

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2021

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, F. Ryan, D. Boylan.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Kerins.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Ms. A. Rodgers, Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Mr. T. Keating, Interim Director of Services, Housing. Ms. F. Redmond, Senior Planner, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Ms. A. Murnane, Meetings Administrator. Ms. C. Currid, A/Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

1.1 **#DOUGLASS WEEK 2021**

An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle that #Douglass Week 2021, an online commemoration of Frederick Douglass’s journey to Ireland in 1845, would be held from the 8th to the 14th February 2021.

1.2 **MOTHER AND BABY HOMES WORKING GROUP**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that a Working Group made up of Party Whips and Party Leaders is being established and will be the key vehicle for Elected Members to deal with issues specific to mother and baby homes.

The Working Group will meet in committee, will feed back through Party Whips and from there to Full Council.

An Chomhairle observed a minute's silence in acknowledgement of all those impacted by mother and baby homes.

2. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

No items raised.

3. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cauty, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 11th January 2021.

4. **QUESTION TIME**

4.1 **ROAD MARKINGS – DOUGLAS VILLAGE/COURT AREA**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Forde, the following reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can Council advise when will all the road markings at traffic lights junctions and roundabouts and pedestrian crossings in and adjacent to Douglas Village, Douglas Court and Fingerpost Roundabout be refreshed as currently they are very indistinct and therefore dangerous to pedestrian and Road users particularly with poor public lighting at night.

REPLY

Cork City Council will review the condition of the existing lining at Douglas village, Douglas Court and Fingerpost Roundabout. Any works deemed appropriate will be added to the roads programme and undertaken subject to available resources.

Please note some the roads at locations mentioned above are not taken in charge, e.g. Douglas Court Shopping Centre, and are not within the remit of Cork City Council. However, operations directorate will contact owners to request that line marking be refreshed were applicable.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations.

4.2 **SOCIAL CLAUSES IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir H. Cremin was deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 8th March 2021:-

Can the C.E. provide the Council with the latest information in relation to the usage of social clauses in public procurement contracts. Social clauses in public procurement procedures refer to social, environmental and labour standards that contractors have to fulfil in order to tender for public contracts. Could you confirm if any social clauses have been included in council procurement contracts? If so, could you list the number of contracts which have social clause provisions, in addition to specifying the nature of these social clauses?

4.3 **BLARNEY ROAD SITE – AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to include the current site at Blarney Road next to Clogheen Business Park in the Affordable Housing Scheme.

REPLY

The site in question is owned by Cork City Council and it is now proposed to assess the site's suitability and viability for housing, with a view to inclusion of the site in the City Council's Affordable Housing programme.

Tadhg Keating,
Interim Director of Services,
Housing.

4.4 **LAND BANK ANALYST FOR CORK CITY**

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

Can the CE give the council a full Land Bank Analyst for Cork City especially considering the boundary change and where we as an enlarged city are at now? Within the land bank analyst can we look at not just housing land banks but all land banks for Schools, Parks, Industrial, and so forth?

REPLY

An extensive review of all available lands for a range of uses is currently underway as part of the preparation of the City Development Plan and a report will be circulated to members on completion of this exercise.

Fearghal Reidy,
Director of Services,
Strategic & Economic Development.

4.5 **QUARRY AREA OFF BALLYHOOLEY ROAD**

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

Can I please have an update on the proposed Plans for the development of the **Quarry Area** off Ballyhooley Road between St Luke's Cross and Dillon's Cross.

These proposed plans were drawn up some years ago and this waste land which is owned by Cork City Council should be put to good use for the benefit of the Local St Luke's and Dillon's Cross Areas by designating it as a recreational area and removing the "*seclusion factor*" from this location which is a source of so many anti-social problems.

REPLY

The Quarry Lands are situated west of the Quarry steps and to the rear of Windsor Cottages, Windsor Place, St James's Place and Hill View Villas. The area is a back-land and completely screened from view by the above properties. Removing the *seclusion factor* is not possible given that the land is situated to the rear of the above properties and there is no possibility of creating additional views or access points into the area.

The draft plan proposed the disposal of part of the area to individual house owners to increase the size of their rear gardens, the creation of a community/allotment garden for local residents and, the provision of some parking spaces.

The proposals in the draft plan have not been advanced to date.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations.

4.6 **HALF MOON LANE**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the planned upgrading of Half Moon Lane and the junction of Half Moon Lane with South Douglas Road to provide a safe pedestrian and cycle access to Tramore Valley Park, including whether the necessary funding for the project has been allocated and when work on the project is likely to commence?

REPLY

The process for the detail design of the approved scheme including the preparation of tender documents, issuing of tenders and the appointment of a contractor has commenced. The process has been delayed due to the current COVID Level 5 restrictions. This process will take approximately eight to ten weeks.

An application for funding has been submitted to the National Transport Authority and a decision on this application is due shortly.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations.

4.7 **ACTIVE TRAVEL TEAMS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive that given the recent announcement by the Minister for Transport, Climate, Environment & Communication to provide funding for the recruitment of an additional 218 positions in local authorities, to establish active travel teams, will this Council be seeking to recruit such positions and, if so, to what extent?

REPLY

The recent announcement by the Minister for Transport regarding the provision of funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to support the recruitment of additional staff in local authorities is very welcome.

This support is essential to the successful roll out of the multi annual investment framework envisaged for cycling and walking infrastructure as well as the Bus Connects programme which has recently commenced. As Members will be aware, the Programme for Government provides for a significant increase in investment over the coming five years for the development of sustainable transport infrastructure, particularly new cycling and walking infrastructure.

Further details are expected to be received shortly in relation the supports and the corresponding arrangements. The City Council will be seeking NTA and Departmental approvals to proceed with early recruitment and Members will be kept appraised of progress on same as well as the related cycling, walking and bus connects programmes.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

4.8 **LANEWAY FROM SPRING LANE PARK**

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

To ask the Chief Executive about the status of the laneway linking Spring Lane Park in Blackpool exiting at the North Ring Road opposite the Glen River Park and who is responsible for its maintenance?

REPLY

The pathway in question is a historic pathway that has existed for many years. Approximately 50% of same is a made pathway with a tarmac surface (from Spring lane to the bridge) with the remaining portion comprising of an unmade mud track (from the bridge to the North Ring Road).

It is unmaintained at present and if it was to be brought into proper use would require significant upgrading to meet the required standards for such infrastructure. This would require a design to be prepared and a capital construction project to be executed. Significant works would be required not only to the pathway surface, gradients to make them accessible for all but also to both entrances which are not fit for purpose at present. Funding is not available at this time to deliver such a project but if it is deemed that this is an important pedestrian linkage in the area, such a scheme could be added to a list for consideration in a future programme of works.

Alternative routes exist to the use of this pathway to access local facilities. Blackpool village and the shopping centre are accessible via Dublin Street and Thomas Davis Street while the link road to the side of the Ballyvolane Fire Station provides access to the Glen Amenity Park and the Ballyvolane Shopping Centre.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations.

4.9 **WALKWAY CONNECTION ACROSS MODEL FARM ROAD AT BRIDGE NO CB.R608-004.00**

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

Can the Chief Executive give an update and estimated timelines on the proposed walkway connection across the Model Farm Road at bridge number CB.R608-004.00 and the Riverside Farm development for which planning application 20/39272 was granted 21.12.2020?

REPLY

Cork City Council is in the early stages of formulating a preliminary design for this location. It is anticipated that the connection across Model Farm Road will form part of an overall proposed works package involving the upgrade of Carrigrohane Bridge and the re-alignment of both approaches. It is hoped that funding for the project will be secured from the Department of Transport and the National Transport Authority. This will enable the appointment of a multidisciplinary design team in the second half of the current year.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

4.10 **HOUSING DELIVERY IN 2021**

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

Can the CE advise in terms of Housing delivery in 2021 to report on:

The number of social and affordable housing units estimated to be delivered in Cork City this year?

REPLY

In 2021, Cork City Council's target and projection for provision of social housing is 612 homes (404 build and 208 leasing) and circa. 20 affordable homes in the first phase of delivery at Boherboy Road.

A further target of 250 no. units are expected to be returned through the Council's voids programme in 2021.

The impact of recent Level 5 public health measures, which include a lengthy construction shutdown, is yet to be determined and will require ongoing assessment during the year. As in previous years, Cork City Council will seek to maximise and expedite delivery of housing wherever possible.

Tadgh Keating,
Interim Director of Services,
Housing.

4.11 **HOMELESSNESS**

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

To ask the CE about the mechanisms in place to combat homelessness this winter in the city?

How many homelessness cases on the streets in the last weekend of January 2021?

Are their beds available for all homelessness at this point in time in the city (early February 2021)?

How many emergency accommodation units?

To ask for the breakdown of finance given to housing homeless agencies in the city in 2020 & for 2021?

REPLY

To ask the CE about the mechanisms in place to combat homelessness this winter in the city?

As part of the 2020/2021 Cold Weather Strategy, Cork City Council allocated 15 additional emergency beds to ensure that no one has to sleep rough during the cold weather. This is to concentrate on ensuring there is capacity within the Cork Simon emergency shelter to accommodate those who are rough sleeping and who have the highest support needs.

As in previous years, to provide appropriate accommodation for people who are sleeping rough, it is necessary to create vacancies in the Cork Simon shelter by facilitating the accommodation of current Anderson's Quay residents, where possible, in St. Vincent's House, a lower threshold emergency shelter for men over 20 years or Edel House. Individuals who are considered most suited to the B&Bs will be moved from St. Vincent's etc and all moves are subject to the approval of the APS team.

The space in the Cork Simon Day Centre at Anderson's Quay known as Night Light provides sleeping space for up to 10 additional people, men and women, each night throughout the winter period. The beds are available ensure that those most in need, and individuals known to services as sleeping rough, will all have the option of accommodation during the cold weather period. The location is central and well known to people accessing the rough sleeper service

We recently created more availability at Cork Simon Night Light in light of Covid 19, we created further space this winter and now have 10 one night only rooms in operation (up to 10 residents were accommodated) so this created more capacity at the Night Light also. This arrangement allows 10 clients to remain at the facility for a good part of the day therefore no clients are now discharged at 7am which used to occur previously.

How many homelessness cases on the streets in the last weekend of January 2021?

On the most recent report from our outreach team on the 29/01/2021, there were 3 clients across the city sleeping rough, reduced from 12 reported this time last year. These figures are reported on weekly basis by Cork City Council and Cork Simon's outreach team who patrol the city and engage with our rough sleepers daily.

Are there beds available for all homelessness at this point in time in the city (early February 2021)?

Anyone who is facing homelessness and needs emergency accommodation can present to the Accommodation Placement Service on Lapps Quay where their needs will be assessed and emergency accommodation provided if required. This office remains open to the public Monday to Friday (10am -12pm, 2pm – 4pm).

How many emergency accommodation units?

In total combining Cork Simon, SVP and Good Shepherd Services and the Family Hub there are a total of 231 emergency beds in Cork City projects. We also supplement these scheduled emergency accommodation providers with unscheduled providers such as B&Bs, when necessary.

To ask for the breakdown of finance given to housing homeless agencies in the city in 2020 and to be allocated in 2021?

In the Homeless Services program for Cork City, the expenditure for 2020 under the delegated Section 10 Exchequer funding is estimated to be €9,097,986 million. This is used for the sole purposes of expenditure incurred on the homeless services program. This includes the Council's Homelessness Prevention Services and administration costs. The Financial Report has been submitted to the DHPLG and the Regional Report will be published on the Department's website in due course. The budget for 2021 is currently being finalised and has not yet been approved.

The expenditure on the providers for 2020 is outlined below.

Service Provider	Total Expenditure 2020
Threshold	€ 317,000
Cork Simon	€ 1,117,778
Good Shepherd Services	€ 795,949
St. Vincent de Paul	€ 1,008,379
Sophia Housing	€ 312,058
Focus ireland	€ 128,000
O'Connell Court Ltd	€ 139,080
Oakdene Ltd	€ 89,011
Mount Cara Ltd	€ 133,517
The foyer	€241,650
Wellsprings	€ 44,506
Renewal	€ 38,942
Westgate Foundation	€ 30,780

Please note that this expenditure to these providers includes costs under the following categories;

- Homeless Prevention – Tenancy Sustainment and Resettlement supports
- Emergency Accommodation
- Long Term Supported Accommodation
- Day Services

Tadhg Keating,
Interim Director of Services,
Housing.

4.12 **HORSE PROJECT**

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

To ask the CE if it remains an objective to initiate a Horse Project in Cork City and what stage is it at? Relating to this what are the current arrangements in addressing

the issue of stray Horses on public roads or green areas & what veterinary services are available to the Council?

REPLY

Cork City Council has appointed a Contractor for the control of stray and abandoned horses on public roads and this contract provides a veterinary check and assessment for any animal impounded.

Until the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic, Cork City Council was an active participant in the Cork City Horse Project Initiative, with representation from the Community Team within the Community Culture and Placemaking Directorate. This group meets regularly and is bound by a memorandum of understanding.

The work of this group, which is hosted and provided with secretarial support by the Traveller Visibility Group, is a continuation of the Horse Forum which dates from 2011. The group includes representatives from

- Traveller Visibility Group
- Cork City Council
- Cork County Council
- ISPCA
- Department of Agriculture
- Tusla Children and Young People's Service Committee
- Healthy Cities
- ETB
- AN Garda Siochana
- HSE Traveller Health Unit
- Travellers of North Cork
- Representatives of Traveller Horse Owners

Since 2013, the focus of the group has been on securing a suitable space to locate a Horse Project within the City Bounds. This has proven a challenging prospect, and in latter years, the group has had a number of shorter-term successes with Equine Education modules being supported by the group, running in Terrance McSwiney Community College in Knocknaheeny.

Since 2019, the group has focussed on efforts to secure grazing land in the city.

Adrienne Rodgers,
Director of Services,
Community, Culture & Placemaking.

Tadgh Keating,
Interim Director of Services,
Housing.

5. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

5.1 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, dated the 4th February 2021 in relation to the funding arrangements for the delivery of Cork City Council's Affordable Housing Programme.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, Cork City Council is to borrow a sum not exceeding €40,000,000 to be used as a bridging facility in the delivery of affordable homes in the City”.

5.2 **PART 8 PLANNING PROPOSAL LEHENAGHMORE ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 179 (4) (a) of Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed Lehenaghmore Road Improvement Scheme and the attached report of the Director of Infrastructure Development thereon, as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed development viz. the Lehenaghmore Road Improvement Scheme and the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development Directorate, Cork City Council thereon, it is hereby resolved pursuant to the provisions of Section 179 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, that the Lehenaghmore Road Improvement Scheme be carried out as recommended in the said report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development Directorate, Cork City Council, which was put before Council on the 8th of February 2021.”

5.3 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: ARDFIELD DRIVE, GRANGE, DOUGLAS, CORK – GALTAN CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 21st January, 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Galtan CLG in respect of the provision of one three bed unit of accommodation at 10, Ardfield Drive, Grange, Douglas, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boyle, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €310,282 be granted to Galtan CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one three bed unit at 10 Ardfield Drive, Grange, Douglas, Cork.”

5.4 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: SPRING VIEW TERRACE, COMMONS ROAD, CORK – PETER MCVERRY TRUST CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 21st January, 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Peter McVerry Trust CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at 9, Spring View Terrace, Commons Road, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €245,711 be granted to Peter McVerry Trust CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one unit of accommodation at 9, Spring View Terrace, Commons Road, Cork.”

6. **BOARD OF CRAWFORD ART GALLERY**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Forde, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan was nominated to replace Comhairleoir T. Shannon on the Board of Crawford Art Gallery.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Kerins, Comhairleoir K. Collins was nominated to replace Comhairleoir T. Shannon on the Board of Crawford Art Gallery.

As one member only was required a vote was called for where there appeared as follows:-

For Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan

Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher. (17)

For Comhairleoir K. Collins

Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, G. Keohane, M. Nugent, K. Collins, F. Ryan, L. Bogue, M. Finn, F. Kerins, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (12)

As those voting for Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan were greater than those voting for Comhairleoir K. Collins, An tArdmhéara declared Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan nominated to the Board of Crawford Art Gallery.

7. **MOTION REFERRED FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD, 11th JANUARY 2021**

FREE SANITARY PRODUCTS IN CORK CITY COUNCIL BUILDINGS

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That in view of the fact that Irish women and girls spend an average of 132 Euros every year on tampons and sanitary towels that Cork City Council would follow other Cities in providing free sanitary products in its buildings and would work to facilitate drop off points to allow people to donate sanitary products for vulnerable groups. We call on the Government to provide support to allow tampons and sanitary products to be accessible to vulnerable groups such as the homeless and asylum seekers.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Sheehan, Cllr. L. Bogue, Cllr. F. Kerins, Cllr. M.R. Desmond 21/021)

An Chomhairle further agreed to refer the motion to the Women’s Caucus for further consideration.

8. **MOTION DEFERRED FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD, 11th JANUARY 2021**

COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF LANDS AT BESSBORO

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the appropriate department/person in government and request that the lands at the former Mother and Baby Home site at Bessboro, Mahon would be compulsory purchased and given over to Cork City Council to manage. Cork City Council could then (in line with request made by survivor groups), have the children’s burial ground made part of the Cork City cemeteries section, and the ground be marked and a wildflower garden be established.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 20/465)

An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion to the Mother and Baby Homes Working Group for further consideration.

9. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 1st FEBRUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 1st February 2021.

9.1 **SECTION 141 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations dated 28th January 2021 on Section 141 of the Local Government Act 2001.

10. **PARTY WHIPS – 25th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 25th January 2021.

11. **ENVIRONMENT, WATER & AMENITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 18th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 18th January 2021.

11.1 **CORK CITY COUNCIL’S POSTERING PROTOCOL**

An Chomhairle considered Cork City Council’s Postering Protocol.

A vote was called for on the approval of the protocol where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, G. Keohane, J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde, D. Boyle, S. O’Callaghan, G. Kelleher. (11)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, T. Tynan, O. Moran, M. Nugent, F. Ryan, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, S. Martin, F. Kerins, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (14)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As those voting against the protocol were greater than those voting for, An tArdmhéara declared the vote and the protocol defeated.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, An Chomhairle agreed to refer Cork City Council’s Postering Protocol back to the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend standing orders to continue the meeting past 8pm.

11.2 **MOTIONS**

11.2.1 **EU GREEN NEW DEAL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 11th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That this Council welcome Cork becoming one of the first twenty five cities to have signed the Mannheim declaration committing to an EU Green New Deal, outlining what measures can be taken through local initiatives to meet this goal.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 20/334)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the ‘Mannheim Message’ is a campaign to gather like-minded future-focussed cities in a bid to collectively impress upon the EU Institutions that at local level, its communities and its citizens, need to be prominently involved in the roll-out of actions if the high-level target of climate neutrality in Europe by 2050 is to be reached.

Cork City Council has endorsed the declaration on behalf of the citizens of Cork and intends to work towards a common vision of a greener, cleaner and healthier city.

11.2.2 **AIR QUALITY ALERTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 11th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council would work with Met Eireann to issue air quality alerts to the people of Cork on the lighting of non essential fires to control air pollution on cold calm nights.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 20/378)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the issue of working with Met Éireann for air quality alerts is a function between the weather forecasting and reporting and the Environmental Protection Agency is the designated national authority for measuring and reporting on air quality.

Cork City Council is working with UCC’s Centre for Research into Atmospheric Chemistry in developing and trialling an air quality alert system. The project will take approximately 10 months to deliver.

The project will entail the following elements:

1. Communication
How to influence behaviour (and thereby air quality) and how to disseminate the information.
2. Model
Development of an air quality forecast model specific to Cork city.
3. Alert system
Deciding on the most appropriate methodology to alert the general public of potential poor air quality.

It should be noted that this will be an information gathering and research project for use on a trial basis only.

The information will likely be used to feed in to a national air quality forecasting system should such a scheme be developed in the future.

11.2.3 **BYE LAWS FOR POSTERING IN THE CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 11th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council formally review bye-laws regarding postering in the city, allowing exemptions for charitable and community organisations.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 20/354)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council’s protocol allows for posters advertising meeting or events to be erected on property owned by Cork City Council. This facility is open to all sectors of society provided that the posters are not promoting commercial events and that the provisions of the protocol are adhered to.

Applications from registered charities promoting events which charge an entry fee are considered on a case by case basis and permission for a limited number of posters may be granted.

The provisions of the protocol provide Cork City Council with a mechanism to limit and control the number, type, size, location and density of postering within the city and the introduction of exemptions for certain sectors of society would be inequitable and would undermine the purpose and benefit of having a protocol.

11.2.4 **AVENUE OF REMEMBRANCE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 11th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City consider installing an intertwining tree lined ‘Avenue of Remembrance’ either at the perimeter of Curraheen Science Park or Tramore Valley Park or other suitable location. Such a project would be a tribute to all the Cork people who have passed and especially since the pandemic. Their loved ones could contribute by donating towards the cost of tree (s) and maintenance of same and use this avenue for contemplative walks whilst remember their loved ones.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 20/437)

The report of the Director of Services stated that this is very commendable motion and I anticipate it will be welcomed by many relatives of deceased loved ones. The proposal would also advance a number of the objectives in the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 and, add to the City’s current actions on bio-diversity. A remembrance tree planting project will be advanced during 2021 following the appointment of a Tree Officer.

Draft details of the proposed project will be submitted to this committee for consideration.

11.2.5 **AIR QUALITY IN THE CITY**

Members considered the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 11th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will issue advice to city residents when air quality drops in the city, like the system in place for flood warnings in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 20/439)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council is working with UCC’s Centre for Research into Atmospheric Chemistry in developing and trialling an air quality alert system. The project will take approximately 10 months to deliver.

The project will entail the following elements:

1. Communication
How to influence behaviour (and thereby air quality) and how to disseminate the information.
2. Model
Development of an air quality forecast model specific to Cork city.
3. Alert system
Deciding on the most appropriate methodology to alert the general public of potential poor air quality.

It should be noted that this will be an information gathering and research project for use on a trial basis only.

The information will likely be used to feed in to a national air quality forecasting system should such a scheme be developed in the future.

12. **COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 18th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 18th January 2021.

12.1 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

12.1.1 **ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AT BLACKPOOL PLAZA**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 5th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That the JPC request that the Gardaí address the anti-social behaviour and drinking that occurs on and around the Blackpool Plaza in Blackpool Village. These gatherings are creating issues for the residents and businesses in the area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 20/308)

The report of the Director of Services stated the issue of anti-social behaviour and drinking that may occur around Blackpool Plaza in Blackpool Village has been a feature of comment at previous Community Safety Fora in the area and subsequently the focus of increased Garda patrolling and policing. Though the Fora are suspended because of Covid there is ongoing monitoring by Gardai in the area working in tandem with other agencies including City Council.

As a member of the JPC, Cllr. Boylan can raise the topic of anti-social behaviours and alcohol consumption on the street as an overall matter for discussion by way of a request to the Steering Group of the JPC to have it placed on the agenda.

The Joint Policing Committee’s function is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussions and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the local authority's administrative area and its focus is strategic.

JPC is a forum for addressing matters of detail, it should set priorities and be action orientated (JPC General Orders Oct 2016). Where issues of a local nature arise, they are best addressed at a local level (Community Safety Forum) and can be referred upwards for attention from the (Policing) District Management Committee where required. The issue can be raised at the JPC – but from a wider city-wide policing viewpoint for discussion and action but not as a local issue.

12.1.2 **HELMETS AND HIGH VISUAL JACKETS FOR CYCLISTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 5th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘Could I ask Cork City Council to encourage cyclists to use helmets and high visual jackets when cycling in the interest of health and safety. Encouragement could be used by signage at the Coca Cola Zero Bike Stations, Cork City Council social media platform etc.’

(Proposer: Cllr. G. Keohane 20/218)

The report of the Director of Services stated the Sustainable Transport and Road Safety Awareness Section has recently run the Light Up your Life campaign on Cork City Council’s social media.



This section has also recently updated the Cork City Council's road safety page adding advice for both cyclists and drivers with regards to safer cycling.

As the Coke Zero bike sharing bikes are under the remit of the NTA, a request has been forwarded regarding this and we are currently awaiting a response.

12.1.3 **AUDIT OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 13th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will conduct an audit of its services (including physical, phone and website access) to ensure these are accessible by people with disabilities and report on measures to engage people with disabilities and their representative organisations in policy development that has an impact on disabled people’s lives, such as planning, housing, transport, social inclusion and enterprise.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 20/440)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Community Culture and Placemaking has been linking with Disability Federation Ireland (DFI) for the last 2 years to aid in the hosting of Make Way day in Cork. We support DFI in the setting up of a local organising committee and the rolling out of this event. In 2019 and 2020 the Lord Mayor has launched the Cork City Make Way Day (MWD).

The 2020 MWD was held online in association with the DFI and was kindly chaired by Cllr. Collette Finn. The event was widely advertised via email through our extensive community partners and through the DFI Nationally. 15 people had confirmed their attendance including individual disability advocates, The Westgate foundation, Irish Wheel Chair Association, Enable Ireland, Health Service Executive, DFI, and Cork City Council. The meeting was an open discussion forum and was officially addressed by Lord Mayor, Cllr. Joe Kavanagh and Joanne Murphy (Parent Advocate). Subsequent to this meeting the Make Way Day participants met once more to close off a number of items which arose. At that meeting the decision was made to link with the Cork Access Group so as to avoid duplication and this is currently in process.

Community Culture and Placemaking recently arranged for the European day of disability to be marked by turning the City Hall Purple in association with DFI.

Given that the last audit was undertaken 5 years ago, it would be timely that another audit be undertaken but this should only be done in conjunction with and led by the national disability association and local representatives here in Cork City.

12.1.4 **ESTABLISH A CORK SPORTS MUSEUM**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 13th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council would put plans in place to establish a Cork Sports Museum. In this iconic year of Commemoration , when we have so eloquently commemorated our past from a political perspective and the significant events of 1920 which has forged our State to what it is today, I believe that it would be appropriate to showcase all that is good about Cork from a sporting perspective in physical form in the shape of a Sports Museum located in the City. Sport plays a hugely significant part of the social fabric of Cork and indeed Cork has a very rich history in a wide diversity of sports from a local, national and an international perspective. We should showcase and celebrate the significance and contribution that sport has made to Cork, the individual and team successes and how it has developed and evolved over the decades and beyond. I would hope that this would be a permanent fixture in our City and a home for all sporting history relating to Cork and indeed will hopefully become a viable tourist attraction into the future.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 20/463)

The report of the Director of Services stated the Cork Public Museum currently contains a small amount of sporting artefacts relating to Sonia O’Sullivan and Roy Keane etc. The main Cork GAA artefacts are stored in the GAA museum in Croke Park. Rather than establishing a rival museum to the Cork Public Museum, the sporting section within the museum could be further developed, this will require additional funding to procure items of interest. By doing this it would attract new visitors to the Cork Public Museum and build on the existing goodwill of the museum. Linkages with other sporting artefacts will be strengthened through the wayfinding initiative.

Cork City Council will continue to engage with Fáilte Ireland to appraise proposals that will enhance the visitor experience in Cork.

On the proposal of An tArdmhéara, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion back to the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

12.1.5 **POLICY FOR DEALING WITH ABANDONED BICYCLES IN CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 13th January 2021 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will develop and implement a policy for dealing with abandoned bicycles in Cork City and work with community groups such as Cork Cycling Campaign to assist in that endeavour.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 21/014)

The report of the Director of Services state that in Cork City, while there is not a significant issue with regards to abandoned bikes, Cork City Council has nonetheless commenced a process to design a policy and procedure around the removal of bikes that have been abandoned in public areas across the City. The removal of abandoned bikes is a complex issue and action measures need to be robust, fair and appropriate. It is anticipated that this new policy will be brought to Council in Q2 of 2021.

12.2 **SPORTS AND AMENITY FUND 2021**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, Community Culture & Placemaking on the Sports and Amenity Fund 2021.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the report to the five Local Area Committees for ratification at local level, to be referred for approval at the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 8th March 2021.

13. **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND TOURISM STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 18th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 18th January 2021.

14. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 25th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 25th January 2021.

15. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 25th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 25th January 2021.

16. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 25th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 25th January 2021.

17. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 25th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 25th January 2021.

18. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 2nd FEBRUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 2nd February 2021.

19. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 11th JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 11th January 2021

20. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence as follows:-

- Letters to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth dated 4th February 2021.
- Letter from Clare County Council dated 3rd February 2021.
- Letter from Clare County Council dated 3rd February 2021.
- Letter from Galway County Council dated 26th January 2021.
- Letter from Senator Robbie Gallaher dated 20th January 2021.
- Letter from the Department of Local Government and Heritage dated 18th January 2021.
- Letter from An Bord Pleanála dated 19th January 2021.
- Letter to An Bord Pleanála dated 6th January 2021
- Letter from the Minister for Health dated 18th January 2021.
- Letter to the Minister for Health dated 16th December 2020.
- Letter from the Office of An Taoiseach dated 14th January 2021.
- Letter to An Taoiseach dated 9th December 2020.
- Letter from the Minister of State Community, Development & Charities dated 12th January 2021.
- Letter to An Taoiseach dated 12th November 2020.
- Letter from the Department of Transport dated 14th January 2021.
- Letter to An Taoiseach dated 12th November 2020.
- Letter from the Department of Rural and Community Development dated 13th January 2021.
- Letter to the Minister for State with responsibility for Community Development & Charities dated 16th December 2020.
- Letter from the Department of Finance dated 12th January 2021.
- Letter to the Minister for Finance dated 17th December 2020.
- Letter from the Office of An Taoiseach dated 11th January 2021.
- Email from the Minister of Defence dated 8th January 2021.
- Letter to An Taoiseach dated 9th December 2020.
- Letter from the Department of Transport dated 7th January 2021.
- Letter to the Minister for Transport dated 9th December 2020.
- Letter from the Office of An Taoiseach dated 5th January 2021.
- Letter to An Taoiseach dated 9th December 2020.
- Letter from the Office of An Taoiseach dated 5th January 2021.
- Letter to An Taoiseach dated 9th December 2020.

21. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

22. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

23. **TRAINING**

None received.

24. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

An Chomhairle noted the Chief Executive's Monthly Management reports for November and December 2020.

25. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle noted the motions on Appendix 1, that have been referred to the relevant Committees as determined by the Meetings Administrator, due notice of which has been given.

26. **MOTIONS**

26.1 **PLANS FOR FAMILIES SUFFERING FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

'That this Council write to Tulsa and HSE to invite their representatives to attend a meeting with elected members to discuss the plans and needs for families who are suffering from domestic violence, particularly in light of recent upsurge and their need for appropriate accommodation in light of long term effects on children, and how we can best work together to deliver those needs.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 21/037)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Forde, An Chomhairle approved the motion amended to read as follows:-

'That this Council write to Tusla, the HSE and the Gardaí to invite their representatives to attend a meeting with elected members to discuss the plans and needs for families who are suffering from domestic violence, particularly in light of recent upsurge and their need for appropriate accommodation in light of long term effects on children, and how we can best work together to deliver those needs.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 21/037)

26.2 **LIAISON OFFICE BETWEEN THE HEALTH SERVICE EXECUTIVE AND THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That the Council calls on the government and Minister for Health to setup a liaison office between the Health Service Executive and the National Health Service of Northern Ireland to coordinate their response to the Covid-19 outbreak.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 21/053)

26.3 **HOUSES OF MULTI-OCCUPANCY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call on the Government to put in place legislation on the standards, management and maintenance specific to houses of multi-occupancy.’

(Proposers: Cllr. T. Moloney, Cllr. M. Finn, Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. D. Boyle 21/062)

26.4 **HOUSES OF MULTI-OCCUPANCY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Government to put in place legislation on the standards, management and maintenance specific to houses of multi-occupancy.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 21/069)

26.5 **SUPPORT FOR THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara go bhfuil céad bliain caite ó rith Parlaimint na Breataine ag Westminster an tAcht um Rialú na hÉireann i Mí na Nollag 1920, an tAcht a cheadaigh Críochdheighilt na hÉireann. Cuimhnímid siar ar na héagóirí agus na deighiltí doimhne, agus ar an gcoimhlint a bhfuil an tAcht seo mar chúis leo. Athdhearbhaímid ár dtacaíocht do Chomhaontú Aoine an Chéasta agus don phróiseas polaitiúil a thagann uaidh, lena n-áirítear cúlghairm an Achta um Rialú na hÉireann. Athdhearbhaímid ár dtacaíocht d’fhéinchinntiúchán mhuintir na hÉireann mar atá sé leagtha síos in Airteagal 3.1 de Bhunreacht na hÉireann agus d’Éirinn Aontaithe a bhaint amach “trí mhodhanna síochánta amháin le toiliú thromlach na ndaoine, á chur in iúl go daonlathach, sa dá dhlínse san oileán”. Dá réir sin, éilímid ar Rialtais na hÉireann agus na Breataine go gcuirfidh siad Comhaontú Aoine an Chéasta agus a ndualgais go léir ó thaobh chearta na saoránach i bhfeidhm ina n-iomlán; éilímid ar Rialtas na Breataine go n-aontóidh siad ar dháta a shocrú don reifreann ar Aontú na hÉireann de réir fhorálacha an Chomhaontaithe; éilímid ar Rialtas na hÉireann bheith ag gníomhú ar a shon seo. Táimid réidh mar Chomhairle obair le gach comhlacht reachtúil agus leis an tsochaí i gcoitinne chun an phleánáil agus an t-ullmhú a dhéanamh don reifreann ar Aontú na hÉireann agus do thoradh dearfach sa reifreann.’

‘This Council notes the centenary of the passing by the British Parliament at Westminster of the Government of Ireland Act in December 1920, the Act which provided for the Partition of Ireland. We recall the deep injustices, divisions and conflict caused by this Act. We reiterate our support for the Good Friday Agreement and the political process arising from it, including the revoking of the Government of Ireland Act. We reaffirm our support for the self-determination of the people of Ireland as expressed in Article 3.1 of Bunreacht na hÉireann and for the bringing about of a United Ireland "by peaceful means with the consent of a majority of the people, democratically expressed, in both jurisdictions". Accordingly we call on both the Irish and British governments to fully implement the Good Friday Agreement and all their obligations with regard to the rights of citizens; we call on the British government to agree to set a date for the Irish Unity referendum as provided in the Agreement; we call on the Irish government to work for this outcome. We stand ready as a Council to work with all statutory bodies and with civic society to plan and prepare for the referendum on Irish Unity and for a positive outcome to the referendum.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. H. Cremin 21/071)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, seconded by Comhairleoir H. Cremin, a vote was called for on the approval of the motion where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí M. Nugent, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (3)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane, J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Boyle, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher. (14)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí L. Bogue, D. Forde, S. O’Callaghan. (3)

As those voting against the motion were greater than those voting for, An tArdmhéara declared the vote and the motion defeated.

26.6 **INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment that international trade agreements, such as CETA providing a right to multi-national corporations to sue Ireland outside of the ordinary legal and democratic systems, should be fully and properly scrutinised by the Oireachtas before ratification.’

(Proposers: Cllr. O. Moran Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. D. Boyle, Cllr. L. Bogue 21/074)

26.7 **OLD CORK PRISON**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘Go scríobhfaidh Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí chuig Roinn an Chirt agus chuig an nGníomhaireacht Forbartha Talún le fiosrú má tá aon phlean do shean-phríosún Chorcaí ar Bhóthar na Ráithe Móire. Creideann an Chomhairle go mbeadh aon phlean stráitéiseach don láthair buntáisteach don phobal áitiúil.’

‘That Cork City Council write to the Department of Justice and the Land Development Agency to query if there is a plan for the old Cork Prison on Rathmore Rd. Council believes any strategic plan for the site should be of benefit to the wider local community.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 21/084)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH