

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting of East Cork Municipal District Held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2020, at 10.30 a.m., at Pearse Memorial Chambers, Midleton, Co. Cork.**

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

**Leathscéal:** Cllr. Quaide.

**Ag Freastal:** Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer.  
Mr. Sean O' Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer.  
Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer.  
Ms. Janette Kenny, Executive Engineer.  
Mrs. Helen Mulcahy, (Youghal Office).  
Mrs. Geraldine O' Connell, (Youghal Office).

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2020, were unanimously adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Twomey and seconded by Cllr. O' Connor.

**2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.**

**2.2 Deputation heard from residents of Elsinore, Midleton.**

Margaret Phelan, Secretary, Mairead Downey, Chairperson, Tom Cotter, Treasurer gave the following presentation to the Members on behalf of the residents of Elsinore, Midleton.

**Footpaths:**

The footpaths in Elsinore Rise and Elsinore Heights are badly in need of repair/full reconstruction, this has been an ongoing problem for many years. This is not the first time we have had a deputation to your meeting, since 1992 different committees have been promised funding which have only resulted in patchy reconstruction, the estate is circa 50 years old, and even though some footpaths have been partly restored or repaired in a few areas at various times over the years, the majority of the paths are either cracked, have gaping holes or serious trip hazards where sections have collapsed. In Elsinore Rise in 2011 a trial tarmac surfaced footpath was laid as an experiment, this has now cracked in front of every house. Further patches were repaired in 2012 and 2015, these scattered areas are where paths and kerbs are in good condition. Health and safety is our major concern as at least 50% of our residents are pensioners and have contributed annually to the general upkeep of the estate, some for 40 plus years with no help at all from the local council. Attached please find photographs of the various trip hazards and uneven paths in the following areas of the estate.

Elsinore Rise: Kerbing seems to be broken in numerous places but especially near P&T and Irish Water manhole covers. I will list the problem areas as we saw them, these footpaths are mainly cracked or broken with the edges of the kerbs protruding in some places which could easily cause a trip and injury as we stated previously. Between nos. 45 & 48, and path at other side of road, among the worst areas is between no. 27 and 29, and nos. 16 and 18,

path between 58 and 59 and outside no. 61 as well as the tarmacadam resurfaced areas from no. 5 to 15 and 61 to 70.

Elsinore Heights: Same problems apply. All the paths on front row need attention; this carries a lot of footfall daily by parents and children attending Educate Together School. Kerbing outside no. 12, paths between 20 – 21, 31 – 32 and 23 – 26. The current committee has been in place for 3 years and has been corresponding with Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke, on a regular basis regarding the footpaths, signage and parking problems arising from the opening of the new Educate Together Primary School. A new path was laid approaching No. 3 Elsinore Rise from the school two years ago, here an unfinished job has resulted in vehicles such as delivery men using the space where bollards should have been placed, to exit dangerously on to the Mill Road. This area is correctly prepared for 4 such bollards and the house owner was advised at the time that they would return with the bollards, this is a grave concern as it could cause an accident and there seems to be such a simple solution.

Poor public lighting is an added worry for residents walking on dusk or dark evenings on uneven path surfaces. There was also concern about the condition of water pipes which we have discovered are very close to the surface. Recently Virgin Media have been installing broadband and have adequately restored the area, which has highlighted the poor condition of the footpaths even more.

In August 2019 in a reply from Dave Clarke, Engineer, we were advised that if we sent a list of areas of concern these would be considered and added to the annual footpath renewal candidate list. This was done in September 2019 when it was noted our estate didn't get as much as a mention in the 2019 footpath programme. We hope our deputation today will mean we can look forward to repair or full restoration of our paths in one of the oldest estates not in the original urban council area.

#### **Tree Topping:**

As an association we look after our own green areas with no council help, therefore this year we will apply for a community/amenity grant having covered the cost of pruning/topping of the 30 + trees on the estate in 2014 at a cost of over €2000, we have been advised that the roots of some of these trees are now protruding in such a way as to damage paths and roads as some are located on the side of the Mill Road and others near where residents park their cars. As some trees may now need to be removed in light of this information, we believe that this could add further costs which we would have to pass onto the residents.

#### **Signage:**

We were happy to be supplied with "30 kph and Children at Play" signs at both entrances to the estate in December 2019. We still feel however that signage is still needed possibly by the Avoncore entrance advising motorists of the "School Ahead" as people are driving too fast on the road that already has 3 estates before the school and work has begun on another. Residents have also voiced concern re. the demolition of this site where it is believed asbestos is present and a lot of ongoing construction traffic will cause more reason for motorists to slow down. Finally in spite of contact with Educate Together School and the Gardaí, residents are still experiencing parking problems during pick and drop times to the

school. Within the estate we also feel we need more “Dog Fouling” signs and “Stop” signs where the view is often blocked by careless parking by residents and visitors to the estate.

The Members thanked the deputation for their presentation and stated that it was evident that no works have taken place in the estate in a long time. The Members stated that any works which need to take place within the estate need to be seriously pursued and also stated that the residents have the full support of the Members. The Members also informed the deputation that there is an amenity grant available to residents associations through Cork County Council and informed them that the closing date for this grant is February 14<sup>th</sup> next.

The Mayor commended the group on their presentation and informed them that a report will issue on their concerns raised in due course.

### **2.3 Deputation heard from Youghal Chamber.**

Dermot Keogh, Seamus Curran and Padraig Hennessy from Youghal Chamber of Tourism and Development gave the following presentation on Youghal Future Needs/Opinion Poll to the Members:

#### **To Encourage Industry to Locate in Youghal: (31.38%) 155 Responses**

The Youghal Main Drainage System is now operational. This was highlighted as a major weakness to the town securing industrial investment in the past.

We have identified the need for more imagery, infographics, video content and case studies for Youghal which would enable the IDA staff to sell the town more effectively to potential employers.

Increased focus on targeting smaller Foreign Direct Investment Companies through the IDA’s Emerging Businesses Division. These smaller firms might be attracted to regions with smaller population and workforce.

Existing Companies should be encouraged to locate satellite operations in the Town, taking advantage of our lower site costs, lower wages and a better quality of life.

The Arts Council, the IDA and Enterprise Ireland are working to help attract investment through our global image as a hub of creativity. An Arts Audit should be requested for the Town and surrounding areas. By developing good relationships between the arts and industry, we can hopefully animate many empty buildings with some high innovation industries such as those in the gaming and entertainment sectors.

#### **New Beach Facilities, i.e., New Toilets, Showers, Water Sport Facilities, Lighting on the Boardwalk, Triathlon Facilities: (17.81%) 88 Responses**

Cork Council Council’s commitment to Ironman is just incredible.

We are now a recognized name in the hugely popular Activity Sector. Throughout the year, hardened athletes are seen fighting through our endless waves, pounding our boardwalks

and climbing our awesome hills. But to our embarrassment our beach facilities are still of third world standard.

The proposed Lifeguard and Toilet Facility at the end of the Promenade is hugely welcomed and should ensure that we retain our coveted Blue Flag.

Our busiest beach is Claycastle and similar facilities must be provided for the tens of thousands of visitors that descend on this 5 km of sandy beach every summer. The current facilities are completely unacceptable and seasoned visitors visit the nearby Aura Centre instead. We are encouraged by the possibility of a third party organization updating and improving the current facilities but are conscious of the lack of funding and commitment to the project.

The existing groynes are almost completely gone. They were originally installed along the coastline in late 1800's with the development of the Railway and the Victorian obsession for the Seaside. The groynes interrupt wave action and protect the beach from being washed away by longshore drift and prevent undermining of the Promenade, Seawall and protective Sand Dunes. In this era of Flood Defense Funding would the elected members commission a Beach Management Plan to safeguard our most valuable asset.

The Public Lighting of the Promenade, Boardwalk and Claycastle Car Park is non-existent. Early morning and evening walkers and joggers are excluded from using these amazing facilities throughout the dark winter months. Similar public spaces in Tramore, Portrush and Bray are obvious examples of intelligent forms of seafront lighting.

**Bypass Killeagh and Castlemartyr: (15.59%) 77 Responses**

- Generate positive economic benefits to businesses and consumers by improving journey time reliability and reducing journey times.
- Stimulate regional development by improving connectivity.
- Support investment in the wider area in order to increase access to jobs, key facilities and social opportunities.
- Improve the general quality of life.
- Meet the demands of increasing population.
- Provide for major investment in rural regions.
- Avoid or minimize negative impacts on the existing environment.

It can be argued that the N25 Cork Rosslare Euroroute is of greater importance to sustaining the Cork economy than the proposed Cork Limerick Motorway. Brexit has highlighted the need for a fast connection with our markets. The UK landbridge is a vital component in retaining our manufacturing and food industries. Significant investments and upgrades are planned to increase the capacity of the Rosslare Europort. Just last week Brittany Ferries confirmed that it is moving its Ireland-Spain sailings from Cork to Rosslare Europort, with a new arrival port in Bilbao. The N11, Dublin to Rosslare Europort is now of motorway/dual carriageway standard. The Limerick Rosslare route has recently seen the opening of the New Ross Bypass and the confirmation of the Waterford to Glenmore 10km dual carriageway in

October last. The N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction and the N24 Waterford to Cahir dual-carriageways have been included in the Ireland 2040 – Transport Plan.

It is now 23 years since the final section of the Cork Midleton Dual Carriageway was opened.

Construction has commenced on the new 22 km long Dual Carriageway N22 Macroom-Ballyvourney road.

**Primary Health Centre in Youghal (6.68%) 34 Responses**

The closure of the St. Raphael’s Hospital Centre creates a fantastic opportunity for the development of various services to the town. We would recommend that the elected members of Cork County Council commission a development study for this site, similar to the proposed redevelopment of the former Army Barracks in Clonmel.

**Heritage Centre: (4.86%) 24 Responses**

We are fully supportive of the Council’s plans for the former Court House Building in Market Square. We would like to congratulate Cork County Council for the newly opened Clock Gate, their ongoing investment of the Medieval Quarter and the Lighthouse.

**Full-Time Garda Station: (3.85%) 19 Responses**

Youghal Garda Station ceased 24 operations in December 2003. It is the general understanding on the town, that the principal reason for the closure is the unsuitable design and layout of the existing station in carrying out interviews. During the daytime opening hours all interviews are conducted in either Midleton or Cobh Garda Stations, a serious misuse of Garda time.

In 2019, full service was reinstated to the Kinsale Garda Station. Youghal with a population of 7,963 forms part of the Midleton District and is within 20 km of the largest station. Kinsale with a population of 5,281 forms part of the Bandon District and is within 20km of the larger station.

**Establish Youghal as a 1 Gigabyte Broadband Hub: (3.64%) 18 Responses**

SIRO is a very successful joint venture company between the ESB and Vodafone, building a 100% fibre optic broadband network in over 30 towns using the ESB’s infrastructure. Youghal already has the benefit of Fibre Optic and Cork County Council should encourage an Enterprise Hub Network, similar to the Enterprise Centre, which would provide work spaces for co-workers and remote workers. This promotion could be coupled with all the positives rural regions have to offer in terms of a cheaper floor rental value, better work life balance, shorter commute times, low carbon footprint, ease of congesting in our cities.

**Encourage Government and Cork County Council to Re-Locate Offices in Youghal:**

**(3.64%) 18 Responses**

Local employment, in particular employment located within the centre of town, are of an enormous social and economic benefit. The high proportion of vacant shop and former industrial buildings within the town, creates a wonderful opportunity to both the Government and Cork County Council to re-locate part of their various divisions within the town.

**Designate Council Land near Aura Leisure Centre for Hotels/Camping/Mobile Home/Camper Vans: (1.62%) 8 Responses**

The Strand Area of Youghal is under pressure. The ongoing situation with the proposed closure of Youghal Greyhound Stadium, the derelict nature of the former Seaford Fabrics Factory, and the recent demolition of the former Hilltop Hotel are significant problems for the Tourist Industry in Youghal.

We would welcome a commitment by the elected members to examine the tourism potential of 22 acre council landbank.

**Expansion of Public Library: (0.81%) 4 Responses**

We are delighted that Cork County Council are committed to renovating the former Collins Bakery building on North Main Street. The derelict property occupies three adjacent lots on the main retail section of the town.

**Other: (5.06%) 25 Responses**

**6 Responses: Return the Train.**

Joined up Transport Policy must be put in place with Cork City Council. Rail Network is essential for the success development of the Docklands in the City. The Luas Line was one of the most important components to the success of the Dublin Docklands.

**5 Responses: Shops.**

Without industry and jobs the selection of retail within the town will remain poor.

**5 Responses: Marina And Develop the Riverfront.**

A small investment with a huge return. No other Port with the Maritime History of the Port of Youghal would accept the lack of Sailing Facilities in the town.

The Members thanked the deputation for their presentation and acknowledged the work they are doing. In relation to the issue of lighting on the Boardwalk the Members informed the deputation that a programme is in place for the installation of LED Lighting and also stated that a feasibility study is being carried out in relation to the Killeagh Castlemartyr By Pass.

The Members also stated that the issue concerning the opening hours of Youghal Garda Station be put forward at National level.

The Mayor thanked the deputation for their presentation and stated the issues highlighted are greatly appreciated.

### **2.1 Municipal District Officers Report.**

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, circulated the following Municipal District Officer's Report – February 2020 to the Member:

#### **2019 Amenity Fund.**

Under the Amenity Fund in 2019 out of a total allocation of €72,150 the sum of €53,150 has been claimed to date.

#### **2019 Community Fund.**

In 2019 the total amount allocated for Community Contracts amounts to €32,150. The sum of €16,000 has been claimed to date.

#### **2019 Capital Fund**

A total of €137,000 was allocated for Capital Fund and a total of €78,000 was claimed to date.

#### **Town Development Fund:**

The Town Development Fund of €120,000 for 2019 was allocated as approved by the Members as set out hereunder:

Town Development Fund 2019		Youghal	Midleton
	€	€	€
Painting Scheme Youghal	6,000.00	6,000.00	
Painting Scheme Midleton	6,000.00		6,000.00
Midleton Playground at Riverside Estate	15,000.00		15,000.00
Claycastle Multi Sports Facility	15,000.00	15,000.00	
YSEDG	25,000.00	25,000.00	
Yew Wood Venues	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Marketing of Youghal Clock Gate	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Queen of the Sea	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Landscape for the Lodge	36,000.00		36,000.00
FEAST	2,000.00		2,000.00
	120,000.00	61,000.00	59,000.00

## Village Enhancement Scheme and Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2019.

Town and Village Renewal 2019/Village Enhancement Scheme 2019	
Town and Village Renewal – Candidate application €76,000 was not successful.	
Village Enhancement Scheme 2019 Cork County Council	62,500
Killeagh Car Park – Part 8 Planning Procedure concluded 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Development may proceed	

### Village Enhancement Scheme Review:

Some time ago the Members of the Corporate Policy Group (C.P.G.) requested that a review of the Village Enhancement Scheme be undertaken with a view to identifying opportunities for greater flexibility on the implementation of the scheme particularly in relation to the eligibility criterion of settlement size and to consider allowing for the inclusion of smaller settlements.

As part of the Directorate’s discussions with the Head of Finance in late 2019 in the context of Budget 2020 it was suggested that the Village Enhancement Scheme could be extended to “Villages” rather than just “Key Villages” as this would address some of the concerns raised by the Corporate Policy Group. It was recommended that the Members of the Municipal District would be empowered to decide which key villages and villages should benefit from this Scheme and decide where the funding is to be expended and have the discretion to spend the funding on any initiative in villages which they consider appropriate. It was agreed by the Corporate Policy Group last month that the Village Enhancement Scheme, which has to date focused only on key villages, will now be extended to all villages.

Hereunder is listed key villages and villages. There are four key villages and eight villages so the total number of settlements now eligible for consideration under the Scheme increases from four to twelve.

Key Villages	(Previous Grants)
Castlemartyr	
Cloyne	(2017 – Car Park, Heritage Signage and Bins)
Killeagh	(2019 – Car Park)
Whitegate and Aghada	(2018 – Village Amenity Improvement Project)

### Villages

Ballycotton  
Ballymacoda



Churchtown South  
Dungourney  
Ladysbridge  
Mogeely  
Saleen  
Shanagarry/Garryvoe

#### 2.1.4 Update on other funding Programmes/Projects.

Details will be advised to the Members as information becomes available.

#### 2.1.5 Communications/PR

The All Ireland Pollinator Plan Wildflower Meadow Project in the grounds of Midleton Lodge was taken up by the Communications Department and put up on the Cork County Council Website with endorsements from the County Mayor and Chief Executive.

Cllr. Twomey welcomed the report and requested if Ballinacurra Village could be included for the Village Enhancement Scheme.

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, informed the Members that Ballinacurra is not listed as a village in the current Development Plan and stated that Ballinacurra is included as part of the Environs of Midleton in the Development Plan.

Mr. Seán O' Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer, informed the Members that an "In Committee" meeting will be held to discuss this programme and the Members can discuss the inclusion of Ballinacurra at this meeting.

### **2.4 Reports on Deputations.**

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, circulated the following reports on deputations to the Members:

#### **Report on Issues raised by the Deputation from Shanagarry Community Association at the Meeting of the East Cork Municipal District held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

##### **Issues raised by the Deputation can be summarised as follows:**

1. Need for footpaths to improve the safety of pedestrians walking on public roads
2. Overgrown trees at the start of North Road
3. Motorised vehicles driving onto Ardnahinch Beach from the beach car park.
4. Request for signage at Ardnahinch Beach for prohibition of camping / fires etc.
5. Collapsed wall along river in Fr. Troy Park
6. Need for seating in Fr. Troy Park
7. Power supply to the Fr. Troy Park required

## Report

1. Footpaths: Shanagarry has limited footpath provision at the following locations:
  - a. South side of R632 from the Kilmahon Housing Estate to the village car park
  - b. Intermittent and very narrow footpaths on the northern side of the R632 between the GAA grounds and the North Road
  - c. Along road frontage of Old Garden Housing Estate
  - d. North side of L96322 from R632 to Ardnahinch Bay Housing Estate
  - e. Within the various newer housing estates and holiday villages

The following roads have been assessed for the provision of footpaths:

- **North Road from junction with R632 to Orchard Gardens.** The length of footpath required is 485 metres. It is noted that the local primary school is located on this road. The road width is typically of the order of 6.9 metres widening out slightly either end. The road is typically bounded on both sides by masonry walls associated with the various residential properties. The walls on the eastern side from the junction with the R632 are high and appear quite old and are a feature of the road. The provision of a minimum footpath width of 1.5 metres would require the setting back of the front garden walls of a number of properties. As a footpath would eliminate the natural road drainage available a linear road drainage system would be required. A preliminary estimated cost of setting back garden walls, construction of a footpath & drainage system is €364,000. This does not include costs for required land acquisition.
- **R632 from Village car park to junction with Ardnahinch Road.** The length of footpath required is 970 metres. The road width is generally wide enough to accommodate a footpath, however there are a number of locations where this is not the case and setting back of existing boundaries would be required to accommodate a footpath. Some drainage works would be required but not along the full length as generally surface water flows south into the lower lying land at a number of locations. . A preliminary estimated cost of setting back existing boundaries, construction of a footpath & drainage system is €226,000. This does not include costs for required land acquisition.
- **L96322 from Ardnahinch Bay Housing Estate to the beach car park.** The length of footpath required is 300 metres. The road width is more than adequate to provide a footpath. Some drainage works would be required as the existing natural drainage of surface water into the margin would be impacted. A preliminary estimated cost of construction of a footpath & associated drainage works is €75,000.

Note: There is good forward visibility and margins are generally very well maintained by property owners which provide an area for pedestrians to step off the surfaced road if required.

Having regard to the level of funding available for the provision of new footpaths it is unlikely that the requested footpaths can be provided in the short to medium term.

The following measures are recommended as interim measures:

- Provide 4 no. repeater speed limit signs (1 each at start of North Road and Ardnahinch Road & 2 on R632)
- Provide 2 no. W140 Pedestrian signs (1 in each direction on the R632 between the Village Car park and Ardnahinch)
- Provide a junction ahead sign on Ardnahinch Road
- Remove the plethora of advertising signs at the Ardnahinch junction

The Shanagarry Community Association may wish to consider applying for the provision of driver feedback signs. Where approved this requires a 50% community contribution towards the initial cost of purchase and installation.

It is also recommended that the roads above be assessed in accordance with the Council's *Traffic Calming Policy for Towns and Villages* following implementation of the recommended interim measures.

2. **Overgrown trees encroaching onto the public road:** The area has been inspected and the site confirmed as in Cork County Council ownership. The matter has been referred to the Housing Directorate which has confirmed that cutting back of the overgrown trees / bushes will be carried out. Note that during the inspection a number of other quite localised areas of overgrowth from residential properties along the road were observed. These localised areas would benefit from pruning back by the respective responsible property owners.
3. **Motorised vehicles driving onto Ardnahinch Beach from the beach car park.**
4. **Request for signage at Ardnahinch Beach**
5. **Collapsed wall along river in Fr. Troy Park**
6. **Need for seating in Fr. Troy Park**
7. **Power supply to the Fr. Troy Park required**

Items 3 – 7 above are a matter for Municipal Services and/or Harbour Master.

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, informed the Members access to the beach by vehicles and signage may be considered in the context of countrywide Beach Bye-Laws currently being prepared and that Fr. Troy Park is not maintained by Cork County Council.

**Report on Issues raised by the Deputation from the Strand Street and The Mall Residents Association at the Meeting of the East Cork Municipal District held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019.**

**Issues raised by the Deputation can be summarised as follows:**

1. Claim that as a consequence of the increased width of the footpaths on the Eastern side of Strand Street, traffic is being pushed over towards the western side where there is no footpath.
2. Lack of footpath on the Western side of Strand Street
3. Traffic is speeding up where the road narrows noting this is dangerous as the Gaelscoil Choráin primary school is located further up the street.

## Report

1. Cork County Council carried out footpath renewal works along Strand Street in 2015. The footpath renewals works had several objectives:
  - Replace broken footpaths (typically damaged by vehicles parking up on the footpath)
  - Adjust the kerb lines where possible to provide for a wider footpath and safer passage for pedestrians as a walking route to adjacent primary schools
  - Prevent illegal parking up on footpaths by using bollards\*.

\*The illegal parking of vehicles up on footpaths was creating several issues: (a) direct damage to the footpath; (b) restricting space for pedestrians / making the footpath impassable for prams / wheelchair users; (c) narrowing the available carriageway for traffic causing traffic to be pushed over to the western side of the carriageway to the extent that resulted in property damage.

Note that the footpath widening that was possible was very limited in scope. An increase commencing at 9 Strand Street (eastern side) and gradually increasing to approximately 800mm at 6 Strand Street (eastern side) was possible. No footpath widening was possible up to and including the narrowest part of the street. A rubbing strip was provided on the western side of the street at and approaching the narrow pinch point.

The completed works, to the extent possible, given the physical constraints of the roadway width and alignment of Strand Street, have successfully achieved the above objectives and also mitigated the risk of property damage.

Before & After photographs from Google Streetview are attached.

2. The provision of a footpath along the western side of Strand would require the removal of parking along the street and in addition the removal of the existing footpath at the narrowest section near White Gables. This is not a viable option.
3. To provide a better understanding of traffic flow and speeds along The Mall and Strand Street a series of traffic surveys were carried out during week commencing 27/01/2020 over three 24 hour periods. The average daily traffic recorded was just under 3,500 vehicles. Speeds recorded at the various locations are presented in the table overleaf:
- 4.

Location	V <sub>a</sub> (Average Speed) Cars	V <sub>85</sub> (85%ile speed) Cars
A: Start of The Mall at junction with Mall Lane	30 km/hr	37 km/hr
B: End of The Mall at junction with Water Lane	35 km/hr	43 km/hr
C: Strand Street at start of parking on LHS	29 km/hr	35 km/hr

The highest speeds were recorded at location B. The lowest speeds were recorded at location C. From the above it is clear that the majority of drivers are driving well within the 50 kph speed limit confirming that speeding is not an issue. However at location B (29/01/2020) 9 vehicles were recorded travelling at excess of 60 kph with a cluster between 6 am and 7:30 am. This information will be referred to An Garda Síochána for consideration in their speed enforcement activities.

The Mall and Strand Street were assessed in accordance with the recently adopted Council policy for Traffic Calming in Towns & Villages to see if there was a warrant for traffic calming. The resultant assessment score of 58.5 is less than the minimum score of 60 for further consideration.

Having regard to the above 1 – 3 no works are proposed.

Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that traffic calming measures similar to the measures outside of the Aldi Supermarket be put in place at Strand Street.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that he will revisit the area over the course of the year and carry out speed surveys, the Engineer informed the Members that certain areas will then be prioritised for traffic calming measures.

**Report on Issues raised by the Deputation from Cloyne Community Council at the Meeting of the East Cork Municipal District held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

**Issues raised by the Deputation can be summarised as follows:**

1. Highlighted the need for more footpath repairs, requesting full replacements rather than just sections.
2. Requesting that public realm standard footpaths be provided at Cloyne Cross
3. Requesting uniformity in public lighting luminaries
4. Requesting additional parking restrictions – St. Colemans Terrace, Church Street and junction of housing estates near schools
5. Drainage issues outside National School
6. Road signage
7. Derelict buildings
8. Closure of Post Office
9. Poor bus service and lack of a bus shelter

## Report

1. Cloyne will be considered for further footpath repairs and replacements in future Footpath Programmes in order of priority in ECMD. Generally where footpaths are in overall poor condition full replacement is carried out. Generally where footpaths are in serviceable condition with localised defects, then either localised repairs are carried out or sections are replaced.
2. The request for higher quality public realm standard footpaths in the historic core of Cloyne is noted. Such works could be considered under the Village Enhancement Scheme funding.
3. As part of the countywide public lighting LED Retrofit Project all existing non LED public lights will be replaced with LEDs. This major project which will substantially reduce the public lighting energy costs and very importantly reduce the carbon footprint of public lighting. Construction stage is scheduled to commence mid 2020 and take 2 years to rollout across the county.
4. Having regard to the level of existing parking provision and parking demand in Cloyne Village it is not proposed to introduce additional parking restrictions at this time.
5. Drainage issues outside Cloyne National School is a matter for Irish Water. It is understood that Irish Water are aware of this issue. At a number of other locations on Chapel Street, the ponding of water on the road surface at subsided trench reinstatements has been addressed by the Roads Authority by carrying out localised road reinstatements.
6. Road signage has been reviewed at the location highlighted by the Deputation and the following measures will be implemented:
  - a. Upgrade, renewal and repositioning of directional signage at Cloyne Cross
  - b. Installation of further advance directional signage approaching Cloyne Cross
7. Derelict buildings is a matter for Municipal Services
8. The closure of the Post Office is a matter for An Post
9. The level of bus service is a matter for Bus Eireann. The provision of bus shelters is a matter for the NTA. The request for a bus shelter has been referred to the Council's Traffic & Transportation Section for consideration in future bus shelters programmes where funding is available from the NTA.

Cllr. Hegarty thanked both Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, and Janette Kenny Executive Engineer, for this report. Cllr. Hegarty stated that if Irish Water is using

contractors that are not up to standard, this is an issue that needs to be addressed at a future meeting.

In relation to the issue of derelict sites, Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, informed the Members that some sites have already been dealt with and that a list of the derelict sites the deputation has concerns about should be submitted to the Municipal District Office with full details of location and ownership for consideration.

Cllr. Twomey thanked the Engineer for his work on road signage in the village.

### **Report on Issues raised by the Deputation from Killeagh/Inch Community Council at the Meeting of the East Cork Municipal District held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

#### **Issues raised by the Deputation can be summarised as follows:**

- Need for Water Supply/Reservoir Upgrade
- Need for more resurfacing works to rural roads
- Need for increase in hedge cutting
- Need for graveyard extension
- Need for a village carpark
- Excessive length of time it takes for pedestrian crossing lights to change
- A number of issues relating to “snagging” / completion of major N25 roadworks and pedestrian bridge projects.

#### **Report**

The upgrading of the public water supply is a matter for Irish Water.

Rural roads in the Killeagh/Inch area are being assessed for inclusion in the East Cork 2020 Roads Programmes. The Roads Programme will be presented at the March Municipal District Meeting.

The position in relation to hedge cutting was reported on at the December MD Meeting. Report attached for information.

The requested graveyard extension is a matter for Municipal Services

The requested village car park is a matter for Municipal Services

Recent checks, during a variety of traffic flow conditions, on the time period between pressing the call button and the pedestrian lights changing confirm that this issue has been resolved. Any malfunctioning of the pedestrian lights is best reported to the Youghal Office or on [yourcouncil.ie](http://yourcouncil.ie) for attention.

The number of issues relating to “snagging” / completion of major N25 roadworks and pedestrian bridge projects as minuted have been referred to the National Roads Design Office / TII.

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, informed the Members that a survey had been carried out on 17 cemeteries in the East Cork area and stated that spaces will be available in the cemetery on the Mogeely road up to the year 2030.

The Municipal District Officer also informed the Members that the East Cork Municipal District is making a significant contribution towards the development of the Car Park on the Mount Uniacke Road and have no plans presently to develop any other car park, but stated that this could be looked at in the future.

## **2.6 Midleton Pollinator Plan.**

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, circulated the following Midleton Pollinator Plan to the Members and informed them that Janette Kenny, Executive Engineer, having attended at an Environmental Seminar, had championed the cause for supporting pollinators and biodiversity, and had put extensive research into compiling this plan, for which she deserved much acknowledgement and thanks.

Introduction:

One third of our bee species are threatened with extinction from Ireland. This is because we have drastically reduced the amount of food (flowers) and safe nesting sites in our landscapes. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre is about everyone, from farmers to local authorities, to schools, gardeners and businesses, coming together to create an Ireland where pollinators can survive and thrive. Councils can therefore play a leading role in making the island of Ireland a place where pollinators can continue to flourish. Public parks, open spaces, road verges and ornamental planting can play the important role of increasing connectivity between pollinator friendly sites in the wider countryside.

There is increasing awareness of climate change and attention is now being focused on the effects of climate change on the whole planet. High level strategies are being developed for mitigation and adaptation in relation to climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. These concepts can seem to be at a distance from us and as being outside our control. Eco-anxiety is now recognized and is increasing. Eco-anxiety is anxiety about ecological disasters and threats to the natural environment such as pollution and climate change. Variations to the definition exist such as the broader description explaining it as the worry or agitation caused by concerns about the present and future state of the environment. There is no doubt that we should all be concerned about these issues and we would like to respond by taking appropriate actions.

The All Ireland Pollinator Plan is an excellent response to these issues. It is intended that the approach and actions taken in 2019 as our response based on the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan to supporting pollinators and biodiversity as described in this plan will be replicated and expanded, not only in Midleton but throughout the East Cork Municipal District, into the future. Engagement and actions throughout the East Cork Municipal District will be encouraged and supported through community groups, existing environmental groups (e.g.



East Cork Biodiversity Networking Programme) and schools (e.g. St. Colemans Community College and Gaelscoil Mhainistir na Corann). Community groups already doing great work in creating and maintaining attractive amenity areas throughout the East Cork Municipal District will be encouraged to implement the actions recommended in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

The Wildflower meadow developed in the grounds of Midleton Lodge in 2019 surpassed our expectations in how quickly and strongly the area recovered and growth from the existing seed bank flourished, including the rare Bee Orchid. There was a significant increase in pollinators and bird life and visitors to the park. The pollinator and biodiversity supporting flower beds created at The Rock and the Coolbawn with their variety of perennial plants of different type, colour and form received many favourable and appreciative comments from natives and visitors alike. We look forward to developing similar pollinator and biodiversity supporting projects throughout the East Cork Municipal District into the future, including adapting our management of parks and open spaces and our tree planting programme and maintenance programmes, with expert advice, to reflect and incorporate the strategies and recommendations in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

This plan presents actions as outlined in the National Biodiversity Data Centre guidance document "Councils: actions to help pollinators" and where the actions will be implemented in Midleton. Progress on the implementation of the Midleton Pollinator Plan will be carefully tracked. Success is not measured in having the Plan, but by knowing that it is working. This plan sets out clear and effective actions firmly based on the advice promoted in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan of the National Biodiversity Date Centre which we can take and the plan is recommended to the elected members for approval and adoption.

The Members thanked Janette and all staff involved for a very ambitious plan and stated that she should be very proud of same. The Members asked if there was any cost benefit to the plan. The Engineer informed the Members that the plan should come out at cost neutral per year, but that the National Biodiversity Data Centre has estimated the value of bees and other pollinators to the economy at €53m per annum.

On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Twomey the Members unanimously agreed to the approval and adoption of the Midleton Pollinator Plan.

## **2.6 Redistribution of Unspent Grants 2018/2019.**

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, informed the Members that unspent grants in the amount of €22,450 need to be re-distributed.

The Municipal District Officer informed the Members that funding needs to be built up towards the proposed development of Midleton Lodge and Baby Walk as a Town Park and

suggested that the Members might approve setting these monies aside towards building up this fund.

On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Hegarty the Members unanimously agreed that the amount of €22,450 in unspent grants be set aside towards the build-up of a fund towards the development of the Midleton Lodge and the Baby Walk as a Town Park.

### **3. Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Municipal District Members for Transaction at Meeting.**

None.

### **5. Other Business Set Forth in the Notice Convening the Meeting.**

None.

### **6. Notices of Motion**

The Members agreed that Cllr. Hegarty's motion be read first as he needed to leave the meeting early.

5.1.16 Cllr. Michael Hegarty, received on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

Cllr. McCarthy seconded this motion.

"Footpath repairs in Aghada/Whitegate area".

5.1.17 Cllr. Michael Hegarty, received on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

"What bridges/culverts that are in urgent need of repairs within the East Cork Municipal District are in for consideration in this year's works programme".

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that the following locations are being advanced by the NNDRO under the Bridge Rehabilitation Programme:

- East Ferry Wall at Jamesbrook.
- Dundullerick West Bridge.
- Garryvoe Bridge (associated retaining wall).
- Road retaining wall along stream Mogeely on Mogeely to Dungourney Road.
- Road retaining wall along stream on Quarry Road at Muckridge.

The Engineer informed the Members that the last two retaining walls mentioned have arisen at the end of 2019 following collapses.

5.1.18 Cllr. Michael Hegarty, received on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“When will repairs be carried out from Ballincurrig to Top Cross”.

Cllr. McCarthy seconded this motion.

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

5.1.1 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“That Council report on what proposals are envisaged in the interest of road safety, to provide additional road signage at the roundabout, New Cork Road, Midleton, (fronting Park Hotel) to assist residents entering the roundabout from adjoining roads. (Full information /photos on file – diverted from County Hall to Dave Clarke, SEE for report)”.

Cllrs. O’ Connor and Twomey seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that roundabouts such as that at the junction of New Cork Road, Dwyers Road, and private road entrance to Market Green Shopping Centre while efficient for traffic flow are not pedestrian friendly. The 2010 Carrigtwohill & Midleton Traffic & Transportation Study proposed a signalised junction in lieu of the current mini roundabout. The concerns raised will be referred to the Traffic and Transportation Section for consideration. Note as part of a signage review and renewal programme in Midleton the advance warning signs and yield signs on the Cork Road will be upgraded in 2020. Note however that the damaged railing and uncontrolled pedestrian crossing are both within the private Market Green complex and are a matter for the Market Green company.

5.1.2 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“For the preservation of our rivers and lakes, Council include in its funding programme for 2020, the dredging of Roxborough, Owenacurra Rivers, Midleton and East Ferry and build up the collapsing river banks on both and give a general clean up to Loughaderra Lake”.

Cllr. Collins asked if this motion could be forwarded to the Department of the Marine.

Cllrs. McCarthy and Twomey seconded this motion.

Cllr. Linehan Foley asked if the Kiltha River could be included in this motion.

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer, informed the Members that this motion was dealt with by Southern Committee and that he will forward a copy of the motion to the Department of Agriculture, Food & The Marine.

5.1.3 Cllr. Noel Collins, received on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“What plans, if any, are in train to bring about general improvements to the grounds of East Cork Municipal District Offices, Midleton”.

This motion was supported by all Members.

The Municipal District Officer advised of plans being prepared for a Part 8 proposal.

5.1.4 Cllr. Danielle Twomey, received 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“This Council make immediate requests to the TII, in the interest of safety to do the following at Castlemartyr NS,

1. Install a raised crossing with beacon lighting to support safe crossing of school children.
2. Install sufficient flashing light signage at the bridge side to alert motorists to slow down for the school.
3. To include safety measures on the footpaths if deemed necessary.
4. That this area of the road be included for the next speed limit review for a special speed limit of 30km at school drop off and pick up times”.

The Members unanimously supported this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that the request for additional road safety measures on the N25 at Castlemartyr National School will be referred to the TII for consideration and stated that the request for a periodic speed limit to operate at school times will be forwarded to the TII for consideration in the TII’s next speed limit review.

5.1.5 Cllr. Danielle Twomey, received on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“Can the engineer please investigate suitable sites for installation of the new DTTAS minimum passing distance for cyclists signage, on the east cork roads. This signage will be even more important with the impeding greenway, which will bring more cyclists to our roads”.

Cllrs. Linehan Foley and McCarthy seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that Cork Council Council has already assessed and determined suitable locations for the provision of these new signs. Guidance as to appropriate siting is contained in the DTTAS Traffic Signs Advice Note: Minimum Passing Distance Supplementary Plates. Extract as follows:

Where should this supplementary plate be used?

The supplementary plate may only be used in conjunction with sign Q143-Cyclists. Where that sign is warranted, the use of the supplementary plate is then permitted-such areas include areas where there is likely to be a significant number of cyclists along a route, the start/end of cycle routes where cyclists are merging onto the public road, locations of high

cycle volumes such as colleges, schools and tourist areas with significant cycle counts. The supplementary plate should only be used where it is legally possible to comply with, that is, where the width of the road allows safe and legal overtaking where overtaking is not prohibited by a solid continuous white centre line. Care should also be taken in deciding on locations of maximum impact and with an awareness of keeping signs and posts, which are themselves hazards, to a minimum.

The Engineer informed the Members that in East Cork 24 locations have been identified. These are at the end of cycle lanes (where off road and cyclists would be joining general road traffic); on main approach roads into Youghal & Midleton and a number of regional roads on the IRONMAN route. The Engineer suggested that Cllr. Twomey contact Paul O' Donovan, Executive Engineer, directly if looking for more detailed information on locations identified.

5.1.6 Cllr. Danielle Twomey, received on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2020.

“That remedial works be carried out on the Roselawn / Hydes Park junction Ballinacurra to resolve the deteriorating nature of the junction that is now, at this stage, a serious safety hazard”.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that this motion is noted and the matter will be considered for inclusion in the 2020 Works Programme.

5.1.7 Cllr. Susan McCarthy, received 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020.

“That Council undertake to take the road to Ballyannan Woods in charge as a matter of priority. The upper section has been completely washed away and it is so bad now that it has become a deterrent to people who wish to access the woods. This is a hugely important amenity for the town and the road should be considered strategically important in the context of community amenity and tourism”.

Cllrs. Collins and Twomey seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that the Ballyannon Woods Road from the cattle grid is a private road. There has been recent communication with property owners on the road regarding a LIS. Until such time as the road is brought up to an acceptable standard an application for taking in charge is premature.

5.1.8 Cllr. Susan McCarthy, received 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020.

“I would like to reiterate the need for works at the Rock, Midleton to make it safer and easier for pedestrians to negotiate. This is a key junction in the town as it is the access point between the town centre and the area where 5 of our 8 schools are concentrated. In an age where we are trying to get people out of their cars and walking/cycling to and from school I think this one is essential”.

Cllrs. Collins and Twomey seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that it is agreed that junction works that will improve road safety for vulnerable road users is highly desirable. This matter will be referred to the Traffic and Transportation Section to see if improvements could be funded by the NTA.

5.1.9 Cllr. Susan McCarthy, received 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020.

“Road resurfacing needed at the Boreen, Ballyglassin, Killeagh as well as from Pound Cross down to the Forge (Knockaheem)”.

Cllr. O’ Connor seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that the Ballyglassin Boreen is listed for routine repairs and stated that works started last Friday on the Pound Cross.

5.1.10 Cllr. James O’Connor, received on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“That this Municipal District requests TII to immediately improve safety measures at Burgess, Killeagh in the vicinity of the filling station”.

Cllrs. Collins and Twomey seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that this matter has previously been raised with TII.

5.1.11 Cllr. James O’Connor, received on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“That this Municipal District would request the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport to include Ashe Street, Youghal on its list for the Safety Improvement Scheme in 2020”.

Cllr. Collins seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that the DTTAS has recently announced schemes funded in 2020 and stated that there is a large number of candidates under the scheme for safety improvement works with a list being drawn up by September for works in 2021.

5.1.12 Cllr. James O’Connor, received on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“Following the completion of the N25 feasibility study in Castlemartyr, this Municipal District calls on Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Cork County Council to advance to the design phase of the Castlemartyr relief road”.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the members that it is important to note that the advancement of the N25 Castlemartyr Relief Road is a matter for TII.

5.1.13 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“That signs are be erected in Ballykennealy Knockadoon ASAP - the signs are missing with a year”.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that these signs are still on the needs list with a number of other finger post signs in the area and stated that priority was given to replacing warning and regulatory signs rather than finger post signs last year and the budget did not permit the replacement of the missing finger post signs, once general maintenance budgets are allocated for 2020 the matter will be reviewed.

5.1.14 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“That salt bins are available in estates and hilly areas in East Cork”.

Cllr. O’ Connor seconded this motion.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that salt bins and a fill of salt are offered to Resident Associations/Community Group on a shared funding basis, full details of which are available on the Council Website.

5.1.15 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley, received on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

“Update on safety issues at Summerfield Cross and Gortroe (motions which were passed last year)”.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that the DTTAS allocation for 2020 includes Ardnabourkey Hill, Whitegate for €20,000 and the R630 Whitegate Road at Rostellan to Lower Aghada for €80,000.

The Engineer informed the Members that he will investigate Gortroe Cross and stated that Summerfield Cross is on a candidate list for road safety improvements.

**6) Correspondence.**

None.

**7) Any Other Business**

- Cllr. McCarthy raised the issue of the new bus shelter for Castlemartyr. Mr. Séan O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer, informed the Members that this is being dealt with by the Traffic and Transportation Section.

- Cllr. Linehan raised the issue of the condition of the footpath outside Coleman's Butchers, Upper Strand, Youghal.
- Cllr. Linehan asked if dog fouling signs could be provided for North Abbey Cemetery, Youghal. Ms. Helen Mulcahy, Senior Staff Officer, informed the Members that "no dogs allowed" signs are currently erected at North Abbey Cemetery.
- Cllr. O' Connor asked if there was any update from TII on the wall at Woodview, Killeagh. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the Members that this is on the Safety Improvement List with TII.
- Cllr. O' Connor wished all candidates running for the general election the best of luck on Saturday.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.