**Minutes of the Special October Meeting 2021**

**of the Municipal District of Ennis,**

**held at 09:30am on Thursday 14th October 2021,**

**in Council Chamber, Aras Contae an Chláir**

**Councillors:** A. Norton, M. Nestor, P. Daly, M. Howard, C. Colleran-Molloy, J. Flynn.

**Officials:** Leonore O’Neill, Senior Executive Officer, Niamh O’Connor, Administrative Officer & Meetings Administrator, Eamon O’Dea, Senior Executive Engineer, Barry Conway, Executive Engineer, Lily McInerney, Staff Officer.

Apologies: Cllr. P. Murphy. C. Kirby, Director of Services.

Chair, Cllr. A. Norton, opened the meeting welcoming all.

**Item No. 1.**

Section 38 – Low Cost Safety Scheme at R352 Tulla Road, at junction L4573 Kevin Barry Avenue, Corovorrin. The scheme outlines improved junction layout on the R352 facilitating safer access and egress from Kevin Barry Avenue by means of a mini roundabout, removal of parking spaces on the R352, installation of bollards, refurbishment of road lining and marking and realignment of footpaths.

The special meeting was convened to approve Section 38 Low Cost Safety Scheme. John Gannon, Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design Office, briefed the meeting on the Section 38 report including submissions received.

He explained that following the consideration of four possible options the design process had concluded with a proposal for a mini roundabout. He added this solution required a number of changes in the area including the removal of car parking spaces outside Tierney’s Shop. He explained the retention of the existing car parking spaces would have compromised the design. Additional car parking spaces will be provided in Kevin Barry Avenue to counteract this loss. The request to add car parking spaces near the railway bridge was deemed not feasible due to the cycle lane at this location.

John briefed on each of the three submissions received. He explained that some of the measures would be provided at a later stage, such as improvement in public lighting for Senan’s Road and the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the eastern side of the railway bridge. The request for double yellow lines for the properties across from the shop was a feasible request and will be provided in the scheme.

Members were invited to comment on the proposed works.

Cllr. Flynn welcomed the scheme outlining his original unsuccessful Notice of Motion 17 years previously. He commended the submission provided by John Tierney of Tierney’s Shop, who had outlined very real concerns from his business perspective. Cllr. Flynn requested that the junction the other side of the railway bridge be prioritised due to the heavily used cycle lane. He also requested the timeframe for the completion of the scheme.

Cllr. Howard commended the proposed scheme which would be most welcome by Corovorrin residents. She queried if any consideration will be given to the propensity for the roadway under the bridge to flood readily after heavy rain.

Cllr. Daly thanked John Gannon, reminding the meeting of the difficulty residents had experienced over the years in having to queue to access or exit this busy residential area.

Cllr. Colleran-Molloy commended the proposed scheme and said she looked forward to the scheme coming to fruition.

Cllr. Nestor echoed the sentiments of other Members and thanked the design team for the proposed scheme.

John Gannon stressed that the design team would be monitoring the area on an ongoing basis and would seek to update any part of the plan where deemed necessary or worthwhile. He wished to acknowledge the impact of the works on Tierney’s shop. He confirmed that next year, provision will be made for 2 controlled crossings, one at the vegetable shop, and a further one after St. Senan’s junction. He outlined the timeframe as being in the fairly near future, that the first element was to put a construction plan in place and a traffic management plan to be agreed with residents.

Eamon O’Dea, Senior Executive Engineer, briefed that in the coming week the works would commence on the provision of additional car parking spaces at Kevin Barry Avenue.

Chair Cllr. Norton thanked John Gannon and Eamon O’Dea and acknowledged the body of work undertaken to get the project to this stage.

**Approval of Section 38 Low Cost Traffic Calming Measures for Corovorrin Junction:**

*This item was proposed by Cllr. J. Flynn, seconded by Cllr. Colleran-Molloy and approved by all Members.*

The Meeting ended at 10:00am.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Mayor of Ennis

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Meetings Administrator

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_