

**MINUTES OF COBH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY AT CARRIG HOUSE, COBH.**

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

**Officials:** Ms. Sharon Corcoran, D.O.S.  
Ms. N. Brennan, S/SEO  
P. Lynch, Municipal District Officer  
G. O’Hora, Snr. Executive Engineer  
R. O’Sullivan, Executive Engineer  
Ms. C. McDonnell, Cobh Municipal District.

Cllr. S. O’Callaghan expressed a Vote of Sympathy to R. O’Sullivan on the recent passing of his father. The other Members and staff were associated with the vote of sympathy.

**1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí / Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the Minutes of the Cobh Municipal District Meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were adopted.

**2.0 Matters Arising.**

**Rahilly Street & Harbour Hill:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that the roadway had been temporarily repaired and is listed for further repair under a hot patch contract. Cobh MD 2025 hot patch contract to be procured shortly.

**Ballyrichard/Carrigan:**

G. O’Hora confirmed that additional safety signs had been erected.

**Bus Shelter at Knockraha:**

G. O’Hora stated contractor is scheduled to erect bus shelter by the end of February.

**Wall at Seaview, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that wall at Seaview has now been inspected and is scheduled to be repaired during March/April.

**Roadway at Centre of town in Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that roadway was listed for a hot-patch repair.

**Church Road, Carrigtwohill:**

G. O’Hora stated that the potholes had been repaired, the new sign for the Church had been ordered and the road lining would be carried this week (Pending weather).

**St. Colman’s Square, Cobh:**

G. O’Hora stated that some road repair works had been carried out and road is scheduled for further repair shortly.

**Signage at Coolamber:**

G. O’Hora stated that having inspected the area, additional road safety signs would be erected.

**Bollard and wall at Newtown:**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen said that the broken bollards have not been replaced yet and the private wall damaged by the contractors needs to be replastered.

G. O’Hora stated that he would contact the contractors again.

**Pothole at Top of Hill, Cobh:**

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

**Trees at Fota:**

G. O’Hora stated that CCC had met with the stakeholders and some trimming of overgrown trees has been carried out.

**Caravans at the Five Foot Way car park:**

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked if there was any update.

P. Lynch stated that he has been in contact with the Gardaí and the Council’s solicitors in relation to this issue and would follow up with them again.

**Toilet Block Whitepoint:**

G. O’Hora stated that the new toilet block at Whitepoint is now open. He said that it is necessary for people using the facility to hold their card over the payment terminal until “card accepted” comes up as the network connectivity is slow in the area.

**Blocked drains on the Ballytrasna Road, Little Island.**

G. O’Hora said that these drains have now been cleared.

**Replacement of grate at the exist of the Cathedral Gates on the right-hand side.**

G. O’Hora stated that the edge of the road would be built up to form a drain and a new grate would be installed at the other end of the Cathedral carpark opposite the Quarry Cock Bar to alleviate build-up of surface water.

**Flooding by the Dockyard.**

Drains have been cleaned.

**Finish date for work on the railway bridge.**

Irish Rail have confirmed that work will be completed by mid-February.

**Proposed barrier at Cuskinny**

P. Lynch confirmed the owners of the property are happy to proceed and the project will be funded by Town Development Fund.

**Potholes on the Newtown Road**

G. O’Hora confirmed that road pothole are listed for repair.

**Patching at the bottom of East Hill**

G. O’Hora confirmed that some works had been carried out at this location with more is scheduled shortly.

**Wall at Connolly Street in need of repair.**

Update to be sought from CCC coastal dept.

**Uncontrolled pedestrian crossing at Barryscourt junction, Carrigtwohill.**

G. O’Hora told the Members that this issue has been referred to CCC Roads Design office to examine.

**Lighting and footpaths need to be provided at Cedars Estate, Glounthaune, as builders have now started work on an adjacent site**

R. O’Sullivan said he has spoken with the Estates Section regarding this issue.

**Blocked gulley outside the credit union, Carrigtwohill.**

G. O’Hora confirmed that this gulley has been cleared.

**Completion date for the ESB works at Ticknock**

G. O’Hora said that the works were substantially complete, and that resurfacing would be finished towards the end of February.

**Issue of cars parking on footpaths by Coláiste Mhuire at school times**

P. Lynch confirmed that he had contacted the Gardaí regarding this issue and they have asked to be contacted each time the problem arises.

**Derelict Signal Box by railway station.**

P. Lynch to examine.

**Condition of Roadway at Barrymore Avenue.**

G. O’Hora said that as this is a narrow roadway, use of Velocity Patcher is not recommended due to the close proximity of the residents’ walls and cars which could be damaged by tar spray. He said that laying a thin layer of surfacing would be better suited to the road.

**3.0 Comhfhreagras / Correspondence**

P. Lynch stated that an invitation had been received from Cobh Tourism inviting the Members to the various Cobh Tourism commemorations in 2025.

P. Lynch referred to response received from Cobh Connect.

Members expressed their dissatisfaction that Cobh Connect will not come to meet the Members as a group to discuss ongoing issues in relation to the bus stop at Park Road, parking in general, blocking footpaths etc.

Members said that the Cobh Connect service is wonderful asset to the town but that it is vital that Cobh Connect work with the Council in relation to any issues. On that basis it is important that Cobh Connect come and meet the Members as a group.

It was agreed that Members would make a list of issues and P. Lynch would include them in a letter to Cobh Connect and request that they meet the Members in committee before the March Meeting.

G. O’Hora stated that he would also request again that the bus stop at Carrigaloe be erected.

#### **4.0 Tuairiscí ó Ofigigh / Officer's Reports**

There were no Officer’s Reports.

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

P. Lynch circulated the figures collected relating to the Community Fund Scheme, Town Development Fund and the figures for Pay Parking for the year to date.

##### **2025 Community Fund Scheme**

P. Lynch advised the Members that the portal for the 2025 Community Fund Scheme is currently open. Applications will be accepted until 5pm on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

##### **Change of Remit of Amenity Grant awarded to Carraig na bhFear GAA Club in 2024.**

P. Lynch told the Members that a request has been received from Carraig na BhFear GAA Club to change the remit of their 2024 amenity grant in sum of €6,400 from purchasing a new scoreboard to upgrading works consisting of drainage and seeding following recent winter weather.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, this change was adopted.

#### **6.0 Review of Cobh Municipal District Parks Use Policy**

P. Lynch told the Members that there was a change of personnel in the local Farmer’s Market Group, and they have asked if the Farmer’s Market can be held on Saturdays instead of Fridays going forward.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. D. Finn, this change was adopted.

#### **7.0 Fograí Rún / Notices of Motion**

- 1. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sinead Sheppard:**  
That Cobh MD would look at speed Calming measures to be undertaken within the Rushbrooke Manor Estate  
(deferred from January meeting)

**Response:** CCC will examine the L-9633-12, Rushbrooke Manor Estate Road for speed calming measures in accordance with CCC Traffic calming policy (Residential Estates).

The L-9633-12 Rushbrooke Estate Road will initially be examined to see whether it complies with basic criteria before it receives further consideration.

These criteria are:

- The site must be inside a 50 kph speed limit zone. Where short circuiting (rat running) is an issue a lower speed limit may be considered.
- There must be a significant majority (two thirds) of residents in favour of the introduction of traffic calming.
- In the case of a through road the minimum length of road shall be 300m.
- In the case of a cul-de-sac the minimum length of road shall be 150 m.

If the request complies with these initial criteria, a further assessment will be carried out under the following headings and assigning a score for each heading.

- Accident History/Data
- 85th Percentile Speed
- Vulnerable Road Users
- Traffic Volumes
- Local Conditions

In consultation with the members (area committee) a list of schemes will be established and agreed based on the rankings from the priority assessment form. Implementation of any scheme will be subject to funding.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Sheppard, seconded by Cllr. D. Finn, the motion was adopted.

2. **To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:** That a meeting would take place with all relevant stakeholders to discuss the problem and possible solutions to the flooding on the Tay road near the Cuskinny Marsh.

**Response:** Flooding on the Tay Road near Cuskinny Marsh is emanating from the marsh lands. Cuskinny Marsh is a private site and water flowing from the site onto the public road is a matter for the landowner to rectify.

CCC have concerns on water from the site flooding the public road notably during times of Spring tides and would be available to meet the landowner to discuss the flooding issues.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen said that the Cuskinny Wildlife group would like to meet with the Members to discuss the issues.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, it was agreed to arrange a meeting with all relevant stakeholders in March.

- 3. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**  
That this Municipal would look at new road signage on the R624 in an effort to get drivers to slow down and help prevent accidents, also could a design be looked at with a possible roundabout outside the entrance to the Fota Hotel.

**Response:** CCC examined road signage on the R624 road during 2024 and erected additional road safety signage as well as two digital driver feedback signs on the road. CCC are planning to erect additional road safety signage on the Fota/Belvelly section of the road during 2025.

Regarding request for a roundabout outside the entrance to the Fota Hotel, Area Engineer will forward to CCC's road design office to examine.

Cllr. A. Barry stated that volume is the problem and asked if taking out some of the bends on the road could be looked at.

Cllr. G. Curley agreed with Cllr. A. Barry and said that there is an issue with the volume of trucks using the road from the Carrigtwohill road opposite Fota Hotel.

G. O'Hora said that he would be happy to meet with the Gardaí regarding a location for a speed van.

Cllr. A. Barry asked if we could get a speed camera on a pole rather than an obvious speed van.

Cllr. D. Finn asked if it was possible to erect signs asking drivers to indicate when turning right over Belvelly Bridge.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, the motion was adopted.

- 4. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen:**  
That the drainage issue on Newtown Road near the entrance to Assumption Place be resolved once and for all following serious flooding again

**Response:** Recent flooding on the Newtown Road near the entrance to Assumption Place was examined by CCC roads staff, flooding was caused by a blocked surface water sewer pipe. CCC have scheduled a jet-vac tanker to clear the blocked sewer pipe and road gully chambers this week.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Rasmussen, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was adopted.

- 5. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:**  
That a signalised traffic lights be considered for the junction at Glounthaune church given the increase in the volume of traffic and the amount of incidents that have occurred recently.

**Response:** Area Engineer will ask CCC's road design office to examine erecting signalised traffic lights at the L-3004 road junction at Glounthaune church.  
Cllr. A. Barry said that the volume of houses now in the area is creating the problem.  
Cllr. S. Sheppard stated that the junction is dangerous and asked if the installation of ramps or traffic lights could be looked at.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was adopted.

- 6. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Anthony Barry:**  
Before the nesting season begins can some of the trees and vegetation in Cul Ard and Fota Rock be removed as it's a risk to nearby houses.

**Response:** CCC carried out tree and hedge cutting works at Cul Ard and Fota Rock during late 2024. Additional hedge/tree cutting works are planned for 2025.

Cllr. A. Barry stated that the type of trees planted are totally inappropriate and the Municipal Districts are not given any funding towards the maintenance of them.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan stated that this is an ongoing issue especially in estates that are approximately 20 years old.

N. Brennan suggested that a meeting is held with the Members to determine the amount of problematic/dangerous trees in the Cobh MD area. This was agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Barry, seconded by Cllr. S. O'Callaghan, the motion was adopted.

- 7. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan**  
That Cobh MD would carry out a traffic survey or request synchronisation update of the Traffic Lights at the Janssen junction on R623.

**Response:** Area Engineer will ask CCC's Traffic lights maintenance contractor to examine synchronisation of the Pedestrian Traffic Lights at the Janssen road junction on R623.

Cllr. S. O'Callaghan stated that the tailbacks are as a result of the changes to the Dunkettle Interchange.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Callaghan, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was adopted.

- 8. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan**  
That the Municipal District of Cobh would agree to the locating of a Dog Park in the green space on the Eastern side of Carrigrenan, Little Island.

**Response:** We will need to investigate and research this proposal to determine feasibility, suitability and funding. Will the Members support this project in terms of funding?

P. Lynch stated that this land was in the ownership of Irish Water and is leased by Cork County Council. He asked that Members revert with further details prior to engaging with the landowners.

S. Corcoran told the Members that the Dog Park in Ballincolig is very successful. She suggested that Cobh M.D. speak with Cork City Council. P. Lynch to arrange.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, seconded by Cllr. A. Barry, the motion was adopted.

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

That the Cobh MD schedule a clean-up of the Fota Road to remove debris on both sides.

**Response:** CCC will schedule a clean-up of the R624 Fota road during March/April when the present inclement weather improves.

G. O’Hora stated that resources are an issue so it would be more practical to wait until all the leaves have fallen and the weather has improved before doing a clean-up on the road.

Cllr. C. Rasmussen asked if the roadsweeper could sweep the road.

G. O’Hora said that due to a bow in the wall, the roadsweeper cannot get right into the base of the wall where lots of the leaves are.

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Finn, seconded by Cllr. C. Rasmussen, the motion was adopted.

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

That the members (especially new members) be brought up to speed with regards to CCO/21/0001 Cobh Ferry to Train Station Active Travel Scheme, the timeframe for completion, and the possibility of viewing the design drawings of the proposal.

**Response:** ‘A proposed route was identified for the Cobh Ferry to Train Station Active Travel Scheme and was presented by Sustainable Travel Unit to the Elected Members of the Cobh MD in an in-committee meeting in Nov 2023. The Elected Members feedback was incorporated into a preliminary design of an emerging preferred route which is now near completion. Environmental and ecological assessments are ongoing which will form part of the Statutory Process for Planning approval which the project team hopes to have ready for public consideration in 2025 pending findings of the assessments.

Subject to funding and approval from the sponsoring agency (NTA) the proposals will be presented to the Elected Members for their information prior to commencing the Statutory Approval process.



N. Brennan told the Members that she has contacted the Active Travel Department to come and update the Members on all active travel schemes within the Cobh M.D.

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Finn, seconded by Cllr. S. Sheppard, the motion was adopted.

## **8.0 Aon Ghnó Eile/Any Other Business**

### **Cllr. S. O’Callaghan;**

Blocked shores at Condonstown, Watergrasshill.

G. O’Hora said that these shores have been cleaned and are currently being monitored.

### **Cllr. G. Curley:**

a) Broken drain at Russell Heights  
Drain is listed for repair.

b) Road lining and Stop Sign required at The Wanderers Pitch  
Road lining has been scheduled with CCC road lining contractor.

c) Public Lighting at Ticknock  
Matter reported to CCC public lighting contractor.

### **Cllr. S. Sheppard:**

a) Update on speed survey in Carrignavar Village  
Engineer to follow up.

b) Speed report at Whitechurch  
Engineer confirmed speed survey was carried out and will issue results.

c) Repainting of double yellow lines by Cobh Ramblers.  
R. O’S. said that CCC would run two lining contracts in 2025, one in April and another in September.

c) Signage/Traffic Calming at Joe Reid Place, Cobh  
Engineer to examine erecting additional road safety signage.

e) Blocked drains at Eurospar and down to Norwood, Cobh  
Engineer stated drain was listed for cleaning.

f) Blocked drains at Hilltop Park  
Engineer stated drain was listed for cleaning.

g) Provision of Basketball Court/Skate Park, Cobh.  
Cllr. Sheppard asked if we could identify sites on Council-owned land and maybe assess the usage of the outdoor gym at the five Foot Way.  
Cllr. C. Rasmussen said that a new locking system is to be installed at the Mount Crozier tennis courts which should facilitate more usage.

- h) Bollard missing by the footpath at Ryngs shop, East Beach.  
Engineer stated bollard was listed for repair.

**Cllr. A. Barry:**

- a) Road Lining in Cois Coille Estate.  
G. O’Hora stated that the lining has already commenced at the junction.
- b) Footpaths at Maryville.  
Cllr. Barry said that the works carried out on the footpath was great.
- c) Double yellow lines at train station at Glounthaune  
Cllr. Barry said that cars are parking on the yellow lines at the train station in Glounthaune.  
G. O’Hora stated that parking on double yellow lines was a matter of enforcement by the Gardaí and would further discuss with the gardai.
- d) New Speed limits on rural roads.  
G. O’Hora stated new 60 Km/hr signs were being erected on local roads.

**Cllr. D. Finn:**

- a) Drains by Spar and next to the narrow footpath by Moore’s Place need unblocking.  
Engineer stated drains are listed for cleaning.
- b) Road lining from Cuskinny to Walterstown need to be finished off.  
Road lining has been scheduled with CCC road lining contractor.
- c) Seeking update on the footpaths at Plunkett Terrace and Coolamber.  
Engineer stated Eir have being requested to repair the Telecom cover on the footpath and when repaired CCC will repair footpath.

**Cllr. C. Rasmussen:**

- a) Double yellow lines required at Glenanaar Place.  
Road lining has been scheduled with CCC road lining contractor.
- b) Area of the road at Newtown by the Cobh Connect stop is sinking and floods every time it rains.  
Engineer to examine.
- c) Section of road at College Manor is damaged from buses and trucks parking.  
Engineer stated road is listed for repair.
- d) Looking for update on road design for Ticknock Hill considering the all the business’s operating there and the opening of the primary care centre.  
Engineer to revert.
- e) Flooding at the turning area at Whitepoint. This was not an issue until Irish Water carried out work.  
Engineer to examine.

- f) Paint Scheme, can we arrange an in-committee meeting.  
N. Brennan said that the scheme is currently being updated, and she would revert to the Members, once finalised.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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CATHOIRLEACH

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MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICER.