

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK COUNTY BOROUGH
COUNCIL HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2001**

- PRESENT:** An tArd- Mhéara, Comhairleoir P.J. Hourican in the Chair
- NORTH EAST:** Seanoir M. Quill, Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, L. Burke T.D., B. Kelleher T.D. and J. Kelleher
- NORTH CENTRAL:** Seanoir N. O'Flynn T.D., Comhairleoirí K. Lynch, B. Allen T.D., and D. Wallace
- NORTH WEST:** Seanoir D. McCarthy, 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 and D. Boyle.
- SOUTH WEST:** Seanoir J. Dennehy T.D., Comhairleoirí M. Shields, M. Ahern and B. Bermingham.
- 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.

Apologies received from:- Comhairleoir C. Burke.

An t-Ard-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1.1 CIVIC RECEPTION

An Chomhairle unanimously agreed to hold a civic reception for Nemo Rangers and Bishopstown GAA Clubs.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 12th February 2001 were considered and approved.

In regard to minutes of Special Meeting of the Committee of Whole Council held on 29th January 2001, An Chomhairle approved these minutes with the following amendment:-

The final sentence of the penultimate paragraph to read:-

“He further advised that no vote would be called on motion No. 3 in view of the adoption of Motion No. 2 and that the remaining agenda items will be dealt with at a future meeting of An Chomhairle.”

An Chomhairle also noted that Manager’s report on implications arising from An Chomhairle’s decisions on Waste Recovery Facility taken at its meeting on 12th February 2001 will be brought before An Chomhairle within the next few weeks.

3. **QUESTION TIME**

3.1 **FIRE SERVICE**

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

(a) The Fire Service has an operational staff complement of 140 personnel

(b) An estimate of £20,000 was approved by Council for the payment of overtime in 2001. This figure is exclusive of payment of Night Duty and weekend allowances

(c) The normal complement is ten staff per pool. In addition, a number of temporary relief staff are employed. Advertisement seeking relief staff was placed in The Examiner last Friday.

(d) Year end 31/12/00
CHURCHFIELD £65,087.32
DOUGLAS £62,173.59

(e)		IR £
	Pool Development/Restructuring	100,000
	<u>CHURCHFIELD</u>	
	Water Treatment Chem	5,500
	Maintenance W.D. Charge	15,000
	Security	12,300
	Miscellaneous – Telephone etc.	26,000
	Electrical Maintenance	28,700
	TOTAL	87,500

<u>DOUGLAS</u>	Water Treatment Chem	7,200
	Maintenance W.D. Charge	15,500
	Miscellaneous – Telephone, Cleaning, Materials, etc.	38,000
	Gym Equipment	2,000
	Lifting Equipment Disabled	1,000
	Elec. Maintenance Douglas Pool	30,600
	TOTAL	94,300

3.2 **POPHAMS FIELD**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir C. Burke, the following written reply was circulated which stated that draft landscape plans for Propahms Field, have been prepared by our Parks Department. A meeting will be arranged within the next two weeks with elected representatives, local residents and the community association to discuss these proposals further.

3.3 **REFURBISHMENT OF FLATS IN DEANROCK**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Ml. Ahern, the following written reply was circulated which stated that the City Architect is currently working on a scheme for the refurbishment of Deanrock Estate. It is anticipated that details of the scheme will be brought to Members later this summer.

As soon as the public consultation and Part X Planning processes have been completed in relation to proposed re-development work, a scheme will be submitted to the Department of the Environment & Local Government for funding. Subject to Department funding, tendering procedures can then be initiated. It is hoped that work could commence early in 2002.

3.4 **REDEVELOPMENT OF DEANROCK ESTATE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Clune, the following written reply was circulated which stated that the City Architect is currently working on a scheme for the refurbishment of Deanrock Estate. It is anticipated that details of the scheme will be brought to Members later this summer.

3.5 **NUMBER OF HOUSES PURCHASED BY CORPORATION**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir B. Allen T.D., the following written reply was circulated which stated that Cork Corporation has purchased a total of 371 dwellings to housing stock. The location of these units on a ward basis is detailed hereunder:-

North Central:	81 Units
North East:	52 Units
North West:	65 Units
South Central:	36 Units
South East:	49 Units
South West:	21 Units
County:	67 Units

Total:	371 Units

No dwellings have been purchased by the Corporation for the purpose of using them for low-cost housing. We are currently considering offering units within purchased developments and estates to be constructed by the Corporation for sale under the Affordable Housing Scheme.

3.6 **CORK STRATEGIC PLAN**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, the following written reply was circulated which stated that Consultants Atkins Mc Carthy are in the process of reviewing the submissions received following the public consultation process on the interim report on the Cork Strategic Plan. Having considered these submissions the consultants will prepare the Draft Strategic Plan which is programmed to be completed in early April. The draft report will then go to the Advisory Committee, the Members Forum and the full City and County Councils for consideration. The final Plan will be prepared following this stage, and it will be a matter for the City Council to adopt this plan with or without amendment.

3.7 **LOVERS WALK, MONTENOTTE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, the following written reply was circulated which stated that on the 8th February 2001 a section of boundary wall along Lover's Walk collapsed. The Corporation were called out and closed off the roadway in the interests of public safety. The owner, whose responsibility it is to maintain the wall, has been requested to make the area safe and to repair/replace the wall as necessary. He has appointed a Consulting Engineer with a view to preparing drawings and engaging a contractor to carry out the works at the earliest possible time.

The roadway will however be kept close until such time as the Corporation is satisfied that the danger is removed. The Corporation have the powers in the event of the owner being unwilling to carry out the work to remove the danger and subsequently seek reimbursement for the works involved.

3.8 **LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES VACANT IN THE CITY**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Ml. O'Connell, the following written reply was circulated which stated that

(a) There are 441 no. vacant Local Authority houses in the City.

(b) Total No. Vacant: 441

Broken Down As Follows:

<i>Under Refurbishment:</i>	252
<i>Under Repair: 91</i>	
<i>Awaiting Tenants:</i>	29
<i>Under Legal Review:</i>	19
<i>Under Contract Repair:</i>	7
<i>Awaiting Keys/Closing of Sale:</i>	43

The length of time from vacant to re-let can vary considerably depending on:

1. Amount of repairs needed
2. High Demand/Low Demand area
3. Type of Dwelling etc.

- (c) Houses are inspected within a week of the vacancy being notified.
- (d) The structure of the maintenance teams is being reviewed to provide for the most effective delivery of service in routine repairs, vacant houses and planned maintenance.
- (e) The Maintenance Department endeavours to meet the targets of completing emergency repairs within 24 hours, urgent repairs within 3 days and other non-planned maintenance repairs within 21 days. The Planned Maintenance Programmes are also being completed.
- (f) Staff are currently working overtime on repairs to recently purchased dwellings, vacant dwellings and emergency response repairs.

It should be noted that a total of 529 dwellings have been acquired by the Corporation for applicants under the Shared Ownership System

4. **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

4.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2001**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the financial statement for the month of January 2001.

4.2 **DISPOSALS**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the following disposals of land:-

SHARED OWNERSHIP

(a) Fee simple interest in dwellinghouse and premises situated at and known as 147 Kilnap Place, Farranree, Cork, held by the Corporation subject to a Shared Ownership Lease dated the 27th of November 1998 to Gavin O'Leary and Linda Rea for the sum of £39,878.50.

(b) Leasehold interest in dwellinghouse and premises situated at and known at 12, Brian Dillon Crescent, Cork held by the Corporation subject to a Shared Ownership Lease dated the 10th of March 1999 to Adrian O'Leary and Gillian O'Sullivan for the sum of £36,438.73.

(c) Fee simple interest in dwellinghouse and premises situated at and known as 55 Ard na Greine, Banduff Road, Ballyvolane, Cork, held by the Corporation subject to a Shared Ownership Lease dated the 14th day of June 2000 to Michael Rowe and Karen McMahon for the sum of £58,211.84.

PROPERTY SALES

- (a) Site approximately 758 sq. metres in area situated at Mahon Drive, Mahon, Cork, to the Mahon Family Resource Centre Limited c/o Noonan Linehan Carroll Coffey, Solicitors, North Main Street, Cork, for a nominal sum of £1.00.
- (b) Site approximately 55 square metres in area situated at St. Mary's Avenue, adjacent to No. 27 St. Mary's Avenue, Cork, to Mr. M. Crean, 77, Gurranabraher Avenue, Cork; Mr. W. Cuneen, 27 St. Mary's Avenue, Cork; and Mr. F. Dalton, 4 Churchfield Place East, Cork, being trustees of the North West Pigeon Club, by way of 21 years Lease at an annual rent of £30.00 per annum.

FEE SIMPLE INTEREST

GR2922 – 80, Gurranabraher Avenue, Cork

Acquired under Griffin Estate C.P.O. 1944 from George William Dunscombe, Larkfield, Killiney, Co. Dublin by Deed of Conveyance dated the 22nd of February 1946.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above-mentioned premises to Deirdre & Jeremiah O’Sullivan of that address for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR2937 – 24, St. Mary’s Place, Cathedral Road, Cork

Acquired (1) under Griffin Estate C.P.O. 1944 from George William Dunscombe, Larkfield, Killiney, Co. Dublin by Deed of Conveyance dated the 22nd of February 1946 and (2) by Agreement from Kate Kingston, Fahy’s Well, Fairhill, Cork by Deed of Assignment dated the 24th of November 1938.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above mentioned premises to Ann Murphy Reeve c/o Eamon Murray & Co., Solicitors, 6/7, Sheares Street, Cork for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR2939 – 115, Comeragh Park, The Glen, Cork

Acquired by Agreement from Rose O’Callaghan, 25, Adelaide Street, Dun Laoghaire by Deed of Conveyance dated the 18th of August 1982.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above mentioned premises to Margaret Connolly c/o Gerald Y. Goldberg & Co., Solicitors, 42, Popes Quay, Cork for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR2872 – 188, Mount Agnes Road, Fairhill, Cork

Acquired under Knockfree H.O. No. 2 of 1951 from Margaret Collins, Farmhouse, Gurranabraher, Cork by Deed of Transfer dated the 11th of July 1956.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above-mentioned premises to Paul Murphy & Leslie Corcoran c/o Ronan Daly Jermyn, Solicitors, 12, South Mall, Cork for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR176 – 79, Capwell Road, Cork

Acquired (1) under Conveyancing & Law of Property Act, 1851 by Deed of Enlargement dated the 24th of March 1982 and (2) under Landlord & Tenant (Ground Rents) Act, 1967 from Nora Mary Scanlon & All Unknown Owners by Deed of Conveyance dated the 2nd of July 1997.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above-mentioned premises to Reps. Thomas Williams Decd. c/o Ahern Roberts William & Partners, The Old Rectory, Carrigaline, Co. Cork for the sum of £8.00 plus costs.

GR2929 – 127, St. Coleman’s Road, Cork

Acquired by Agreement from Jeremiah Lucy, Rockmount, Commons Road, Cork by Deed of Transfer dated the 29th of May 1934.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above mentioned premises to Robert Kennedy c/o James W. O’Donovan, Solicitors, 53, South Mall, Cork for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR2930 – 1, Closes Park, Farranree, Cork

Acquired by Agreement from (1) Cornelius Kehely by Deed of Transfer dated the 24th of December 1935 and (2) Frederick J. Sheedy, 41, St. Georges Court, Kensington, London W7 by Deed of Conveyance dated the 18th of January 1939.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above-mentioned premises to Helen and Patrick O’Donoghue of that address for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR2915 – 18, Capwel Road, Cork

Acquired by Agreement from Thomas Somerville Reeves, Black Castle, Navan, Co. Meath by Deed of Conveyance dated the 18th of June 1956.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above-mentioned premises to Peadar and Mary Moynihan of that address for the sum of £8.00 plus costs.

GR2907 – 117, Farranferris Avenue, Farranree, Cork

Acquired by Agreement from Cornelius Kehely by Deed of Transfer dated the 24th of December 1935.

It is proposed to dispose of the fee simple interest of the above-mentioned premises to William & Kathleen Stack of that address for the sum of £5.00 plus costs.

GR2816 – “Trentville”, Iona Park (Site B20, Mayfield), Cork

Acquired by Agreement from Margaret M. Spillane, Mayfield, Cork by Deed of Assignment dated the 22nd of August 1933.

Disposal will be by was of Deed of Assignment to Michael and Geraldine O’Sullivan c/o Eoin C. Daly & Co., Solicitors, 38, South Mall, Cork for the sum of £60.00 plus £350.00 costs.

4.3 **CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SAMARITANS**

An Chomhairle considered the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001 in regard to the following motion which had been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

“ That Cork Corporation would contribute £40,000 to the Samaritans in a once off contribution towards the extension to the existing premises on Coach Street which has left them in debt of nearly £130,000.”

(Proposers : Comhairleoiri M.Shields and S. Martin - Ref. 00/265)

In accordance with the recommendation, An Chomhairle approved the report of the City Manager & Town Clerk dated 15th February 2001 and on the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Shields adopted the following resolution:-

“ Resolved pursuant to Section VI of the Local Government Act 1991 that Cork Corporation pays to the Samaritans the sum of £2,000 for the purpose as described in the Report of the City Manager and Town Clerk dated the 15th February 2001.”

The report stated that since the motion was submitted, certain monies have been granted by the Government for this purpose. In recognising that this year is the Year of the Volunteer, I therefore recommend a once off payment of £2,000 for the above purpose.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Shields, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Lynch, An Chomhairle also agreed to thank the Government for the recent contribution made to the Samaritans.

4.4 **CRÉCHE FACILITIES AT CITY HALL**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the following motion together with the report of the Assistant Town Clerk thereon dated 15th February 2001 on the following:-

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

(Proposer: Comhairleoir K. Lynch - Ref. 00/380)

The report stated that Design for a One-Stop-Shop and new municipal offices adjacent to City Hall is at an advanced stage and construction should commence during 2001. This development, when completed in 2-3 years, will provide access to and information on a range of services provided by Cork Corporation and other public authorities in the city. It will also provide facilities which will help customers, staff and members of Council conduct their business in comfortable surroundings. These facilities will include meeting rooms, public telephones, refreshments, a crèche and a canteen. It will also provide improved standards of health and safety for members, customers and staff.

4.5 **VISION CENTRE NORTH MAIN STREET**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the following motion together with the report of the Assistant Town Clerk thereon dated 15th February 2001:-

“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)

The report stated that advice had been received from the Law Agent in relation to Covenants in the Corporation's title to the Vision Centre with respect to use of the premises. The Covenants do not prohibit the Corporation in any proposed use of the premises for the holding of civil marriage ceremonies. However, the Vision Centre is used extensively for exhibitions and its use for the holding of civil marriages or indeed any purpose would be subject to booking with the management of the Centre.

4.6 **SPENDING LIMITS FOR CANDIDATS AT GENERAL ELECTION**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion which was referred to it for discussion from the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 19th February 20001:-

“That Council views with extreme concern the plans by the Minister for the Environment to increase the spending limits for candidates in the next General Election.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir J. Kelleher - Ref. 01/031)

Following discussion, Seanoir J. Dennehy T.D. proposed and Comhairleoir D. Wallace seconded the following amendment to the motion:-

“That this Council notes that the Oireachtas is discussing the Electoral Reform Bill, which deals with many outstanding and important issues of Electoral Reform and wishes the Oireachtas well with its deliberation.”

A vote was called on the amendment where there appeared:-

FOR:- Seanoirí N. O’Flynn T.D., D. McCarthy, T. Shannon and J. Dennehy T.D., Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, D. Wallace, D. Counihan, J. Minihan, S. Martin, T. O’Driscoll and M. Shields – 11

AGAINST:- An tArd Mhéara, Comhairleoir P.J. Hourican, Comhairleoirí L Burke T.D., J. Kelleher, K. Lynch, B. Allen T.D., M. O’Connell, J. O’Brien, J. Corr, D. Boyle, M. Ahern and B. Bermingham – 11

An tArd- Mhéara cast his casting vote against the amendment and declared the amendment defeated.

A vote was called on the motion where there appeared:-

FOR:- An tArd-Mhéara Comhairleoir P.J. Hourican, Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, L. Burke T.D., J. Kelleher, K. Lynch, B. Allen T.D., M. O’Connell, J. O’Brien, J. Corr, J. Minihan, D. Boyle, M. Ahern and B. Bermingham – 13

AGAINST:- Seanoirí N. O’Flynn T.D., D. McCarthy, T. Shannon and J. Dennehy T.D., Comhairleoirí D. Wallace, D. Counihan, S. Martin, T. O’Driscoll and M. Shields – 9

An t-Ard-Mhéara declared the motion carried.

4.7 **HELPLINE FOR FAMILIES OF MISSING RELATIVES**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Finance & General Purposes Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle on the proposal of Seanoir J. Dennehy T.D., seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boyle adopted the following motion:-

“That this Council call upon the Government to allocate appropriate resources to immediately establish a permanent telephone help line facility, to assist families of missing relatives.”

(Proposer: Seanoirí J. Dennehy T.D., M. Quill, T. Shannon, Comhairleoirí D. Boyle, D. Clune T.D., J. Corr, K. Lynch, J. Minihan, T. O’Driscoll and D. Wallace - Ref. 01/032)

4.8 **TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion which was referred to it for discussion from the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 19th February 2001 and on the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Corr., An Chomhairle adopted the motion:-

“That this Council call on the Minister for Finance to ensure that customers of standing of the Trustee Savings Bank be treated in a preferential manner on the sale of the Bank to a third party.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan - Ref. 01/038)

4.9 **NEW HEALTH SYSTEM**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion which was referred to it for discussion from the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 19th February 2001 and on the proposal of Comhairleoir B. Bermingham seconded by Comhairleoir B. Allen T.D., An Chomhairle adopted the motion:-

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Health & Children to introduce a health system which has the effect of ensuring that operations and hospital care of all kinds is based on medical need only.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir B. Bermingham - Ref. 01/043)

5. **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

5.1 **SANITARY AND OTHER SCHEMES**

In accordance with the recommendations of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle noted the report of the Assistant City Manager on Sanitary and Other Schemes for month ended 31st January 2001.

5.2 **CORK PUBLIC MUSEUM**

In accordance with the recommendations of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle noted the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 15th February 2001. The report stated that the project is grant aided by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and Islands to the value of £900,000.

Following competitive tenders, contract was awarded in February 1998 to O'Sheas Ltd. for £1.36m.

Work commenced in October 1998.

Tenders subsequently received for PC Sums, particularly mechanical and electrical, were in excess of budget costs and a number of variations were necessitated in order to deliver the project within the overall cost plan.

Difficulties were experienced in maintaining progress and work was interrupted by the contractor in January 2000. Work recommenced on site in March 2000.

Following a full project review in March 2000, Phase I of the development incorporating the permanent exhibition area is now due for substantial completion by the end of February 2001 at a projected outturn cost of £1.6m.

A submission for the next phase was made for ACCESS funding in October 2000, and a decision is awaited. A further report will be presented to City Council on proposals to proceed with the next phase of the development following the outcome of this submission.

In April 2000, the tenders for development of the permanent exhibition were awarded at a contract value of £400,000 plus VAT. Completion of the permanent exhibition is targeted for the end of 2001. This will provide adequate period for settlement and regulation of environment before housing artifacts in the extended Museum.

While there have been difficulties experienced in relation to the project, Phase I is now due for completion, and will provide a vastly improved exhibition space to house the permanent exhibition on Cork's heritage.

I am confident that subsequent phases of the project will secure funding and full project will be completed within the near future.

5.3 **GLEN RESOURCE CENTRE**

An Chomhairle noted the recommendation of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, to refer the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 15th February 2001, on the Glen Resource Centre to An Chomhairle for information and it was agreed to refer the matter back to the Environment Committee for an alternative recommendation which would allow An Chomhairle to discuss the report.

5.4 **TED MCCARTHY GOLF COURESE**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle agreed that the provision of changing rooms, meeting rooms and associated facilities, as outlined in report dated 19th February 2001 from Assistant City Manager, at the Ted McCarthy Municipal Golf Course would proceed.

An Chomhairle also adopted the following resolution on the proposal of Seanoir J. Dennehy T.D. seconded by Comhairleoir J. O'Flynn.

"RESOLVED in accordance with the Local Government (No.2) Act 1960, Cork Corporation to borrow a sum not exceeding £1.43 million towards the cost of construction , design and other costs for the facilities at Ted McCarthy Golf Course Mahon."

5.5 **FENCING AT ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 15th February 2001 on the following motion which had been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

“That funding be put in place to erect palisade fencing on the walls adjacent to St. Joseph’s Cemetery adjacent to Connolly Road, St Annes Park and Tory Top Road. It is being used nightly by youths for drinking parties and some of the residents back gardens are wide open to entry and break in”.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin - Ref 00/176)

The report stated that as indicated in the City Engineer’s report 500 metres of fencing was replaced last year and has proved effective to date. There is no funding in the Estimates for provision of pallisade fencing. The situation will be monitored over the coming months.

5.6 **GREEN AT MCGRATH PARK**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 15th February, 2001 on the following motion which has been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

“That Cork Corporation would cut back the green in McGrath Park 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 00/305)

The report stated if co-operation from residents was forthcoming in the parking of cars, it would assist in the smooth access of refuse trucks and other vehicles to the area in question. Residents co-operation would again be sought and monitored over the coming weeks.

5.7 **M.R.F.**

An Chomhairle considered the recommendations of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001 to refer to An Chomhairle for approval the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 15th February 2001, on the following motion which had been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

" That Cork Corporation actively pursue the purchase of a green field site for the installation of an M.R.F facility and to apply for planning for above facility in the normal manner to relevant planning authority."

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin & Seanoir T. Shannon - Ref. 00/381)

The report stated that at its meeting of the 12th February 2001, Council made a decision in relation to the proposed MRF. The Assistant City Manager undertook to bring before Council a report evaluating the present position of Council arising from the decision taken, and pending this report it is premature to proceed as requested in the motion.

Following discussion, An Chomhairle agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting of An Chomhairle.

5.8 **GREEN AT CLOVER ESTATE**

In accordance with the recommendations of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 15th February 2001 on the following motion which had been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That Cork Corporation would cut back the green in McGrath Park 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 00/305)

The report stated that if co-operation from residents was forthcoming in the parking of cars, it would assist in the smooth access of refuse trucks and other vehicles to the area in question. Residents co-operation would again be sought and monitored over the coming weeks.

5.9 **BALLYPHEHANE PARK**

An Chomhairle considered the recommendation of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001 in regard to the following motion which had been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

"That a pathway in Ballyphehane Park be resurfaced properly given the number of young children and older people using the facility.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin - Ref. 00/174)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin seconded by Comhairleoir T. O'Driscoll, An Chomhairle agreed that funding be provided in the Estimates for 2002 to carry out this work.

5.10 **GULLIES**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Environment Committee from its meeting held on 19th February 2001, An Chomhairle approved the report of the Assistant City Manager dated 1st February 2001 on the following motion which had been submitted to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

" That Cork Corporation carry out an a immediate review of and if necessary a reprogramming of, its storm-water drain cleansing methods with a view to ensuring that all shores and drains are fully and regularly cleaned on an agreed and reasonable schedule."

(Proposer: Seanoir J. Dennehy Ref.- 00/362)

The report stated that a review of the current arrangements for maintenance of road gullies has been undertaken with a view to ensuring a programmed cleaning regime, repair programme and effective emergency response.

There are approximately 14,000 gullies in the city.

1. **Routine Maintenance** i.e. a regular cleaning out and testing of a gully. The frequency of cleaning of each gully to be regular but reflective of particular needs.
2. **Repair** i.e. rectification of faults with grating, gully pot, outlet, piped connection to the sewer.
3. **Response Maintenance** i.e. response to problems caused by blocked gullies during and after rainfall. This demand arises both during normal working day and after hours.

Responsibility for various aspects of these elements currently rests with 3 sections of the Corporation – Cleansing, Roads and Drainage.

This has given rise to difficulties in co-ordination and assigning priorities, and in order to provide a quality service response it will be reorganised under the Roads Department. This will ensure that responsibility for service delivery and resource requirements will be clear and prioritised within the Roads Department.

The gully type, location, traffic flows etc. will require appropriate cleaning methods and frequency.

A specific dedicated unit will be formed from existing employee posts in Cleansing and Drainage Sections to form a routine maintenance cleaning unit within the Roads Department. This will be supported by contract hire of drain cleaning contractors.

The impact of utility cuttings, road deterioration etc. have given rise to a need to prioritise a repair programme for damaged gully drains. Specific Roads employees will be assigned to this programme in Year 2001.

The need to augment resources in response to heavy rainfall will also be addressed.

Complaint management will also be centralised in the Roads Department. This will provide for a clear measure of impact and responsiveness of the routine cleaning and repair programme.

The reorganisation of the service under the Roads Department will require discussion with staff representatives, which are currently in progress. I will report to the Roads Transportation & Safety Committee on progress at the end of March 2001. In the interim responding to particular difficulties identified will be addressed on a priority basis.

I am confident that a reorganisation of the service in the Roads Department will provide for a quality service, which will be evident at an early stage. The monthly Roads Report will incorporate performance measures for this programme. This will enable an assessment of the level of resources required on an ongoing basis to achieve required levels of service.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence as circulated was noted. An Chomhairle also noted the tone of the correspondence received from the Chief Executive Officer of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service and requested that a copy of the reply issued to him be circulated to An Chomhairle.

7. **CONFERENCES**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance at the following Conferences:-

7.1 **GENERAL COUNCIL OF COUNTY COUNCILS**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir B. Allen at the General Council of County Council's on 26th – 27th January 2001 in Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

7.2 **STREETSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanadoir D. Cregan and Comhairleoir L. Burke at the Streetscape Architecture Conference on 8th March 2001 in Kilkenny Castle.

7.3 **2001 NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanoirí C. O'Connell, T. Shannon and Comhairleoirí J. Kelleher, Ml. O'Connell and K. Lynch at the 2001 National Planning Conference on 22nd & 23rd March 2001 at the Ormond Hotel, Kilkenny.

7.4 **NATIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Kelleher at the National Housing Conference to be held at Galway on 25th – 27th April 2001.

7.5 **ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH BOARDS IN IRELAND**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan at the Annual Conference of the Association of the Health Boards in Ireland to be held at Bundoran, Co. Donegal on 30th – 31st March 2001.

8. **MOTIONS**

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

8.1 **REMOVAL OF TREE FRAGMENTS AND ROOTS AT GILLABBEY PARK**

That Cork Corporation remove the remaining tree fragments and roots adjacent to 8 Gillabbey Park as the root system has disturbed the footpath and the garden wall thus creating a dangerous situation for pedestrians.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin – Ref. 00/198)
- Environment Committee

8.2 **RESURFACING WORK AT SOUTH LODGE & SOMERTON PARK**

That Cork Corporation would provide funds in the Estimates 2000/2001 to enable much needed resurfacing work be carried on the road at the junction of South Lodge and Somerton Park.”

(Proposer: Seanoir T. Shannon – Ref. 00/311)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

8.3 **LEGAL RIGHT FOR TAXIS TO USE BUS STOPS**

That taxis be given a legal right to utilise bus stops outside of the hours of bus operation. This change would require a change of legislation and I would ask that this Council bring in the necessary legislation to effect change.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin – Ref 00/393)
- Roads and Transportation – Strategic Policy Committee

8.4 **FIRESTATION AT WATERCOURSE ROAD BE USED AS ONE STOP SHOP**

That the firestation at Watercourse Road be used as a one stop shop for Cork Corporation – Southern Health Board Services such as, motor tax sub office, library centre for the elderly, ambulance base, public housing sub office and that these developments be carried out by Cork Corporation.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir B. Allen T.D. – 01/047)
- Environment Committee

8.5 **SPECIAL GRANT FOR REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE WINDOWS IN CORK CITY**

That this Council calls on the Minister for Housing to allocate a special grant of £500,000 towards the replacement of defective windows in Cork City in 2001.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan – 01/050)
- Housing & Community – Strategic Policy Committee

8.6 **SAFETY AUDIT ON RETAINING WALLS ON LOVERS WALK**

That Cork Corporation carry out a safety audit on retaining walls on the northern side of Lovers Walk with a view to identifying possible hazardous structures and that immediate action be taken to restore the retaining wall which collapsed recently.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan – 01/055)
- Planning & European Affairs Committee

8.7 **WORKS ON FOOTPATHS IN FARRANFERRIS CRESCENT, FARRANREE**

That urgent remedial and resurfacing works be carried out on the footpaths in Farranferris Crescent, Farranree. This footpath is in an appalling state of disrepair and is constantly flooded. Residents find it very difficult to gain access to their homes.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir Ml. O’Connell – 01/056)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

8.8 **BUS LANES**

That in line with plans to change city centre traffic flows, that bus lanes be put in place on Bridge Street/McCurtain Street, Washington Street (Inbound) and Lancaster Quay/Western Road (Outbound).

(Proposer: Comhairleoir D. Boyle – 01/057)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

8.9 **FLOURIDE IN PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES**

That this Council make a submission to the Advisory Group established by the Minister for Health and Children on the continuing addition of flouride to public water supplies, expressing its wish that this practice be ended.

Proposer: Comhairleoir D. Boyle – 01/058)
- Environment – Strategic Policy Committee

8.10 **WINDOWS AT AVONMORE PARK**

That the windows in house numbers 25 to 30 Avonmore Park, Mayfield be replaced as soon as possible.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir J. Kelleher – 01/059)
- Housing Committee

8.11 **RESURFACING OF ROADS IN McCURTAIN VILLAS**

That Cork Corporation would carry out resurfacing of all the roads in McCurtain Villas and repair all the footpaths in the area as both roads and footpaths are in a very poor state of repair.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir C. Burke – 01/060)
- Roads Transportation & Safety Committee

