

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 10th JUNE 2002**

PRESENT:- An tArd-Mheara, Comhairleoir T. O'Driscoll in the chair and subsequently An Leas-Cathaoirleach Comhairleoir S. Martin and subsequently Comhairleoir D. Wallace in the chair.

NORTH EAST Comhairleoiri, L. Burke T.D., J. Kelleher.

NORTH CENTRAL Seanoir N. O'Flynn T.D., Comhairleoiri K. Lynch, B. Allen T.D.

NORTH WEST Seanoir D. McCarthy, Comhairleoiri T. Falvey, M O'Connell J. O'Brien.

SOUTH EAST Seanoir T. Shannon, Comhairleoiri J. O'Flynn, J. Minihan.

SOUTH CENTRAL Seanoir C. O'Connell, Comhairleoiri D. Cregan, D. Boyle.

SOUTH WEST Seanoir J. Dennehy T.D. Comhairleoiri, M. Shields, M. Ahern, P.J Hourican.

ALSO PRESENT Mr. J. Gavin, City Manager
Mr. M. Riordan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs
Mr. K. Terry, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation
Mr. J. O'Donovan Director of Services Planning & Development
Mr. S. Kearney, Director of Services, Housing & Community
Mr. P. Ruane, Conservation Officer, Planning & Development
Mr. M. Tierney, A/Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs
Ms. U. Ramsell A/Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs

An tArd-Mheara recited the opening prayer.

1. **CIVIC RECEPTION FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

An Chomhairle approved the holding of a Civic Reception for the School Attendance officers who will be joining the Department of Education in July.

2. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- To the Ryan Family on the death of Val Ryan.
- To the Aherne Family on the death of Nora Aherne.
- To the Philpott Family on the death of their Mother Agnes at 6, St Joseph Tce.
- To Mr. Megan, Middleton on the death of his Mother.

3. **MINUTES**

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on 22nd April 2002, were considered and approved.

4. **QUESTION TIME**

4.1 **KILLALA GARDENS**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Connell, the following written reply was circulated which stated that all 83 Local Authority houses in Killalla Gardens are included in the Phase 2 Contract for advance window replacement in the Knocknaheeny area.

The Contract commenced in March 2002. Work in Killalla Gardens area has started and should be completed within the next two to three months.

4.2 **FOOTPATH REPAIRS IN MAYFIELD/MONTENOTTE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, the following written reply was circulated which stated that the current contract works on footpaths deal with the backlog of temporary reinstatments arising from work by public utilities and others in recent years. The works do not cover the normal footpath renewal work which is carried out by the direct labour roads workforce.

4.3 **WIDESPREAD BULLYING IN CORK CORPORATION / CORK CITY COUNCIL**

In response to question submitted by Seanoir C. Connell, the following written reply was circulated which stated that in relation to items (a), (b) above, these are matters for City Council Management to address. Adequate procedures are in place throughout the City Council's various departments under the Council's Policy Statement on Workplace Bullying for the making of complaints, their investigation and the determination of an appropriate outcome. This policy has been issued to every member of staff.

Item (c) refers to promotion of staff. There is in place an agreed procedure for promotion of staff and any member of staff with a grievance in this regard may take this up with the appropriate management or trade union representative.

Item (d) referring to the canvassing of houses for private refuse contractors by City Council staff is unclear and if the member so wishes he may elaborate on same and the situation will be investigated.

4.4 **FLOODING PROBLEM, AT SPRINGFIELD CLOSE MAYFIELD**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir B. Kelleher, T.D., the following written reply was circulated which stated that Housing Maintenance are aware of the reported problem at rear garden of 1, Springfield Close, Mayfield, and are investigating the situation to establish what remedial measures might be required. Any requisite works should be carried out within the next 4 to 6 weeks.

4.5 **RAILINGS AT MULGRAVE ROAD TO CAMDEN VILLAS**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir L. Burke, the following written reply was circulated which stated that we will make arrangements to have the railings refurbished & replaced and generally tidied up in the near future.

The double yellow lines in Camden Villas have faded and are in need of renewal. They will be included in this year's road painting programme

5. **DISPOSAL OF TURF STORES AT POULADUFF ROAD CORK**

An Chomhairle deferred this item to the next meeting of Council to facilitate further discussion.

6. **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

An Chomhairle approved the Schedule of meetings for July – December 2002.

7. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP**

An Chomhairle approved the recommendations of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held on 26th May 2002.

8. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT – APRIL 2002**

An Chomhairle approved the Financial Statement for April 2002.

9. **NEW STANDING ORDERS**

An Chomhairle agreed to refer this item to the Corporate Policy Group.

10. **HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

10.1 **JOINT HOUSING COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing dated 30th May, 2002 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council set up a joint housing committee with Cork County Council whose sole purpose will be to tackle the city and county housing shortages.’

(Proposer:- Comhairleoir S. Martin – 02/14)

The report stated that members will be aware that a Joint Committee of both Cork City Council and Cork County Council currently exists and meets on a quarterly basis. As this forum may be the vehicle by which joint city and county housing issues could be resolved, it is recommended that this motion be referred to the Joint Committee for consideration in the first instance.

10.2 **SOCIAL & COMMUNITY HOUSING FORUM**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing dated 30th May, 2002 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council facilitate the establishment of a Social and Community Housing forum to interact with and inform it’s Housing and Strategic Policy Group’.

(Proposer:- Comhairleoir D. Boyle Ref. 02/69)

The report stated that members will be aware of the proposals contained in the Housing Department Strategic Plan 2000 – 2004 relating to area based housing management and the creation of a tiered system of tenants fora.

These proposals will shortly be brought to fruition following which the local communities, both individually and collectively, will have a vehicle to facilitate input into housing policy.

10.3 **JOINT HOUSING AUTHORITY**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing dated 30th May, 2002 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council and Cork County Council set up a Joint Housing Authority to deal with the current housing problems and put in place a medium to long term plan which would set out in a constructive manner the mechanism by which both authorities could achieve full housing’.

(Proposer:- Comhairleoir S. Martin – 02/29)

The report stated that members will be aware of the Joint Committee of both Cork City Council and Cork County Council which meets on a quarterly basis. It would seem appropriate that this Committee would consider the motion in the first instance and accordingly this course of action is recommended.

10.4 **HOUSE PURCHASES**

An Chomhairle agreed to defer the report of the Director of Services, Housing dated 30th May, 2002 on the following motion:-

“That Cork City Council as a matter of policy would not purchase more than 5% of houses in any terrace, park or estate for the purpose of social housing and that such purchases within the 5% limit would be purchased evenly across the entire City.’

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan Ref. 02/131)

The report stated that Cork City Council must have regard to the terms of Circular N3/92 in carrying out its housing functions. This Circular sets out the National Policy on Social Integration.

The Housing Department is sensitive to the concerns of residents in determining where houses will be purchased in private estates but empirical evidence shows that Cork City Council tenants settle very well in private estates and that concerns of residents have in the main been unfounded.

It should be noted that over 3,000 applicants are eligible for Local Authority housing and the Council has a duty too provide for the needs of those applicants.

The introduction of a limit may prohibit the Council for the performance of its functions.

11. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11.1 **ROAD CONDITION SURVEY**

An Chomhairle approved the report of Director of Services/City Engineer dated 30th May, 2002 regarding Road Condition Survey and it was also agreed to recommend that a deputation from the S.P.C. should meet with the Department of the Environment and Local Government in relation to the allocation of special funding to undertake the programme as set out in the Road Condition Survey.

11.2 **BUS PRIORITY MEASURES – NO. 6 BUS ROUTE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of Director of Services/City Engineer dated 30th May 2002 regarding the No. 6 Bus Route and it was also agreed to recommend that a submission should be forwarded to the Department of the Environment and Local Government to secure the funding necessary to implement these proposals.

11.3 **30 MPH SPEED LIMIT THROUGHOUT THE CITY**

An Chomhairle approved the Director of Services/City Engineer's report dated 30th May, 2002 regarding the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council as a matter of Policy would seek in conjunction with the Gardai to ensure that the 30mph speed limit is enforced throughout the City and that signage and road markings would be reviewed and the Gardai asked to carry out speed checks occasionally.’

The report stated that a 30 mph speed limit is in force throughout Cork City with the exception of sections of the following roads:

- Lower Glanmire Road
- South City Link
- Carrigrohane Road.

Except for these three roads, the 30 mph speed zone is signposted at the city boundary or in the ‘built up’ county areas on the approaches to the city. Speed limits are designated by “zones”, i.e. a speed limit sign identifies the start of the zone and motorists must assume the relevant speed limit applies until a speed limit sign with different information is encountered.

However, we do use repeater signs on some roads in Cork City on a very selected basis, to encourage motorists to slow down. We have to be careful though, that they are not provided in a widespread manner so that ambiguous or confusing messages could be given to motorists on roads which do not have repeater signs.

All the speed signs were reviewed recently and any in need of replacement were renewed. We don't generally use road markings to designate speed limits, however, they have been installed on a trial basis on the North Link Road (Blackpool By Pass). They are supplementary to the road signs, which give legal force to the limits.

The Gardaí carry out speed enforcement checks on a continuous basis, particularly at excessive speed locations. This work is obviously subject to resource restraints, however the issue of enforcement levels will be discussed with the Gardaí.

11.4 **TRAFFIC CALMING**

An Chomhairle approved the funding of 2002 Traffic Calming Scheme and is was agreed to recommend that a provision of €200,000 should be included in the Estimates 2003 for Traffic Calming.

12. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

12.1 PROTECTED STRUCTURES

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 30th May, 2002 on the Record of Protected Structures and that the buildings listed in Schedule I and Schedule III of the report be considered for addition to the Record of Protected Structures and that the procedure for making the additions as set out in Section 55 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 be commenced.

The report stated that the procedure for making such additions is set out in Section 55 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and at this stage I would ask members approval to begin the process.

12.2 EMPLOYMENT SURVEY

An Chomhairle approved the report of Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 30th May, 2002 on Employment and Land Use Survey 2001.

The report stated that this is the fourth such survey to be carried out by Cork City Council since 1981. The survey is undertaken to monitor the city's employment levels. Comparison with results from the last survey, carried out in 1996, helps highlight changing trends in the city's employment structure and provides baseline data on which future policy documents are formulated.

12.3 MOTIONS

An Chomhairle approved the reports of the Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 30th May, 2002 on the following motions :-

(a) Local Development Plan

‘That a feasibility study be carried out to assess the needs of Blarney Street and surrounding Areas, that can be used to update The Local development Plan which is currently outdated’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir M. O’ Connell Ref. 02/106)

(b) Advertising Hoardings

‘That Cork City Council review its policy on the use of advertising hoardings and in particular the legality of the erections of J.C. Decaux signs 0beneath such hoardings which should be removed forthwith’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan Ref. 02/117)

(c) Growth in Bishopstown/ Model Farm Road/Wilton Area.

Acknowledging the enormous growth in Regional and Citywide Public

Services in the Bishopstown/Model Farm Road and Wilton areas, Cork City Council, aware of the need to balance this growth and consequences, will investigate, design and report on **a Town centre concept for Bishopstown** based around the Outpost/Viscount Bars and Dunne's Stores Shopping Centre.

- In co-operation with the Bishopstown Residential and Business community.
- Avoiding disjointed and unsuitable developments into the future.
- Enhancing amenities, facilities and conveniences – environmental/historical and cultural in Bishopstown, for the benefit of its residents'.

Incorporating some of the following (disabled friendly)

A redesign of the Dunne's Stores Shopping Centre

- With architecturally old world designed stores of convenience/coffee dock/newsagent/ etc.
- Possibly public Library/Post Office/Health Clinic/Cinema, etc.
- Marble Pedestrian way.
- Statue of Bishop Browne, founder of Bishopstown, fronting the Curraheen Road indicating **The Heart of Bishopstown.**
- Lighted fountain – Garden surround.
- Other attractive colourful facilities.
- Underground parking.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir B. Bermingham Ref. 02/147)

(d) Architectural and Historic features of St. Lukes Cross.

'That Cork City Council would put in place an appropriate Local Plan aimed to protect and enhance the unique architectural and historic features of St. Luke's Cross – one of the last remaining villages within borough boundary.'

(Proposer: Comhairleoir M. Quill Ref. 02/112)

13. UPDATE RE DOUGLAS SWIMMING POOL

B. Allen proposed that in response to correspondence from the Department of Tourism, Sport & Recreation on 17th May 2002 that clarification be sought as to the position on funding in view of the Minister's advice to a delegation from Cork City Council that funding was available provided a Feasibility Study was carried out and submitted. Cllr. M. O'Connell requested that the position on funding for Churchfield Pool also be sought. It was agreed to seek the fullest clarification in these issues from the Department.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence as circulated was noted.

15. CONFERENCES

An Chomhairle approved the attendance at the following Conferences:-

15.1 **3RD ANNUAL REGIONAL ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoiri J. Kelleher and S. Martin at the 3rd Annual Regional Assembly Conference on the 24th - 25th May in the West County Conference and leisure hotel, Ennis, Co. Claire.

15.2 **SOCIAL STUDY CONFERENCE `SUMMER SCHOOL 2002**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoiri J. Corr, M. Ahern, K. Lynch, J. Kelleher, M. Shields at the Social Study Conference which will be held on the 27th - 29th June 2002 at Ardilaun House Hotel in Galway.

15.3 **DR. DOUGLAS HYDE CONFERENCE 2002**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Corr at the Annual Dr. Douglas Hyde Conference which will be held on the 19th - 21st July 2002 in Ballaghadreen Co. Roscommon.

15.4 **18th ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir C. O' Leary at the 18th Annual Environmental Conference which was held on the 6th - 7th June 2002 in the Carrigaline Court Hotel, Co Cork.

15.5 **4TH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ANTI - POVERTY LEARNING NETWORK MEETING**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir M. Shields at the 4th Local Government Anti - Poverty Learning Network which was held on the 22nd – 23rd May 2002 in the Hudson Bay Hotel, Athlone.

15.6 **G.C.C.C. BUNDORAN**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Seanoir J. Dennehy, Comhairleoir M. Shields and D. Wallace at the G.C.C.C. Bundoran which will be held on 14 – 15 June 2002 in the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran Co. Donegal.

16. **MOTIONS**

The following motions due notice of which had given were referred to the next meeting of the appropriate Committee:-

16.1 **RESURFACING GREENMOUNT AVENUE**

“That Greenmount Place be resurfaced and the open space on Greenmount Avenue be cleaned up and resurfaced.”

(Proposer: Comhairleoir S. Martin – Ref. 00/297)

- Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

16.2 **CLEAN UP AT VICTORIA AVENUE / BOREENMANNA ROAD**

“That Cork Corporation clean up the area of waste ground at the corner of Victoria Ave. and the Boreenmanna Road. This area should be landscaped, grassed and seating provided for local residents, which would compliment the green area opposite by Glenanaar.”

(Proposer:- Seanoir T. Shannon – 01/241)

- **Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee**

- **Environment Functional Committee**

16.3 **DISC PARKING IN DUBLIN HILL**

‘That Cork City Council would introduce Disc Parking in Dublin Hill as a matter of urgency’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir K. Lynch Ref. 02/135)

- **Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.4 **EXTINGUISH PEDESTRIAN WALK AT ONSLOW GARDENS**

‘That Cork City Council extinguish the pedestrian walk way at 7 Rowanville, Onslow Gardens, Commons Road as requested by residents of Onslow Gardens. This connects with St. Johns Well Estate through the open green area, this green area is a meeting place for anti social behaviour, drinking and illegal substance dealing.

(Proposer: Seanoir N. O’Flynn T.D. Ref. 02/149)

- **Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.5 **CLOSE REMAINING PARTS OF THE GREEN AT THE RESERVOIR**

‘That the City Council act immediately to close off the remaining parts of the green area around the reservoir in Harbour View Road, to stop the illegal camping of members of the travelling community on the site which is close to housing estates on both sides of the road’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir M. O’Connell Ref. 02/151)

- **Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee**

16.6 **‘STOP’ SIGN AT SEMINARY PLACE AND SEMINARY WALK**

‘That Cork City Council would erect a ‘Stop’ sign at the junction of Seminary Place and Seminary Walk’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir C. Burke Ref. 02/155)

- **Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.7 **AIR MONITORING STATION BE RELOCATED BE BALLYVOLANE**

‘That the air monitoring station located at Watercourse Road would be relocated to the Ballyvolane area, preferably to the North Ring Road Fire Station’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir B. Allen T.D. Ref. 02/156)

- **Environment Functional Committee**

16.8 **ROAD SIGNS & ROAD MARKINGS AT ONSLOW GARDENS**

‘That Road Signs & Road Markings be put in place as a matter of priority in Onslow Gardens. If the resources are not available in this years road works programme then provision be made in next years programme to allow the works be carried out’

(Proposer: Comhairleoir J. O’Brien Ref. 02/157)

- **Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.9 **REINSTATEMENT BE CARRIED OUT ON CARRIGMORE AVENUE**

‘That Cork City Council would arrange for emergency reinstatement to be carried out on Carrigmore Avenue, Middle Glanmire Road and for the Avenue to be resurfaced as soon as possible’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan Ref. 02/159)

- **Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.10 **SERVICE CHARGE BILLS**

‘That Cork City Council directs the Manager to ensure that the recently introduced Government Levy on waste be separately identified on Service Charge Bills issued to citizens in 2003 if its proposed to bill it in conjunction with such charges’.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir T. Brosnan Ref. 02/160)

- **Corporate Policy Group**

16.11 **EXTINGUISHMENT OF THE RIGHT OF WAY AT ASHWOOD CLOSE**

‘That Cork City Council implements as a matter of urgency the procedure for the extinguishment of the right of way entering Ashwood Close, Commons Rd. Given the dramatic increase in antisocial behaviour at this location in recent months and the very real danger posed to the personal safety of residents by these individuals, that the City Council engages in a pro-active approach and immediately sets about tackling this problem. That the Council would ensure that funding for said extinguishments would be made available.

(Proposer: Comhairleoir B. Kelleher T.D. Ref. 02/161)

- **Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHEARA
CATHAOIRLEACH

20 Meitheamh 2002