

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting of East Cork Municipal District Held on 6th May, 2020 at
10.30 a.m. at Mall House, Youghal, Co. Cork.**

I Lathair: Cathaoirleach Mary Linehan Foley presided.
Cllrs. Hegarty, Collins, McCarthy, Ahern & 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.
Mrs. Helen Mulcahy, (Youghal Office).
Mrs. Geraldine O' Connell (Youghal Office)

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 2nd March, 2020.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd March, 2020, were unanimously adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. Collins.

2. Matter Arising from Minutes:

- 2.1 Cllr. Collins raised the issue of the footpaths on Main Street, Middleton and asked when progress can be expected on same. Cllr. Collins was informed that this item was being dealt with in the Municipal District Officer's Report May 2020.
- 2.2 Cllr. Collins asked if the provision of a bus shelter at Convent Cross, Middleton could be reinvestigated. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that he has referred this matter to Cormac O' Suilleabhain Senior Engineer, Traffic and Transportation Section who gave a full report to the Members at the September 2019 Municipal District Meeting. The Engineer stated that he will follow up on this matter and request that Cormac O' Suilleabhain contact Cllr. Collins with an update on same.

Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley informed the Members that this morning's meeting is just an update on what has taken place over the last number of weeks. Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the Members that while she understood certain works still need to be dealt with, the outdoor workers are working on a staggered basis presently and stated that the main priority is that people stay safe and well and adhere to the guidelines in relation to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Cllr. Linehan Foley congratulated Cork County Council for the constant updates and emails which enabled the Councillors update their constituents.

Cllr. Ahern seconded Cllr. Linehan Foleys sentiments and thanked the staff of Cork County Council for their Trojan work.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

3.1 East Cork Municipal District Roads Programme 2020 – Progress Report 30th April, 2020.

EAST CORK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT – ROADS PROGRAMME 2020							
Funding Grant Category	Project Number	Road Class	Road Number	Road Name or Townland Name	Length of Work (m)	Estimated Cost of Work	% Completed
	-	R	-	Regional Road Surface Dressing	5,900	232,210	0%
	-	L	-	Local Roads Surface Dressing	26,000	533,210	0%
Restoration Maintenance Subtotal =					31,900	765,420	
Restoration Improvement	1	LP	L-3601-53	East Cork – L-3601 Walshtown	1,600	240,000	0%
Restoration Improvement	2	LP	L-3679-0	East Cork – L3679 Cliff Road Ballycotton	600	90,000	Tender Stage
Restoration Improvement	3	LP	L-3642-25, L-3642-28	East Cork – L3642 Ballyvoon to Ballynookery	1,000	150,000	0%
Restoration Improvement	4	LS	L-7690-0, L7691-0	East Cork – L77691/L7690 Glengarrif More, Dundullerick West and Ballynaskeha	2,150	268,750	0%
Restoration Improvement	5	LP	L-3628-0	East Cork – Whiterock from N25 to Thades Cross	1,500	225,000	0%
Restoration Improvement	6	LS	L-3629-0, L7657-0	East Cork – L3629 Bawnard to Rathcoursey to East Ferry	4,000	500,000	Contract Awarded
Restoration Improvement	7	LP	L3602-16	East Cork – L3601 (Part) at Broderick's X	600	175,500	Tender Stage
Restoration Improvement	8	LT	L-9528-0, L95282-0	East Cork – L9528 Store Street/Greens Quay	150	72,000	Tender Stage
Restoration Improvement	9	R	R-633-31, R-633-67	East Cork – R633 Compaun to Gortavadda	2,300	563,500	Contract Awarded

Restoration Improvement	10	LS	L-7814-0	East Cork – L7814 Ardglass towards Gurteen Phase 2	350	52,500	0%
Restoration Improvement	11	LS	L-7825-0, L78251-0 (part)	East Cork – L7825 Kilcounty X to Ballyre X	1,200	150,000	0%
Restoration Improvement	12	LS	L-7839-0,L-7840-0	East Cork – L7840 Drishane More	1,500	163,764	0%
Restoration Improvement	13	LS	L-7811-0	East Cork – L7881 Rooskagh Shanagarry	1,700	212,500	0%
Restoration Improvement	14	LS	L7806-0, L-7806-31	East Cork – L7806 Lyre to Breeda Road	1,000	112,500	0%
RESTORATION IMPROVEMENT SUBTOTAL* =					19,650	2,976,014	
TOTAL ROADS PROGRAMME =					51,550	3,741,434	

KEY

By Cork County Council

By Contractor

*Note: Road strengthening works, starting at Glengarriff More, Dundullerick West and Ballynaskeha, scheduled to commence week beginning 30th March 2020 suspended and provisionally rescheduled to week beginning 5th May 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

*Note: Surface dressing works originally scheduled to commence week beginning 11th May, 2020 provisionally rescheduled to week beginning 25th May 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

*Note: Advance preparation works (clearing of sod at edge of road, opening back drains etc.) for surfacing projects, suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions, recommenced week beginning 27th April 2020.

Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of Store Street, Youghal which is presently at tender stage and asked if these works will be prioritised once construction restrictions have eased. Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that which job entails civil works including drainage works and stated that and this road will also require a detailed survey and design.

Cllr. Hegarty stated that he is concerned that due to the loss of works over the last six to seven weeks we will use all of our allocation grants if programmes are not completed by the end of the year and proposed that the East Cork Municipal District Council seek an extension of time and also sub contract out some of the proposed works.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that these issues will affect all Local Authorities across the Country.

3.2 Municipal District Officer's Report – May 2020.

2019 Amenity Fund.

Under the Amenity Fund in 2019 out of a total allocation of €72,150 the sum of €56,750 has been claimed to date.

2019 Community Fund.

In 2019 the total amount allocated for Community Contracts amounts to €32,150. The sum of €27,150 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.

Midleton to Youghal Greenway.

Whilst work on the Midleton Youghal Greenway is temporarily on pause, it will commence as soon as COVID 19 restrictions are lifted. To date site clearance has been undertaken and the temporary fencing works have commenced. The 23km long Greenway will bring an important and timely boost to tourism across the County. Youghal and Midleton in particular will benefit. Good for the local economy, increasing tourist spend, supporting existing local businesses and encouraging new enterprise opportunities, it will also be a wonderful recreational resource for local communities.

Midleton Town Centre Improved Access & Enhancement Project, Phase 2.

Members will be aware of the ongoing work being undertaken to finalise the design and tender documentation for this complex project. Whilst it was expected to go to tender in March, this did not happen as there were additional amendments required to the tender documentation. It is imperative that the tender documentation issued is as comprehensive and complete as possible to enable contractors to submit tenders prices and to mitigate the risk of additional cost arising subsequently. At the time of writing I do not have the exact date that the construction contract will be advertised. However I expect it to be in June with works commencing in the Autumn.

IRONMAN, Ireland, Cork.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 IRONMAN Ireland, Cork event scheduled to take place in East Cork on June 21st will not go ahead this year. However the date for the 2021 IRONMAN Ireland, Cork has been announced for August 15th 2021. This is the only decision that could be made in these unforeseen circumstances. Efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 have meant disruptions and cancellations to sporting events around the world. It is regrettable and disappointing for everyone involved that this event cannot go ahead in East Cork this summer but we can now look forward with anticipation to the 2021 IRONMAN Ireland, Cork race.

St. Mary's Collegiate Church – Youghal. - The Voices of St. Mary's.

Work on the 'Voices of St. Mary's' Project is well under way. Failte Ireland has signed off on the Interpretative Plan and the project is scheduled for completion for September 2020.

Phase 2 of the Youghal Eco Boardwalk.

Phase 2 of the Youghal Eco Boardwalk runs from Claycastle to Redbarn. The Council has completed the procurement process and selected a contractor to commence works as soon as permitted under national guidelines relating to Covid 19. The existing boardwalk that runs from Front Strand to Claycastle will be extended by 1.1 km from the Claycastle car park as far as the Youghal Quality Hotel at Redbarn and will be another great amenity for the region.

Front Strand Public Convenience & Lifeguard Facility.

In May 2019 Part 8 Planning was granted for the new public convenience with overhead lifeguard station at Front Strand, Youghal. This building replaces the existing toilet buildings located behind the sea wall at the eastern end of the promenade. The new building will consolidate the male and female toilets into one building while adding a universally accessible facility. The incorporation of a permanent lifeguard station will re-inforce the status of this new structure as a nodal point along a well-established walking route.

The proposed works include for the demolition of the existing public toilets and associated site works, including soft and hard landscaping. In addition to the new two storey structure, improvements to the public realm and traffic calming works will be undertaken as well as the partial reconfiguration of the existing car park.

The project has proceeded to detailed design including ground survey works and site investigations. Tender documentation is currently being prepared and the aim is to advertise the construction contract in the summer with works commencing in the autumn.

Youghal Lighthouse Project.

Youghal's "Heritage Led Vision to the next Decade" document states that the overall objective of this project is to provide visitor accessibility to one of Youghal's most iconic sites and develop a significant addition to the suite of attractions in the region. An architect has been appointed to undertake the design of phase 2 of the works which involves the construction of a viewing area on the seaward side of the building. This is a continuation of the works undertaken in Phase 1. Whilst work on the design is proceeding, site investigations cannot be undertaken until the current restrictions are lifted. The current aim is to undertake the part 8 planning by autumn 2020. If planning is granted, the Council will then pursue all funding opportunities to enable this project to proceed to construction.

Youghal RRDF Application (Courthouse) – and Public Realm.

In February 2020, the Council submitted an application under the Department of Rural & Community Development's Rural Regeneration & Development Fund for the regeneration of Youghal Town Centre through public realm and the development of a future vision for the disused Courthouse building. This application is to fund the development of proposals up to and including design and planning. This application will not fund any construction works.

The Council awaits a decision on this application.

Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018 – Cloyne. - Litton Fountain.

Having regard to the high historic and heritage value of the Litton Fountain it was necessary to amend the proposal as submitted by the community group to properly respect and enhance the monument and the associated public realm. This amended proposal was then provided for community consideration and submissions and we sought an extension to the end of March 2020 for the project. The project is essentially completed except for the following additional minor works yet to be carried out:

- Connection to water supply,
- Connection of pump to electricity supply,
- Provision of connection on street for festive lighting to Christmas tree,
- Installation of seating and planter on street,
- Filling and planting up of planter,
- Inscription of brass panel.

Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018 – Youghal. Market Square Dock.

This project provides for new quality, natural stone paving, revised parking facilities and the installation of Moby Dick Sculpture at Market Square Dock. The project is essentially completed.

Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2019.

In late 2019 the Council was notified that it had been successful in its 2019 Town & Village Renewal application for East Cork for the installation of a series of 8 space 'bike racks' in designated car parking locations throughout the towns and villages of East Cork. The proposal will promote cycling throughout East Cork, and aid the transition at a local level to a low-carbon economy.

The inclusion of these bike racks will further enhance the reputation of East Cork as an outdoor haven for cycling enthusiasts; following the hosting in East Cork of the international first full Ironman competition in the region on 23rd June 2019.

Approximately €50,000 will be spent on this project.

Covid 19 Community Response Programme.

Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer gave the following information regarding the Covid 19 Community Response Programme to the Member:

Requests logged between 30/03/2020 and 04/05/2020:

Total Requests – 2856

Breakdown:

Collection and delivery:	411
Meals and their delivery:	44
Medical and health needs:	120
Other requests:	2211
Social isolation support engagement:	70

‘Other Requests’ logged between 30/03/2020 and 04/05/2020

Total ‘Other Requests’ - 2211

Breakdown:

Call Failed/Discontinued:	47
Cork City Council:	88
Emergency Fund:	11
Garda related:	10
Info-Community Call Service:	99
Info-Health Protection:	24
Info-Local Services:	31
Library Housebound Call:	1244
Press or Communications Query:	1
Referred – Internal to Cork County Council:	103
Referred – Other Public Body:	130
Thank You:	5
Transport:	30
Under Review:	5
Volunteer help:	383

Total Calls and Requests between 30/03/2020 and 04/05/2020

Number of Calls:	2787
Number of Requests	2858

Current Status of Calls Logged between 30/03/2020 and 04/05/2020

Total Cases – 2787

Closed:	2709
Open	78

Channel of Contact for Calls between 30/03/2020 and 04/05/2020:

Total cases – 2787

Councillor:	2
Email:	318
Phone:	2406
Politician:	1
Text:	60

Volunteers between 30/03/2020 and 04/05/2020:

Groups:	55
Individuals:	328

The Members thanked the Municipal District Officer for the report and stated that they looked forward to the re-commencement of projects such as the Youghal-Midleton Greenway, Phase 2 of The Boardwalk, Youghal Lighthouse, The Voices of St. Mary's at St. Mary's Collegiate Church and Midleton Town Centre Improved Access & Enhancement Project, Phase 2.

The Members requested that an extension of time be given to the Community Fund Grants. Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer informed the Members that consideration is being given to the Community Fund and the Town Development Fund at full County Level and Management Level and stated that once a decision is made the members will be informed and engaged in the process.

In relation to funding for residents Associations, Mr. Seán O' Callaghan, Senior Executive Office informed the Members that this will be discussed with the Members towards the middle of June.

Cllr. Collins stated that he welcomed the works at the Litton Fountain in Cloyne and asked when could the community expect the green light of completion on this project. Mr. Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer informed the Members that this project is essentially completed and will be fully completed once the Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.

Cllr. Collins moved that the Midleton Town Centre Improved Access & Enhancement Project, Phase 2 progress immediately. The Municipal District Officer informed the Members that this project will commence in the Autumn.

Cllr. Collins welcomed the proposed installation of a series of 8 space bike racks in designated car parking locations throughout the towns and villages of East Cork and wished the promotion every success.

Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of the proposed Youghal to Midleton Greenway and voiced his concerns that we will go into difficulty with this proposed project with the return of the overgrowth around the area.

Mr. Seán O' Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer informed the Members that Cork County Council are working closely with National Parks and Wildlife who are closely monitoring the situation and are happy that everything is proceeding as it should be.

4. Business Prescribed by Statute:

None.

5. Correspondence:

None.

The Mayor requested that everyone stay safe in this current climate and stated that the staff of Cork County Council and the East Cork Municipal District be commended for all works that have been both possible and safe to carry out have taken place.

Cllr. Linehan Foley stated that she would like to acknowledge the endeavours of the outdoor working staff who are working as essential workers at this time.

Cllr. Ahern raised the issue of Residents Associations who engage in grass cutting and litter picking and asked what the situation is for these groups.

Mr. Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer stated that the advice given in the current restrictions is not to engage in any outdoor work. The Engineer informed the Members that this is something that can be looked at as restrictions relax.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.