

Closure of Kent Street and Car-park – 29th April – 31st October 2019

Ward and Burke Construction (W & B Ltd), on behalf of the OPW will be carrying out flood defence works in the centre of Clonakilty in summer 2019.

As these works incorporate a significant amount of heavy civil engineering work, particularly the installation of sheet piling to construct riverside flood walls, the closure of Kent Street (including the car-park) will be necessary.

The sheet-piles will be similar to those installed on the Croppy Road and Ring Road during 2018, although an alternative system of driving the piles may be used to reduce vibration and noise. While the new walls will generally not extend more than 1.1m (3'7") above footpath level, it is necessary to extend the defences well below river bed level to prevent flood water seeping under the defences through the gravel that underlies the majority of the town centre.

These piles, therefore, will be up to 13m long, and a sufficient space in the town centre is required to receive delivery, transfer the piles into position, and install the piles. Additionally, there will be precast concrete wall-facing units to be delivered and placed. Kent Street car-park has been identified as the most suitable area for this work in the town centre.

Also during this phase, improvements to the streetscape on the western portion of Kent Street will be undertaken, including a limestone footpath along the river bank, limestone wall-facing and wall-capping, wall-mounted planter boxes, and new trees in sunken tree pits with uplighters.

While Kent Street and car-park will be closed to vehicle traffic, pedestrian access will be maintained. The closure of Kent St will not take place until such time as Connolly Street is reopened to traffic. Diversions will be put in place for the duration of the works, and arrangements will be made with affected businesses regarding deliveries. The public will be kept informed by regular updates on the project website at www.clonakiltyfrs.ie. Options regarding alternative parking during this period are currently being discussed.

The Office of Public Works and Cork County Council appreciate the continued cooperation of all involved during the construction of the Flood Relief project in Clonakilty.

The next public information clinic will be held in O'Donovan's Hotel on Wednesday 3rd April 2019.