

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF MACROOM TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MACROOM ON
TUESDAY, 23RD MARCH, 2010 AT 7.45 P.M.**

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr McSweeney, presided. Cllrs.
Coughlan, Counihan, Cullinane-McCarthy, Foley,
Melia, McCarthy and O'Connell.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. John O'Neill, Town Manager,
Mr. Brendan Fehily, Town Engineer and
Ms. Breda Duggan, Town Clerk

(An apology was received from Cllr Lucey who was unable to attend).

1) **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 26TH JANUARY**
The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 26th January, 2010 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr O'Connell and seconded by Cllr Counihan.

2) **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 23RD FEBRUARY**
The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February, 2010 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr McCarthy and seconded by Cllr Foley subject to amendment that Cllr Melia did not attend and his apologies noted.

3) MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

a) Public Light at Hospital Cross

In response to Cllr Counihan the Town Clerk stated that she was aware that this light was not working and had contacted Air Tricity regarding same.

b) Junction at Kelleher's Garage

In response to Cllr Foley the Town Engineer undertook to look at the problem and to have a Yield line painted at this location.

c) Kerbs on Main Street

In response to Cllr Melia the Town Engineer stated that he had requested the contractor to reinstate the kerbs and will ensure that it is done.

d) Take-away at South Square

In response to Cllr Foley the Town Clerk stated that she had met with the operators and that for the last number of weeks the closing time of 11.00 was being complied with. She said that it will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

- e) **Public Lights at Masseytown**
The Mayor raised this issue on behalf of Cllr Lucey. The Town Engineer stated that he had received prices for the upgrading of the public lights in this area.
- f) **F.C.A.**
The Town Clerk informed the meeting that she had been in contact with the Department of Defence who assured her that there was no external health and safety issue with the FCA Building. She went onto say that she had been informed that the Department of Defence intend to dispose of this building in the near future.
- g) **Acquired Brain Injury Ireland**
In response to Cllr Foley the Town Manager stated that a report on the various issues will be prepared for the next meeting.

4) **MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 15TH FEBRUARY**

In relation to Item No. 9) Cleaning of River Cllr Counihan stated that the Macroom Trout Fly Anglers had cleaned the river from the waterworks to the weirs and commented on the great work done. However, he stated that the work had gone way over budget and requested that the Council provide some money from the Amenity Fund to cover this overrun. Cllr Coughlan seconded this proposal. It was agreed that the Fly Anglers submit details of cost.

In relation to Item No. 4 Cllr Counihan proposed and Cllr McCarthy seconded that the Council should contact the Canal Waterways for possible solution to the leaking problem of the mill stream. Cllr Coughlan stated that dumping is now taking place in the mill stream in Masseytown.

5) **ENGINEERING ISSUES**

- a) **Blocked pipe at pedestrian “build out” at New St**
Cllr McCarthy requested that the Town Engineer would contact the N.R.A. in order to rectify the pipe that is continually being blocked at this location.
- b) **Bottom of Oakwood**
Cllr Foley informed the Town Engineer of water continuously lodging at the bottom of Oakwood. The Town Engineer agreed to check the matter out.

- c) **Stop sign missing at Millstreet Road**
Cllrs Foley and Melia stated that the stop sign near the junction of the Millstreet Cross is missing. The Town Engineer undertook to have it replaced immediately.
- d) **Drain near Frank Twomey's shop**
Cllr McCarthy informed the Town Engineer that the drain at this location is blocked. The Town Engineer agreed to have it attended to.
- e) **Shores at Cork St**
Cllr Melia stated that some shores were blocked in Cork Street as a result of the recent reinstatement. The Town Engineer stated that he was aware of it and that it had now been rectified.
- f) **Bollard at Railway View**
Cllr McCarthy requested that a new bollard be placed opposite the old Spar supermarket at Railway View in place of damaged one.
- g) **Lios na Fea**
Cllr Melia enquired if bollards could be placed in Lios na Fea near the opening to the site reserved for crèche in order to prevent cars parking in there and the occurrence of anti-social behaviour.
- h) **School at Cork Street**
This matter was discussed at length. The Town Manager informed the meeting on the developments to date. Concern was expressed
- on cars using the dirt track to the school
 - no traffic signs at entrance
 - the proposed road would not be constructed during the summer due to the autistic unit of the school being open.
- On the proposal of Cllr Counihan, seconded by Cllr Foley it was agreed that representatives of the Board of Management should be asked to attend the next meeting of the Council.
- i) **Apartments at Sleaveen Road**
Cllr O'Connell raised the issue of the unfinished apartments and the unfinished private roadway to the G.A.A. grounds.
- j) **Public Light near Dunnes Stores**
In response to Cllr Foley the Town Clerk stated that this light was erected by Dunnes, however, she will follow the matter up with Dunnes.

- k) Entrance to Car Park opposite Murray's Bar**
In response to Cllr Coughlan the Town Clerk stated that consideration was being given to cladding the existing pipe with natural stone. Cllr Coughlan stated that he felt that the shrub bed that had been removed should be restored together with standard for public light.
- l) Leary's Lane (Greyhound Bar)**
Cllr. Coughlan stated that cars were exiting through this laneway and suggested that a bollard be place to deter motorists. The Town Clerk stated that she will check if it is a private lane first.
- m) Footpath opposite shop at Cork St (St. Colman's Park)**
Cllr Foley highlighted a safety issue with cars parking on footpath forcing pedestrians onto the roadway. The Town Engineer to consider if bollards would improve the situation.
- n) Bus Eireann**
Cllr Counihan suggested that the area where previously the telephone kiosks were located should be widened to allow buses have greater width entering the station. The Town Engineer stated the Gardai and himself had met with Bus Eireann's Health & Safety Officer whom were carrying out a safety audit of the station and advised that the Council should wait for the result of same.
- o) Site for cemetery**
In response to Cllr Counihan the Town Manager stated that no purchase has been made and that it is premature to discuss the matter.
- p) N.R.A. Grants**
In response to Cllr Coughlan the Town Engineer stated that the Council have asked the N.R.A. to re-assign the funds that were allocated for the surfacing at Hartnet'ss Cross to Macroom Town, however, no decision has been made on the matter.
- In connection with the Grants for the Footbridge the Town Engineer stated that this money is ringfenced for that purpose.
- q) Urban Road Grant, 2010**
The Town Engineer informed the Meeting that the Urban Road Allocation for 2010 will be €139,000 and stated he will provide draft proposals for the next meeting.

5) MANAGER'S ORDERS AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A list of Manager's Orders signed since the last meeting and planning applications received, were noted.

6) STATUTORY AUDIT REPORT TO MEMBERS OF MACROOM TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2008

The Town Manager went through the Audit Report that had been circulated to the Members for their information and attention. He pointed out that the Local Government Auditor had raised a number of procedural issues that are in the process of being addressed. In relation to affordable housing the Town Manager stated that the Town Clerk is in the process of completing sales in respect of two of these properties. In relation to long term debtors he stated that the Town Clerk had now ascertained that only 25% of the development in question has been completed so the development contributions in respect of the area built have been paid.

7) ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSION TO COUNCIL HOUSE AT NO. 30 UPPER MASSEYTOWN – NOTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 81 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENTS REGULATIONS, 2001

The Town Clerk informed the Members that the Town Architect had designed an extension and alterations to the above house. She stated that the public consultation process has now closed and no submissions had been received. On the proposal of Cllr McCarthy seconded by Cllr Coughlan it was agreed to proceed with the extension has outlined.

8) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Notice of Motion – Bandon Town Council

“Call on the Government to ban ‘Head Shops’ was adopted on the proposal of Cllr McCarthy and seconded by Cllr Coughlan.

b) Notice of Motion – Wicklow Town Council

Proposal to ban “Head Candy Shops” was adopted on the proposal of Cllr McCarthy and seconded by Cllr Coughlan.

c) Monaghan Town Council

Notice of Motion regarding rents being subvented through L.G.F. was noted.

d) Carrick on Suir Town Council

Notice of Motion on Head Shops.

e) Bandon Town Council

Notice of Motion calling for full return of C103 was adopted on the proposition of Cllr O’Connell and seconded by Cllr Foley.

- f) Conferences**
National Tidy Towns -26/27th March – noted.
Planning for a Smarter Ireland 15/16th April – noted.
Exploring Arts & Culture Through Town Twinning – It was agreed that Cllr Melia would attend.
The 1916 Rebellion 24th April – it was agreed that Cllr McCarthy would attend.
- g) Macroom Agriculture Show – 7th June**
- h) Mr.Tony Pierce – European Power lifting Championship - Malta**
- On the proposal of Cllr Melia seconded by Cllr McCarthy it was agreed to give Macroom Agriculture Show and Mr. Tony Pierce €200 each and the remaining amount of €2,100 to be allocated in similar amounts until such time as the allocation is expended.
- i) Tipperary Town Council**
Notice of Motion requesting HSE not to downgrade South Tipperary General Hospital was adopted.
- j) Clones Town Council**
Notice of Motion regarding antennae on masts was noted.
- k) South Tipperary County Council**
Notice of Motion to HSE to reverse its decision to centralise medical cards processing was adopted.
- l) Tullamore Town Council**
Notice of Motion requesting information from HSE regarding assessment system in place for Medical Card Holders was adopted.
- m) 21 Years of service as Parish Priest**
Invitation to reception for Monsignor James O'Donnell on 15th April in Castle Hotel.

9) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Joint Policing Committee**
The Mayor informed the Meeting that herself and the Members of Macroom Town Council held a meeting in the Castle Hotel recently regarding the setting up of a Joint Policing Committee. She stated that names have been received from the voluntary bodies, Gardai and the Oireachtas. On the proposal of Cllr O'Connell, seconded by Cllr Counihan it was agreed to establish a Joint Policing

Committee for Macroom town. The first meeting will be held once a date is arranged to suit all the committee members.

- b) Wm. Penn Trail**
The Mayor informed the meeting that a meeting had been held with Mr. Brian Bermingham, Catherine Power, Heritage Officer and other persons interested in getting the above project off the ground. After some discussion it was agreed that a separate committee should be set up to drive the project and it would take time to come up with the relevant persons.
- c) Development Contributions**
Cllr Cullinane McCarthy stated that the development contributions are prohibiting development and stated that they should be reduced. The Town Manager stated that this had somewhat been addressed by the Council freezing indexation for two years. The Town Manager stated that the matter would be kept under review.
- d) Church of Ireland**
In response to Cllr Foley the Town Clerk stated that the Town Architect, Town Engineer and Planner and herself had inspected the building recently that has now been vacated by the "Santa in Wonderland" material. She stated that she will arrange a further meeting between the above persons and the Conservation Officer shortly after Easter.
- e) C.P.O. to be published in Irish**
Cllr McCarthy expressed his concern that the C.P.Os will now have to be published in Irish thus delaying the whole process.
- f) Head Shops**
Cllr McCarthy stated that the Council would have to be vigilant as Head Shops may be set up without applying for change of use if the premises are already being used for retail purposes.
- g) St. Patrick's Day Festival**
The Mayor complimented everyone associated with the St. Patrick's Day Festival and thanked everyone that for it being such an outstanding success.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

MAYOR

TOWN CLERK

