

Minutes of East Cork Municipal District Held on 1st December, 2014 at 11.00 a.m. at The Lodge, Middleton, Co. Cork.

I LATHAIR:

Mayor Noel Collins presided.

Cllrs. O' Sullivan, McCarthy, Linehan Foley & Buckley.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Hegarty.

Ag Freastal::

Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer.

Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer.

Christy Ring, Executive Engineer.

Mary Flynn, Assistant Engineer.

Maurice Manning, Senior Executive Officer.

Helen Mulcahy, Municipal District (Youghal Office).

Geraldine O' Connell, Municipal District (Youghal Office)

Apologies were received from Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Deputation from Youghal Sailing Club.

Cllr. Linehan Foley introduced a deputation from Youghal Sailing Club consisting of Patrick Buttimer, Martin Finn & Finbarr Buckley. The deputation gave a presentation to the Members in relation to Youghal Sailing Club and informed the Members that they were seeking the support of the Members for the provision of a new public slipway and stated that they were looking at waste land at the Slob Bank to facilitate their request. The delegation stressed that while Nealons Quay was usable at present, the focus of the group was safety for their Members and the proposed slipway at the Slob Bank would provide a safer environment for their Members many of whom are children. The delegation also stated that the site at the Slob Bank would be considered suitable for car parking facilities and for the provision of a helicopter landing pad and also easy access for emergency vehicles to the N25. The delegation informed the Members that this project would cost in the region of €280,000 and requested the support of the Members regarding funding.

The Members thanked the delegation for their presentation and stated that they would be hopeful it will generate tourism for Youghal. The Members informed the delegation that they would be unanimous in their support for their proposals.

1. Minutes of Meeting Held on 3rd November, 2014.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd November, 2014 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded by Cllr. McCarthy and unanimously adopted by the Members.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

2.1 Greenways Project

Claire Cronin, Senior Executive Architect gave a presentation to the Members on the Greenways Project which focuses on the creation of walking and cycling routes based around former disused railway lines which have a flat gradient that is accessible to both walkers and cyclists. The project also focuses on multiple uses such as tourism attraction, cycling tourist walker and local recreation and would also be of great benefit to commuters.

Claire Cronin informed the Members that the disused Midleton – Youghal line was being surveyed at present for a future greenway project with discussions taking place with landowners involved and that the Members will be updated in the Spring with further details.

The Members thanked Claire for her presentation and stated that this is a very worthwhile project and looked forward to an update on same.

## 2.2 Age Friendly County Programme.

Aileen Hurley, Planning Policy Unit, Cork County Council gave a presentation to the Members on The Cork Age Friendly County Programme which was launched in October 2014. The benefits of the programme is to bring positive change and raise awareness of issues affecting older persons in the community.

Aileen Hurley informed the Members that consultation events are being organized where it is hoped to get a wide range of opinions and suggestions as to how to make the area better for older people with the next consultation event for the East Cork Area taking place on Monday 9th February, 2015 in the Midleton Park Hotel, Midleton.

Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that a consultation event be held in Youghal as quite a lot of people from the West Waterford area visit the town. Aileen stated that she would take Cllr. Linehan Foley's concerns on board and suggested that Cllr. Linehan Foley liaise with her regarding same.

The Members thanked Aileen for her presentation and asked if the programme would be advertised in the local press. Aileen informed the Members that it will be advertised in all libraries and also it was hoped to get a website set up through the Cork County Council Website.

## 3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at Meeting.

### 3.1 Control of Vehicle Speed in Housing Estates.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke raised the issue of the control of vehicle speed in housing estates and informed the Members that 5 estates in each Municipal District will be examined for traffic calming and suggested that the Members reach an agreement to prioritise 5 estates in their respective areas and revert back at the January meeting.

Cllr. Linehan Foley suggested that the Members submit their proposals in writing and asked if there will be more estates to follow on from this project.

The S/Director of Services, Mr. Maurice Manning informed the Members that the project is starting with 5 estates which will be prioritised at the January meeting and a process will follow where all estates will benefit in time.

Cllr. McCarthy raised the issue of Dwyer's Road and children crossing the pontoon at this location. Cllr. McCarthy stated that traffic travels at substantial speed along this road. The Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that the criteria for the control of vehicle speed is focused on housing estates only but that he might examine the location on Dwyer's Road and consider whether signage or some other intervention might improve the situation.

## 4. Other Business set forth in the notice convening the Meeting.

4.1 Request that a deputation from Craobh Eochaille, Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann be heard at the January Municipal District Meeting. The Members unanimously agreed that a deputation from Craobh Eochaille, Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann attend the January Municipal District Meeting.

4.2 Elsinore Heights/Rise: The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke circulated a report in relation to a report regarding a rehabilitation programme for Elsinore Heights/Rise. Cllr. Collins informed the Members that he rejected this report and requested that a representative from the NRA attend a meeting of the Municipal District Council to address major footpath problems around the Midleton Area. Cllr. Collins also requested that the footpaths at Elsinore Heights/Rise be put on the 2015 footpath restoration programme.

The Municipal District Officer, Mr. Joe McCarthy informed the Members that he was awaiting confirmation from the NRA that a representative will be attend a future meeting of the Municipal District Council.

In relation to the 2015 footpath restoration programme the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that the footpath restoration programme for 2015 was not yet confirmed and also informed the Members that the Roads Maintenance Budget was down 2.5% on the last budget, resulting in a minimum amount of road and footpath maintenance taking place presently.

The S/Director of Services, Mr. Maurice Manning informed the Members that €125,000 was allocated for East Cork in 2014 with Elsinore Heights/Rise included and also stated that it should be known in early January what level of funding will be provided for the 2015 Roads/Footpath Budget.

The S/Director of Services also informed the Members that the Roads SPC meeting is taking place on Thursday next and suggested the Members contact a representative of the SPC to raise the matter at this meeting.

## 5 Notices of Motion:

5.1.1 Cllr. Noel Collins received on 4th November, 2014.

“Council progress a C.I.S. road surfacing job similar to ten years ago, on the Churchtown/Ballycotton road, serving Patrick Leahy and neighbours, Maytown, Ballycotton. The Senior Executive Engineer,

Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that this road has been inspected and stated that this would be suitable for a Community Involvement Scheme Programme. The Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that the Department of Transport was due to advertise for submissions for this scheme in the new year and applications could then be submitted for same.

5.1.2 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 4th November, 2014.

“Residents request hedge cutting and clean road verges in the following areas: Kathleen Doyle’s Hill, Thomaseens Bridge, via Glen road to Leamlara, Gortacruie Upper, Westpark/Bilberry, Ballintubber/Ahanesk”.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that under the term of the Roads Act 1993 landowners and occupiers of land are obliged to take all reasonable care to ensure trees ditches, hedges and other vegetation growing on their land are not or could not become a danger to people using or working on a public road. The Senior Executive Engineer also stated that Cork County Council places advertisements in newspapers a number of times a year to remind

landowners of their obligations. Where a complaint of a specific location is made it will be investigated and the relevant landowner will be requested to address the issue. Where a landowner fails to comply with such a request, initially a warning letter is issued followed by an Order if required. Where a landowner fails to comply the Council can carry out the works and move to recover its costs from the landowner.

5.1.3 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 4th November, 2014.

“Additional public lighting requested in the following areas: Lower Bailick Road from Riverside Estate to Ballinacurra, Old Youghal Road, Midleton from Moloney’s Garage to Midleton Bye Pass entrance, Clonmult Terrace and the Park, rear of Irish Distillers”.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that he has referred this item to Dermot Kelleher, Public Lighting Engineer, Mallow.

5.1.4 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 4th November, 2014.

“Tree surgery requested to large and overhanging trees, fronting and rear of Riverside Estate, Midleton, correspondence and photos with Council”.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the members that generally the Council only deal with Council trees that are dead or presenting a physical danger to the public or where the root system on public land may be causing structural damage and due to financial constraints the Council is not in a position to regularly prune trees or cut back where blocking lights. The Senior Executive Engineer stated that exceptional costs were incurred this year due to the many winter storms, and informed the Members that the area referred to in the motion was inspected earlier this year and no hazard was noted but stated that the area will be reinspected to see if this remains the case.

5.1.5 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 4th November, 2014.

“Council give consideration to “Midleton Men’s Shed” in search of a larger therapy unit, should a suitable property become available”.

5.1.6 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 11th November, 2014.

“That the East Cork Municipal Council Engineers check with the Airtricity Company as to the reasons and source of problem for the intermittent black out of public lighting in Island View Place, Ballycotton – on pole numbers 29 and 30 which is of serious concern to the immediate residents, on safety and security grounds”.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that both these lights have been fully repaired and stated that the general public should be encouraged to contact the service provider involved should any problem arise in the future.

5.1.7 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 21st November, 2014.

“That provision be made in the 2015 Budget for the resurface of Belmont Tce., bearing in mind that this area was never resurfaced.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke agreed to investigate same.

5.1.8 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley received on 21st November, 2014.

“I ask that the East Cork Municipal District invite the Irish National Flood Forum to our January meeting to liaise with us on flood relief and prevention bearing in mind disasters we’ve had in Youghal over the last few years”.

The Members were in full agreement with this motion.

5.1.9 Cllr. Aaron O' Sullivan, received on 25th November, 2014.

"That Council agrees to undertake full resurfacing in early course of all roads in Youghal affected by the Main Drainage Works".

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that the contractors on the Main Drainage Works have given a two year commitment to look after the roads once the Main Drainage Scheme is complete and also stated that footpaths at Strand Street, South Abbey and Water Lane would be prioritised for upgrading should funding become available.

5.1.10 Cllr. Aaron O' Sullivan, received on 25th November, 2014. "A general clean up of the Pilmore Strand and adjoining car park area following persistent instances of 'fly tipping'".

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that this area is to get attention under the Gateway Scheme with clean up imminent and stated the matter of fly tipping has also been highlighted to the Environment Enforcement Section.

5.1.11 Cllr. Susan McCarthy, received on 25th November, 2014.

"That this Council consider carrying out remedial works on footpaths at Ladysbridge village, particularly at the corner of the Ladysbridge road with the Ballymacoda road where the footpath is level with the highway. There has already been an incident here where a car almost hit an elderly resident in the village. This should be considered high priority on our programme for footpath repairs for 2015".

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that the condition of the footpaths will be examined and considered for repair or replacement in future work programmes. The Senior Executive Engineer also stated that works are placed on programmes, to extent funding permits, in order of priority taking into account level and type of use and condition and informed the Members that in 2014 a countywide footpath special allocation of €1,000,000 was made with €125,000 allocated to the Midleton Electoral Area which permitted the provision and replacement of grossly defective footpaths at a number of locations in East Cork from Cobh to Youghal. The Engineer stated that if funding is provided in 2015 under this heading then Ladysbridge will be considered.

5.1.12 Cllr. Susan McCarthy, received on 25th November, 2014.

"That this council implement traffic calming measures on Dwyer's Road approaching the entrance to the Pontoon. Schoolchildren from Bonnog and Riversfield estates cross the road at this point to access the Pontoon to get to and from school".

The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that substantial improvements for pedestrian safety are ongoing in this area with the completion of a footpath to connect Bonnog to Midleton town and stated that works include the setting back of private boundary wall and fence, provision of public lighting and refreshing and upgrades to road markings with signage to warn motorists of the pedestrian crossing point to be considered.

6. Correspondence:

None

7. Any Other Business:

1. Cllr. Buckley thanked the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke for signage erected in

Ballinacurra.

2. Cllr. Buckley raised the issue of the Blackwater River Bed and asked where the Harbour starts and finishes and who has the rights over the riverbed.

3. Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of resurfacing of the road at Corbally/Mount Uniacke. The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke agreed to investigate same.

4. Cllr. McCarthy raised the issue of the traffic lights on the N25 at Castlemartyr and stated that there was substantial delays during peak hours due to the lights on the N25 side being prioritised. The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke informed the Members that a traffic lights contractor has addressed this issue and there has not been any issue at this location since.

Votes of Congratulations:

The Members proposed a vote of Congratulations to the following:

1. Stuart Hickey & Eric McCarthy of Youghal Karate Club on their success in the National Karate Championships.

2. Sean Buckley & James Colbert on raising €165,000 for Breakthrough Cancer Research.

The Mayor wished everyone a very Happy Christmas.

The Members agreed that the next meeting of the Municipal District Council take place on January 5th at The Mall House, Youghal at 11.00 am.