

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 10th MAY 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. 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. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. T. Keating, Interim Director of Services, Housing. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Ms. H. O’Riordan, Senior Engineer, Roads & Environment Operations. 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 **ANNUAL MEETING**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that the Annual Meeting of Cork City Council will be held, Friday 18th June 2021, time and venue to be confirmed.

1.2 **CIVIC, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY AWARDS 2021**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle on his nominations for the 2021 Civic Awards as follows:-

Oliver Lynch, in recognition of his commitment to raising funds for Cork University Hospital Charity, Enable Ireland and Dogs for the Disabled and for his determination which is an inspiration to other young people.

Joe Mullane, in recognition of his commitment to youth and community through his work with Mayfield No Name Club.

Michael O'Brien, in recognition of his contribution to Cork boxing through his role as president of Cork County Boxing Board.

Denis O'Donovan, in recognition of his commitment to raising funds for charity through his ink cartridge recycling campaign and for his voluntary work in the community.

Margaret O'Driscoll, in recognition of her commitment to caring for babies and families over her forty-year career as a neonatal midwife.

Pat Stacey, in recognition of his commitment to community and volunteering through

An Chomhairle considered and approved the nominations.

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle on his nomination for the 2021 Culture Award as follows:-

Joseph McCarthy (Joe Mac), in recognition of his contribution to the arts, both in Cork and internationally.

An Chomhairle considered and approved the nomination.

An tArdmhéara further advised An Chomhairle that the Culture, Civic and Community and Voluntary Awards will be broadcast on Cork City Council's YouTube channel on the 26th, 27th and 28th May 2021.

1.3 **ROLL OF HONORARY CITIZENS OF CORK CITY**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that as part of Cork City Councils commemorative programme, an event to enrol the names of Tomás MacCurtain and Terence MacSwiney as Honorary Citizens of Cork City will be held, Friday 11th June 2021, time and venue to be confirmed.

1.4 **VOTE OF BEST WISHES – TADHG KEATING**

An tArdmhéara proposed and An Chomhairle passed a vote of best wishes to Tadhg Keating, Interim Director of Housing, on his pending retirement from Cork City Council.

1.5 **VOTE OF BEST WISHES – COMHAIRLEOIR HENRY CREMIN**

An tArdmhéara proposed and An Chomhairle passed a vote of best wishes to Comhairleoir H. Cremin on his pending retirement, after twelve years on Cork City Council.

2. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

2.1 **PUBLIC TOILET POLICY OPTIONS APPRAISAL DOCUMENT**

The Chief Executive invited the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations to address An Chomhairle on the Public Toilet Policy Options Appraisal Document.

The Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, invited the Chair of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee, Comhairleoir D. Boyle to brief An Chomhairle on the nine proposals outlined in the Public Toilet Policy Options Appraisal Document.

A number of queries were raised by An Chomhairle to which the Director of Services responded.

An Chomhairle agreed to accept the Public Toilet Policy Options Appraisal Document and to review it after six months.

3. **MINUTES**

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

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 12th April 2021.

4. **QUESTION TIME**

4.1 **WEIR AT BALLINCOLLIG REGIONAL PARK**

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

Following on from questions by various Cllr's. over the years to the C.E. on the repairs needed to the weir at Ballincollig Regional Park can the C. E. now update us with a report on what progress has being made in securing funding for this repair work to be carried out and when will we see progress on this.

Has there been any funding available through E.U. grants and has Cork City Council had any success in securing this funding?

REPLY

The Office of Public Works (OPW), in partnership with Cork City and County Councils, is currently progressing the Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme. The issue of Ballincollig Weir, which is in the ownership of the City Council since the boundary extension between Cork County and Cork City in May 2019, has been raised during discussions with the Steering Group. The condition of the weir, and the objectives and requirements for any works to it, will be further discussed by all parties with a view to making a decision on what works should be undertaken as part of the Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme.

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

4.2 **EVENTS CENTRE**

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

Could the CE please update the Council on any progress if at all on the Cork City Event Centre?

REPLY

Cork City Council continues to meet with BAM / Live Nation in order to agree the legal terms on which the public funding will be made available to the project. Substantial progress has been made in recent months and these meetings are now taking place on a more frequent basis in an effort to agree these terms and enable the Developer to proceed to the detailed design phase of the project.

Ann Doherty,
Chief Executive.

4.3 **PUBLIC TOILETS**

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

Would it be possible to investigate the feasibility of building managed public toilets, pay as you go, strategically placed across the city e.g. 2 Cork City Centre, 1 Tramore Valley Park, 1 The Lough, 1 Fitzgerald Park and possible at other spots across the City?

When visiting other Cities across Europe you would often come across these facilities, where there would be a person charging people to use the facilities but also keeping the place clean & stocked for the use of people. Managing the facilities.

REPLY

A very comprehensive Public Toilet Policy Options Appraisal Document is being presented to Council tonight which addresses the issues raised in this question.

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

4.4 **VITA CORTEX & CMP SITES**

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

What is the up to date position in relation to the old Vita Cortex and CMP sites vis a vis redevelopment or housing applications?

REPLY

The former CMP dairy site, Tramore Road, Variation No 6 of the Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021 was made in November 2019, which changed the zoning of this site from its former zoning of 'Light Industrial' to 'Residential, Local Services and Institutional Uses' which facilitates residential uses. The City Council has been engaging with developers in relation to this site in the form of pre-application consultations. These discussions are ongoing, and a planning application for the site is expected in 2021.

The Vita Cortex site, Pearse Road / Kinsale Road, was placed on the Derelict Sites Register in November 2017. Cork City Council has engaged with the site representatives and expects a plan for the future of the site to be provided to the Council in 2021. We understand the sale of this site is due to complete shortly. Cork City Council will continue to engage with the site representatives in relation to future plans for this site.

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

4.5 **INSTALLATION OF SPEED RAMPS**

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

Could I ask City Council to change their policy with regard to the installation of speed bumps/ speed ramps within housing estates. At present the current system takes too long due to public consultation, permission process or whatever label is used within City Council, the decision to install speed bumps/ speed ramps should be let to the discretion of the local engineers, unfortunately for residents, to get a speed

bump/speed ramp installed could take up to three years under the current system, which I think we can all agree is too long.

REPLY

Requests for traffic calming/speed bumps are recorded by Traffic Operations Division and added to the existing list of requests for traffic calming/speed bumps.

Annually, there is a budget allocation of €100,000 provided for the purpose of installing speed ramps across the entire City. This budget usually allows one or two locations per Local Electoral Area to be delivered (depending on the number of ramps required at each location).

As part of the annual Road Works Programme, the Roads Operations Division bring forward to the Members of the Local Area Committees all requests for traffic calming for their area that are on file. This list includes all requests received up to that point in time and can run to a large number of requests. These requests are considered by the Members and locations are selected, by the Members subject, to funds available (detailed above), for delivery as part of that years programme of works.

For the selected locations, legally a Section 38 process must be completed. This involves the advertising, for public consultation, the details of the ramps being proposed and their locations. Following the completion of the public consultation process a Section 38 report is presented to Council for their consideration. If approved the ramps detailed in the Section 38 reports are constructed. This statutory consultation process is a requirement of the 1994 Roads Traffic Act and we cannot deviate from this process.

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

4.6 **REMOVAL OF DOG EXCREMENT**

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

Can I ask the CE what measures the Council are taking to encourage a culture of compliance in relation to the proper removal of dog excrement by people who own dogs, particularly with reference to the South West Ward?

REPLY

Cork City Council takes the issue dog fouling very seriously and has established a Dog Fouling Committee of Council to help tackle the anti-social behaviour of dog fouling .

Earlier this year the Lord Mayor and the Chair of the Dog Fouling Committee jointly launched an enhanced Anti Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign which focuses on

Encouragement, Education and Enforcement to help bring about a change in both the mindset and behaviour of the minority of irresponsible dog owners who allow their dogs to foul and who fail to clean up after them.

This year's campaign included messaging across all of the local radio stations together with advertising across the city's bus shelter network promoting responsible dog ownership. One of the messages promoted as part of this campaign included asking the public to pause for thought and to bring a bag with them to clean up after their dog.

It is important that the message of responsible dog ownership is also impressed upon the next generation of dog owners and The Lord Mayor wrote to every primary school in the City inviting them to participate in this year's primary schools anti dog fouling poster competition. There has been a great response from the schools and it has generated a huge amount of discussion and awareness within the school community which in turn has been brought into the homes of the pupils.

In the coming weeks the Litter Warden Service will be carrying out undercover, out of hours enforcement activities to tackle the problem of dog fouling.

The two pilot dog walking routes introduced in 2019 have proved to be very successful and consideration will be given to replicating this in other of the city if funding for same can be sourced.

It is hoped that through these activities a culture of respect and personal responsibility can be brought about to tackle the issue of dog fouling.

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

4.7 **ENGLISH MARKET ROOF**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if recent assessments have occurred of the roof on the English Market, if repairs are needed, the cost of such repairs and whether solar panels can be installed as part of any renovation of the structure?

REPLY

The roof of the English Market is a combination of complex structures spanning from the Grand Parade to Princes Street.

The main market roof was replaced in C. 1980 and comprises a profiles steel composite deck supported on structural steel trusses in a cantilevered format. Essentially this means that all of the weight of the roof is kept off of the walls and is

born by the central pillars. Consequently in its current form the roof is not suitable for extra weight (including solar/PV).

The Princes Street roof comprises pitched cement slates on timber trusses and arches with a central glazed rooflight section. Again in its current form this would be unsuitable for extra weight.

An assessment of the roof of the English Market was undertaken by consultants in 2018 which determined that it is in need of replacement. This assessment involved an analysis of options for the replacement of all the roof structures, including structural supports. Dependent on the option the cost for the replacement of the roofs was estimated to be in excess of €6million.

We are currently arranging for an update of the assessment and a review of the options with the aim of determining a preferred design solution. Sustainability, including the use of energy generation technologies such as solar/PV will be considered as a part of this exercise.

Paul Moynihan,
Director of Services,
Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

4.8 **PLANNING CONDITIONS – MIDDLE GLANMIRE ROAD SITE**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if the same conditions of planning that applied to the proposed private development 17/37608 at the Middle Glanmire Road will be followed for the current public development taking place on the same site?

REPLY

There are 2 separate planning permission mechanisms.

The Part 8 process for own development by the Local Authority, and the Planning application process for private development.

Middle Glanmire Road Part 8 Planning Approval

This Part 8 planning approval process was progressed by the Housing Directorate, Cork City Council for the development of housing by the Local Authority – and was approved by An Chomhairle on 10th February 2020 (Various internal sections of the council were consulted as part of this process and their conditions included in the Part 8 planning conditions applicable to this development). The Part 8 development approved is a mixed tenure development comprising of the construction of 54 no. houses and all associated site works, all designed taking into account the existing urban architecture, at Middle Glanmire Road, Cork. The proposed works include:

Construction of 54 no. houses –
8 no. 2 bed townhouse
41 no. 3 bed townhouse
5 no. 4 bed townhouse

The housing development is being delivered in accordance with the Council's Part 8 approval and any conditions attached to that as a result of the Part 8 planning process.

17/37608- refers to a separate Planning Application in the Community Culture and Placemaking Directorate. Planning permission was granted to the applicants Murnane O'Shea in March 2018 for 44 dwellings consisting of :

7 no. 4 bed Detached
16 no. 4 bed Semi-detached
11 3 bed Townhouses
8 no. 3 bed Semi-detached houses
2 no. 2 bed townhouses

Various internal sections of the council were consulted and general conditions relating to infrastructure, drainage, roads etc have been attached to this permission

Similar general conditions of principal were attached under the Part 8.

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

4.9 **WASTE COLLECTION**

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

Can the CE report on the responsibilities of local authorities under the 2001 Local Government Act in terms of waste collection, including domestic and commercial, and maintenance of the public realm?

REPLY

The Local Government Act 2001 is the core legislation supporting the structures, powers, functions and duties of local government in Ireland. In addition to the 2001 Act, the operation of local authorities is affected by a range of other legislation dealing with specific services for example, the Waste Management Act of 1996.

Part 19 of the Local Government Act 2001 sets out the powers conferred on Local Authorities to make bye-laws. In addition, section 35 of the Waste Management Act 1996 states that a Local Authority may make a bye-law for the purpose of the proper management of waste or the prevention or control of environmental pollution should it be considered necessary to do so.

In terms of monitoring domestic and commercial waste, cork city council has already introduced bye-laws (Cork City Council Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws 2019) which require proper segregation, storage and presentation of household and commercial waste.

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

4.10 **MARINA PARK**

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

To ask the CE for an update on the progress of Marina Park?

REPLY

Works on Marina Park Phase 1 resumed on March 22nd following the COVID – 19 lockdown on January 8th 2021.

The revised completion date is now late August/early September with an expected opening date of late September/early October.

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

4.11 **INCIDENT AT RECYCLING SITE, CHURCHFIELD**

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

To ask the CE to report on the serious incident at John F. Connolly Road, Churchfield which saw a fire break out at the National Recycling Site, the report to include:

Schedule of recent inspections of the facility, record of any issues highlighted and any engagement by the City Council since with the owners of the site in question?

REPLY

Following notification of the incident, a member of the Environment Section staff attended on site while the fire department were actively putting the fire out at National recycling.

The purpose of this attendance was to ascertain what occurred and try to understand the causes.

An investigation is currently underway by the Environment Section in relation to the fire on the site.

I can confirm that the site is a licenced facility and that inspections took place on 9th and 14th April 2021.

Since the fire, the Environment Section have been engaging with the owners with a view to them undertaking a number of actions, including a clean-up of the site and infrastructure.

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

4.12 **RAILS PROJECTS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive :

Given the density of population and the current infrastructure that exists in Blackpool/Kilbarry area and the increase of significant housing developments on the North West and North East Ward

To outline:

- A) The progress of discussions with the NTA and Irish Rail in relation to a range of rail projects.
- B) In particular discussions bringing forward the development of a station at Kilbarry /Blackpool along with sustainable transport (walking, cycling, bus) to Kent station which is reflected in the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Study and its inclusion in the City Development Plan.
- C) Update on meetings with Irish Rail to start the assessment of funding and funding source that favours suburban rail particularly in the Blackpool area.

REPLY

Discussions are ongoing with Irish Rail and the NTA in relation to funding of transport infrastructure, including suburban rail, in the Cork Metropolitan Area. These take place both through the CASP Transport Sub Committee and bilaterally with both organisations.

The Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (CMATS) includes an objective of developing additional suburban rail stations in Cork City, including Kilbarry / Blackpool.

Iarnród Éireann (IÉ) are appointing a consultant in May, 2021 to deliver a Strategic Assessment Report and a Concept, Feasibility & Options Study for the Cork Area Commuter Rail programme. In consultation with NTA and Cork City Council, IÉ will detail the sequence and extent of works to be delivered in this programme. The requirements for new stations will be defined in the study.

IÉ has been investing in the rail services in Cork. Recently IÉ completed works to provide for the reorientation and access to Kent Station with the provision of a new entrance on Horgan's Quay, bringing the station entrance closer to the City Centre. Works on Cork Kent Station Re-Signalling Project. Works are expected to complete in 2021.

The project is an investment of €8.1m. When completed will improve the safety and reliability of operations in Cork Station and enable signalling integration with the National Traffic Control Centre in the future. IÉ is in discussions with the NTA to accelerate the CMATS programme. IÉ has applied for funding through the EU Recovery and Resilience Fund to advance track and signalling works to provide for capacity enhancement.

While COVID-19 has seen a significant impact on passenger journeys in the past year, IÉ expect to see a resurgence in passenger numbers to pre-COVID-19 levels and growth returning from 2024.

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

5. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

5.1 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT BRAMBLE COTTAGES, OLD SPANGLE HILL, FARRANREE, CORK**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Collins, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, in accordance with Section 179 (4) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed residential development at Bramble Cottages, Old Spangle Hill, Farranree, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated 30th April 2021.

5.2 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: WASHINGTON COURT, ANNE STREET, CORK - GALTAN CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 22nd April 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Galtan CLG in respect of the provision of one two bed unit at 7 Washington Court, Anne Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, 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 €233,351 be granted to Galtan CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one two bed unit at 7 Washington Court, Anne Street, Cork.”

5.3 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: SUNDAYS WELL ROAD, CORK - GALTAN CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 22nd April 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Galtan CLG in respect of the provision of 4 one bed units at 166, Sundays Well Road, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Colins, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Ryan, 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 €659,262 (previously approved €554,663) to include the payment of the additional approved funding by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage be granted to Galtan CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 4 one bed units of accommodation at 166 Sundays Well, Road, Cork.”

5.4 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: ST. VINCENT’S PLACE, BLARNEY STREET, CORK - GALTAN CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 22nd April 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Galtan CLG in respect of the provision of one 2 bed property at 13 St. Vincent’s Place, Blarney Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, 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 €228,826 (previously approved €225,500) to include the payment of the Development Allowance be granted to Galtan CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one 2 bed property at 13 St. Vincent’s Place, Blarney Street, Cork.”

5.5 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: LOWER JOHN STREET, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 22nd April 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of 1, one bed unit at Apartment 221 Lower John Street, 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 €174,221 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 1, one bed unit at Apartment 221 Lower John Street, Cork.”

5.6 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: UPPER JOHN STREET, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 22nd April 2021 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of 1, two bed unit at Apartment 13 Roman Court, Upper John Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, 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 €190,153 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 1, two bed unit at Apartment 13 Roman Court, Upper John Street, Cork.”

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.

5.7 **ITEM DEFERRED FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD, 12th APRIL 2021**

RENAME ROAD FROM WESTERN ROAD TO WELLINGTON BRIDGE

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 1st April 2021 on renaming the road from Western Road to Wellington Bridge.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the renaming of the road from Western Road to Wellington Bridge to the Centenary Commemoration 2019-2023 Steering Committee.

6. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 4th MAY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 4th May 2021.

6.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31st March**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 31st March 2021.

6.2 **MOTION HELD IN COMMITTEE**

6.2.1 **IMPLEMENT WORK SYSTEMS WHICH RECOGNISE ‘RIGHT TO DISCONNECT’**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, People & Organisation Development, dated 1st April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That the CE will ensure that Cork City Council implements work systems which recognise the right to disconnect.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 21/117)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the People & Organisation Directorate has reviewed the new WRC Code of Practice for Employers and Employees on the Right to Disconnect. There are three key rights in the Code which comes into effect from 1st April 2021:

- The right of an employee to not have to routinely perform work outside their normal working hours.
- The right not to be penalised for refusing to attend to work matters outside of normal working hours.
- The duty to respect another person’s right to disconnect (e.g., by not routinely emailing or calling outside normal working hours).

Cork City Council is committed to develop and issue guidance to managers and staff for the implementation of appropriate mechanisms to ensure adherence to the Code of Practice.

7. **PARTY WHIPS – 26th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 26th April 2021.

7.1 **MINUTES**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the paper received from the AILG on the establishment and governance of Local Authority & External Companies/Bodies that Elected Members may be appointed to. The paper examines the duties, roles, responsibilities, and functions which apply to local authority elected members and executive staff who are nominated and appointed as directors of outside companies.

8. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 19th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 19th April 2021.

On the request of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle agreed that a briefing on the Lee to Sea Greenway would be held in the coming weeks.

8.1 **PARKING PERMITS IN CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 15th April 2021, regarding Parking Permits in Cork City.

8.2 **MOTIONS**

8.2.1 **PLAN FOR NORTHSIDE CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure & Development Directorate, dated 19th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council, separate to the Mobility Plan, drafts a plan for northside cycling infrastructure with an orientation to link the City Centre with Blackpool, the North Ring Road and Ballyvolane. All areas will see a significant population increase over the next five years with approved social housing plans underway and alternatives to driving has never been more urgent.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Ryan 21/041)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Cork Cycle Network Plan sets out the proposed cycle network for Cork City. The Plan incorporates detailed proposals for additional and upgraded cycling infrastructure (including routes connecting Blackpool, the North Ring Road and Ballyvolane to the City Centre and broader City). The implementation of the plan is a key part of the recently adopted Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (CMATS) with improvements to be delivered via multimodal projects under the Bus Connects Programme (i.e. including bus lanes, cycle lanes and pedestrian facilities) as well as stand alone improvement schemes.

While much of the plan has to be implemented some progress has been made with new cycle and pedestrian facilities being provided or planned for delivery in the areas referenced incl Ballyvolane Ph 1 (Ballyhooley Rd/ Gordons Hill – NRR), Ballyvolane ph 2 (Fox and Hounds), MacCurtain St PTI (incl Camden Quay, St Patricks Quay, Penrose Quay, Christy Ring Bridge, Merchants Quay Leitrim St etc). The latter scheme is scheduled to go tender in Q2 2021 as planned.

In addition, as per the most recent update on Cork Bus Connects, a number of design teams have recently been appointed to develop upgrade proposals for the radial bus

corridors. These corridors include routes connecting Mayfield, Ballyvolane Dublin Hill/Blackpool and Hollyhill /Apple to City Centre and the design proposals will consider safe cycle and pedestrian facilities as well as supports for the efficient running of bus services. Related proposals will be subject to extensive public consultation when available later this year.

In addition to the foregoing funding was also recently secured by Council for the development of a number of cycle and pedestrian improvement schemes relating to the areas referred to above incl Mayfield to Glen cycleway and Knaps Square quietway. The scheme proposals for both projects will developed and presented in the coming months. The Council continues to seek further supports for the other pedestrian /cycle improvements envisaged in the Cycle Plan and it is expected that the level of activity in the planning and delivery of such schemes will increase further in the period ahead in line with the additional capital grant funding to be provided for sustainable transport improvements.

8.2.2 **LOW COST SCHOOL STREET INTERVENTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Directors of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 19th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council using data gathered from schools for covid19 traffic management create a list of schools that are suitable for low cost "school street" interventions and that this list is provided to all LACs in order that state funding may be applied for and that green schools and cork healthy cities may be consulted with for piloting same.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 21/079)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the NTA have made funding available for Safe to Schools Programme in 2021. In addition, as part of the Active Travel Initiative, staff will be provided to deliver such programmes. These appointments are awaited and once in place, feasibility, design and delivery of the programme can commence. In the interim data from the engagement with schools for Covid 19 traffic management is being recorded to assist with the Safe to Schools Programme.

8.2.3 **CAR PARKING TASK FORCE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Directors of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 19th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council investigate creating a car parking task force modelled on the anti dog fouling committee given the level of safety issues and damage to infrastructure this pattern of behaviour is creating on a systemic level.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 21/080)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as requested, the procedures to establish a car parking task force will be investigated and a further response will be issued to the committee in due course.

8.2.4 **BAN ON SULKY RACING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 19th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council introduces an immediate sulky racing ban on all public roads and parks.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 21/104)

The report of the Director of Services stated that to quote from a Dáil Éireann debate on 10th Dec 2020 on the private members bill - The Prohibition of Sulky Racing Bill 2018, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine stated. “the use of sulkies or any other horse-drawn vehicles, including on public roads, is a legitimate activity provided it is done in a safe manner and having due care and consideration for other road users and the well-being of the animals involved in and, in particular, in compliance with any relevant legislation. The use of sulkies on public roads specifically, as with the use of all vehicles, including animal drawn vehicles in governed by the relevant provision of the Roads Acts and the Road Traffic Acts..... The Roads Act 1993 requires anyone intending to hold, organise or promote a road race to give at least one month’s notice in writing to the road authority and to the Garda Síochána. The road authority may then prohibit or impose conditions on such races. Anyone who contravenes the requirement to give notice or adhere to such prohibition or conditions is guilty of an offence. Enforcement of these provisions, as with law enforcement generally, is a matter for the Garda Síochána”. This bill was subsequently defeated on 16 December 2020.

8.2.5 **BYE LAWS FOR PARKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 19th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council consider the making of bye-laws, being considered by other local authorities, to discourage the parking of motor vehicles on public footpaths, bringing about greater awareness of the damage caused by this activity, educating drivers to cease its practice and where necessary to levy on the spot fines for persistent offenders.’

(Proposers: Cllr. D. Boyle, Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. L. Bogue 21/119)

The report of the Director of Services stated that in accordance with the section 199 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 2001 “a byelaw may not be made under this subsection for a purpose as respects which provision for that particular purpose is made by or under any other enactment or may be made under such enactment.”

Section 36 of the Roads Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations 1997 provides that: “(1) Save as otherwise provided for in these regulations and subject to article 5, a vehicle shall not be parked on a public road at a location, in a manner or for a purpose referred to in this article.

(2) (i) on a footway, a grass margin or a median strip.” A footway is defined in Section 2(1) of the Roads Act 1993 and “means that portion of any road associated with a roadway which is provided primarily for use by pedestrians.”

In circumstances where the issue raised is already provided for under Roads Traffic (Traffic and Parking) Regulations 1997, section 199(2)(b) prohibits Cork City Council from making bye-laws in respect of the same issue.

This offence can be enforced by An Garda Síochána or the Parking Enforcement Team of Cork City Council. In accordance with the governing legislation the system deployed by Cork City Council is based on Fixed Charge Penalty Notices (FCPN). During 2020, 1,270 FCPNs were issued for parking on a footpath.

In 2020 a campaign was also undertaken to encourage drivers to park legally and safely and not to interfere or endanger other road users including pedestrians and cyclists. A similar campaign will be undertaken during 2021.

8.2.6 **POLICY FOR CHARGING POINTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 19th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘This this Council instigate a policy on a preferred number, type and location of car charging points to be sited within its administrative area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 21/120)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as stated at previous SPC meetings it was intended over the coming months that Traffic Operations would review the current demand for EV charging points on public roads, the likely demands over the coming years, how the infrastructure is to be deployed and the optimum parking model to be implemented to meet future needs. The report further stated that a guideline for the future deployment of EV charging would be developed following this analysis and this would form the basis of changing the parking network over time. It is important that any infrastructure installed in Cork is compatible with and complimentary to other infrastructure which is being installed around the Country. Nationally there is a CCMA subcommittee looking at the installation challenges of EV charging points in Ireland. Issues to be addressed include who installs and maintains the infrastructure, agreeing charging mechanisms and costs for usage, installation locations and densities as well as the appropriate technology to use (as there are different types and different specifications). Cork City Council is awaiting the outcome of this review before commencing our process of putting in place a local guideline on EV Charging Infrastructure.

9. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 19th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 19th April 2021.

9.1 **CORK HEALTHY CITIES ACTION PLAN PHASE VII 2020-2030**

An Chomhairle considered and noted that the Healthy Cities Co-Ordinator outlined the primary objectives of the Cork Healthy Cities Action Plan.

9.2 **COMMUNITY AND PUBLICATION HERITAGE GRANT SCHEMES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 19th April 2021 on the Community and Publication Heritage Grant Schemes.

9.3 **MOTIONS**

9.3.1 **CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 4th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would reflect the following in the upcoming city development plan. Streets outside of the island of the city centre would be co-zoned retail and residential. There are far too many streets with vacant retail/commercial ground floor premises and because of planning restrictions they cannot be converted to much needed residential units. Barrack Street, Douglas Street, Shandon Street etcetera and all the streets surrounding them as an example. Retail should be focused on the island of the city and the surrounding city streets should be very much focused on residential.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill, Cllr. D. Boylan, Cllr. G. Kelleher, Cllr. J. Kavanagh, Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, Cllr. D. Forde 21/095)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the process to review the City Development Plan will be published towards the middle of this year. This will include development objectives for the City Centre and surrounding areas that will address issues relating to land use. Cork City Council will be actively working to achieve the objectives of the City Development Plan once it is completed.

9.3.2 **FUNDING FOR A CITY RESIDENTIAL CONVERSION PILOT SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 10th April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would finance/borrow sufficient funds to conduct a city residential conversion pilot scheme. For far too long shop owners have been told to convert their upper floors to residential units. Some incentives have been made available however, we believe not enough. CCC should lead by example and purchase a 3/4 story building in the city centre (if there are non in its ownership) convert the upper floors while leaving the ground floor for rental. A template of delivery, cost, planning issues, construction issues, and affordability would then be available for the public to use. Any shortcomings can be dealt with by the Council and if government intervention is needed (re introduction to section 72) a very strong case can be put to government by Cork City Council. As the country’s second city we have a responsibility to protect our city centre and as we all know city centre living is crucial if the fabric of the city centre is to survive and thrive.

(Proposers: Cllr. D. Cahill, Cllr. D. Boylan, Cllr. G. Kelleher, Cllr. J. Kavanagh, Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, Cllr. D. Forde 21/096)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has previously purchased and enabled the development of properties throughout the City, for example No 1 Lapps Quay, St Peter’s Church, St Luke’s Church, The Boule House, Christ Church. The Council will continue this, with plans progressing for other high-profile buildings in the city. All delivery options will be considered. Cork City Council has appointed KPMG to prepare a City Centre Economic Revitalizations Study that will assess further innovative solutions to addressing underutilized buildings, dereliction, and the fabric of the city. This will form an action plan for the Council over a five-year period. Delivery mechanisms, like the one proposed, will be considered as part of this assessment. Where resources are available, the Council will implement the recommendations of this plan, and other viable solutions to support improved vibrancy in the city.

10. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 20th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 20th April 2021.

10.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, on Housing for February 2021.

11. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 26th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 26th April 2021.

11.1 **TRAFFIC CALMING AND RESURFACING AT CROAGHTAMORE SQUARE AND LOUGH VIEW TERRACE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, and the Director of Services, Community,

Culture & Placemaking Directorate, dated 18th March 2021, on the following motion:-

‘In light of impending upheaval to existing living, and mindful of increased traffic and use of an area already beset with speeding, that traffic calming and resurfacing of paths, roadways be carried out at Croaghtamore Square, Lough View Terrace etc. with the funds coming from the development levies attached to nearby student accommodation, to ensure some community benefit accrues to existing residents.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 21/089)

The report of the Director of Services stated that requests for traffic calming are recorded by Traffic Operations and Croaghtamore Square and Lough View Terrace have been added to the list of requests. Annually Roads Maintenance bring forward to the Members of the Area Committees all requests for traffic calming and locations are selected by the Members subject to funds being available.

Roads Maintenance can assess roads and footpaths in the locality for maintenance, or potentially for inclusion in the 2022 footpath and road resurfacing contracts.

Section 48(1) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) enables a planning authority, when granting permission under Section 34 of the Act, to include conditions requiring the payment of a contribution in respect of public infrastructure and facilities benefitting development in the area of Cork City Council and that is provided, or that it is intended will be provided by or on behalf of the Council.

Development contributions received by the Council for a particular development are not assigned to works in the area of the development itself, such as the traffic calming and resurfacing of paths and roadways outlined above. These monies are allocated to citywide capital projects agreed by the Council under the three classes of public infrastructure development below:-

Class 1 : Roads, transportation infrastructure and facilities

Class 2 : Stormwater management

Class 3 : Parks, recreation, amenity and community facilities

An Chomhairle further agreed that a report on development contributions would be prepared for the next meeting of the Finance & Estimates Committee.

12. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 26th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 26th April 2021.

13. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 26th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 26th April 2021.

14. **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its special meeting held, 22nd April 2021.

15. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 26th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 26th April 2021.

16. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th April 2021.

17. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 12th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 12th April 2021.

18. **CENTENARY COMMEMORATION 2019-2023 STEERING COMMITTEE – 12th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted to minutes of the Centenary Commemoration 2019-2023 Steering Committee from its meeting held, 12th April 2021.

18.1 **MOTIONS**

18.1.1 **NAME DEVELOPMENT AT GERALD GRIFFIN AVENUE AFTER DONAL O'CALLAGHAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council name the new development at Gerald Griffin Street, Gerald Griffin Avenue (was Peacock Lane) as it is the site where Lord Mayor 1920, Donal O'Callaghan was born in 1891 at 1 Factory Lane, next to Peacock Lane, off Gerald Griffin Street.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 20/117)

19. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

20. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

21. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

22. **TRAINING**

None received.

23. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive's Monthly Management report for March 2021.

24. **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.

25. **MOTIONS**

25.1 **ALL ISLAND CITIZEN'S ASSEMBLY ON EDUCATION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion noting the concerns of Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy, T. Tynan, and F. Ryan:-

'That Cork City Council would request from Government that they would investigate if there is a willingness for an all island citizen's assembly on education.'

(Proposers: Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. O. Moran, Cllr. L. Bogue, Cllr. D. Boyle 21/174)

25.2 **SUPPORT FOR FAMILY CARERS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'Cork City Council recognises that there are 500,000 family carers across Ireland who work unpaid hours to care for and support their loved ones and believes current financial support is nowhere near enough. Therefore, Council supports calls for: prioritising family carers in the Covid-19 vaccine roll out giving family carers the financial support, they need, including increasing eligibility criteria and payments of the Carer's Allowance, extending Carer's Benefit to the self-employed, helping family carers struggling with energy bills and guaranteeing other key financial supports that families need the resumption of Day Services which provide crucial support and relief for families, build up respite capacity including for overnights and create an Emergency Talk Therapy Fund. Council acknowledges that many family carers are exhausted and need a break and these measures if implemented will give some respite.'

‘Aithníonn Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí go bhfuil 500,000 cúramóirí teaghlaigh trasna na hÉireann a oibríonn uaireanta neamhíochta chun aire agus tacaíocht a thabhairt dá ndaoine muinteartha agus creideann an Chomhairle nach bhfuil a dtacaíocht reatha airgeadais sách maith i ndóthain. Dá bhrí sin, tacaíonn an Chomhairle le héilimh: go dtabharfar tús áite do chúramóirí teaghlaigh i rolladh amach an vacsaín Covid-19 go dtabharfar an tacaíocht airgeadais do chúramóirí teaghlaigh atá de dhíth orthu, lena n-áirítear critéir cháilitheachta agus íocaíochta níos fearr den liúntas cúramóra, go leathnófar an sochar cúramóra go daoine féinfhostaithe, go gcabhrófar le cúramóirí teaghlaigh atá ag streachailt le billí fuinnimh agus go gcinnteofar na tacaíochtaí airgeadais atá de dhíth ar theaghlaigh. go n-atosófar Seirbhísí Lae a thugann tacaíocht riachtanach agus faoiseamh ar fáil do theaghlaigh, go méadófar Toilleadh Faoisimh, sealanna oíche san áireamh, agus go gcruthófar Ciste Éigeandála Teiripe Chainte. Aithníonn an Chomhairle go bhfuil a lán cúramóirí teaghlaigh traochta agus go bhfuil briseadh uathu agus go dtabharfaidh na beartais seo píosa faoisimh, má chuirfear i bhfeidhm iad.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. H. Cremin, Cllr. K. Collins 21/175)

25.3 **CCTV VEHICLE REGISTRATION TECHNOLOGY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council request the Minister for local Government to introduce a special legislation to allow Local Authorities to introduce CCTV vehicle registration technology and drone technology to tackle illegal dumping throughout local authorities.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 21/177)

25.4 **CHANGE COIN DESIGN**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call upon the Government, in particular the Taoiseach, the Tánaiste, the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Transport, to consider changing the design of the national (obverse) side of Irish Euro 50c, €1 and €2 coins from the Brian Boru Harp to the names and images of Constance Markievicz, Michael Collins and James Connolly as a way of commemorating the centenary of the struggle for Irish independence and the establishment of an independent, democratic, Irish State.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 21/187)

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

FOR: Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane, M. Nugent, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, D. Forde, M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. O’Callaghan, F. Kerins, D. Canty, C. Finn, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (18)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, F. Ryan, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, C. Kelleher. (7)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí J. Sheehan, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond. (3)

As those voting in favour of the motion were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried and the motion approved.

25.5 **ACCESS TO INDEPENDENT LEGAL ADVICE AND PLANNING CONSULTANTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘This Council calls upon the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to make provision in law for elected members of Local Government to have access to independent legal advice in the discharge of their duties either through the office of the Chief State Solicitor or otherwise; and in addition to have provision made in law for elected members of Local Government to have funded access to independent planning consultants to support them in the delivery of better Local Government.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 21/193)

25.6 **VACANT HOUSING PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘This Council write to and requests from the Government that they fund the Vacant Housing Programme 100% to have the greatest impact on the housing voids in Cork City. It is in the government’s interest that Cork City Council complete all void houses in the Cork City area as it will mean they are paying less direct monies in rent allowance/HAP/RAS. The money that Cork City Council saves if the government pay 100% of the cost of the Vacant Housing Programme could be ring fenced for housing maintenance (I believe this is in excess of one million yearly).’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 21/195)

25.7 **FORMAL PARTNERSHIP WITH AN AFRICAN COUNTRY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs asking him to explore the possibility of Ireland establishing a formal partnership with an African country with a view to developing closer, mutually-beneficial administrative, cultural and economic links. It is envisaged that such a partnership could provide a strong framework under which cities like Cork and other cities and counties throughout Ireland could look to develop their own links and possibly work towards a more formal sister city/twin city relationship at some point in the future.’

(Proposers: Cllr. G. Kelleher, Cllr. L. Bogue, Cllr. J. Sheehan, Cllr. D. Boyle 21/211)

25.8 **LEGISLATION TO BAN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion noting Comhairleoir D. Cahill's objection to it:-

'That Cork City Council write to government in support of legislation to be introduced to ban REITS (Real Estate Investment Trusts) and institutional investors from purchasing residential property en masse in old and new developments.'

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Ryan 21/212)

25.9 **IMPACT OF SCRAMBLERS AND QUAD BIKES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council recognises the impact that scramblers and quad bikes have had in areas of Cork City North West and North East, that the Council write to the Garda Commissioner, and to the government, requesting these LEAs be included in the targeted areas under the new community-based response to the misuse of scramblers and quad bikes initiatives, and offering support in identifying suitable areas for the repair and practice to take place.'

'Go n-aithníonn Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí an tionchar atá ag rothair streachailte agus cuadrothair in áiteanna in iar- agus oirthuaisceart Chathair Chorcaí, agus go scríobhfaidh an Chomhairle chuig Coimisinéir na nGardaí agus chuig an rialtas, ag lorg go gcuirfean na hUTA seo san áireamh sna limistéir shonraithe faoi na tionscnaimh nua ar fhreagairt cheantar-bhunaithe do mhíúsáid rothar streachailte agus cuadrothar, ag tabhairt tacaíochta chun limisteir oiriúnacha a aithint ina dtarlóidh an deisiú agus cleachtadh.'

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins 21/218)

25.10 **BI-LINGUAL PACKAGING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council calls on the Government to do a feasibility study regarding the provision of bi-lingual packaging on consumer goods for sale in Ireland.'

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 21/224)

25.11 **MATERNITY CARE RESTRICTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council calls on the HSE to end maternity care restrictions as soon as possible and recognise the importance of birth partners during pregnancy.'

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 21/225)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Finn, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle approved the motion amended to read as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the HSE South and CUMH to end maternity care restrictions as soon as possible and recognise the importance of birth partners during pregnancy.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 21/225)

25.12 **PATENTS ON THE COVID 19 VACCINE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council, in view of the Covid pandemic, calls on the Government to support the waiving of patents on the Covid 19 vaccine in the EU and worldwide and would write to the Minister for Health and Children asking him to pursue same at EU level.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 21/229)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle further agreed that a copy of the Meetings Administrator’s letter to the Department of An Taoiseach would be issued to all Cork MEPs through the office of the Lord Mayor.

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH