connect to the existing footpath which the Area Office had constructed in recent years, up from the junction. This will essentially result in full pedestrian connectivity between the junction at Boathouse Cross to Garretstown House. As you know, the Garretstown area is highly popular with walkers throughout the year. With that in mind, and using our own footpath budget, we have decided to allocate this year's footpath money to construct an additional 315m of footpath along the regional road, in front of the beach to create an even surface for walkers and prams and which will provide full pedestrian connectivity to the toilets in Garretstown. This work will follow on from the Garretstown House footpath works & we expect full completion by mid-December. Staying with Garretstown, works to the additional carparking area are well underway. We are asphaltting this today to create a long-lasting surface and line marking will follow. It must be recognised that both the footpath works along the beach and carpark works could not have happened without the generous nature of local landowner Mr. Connie Coughlan, so I wish to express my gratitude to him for enabling this work to progress.

In other news since we last met, we have had gully clearing works underway throughout the MD, including Kinsale town, Kilbritten & Rivertstick and the Old Head areas.

You may have recalled we recently trialled some new bins in the town. We were overall happy with their performance and did receive very positive feedback as regards litter reduction in the town due to their increased capacity coupled with the fact that they are bird-proof. On that basis, we have decided to permanently install 4No. in & around the town & we will also be placing one in Garretstown, to cater for the high pedestrian traffic here.

Repairs to the wall along the R603 in Kilbritten were also completed in the past month.

Climate adaptation works are fully complete in Oysterhaven. We did manage to secure additional climate money which enabled us to complete additional works in Oysterhaven to the seawall which needed attention. That does complete for our climate works in Oysterhaven for the foreseeable.

Pothole repair work remains ongoing throughout the area.

Queries /Comments from Members

Cllr Coughlan commended the works planned for Garretstown and publicly acknowledged the landowners who without them the progress would not have been possible.

Cllr Bambury complimented the works done.

In reply to her request for a dog fouling bin, the EE said that bins were a health hazard, and that more signage would be the first course of action. Owners have personal responsibility to take their dog waste home.

Cllr O'Sullivan concurred stating that there had been a dog fouling bin previously in Kinsale and the smell was terrible.

Cllr O'Sullivan thanked the roads office for the new solar bins and said they had transformed Pearse street as the crows were not able to access the rubbish. She asked that the new bins be placed strategically around the town where the most litter is. Cllr Foley agreed that the owners of dogs were responsible for taking their waste home. Cllr Foley complimented the landowners who helped Cork County Council with the works done in Garretstown.

e) Engineers Report Bandon – Richard Cahill, SEE.

Following last month's meeting we have had the 5th biggest flood in Bandon in 50yrs, it was 600mm lower than in 2009, it was 300mm lower than 2015- note we have 2 big floods in dec 2015 almost the same level as 1975 without the flood scheme we would have had several feet on water in many areas of the town.

Other updates on works.

As ye know the speed limit on almost all local roads will be reduced to 60kph in early 2025. Since the last meeting we have installed pole in the 300 locations where the new speed limit signs will be placed. Note, speed limits will remain unchanged on the regional roads.

Since the last meeting we have the gully cleaning truck in the Bandon area for several weeks work ahead of the winter period. We do this work after the leaves have fallen and reclean the gullies to help flood water clear quicker. We have collected over 70 tonnes of leaves since the last meeting, by collect and brushing them up it prevent them getting washed down the sewers and blocking drains.

The minisweeper has been a game changer in how we do this work.

We were carrying out some Climate Adaptation works in Ring village, amenity and walls since the last meeting.

Update on our own road improvement programme

We have finished the resurfacing on Boher na sup in Innishannon. Some extra road lining is required to remind traffic to drive slowly.

We have also done very significant works in Newcestown with the Village Enhancement and some active travel monies. We created build outs to calm the traffic as they travel down by the GAA pitch. We also put in several more gullies that catches the rainfall in the hill. Furthermore, we created an overflow system that will take the water directly to the stream as opposed down into the village as was the previous scenario. This should greatly improve the resilience of the village in times of heavy rainfall. We also surfaced 400m of the road. The completion of this project means that all roads in the village of Newcestown have received an upgrade int he past 3 years, which ties into our philosophy of allocating resources to our urban areas and busier roads. We have a slippage on the R602 at Dangan More where a bridge abutment adjacent to the road has collapsed into the adjacent stream. We started remediation works there yesterday and if all goes to plan the rock armour embankment should be completed by the end of the week and we then intend to place a crash barrier on top of the completed rock over the next few weeks.

We are moving into a different phase of works now. Over the past week our staff have had to deal with 2 weather events. This is difficult on our operations as we are having to operate outside of hours while still trying to keep the day-to-day operation on the go. I would like to compliment the team, our response to the snow and ice event was excellent. The addition of the small extra salter for the town has really improved the service we can provide in around the town. We had 58mm of rain over a 12hr period, to put this in context it is half a month typical rain in 12hrs. It really helped that river levels were very low starting out.

Finally, an ongoing issue, this week we will upgrade the pedestrian crossing on the bridge in Bandon. Its upgrade is complicated by the location of the crossing, but works are planned to be carried out this week.

In response to a previous Notice of Motion from Cllr Coughlan we have received this response from the OPW

NOM: That the Municipal District requests a report from OPW, outlining the planned maintenance of the River Bandon, as committed to under the flood relief scheme’.

Proposed Response Currently a study is being undertaken on behalf of OPW to assess the annual deposition rate in the channel (for the dredged section). This exercise will inform the frequency of maintenance of the deposition in the channel. Cork County Council awaits the outcome of the study and direction from the OPW & their specialist consultants. Please note that any works in the Bandon River channel will be subject to agreements/approvals from statutory bodies including Inland Fisheries Ireland. If an area queried is outside of the OPW’s Bandon FRS, then channel maintenance is a matter for the riparian landowner & not the responsibility of CCC or the OPW.

The Bandon Flood Relief Scheme was developed by the Office of Public Works (OPW) in accordance with the Arterial Drainage Acts, 1945 and 1995, as amended, and provides flood protection to a significant number of properties in the town of Bandon. The Scheme was initiated in 2010, following major flooding in 2009, and substantially complete in 2020. The Scheme comprises conveyance improvement works, flood defence embankments and walls, pumping stations to provide protection against a 1-in-100-year flood event (1% Annual Exceedance Probability).

At present, routine and ad hoc maintenance works are carried out by the OPW in partnership with Cork County Council, as appropriate, throughout the year. Operation and Maintenance protocols are being developed and final works outside of the main construction contract are being completed. The OPW has committed funding to Cork County Council for additional staff (a West Cork Flood Crew) dedicated to the maintenance of flood relief schemes in West Cork, including Bandon. This team is due to be in place in mid-2025 and will maintain the

Bandon Flood Relief Scheme in line with the Operation and Maintenance Protocol agreed between the OPW and Cork County Council.

The OPW has also funded research, carried out by Munster Technological University, to model the habitat and behaviour of sediment within the river. A further proposal to expand this research is under consideration by OPW at present, which will include a survey of the river bed to assist with planning the level and frequency of maintenance dredging.

Please note that any works in the River Bandon will be subject to agreements/approvals from statutory bodies including Inland Fisheries Ireland. If an area is outside of the Bandon Flood Relief Scheme, then channel maintenance is a matter for the riparian landowner and is not the responsibility of Cork County Council or the OPW.

Further detail in relation to the flood relief scheme will be provided, on request. Due to short notice, a brief summary has been supplied above.

Queries /Comments from Members

Cllr Coughlan acknowledged the work done by staff of Cork County Council after the bad weather. She commented that the community was delighted the flood relief worked in Bandon and commended works done in preparation for this event. The staff were very prepared and many of the shore and drains had been cleared.

She said she was happy with the response from the OPW regarding the maintenance of the flood defences. She queried the staff promised and who would be their employer? The SEO stated this was an OPW decision.

Cllr Coughlan said there was a gully outside Daniels Fish Shop which was causing issues. The SEO stated that currently it wasn't joined to the main sewer but that it would be soon.

Cllr Coughlan notified the meeting of a bus stop in Lauragh which was leaning. She asked for a bus shelter in Innishannon.

Cllr Bambury said that more busses from Innishannon to Cork City were needed as busses coming from Bandon were full by the time, they reached Innishannon.

Cllr Coughlan asked that the public be notified regarding salt bins and how estates could acquire them?

Cllr Foley wanted to be associated with the comments complimenting the staff of Cork County Council over the bad weather.

Cllr Foley commended the works done in Ring Village.

He asked that clarity be given to landowners as to what they can do to streams on their own land. He said landowners are nervous at removing silt in case it is illegal.

The SEO informed the meeting that there was a Coastal, Marine and Flood Policy SPC being set up where this would be discussed. She also pointed the members to the OPW document "Living near watercourses - a guide to the rights and responsibilities of landowners" which should give clarity to this to the landowners.

Cllr Bambury thanked the roads office for the works done in Newcestown and at the Gaggin junction. Cllr Bambury notified the meeting that the L2108 was becoming a rat run at peak period and that the Baxter bridge is too narrow for this. She asked that a sign be put there stating NO HGVs.

Cllr Bambury informed the meeting that there had been flooding again at the The Flour house in Riverstick and could a flooding scheme be proposed? The SEE stated that this would be a huge investment and that this was not caused by a blockage.

2) *Municipal District Officer's Report.*

Municipal District Meeting indicative times and dates

17 th December	28 th January	25 th February	25 th March	22 nd April
Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library	Teams & Bandon Library

Actions from previous Municipal District meeting

- A. *Consultation process regarding the Cork to Kinsale Greenway.* At the last meeting the members raised that some landowners had not been engaged with directly. It is now accepted by our road design team that the letter drop was not as successful as had been anticipated; a review is underway which will explore how to effectively engage with landowners in the future.
- B. *St Eltins Burial Ground Extension.* Last week we undertook works to improve access in some areas of the cemetery. This work has provided an anticipated 12-14 plots which had been previously discounted due to inaccessibility issues. We are engaging with landowners in the vicinity to explore extension options, but I would caution that any process will be dependent on both the cost of a site and site suitability. Columbarium's will be considered for any future locations.
- C. *Student visibility:* Letters have been circulated to schools in the municipal district urging them to encourage the use of High Viz vests for children and parents alike when walking to school.
- D. *Bus Stop at Dunderrow:* We have received a response from the NTA advising that once a proposed location is given (this has subsequently been provided to them) their Service Planning Team can assess the feasibility of providing a bus stop at that location from a bus service perspective. If, after the review is conducted, there is merit in providing a bus stop, their bus stops team will engage with Cork County Council to establish if approval can be provided for the proposed stop location from a road safety perspective.

1. Tidy Towns Competition

The results of the National Tidy Town competition were recently announced and a number of towns and villages in the Municipal District performed very well and won awards. Those were:

- Bandon Tidy Towns – won the Bronze Medal in Category E
- Kilbrittain – won the Silver Medal in Category B
- Innishannon – won the Bronze Medal in Category B
- Kinsale Tidy Towns – won the Gold Medal in Category E

- Timoleague – won the County Second and Gold Medal in Category B

Each tidy town group was awarded funding from the Municipal District’s Community Fund scheme which helped with the numerous projects in each town and village and it’s great to see the groups rewarded for all their hard work and endeavour. Cork County Council has always maintained a strong relationship with tidy towns groups and as we move forward into 2025 and beyond it is our aim to develop this relationship further especially in Bandon Kinsale Municipal District.

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.

2. Playgrounds

- Ballinspittle & Kinsale. Surface repair is scheduled in Ballinspittle in the coming days to repair sections. A disability access roundabout will be installed in Kinsale playground to replace one which was removed several months ago due to irreparable damage.
- We aim to undertake some works to the old playground in Bandon. This will be temperature/weather dependant as the wet pour requires a minimum temperature in order to set correctly. We are optimistic this can be done before the end of December.

3. Christmas 2024

With the financial assistance of Cork County Council through the Amenity fund both the Bandon Business Association and the Kinsale Christmas Group have initiated the Christmas festivities in both towns. Cork County Council are finalising the installation of Christmas trees, lights and associated paraphernalia in Kinsale. The lights will be turned on in the town park on Dec 1st. A similar event is scheduled for Bandon on November 24th with the turning on of the Christmas Lights and other Christmas activities for families. I’m sure the members will echo my congratulations to both groups on organising a memorable evening in both towns. Other events in the towns are as follows:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Municipal District	Town/Vil	Event Title	Date	Time	Location
Bandon Kinsale	Bandon	Christmas Lights Switch On	24 November 2024	4.00 - 6.00 pm	Ballymodan Place
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Christmas Lights Switch On	1st December 2024	5.00 pm	Town Park
Bandon Kinsale	Bandon	Bandon Christmas Market	23rd November 2024	2.00 - 5 pm	Riverview Shopping Centre & Howards Court
Bandon Kinsale	Bandon	Farmers Market	14th & 21st December	10.00 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Ballymodan Place
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Farmers Market	11th & 18th December	10.00 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Car Park, Pier Road, Kinsale
Bandon Kinsale	Bandon	Michael English Concert	28th November 2024	7 - 10 p.m.	St. Patrick's Church
Bandon Kinsale	Bandon	Voices in harmony Concert	13th December 2024	8.00 p.m.	St. Peter's Church
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Christmas Fayre	22nd November 2024	10 am - 12.30 pm	Temperance Hall
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Concert	30th November 2024	7.30 p.m.	St. Catherine's Cultural Centre, Ardbrack
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Concert	7th December 2024	7.30 p.m.	St. Catherine's Cultural Centre, Ardbrack
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Concert	20th December 2024	7.00 p.m.	St. Multose Church
Bandon Kinsale	Kinsale	Christmas Folk Group Carol Service	19th December 2024	7.30 p.m.	Kinsale Parish Church

4. Christmas parking

The Executive has agreed not to enforce pay parking requirements in Bandon and Kinsale for the period of 9th December to 4th January inclusive. In order to ensure a flow of traffic and turnover of spaces we will still be enforcing the maximum 2 hour stay period.

5. Twinning

We have received a request from Tittusville Pennsylvania to explore the possibility of a sister city arrangement with Kinsale. As local twinning's are a reserved function any potential arrangement would be with the Municipal District rather than any one town. Should the elected members wish for Bandon Kinsale Municipal District to explore such an arrangement they should furnish the Municipal District Officer with a report detailing what the likely benefits would be in addition to highlighting what interests of the local communities would be met. This report will be assessed and if deemed appropriate will be forwarded to the Corporate Policy group for review. Please note the existing twinning's in place in the Municipal District are as follows.

NAME OF CORK TOWN	NAME OF MD	NAME OF USA TOWN	NAME OF FEDERAL STATE
Kinsale	Bandon Kinsale MD	Newport	Rhode Island
Antibes	Bandon Kinsale MD	Antibes (France)	South East France
Mumbles (Wales)	Bandon Kinsale MD	Mumbles (Wales)	Wales
Bandon	Bandon Kinsale MD	Bandon Oregon, USA	Oregon

Members Queries/Comments

Cllr Coughlan thanked the MDO for his report but expressed disappointment at the dates at which the 4 weeks free parking in Bandon were to start and end. She asked that the 4 weeks be started from the 2nd December to ensure residents did not travel go elsewhere for Christmas shopping.

The SEO explained to the meeting that this was an executive decision and Christmas arrangements had been agreed across the entire. Cllr Coughlan asked why there hadn't been consultancy with the members on this. The SEO responded that the arrangements were being implemented countywide at this stage and could not be changed.

Cllr Coughlan asked why there hadn't been consultancy with the members on this. The SEO responded that the decision was made not just for Bandon but for the county as a whole and could not be changed.

Cllr Bambury also expressed disappointment stating that there had been parking spaces lost due to TPREP.

Cllr Coughlan told the MDO with agreement from the members that no new Twinning would be explored at this time. More time was needed to explore the twinning with Bandon/Oregon,

Cllr Foley asked that the Tidy Towns be congratulated by letter thanking them for all their hard work.

The SEE also thanked them and stated that they have a great relationship with the road's offices.

3. *Statutory Business*

None.

4. *Notice of Motions*

Cllr Alan Coleman

That the Kinsale Transportation Study in relation to traffic movement in the core of the town be implemented beginning with the widest possible public consultation
(Deferred to a future meeting in consultation with Cllr Coleman)

5. *Any Other Business*

Cllr Foley explained to the meeting that there was an issue with water pressure on many premises with their own well by the Old Head.

The SEE explained that there are plan for a group scheme there and that in the meantime owners may need to dig bigger wells.

The SEO stated that this was a matter for Úisce Eireann

Cllr O'Sullivan asked if bollards could be put at the low edges of the footpaths on Market Place as wheelchair users were finding cars were parking against it and preventing them from accessing the footpath. The EE answered that many people were reversing into the bollards so this was not the solution. She recommended that the traffic warden be advised of the location.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked that slow signs be installed on the Bandon Road coming into Kinsale passed the GAA club as drivers were travelling too fast.

Cllr Bambury said that the parking area behind the Fish Corner in Bandon be re lined as some people were parallel parking as they cannot see the times. The SEE stated that he would look this.

Cllr Bambury asked that the Bandon Kinsale Municipal District consider the To Go Cup scheme. She asked that the owners of retail outlets should be incentivised to part take in this scheme.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked there would have to be funding for owners in order for the scheme to work. She also asked that compostable cups have reduced VAT rates as currently they are more expensive than normal cups.

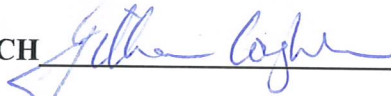
Cllr Coughlan recommended that Cllr Bambury bring this to the Environmental SPC.

Cllr Coughlan asked for an update on Mac Sweeney Quay as it is very shabby. The SEE responded to say that it was part of the TPREP scheme but that it was dependent on funding. He also explained that TPREP has already commenced engagements with the property owners but that nothing temporary was possible in the area and any improvement would have to wait until TPREP is completed.

Next meeting Tuesday 17th December at 10.30 a.m.

This concluded the official business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH



DATE

