

Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting of Bandon Town Council held at the Town Hall, Bandon at 7.00pm Tuesday 13th July 2010

Cllr Margaret Murphy-O'Mahony	Mayor	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Sean O'Donovan	Deputy Mayor	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Rose Holland	Member	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Deirdre Lane	Member	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Rachel McCarthy	Member	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Gearoid Buckley	Mayor	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Andrew Coleman	Member	Bandon Town Council
Cllr Gillian Coughlan	Member	Bandon Town Council

Present:

In Attendance:

Mr Noel O'Keeffe	Town Manager	Bandon Town Council
Mr Pat Moore	Town Clerk	Bandon Town Council
Ms Marie O'Sullivan	A/Town Engineer	Bandon Town Council

Apologies:

1. CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE FOR AGM Tuesday June 8th 2010

Proposed: Cllr Coughlan

Seconded: Cllr C McCarthy

2. MINUTES OF THE AGM OF BANDON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON Tuesday June 8th 2010

Proposed: Cllr R McCarthy

Seconded: Cllr Murphy-O'Mahony

3. CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE FOR MONTHLY MEETING on Tuesday June 8th 2010

Proposed: Cllr R McCarthy

Seconded: Cllr Murphy -O'Mahony

4. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BANDON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON Tuesday May 11th 2010

Proposed: Cllr R McCarthy

Seconded: Cllr Murphy -O'Mahony

5. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Buckley asked for a correction of the minutes with reference to the Charity Walk undertaken by the Members of the Town Council in which he was omitted.

Cllr Coughlan with reference to the issues for the Town Engineer stated that the one way system should read South Main St instead of North Main Street.

6. REPORTS FROM TOWN MANAGER AND TOWN ENGINEER

Town Manager's Report

- Mr O'Keeffe informed the members that tenders have been received for work on the N71 but that no contractor has been appointed yet and he would keep the members updated.
- In response to the Mayor he said that the recent budget cuts from the Department was in relation to the proposed by-pass for Innishannon and would not interfere with existing planned works on the N71. In response to Cllr O'Donovan he stated that the statutory notice for a road closure was 2 weeks and 2 days and that this was adhered to with regards to the works on the N71.
- In response to recent conflicting correspondence he stated that he intended to write to the Fisheries Board to clarify the amount of gravel that will be allowed to be removed from the river. He advised the members to make representations to the Minister.
- He also stated that he had met with members of the Action Group and informed the Council that in order to allay peoples fears that Cork County Council would not be found wanting and would carry out whatever works would be allowed by the Fisheries Board.
- After a brief discussion and in response to member's questions he again reinstated his intention to write to the Fisheries Board for clarification as the final decision rested with this body. He stated that all work would have to be completed by 30th September as the Fisheries Board will not allow any work to be carried out after this date.
- He said that he had received a report from D Waugh and intended to forward this to the appointed consultants as a submission and stated that all submissions would be welcomed. Part of the process will involve a public exhibition.
- He was given assurances from Lidl and the Riverview shopping Centre that they intended to carry out the promised works over the next few weeks.
- In response to Cllr Coughlan's query in relation to the ESB being granted permission to dig in the river he said it was the first that he heard of it but he would make further enquiries.
- With reference to the early warning system he had a meeting with Professor Kiely and was waiting for a costing. The Flood Relief Programme is on target and he hoped to have a report for the members at the September meeting.

- He intended to invite Tenders for the Main Drainage Programme as soon as he receives approval for same. He pointed out a Capital Contribution was required from Cork County Council but stressed that this scheme was critically important for the drainage in Bandon.
- He read a copy of a report in relation to St Brogans School and said he would arrange for it to be circulated to the members.

Town Engineer Report

Re: Bandon Town Council –June meeting

1. On of the One Way Traffic system in the Town. This will be looked at. However a reversal would give rise to very significant traffic congestion both at the church steps and at Boyle's corner, where conflicting traffic lanes would have to cross each other.
2. Potholes on Cork Road will be filled.
3. Gravel on the footpath at Cork Road will be cleaned.
4. Stop Sign at Kilbrogan Cross. This will be looked at, and a sign erected as required.
5. The ramp at the Disabled Parking Space at the Library corner will be adjusted.
6. Yellow lines at Well Road. These will be looked at. It is inadvisable to do away with town centre on street parking spaces unless it is absolutely essential.
7. Enlarge yellow box function at Well Road/Oliver Plunkett Street. This can be looked at.
8. Briars on Blackberry Lane. This lane may not be in public ownership.
9. Stop Line at Cork Road / Watergate Street junction. This will be done when painting contractor is in town again.
10. Pedestrian Crossing at Kilbrogan Cross. This will be looked at.
11. Enforcement of double yellow lines at Shambles. This will be followed up with the Traffic Warden.
12. Potholes on Dunmanway Road will be filled.
13. Pedestrian Crossing at Boyle Sports will be looked at.
14. The exit from the Cluid Car Park will be looked at and a warning sign erected as required.
15. The withered hedge and broken railing on the Curranure walk will be replaced and repaired.

16. The briars on the Kilbrogan steps will be cut.
17. Sight distances at the junction of O'Mahony Avenue and Deerpark will be improved, if possible.
18. Potholes on St. Fintan's Road will be filled.
19. A disabled parking space will be erected at the Town Hall, when the painting contractor is again working in the town.
20. Speeding on Cork Road. Drive slowly signs will be erected on Cork Road.
21. Potholes on the western end of South Main Street will be filled. Unfortunately there is no funding available to properly overlay the street surface.

7. MATTERS FOR THE TOWN ENGINEER

Cllr Murphy-O'Mahony:

- Start of the Dunmanway Road is in a bad condition
- Clean the drains in the town, overflowed on Sat last during the heavy rain.
- Two lights at Millside Mews, Old Chapel broken.
- Queried the Bye-Laws in relation to drinking alcohol in public places. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Garda Siochana had the situation under control and were monitoring it closely.

Cllr Coleman:

- Repair gullies and clean drains on both sides of Clancool Hill.
- Cut back hedges adjoining footpaths in the town, Upper Castle Road, O'Mahony Ave (rectory) Kilbrittain Rd and Dunmanway Rd.
- Road in poor condition South Main St.

Cllr Coughlan:

- Shores in Allen Sq blocked

- Dunmanway Road in a bad condition and road down the side of the Hamilton High School in bad condition
- Line the Shambles, Cars/Vans are parking badly

Cllr Lane

- Footpath at Mill Place, condition when contractors off site. To be left in safe condition
- Dead trees on the Shambles
- Broken Drains, Macroom Road, Soccer Pitch.

Cllr C McCarthy:

- Roads surface at Fintan Tce
- Clonmacsimon, Footpaths are being replaced and renewed. What about the condition of the road?

Cllr O'Donovan:

- Overgrown hedging at Knockbrogan steps
- Put non-return valves on the drains outside the Plunkett Inn to stop flood water entering the garden at the rear. Also poles/bollards not fixed in place.
- Footpath outside Master Meats
- Rubbish outside Chip Van, Brady's Lane car park. Town Clerk to notify Anti-Litter Unit

Cllr R Holland

- Concerned over the Siting of the Chip Van

- Open Air drinking
- Thank the Area Engineer for the cutting of trees/hedges at Kilbrogan.
- Roundhill Service Station at Old Chapel, a derelict order should be served here as it is an eyesore.

Cllr R McCarthy

- Drains at D J Murphy's and
- Connolly St, Loose Bricks on the pavements
- Extend the walkway on Glasslin Rd to Cahalane's Garage/Railway walk
- Concerned about the contractors spraying in Ard an Chuillin

Cllr Buckley:

- New Grass Contractor not collecting the grass in Clancool
- Bollards at Fire Station
- Double Yellow Lines at Fire Station
- Clean the drains
- Asked for signage to stop trucks travelling up Watergate St in error.
- Illegal dumping by Summerhill Heights off of Watergate Street.

8. LOCAL ISSUES:

- Cllr Murphy-O'Mahony extended congratulations to Raymond Ryan, Clancool, Bandon who won the under 18 all Ireland Road Bowling
- She also congratulated Liam Buckley, Conor O'Dwyer, and Ronan Desmond who won 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal and a ribbon between them.
- The Mayor congratulated Cllr Jim Daly on being elected Co Mayor.

- Cllr Coleman commented on the vast queues forming to sign on and collect Social Welfare payments. This issue was previously and the Town Clerk informed the Members that he had written to the Dept of Social Welfare and no response was received. It was agreed to write to the Minister.
- Cllr R McCarthy congratulated S Manning on his achievement in the Taek Wando Championships
- Establishing Jobs Forum in the Town Hall in August
- Cllr Buckley mentioned the festival
- Cllr Holland mentioned that a number of cyclists from Bandon participated in the 50K Charity Event
- Would like to see a designated cycle lane in the town.
- Cllr O'Donovan wished the businesses that have reopened well.
- Cllr Coughlan concurred with Cllr O'Donovan

9. REPORTS FROM SUB_COMMITTEES

St Patrick's Day:

Recreation & Amenity:

Cllr Coleman thanked the members for attending the Launch on the 13th July and stated that the project should be complete by September.

Web Site:

Cllr Lane reported that the web site is up and running and nearly complete. There are a few minor snags but those will be sorted shortly.

MPC:

Asked the members to read the minutes of the meetings as there were topics being raised again at the Council meeting which were resolved at the MPC and agreed by the Town Council

Recommended that the one-way system be left as it is as to change it would cause traffic chaos. Various proposals were discussed but the advice of the Garda Siochana was to let the status quo remain.

The Pedestrian crossing at South main St is not warranted at present but Ray Crowley intends to monitor it and if there is a major change it will be relooked at.

Roundabout on the bridge, Ray Crowley to refer it to the NRA:

Ray to prepare a report in relation to the recommended lorry ban as set out in the Matrix Report:

Town Signage to be discussed at the next meeting

JPC:

Cllr O'Donovan reported that a meeting was scheduled for 30 July.

Area Roads:

The Mayor reported she had asked for adequate signage during the N71 Road Closure and was assured that this would be in place.

River dredging: awaiting a recommendation from the OPW

UDC Status:

To meet Tuesday 20th July

Walled Town:

An extension of time was proposed by Cllr Murphy-O'Mahony and Seconded by Cllr R McCarthy.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION –MEMBERS

Cllr Buckley proposed the following motions:

“That this Council notes:

- There are 345,000 empty houses in Ireland
- Of which 171,000 are usable immediately

- 80,000 households are currently awaiting social housing.

This Council will write to The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government requesting that an “Empty Homes Strategy” be developed immediately which will deliver a modern and efficient social housing action plan.

This motion will also be forwarded to other Town Councils.”

Cllr R McCarthy seconded. After a brief discussion this motion was defeated on a vote of 7 for and 2 against:

For: Cllr Buckley; Cllr R McCarthy

Against: Cllr O’Donovan; Cllr Holland; Cllr C McCarthy; Cllr Lane; Cllr Coughlan; Cllr Coleman; Cllr Murphy-O’Mahony

(A) That this Council recognises the important services Teagasc provides to members of the farming sector in Bandon.

(B) This Council calls on Teagasc to keep the Bandon Office open.

(C) This Council will write to Director Professor Gerry Boyle to seek clarification on the future of the Bandon Office/Branch and seek a meeting with a deputation from Bandon Town Council at his convenience."

Seconded by Cllr R McCarthy: Agreed

"That this Council writes to the South Cork Rural Housing Department requesting them to carry out an assessment of doors and windows in Social Houses under their responsibility.

And where required, new doors and windows be fitted."

As Cork County Council have completed this exercise and works have been carried out and a new system of re-letting is in place to comply with the BER requirements Cllr Buckley withdrew this motion.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION FROM OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES

None

12. CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk read the following correspondence:

- Acknowledgment from Minister for Foreign Affairs in relation to Gaza motion
- Response from Macroom Town Council re Motion on WSIP
- Acknowledgement from office of the Taoiseach
- Notification of An Taoiseach’s Excellence Awards

- Information circular from an Bord Pleanála
- Letter from B Crowley, MEP re St Brogans
- Letter from South Western Fisheries Board in relation to river cleaning
- Response from Rev Kingston
- Acknowledgement from Minister Gormley re Water pricing
- Acknowledgement from Minister Gormley re Local Govt Reform
- Response from Mr Tim Lucey: re his appointment as City Manager
- Circular LG 08 10
- Notification of proposed amendment to Cork Airport Special Local Area Plan.
- Email from the Ombudsman re Annual Report
- Preliminary Conference notice from LAMA

13. AOB & LOCAL ISSUES:

- Cllr R McCarthy raised the issue in relation to the Back to School allowance and asked the media to remind people who wish to apply for this to submit their applications on time.
- She also made a plea through the media for cyclists to be aware of road safety and wear their helmets.
- Cllr Lane asked for a discussion on the proposals received by the Members from the “Bandon United in Action” group. It was agreed to discuss this in camera.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 14th Sept 2010 at 6.30 pm.

This Concluded the Business of the Meeting

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE