

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK COUNTY BOROUGH
COUNCIL HELD ON 15TH JANUARY, 2001**

- PRESENT:** An tArd- Mhéara, Comhairleoir P.J. Hourican in the Chair
- NORTH EAST:-** Seanoir M. Quill T.D., Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, L. Burke T.D., and J. Kelleher
- NORTH CENTRAL:** Comhairleoirí K. Lynch, B. Allen T.D. and D. Wallace
- NORTH WEST:** Seanoir D. McCarthy, Comhairleoirí C. Burke, M. O'Connell and J. O'Brien.
- SOUTH EAST:** Seanoir T. Shannon, Comhairleoirí D. Clune T.D., J. Corr, J. O'Flynn, D. Counihan and J. Minihan.
- SOUTH CENTRAL:** Seanoir C. O'Connell, Comhairleoirí S. Martin, T. O'Driscoll, D. Cregan and D. Boyle.
- SOUTH WEST:** Seanoir J. Dennehy T.D., Comhairleoirí M. Shields and M. Ahern
- ALSO PRESENT:** Mr J. Gavin, City Manager & Town Clerk
Mr M. Riordan, Assistant City Manager (Eng).
Mr. D. Buggy, Assistant City Manager (Housing)
Ms. B. Dillon-Hall, Assistant Town Clerk
Mr. G. O'Sullivan, Admin. Officer, Town Clerk's Dept.
Mr. Ml. Tierney, Staff Officer, Town Clerk's Dept.

An t-Ard-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1.1 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

An Chomhairle unanimously agreed to extend a vote of sympathy to the following:-

To the family of the late Mr Thomas Mulcahy, Gardiners Hill, Cork

To the brother of the late Fr. Fachtna O'Neill, Mr Paddy O'Neill

To Mr John O'Donoghue, No. 1 St. Bridgid Street, on the death of his wife.

To Mrs Ellen McCarthy, Banduff, on the death of her husband.

To the family of the late Sean Keane.

To Angela Dennehy, Riverview Estate on the death of her husband Gerry.

To the family of the late Mrs Kitty Nason, 25 Clarkes Road, Cork.

To Mrs Nora Coughlan, Greenwood Estate on the death of her husband.

To the Cotter family, Beaumont Drive on the death of Mr Ned Cotter.

To the family of the late Joe O’Gorman, Fr. Dominic Road, Cork

To the family of the late Theresa Mulcahy.

1.2 **VOTE OF SOLIDARITY**

An Chomhairle expressed its solidarity with the Cremin and Walsh families after the Missing Persons Mass held on 14th January 2001.

1.3 **WELCOME**

An t-Ard-Mhéara welcomed two groups in the public gallery – group of mature students from UCC and group of students from Mount Mercy Convent.

1.4 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Seanoir O’Connell proposed a suspension of Standing Orders to discuss the A.S.T.I. dispute. As there was no seconder, An t-Ard-Mhéara declared that the proposal fell.

2. **MINUTES**

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on 18th December 2000 were considered and approved.

3. **QUESTION TIME**

3.1 **SAMPLING OF GROUND WATER**

- (a) In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir S. Martin, the following written reply was circulated which stated that:- A total of 90 samples of the Tramore River and 25 daily composites at Pouladuff were taken since April 2000. There are no groundwater monitoring wells in the area of Pouladuff as these are not required in the EPA licence. Sampling of groundwater around the Sanitary Landfill Site for mercury will continue in 2001 as a requirement of the EPA licence.

- (b) All the leachate wells are operative. However 3 out of 11 of the ground water wells are out of commission on a temporary basis due to ongoing contract works at the Sanitary Landfill Site. An order has been placed to repair these 3 ground water wells and work is expected to commence shortly.
- (c) The Dutch levels refer to soil and groundwater. The EPA licence does not specify a limit in regard to mercury. The EPA has been advised of the results of monitoring for mercury and has not expressed concern with these results in surface water, ground water and leachate.
- (d) The sediment samples referred to above and all other tests on water bodies since June 2000 confirm that there is no mercury pollution in the rivers. Cork Corporation and Cork County Council have investigated both sides of the Tramore River and no sources of mercury have been detected.

3.2 **LEGAL TAXI RANK**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Michael Ahern, the following written reply was circulated which stated that The following signage/markings are required to indicate a taxi rank:-

- a) An upright sign with the word 'taxi'.
- b) Roadway markings consisting of the word 'taxis'.

The sign indicate at a) above is in place at the St Patrick's St. rank. The marking indicated at b) has worn away and is on our work schedule for replacement. A substantial amount of road markings were removed in St Patrick St and other areas last year due to the Main Drainage Scheme. With regard to the taxi rank markings it should be noted that further disruption will take place this year due to the St Patrick St Renewal Project which will require the taxi rank to be relocated and as such the replacement of these markings will only be of a temporary nature.

While the rank is not enforceable parking by vehicles other than taxis is minimal and is not creating a problem for taxis. There is some space taken up by motorbikes adjacent to the pedestrian crossing at Dunnes Stores but it should be noted that the area taken up by this crossing was reduced when replaced after the Main Drainage works and the area actually taken up by these motorbikes was previously part of the pedestrian crossing.

The main priority for the replacement of markings is safety and this together with the extremely wet weather during the latter part of last year as well as the above mentioned issues has resulted in a delay in renewing the taxi rank markings. However as stated they are on out programme of works as will be replaced as soon as possible.

3.3 **LYNVALE DEVELOPMENT**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Minihan, the following written reply was circulated which stated that there are two bonds in place to cover the cost of outstanding works at Lindville. The bonds are for £95,500 + C.P.I. (T.P. Ref. No. 20951/96) and £288,000 + C.P.I. (T.P. Ref. No. 21002/97).

The Corporation have assessed the outstanding works and are currently examining other compliance issues prior to making a claim on the said bonds.

The Corporation will then review the best course of action to be taken to have the works carried out i.e. either by direct labour or contract.

3.4 **THE LOUGH**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Shields, the following written reply was circulated which stated that:-

- (a) The Transportation of fill would not require planning permission unless associated with and conditioned by other activities that would.
- (b) In response to a complaint relating to the above area the site has been inspected and the concerns arising are being pursued through the enforcement and derelict site sections of the Corporation.
- (c) The site in question was recently the subject of a planning application for outline planning permission for 7 no. dwellings T.P. Ref. No. 24746/00 however it was refused inter alia. for over development of the site. It is obviously open to the applicant to re-apply or appeal the decision. In conjunction with this the situation will be monitored on an ongoing basis and further action with regard to enforcement will be taken should the circumstances merit same.

3.5 **PARKING FACILITIES AT ARD BHAILE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, the following written reply was circulated which stated that since this motion was originally tabled, the City Architect has arranged several meetings with residents of the area to discuss their requirements. Following these meetings a number of options are now being considered. When this assessment has been completed proposals will be brought to the attention of Members.

3.6 **MUSEUM PROJECT**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir B. Allen T.D., the following written reply was circulated which stated that :-

- a) Contract was awarded to O' Sheas Ltd. in February 1998.
- b) The tender price was £1,360,066 inc. VAT
- c) Phase 1 of the Museum Project is due for completion at the end of February 2001
- d) A full review of project costs was carried out in March 2000 to ensure that the project was held to the cost plan. The projected outturn is estimated at £1.64 m.
- e) Delays have been experienced due to revision of original project proposal due to cost consideration. In addition some delay was experienced when the contractor interrupted work in January 2000.

3.7 **GLENAMOY LAWN**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Quill, the following written reply was circulated which stated that windows in the rented houses at No's 1-30 Glenamoy Lawn, Mayfield are due to be replaced by Cork Corporation under its Planned Maintenance Programme. Work is due to commence later this year and should be completed before December next.

3.8 **RETAIL PLANNING GUIDELINES**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, the following written reply was circulated which stated that the Retail Planning Guidelines are operative from the 2nd January, 2001 and therefore impact only on applications made after this date.

Cork Corporation are obliged under the provisions of Article 38 to jointly prepare Comprehensive Retail Strategies and Policies with Cork County Council.

Planning Authorities outside the Greater Dublin Area have 12 months from the 02/01/2001 to commence preparation of the necessary retail policies and proposals and a further six months to incorporate such policies and proposals into the Development Plan i.e. retail policies and proposals should be incorporated into the Development Plan by the 30th June, 2002. Cork Corporation in conjunction with Cork County Council will put policies in place as quickly as possible under the above provisions.

3.9 **CLOSURE OF PETER CHURCH AVENUE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Wallace, the following written reply was circulated which stated that Peter Church Avenue also known as St. Peter's Avenue extends from Grattan Street to North Main Street emerging south of the Vision Centre (St. Peter's Church). The eastern end of the lane has been closed off by the proprietor of No. 87 North Main St.

The lane was originally closed off in 1995/96 in order to accommodate works being carried out on the Vision Centre. Closure was maintained to enable construction of houses near the eastern end of the lane. However in or about 1997 the proprietor of No. 87 erected a wrought iron sheeted gate on the North Main Street frontage. This was intended to prevent trespass and reduce security risk to this premises adjacent and over the lane.

When all works on houses was complete in 2000 a request was received from a representative of a resident on Grattan Street to have the lane reopened. When approached the owner of the gate indicated that such would pose a security and business risk to his premises and restaurant. The matter has been referred to the Law Agent for legal advice and proceedings.

Written representations have been received on behalf of the business premises and the adjacent Vision Centre to keep lane closed. The North Main Street Traders Assoc. have also advised that they wish to have lane kept closed.

Therefore apart from proceedings to have lane reopened, procedures are being initiated in accordance with requirements of the Roads Act to have the public right of way extinguished.

This will in due course come before Council for decision.

3.10 **LINDVILLE, BLACKROCK ROAD**

In response to question submitted by Seanoir T. Shannon, the following written reply was circulated which stated that there are two bonds in place to cover the cost of outstanding works at Lindville. The bonds are for £95,500 + C.P.I. (T.P. Ref. No. 20951/96) and £288,000 + C.P.I. (T.P. Ref. No. 21002/97).

The Corporation have assessed the outstanding works and are currently examining other compliance issues prior to making a claim on the said bonds.

The Corporation will then review the best course of action to be taken to have the works carried out i.e. either by direct labour or contract.

3.11 **HOUSING CAPITAL ALLOCATION**

In response to question submitted by Seanoir J. Dennehy, the following written reply was circulated which stated that the Housing Capital Allocation notified by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to Cork Corporation for 2000 was £17,450,000. Expenditure by the Corporation under the Housing Programme for 2000 totalled £22,629,473.

4. **CORK ECONOMIC MONITOR – NOVEMBER 2000 (DEFERRED FROM MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2000).**

An Chomhairle discussed and agreed to note the Cork Economic Monitor – November 2000.

5. **ROADS TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY**

5.1 **MONTHLY ROADWORKS PROGRAMME**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads, Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8 January 2001, An Chomhairle noted the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the progress of ongoing Roadworks Programme for month ended December 2000.

5.2 **EXTENSION OF DISC PARKING TO EVERGREEN ROAD, CORK**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 regarding Extension of Disc Parking to Evergreen Road, Cork.

5.3 **RECENT SPELL OF SEVERE WEATHER**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle noted the Report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001, regarding the impact of Recent Severe weather.

5.4 **BOX JUNCTION ON HIGH STREET**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That Cork Corporation provide a box junction on High Street adjacent to Railway Place."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin – Ref. 00/173)

The report stated that the provision of yellow box junction at the above location will be discussed with the Gardaí and if considered appropriate for enforcement, then the necessary works will be scheduled for provision during the 2001 Road Painting Programme.

5.5 **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That traffic calming measures be incorporated in the building of all new housing estates or refurbishment of existing estates or streets."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin – Ref. 00/250)

The report stated that recommendations are issued by the Traffic Section of Cork Corporation to address appropriate Traffic Calming in the design of all new housing estates, or where feasible, the refurbishment of existing estates or streets, and in many cases development charges are imposed on developers to provide appropriate traffic calming in surrounding areas which may be affected by increased traffic from new housing developments.

5.6 **PROVIDE MONEY FROM ESTIMATES TO BUILD WALL AT ROCKWOOD, SKEHARD ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered the Assistant City Manager's report on the following motion which had been submitted to the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That Cork Corporation would provide money in the estimates 2000/2001 and erect a boundary wall in Rockwood, Skehard Road.

(Proposer: Seanoir T. Shannon – Ref. 00/303)

An Chomhairle agreed that the matter be held in Committee by Roads Transportation & Safety Committee.

5.7 **VEHICULAR ACCESS ON ELM ROAD**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That the roadway which currently exists on Elm Road be extended to allow vehicular access for the residents of house numbers 1 to 6."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir Ml. Ahern – Ref. 00/342)

The report stated that Elm Road is part of the housing estate adjacent to Clashduv developed by the NBA in the late 70's. In common with other housing estates of that era some houses were not provided with direct frontage onto roads or vehicular access. They were provided with pedestrian access and communal parking area.

A demand has arisen for additional car parking and facility to bring cars to the curtilage of dwelling at various locations. This has been accommodated, where possible, as part of various estate upgrading and renewal works. However no overall scheme or funding provisions have been created to address the problems on a wider scale.

No funding is at present available to address particular proposal for Elm Road.

5.8 **PRESS BUTTON PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FOR CURRAHEEN ROAD**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That a press button pedestrian crossing is provided on **Curraheen Road, Bishopstown** in close proximity to the No. 8 bus terminus, to facilitate bus users crossing this extremely busy road. It is also important this crossing is provided for pedestrians, especially young children and senior citizens who cross the road at this point to get to the facilities provided in Murphy's Farm."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir M. Shields – Ref. 00/347)

The report stated that the provision of a pedestrian crossing, which will be push-button type, has been included for consideration in the proposed Roadworks Programme for 2001, and the works will be undertaken if appropriate funding is provided.

5.9 **WALL AT ENTRANCE TO ASCENSION CHURCH**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"Since the wall at the entrance to the Ascension Church and adjacent to house No. 234 Cathedral Road is in danger of falling, that action be taken immediately before somebody is seriously injured and that an engineering inspection be carried out immediately."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir B. Allen T.D. – Ref. 00/348)

The report stated that this motion is understood to relate to the condition of the side rear boundary wall of 234 Cathedral Road, adjacent to the paved area affording vehicular access to Ascension Church. This is a private wall and does not adjoin a public road. However the area is open to and used by the public and in the interests of safety the Principal Building Surveyors Department will be in contact with the owner of the wall to ensure that the wall is secured and made fully stable.

5.10 **ROAD MARKINGS**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That Cork Corporation in the interest of public safety arrange for road markings to be laid on St. Joseph's Drive, Leycesters Lane, St. Christopher's Drive, Murmont Road and Murmont Crescent as this route has experienced a significant increase in traffic flows and is used by large number of children attending primary and secondary schools."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan – Ref. 00/349)

The report stated that appropriate road markings will be undertaken in the above-listed areas within the Road Painting Programme for 2001 when the appropriate weather conditions enable the execution of this programme.

5.11 **SAFETY AUDIT FOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That a Safety Audit be carried out throughout the city with a view to identifying locations where traffic accidents frequently occur."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. O'Driscoll – Ref. 00/351)

The report stated that Cork Corporation currently undertake a recording of all reported traffic accidents throughout the city (as logged and reported by the Gardaí, formal CT68 Form), which is forwarded and co-ordinated through the N.R.A. office and returned to Cork Corporation for records. The accident report forms are logged on computer database, which is monitored to identify accident frequency, degree of severity of accident etc. with a view to identifying appropriate Road Design or Traffic Controls which would help to reduce or eliminate the accidents. This screening process enables the identification of prioritised works for inclusion in Roadworks Programme or request for Special Funding from the N.R.A. or DOELG as appropriate.

5.12 **BOSTON PARK**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That the Road at Boston Park be resurfaced."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. O'Driscoll – Ref. 00/361)

The report stated that consideration will be given to inclusion of Boston Park in the Non-National Resurfacing Programme for 2001 which is presently being formulated.

In the meantime reinstatement renewal and patching work has been programmed for this road.

5.13 **REPAIR OF ROAD AT BLACKROCK CASTLE**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That the Corporation repair the roadway between Blackrock Castle and the entrance to Gate Lodge, Castle Road as it is in a very bad condition."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir D. Counihan – Ref. 00/365)

The report stated that the section of Castle Road from Blackrock Castle to junction with Ferney Road has suffered serious deterioration due to volume and nature of traffic arising from adjacent housing development and alteration to foreshore area.

Proposals are being prepared for reconstruction, resurfacing and drainage works which will be included in 2001 Roads Programme. In the meantime, regular pothole repairs will be carried out to maintain usability of road.

5.14 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS FOR BLARNEY ROAD**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That the traffic lights be installed at the junction of Blarney Road and Harbour View Road."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir Ml. O'Connell – Ref. 00/367)

The report stated that the area in question is under review and traffic volumes, traffic movements, traffic accidents, etc. are being monitored with a view to identifying the prioritised need for traffic signal control at this junction. Following the completion of the surveys and examination of records etc., a recommendation will be made regarding the provision of traffic signals at this location, when appropriate funding becomes available.

5.15 **TRAFFIC IN SAWMILL STREET AND RUTLAND STREET**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee from its meeting held on 8th January, 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That Cork Corporation would take steps to ensure the smooth flow of traffic in the Sawmill Street, Rutland Street area by:-

- (a) enforcing the parking by-laws on Rutland Street
- (b) discouraging motorists from using Sawmill Street as a means of avoiding the South Terrace

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. O'Driscoll – Ref. 00/371)

The report stated that major investment in the re-development of the VEC facility at Sawmill Street has recently been approved and this work will be undertaken in the near future. The considerable increase in pedestrian movement along Sawmill Street and in the general South Terrace/White Street/ Rutland Street and Cotters Quay area are being examined with a view to the enhancement of pedestrian safety/cycling facilities etc. which could be introduced in this area to discourage motorists while encouraging alternative means of transport for access to Sawmill Street.

6. **HOUSING COMMITTEE**

6.1 **MONTHLY REPORT**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Housing Committee from its meeting held on 8th January 2001, An Chomhairle approved the monthly report of Assistant City Manager for the month of December, 2000.

6.2 **ANNUAL REPORT**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Housing Committee from its meeting held on 8th January 2001, An Chomhairle approved the Annual Report of the Assistant City Manager for the year ended 31st December, 2000.

6.3 **MAHON FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE LIMITED**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Housing Committee from its meeting held on 8th January 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 in relation to the Mahon Family Resource Centre Limited.

The report stated that the Mahon Family Resource Centre was established in the early 1980's to provide for a wide range of family support services. The Centre has been supported by Cork Corporation by the provision of a premises at 22, Lakelands Crescent. These premises, as well as servicing the accommodation needs of the Centre, have also been made available to facilitate other groups and service providers operating in the local community.

The success of the initiative is clear from the growing range of activities being undertaken. This growth has however created a need for additional accommodation and to this end, a site at Mahon Drive has been identified in respect of which planning permission has now been granted for a purpose-built facility.

A formal transfer of the site from Cork Corporation will be required. In support of this venture, it is proposed to offer the site to the Mahon Family Resource Centre for a nominal sum. The details of the transfer will be the subject of a Disposal Notice in the coming weeks.

6.4 **SALE OF FLATS – ON-GOING COURT CASES**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Housing Committee from its meeting held on 8th January 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 in relation to Sale of Flats – On-going Court Cases.

The report stated that members will be aware of the on-going court cases relating to the sale of flats under the Tenant Purchase Scheme 1989. The proceedings initiated seek, inter-alia, an order from the Courts requiring the Corporation to sell the flats under the terms provided for in the 1989 Scheme. A High Court appeal in relation to one such case has recently been determined. It has been held that the Lower Courts do not have the jurisdiction to grant an order entitling the tenant to be offered purchase terms.

6.5 **DEVELOPMENT AT 16-17 GERALD GRIFFIN STREET, BLACKPOOL, CORK**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Housing Committee from its meeting held on 8th January 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 4th January, 2001 as required under Part X of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations, 1994 (as amended) on the development of 12 no. apartments at 16-17 Gerald Griffin Street, Blackpool, Cork.

The report stated that Cork Corporation proposes to carry out the following development:-

Construction of 12 no. apartments on a site at the corner of Gerald Griffin Street and Allinett's Lane in Blackpool. Details of this proposal were given in report to Members dated September 28th, 2000. Cork Corporation has advertised the proposed development as required under the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 1994 (as amended). Plans and particulars of the housing developments were available for public inspection for a period of one month. The period for which any submission in relation to the development was to be made ended on 12th December 2000.

No submissions or observations regarding the proposed development have been received. The City Planning Officer has requested a minor adjustment to the design, entailing a reduction in eave height. This amendment does not constitute a material change from the design and will be incorporated in the construction. It is now proposed to proceed with the developments. The development is consistent with the proper planning and development of the area. This report is prepared in accordance with Part X of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 1994 (as amended).

6.6 **ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES AND FIRE HYDRANTS IN ESTATES**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion which had been referred to it for discussion from the meeting of the Housing Committee held on 8th January 2001:-

“That this Corporation carry out an immediate survey of all Local Authority Housing Estates to determine if all houses within those estates have easy access by the Emergency Services and to ensure that all estates have an adequate amount of fire hydrants in place.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir J. O’Brien – Ref: 00/359)

Following discussion, on the proposal of Comhairleoir J. O’Brien, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Lynch, An Chomhairle approved the motion.

6.7 **ALLOCATION OF GRANT TO REFURBISH HOUSES FOR TENANTS OF LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Housing Committee from its meeting held on 8 January 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 4th January 2001 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

“That Cork Corporation would initiate a policy of allocating a grant (the same amount as the cost to the Corporation to refurbish a house) to tenants who have been allocated a house/flat by the Corporation, to enable them to refurbish the house/flat themselves. This would have the affect of ensuring that houses were not vacant for extended periods, and thus vandalised and would also release many of the boarded up units around the city to people in dire need of housing.”

(Proposer: Seanoir T. Shannon – Ref: 00/320)

The report stated that there is a legal obligation on Cork Corporation to ensure that dwellings meet a minimum standard before they can be let to new tenants. The present position is that our Works Department undertakes the necessary work to ensure that this obligation is met and to this end, it is considered appropriate that responsibility for repairs to the fabric of the dwelling remain with the Corporation.

The assumption by a new tenant of any responsibilities in this regard would be likely to hold difficulties in terms of standard of work and the capacity of the individual to undertake the relevant work.

The Planned Maintenance Programme currently underway is aimed at protecting the fabric of the housing stock. When this programme is completed, consideration may be given to introducing a greater element of tenant choice in terms of painting, decoration etc.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence as circulated was noted.

8. **CONFERENCES**

An Chomhairle approved attendance at the following Conferences:-

8.1 **GENERAL COUNCIL OF COUNTY COUNCILS ANNUAL SEMINAR 2001**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanoirí C. O'Connell, D. McCarthy Comhairleoirí Ml. Ahern, J. O'Flynn, T. Brosnan, D. Boyle and Ml. O'Connell at the General Council of County Councils Annual Seminar 2001 to be held on 26th & 27th January 2001 at Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

8.2 **A.M.A.I. CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanoir D. McCarthy at the A.M.A.I. Conference to be held on 9th & 10th February 2001 at Tralee, Co.Kerry.

8.3 **12TH COLMCILLE WINTER SCHOOL**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanoirí T. Shannon, D. McCarthy and Comhairleoir M. Shields at the 12th Colmcille Winter School Conference to be held on the 23rd – 25th February 2001 at Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

8.4 **ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH BOARDS IN IRELAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanoirí T. Shannon, C. O'Connell and Comhairleoirí J. Kelleher, Ml. O'Connell and S. Martin at the Association of Health Boards in Ireland Annual Conference to be held on 30th & 31st March 2001 at Bundoran, Co.Donegal.

9. **MOTIONS**

To consider the following motions, due notice of which has been given:-

9.1 **RESURFACE FOOTPATHS ON MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE**

"That the footpaths in Mount Pleasant Avenue be resurfaced with a view to having them included in the Programme for Repair and Replacement."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin - Ref. 00/186)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

9.2 **CLOVERHILL ESTATE**

“That Cork Corporation would cut back the green area in Cloverhill Estate to enable trucks such as refuse and oil trucks to turn without churning up the grass and leaving unsightly mud behind.”

(Proposer: Seanoir T. Shannon – Ref. 00/306)
- Environment Committee

9.3 **LINDVILLE ESTATE**

“That, in an attempt to alleviate the difficulty which residents of Lindville Estate will face following the problems which arose there, Cork Corporation agree to take into charge the completed half of the estate, using the relative portion of the substantial Bond available to complete any outstanding works on that half of the Estate”

(Proposer: Seanoir J. Dennehy – Ref. 00/374)
- Planning & European Affairs Committee

9.4 **EXTENSION OF BOUNDARIES**

“That Cork Corporation make an application to the County Council for an extension of its boundaries (section of the Local Government Act 1991).”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin – Ref.00/375)
- Development & Planning – Strategic Policy Committee

9.5 **CRECHE FACILITIES AT CITY HALL**

“That Cork Corporation would investigate the possibility of setting up a creche in order to facilitate the workers at City Hall.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir K. Lynch – Ref. 00/380)
- Finance & General Purposes Committee

9.6 **WOODHILL PARK & TIVOLI ESTATE**

“That Cork Corporation include Woodhill Park and Tivoli Estate in the 2001 resurfacing programme as the road surfaces at the entrances to both parks are in very poor and possibly dangerous states of repair.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir – T. Brosnan – Ref. 00/390)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

9.7 **BUDGET**

“That this Council congratulates the Minister for Finance, Mr Charlie McCreevy TD on the Budget recently presented to Dail Eireann.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir – T. Brosnan – Ref. 00/391)
- Finance & General Purposes Committee

9.8 **BOUNDARY COMMISSION**

“To ask the City Manager to arrange the establishment of a boundary commission to report on the relevant issues and then to give final consideration to the findings.

(Proposer: Comhairleoirí B. Kelleher & S. Martin – Ref 00/392)
- Development & Planning Committee – Strategic Policy Committee

9.9 **HARBOUR VIEW ROAD**

“The road is sinking on Harbour View Road near the garage and it is causing flooding.”

(Proposer: Seanoir D. McCarthy – Ref. 01/001)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

9.10 **WAIVER FROM TRADE REFUSE TO DISADVANTAGED SCHOOLS**

“That the City Manager would grant a waiver from trade refuse to schools that are designated disadvantaged by the Department of Education.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir D. Wallace – Ref. 01/003)
- Finance & General Purposes Committee

9.11 **VISION CENTRE NORTH MAIN STREET**

“That Cork Corporation would examine the feasibility of using the Vision Centre in the North Main Street for civil marriages and in this respect would discuss same with the Registrar of Marriages in the city.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir K. Lynch – 01/004)
- Finance & General Purposes Committee

9.12 **CONTROL OF DOGS ACT**

“That this Council closely examine the extent of which it is effectively meeting its statutory requirements in relation to the Control of Dogs Act, and legislation regarding the general welfare of animals, also establishing the best agency approach that can be adopted in helping this Council meet this requirement.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoirí D. Boyle & B. Bermingham – 01/005)
- Environment Committee

9.13 **BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICES BOARD**

“That this Council express its continued lack of confidence in the board of the Blood Transfusion Services Board over its failure to properly provide assurances over the future of the blood testing laboratory at St. Finbarr’s Hospital, Cork.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir D. Boyle – 01/006)
- Finance & General Purposes Committee

9.14 **CURRAGH ROAD, TURNERS CROSS**

“That this Corporation demolish property at Curragh Road, Turners Cross and bring into being an acceptable Housing/Community Centre development.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir D. Boyle – 01/007)
- Housing Committee

9.15 **BOYNE CRESCENT**

“That the structure in the green area at the centre of Boyne Crescent be removed.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir J. Kelleher – Ref. 01/008)
- Housing Committee

9.16 **LOUGH ROAD**

“That measures be put in place to prevent the serious flooding that is frequently occurring on Lough Road.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll – Ref. 01/009)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

9.17 **AUDIT ON PARKING FACILITY**

“Re: Parking at Árd Bhaile and Glenamoy Lawn:

That an audit will be carried out to establish the amount of parking needed in connection with the existing development and with future refurbishment, so that adequate provision can be made to accommodate the entirety of parking that will be necessary.”

(Proposer: Seanoir M. Quill – Ref. 01/010)

- Housing Committee

10. **TENDERS**

The following tenders were opened:-

10. no. for High Building Study

18. no. for the City Docks Action Plan.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

ARD-MHEARA
CATHAOIRLEACH