

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting of East Cork Municipal District Held on 7<sup>th</sup>  
October, 2019, at 11.00 a.m., at Mall House, Youghal, Co. Cork**

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**I Lathair:** Cathaoirleach Cllr. Linehan Foley presided.  
Cllrs. Collins, Hegarty, O'Connor, Twomey, McCarthy, Quaide.

**Ag Freastal:** Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer.  
Mr. Seán O'Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer.  
Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer.  
Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.  
Ms. Janette Kenny, Executive Engineer.  
Ms. Helen Mulcahy, (Youghal Office).  
Ms. Geraldine O'Connell (Youghal Office).  
Mr. Richard Fenton, Executive Architect.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District Meeting  
on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Hegarty and unanimously agreed by the Members.

**Matters arising from the Minutes of Meeting Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019.**

Cllr. Collins asked if there was any progress in relation to the activation of CCTV for Midleton. Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer informed the Members that the contract is not yet complete and stated that there is a problem in receiving a signal on cameras at the top of St. Mary's Road.

## **1. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.**

### **1.1 Deputation to be heard from Shanagarry Community Association.**

Mr. Mark Doyle gave the following presentation to the Members on behalf of the Shanagarry Community Association.

#### **Shanagarry Community Association:**

- Over the past ten years we have completed numerous village and beach clean ups.
- Tidy Town participation.
- Paid for repairs to footpaths within the Fr. Troy Park.
- Completed repairs to roads and edging in the area.
- Upgrade and maintenance of Fr. Troy Park.

#### **Local Development:**

- Numerous estates been built in the Village area there are minimal footpaths being installed in the Village area.
- Shanagarry has a population that more than triples in summertime when the three large caravan sites and rented houses in the area are occupied.
- Both the Cookery School and Kilkenny Shop are a major attraction for people walking and driving in the area.

#### **Footpaths 1:**

- Walking on the roads in the area has become hazardous.
- There are no footpaths to access the beach, shop or Cookery School.
- All three places are within an easy walking distance of the village.

#### **Footpaths 2:**

- Schoolchildren are being exposed to dangerous roads on their way to the local Primary School and while waiting for Secondary School Transport.

#### **North Road:**

- Trees are presenting a serious obstacle to traffic on the road now.
- Large parts of the road are in darkness due to insufficient lighting at night and in the mornings.

#### **Driving on to beach at Ardnahinch:**

- Numerous cars drive on to beach to launch RIB's and Jet Skis.
- Ardnahinch is in an area that launching of Jet Skis is not allowed.
- This poses a serious hazard to all on beach and in water.
- Lack of signage at beach re: fires/litter etc.

**Fr. Troy Park:**

- Wall on North side of river has been eroded by the river.
- Wall needs to be built up to prevent flooding.
- Seating in park needs to be provided.
- Power supply to the park needs to be replaced after loss due to change in ownership of adjacent property.

**Summary:**

What we would like provided in the Village area are:

- Footpaths.
- Removal of Trees in area encroaching on road.
- Stopping vehicles accessing the beach.
- Signage at beach re: no camping or fires etc.
- Fr. Troy Park – repair to wall/power supply/seating.

Cllr. Linehan Foley thanked the Deputation for their presentation.

The Members unanimously supported and commended the Deputation, and stated that everything raised was practical and correct with the provision of footpaths on the North Road being raised on numerous occasions. The Members requested the provision of bollards at Ardnahinch, Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer will examine same.

Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the Deputation that a report will be prepared for the November meeting of the Council.

## **2.2 Presentation from Virgin Media.**

Virgin Media Project Co-Ordinator, Mr. Ed McAteer informed the Members that Virgin Media have begun the roll out of fixed line Broadband for over 3,500 homes and businesses in Midleton and gave the following presentation to the Members.

About Virgin Media:

### **Services Delivered:**

- TV
- Phone
- Mobile
- Broadband

### **Investment for Midleton.**

- 3,000 homes and businesses.
- Multi billion investment - €3.42bn being spent in the U.K. and Ireland.
- Use of 4km of underground MAN ducting.

### **Construction Journey:**

- Preparation
- County Council Engagement
- Road Licencing
- Community/Stakeholder engagement

### **Implementation:**

- Safety Procedures
- Pre-construction survey
- Construction within estates

### **Completion:**

- Snagging
- Tidy Up

Collette Ryan, Community Liaison Officer with Virgin Media informed the Members that she is currently engaging with the local community and key stakeholders in Midleton to ensure they are happy with the works undertaken.

Ms Ryan gave the following presentation to the Members:

**Engagement with Community:**

- Liaise with key stakeholders
- Co-ordinated communication plan to homes and businesses during construction.
- All contractor signage and barriers carry freephone support contact details.
- Door to door liaising before and after construction.
- Co-operation with Urban Street Renewal Programme Team.

**Benefits:**

- Award winning TV, home phones and broadband packages.
- Ability to work/ learn from home, e-health, economic benefits.
- Increased value of home.
- Future proofed fibre network.

The Mayor and Members thanked Mr. McAteer and Ms. Ryan for their presentation which they stated was much appreciated.

Cllr. McCarthy raised concerns in relation to residential areas that roads would be reinstated properly, and with minimal disruption.

The Members stated their disappointment that Youghal and other rural areas in the East Cork areas such as Lisgoold, Ladysbridge and Leamlara are not included in the roll out and also asked if customer care is at the top of their agenda.

Mr. Ed McAteer informed the Members that their customer care office is based in Limerick, Mr. McAteer also informed the Members that it is not commercially viable at present to roll out Broadband in rural areas such as Lisgoold, Ladysbridge and Leamlara or to Youghal Town Centre.

The Members stated that it is vital that they correspond with the Liaison Officer at all times and also requested that Mr. McAleer revert back to his fellow directors to discuss the possibility of the roll out of Broadband in Youghal and rural areas in East Cork.

## **2.3 Upgrade from Eirgrid:**

Mr. Eoghan Tuite from Eirgrid gave the following presentation from Eirgrid to the Members:

### **Funding:**

- Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)
  - EU funding instrument to promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through targeted infrastructure investment at European level.
  - European Commission has allocated grant funding of €530m to the project (October 2019)
  
- Remaining costs to be split between EirGrid and Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (RTE)
  - Irish and French National Regulatory Authorities agreed that 65% of the costs to accrue to Ireland and 35% to France in line with benefits.
  - Decision was made in April 2019 and is now to be confirmed following grant funding decision.

### **Framework for Grid Development:**

Many people might not take an active interest in a project until we identify a precise route. However, it is important that we gather your views before this point.

We want you to know how and why we plan out projects, so you can give us your feedback as soon as possible.

Designing an electricity transmission project can be a complex and lengthy process. Because of this, we use a consistent project planning process to explore options and make decisions. This means we follow the same steps for every project.

The decision making tools we use, and the amount of engagement we carry out at each step, depends on the scale and complexity of each project.

### **Step 3 – Overview:**

- Eirgrid published its assessments and proposed shortlist of convertor station location zones and landfall locations.
- 8 week public consultation held from 11<sup>th</sup> April – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- Step 3 consultation outcome published in early September 2019.
- Confirmed shortlist of convertor station location zones and landfall locations.
- Confirmed best performing AC technology option to connect the proposed convertor station to the connection point at Knockraha substation.
- Engagement continuing with stakeholders.

### Step 3 Consultation - Overview:

- Project Update Brochure published outlining the proposed shortlists and the assessments undertaken:
  - Onshore Constraints Report
  - Offshore Constraints Report
  - Social Impact Assessment
  - Performance Matrix Assessment
- Written outreach undertaken to project stakeholders, registered landowners, fishing groups, elected representatives and adverts placed in local media and online via social media.
- Series of project information days held in Lisgood, Knockraha, Carrigtwohill, Midleton, Cloyne and Youghal over a two week period in late April/early May.

### Step 3 Consultation – Response:

Eirgrid received a good response to the Step 3 consultation:

Online feedback form	17
Records of engagement at meetings	113
Letters and emails (excl. campaign responses)	137
Letter and emails (campaign responses)	770
Total Number of responses received	1037

Campaign responses were received from a number of separate community campaigns. These campaigns expressed specific concerns regarding the inclusion of areas in the shortlisted zones.

### Step 3 Consultation – Outcome:

- Following review and consideration of the consultation submission it was determined that new information was received as a part of the consultation that could rule out any of the shortlisted options.
- Therefore all shortlisted options have been brought forward to Step 4. These include:

#### Convertor Zones

- Zone 1, Ballyadam
- Zone 6, Leamlara
- Zone 9, Knockraha
- Zone 10, Pigeon Hill
- Zone 12, Kilquane
- Zone 14, Ballyvatta

#### Landfall Locations

- Ballinwillling Strand
- Redbarn Beach
- Claycastle Beach

#### **Step 3 Consultation Report:**

- This report summarized respondents' views on the overall project, proposed shortlist of Landfall Locations and Converter Station Location Zones and the other proposed infrastructure (for example cables) and on the consultation process itself.
- To facilitate the consideration of all responses they were separated into:
  - Benefits
  - Concerns
  - Suggestions
- These were then organized by theme (for example environment, community, local economy etc).

#### **Consultation Response Document:**

This document addresses the key themes raised during the consultation process while also providing responses to some of the more specific, localized or technical aspects of the project.

- Key themes which emerged were:
  - Noise
  - Health
  - Visual Impact
  - Farming and land use
  - Disruption to local road network
- Eirgrid will give additional focus to these areas of concern.

#### **Step 3 Preferred Options Report**

- This report revisits each landfall location and converter station location zone taking into account new information received through the consultation process under each of the following criteria:
  - Economic
  - Technical
  - Deliverability
  - Environmental
  - Socio-economic
- On consideration it was determined that ultimately no information was received that would rule out any of the shortlisted options therefore all options have been brought forward to Step 4.



## **Post Consultation Activity**

- Stakeholders were contacted via email or letter.
- Community Liaison Officers remain available to all stakeholders for queries.
- Project staff engaged with stakeholders at the Ploughing Championships 2019.
- Specific meetings were offered to known groups representing local communities. These include:
  - Lisgoold Leamlara Alliance Against Converter Station.
  - Lisgoold/Leamlara Community Council.
  - Zone 14 Action Group.
  - Knockraha Community Council.
  - East Cork Renewable Energy Group.
  - Ballycotton Fishermen's Association.
  - Youghal Fishermen's Association.

### **Communities:**

- Eirgrid's commitment to providing Community Gain will be further defined as the project develops.
- It is planned to begin more focused engagement to develop a Community Fund for the Celtic Interconnector in Step 4 of the project development process.

### **Next Steps:**

#### **Step 4 – Where exactly should we build?**

- The objective is to determine the precise location for the new infrastructure (converter site, landfall location, offshore approach and onshore cable route).
- It is planned to identify the emerging best performing option (EBPO) for the infrastructure by end of October and to consult on this before end of the year.
- Further detailed studies and site investigations will continue on EBPO along with consideration of the information received in the consultation and we expect to confirm our findings in early 2020.

The members thanked Mr. Tuite for his presentation

The Members raised concerns in relation to the project landing sites and the impact construction will have on the beach. The Members also asked if there was any indication Eirgrid would be veering towards the Amgen site for the construction of the converter station and suggested that the greenway route should be actively considered for the laying of the duct cable. The Members asked what the estimated cost of the infrastructure is.

Mr. Tuite informed the Members that he was of the opinion that construction of the Greenway could start as early as next month and stated that construction of the infrastructure of the Celtic Interconnector will not commence until 2023. Cllr. Linehan Foley informed Mr. Tuite that site clearance for the Greenway Route will commence next month. In relation to the Ballyadam site Mr. Tuite informed the Members that Eirgrid are looking at risks associated with this site presently and also stated that they have looked at the large power

points in Whitegate and Aghada and informed the Members that these do not have sufficient circuit capacity.

Mr. Tuite informed the Members that the cost of the infrastructure is circa €930m - €1bn.

#### **2.4 Draft Budgetary Plan 2020 – setting date for meeting to consider.**

It was agreed that this meeting would be held at County Hall at 9.45 a.m. prior to the next full Council meeting, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

#### **2.5 Proposed disposal of property.**

Before notice is given to the Members of Cork County Council in relation to the proposed disposal of property in the East Cork Municipal District the matter is brought to the attention of the Members for the East Cork Municipal District for their consideration:

Situation:	Disposal of land at Nealons Quay, Youghal, Co. Cork.
Area:	0.0006 hectares.
From Whom Acquired:	Predates Property Section records.
To Whom It Is Proposed To Dispose:	Seamus Curran, Quay Bar Ltd.
Consideration:	€12,000.00 plus legal and admin costs.

On the proposal of Cllr. Hegarty which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the Members had no objection to the disposal.

#### **2.6 Request that Deputation from Youghal Active Retirement Association be heard at the November Meeting.**

On the proposal of Cllr. Hegarty which was seconded by Cllr. McCarthy the Members unanimously agreed that a deputation from Youghal Active Retirement Association be heard at the November Meeting of the Municipal District Council.

#### **2.7 Progress Report on the East Cork MD Roads Programme 2019.**

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer circulated the following Progress Report on the East Cork MD Roads Programme 2019.

Funding Grant Category	Project No.	Road Class	Road No.	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Length of work (m)	Est Cost of Work (€)	% Completed
		R		Regional Roads Surface Dressing	4,800	164,114	100%
		L	-	Local Roads Surface Dressing	18,210	454,905	92%
				Restoration Maintenance Subtotal	23,010	619,019	

Restoration Improvement	1	LS	L-7814-0	East Cork – Ardglass to Gurteen	1,860	163,680	5%
Restoration Improvement	2	LP	L-3633-24, L-3638-0	East Cork - Churchtown South	690	138,000	100%
Restoration Improvement	3	LP	L-3633-0, L3633-24, L3639-0	East Cork-Cloyne to Churchtown Road at Ballyknock	2,100	254,100	100%
Restoration Improvement	4	LP	L-3601-53, L-3601-85	East Cork – L3601 Rathgire to Walshtown	1,900	284,811	100%
Restoration Improvement	5	LP	L-3802-31, L-3802-50	East Cork – L3802 Ballyre X towards Mount Uniacke	2,500	302,500	90%
Restoration Improvement	6	LP	L-3825-0	East Cork- L3825 O' Neill Crowley Street	90	39,600	100%
Restoration Improvement	7	LS	L-7622-0, L-7624-0	East Cork – L7624 & L7620 Ballynacole/Ballymartin	2,000	198,000	100%
Restoration Improvement	8	LS	L-7688-0	East Cork – L7688 at Ballymaloe Beg	650	64,350	100%
Restoration Improvement	9	LS	L-7812-0	East Cork – L7812 Carriganass	1,800	177,750	90%
Restoration Improvement	10	LT	L-9528-0, L-95282-0	East Cork – L9528 Store Street/Greens Quay	300	72,000	0%
Restoration Improvement	11	R	R-629-59, R-629-98	East Cork – R629 at Ballymaloe	1,750	563,000	100%
Restoration Improvement	12	R	R633-103	East Cork – R633 at Ightermurragh	1,550	418,500	100%
Restoration Improvement	13	LP	L-3802-0	East Cork – Murleys X to Ballyre X	3,150	346,500	100%

Restoration Improvement	15	R	R-629-59	East Cork – R629 at junction with L3676	150	42,000	100%
Restoration Improvement	16	LP	L-3810-0	East Cork – L3810 Lower Cork Hill	200	76,000	100%
Restoration Improvement	17	R	R-634-12	East Cork – R634 Catherine Street	220	79,000	100%
Restoration Improvement	18	R	R-634-12, R-634-14	East Cork – R634 Friar Street	270	81,000	100%
				RESTORATION IMPROVEMENT SUBTOTAL*= =	21,180	3,300,791	
Former National Roads		R	R-634-20	R634 Youghal Bypass to Kennel	500	225,000	100%
Community Involvement Scheme		L	L-78261-0	East Cork – L78261 Ballyre	450	51,575	0%
Local Improvement Scheme	-	-		Bridgefield Castlemartyr	750	78,750	0%
			TOTAL ROADS PROGRAMME=			4,275,135	

**By Cork County Council**

**By Contractor**

\*Funded by Restoration Improvement Grant of €2,800,791 + Cork County Council IRONMAN funding of €500,000.

The Members thanked the Engineer for his report.

Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of flooding at the community hall in Churchtown South. Jeanette Kenny, Executive Engineer informed the Members that this will be dealt with in the coming week.

Cllr. O' Connor asked if there was any progress on the road from Ballyre X to Mount Uniacke. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer will revert back to the Members on same.

## **2.8 Report on issues raised by Deputation from Residents of Ashe Street, Youghal.**

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer circulated the following report on issues raised by the deputation from residents of Ashe Street, Youghal at the Meeting of the East Cork Municipal District held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

Issues raised by the Deputation and in a written petition can be summarized as follows:

- Speed of some vehicles.
- Lack of footpaths.
- Very narrow road width at section above junction with Windmill Hill to approach to Taylor's Lane.
- Parking on double yellow lines and in yellow boxes.
- Safety of pedestrians where crossing the road at the Gaol Steps.
- Speed limit signs showing 30kph in one direction and 50kph in the other direction.

The following measures were requested:

- Footpath and speed cushions.
- Speed limit of 20/30 kph.
- Sign restricting size of vehicles.
- Regular ticketing of cars parked illegally.
- Road markings/pedestrian crossing at the Jail Steps.
- Removal of wall and provision of footpath south of Taylors Lane.

Report:

The local streets comprising of Ashe Street, Emmet Place, Church Street, DeValera Street, Chapel Lane and Cross Lane are narrow streets and all within the historic core of Youghal Town. Excepting Emmet Place there is not sufficient road width for footpaths. Ashe Street, Emmet Place and DeValera Street are 2 way streets with traffic generally having to 'give and take' given the narrowness of the road and parking provision.

The road width along the narrow section of Ashe Street south of Taylor's Lane measures 3.1 metres average. There is insufficient room for a vehicle and a pedestrian at this point and vehicles have to pass very close to the residential properties which open onto the street without so much as a step. The option of widening the street would involve the removal of the masonry boundary wall. Having regards to the perpendicular parking spaces on the eastern side of the road and other constraints the feasible extent of widening is limited to approximately 600mm – achievable by replacing the wall with a metal railing or similar.

For the most part these streets are shared surfaces where pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles share the carriageway. Church Street is a designed shared surface and is used as an example of a well designed shared surface in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS).

In 2011 Cork County Council's Traffic Section considered alterations to the traffic management on Ashe Street/Emmet Place, Church Street and DeValera Street. Following assessment, public consultation and debate by elected members of the then Youghal Town Council, ultimately the status quo was retained. Any further consideration of altering the traffic management on these streets e.g. making one way would have to be considered in the context of a wider traffic and transportation plan for Youghal Town and is not considered further in this report.

Traffic counts and speed data is available from 2 traffic surveys carried out in late April 2019 over a 7 day period. The first of these was carried out at Taylors Lane for 5 days and the second approx 40 metres before Chapel Lane over a two day period. The average daily traffic recorded was 705. Speeds recorded at the 2 locations are presented in the table below.

Location	V <sub>a</sub> (Average Speed)	V <sub>85</sub> (85%ile speed)
Ashe Street by Taylor's Lane	25km/hr	32km/hr
Ashe Street 40m south of Chapel Lane	35km/hr	43km/hr

Speeds of 30km/hr and less is desirable for shared surfaces. From above the V<sub>85</sub> (85%ile speed) at Taylor's Lane was recorded as 32 km/hr and much higher at 43km/hr at the second location.

Having examined the matters raised and considering the traffic survey date the following measures are recommended:

1. Extend the current 30 kph special speed limit to encompass all of Ashe Street, Emmet Place, DeValera Street and Chapel Lane. (This would be considered in the next speed limit review). The speed limit on Emmet Place from the junction with DeValera Street and Church Lane was reduced from 50 kph to 30 kph on the 2015 – 2017 Speed Limit Review. The speed signage showing 30 kph on one side and 50 kph on the opposite is this correct and in accordance with the adopted byelaws.
2. Widen Ashe Street locally south of Taylor's Lane by removing the existing masonry boundary wall and setting back with a new railing. Provision of a shared surface and bollards to provide a buffer for residents.
3. Provide measures at the pedestrian crossing point between the upper and lower Gaol Steps (e.g. bollards/build outs to narrow the road locally to provide for reduced traffic speeds and improved inter visibility between drivers and pedestrians and protect against vehicles inadvertently driving onto the steps.
4. Give further consideration to Traffic Calming Measures in accordance with the Council Policy for Traffic Calming in Towns and Villages once adopted (currently at SPC stage). Note however that the provision of ramps is not appropriate on shared surfaces as these would be a trip hazard/impediment to pedestrians and wheelchair users etc.
5. Keep the provision of signage restricting the size of vehicles under review. Typically the only HGVs accessing these streets are for local fuel deliveries, refuse collections etc. It is (or should be) evident to nonlocal drivers of larger HGVs that these streets, as with many other medieval streets in Youghal are not suitable for their vehicles.

A provisional cost estimate for the recommended works at 2 & 3 above is €20,000.

Cllr. Linehan Foley proposed to go ahead with items 2 & 3 on the Engineers report. The Members were in full agreement with this proposal.

Cllr. Hegarty stated that he does not agree with item no. 4 regarding the provision of ramps and asked if the ramps could be widened. The Engineer informed the Members that the streets in question are part of the historic core of the town and this needs to be taken into consideration.

## **2.9 Midleton Avoncore Housing Outline Proposal – Pre-Part 8.**

Mr. Richard Fenton, Executive Architect circulated maps and drawings in relation to the Midleton Avoncore Housing Outline Proposal and informed the Members that the site in question is currently fenced off due to evidence of anti-social behavior and illegal dumping, the Architect informed the Members that Cork County Council are seeking to develop the land for Social Housing and are working through the design process presently.

The Members thanked the Architect and stated that they welcomed this development which would counteract the problem of illegal dumping which is a major issue at this site. The Members also welcomed the provision of a communal area within the development.

Cllr, Hegarty asked if there had been any consultation with Irish Water regarding the development. The Architect informed the Members that Cork County Council had been in consultation with Irish Water relating the development of 10 houses and stated that a new application would have to be submitted as the development now consists of 16 units. The Architect informed the Members that it could be Christmas 2020 before development of the project commences.

### **2. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for Transaction at Meeting.**

None.

### **3. Other Business set forth in the Notice Convening the Meeting.**

None.

### **4. Notices of Motion.**

The Members agreed to defer Notices of Motion to the November Meeting of the Municipal District Council.

### **5. Any Other Business:**

1. Cllr. Collins informed the Members that School Bus Service at Lisgoold and Leamlara has been resolved.
2. Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the Members that she has received correspondence from the resident of the Quarry Road regarding the provision of a footpath for the area.

**This Concluded the Business of the Meeting.**