

## **Minutes of Macroom Municipal District Blended Meeting, which was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Macroom on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

- Present/I láthair:** Cllrs. Michael Creed (Cathaoirleach), Ted Lucey, Eileen Lynch, Michael Looney, Martin Coughlan & Gobnait Moynihan
- Attendance/Tinreamh:** Ms. Teresa O'Donovan, Municipal District Manager  
Mr. Maurice Murphy, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Marie O'Leary, Municipal District Officer  
Mr. James Dwyer, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Catherine O'Shea, Assistant Staff Officer
- Apologies/Leath scéal:** Mr. Pat O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer

### **1. DEIMHNIÚ MIONTUAIRISCÍ CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Looney and seconded by Cllr. Martin Coughlan, the Minutes of the proceedings of the Macroom Municipal District Meeting held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 having been circulated, were confirmed, and signed by the Cathaoirleach and the Municipal District Officer.

### **2. NITHE AG ÉIRÍ AS NA MIONTUAIRISCÍ MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Councillor Ted Lucey**

- (a) Pedestrian Crossing, Masseytown  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he is examining the design proposal at present.
- (b) Lios na Fé, Macroom – Wall needs to be Recapped.  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will try to get a price from a Contractor.
- (c) Public Lighting Programme  
The Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the number of public lights that are currently out of order and not being fixed. T. O'Donovan, MD Manager outlined that the issues on this matter will be captured and relayed.
- (h) Macroom Bridge – trees caught in 2 of the eyes  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will speak with Fisheries on this matter.
- (i) Top of Masseytown, Macroom – Speed Survey

#### **Councillor Eileen Lynch**

- (a) Lee Valley Inn, Dripsey – Update  
M. O'Leary, MDO outlined recent engagement with the owner and a meeting will take place with the owner onsite to seek a resolution on this. In response to Cllr. Lynch regarding the legal process continuing, M. Murphy, SEO said a Section 11 Notice has been issued. He confirmed that the dereliction issue is a separate matter to the planning.
- (b) Inisleena Walkway, Dripsey – Tarmac in bad condition  
M. O'Leary, MDO said that ESB contacted her to confirm that they are planning to carry out clearing works and hedge cutting in advance of the nesting season.

In P. O'Sullivan's, EE absence, Cllr. Lynch requested that the following items be kept on the minutes for next month.

- (c) Aghabullogue Graveyard – Gates in Poor Condition
- (d) Streetlights at Priests Cross, Millstreet
- (e) Bealnamorrive (Coachford side) and Aghabullogue - Speed Signs
- (f) Lead's Cross L7475 – potholes with grass in the middle of the Road
- (g) Rylane – By New Playground – Speed Survey Report
- (h) Lack of Parking at Lyons Tce, and Fr. Sheehan Place in Coachford
- (i) Forge Cross, Clonmoyle
- (j) Knocknagowan Rylane – Behind the Anvil Bar – Signage and Road Markings needed – vehicles not stopping
- (k) GAA Pitch, Coachford – Ramps – Update
- (l) Parkview, Millstreet – Parking Signage

#### **Councillor Michael Looney**

In P. O'Sullivan's, EE absence, Cllr. Looney requested that the following items be kept on the minutes for next month.

- (a) Berrings School – Lining Works
- (b) Firmount – Stuake Feedback Lights Not Working
- (c) Cloghroe Sign
- (d) Coachford Flood – Subsidence on the R619
- (e) Creans Cross to Donoghmore Cross – Speed – SLOW Signs on Road

#### **Councillor Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Briery Gap – Ramp near Loading Bay  
Cllr. Moynihan queried if the issue has been resolved. J. Dwyer, SEE said there has been no further complaints, but that he will be monitoring it.
- (b) Parking Spaces Blocked off Outside the Briery Gap, Macroom – Removal of Planters  
Cllr. Moynihan expressed her thanks that the parking spaces were no longer blocked off.
- (c) Johnstown Village - Signs  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he is still waiting on delivery of the signs.
- (d) Baile Bhuirne – Bring Site removed from Church Yard – Can they be located elsewhere  
M. O'Leary, MDO said she had no update.
- (e) Road from Milleeny to Dareena Ailín – West Section  
J. Dwyer, SEE said they were in the process of reviewing the programme for this year and would consider including this road.

In P. O'Sullivan's, EE absence, Cllr. Moynihan requested that the following items are kept on the minutes for next month.

- (f) Green Flag - Millstreet Community School Meeting
- (g) Ballydaly near the Hall – public Lighting required.
- (h) Liscahane Road, Millstreet – Speed Survey

### **3. BREITHNIÚCHÁIN AR THUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **(a) Municipal District Officer's Report** Members noted the Report as detailed.

- 2025 Village Enhancement Scheme (VES)  
In response to Cllr. G. Moynihan query on Coachford's allocation under VES, M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed that when the current works in the village are completed, this funding will be utilised.
- Cllr. E. Lynch proposed spending a portion of the VES funding towards installing ramps. J. Dwyer, SEE said that ramps would not be suitable for many locations. He said it is a long process as firstly there would need to be a design carried out and followed by a Section 38.

Cllr. Moynihan & Cllr. Looney both concurred with Cllr. Lynch's proposal and requested that the idea is revisited again in future.

#### **(b) Rylane Speed Survey Results**

J. Dwyer, SEE said as per the results, the speed through the village was high, 86% of traffic exceeded the speed limit of 50 km/h, with a reported 85th percentile speed of 83 km/h. He said that Cork County Council has a Policy in place for the assessment and installation of Traffic Calming measures. Ramps are only one of the options and are usually the least favoured option to be considered. He said advice needs to be sought as to how progress this and that funding would also need to be found. Cllr. Creed requested that these results are shared with An Garda Síochána.

Cllr. Lynch said this was a very disappointing result, she said in the absence of a ramp what other options are available. Cllr. Moynihan said she was not surprised at the results and said that safety measures needed to be initiated as soon as possible.

In response, J. Dwyer, SEE said there are several options that can be considered. He said that the Roads Design Office have the expertise and he would wait to see what they recommend.

M. Murphy, SEO agreed that the results should be forwarded to An Garda Síochána and said it was important to open up a dialogue with them.

(c) **Discretionary Fund Applications**

Group/Organisation	Brief Description of Request
Cork Limousin Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trophies, Rosettes, Food, etc.</li></ul>
Molly Kelleher, Student at St. Mary's Secondary School Macroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Funding towards traveling to Kolkata as part of the School Immersion Programme in Spring 2025</li></ul>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€377</b>

M. O'Leary, MDO outlined that €377 remains in the 2024 Discretionary Fund and asked if Members wished to approve one application for €300 this month and carry over the second application to March when the 2025 Discretionary Fund will be approved.

It was agreed to carry over the Cork Limousin Club application for approval at the March meeting.

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. G. Moynihan  
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Creed

**4. FÓGRA ALT 183  
Section 183 Notice**

(a) Disposal of site no.1, Macroom Industrial Park, Bowl Road, Macroom, Co. Cork.

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. M. Coughlan  
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Creed

(b) Transfer of land at Doonbeg, Killarney Road, Macroom, Co. Cork

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. T. Lucey  
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Creed

**5. FÓGAIRT BHÓTHAIR PHOIBLÍ  
Declaration of a Public Road**

That, being satisfied that a public right of way exists over it, and the road is of general public utility, Cork County Council hereby declares pursuant to Section 11(1) of the Roads Act, 1993 the following road to be a public road: -

ESTATE NAME	LOCATION	LINEAR METRES
Gleann an Fhia	Macroom	228.54

Proposed/ Ar Moladh: Cllr. T. Lucey  
Seconded/ Cuidithe: Cllr. M. Coughlan

**6. CHUN NA RUIN SEO LEANAS ÓN GCOMHAIRLEOIR A MHEAS:  
To consider the following Notice of Motions in the names of:**

**Cllr. Eileen Lynch**

"That Macroom MD would provide extra parking in Lyon's Terrace, Coachford and in Fr Sheehan Place Coachford. That clarity would be provided as to which section of Cork County Council is responsible for these kind of works and what funding is available for same. "

Response

The Housing Department is not in a position to fund the provision of additional parking in Council Housing Estates. The limited funding available for estate management is stretched to meet existing demand and cannot extend to the provision of parking spaces.

*Maurice Manning  
Director of Services, Housing*

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Cllr. Lynch expressed her disappointment at the lack of funding and queried if there was any funding stream available at Municipal District level. Cllr. Creed & Cllr. Lucey both agreed saying parking was a huge issue and needs to be addressed. T. Donovan, MD Manger said it would be investigated.

*Cllr. E. Lynch & Cllr. M. Looney both excused themselves from the meeting.*

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**Cllr. Ted Lucey**

It has been brought to my attention about the volume of traffic and speed on the Millstreet Road from the slip road off the ByPass to the Millstreet Cross. While the slip road onto the ByPass is of huge significance for commuters coming and going into the town it has created a large volume of traffic on this road.

This area is after getting very built up with a lot of new housing developments, there is approximately over 400 houses according to the Registers of Electors in this area. On average 2.5 people live in each house , that's 1,000 people . Approximately 2 cars to each house, that's 800 cars coming and going from the area several times a day. This isn't taking into consideration the amount of traffic that is commuting from Macroom Town and surrounding areas to get onto the ByPass and also traffic commuting into the town and surrounding areas coming off the ByPass.

I have seen first hand myself the speed on this stretch of road is after getting extremely fast and residents trying to get out onto this road are finding it extremely dangerous and are very concerned that a serious accident will occur. Even pedestrians crossing the road are finding it very frustrating. I feel that this stretch of road should have got more attention during the development of the ByPass.

I very much welcome the pedestrian crossing at the Inver Garage but I am asking that some sort of traffic calming solution be looked into to reduce the speed in the area as there is a lot of young children living in these estates.

Response

This section of the R582 lies within the 50km/h speed limit. Traffic patterns have changed in this area since the opening of the N22 Macroom ByPass. In 2024 CCC did install a pedestrian crossing opposite the Inver Petrol Station both to cater for pedestrian usage and to act as a traffic calming measure however this is still awaiting ESB connection so it is too early yet to judge its effectiveness. We can investigate the possibility of providing additional traffic calming measures

further north along the road. Initially I would like to carry out traffic counts and speed surveys which will determine the next steps in this process.

I also think it would be worthwhile for this MD to write to AGS expressing concerns about speed in this area and request that speed enforcement action be taken.

*James Dwyer*  
*Senior Executive Engineer*

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Cllr. Lucey requested that An Garda Síochána are contacted about this issue. He also queried if a traffic calming plan could be included as part of the Active Travel Scheme. Cllr. Creed concurred with this suggestion. J. Dwyer, SEE said he will arrange to carry out a Traffic Survey and said he will be in contact with TII regarding the Active Travel Scheme. Cllr. Moynihan said progress is being made and was pleased that a pedestrian crossing was installed and commended all involved. She said it was important not to forget pedestrians, they need to be included also.

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### **Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**

- Íarr ar an Comhairle plé conas cosc a chur leis an luas ar an tracht atá ar bothair L1132 Liscahane, Sráid a'Mhuilinn

That this Council discuss measures required to prevent traffic speeding on road Liscahane Millstreet.

#### Freagra

Tabharfaidh Comhairle Contae Chorcaí faoi shuirbhé luais ag an suíomh seo ar ball beag. Déanfar cinneadh ar an gcéad chéim eile de réir thorthaí an tsuirbhé seo.

#### Response

Cork County Council will undertake a speed survey at this location shortly. The results of this survey will determine the next step.

*Pat O'Sullivan,*  
*Executive Engineer*

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In P. O'Sullivan's absence, Cllr. Moynihan requested that this Notice of Motion is kept on the Agenda for next month.

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- Íarr ar an Comhairle cur leis an cosán atá ag teacht amach as baile Maighchromtha go dtí an timpeallán í gCúil Cabhair.

That this Council would extend the footpath out of Macroom town towards the roundabout at Coolcower along road R618 (old N22 road.)

#### Freagra

Tá Bonneagar Iompair Éireann (BIÉ) ag obair ar an gcuid seo den sean-N22 faoi láthair, ag athsholáthar dromchla an bhóthair agus ag leathnú an chosáin phoiblí. Is í an tuiscint atá agam air seo ná go bhfuil tógáil cosáin nua ar an taobh thoir de Kelliher's Garage agus an stáisiún peitрил san aireamh leis an gconradh seo, áfach, tá an chuid seo de na hoibreacha fós á dearadh.



Cuirfidh an MD an cheist in iúl don BIÉ agus tiocfaidh sé ar ais chugaibh leis an bhfreagra uathu.

Response

TII are currently working on this section of the old N22 replacing the road surface and widening the public footpath. My understanding is that this contract includes constructing a new footpath east of Kelliher's Garage and the petrol station however this element of the works is still in design.

The MD will raise the matter with TII and revert with their response.

*James Dwyer*  
*Senior Executive Engineer*

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J. Dwyer, SEE said that TII have confirmed that there is no funding available for the provision of a footpath from Kelleher's Garage to Coolcower Roundabout. A discussion took place where the Members expressed their dissatisfaction. Cllr. Coughlan queried the funding received for the works at Coolcower Picnic Area and asked where the footpath will be going as part of this project. J. Dwyer, SEE outlined that no drawings or costings have been finalised for this project as yet. An update on that project will issue in the near future.

**7. VÓTA COMGHGAIRDEAS**  
VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

N/A

**8. VÓTA COMBHRÓIN**  
VOTES OF CONDOLENCES

- Des O'Grady, RIP who served as a Sinn Fein Councillor in the former Blarney / Macroom Municipal District
- Catherine O'Neill, RIP- Marcella O'Neill's mother

**9. AON GHNÓ EILE**  
**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Councillor Ted Lucey**

- (a) Road Resurfacing Through Macroom Town – Road Closed at Night  
Cllr. Lucey said it is important to stress even though the road will be closed at night during the works in the town, diversions will be in place and Macroom Town will be open for business as usual, local traffic will continue to have access at all times. Cllr. Moynihan said it should also be stressed that Macroom Town is open for business by day and by night.
- (b) New Wastewater Pipe in Macroom Town  
Cllr. Lucey said that the Members had a meeting last November with Uisce Éireann and he raised the issue of the new wastewater pipe that was planned for Macroom town and it was agreed that the pipe works should be carried out at the same time as the resurfacing works. At that meeting Uisce Éireann said they would write to TII to agree

a plan. Cllr. Lucey said that Uisce Éireann have not yet made contact with TII and asked if Kevin Morey, Divisional Manager or equivalent to write to Uisce Éireann for an update. T. Donovan, MD Manager confirmed that said she will follow this up.

### **Councillor Gobnait Moynihan**

- (a) Pedestrian Crossing, Millstreet Road, Macroom – Lights Not Working  
J. Dwyer, SEE said the ESB plan to carry out works on the lights shortly.
- (b) "Boil Water" Notice, Macroom  
Cllr. Moynihan commented that people are buying large amounts of bottled water and feels that Uisce Éireann should be in a position to offer some type of compensation.
- (c) Millstreet Gym - Update  
M. O'Leary, MDO confirmed that this project has gone to tender, with tender evaluation currently underway and it is hoped that the successful tenderer will be in place shortly with works commencing. She hopes to have an update for the February MD Meeting.

### **Councillor Martin Coughlan**

- (a) St. Colman's Park, Macroom – Lack of Parking Spaces  
Cllr. Coughlan cautioned at the lack of parking spaces in St Colman's Park with some cars parking illegally and is fearful of a potential accident or emergency services being unable to access the area. He asked if a survey of the area could be undertaken between Cork County Council and An Garda Síochána to look at available options.  
  
M. Murphy, SEO cautioned that any potential future investment in parking will be required to fund itself. He feels that dialogue between the Council and AGS is something that will be useful to all.
- (b) Entrance to Macroom Hospital  
Cllr. Coughlan said the entrance is very unsightly and wondered if there was any funding available from planning development charges. Cllr. Lucey agreed saying it should be prioritised. This matter will be further investigated.
- (c) Car Park Signs in Macroom Town  
Cllr. Coughlan asked about a maintenance plan for maintaining key public items in town, (i.e. signage, bollards, poles etc) and asked for additional signage to indicate car parking in the town. M. Murphy, SEO confirmed that a plan is being put in place which will make provision for these items and T. O'Donovan, MD Manager outlined that there will also be Community Wardens assigned who will work locally with the engineers.
- (d) St. Gobnait's Tce, Ballyvourney – Pool of Water  
J. Dwyer, SEE to investigate this matter.
- (e) Coolcower Picnic Area – Funding secured by Tidy Towns for project  
Cllr. Coughlan referenced the recent funding granted to Macroom Tidy Towns under the 2024 Community Recognition Fund for a project at Coolcower Picnic Area and footpath to Coolcower House. Final drawing and costings currently being done for this project.
- (f) New Road Sweeper, Macroom  
Cllr. Coughlan expressed his satisfaction with the new sweeper, he said it has made a dramatic improvement to the appearance of the town already.



**Councillor Michael Creed**

- (a) Boil Water Notice  
T. Donovan, MD Manager said she would raise this with Uisce Éireann.  
Cllr. Lucey said as far as he understands this notice will be lifted in the coming week.
- (b) Storm Éowyn  
Cllr. Creed complimented all staff for the incredible work carried out during the recent snow and storm.
- (c) Ballineadig – No. of Accidents – Road wide Enough  
J. Dwyer, SEE said he will investigate this matter.
- (d) Civic Amenity Centre, Macroom - Verge has grown over the yellow line on the right
- (e) Footpath from the Old Triangle out the Killarney Road – Bad Condition
- (f) Clondrohid to Macroom – Millstreet Road – Huge Potholes
- (g) Millstreet to Macroom Road & Macroom to Mount Cross - Huge Potholes

**New Macroom MD Manager**

Cllr. Creed welcomed Teresa O'Donovan, Municipal District Manager to her first meeting and on behalf of the Members said they looked forward to working with her.

**Críochnaíonn sé seo gnó an chruinniú**

**This concluded the business of the meeting**

Michael Creed 28-2-25  
CATHAOIRLEACH DÁTA

Maura Sheany 28-02-2025.  
OIFIGEACH AN CHEANTAIR BHARDASAIGH DÁTA