

MINUTES OF EAST CORK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 6TH JANUARY 2025 AT PEARSE MEMORIAL CHAMBER, MIDLETON, CO. CORK.

Present: Cllrs. A.M Ahern, J. Buckley, R. Cocking, M. Linehan-Foley, P. Mulcahy, Eamonn Horgan.

Apologies: Cllr. Hegarty.
Ms. Patricia Liddy, East Cork Municipal District Manager.

Officials: Ms. Noreen Brennan, A/Senior Executive Officer.
Ms. S. Hegarty, Municipal District Officer.
Mr. D. Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer.
Mrs. G O' Connell, East Cork MD.

Before the meeting began the Members conveyed the deepest sympathies to Cllr. Michael Hegarty on the sad passing of his brother in law Ted Manning and stated that their thoughts and prayers are with Michael and the whole Hegarty & Manning families.

The Members also welcomed Cllr. Eamonn Horgan who is taking the seat for Cllr. Quaide and wished him an enjoyable term. Cllr. Horgan stated that he is looking forward to working with the Members.

1.0 Deimhniú Miontuairiscí/Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr. Ahern, seconded by Cllr. Buckley the Minutes of the East Cork Municipal District Monthly Meeting held on 2nd December 2024 were unanimously adopted by the Members.

2.0 Matters Arising:

No Matters Arose.

3.0 Tuairiscí ó Oifigigh/Officers Reports

3.1 Municipal District Officers Report:

Christmas Market

Youghal Event East Cork Municipal District hosted it's traditional annual Christmas market in Barry's Lane on Sat 14th December. This event was successfully organised by Councillor Mary Linehan Foley. Thank you to Shane Murphy and the Youghal Community Market & musicians who supported the event. This year market hosted many traders selling traditional items with festive goods and high-quality food. Thank you to everyone who came along to enjoy the fun and for supporting local during the festive season.

Midleton to Youghal Greenway

The second and final phase of the Midleton Youghal Greenway, which extends from Mogeely through Killeagh, successfully opened to the public on the 19th of December with many users

availing of the amenity during the festive period. 23km of off-road walking and cycling route is accessible through the trailheads at Midleton Station, Mogeely, Killeagh and through the MacCurtainstown Car Park in Youghal. The Greenway will integrate with existing and planned cycle infrastructure in the west towards Cork City and east towards Waterford. It will also form part of the EuroVelo 1 route. Work on the trail head at Youghal will continue into 2025. The official opening of the Greenway will be arranged for early 2025 and councillors will be kept updated on this.

Taylor's Lane

Residents around Taylor's Lane Youghal are being advised of upcoming construction regarding improvement works to Taylors Lane commencing in early January. These works are funded by the Community Recognition Fund 2023. Drawings are available in the Youghal office for public viewing.

Community Recognition Fund -Window 3

Applications for Community Recognition Fund-Window 3 should be submitted online by 5pm on Wednesday 22nd January 2025. The funding is specifically targeted at projects in communities, town and villages that are hosting the Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and /or International Protection Applicants. Please contact MD office or CRF@corkcoco.ie for further information.

Local Festival & Event Fund 2025.

This enhanced funding programme supports festivals and events that stimulate economic growth, celebrate local culture, and attract domestic visitors to Cork County.

Available Funding:

➤ Grant amounts of up to €6,000 available. An additional supplementary grant of up to €1,500 is available for festivals incorporating sustainable practices.

Eligibility Criteria:

➤ Events must generate at least 150 visitor bed nights and incur a minimum expenditure of €7,500. ➤ The festival/event must be located within the geographic boundaries of Cork County.

➤ Supported categories include heritage, music, family, food, Halloween, and sporting events.

➤ Application Deadline: Monday, 20 January 2025, at 5.00pm.

Applications will be assessed based on programme quality, marketing strategy, delivery capacity, visitor experience, and sustainability.

For further information and the application form, please visit:

<https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/visitor/festivals/local-festival-event-fund-2025>.

This report was marked as read.

4. Business prescribed by Statute.

None.

5. Notices of Motion:

5.1.1 Cllr. Ann Marie Ahern, received on 11th December 2024

“Can the Municipal District please carry out a review of the car park just off Distillery Lanes with a view to cleaning it up, installing extra lighting, removing all dumping and with a view to see if any extra parking can be implemented in this area”.

Cllrs Linehan Foley & Buckley seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that he will liaise with Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer to review this matter.

Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer stated that there is a high level of illegal dumping in this carpark behind clothes bins. This is being reviewed with our Litter Warden and stated that Cork County Council may need to reevaluate the area where clothes bins are installed. The MD will review the carpark in terms of age friendly spaces. In terms of extra lighting we will liaise further with our engineers.

Cllr. Ahern asked if bins could be placed in a more open area to deter illegal dumping.

5.1.2 Cllr. Ann Marie Ahern, received on 11th December 2024

“Can a direction sign post be reinstated at the triangle off the R630-68 and the L3651-31 along with further direction signs leading to the slip road towards the R630-68 from the L7668-0 and L36512-0”.

Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer will investigate this matter.

5.1.3 Cllr. Ann Marie Ahern, received on 11th December 2024

“If the council can engage with the owner of the site parallel to Thomas Street to protect the wall by removing the overgrowth coming onto the historical wall which if left grow may cause damage and also create an unsafe structure”.

Cllr. Buckley seconded this motion and stated that there is also a problem with rodent activity from the overgrowth and asked if this could be looked at.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer stated that this is more of a dereliction issue and also an environmental matter due to the rodent activity and stated that he will discuss the matter with the Municipal District Officer separately.

Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer informed the Members that the MD will liaise with the conservation officer & dereliction team and will revert to the Members in due course.

5.1.4 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 11th December 2024 “Asking East Cork MD to request an update from Skyline on the timeline of repairs”.

Cllr. Ahern seconded this motion and asked if Skyline could be written to regarding the statistics of how many faults and also how many lights are due to be connected within the East Cork Areas.

Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer will contact Skyline to facilitate the requested information and will revert to the Members in due course.

Ms. Noreen Brennan, A/Senior Executive Officer suggested that the Public Lighting Department be contacted in tandem with Skyline.

Cllr. Linehan Foley asked if the Members have a direct phone line or email address to skyline for queries.

5.1.5 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 11th December 2024
“Looking to resurface the road at Yellowford, Ballymacoda in the interest of Health & Safety”.
Cllr. Mulcahy seconded the motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that this road would not qualify for funding under the main Roads Restoration Improvement Programme and would encourage the residents of this road to make an application under the CIS Scheme.

Cllr. Linehan Foley asked if there was a costing for same.

The Senior Executive Engineer stated that this could be discussed with the residents.

5.1.6 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 11th December 2024 “Provision of yellow box at the Lighthouse Hill, Youghal in the interest of Health & Safety”.

Cllr. Ahern seconded the motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer will investigate this matter.

5.1.7 Cllr. Rory Cocking, received on 12th December 2024

“To ask the East Cork MD to explore the possibility of installing deer warning signs north of Killeagh particularly along the L-3808-63 and L-3807-39 roads in the areas of Ballinvarrig and Kyle”.

Cllrs. Ahern & Linehan Foley seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that the council normally remove deer from roads which have been killed by vehicles and stated that the deer population is increasing in the East Cork region.

The Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that Cork County Council will carry out a survey requesting members of the public to contact the Council should they come across incidents in the region and stated the in the meantime warning signs will be erected in areas where deer pose a known risk.

5.1.8 Cllr. Rory Cocking, received on 12th December 2024

“That the East Cork MD would consider reopening pedestrian access to the Pontoon Walkway from the Water’s Edge side of the Owenacurra River in Midleton which was in place previously during the renovation of the nearby footbridge”.

Cllrs. Ahern and Horgan seconded this motion.

Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer informed the Members that she has liaised with Sustainable Travel, and the land in question is in private ownership and is not an option to open.

5.1.9 Cllr. Rory Cocking, received on 12th December 2024

“That the East Cork MD would investigate the possibility of creating defined car parking spaces and increased access to the area adjacent to Jacko’s pub in Ballinacurra as part of the Ballinacurra to Midleton cycleway and walkway project”.

Cllr. Ahern supported this motion and asked if the set down area at this location be opened up for further access for families.

Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal Officer informed the Members that the East Cork MD and Sustainable Travel Unit will collaborate to progress this project subject to funding being secured once title is clarified.

5.1.10 Cllr. John Buckley, received on 13th December 2024

“That the road from Cloyne Cross as far as the GAA Club be considered for traffic calming measures”.

Cllr. Ahern supported this motion and asked if there was any update on the crossing by the school and also asked if the double yellow lines at the vets and the round tower.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that a traffic calming scheme for this area is a number of years away.

In relation to the crossing by the school the Engineer informed the Members that he is satisfied with the design of the school warden crossing which is working well and stated that he is looking at putting in parking restrictions at the round tower.

Cllr. Mulcahy asked if the western side of the village be included for a speed survey. The Engineer informed the Members that a number of speed surveys are due to be carried out to get an overall picture of what is going on.

5.1.11 Cllr. John Buckley, received on 13th December 2024

“That the MD could look into repair of potholes at the back of Clonmult Terrace”.

Cllr. Ahern seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that he will have potholes on this road repaired in the next week or two.

5.1.12 Cllr. John Buckley, received on 13th December 2024

“Can we please get an update on the Traffic Lights on the main road in Whitegate Village”.

Ms. Noreen Brennan, Senior Executive Officer informed the Members that she is meeting with a representative from the community council this coming Friday and should have an update for the Members at the February Meeting.

5.1.13 Cllr. Patrick Mulcahy, received on 13th December 2024

“That the ECMD would install public lighting in Raheen Crescent, Youghal on health and safety grounds for the elderly people who live there”.

Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded this motion and asked if the provision of a footpath at this location be added to the motion. Cllr. Mulcahy agreed to this request.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that the request for public lighting has been logged with the public lighting department and stated that the provision of a footpath needs to be looked at under Active Travel Funding.

5.1.14 Cllr. Patrick Mulcahy, received on 13th December 2024

“That the ECMD would provide an update on Motion 5.1.10 of the July meeting of this Municipal District, in relation to speed surveys that were to be conducted during the second half of 2024”.

Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that it was impossible to carry out any speed surveys on account of Storm Babet and stated that the survey will be progressed in the coming months. Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that the Councillors be emailed with a response on this matter.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that it was impossible to carry out this survey due to commitments from Storm Babet and stated that the survey will progress in the coming months.

Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that the Members be emailed with a response.

5.1.15 Cllr. Patrick Mulcahy, received on 13th December 2024

“That the ECMD would list the estates that have not been taken in charge in this Municipal District and outline the reasons why they have not been taken in charge”

Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded this motion.

Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer informed the Members that the Estate Report of taking in charge applications on hand will be circulated to members post the meeting and any specific query regarding estates should be directed to Estates Section for response.

6. Any Other Business.

1. Cllr. Horgan asked if traffic calming measures be provided on Dwyer’s Road, Midleton as the footpath comes to a sudden stop halfway down this road. Cllr. Ahen seconded this motion. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that Traffic Management Unit have progressed with the design of a pedestrian crossing near the pontoon and stated that applications should be submitted soon, the Engineer informed the Members that a speed survey has been carried out on this road and stated that a section of these works should be funded by the NTA.
2. Cllr. Horgan requested that a disabled car parking space be considered on Park Street, Midleton between Supervalu and Mill Wheel. The Senior Executive Engineer will liaise directly with Cllr. Horgan on this matter.
3. Removal of visible litter by the Owenacurra River near the Kindred Spirit Monument in Bailick Park which look unsightly.
4. Cllr. Horgan wished to thank the offices and management of Cork County Council Emergency Response Team for their current & invaluable work during the recent orange weather warning.
5. Cllr. Linehan Foley asked if there was any update on the lights in Ballycotton. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer will revert on this matter.
6. Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of the Mogeely pedestrian area of the Greenway where people are coming off the greenway and the crossing at the Bog Road where speed is a huge issue and asked if any other speed calming measures & signage can be highlighted to encourage to stop at these locations. Cllr. Ahen supported this and asked if the provision of a table top crossing was to come into effect in Mogeely on the train station side over to the Church side. Cllr. Buckley concurred with both Cllrs. Linehan Foley & Ahern.

Ms. Noreen Brennan, A/Senior Executive Officer informed the Members that this is a transitional period where the construction element is now going to be handed over

to Cork County Council for maintenance and stated that there are still some outstanding works that are going to come to us to complete out so we are in the process of going through a handover management plan, The A/Senior Executive Officer will check the plans for the pedestrian crossing and revert back to the Members at the February meeting.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that these are both two busy crossing locations and he has asked the project management team to look at wider traffic calming elements which is something that Mogeely requires and stated that the raised crossing point and slight narrowing of the road at this location and the provision of a footpath on the western side on the car parking side of the road for the greenway has all had a very positive impact on the traffic calming for the village at this location. The Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that all crossings on the greenway are uncontrolled crossings so the priority is with the traffic on the main road and like all uncontrolled crossings the person crossing onto the main road has to check for oncoming traffic in order to cross safely. The Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that he has raised the issue of speed on the Bog Road with An Garda Siochana and have requested that they carry out some active speed checks at this location.

7. Cllr. Cocking informed the Members that he has met with Michael Beecher, Chairperson of the Youghal Active Railway Group in relation to the restoration of the Youghal Railway Line and proposed that a delegation attend a future meeting of the East Cork Municipal District. Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded this proposal and suggested that the 4 newly elected TD's from the East Cork area also attend. Cllrs. Horgan and Ahern also supported this proposal, Cllr. Ahern suggested writing in the meantime to bring this matter to the attention of the Department. Cllr. Cocking stated that he was unsure of the benefits of writing to the Department presently as no Minister is in situ. All Members were in agreement. Cllr. Linehan Foley proposed that the East Cork Municipal District write to Michael Beecher with a proposal to attend either the February or March meeting and be notified of the protocol of a deputation. Ms. Susan Hegarty, Municipal District Officer agreed to take the request and write to Mr. Beecher.
8. Cllr. Mulcahy asked this drainage works could be looked at on the N25 near the old graveyard in Killeagh near the GAA Club and asked what talks are being held in relation to the drainage works and any update on the proposed footpath at this location. Mr. Dave Clarke, senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that there has been quite extensive rainfall during the ongoing cold weather period and stated that key drainage aspects have been prepared ahead of the rainfall.
9. Cllr. Ahern raised the issue of water flooding at Upper Aghada which is causing severe road surface flooding issues and wondered about drainage as nothing seems to be clearing here. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that there has been quite extensive rainfall during the ongoing cold weather period and stated that key drainage aspects have been prepared ahead of the rainfall.
10. Cllr. Ahern stated that she had been contacted by some residents in Mogeely living across from the graveyard who have stated that parking has become an issue due to the overflow of parking for people using the Greenway. Cllr. Linehan Foley also stated

that the same issue of occurring for the residents of McCurtainstown, Youghal. Ms. Noreen Brennan, A/Senior Executive Officer informed the Members that car parking in general for the Greenway is on the list of items that need to be worked on and stated that signage for both areas can be added onto the list.

11. Cllr. Linehan Foley stated that she was contacted by the residents of Tallow Street & Strand Street who made a query under Section 38 in relation to the proposed traffic calming measures for both areas and asked for a rough timeline as to when the works will go to public consultation. Cllr. Linehan Foley proposed that a resident of both streets liaise with the Engineers on this matter. Cllr. Mulcahy supported this.