

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2017

PRESENT	Ard-Mhéara Comhairleoir D. Cahill.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh.
NORTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí T. Gould, F. Ryan, K. O’Flynn, L., O’Donnell, J. Sheehan.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí M. Nugent, T. Fitzgerald, K. Collins, M. O’Sullivan.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy, C. O’Leary, L. McGonigle, T. Shannon, N. O’Keeffe, S. O’Shea.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, F. Kerins, P. Dineen, T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí J. Buttimer, H. Cremin, M. Shields, F. Dennehy, P.J. Hourican, T. Moloney.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. J. G. O’Riordan, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Environment & Recreation Directorate. Mr. J. Hallahan, Head of Finance. Mr. J. Hayes, Administration Officer, Corporate & External Affairs.

An tArd-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Flynn Family on the death of Anthony Flynn.
- The Dennehy Family on the death of Paddy Dennehy.
- The Cripps Family on the death of Eileen Cripps.
- The Feeney Family on the death of Noelle Feeney.
- The Hanley Family on the death of Mary Hanley.
- The Allan Family on the death of George Allan.
- The Lynam Family on the death of Aaron Lynam.
- The O’Sullivan Family on the death of Christine O’Sullivan.

2. **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES**

- McCurtain Street Traders on the successful launch of the “Victorian Quarter” on Wednesday 25th January in Gallagher’s Pub in McCurtain Street. A magnificent addition to the area.
- Mr. Michael O’Brien and the Cork Boxers Association on being inducted into the “Hall of Fame” of the Cork City County Sports Awards in recognition of his significant contribution to the promotion of Boxing in Cork City and County.

- Comhairleoir K. McCarthy on Cork Person of the Month Award.

3. **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

3.1 **SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE**

A Special Meeting of Council In Committee to discuss the event centre has been arranged for Monday 20th February 2017 at 4.30 p.m.

3.2 **EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARRANGEMENTS IN CORK**

The Lord Mayor thanked the Councillors for their contributions to the Expert Advisory Group on Local Government Arrangements in Cork at the Special Meeting of An Chomhairle In Committee prior to the Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle.

3.3 **PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE LOWER LEE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and agreed to motions 17.20 and 17.22

Party Whips are to agree the format of this Public Meeting.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

4.1 **PROPOSED SALE OF PROPERTIES AT PARNELL PLACE – DEANE STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Chief Executive dated 9th February 2017 on the proposed sale of properties at Parnell Place – Deane Street.

5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O'Keeffe, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held 23rd January 2017.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

The Chief Executive advised and An Chomhairle agreed that in instances where a supplementary question required further information the matter would be subsequently taken up with the relevant Director of Services.

6.1 **LITTER FINES OF EXCESSIVE DUMPING IN CORK**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Finn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Given recent reportage of excessive dumping in Cork and the associated financial and health implications for the city, (as well as the reported dearth of personnel to deal with it within City Council) is it not the case under the Litter Pollution Act that we have up to 11 personnel who are designated to issue fines and carry out enforcement who could help

solve the problem, and can the CE – given the fact there is no dumping investigation unit operational on Saturdays or Sundays and no litter warden service on Sundays – designate additional people (i.e. those who empty public bins) as officials so they can act on dumping on the spot which might act as a deterrent to regular dumping practices?

(Cllr. Mick Finn)
(Deferred from meeting
of 9th January)

REPLY

The City Council has 1 litter Warden Supervisor and 4 Litter Wardens all of whom are appointed as Litter Wardens as defined in Section 2 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended and to be a Person Authorised to perform the functions of a Local Authority under the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 to 2009 and any enactment which amends, extends, substitutes, replaces, codifies, consolidates or re-enacts either in whole or in part with or without modification or otherwise howsoever the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 to 2009.

These Wardens operate a six day rota with Sunday being a rest day for all of them.

The functions of the Litter Wardens involves, amongst other duties, the searching of bags for evidences, the issuing of fines, the hand delivery of fines, the hand delivery of the summonses and the giving of evidence in court.

These duties alone take up a considerable portion of the time of the Wardens and it would not be practicable to have these duties designated as “add on” duties to staff that carry out other functions e.g. emptying public bins, as it would severely impact on the provision of their primary duties not only by slowing the process down but would also impact on the level of service being provided by these staff as they would have to spend time preparing for, attending and giving evidence in court.

To provide a proper 7 day rota additional fulltime Litter Warden would have to employ and there is no budget provision for recruitment of additional staff at this time.

DAVID JOYCE
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

6.2 **CO-OWNER ELIGIBLE FOR SOCIAL HOUSING**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

In what circumstances is the co-owner of an existing residential property eligible for social housing?

(Cllr. Tom O’Driscoll)

REPLY

The Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 provide that an applicant is not eligible for social housing support where they own alternative accommodation which could be used to meet their housing need, either by moving into it or by selling it and using the proceeds of the sale to secure other suitable accommodation.

This provision does not apply where the accommodation is occupied by a spouse of civil partner of the applicant, from whom he or she is formally separated (either by judicial separation or a separation agreement) or divorced. The terms of a formal separation or divorce will generally specify future ownership/occupation of the property (e.g. there may be a stay imposed on the sale of the family home until dependent children reach 18 years of age). In such cases, the applicant may be deemed eligible for social housing support as the property is not available to them.

In circumstances where the ownership of the family home has not yet been finalised, the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014 provides for applicants to access social housing support under the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) scheme, subject to periodic review by the housing authority, until matters are settled by a formal separation or divorce settlement. Such applicants will not be eligible to transfer to other forms of social housing support until ownership of the property is resolved.

V. O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services

6.3 **PROBLEMS WITH THE PUMP HOUSE IN CURRAHEEN ESTATE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Shields, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

The pump house in Curraheen Estate is causing huge problems for the residents. It is a dreadful "eye-sore", in poor repair, filthy and with unpleasant odors affecting the entire area but especially the residents who live opposite to it.

- (A) Can it be removed altogether or positioned in another location away from a residential area?
- (B) If this is not possible, can the area around it be cleaned and cleared of rubbish and the structure repaired and painted in the short term and is its removal envisaged in the long term?
- (C) When maintenance is being carried out could the crew bring their own water supply and avoid using the hydrants in the estate which sends dirty water into the homes, thus affecting washing machines etc.
- (D) In light of the above would Cork City Council commission a health and safety evaluation of this outmoded method of managing sewage?

(Cllr. Mary Shields)

REPLY

The pumphouse is a brick faced, flat roofed structure constructed with the establishment of the estate in the nineteen eighties. It is flanked by a similar store structure and enclosed yard. Because of its exposed location on public open space and opposite playing fields it has been subject to graffiti and vandalism. It is fair to say it has not been maintained to a high standard.

With regard to the specific queries:

- (A) Because of the topography of the estate and environs, it is necessary have the pumpstation at this low lying location, in order to facilitate gravity drainage. It cannot be re-located.
- (B) A review of the condition and operation of this installation has commenced. This includes the condition of equipment, building and environs, together with maintenance and operation procedures. This is being carried out to set out a work programme and seek approval of funding for Irish Water. It also includes review of the adjacent store and yard.
- (C) The use by maintenance crews of water from the adjacent water-mains should not be giving rise to dirty water complaints. This will be investigated. It should also be noted that dirty water emanating from the mains should not affect washing machines, if in accordance with regulations, they are plumbed via the household water tank.
- (D) An economically viable and technically appropriate alternative solution is not currently available to address the waste water disposal needs of this area and therefore current methods cannot be deemed to be outmoded.

DAVID JOYCE,
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

6.4 **DEVELOPMENT CHARGES PAID TO IRISH WATER**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir S. Martin, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

What percentage of development charges are now being paid over to Irish Water?

(Cllr. Sean Martin)

REPLY

Under the Cork City Council General Development Contributions Scheme 2013 – 2015, the follow was the apportionment of the Class 2 levy (water & drainage infrastructure & facilities).

- Water/Wastewater 96.90% Irish Water.
- Stormwater 3.1% Cork City Council.

Cork City Council will continue to collect and transfer development charges at the above percentage rates for planning applications approved pre 01 Jan 2014.

The following amounts were collected and paid to Irish Water in respect of pre 31 December 2013 permissions.

Year	Amount €
2014	€261,942
2015	€161,823
2016	€104,700

Pat Ledwidge
Director of Services
Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise

6.5 **REVIEWING STANDING ORDERS TO THE FILLING OF COUNCIL POSITIONS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE update the Council of progress re reviewing standing orders with regard to the filling of Council positions in the event of an Independent Councillor's seat becoming vacant? Is an alternate list system being considered as this may be the fairest way of representing the views of the voters.

(Cllr. John Sheehan)

REPLY

The review of the relevant Standing Order governing the filling of a Casual Vacancy of a non-party Member is a matter for An Chomhairle.

It was agreed at the CPG meeting held on the 16th November 2015 that the appropriate time for any amendment to these procedures would be at the time of an outgoing Council, to apply in the case of newly elected Members.

Relevant Standing Order of Cork City Council

Standing Order 30, sub-section 2:

In the case where the person causing the casual vacancy was a non-party candidate at his or her election to Cork City Council, the vacancy shall be filled by the co-option by the City Council of the non-election candidate with the next highest number of votes following the final count at the last local election in the local electoral area of the person causing the casual vacancy (except where paragraph (c) or (d) or (e) of section 19(1) of the Local Government Act 2001 applies).

Save where the vacancy occurs pursuant to Sec 18 (4) of the L.G. Act 2001 and where the outgoing member wishes to be considered for co-option.

In such circumstances the Council may consider both the outgoing member and the non elected candidate with the highest number of votes for co-option to the casual vacancy.

Paul Moynihan,
Director of Services,
Corporate and External Affairs

Decision of Council

An Chomhairle agreed to refer this question to the Party Whips for consideration.

6.6 **WHEN SOUTHERN QUAYSIDE WAS RAISED**

In response to the following question submitted Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the Chief Executive please confirm when the southern Quayside from Parliament Bridge to Parnell Bridge including George's Quay and Union Quay was raised and the current railing installed?

(Cllr. Tim Brosnan)

REPLY

Post the tidal flooding event in 1962, Cork Corporation raised levels in and around the quay walls to help mitigate flooding. It is understood that the railings and dwarf walls were constructed as part of these works circa late 1960's.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

6.7 **BLACKROCK PIER DEVELOPMENT**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE for an update on the Blackrock Pier development and an estimate timescale for full completion?

(Cllr. Kieran McCarthy)

REPLY

Phase 1 of the Blackrock Village Renewal Scheme (Convent Road, Blackrock Road and the Marina Road) achieved substantial completion in late December 2016.

The National Transport Authority recently approved funding for the completion of Scheme (Phase 2). Phase 2 work will commence immediately. It consists of the new Ursaline Convent Road, the paving of the area between the Blackrock Road, Marina Road and the harbour and the renewal and strengthening of the quay walls. Phase 2 is programmed to be complete in May 2017.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

6.8 **FUNDING FOR HOUSING AND TENANTS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

It is often said that there isn't enough funding to carry out all housing upgrades to council houses for tenants, e.g. window's & doors, fascia & soffit etc. A number of tenants have asked me is there any type of loan available to a tenant that lives in a council house that

would like to upgrade their home? They stated that they would be willing to pay extra on their rent on a weekly basis to have some of this work carried out if they were given the loan from the council.

Is there anything available to tenants & if so, how do they apply for it?

If not, would the council consider putting such a scheme in place?

(Cllr. Thomas Moloney)

REPLY

There is no scheme available at present. All such proposal would have to be assessed on the basis of the merits associated with them. Consideration will be given to a scheme, however, the major determinant of such a scheme is resources and the ability to provide same for any potential scheme to be realised.

Valerie O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community.

6.9 **ADAPTATION GRANTS FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY SCHEME**

Under the Scheme for Adaption Grants for Older People and People with Disability Scheme to Cork City Council housing stock;

(a) How many applications in total are awaiting programme of works to our own housing stock in regards to Adaption for Older People and People with Disability Scheme?

The City Council currently has 34 unprocessed applications in relation to Local Authority housing stock. 27 are in respect of minor adaptations and 7 are in respect of major adaptations including extensions.

(b) How many applicants are priorities in this scheme?

All applications are assigned a priority by the Occupational Therapist assigned to the application. The majority of applications are assigned Priority 1.

(c) How are priorities decided in order of illness/disability, please give details?

Priority 1

Terminally ill or fully/mainly dependant on family or carer; or where alterations/adaptations would facilitate discharge from hospital or alleviate the need for hospitalisation in the future.

Priority 2

Mobile but needs assistance in accessing washing, toilet facilities, bedroom etc; or where without the alterations/adaptations the disabled person's ability to function independently would be hindered.

Priority 3

Independent but requires special facilities to improve the quality of life, e.g. separate bedroom/living space.

(d) What policy is in place to keep applicants up to date on their application?

Upon receipt of an application, an acknowledgement letter is sent to the applicant informing them that an Occupational Therapist will be assigned to their application. The applicant is also advised of the reference number assigned to their application and the contact number and person within the Housing Loans and Grants Section.

The applicant also receives letters informing them of any delaying factors with their application (e.g. Rent/Refuse Arrears, etc).

The applicant receives a letter advising them that the Occupational Therapist recommendations have been forwarded to the Housing Maintenance Section or Architects Department (whichever is relevant).

(e) How often are applicants given a written up date on their applications progress?

As outlined above, Housing Loans and Grants Section advises the Applicant as their application progresses before referral to our Housing Maintenance Section or Architects Department.

(f) How much capital would it take to clear this waiting list?

For minor DPG's: €500,000

For major DPG's:

The City Council, as outlined to the Members in January, 2017, has obtained funding approval of €2,545,335 in order that persons in the Priority 1,2 & 3 categories can be accommodated. The funding will allow the Council to carry out adaptations including extensions to 42 properties including 3 extensions to alleviate overcrowding.

(g) How long would it take with current funding level from the department to clear this waiting list?

Cork City Council are awaiting their allocation for 2016.

(h) How many priority 1's programme of works have been completed in 2014, 2015, 2016?

Minor Adaptations: All priority 1 programmes for 2014, 2015 and 2016 ahve been completed.

Extensions: 1

(i) How many priority 2's programme of works have been completed in 2014, 2015, 2016?

Minor Adaptations: All priority 2 programmes for 2014, 2015, and 2016 have been completed.

Extensions: 0

(j) What is the longest length of time applicants are waiting on our priority list, on our priority 2 list currently?

Minor Adaptations:

No applicant is currently waiting more than three months on the minor DPG list, regardless of priority.

Major Adaptations:

8 months currently (excluding 39 applications that are contracted)

(k) What level of funding has been spent in 2014, 2015, 2016?

2014: € 313,377

2015: € 627,257

2016: €1,160,564

(l) What level of funding has been grant aid from central government regarding work to our own housing stock under this scheme in 2014, 2015 and 2016?

2014: € 306,251

2015: € 561,058

2016: €1,046,343

(Cllr. Chris O'Leary)

V. O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services

6.10 **REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF WINDOWS AND DOORS IN THE NORTH WEST WARD**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive how many requests are on file for repair and replacement of windows and doors in the North West Ward including properties under the NWQ Regeneration and what plan is in place to seek funding from central government or internal resources to address this issue which is affecting the health and well being of our tenants.

(Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald)

REPLY

Requests are logged on the Housing Maintenance Works Manager System. Any figures extracted from same include completed, on site and outstanding repairs. Resources do not permit the efficient close out of request on the system, resulting in an inaccurate overall figure. Systems are currently in the process of being put in place to address this.

The Area has reported that there are less than 20 live window and door replacements (ranging from 1 window or door only to a full replacement of windows or doors, only 2 cases).

Requests are followed by an inspection and a decision as to whether the request necessitates a follow on repair or replacement.

There is currently no scheme in place for replacement of windows and doors. The requests are dealt with on a case by case basis and action is determined by resources available.

Valerie O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community.

6.11 **PREMISES IN THE MAHON AREA**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir N. O'Keeffe, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE advise if there are any premises located in the Mahon area that would be suitable for leasing to the Rainbow Club for Children with Autism?

The Rainbow Club is currently operating at full capacity (237 children) and has a waiting list of over 120 children. A larger premises would be of significant benefit to the continued success of the club and to the many children who benefit from it.

(Cllr. Nicholas O'Keeffe)

REPLY

The Corporate and External Affairs Directorate will make direct contact with those responsible for the running of the Rainbow Club to determine their specific accommodation needs and provide practical assistance and guidance on possible alternative options and locations where appropriate.

Paul Moynihan,
Director of Services,
Corporate & External Affairs.

6.12 **REFURBISHMENT OF THE CURRAHEEN BRIDGE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE for a progress report on plans for the refurbishment of the Curraheen Bridge?

(Cllr. John Buttimer)

REPLY

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has recently confirmed a 2017 grant allocation of €700,000 to Cork City Council for the replacement of Curraheen Road Bridge.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations (Part 8), Council at its meeting of 12th September 2016 recommended that the proposed development

proceed subject to one modification, i.e. to retain the existing No. 208 outbound bus stop in its current location opposite the entrance to the University Technology Centre.

A Section 85 Agreement has been completed between Cork City Council and Cork County Council as the proposed replacement structure lies within the jurisdiction of both authorities.

Agreement has also been reached with the OPW on Section 50 Consent.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken together with reports on the predicted impact of the new structure.

Due to the intensity and complexity of underground services at the existing bridge location, it is considered prudent to divide the works contract into 2 parts:

Part 1, circa. late March to early June 2017, will involve the permanent diversion of services. This will be accomplished with some minor restrictions to off-peak traffic flow, e.g. the use of a stop-go system.

Part 2, circa. mid June to late August 2017, will involve the replacement of the existing structure. This will be accomplished under a full road closure to allow the safe and expeditious programming of the works. A comprehensive temporary traffic management system will be installed in advance, with a shuttle bus service operating from west of the works to coincide with the normal 208 bus service serving Marymount Hospital and Curraheen Village. Pedestrian and cyclist movement will be facilitated in the vicinity of the works site at all times.

It is anticipated that works will be completed, with Curraheen Road open to traffic, in advance of school reopening.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

6.13 **RECRUITMENT IN OUR HOUSING DIRECTORATE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir H. Cremin, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the C.E. give Council the most recent update on recruitment in our Housing Directorate?

(Cllr. Henry Cremin)

REPLY

As previously advised to the Members, an additional 8 posts were approved by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government for the extensive Housing Capital Programme. However, the payroll budget to employ these posts was not approved. I continue to work on sourcing funding in order to recruit these critical posts as the construction programme accelerates. Further vacancies have now arisen.

- A. A total of 8 new staff (i.e. staff which did not replace vacant posts) are in place as follows since 2015/2016:
- 1 Senior Executive Officer, System Development & Change Management Unit
 - 4 no. Temporary Clerical Officers focused on rent arrears
 - 1 No. Senior Staff Officer – Housing Capital
 - 1 No. Temporary Executive Technician – Housing Capital
 - 1 No. Graduate Engineer – CNWQR Project
- B. South Area Office: 3 Executive Housing Officers (reduced from 4) for 4,400 properties North East & North West: 5 Executive Housing Officers for 4,600 properties
- C. There is no Tenant Participation Officer. Much of this work is carried out by Community Wardens.

V. O’Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services.

6.14 **RENT SUPPLEMENT TO THE HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE outline the process whereby social housing applicants are been transferred from receiving Rent Supplement to the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)? Are applicants compelled to transfer and has it any consequences for their housing applications? Some applicants, with many years on the waiting list, feel under pressure by the Department of Social Protection to sign up for HAP with the fear they will be less of a priority for housing as a result.

(Cllr. Michael Nugent)

REPLY

Rent Supplement was always intended to be a short-term housing support. ‘Short-term’ is defined as households not deemed to have a ‘long-term’ housing need i.e. not on the City Council’s housing supports waiting list. However, many households in receipt of Rent Supplement are deemed eligible for social housing supports.

The Housing Assistance Payment Scheme was introduced to address the issue of households assessed as having a long-term need availing of a short-term support. In line with this policy households assessed as having a long-term housing need in receipt of Rent Supplement must transfer to HAP, administered by the local authority.

The policy also states that households signing up to HAP cannot be disadvantaged in accessing other forms of social housing, as a result of joining the scheme. Therefore, households transferring from rent supplement to HAP are eligible to apply or inclusion on the City Council’s transfer list within 2 weeks of sign up to the scheme, with those applying automatically included.

The introduction of Choice Based Letting (CBL) in Cork City Council, in parallel with the introduction of HAP, means that HAP households included on the transfer list retain access to CBL. A household availing of HAP expressing an interest in a property through CBL will be assessed no differently than if the household were on Rent Supplement, in accordance with policy.

In summary, households assessed as having a long term need in receipt of Rent Supplement are compelled to transfer to HAP. However, in practical terms transferring does not affect whether a household will secure a city council tenancy on condition they also apply to be included on the transfer list within two weeks of joining the scheme. This is explained to applicants at sign up stage and the vast majority apply for inclusion on the transfer list as part of the HAP sign up process.

V. O’Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services.

7. **PARTY WHIPS – 6th FEBRUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips held 6th February 2017.

7.1 **LORD MAYORS ITEMS**

7.1.1 **FREEDOM OF THE CITY**

On the proposal of An tÁrd Mhéara Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir L. McGonigle, An Chomhairle considered and approved the conferring of the Freedom of the City on Ronan O’Gara on a date to be decided.

Comhairleoir T. Shannon and Comhairleoir S. Martin requested that their objections be noted to the principle of the City Council awarding the Freedom of the City on an annual basis.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. O’Leary, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting past 8 p.m.

7.2 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE ITEMS**

7.2.1 **“IRELAND 2040 – OUR PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the draft copy of “Ireland 2040 – Our Plan”.

7.3 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

7.3.1 **TRAFFIC CALMING BUDGET – WARDS**

An Chomhairle agreed to defer consideration of this item to the Budget 2018 process.

8. **JOINT MEETING OF PARTY WHIPS AND PARTY LEADERS – 6th FEBRUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Joint Meeting of Party Whips and Party Leaders held 6th February 2017.

9. **SPECIAL MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE AND ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 30th JANUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Special Meeting of Environment & Recreation Strategic Policy Committee and Environment & Recreation Functional Committee held 30th January 2017.

10. **TOURISM, ARTS & CULTURE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 6th FEBRUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Tourism, Arts & Culture Functional Committee held 6th February 2017.

10.1 **IRELANDS ANCIENT EAST – ORIENTATION SIGNAGE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February 2017 on Irelands Ancient East – Orientation Signage.

10.2 **CRUISE SHIP AMBASSADORS 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on Cruise Ship Ambassadors 2017.

10.3 **FLEADH CHEOIL NA MUMHAN 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on Fleadh Cheoil na Mumhan 2017.

10.4 **IRELAND'S BID FOR RUGBY WORLD CUP 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on Ireland's Bid for Rugby World Cup 2023.

10.5 **LIBRARY SERVICES**

A Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on Library Services.

10.6 **GLOW 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on Glow 2016.

10.7 **2016 COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAMME AND ST. PETERS CHURCH – FINAL REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on 2016 Commemorative Programme and St. Peters Church – Final Report.

10.8 **CREATIVE IRELAND UPDATE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 2nd February on Creative Ireland Update.

10.9 **MOTION**

10.9.1 **INVEST IN A USER FRIENDLY INTERACTIVE URBAN SOLUTION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council invest in a user friendly interactive urban solution stand alone units that delivers all information that matters on the right place at the right time. To bring cities closer to people who live, work and travel in it. To promote multiple activities and points of interest such as touristic, cultural, local commerce, public services among others. Including: Information, Local News, Traffic Information, Warnings and Alerts, Culture, Event sharing, Cultural agenda, Music, cinema, theatre, Cultural and Artistic Promotion Local Commerce, Where to Eat, Where to sleep, Categories, Business area, Nearby Points of Interest. Mobility Search Destinations, Find Transportation, Schedules, Prices. Online Social Engagement and Selfie Trend. Note unit example <http://tomiworld.com/>’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 17/002)

The Report of the Director of Services stated that in the past number of years Cork City Council has invested in the creation of the Cork.ie tourism kiosks which are a network of 16 touch screens in varying locations around the City which provide visitors to Cork with detailed information on Cork’s tourist attractions, festivals, music venues, restaurants, public houses, traditional music, events, theatres, hotels, hostels, B&B’s, self catering, guesthouses etc. The information is updated by the service provider on a daily basis to ensure that the service user gets accurate information.

The content is available in the following languages: English, Irish, French, Dutch, Spanish, German and Italian. Each kiosk provides a detailed map which shows the users current location and another showing where the user wishes to go. The content searches are monitored and statistics are gathered to improve the kiosk service and review what visitors are most interested in.

In 2016 a number of Cork.ie Tourist Kiosks were installed in the following additional locations; - Cork Airport, Kent Station, Bus Station and Firkin Crane. From January to December 2016 over half a million pages of information were requested by the kiosk user, with events and attractions having the highest percentage of interest followed by music venue, traditional music, restaurants and public houses.

Discussions are currently underway with the Service Provider with a view to expanding the level of information content available on the kiosks.

It should be noted that www.cork.ie also provides comprehensive information on Cork such as events, music, festivals, getting around, where to stay etc., and in 2016 had over 236,000 visitors to the website.

11. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 6th FEBRUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Functional Committee from its meeting held 6th February 2017.

11.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

11.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO END OF NOVEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of November 2016.

11.2 **MOTIONS**

11.2.1 **REPORTS ON NEW AND ALTERED PROPERTIES IN THE COUNCIL'S ADMINISTRATIVE AREA YET TO BE VALUED FOR COMMERCIAL RATES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of John Hallahan, Head of Finance on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the number of new and altered properties in the Council’s Administrative area yet to be valued for commercial rates, progress being made by the Valuations Office in clearing the backlog and outline an estimation of any financial return for the Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 17/013)

The Report stated there is currently a total of 216 cases with the Valuation Office awaiting determination.

Due to a continuing backlog in the Valuation Office, some of these cases date back as far as 2012. Many of these cases would be minor in nature, consisting of deletions of existing valuations, apportionment (splitting) of valuations and/or minor extensions which would have little or no effect on rates payable. An analysis is currently underway to determine the accuracy of the current list as due to the time lapse involved, some of the cases may no longer be relevant. This is an important exercise as the existence of the backlog may be an impediment to the determination of more recent listings.

During 2016, a priority listing of 40 approx. cases was prepared and issued to the Valuation Office of cases which were likely to have a significant financial benefit to the Council and this listing was substantially dealt with. However a small number of significant cases remain to be determined. These cases could have a substantial financial return for the Council.

12. **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE – 30th JANUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the International Relations Committee from its meeting held 30th January 2017.

12.1 **REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SERVICES REGARDING PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH FORMAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WITH BORDEAUX, ST. PETERSBURG AND MIAMI**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the written report of Paul Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs regarding proposals to establish formal International Relations with Bordeaux, St. Petersburg & Miami.

12.2 **REPORT ON VISIT OF CORK DELEGATION TO SAN FRANCISCO – SEPTEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the written report of Seamus Coughlan, SPED on the visit of the Cork delegation to San Francisco.

12.3 **REPORT ON PARTICIPATION OF CORK ATHLETE IN COLOGNE MARATHON**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the written report of Alex O’Shea, Cork City Fire Brigade regarding his participation in the Cologne marathon in October 2016.

12.4 **REPORT ON VISIT OF COLOGNE DELEGATION TO CORK – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs on the visit of the Cologne delegation to Cork.

12.5 **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the International Relations Activity Report 2016.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

14. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None Received.

15. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

None received.

16. **TRAINING**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance at Training tabled on the night as follows:-

- Comhairleoir T. Shannon on the attendance of AILG Annual Conference on the 6th and 7th April 2017.
- Comhairleoir T. Shannon on the attendance of LAMA Spring Seminar on the 28th and 29th April 2017 at City North Hotel, Gormanston, Co. Meath.

17. **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the referral to the relevant Committee of the following motions, due notice of which has been given:

17.1 **RESURFACE BALLYHOOLEY ROAD**

‘That the Ballyhooley Road be resurfaced from Keating’s Furniture right up to junction at O Callaghan’s T.O.P garage. This stretch of road has fallen into a serious state of disrepair and needs urgent attention.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 17/022)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.2 **REMOVE OVERGROWN TREE ON SILVERHEIGHTS ROAD, MAYFIELD**

‘That the Overgrown Tree outside number 14 Upper Lotabeg on Silverheights Road Mayfield be removed as it is overgrown and the roots are protruding up through the footpath. This is a danger to pedestrians and the local residents and needs to be addressed urgently. As previously reported there are a number of similar trees from this tree down to the end of the road at the junction with the North Ring Road that are seriously overgrown and urgently need to be dealt with.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 17/023)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

17.3 **25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CORK SWANSEA TWINNING**

‘That Cork and Swansea mark the 25th Anniversary of their twinning at a time of mutual convenience during the year.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 17/034)

International Relations Committee

17.4 **FABRIC UPGRADE PROGRAMME**

‘That Noonans Road, Dean Street, St. Finbarrs Road, Fort Street be included in the Fabric Upgrade Programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 17/035)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

17.5 **NAMES FOR NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

‘That Cork City Council will ensure that names chosen for its new housing developments will be of local relevance.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 17/040)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

17.6 **TRAFFIC SURVEY IN COOLGARTEN PARK, MAGAZINE ROAD**

‘That City Council would carry out a traffic survey in Coolgarten Park on Magazine Rd with the intention of putting traffic calming measures in place. And also examine exits onto both Glasheen Rd and Magazine Rd. as these are blind spots for residents who are requesting that bollards be put in place to prevent cars parking too near the corners.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 17/041)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.7 **TRAFFIC ENTERING PARKLEY COURT, MODEL FARM ROAD**

‘That City Council would put measures in place at Parkley Court Model Farm Rd. to prevent vehicular traffic entering this estate at this pedestrian entrance. Presently there is one steel bollard on the footpath but vehicles are driving onto the grass margin to avoid this.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 17/042)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.8 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS FROM WILTONGARDENS ON TO WILTON ROAD**

‘It is extremely dangerous to exit from Wilton Gardens on to Wilton Road especially when taking a right turn as the motorist has to cross two lanes of traffic-one a bus lane. Many accidents have taken place at this junction, the latest last Monday 23rd January when two motorists collided. Over the years in the interest of health and safety Councillors have requested traffic lights be installed here and the local Gardaí in Togher agree, I am now requesting that this situation is examined carefully and the lights are installed before a fatality occurs.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Shields 17/043)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.9 **VACANT SITE KNOWN AS ‘MACSWEENEY’S FARM’**

‘That Cork City Council would secure the funding to purchase the vacant site known as ‘MacSweeney’s Farm’ in Fairhill for use by the Fairhill/Fairfield Community Association with the aim of establishing a purpose built youth and community centre on site.’

(Proposers: Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. M. Nugent 17/044)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

17.10 **ROUNDAABOUT AT THE JUNCTION OF FAIRFIELD AVENUE AND KNOCKPOGUE AVENUE**

‘That Cork City Council would remove the roundabout at the junction of Fairfield Avenue and Knockpogue Avenue and install traffic lights for the safety of the public due to the heavy traffic volumes on this Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 17/045)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.11 **TAKE IN CHARGE RIVERVIEW RISE, RIVERVIEW ESTATE**

‘That Cork City Council would take steps to either take in Charge Riverview Rise, Riverview Estate, Ballyvolane or if not in a position to do so to ensure that the Development Bond is applied in order to carry out essential light repairs.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 17/047)

Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

17.12 **DOUBLE YELLOW LINES OUTSIDE NOS 1 TO 13 LOTABEG ESTATE**

‘That Cork City Council put double yellow lines on the northern side of the roadway outside Nos 1 to 13 Lotabeg Estate as the residents of the area people from outside the area are leaving parked cars all day thus impeding local traffic.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 17/048)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.13 **PUBLIC LIGHTING IN TIVOLI ESTATE**

‘That Cork City Council having taken in charge the new housing estate at the northern side of Tivoli Estate would liaise with the Electricity Supply Board to ensure the public lighting in the area is made to work in the interests of the safety and security of residents.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 17/049)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.14 **RAMP AT MANGERTON CLOSE**

‘That Cork City Council would assess re putting in a ramp at/near 18/20 Mangerton Close the Glen, from the road to the footpath as the current access is very far away and residents who are ill or disabled are finding it increasingly difficult to access the road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 17/050)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.15 **ROAD SAFETY AT ARDROSTIG CROSS**

‘That Cork City Council would undertake a review of the safety of the road and speed of traffic at Ardrostig Cross (Junction of Bandon Road, Bishoptown Road and Waterfall Road) where a number of accidents have occurred and where the boundary walls of properties have been demolished and that Cork City Council would ensure that the large site at the junction of Bishopstown Road and Hawkes Road is properly secured and screened off with appropriate hoarding that enhances and public realm.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 17/051)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.16 **SURFACE WATER POOLING AND LODGING ON THE N40**

‘That Cork City Council would present a report on the reasons for significant surface water pooling and lodging on the N40 particularly the section of road between and including the two flyovers at Sarsfield Road and Bandon Road and what remedial measures can and will be taken to reduce and eliminate this serious hazard.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 17/052)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

17.17 **TENANT PARTICIPATION OFFICERS**

‘That Cork City Council apply for national funding or make provision for funding at the next budget for the positions of Tenant Participation Officers given its success in recent years as part of Councils positive interaction with our tenants.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 17/053)

Finance & Estimates Functional Committee

17.18 **MASTER PLAN FOR AVENUE DE RENNES**

‘That Cork City Council reports on the master plan for the Avenue de Rennes area of Mahon as set forth in the Mahon LAP. What actions are the Council taking to deal with the increased dereliction & deprivation that is affecting this area, the centre of the Mahon Community.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 17/055)

**Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise
Functional Committee and Housing & Community Strategic
Policy Committee (Property)**

17.19 **TREE REPLACING POLICY**

‘That Cork City Council reports on the policy of replacing trees that have been damaged or fallen or removed due to storms etc. Can the report also include how many trees have been lost in the marina over the past five years and have these been replaced?’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 17/056)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

17.20 **PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE LOWER LEE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME**

‘That Cork City Council would facilitate a public meeting to discuss the proposed Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme, in advance of the new extended closing date of March 16th, to allow for an enhanced and meaningful public consultation, to include representatives of the OPW, ESB, Arups, and the Save Cork City action group.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. McGonigle 17/057)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

17.21 **DOG FOULING BINS AT THE FAIRFIELD AMENITY**

‘That Cork City Council will install dog fouling bins at the Fairfield amenity, Fairhill on a pilot basis.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 17/058)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

17.22 **MEETING ON CORK CITY DEFENCE PLANS**

‘That Cork City Council would organise a meeting between Cork City Council, the OPW, Arup and The Save Cork City Group to discuss concerns and proposals on Cork Defence Plans.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 17/59)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

18. **MOTIONS**

18.1 **ENCOURAGE EMPLOYERS TO EMPLOY APPRENTICES**

‘That Cork City Council call on the Government to put in place an incentive scheme to encourage employers to employ apprentices to help reduce the high level of youth unemployment and also provide skilled tradesmen to prevent shortage in qualified tradesmen in the future.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 17/015)

18.2 **BUS STOPS ON SILVERHEIGHTS ROAD AND UPPER LOTABEG ROAD**

‘I propose that Cork City Council requests Bus Éireann to install two bus stops on Silverheights Road and Upper Lotabeg Road in Mayfield.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 17/046)

Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

18.3 **PROGRESS THE CONRONERS BILL**

‘That this council requests the Government to progress the Coroners Bill as a matter of urgency, and that the Coroner’s Bill will provide for an automatic Inquest into Every Maternal Death in this State.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 17/054)

This concluded the business of the meeting

**ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH**