

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12th APRIL 2021

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, 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.
APOLOGIES	Comhairleoir F. Ryan.
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. 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 **PRINCE PHILIP, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle of his intention to write a letter of condolence to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the death of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

An tArdmhéara acknowledged the role Prince Philip played in Queen Elizabeth’s historic State Visit to Ireland in May 2011.

1.2 **2021 COMMEMORATION FUND**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle approved the allocation of €45,700 to ten projects under the third tranche of the 2021 Commemoration fund.

1.3 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BRIEFING**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that on foot of Comhairleoir D. Forde's motion on domestic violence (21/037) considered at the ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 8th February 2021, TUSLA, the HSE and the Gardaí have been invited to brief An Chomhairle on domestic violence, date to be confirmed.

1.4 **EIRGRID BRIEFING**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that the Eirgrid briefing, scheduled for Thursday 29th April 2021 has been postponed, and will be re-scheduled at a later date.

1.5 **LETTER TO THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that he has written a letter to the Minister for Justice, Helen McEntee, in support of An Garda Síochána receiving Covid19 vaccination as a group, rather than by age as is current practice.

1.6 **LETTER TO AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that he has written a letter to Chief Superintendent, Barry McPolin, and other high-level Gardaí thanking An Garda Síochána for their huge efforts during the Covid19 pandemic and in particular over the Easter weekend.

2. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

No items raised.

3. **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and noted the Draft Annual Report 2020.

4. **MINUTES**

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

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 8th March 2021.

5. **QUESTION TIME**

5.1 **GARVEYS BRIDGE**

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

Can the CE provide a summary of who Garvey's Bridge, Redforge Road, Blackpool is named after and why?

REPLY

The City Council has no records in relation to the naming of Garvey's Bridge.

I have made contact with Irish Rail in relation to the matter and they have indicated that there are a small number of railway bridges throughout the network (on both open and closed lines) that are named after families, such as appears to be the case with Garveys Bridge. These are generally associated with families whose residence/land was given access across the railway by the bridge. The likelihood is that Garvey's Bridge would have borne the name from the time of the opening of the line.

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

5.2 **GRAVEYARDS**

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

To ask the CE:

What is the city's strategic plan for the filling of graveyards over the next number of years in Cork City.

Could the Manager outline:

- a) How many graves are currently available for sale in Cork City?
- b) How many of these plots are in the pre-existed old Cork City area, How many transferred from Cork City Council?
- c) What is the predicted time scale of the amount of plots being sold?
- d) Can you please outline the cost of plots at each of the City Council graveyards?
- e) What intention does the City have going forward to either plan strategically for new graveyards or what investment have they put aside for new graveyards in the city?

REPLY

- a) There are approx. 9,000 plots available in Cork City Council managed Cemeteries at present.
- b) There are 300 plots in St Catherines Cemetery Kilcully and 1,417 plots in St Michaels Blackrock. There are a further 7,283 available in 4 of the 9 cemeteries that transferred from Cork County Council.
- c) There is adequate provision of new plots in St Michaels Blackrock, St Senans Tower, St Mary's Curraghkippane and St James Chetwynd. There are plans being developed to expand St Catherine's Cemetery substantially which will be subject to a Part 8 Planning application later this year.
- d) The cost of an inside plot is €1,830 with an outside path plot costing €2,030.
- e) There is adequate provision across the City in existing graveyards to cater for burials going forward, with a mix of burials taking place annually in new plots and existing plots. There are plans to expand St Catherine's Cemetery next year, subject to the successful completion of a Part 8 process. St James Cemetery can cater for future demand in the South West of the City and has significant expansion potential which can be developed as and when required. The option of an appropriate burial space for urns within existing cemeteries will be explored in the medium term.

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

5.3 **DERELICT PROPERTY HILLSIDE PINECROFT GRANGE**

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

That a full up to date report is furnished in relation to the above long term vacant property. Outlining (a) council are now in a position to proceed to CPO, (b) outline levies on the property (c) engineer report and (d) what engagement has taken place between council and owner(s) or representatives of property.

REPLY

The City Council has made contact with a representative of the site, there are ongoing negotiations and discussions in relation to the sale of this site.

There are previous Engineer's reports on this site but a more recent assessment of the site will need to take place.

Currently this site is also being reviewed as a possible site for compulsory purchase. This necessitates a review by a number of departments within the Council to complete

a Business Case Assessment. This will assist in identifying the development potential and viability of undergoing such a process.

The City Council is committed to addressing areas of dereliction and to foster ongoing positive relationships with site owners to assist in the removal of dereliction.

In some cases owners of sites do not engage with the Council and this can affect finding a solution to remove dereliction but it is not insurmountable.

This site as a derelict site has been invoiced for Derelict Sites Levies.

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

5.4 **REIMAGINING PUBLIC SPACES SCHEME**

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

Can the CE report on the Government's Reimagining Public Spaces Scheme?
Is the Council intending to apply for funding and have locations been considered?

REPLY

There are currently four elements to the scheme that Cork City Council are pursuing:

1. Outdoor dining supports for businesses. This is a Fáilte Ireland scheme that provides businesses with grant of up to €4000 / 75% of eligible costs of outdoor dining furniture. This will be administered by Cork City Council, the details of which will be posted the week of 12th April, 2021.
2. Fáilte Ireland is providing each local authority €2000,000 grant to support infrastructure for outdoor dining. Cork City Council is evaluating proposals in accordance with the Fáilte Ireland criteria i.e. impact for business and tourism.
3. This Fáilte Ireland scheme is a minimum of €250,000 aimed at improving animation of the city through lighting, murals, planting etc. Cork City Council is considering options in relation to this that will maximise impact for the city, in accordance with the Fáilte Ireland criteria.
4. Outdoor public space scheme where the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Sports and Media is providing €250,000 to provide infrastructure for outdoor public space in one location in the city. Sites are being considered in terms of impact, access, alignment with long term strategy and speed of delivery.

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

5.5 **EVENTS CENTRE**

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

Can the CE give an update on the proposed Event Centre for Cork, particularly an assurance that Government funding committed to the project remains in place and that all parties are still meeting on the project?

REPLY

Government Funding committed to the project remains in place and all parties are meeting on a regular basis to agree a Funding Agreement so that detailed design to be carried out by the Developer can commence.

Ann Doherty,
Chief Executive.

5.6 **BREAKDOWN OF EXPECTED HOUSING, CRECHES, PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN NEXT 5 – 10 YEARS**

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

Considering the expected growth in the population in Cork City over the coming years, we are going to need a substantial increase in the levels of housing, creches, primary schools and secondary schools in all areas across Cork City.

Can the CE tell me what actions have Cork City Council put in place to meet these expected needs and can I receive a breakdown of expected housing, creches, primary schools and secondary schools in different areas across the City in the next 5 – 10 years please?

REPLY

Cork City Council is in the process of preparing the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028. The Draft Plan will be on public display in June, however a period of consultation on the Draft Plan will commence with Members in May.

The Draft Plan will set out a growth strategy for the City which will include a sub-city breakdown of population and housing for the six-year Plan period, based on the population projections for Cork City set out in the National Planning Framework and Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

The Draft Plan will require placemaking and community development to be central components of residential growth. Schools are an essential part of sustainable, liveable communities. As part of the preparatory work for the Draft Plan, the Development Plan team in the Strategic and Economic Development Directorate have been liaising with the Department of Education on the future requirements for schools in the City. Proposed locations for schools, where these are available, will be included in the Draft

Plan. The current City Development Plan includes flexible land use zonings which facilitate school and community development in many areas, and the Draft Plan will continue this approach.

In relation to crèches and childcare facilities, national planning guidelines require all developments of more than 75 residential units to provide childcare facilities. The current Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021 also includes requirements for new large employers to provide on-site childcare facilities. The Draft Plan will include proposed development objectives for securing the delivery of crèches and childcare facilities.

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

5.7 **WEIR AT BALLINCOLLIG REGIONAL PARK**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir H. Cremin was deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 10th May 2021:-

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?

5.8 **SAFE ROUTES OF SCHOOL SCHEME**

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

To ask the CE if any applications have been made for funding under the safe routes to school scheme in 2020 or 2021?

REPLY

An application was made to the NTA for funding for the Safe to Schools Programme in 2021. In response the NTA have allocated €500,000 to Cork City Council for this programme. No funding was applied for under this scheme in 2020.

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

5.9 **TREES OFFICER**

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

To ask the Chief Executive the current situation on recruiting a Trees Officer for this Council and whether terms of reference exist for how this person is to be deployed?

REPLY

The Council is required to obtain sanction from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage prior to filling any new post. Officials from the Operations (Environment and Roads) and People and Organisation Development Directorates have completed all relevant documentation in regard to the post of Tree Officer and are awaiting a response from the Department.

To ensure that the Council can prioritise the filling of the post on receipt of sanction, all recruitment documentation has been prepared and the post will be advertised on receipt of sanction.

Mike Larkin,
Director Services,
People & Organisation Development.

5.10 **PART L 2019 BUILDING REGULATIONS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if Cork City Council are receiving the required documentation to monitor the compliance of Part L 2019 Building regulations.

Note to Council: Current building regulations require that a preliminary part L (Energy) check be carried out on intended new buildings. As proof of this, a part L report is required to be uploaded as an ancillary document with other relevant building regulations documents to building control. A final BER and part L report must be uploaded upon completion as ancillary documents to demonstrate compliance with Part L of building regulations 2019. Building regulation 2019 also introduced a requirement to comply with Part L for major renovation where 25% or more of the surface area of a building is affected by the upgrade/extension, requiring the entire building be brought to set out standards (B2 or equivalent rating).

REPLY

The Building Control Acts 1990-2014 places a statutory obligation on owners, designers and builders to design and build in accordance with the Building Regulations 1997-2020.

The Fire and Building Control Department supports, monitors compliance, and provides oversight of the Building Regulations and Building Control Regulations including compliance with the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations.

Part L of the Building Regulations is split into two TGD's.

- Technical Guidance Document L 2019 - Conservation of Fuel and Energy – Dwellings

- Technical Guidance Document L 2017 - Conservation of Fuel and Energy - Buildings other than Dwellings

A Part L compliance report is a preliminary report (prepared prior to commencement) on the design of the building or works, which indicates, if the building or works are constructed in accordance with the design/specifications they would comply with the Building Regulations. There is no statutory requirement to submit a Part L compliance report as an ancillary or supporting document with a Commencement Notice submission. As part of the Fire and Building Control Departments ongoing site inspection programme to monitor compliance with the building regulations, the department regularly requests this report to show how compliance will be achieved for a particular building or works.

Under current procedures, the Fire and Building Control Department requires the Building Energy Rating (BER) Certificate and supporting documentation to be uploaded to the BCMS system as part of validation procedures, before the Building or Works as applicable is placed on the Statutory Register of Certificates of Compliance on Completion.

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

5.11 **HOUSING ON GERALD GRIFFIN / NEPTUNE SITE**

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

To ask the CE for an update on the tendering process and planned date of construction of housing on the Gerald Griffins/ Neptune site/ There has being no activity on the site for over a year now.

REPLY

This housing project is currently at tender stage for the main construction contract. Following the outcome of this process, a further update will issue to an Chomhairle on the proposed timeline for the construction phase.

Tadhg Keating,
Interim Director of Services,
Housing.

5.12 **BUILDING ON STRAW HALL OFF GERALD GRIFFIN STREET**

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 recent planning history of a building on Straw Hall off Gerald Griffin St now set for development, Sunnyside Boxing Club state they have a long-standing interest in the building having previously had use of it?

REPLY

The proposed development is the subject of a current planning application with decision pending (TP21/39965) for the demolition of a derelict property, formerly a boxing clubhouse and permission for the construction of 3 number dwelling houses and all site development works.

Third parties had an opportunity to make submissions within the appropriate period and the key issues in any valid submissions will be summarised within the planning report and taken into consideration as part of the consideration of the planning application. The submission period closed on 05/04/2021.

The decision on the file is due on 26/04/2021.

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

5.13 **PLANNING REGULATIONS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS MASTS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive the regulations for planning that apply to telecommunications masts in the city; if there are requirements regarding distances of telecommunications masts from domestic dwellings, their impact on visual amenity from a planning perspective, and the massing of telecommunications masts in one location that individually fall below the threshold of requiring a grant of planning permission; and to what degree Cork City Council can put in place local regulations regarding these matters.

REPLY

Class 31 of the Planning & Development Regulations allows for exempted development for poles or support structures subject to conditions and limitations. Planning permission is required for the erection of a structure if it does not comply with the conditions and limitations of the exempted development regulations such as if it exceeds 12m in height.

Section 16.01 of the Cork City Development Plan 201-2021 sets out the development management for Telecommunications stating that in evaluating applications for telecommunications installations, Cork City Council will have regard to ‘Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines for Planning Authorities (1996). Co-location of such facilities on the same mast or cabinets by different operators is favoured to discourage a proliferation.’

Telecommunications and Support Structures: Guidelines for Planning Authorities 1996 and Circular Letter 07/12 19 October 2012 set out National Guidance and policy in relation to assessing planning applications for telecommunications masts. The Guidelines set out that visual impact is one of the more important considerations. The

circular letter specifically states that authorities should ‘not set out separation distances as they may inadvertently have a major impact on the roll out of a viable and effective telecommunications network.’

While the Planning and Development legislation and National Guidance is set at national level, the Cork City Development Plan Review provides an opportunity to review the policies and objectives contained in the Cork City Development Plan in relation to Telecommunications structures.

Circular Letter PL 11/2020 refers to guidance in relation to - Telecommunications Services – Planning Exemptions and Section 254 Licences

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to provide clarification in relation to the planning exemptions applicable to telecommunications works undertaken by statutory undertakers authorised to provide telecommunications services, particularly in the context of the roll-out of overground cables along national, regional and local roads as part of the National Broadband Plan which is currently ongoing throughout many parts of the country.

Section 254 of the Act outlines the provisions in relation to the licensing of appliances and cables etc on public roads. Where development of a type specified in section 254(1) of the Act is proposed to be carried out on a public road, approval for the works is required from a planning authority, by means of the obtaining of a section 254 licence. However, while a section 254 licence is required for such works, section 254(7) further provides that development carried out in accordance with a licence issued under section 254 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act i.e. it is therefore exempted from planning permission.

The licensing process for this overground electronic communications infrastructure and any associated physical infrastructure’ i.e. a street work solution is set out in Section 254 (1) (ee) of the Planning and Development.

In considering a licence under Section 254 for such infrastructure the Planning Authority in consultation with the Roads Operations Division of the Council must have regard to four considerations as prescribed by the Act:

- (a) the proper planning and sustainable development of the area,
- (b) any relevant provisions of the development plan, or a local area plan,
- (c) the number and location of existing appliances, apparatuses or structures on, under, over or along the public road, and,
- (d) the convenience and safety of road users including pedestrians.

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

5.14 **FORMER GP SURGERY IN KNOCKNAHEENY**

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

Can the CE outline the tendering process undertaken for the former GP surgery in Knocknaheeny attached to the Sonas building. In particular could you please explain where and when the lease was advertised and how the successful applicant were selected.

REPLY

In Cork City Council, community premises leases and lettings are normally developed in partnership when a need arises or is identified in an area for a specific purpose.

The property in question is one identified by the Housing Directorate as suitable to meet the needs of community groups in the immediate area. This facility was vacant for a number of years and a number of community groups expressed an interest in using the facility.

By way of background, Knocknaheeny is both a RAPID area as well as an area undergoing a large scale Regeneration project led by the Housing Directorate, with a number of service providers operating within the immediate area, together with a number of priority areas as identified through the Social Environmental and Economic Plan (SEEP) and the Cork City Profile from health and social inclusion perspectives that require specific support and development.

All expressions of interest were reviewed by the Council, in tandem with an assessment of the overall need in the area. During the assessment process, gaps were identified in terms of service demand and delivery and the physical need for office space to allow for the delivery of basic services within the area. Family Support and early intervention was identified as a priority need which required prioritisation in terms of service delivery and access to own-door office space.

The tenant selected was deemed the most suitable on a number of grounds including the high priority need being met by the service, the future development and delivery of the service, and in particular the current lack of own-door premises for the organisation. The premises was allocated accordingly and all other interested parties were notified.

Tadhg Keating,
Interim Director of Services,
Housing.

5.15 **BYE LAWS - SEGREGATION, STORAGE & PRESENTATION OF HOUSEHOLD & COMMERCIAL WASTE**

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

How many properties have received the notification of the new bye laws and how many fines have been issued since the introduction of the new bye laws (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws, 2019.

How much is being spent on clearing up illegal dumping since 2014?

REPLY

Cork City Council Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws 2019 came into force on the 1st May, 2019. As part of the process of adopting and making these bye-laws a public consultation process was undertaken by Cork City Council and a number of press releases were issued. In addition the Southern Region Waste Management Office undertook an extensive education and awareness campaign across all media platforms to promote the new waste bye-laws which were standardised across all Local Authorities. As a means of reminding households of their responsibilities with regards to the correct disposal of their household waste, and as an additional initiative augmenting the existing local, regional and national awareness campaigns, a household leaflet drop in relation to the bye-laws is also being planned by Cork City Council in the coming months.

The Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws were introduced to augment the powers Local Authorities have under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and the Waste Management Act 1996. These bye-laws have been used primarily to tackle the issue of households not having a valid refuse collection service in place for their property. To date 1,479 properties have received notices in relation to the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws (410 Notices in 2019, 568 Notices in 2020 and 501 Notices so far in 2021). The notices issued have resulted in a total of 62 Fixed Payment Notices issuing for breaches of the bye-laws.

Taking into consideration staff, vehicles and disposal costs, the Cleansing Section of Cork City Council has spent approximately €475,000 each year from 2014-2019 on clearing illegally dumped waste. Following the boundary extension in 2019 this increased to approx. €825,000 per year. This figure does not take into consideration the waste collected from litter bins, by the litter wardens or monies spent on initiatives/projects in individual areas to address the causes of illegal dumping. The above figure also does not include expenditure by other sections of the City Council including Parks, Roads and Housing which would be significant in themselves.

David Joyce
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations.

6. STATUTORY ITEMS

6.1 PROPERTY DISPOSALS

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive dated 1st April 2021 on the following property disposals:-

1. Disposal of Cork City Councils interest in an area of ground, approximately 40m², situated to the rear of No. 7, East View Terrace, Quaker Road, Cork to Britt Forde, c/o Irwin Kilcullen & Co. Solicitors, No. 56 Grand Parade, Cork for the sum of €500.00 plus VAT if applicable plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir P. Dineen, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

2. Disposal of the freehold interest in the property known as No. 9, Kinsale Cottages, Evergreen Street, (also known as Evergreen Road) Cork to Donal Looney and Ruairi Looney c/o, T.J. Hegarty LPP, Solicitors, 58 South Mall, Cork for the sum of €15.20 together with costs in the sum of €550.00 plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

3. Disposal of the freehold interest in an area of ground, approximately 143,7m², situated at Leo Murphy Road, Ballincollig, Cork to Boar's Head Limited, c/o CDS Law & Tax, Penrose Wharf, Alfred Street, Cork for the sum of €5,000.00 plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Canty, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

6.2 **SECTION 38 – ALDERBROOK PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. O'Callaghan, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 18th March 2021, following public consultation, on the proposed pedestrian safety interventions at Alderbrook pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

6.3 **RENAME ANGLESEA STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 30th March 2021 on renaming Anglesea Street.

A vote was called for on the renaming of Anglesea Street where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí K. O'Flynn, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane, T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, K. Collins, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde, M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O'Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Kerins, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. (27)

AGAINST: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As An Chomhairle voted unanimously in favour of renaming Anglesea Street, An tArdmhéara declared the vote passed, and the renaming of Anglesea Street approved.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution subject to confirmation of the Irish title, Sráid Mhic Shuibhne:-

Now Council hereby **RESOLVES THAT** pursuant to the provisions of Section 48 of the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2011 (which applies in circumstances such as this ie where Council wants to change a placename), it is hereby resolved that the existing placename Anglesea Street (which is 362.94 metres long and situated in the City of Cork in the Local Electoral Area of Cork City South Central and commences on the Northern End at the Junction of Union Quay and Terence McSweeney Quay and runs south for 221.3 metres to the Junction of Copley Street and Old Station Road and continues 74.6 metres to the Junction of Anglesea Terrace and extends a further 67.04 metres, terminating at the Junction of Hibernian Road and South Terrace and is more particularly delineated, for identification only, in the map attached hereto and marked in blue) be hereby renamed Sráid Mhic Shuibhne/MacSwiney Street.

6.4 **RENAME ROAD FROM WESTERN ROAD TO WELLINGTON BRIDGE**

On the proposal of An tArdmhéara, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle agreed to defer this item to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 10th May 2021.

7. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 6th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 6th April 2021.

7.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 28th FEBRAURY**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 28th February 2021.

7.2 **AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Audit Committee Charter.

7.3 **AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Audit Committee Work Programme 2021.

7.4 **AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Audit Committee Annual Report 2020.

7.5 **SECTION 121 REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Section 121 Report dated 31st March 2021.

7.6 **MOTIONS**

7.6.1 **DOCUMENT SUMMARISING SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED DURING PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 1st April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will email the document prepared for elected members summarising submissions received during each public consultation, to every member of the public who made a submission on that consultation through Cork City Council’s online consultation portal, when that document is made publicly accessible.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 21/115)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a review of the various consultation processes regularly undertaken by the City Council will be undertaken over the coming weeks. This will include for an examination of the legislative and procedural requirements for those processes and consideration of the data protection legislation as regards any proposal to publish reports or summary documents following from a consultation.

7.6.2 **FUNDING FOR POLISH CULTURE CENTRE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 1st April 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council provide emergency funding to the Polish Culture Center & Library ABC EduLibrary, which is located at 52A Gould Street, Cork so as to enable it to continue to operate and to prevent its permanent closure. This well-equipped and professionally functioning, non-profit Library (with a diversified collection of over 10,000 books) and Culture Centre (which regularly organises exhibitions, competitions and events, including poetry evenings, art workshops, film club, mental health programs, kids club and toddler playgroup) is Cork’s only Polish language Library and Culture Centre. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, its revenue stream has dramatically decreased, and it will be forced to leave the premises at 52A Gould Street and permanently close down unless provided with emergency funding.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 21/121)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Social Inclusion met with the Polish Library group early 2020 (Pre-Covid) with the Lord Mayor, Cllr John Sheehan in City Hall. The Polish Ambassador also attended this meeting.

They were informed of a number of avenues for funding and they applied under our community grants scheme and were awarded €800 towards rental costs in 2020. Furthermore, they had previously applied and were awarded €1,200 under the Community Enhancement Programme 2019, paid out in September 2019.

At our meeting with the Lord Mayor, it was explained that Cork City council were not in any position to provide a premises, and that like many other community groups who had similar requests, it would be something that Cork City Council could look at only in the context of a wider area and was a more long term aspiration.

Subsequently, the Director of Services for Community, Culture & Placemaking met with them at their premises with the city librarian and again we confirmed that while we are supportive the only funding available was through our existing grant schemes which they were encouraged to engage with.

Our library service have had many collaborations with this group in the past which have been very successful leading to very positive relationships with the Polish Group. Our Library Service will continue to collaborate on programming and exhibitions but are not in a position to offer them a premises or space.

They will be eligible to apply for funding under the Community Development Grants scheme which will be advertised shortly.

Cork City Council are continuously engaging with them and will continue to do so.

7.7 **AOB**

7.7.1 **AUDITED ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Audited Annual Financial Statement.

7.7.2 **CORK CITY COUNCIL 2019 AUDIT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Cork City Council 2019 Audit Report.

8. **PARTY WHIPS – 22nd MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 22nd March 2021.

8.1 **MOTIONS REFERRED TO PARTY WHIPS**

8.1.1 **WORKSHOP FOR COUNCILLORS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations on the following motion:-

‘That City Council would give a presentation or organise a workshop for Councillors to update them on what is their remit when they are delegated to represent Council on all outside bodies or boards of directors that they are members of on behalf of Cork City Council. This can be a very grey area for Councillors when we are members of these boards as we are also public representatives representing the general public and at times this can be problematic in certain cases. Presentations like these from Council have been beneficial in the past and seeing that legislation

has changed since the last presentation to Councillors we do feel that now is the time for this to be reviewed.’

(Proposers: Cllr. H. Cremin, Cllr. F. Kerins, Cllr. K. Collins 21/063)

The report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations stated that Council Services have engaged with LAMA and the AILG in respect to same. Currently LAMA do not provide such training, however AILG committed to sending relevant information on same for circulation to Elected Members. AILG have also committed to liaising with the IPA on this subject with a view to a potential training collaboration in Autumn 2021.

9. **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & TOURISM STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 15th MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 15th March 2021.

9.1 **RECENT ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE TOURISM SECTOR IN CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development on current activities to support the tourism sector in Cork.

9.2 **CORK CITY COUNCIL’S EU ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, on Cork City Council’s EU activities and projects.

9.3 **MOTIONS**

9.3.1 **REVIEW OF TWIN CITY RELATIONSHIPS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 1st March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That with the United Kingdom ceasing its membership of the European Union, a review of the twin city relationships this City holds with Coventry and Swansea be undertaken and suitably be redefined; and that the potential of a twinning arrangement with a city in Scotland be considered.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 21/020)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City is a pioneer city born in innovation and as the core economic engine of Southern Ireland, continually strives to evolve with impactful initiatives, delivered through an innovation-driven international relations development strategy, a critical component to forge ahead in international cooperation and exchanges with our twinned cities. The people-based approach of Cork City's relationships with our twinned cities has been identified and praised as globally unique by many.

Innovation is the primary driving force for urban development and an inexhaustible source of progress for cities. In line with this, in addition to the development of an evolving International Relations Strategy, Cork City Council is currently reviewing all of its relationships with its Twinned Cities in the UK, US, Europe and China in order to enhance our effectiveness into the future, in addition to assessing a number of active twinning requests.

With a population of 370,000 inhabitants, Coventry was the first city to twin with Cork in 1958. A sample of Annual Events include:

- Shamrock is sent each year from Cork City to the Coventry Irish Society for their St. Patrick's Day events.
- Poetry exchange between Cork and Coventry poets has been taking place for several years. This twinned city poetry exchange enriches O'Bheál's annual programme of events and is supported by the Council's twinning grant programme.
- For the past number of years, athletes from Coventry have travelled to Cork to take part in the Cork City marathon and half marathon.
- Cork musicians visit Coventry and Warwick on an annual basis and Coventry bands pay a return visit to Cork for the Cork Folk. These visits are supported by the Council's Twinning Grant Programme.

With a population of 247,000 inhabitants, Cork City Council approved the twinning of Cork City with the city of Swansea in Wales in 1991. The formal Swansea twinning ceremonies took place in 1992 and the formal Cork twinning ceremony took place in September 1994.

- Athletes from Swansea have been travelling to Cork for several years to take part in the Cork City Marathon or half marathon.

10. **ENVIRONMENT, WATER & AMENITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 16th MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 16th March 2021.

10.1 **CORK CITY COUNCIL'S POSTERING PROTOCOL**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, An Chomhairle considered and approved the revised Cork City Council Postering Protocol.

10.2 **MOTIONS**

10.2.1 **PUBLIC TOILET FACILITIES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘Given that pubs, restaurant and retail outlets are closed due to COVID19, that Cork City Council will investigate providing public toilet facilities to compensate for the current lack of facilities, noting that the current lack of facilities is creating an accessibility issue.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 20/188)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a draft public toilet policy is being drawn up and will be brought before the Committee for consideration.

10.2.2 **NUMBER OF IRISH WATER OFFICIAL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Council liaise with Irish Water with a view to ensuring that a designated local officials number is available at all times to local Councillors in the event of an Emergency in their area especially after hours.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 20/448)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Irish Water has been written to inviting a representative to address the committee.

Comhairleoir D. Boyle, in his role as Chair of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee advised An Chomhairle of Irish Water’s refusal of the invitation.

10.2.3 **WHEELCHAIR SWINGS IN ALL PLAYGROUNDS/PARKS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That wheelchair swings be fitted to all playground/parks throughout the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 20/429)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the City Council has installed ten wheelchairs accessible Roundabouts in ten of its twenty three playgrounds in recent years and these have proved extremely popular and are well used.

Two wheelchair swings will be installed in Gerry O’ Sullivan Park and Popham’s Park during 2021 with finance provided by the City Council and a grant from Cork City LCDC’s Community Enhancement Programme.

Individual wheelchair swing units cost approximately €25,000 including installation and surfacing.

Additional units will be installed at other playgrounds in the coming years as resources allow.

The playground budget for 2021 is €62,000 this covers the cost of emergency repairs arising from acts of vandalism, planned and routine repairs, replacement of faulty equipment, surface repairs and inspections.

10.2.4 **FLOOD DEFENCE MEASURES AT MORRISON'S ISLAND**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would work with community groups to examine the possibility of installing temporary flood defence measures to combat flooding in the Morrison’s island area in the short term.’

(Proposer: Cllr C. Finn 20/444)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Members are aware An Bord Pleanála has approved the Morrison’s Island Public Realm and Flood Defence Scheme, however as a result of an objection a judicial review of the Bord’s decision will take place next May. In the meantime consultants are currently preparing contract documentation for the scheme to enable the tendering process to commence as quickly as possible if the objection is dismissed by the Courts.

In relation to any temporary or short term measures, the general physical condition of the Quay walls is such that significant flow of water through the open joints in the walls’ structure as well as the permeability in the ground behind the walls, would allow the areas intended to be protected to become flooded. In addition, the amount of drainage outfalls that would allow passage of flood water under any temporary defences would render any such measures ineffective. Therefore, the City Centre cannot be protected by temporary flood defence measures such as inflatable flood barriers in locations such as Morrison’s or Father Matthew Quays.

10.2.5 **AIR QUALITY PUBLIC WARNINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council introduce air quality public warnings based on forecasting information.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 21/056)

The report of the Director of Services stated that this motion is similar to motions before the committee at the meeting of 18th January 2021 i.e.,

AIR QUALITY ALERTS

‘That Cork City Council would work with Met Éireann 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)

AIR QUALITY IN THE CITY

‘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 issue of working with Met Éireann for air quality alerts is a function between the designated national authorities. Met Éireann is the designated national authority for 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.

10.2.6 **LOCATIONS TO INSTALL OWL BOXES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 11th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will identify locations to install owl boxes within the city boundary.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 21/066)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a series of biodiversity actions are proposed in the Cork City Heritage and Biodiversity Plan to protect and enhance the biodiversity of the City and to work with organisations such as Birdwatch Ireland and the Men’s Shed. The identification of locations to install owl and swift boxes can be undertaken as part of these actions, as resources allow.

10.2.7 **IRISH WATER UPDATES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to Irish Water and ask them if they can update residents, communities, Cork City Council and Public Representatives when

- Planned works are taking place on a regular basis
- Unplanned water pipe breaks occur
- Update their online information to reflect the actual situation in a community outside of 9-5

A lot of issues have arisen in the Cork City North East and in other ward where the communication of planned works has been poor, the updates for unplanned works has also been poor and the information on the website has not reflected what happens in the community, this is worsened by the fact that the Local Representative number is Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm. An emergency line needs to be provided to deal with out of hour matters when breaks occur.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 21/081)

The report of the Director of Services stated that arising from a motion before the committee at the meeting of 18th January 2021 i.e.,

NUMBER OF IRISH WATER OFFICIAL

‘That Council liaise with Irish Water with a view to ensuring that a designated local officials number is available at all times to local Councillors in the event of an Emergency in their area especially after hours.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 20/448)

Irish Water has been written to inviting a representative to address the committee.

10.2.8 **STRATEGY FOR PLAYGROUNDS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th March 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council develops a development and maintenance strategy for our playgrounds. This strategy must

- Maintain existing playgrounds across all wards
- Plan for future playgrounds and communicate with community groups on a regular basis
- Transition of our existing playgrounds to ones that can be used by all abilities and senses
- New Plans for how these will be funded, from central and regional funding sources with European sources engaged also.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 21/082)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the City Council has had a very ambitious policy of playground installation in all wards throughout the City during the past fifteen years and the total of twenty three playgrounds are evenly distributed throughout all wards.

The Green and Blue Infrastructure Study and, Recreation Needs Study (currently underway) will identify areas of the City for new playgrounds and these locations will be prioritised in the context of greatest need during the period of the new City Development Plan 2022 – 2028.

Maintenance of playgrounds includes an inspection by Parks staff on a daily basis, a structural survey carried out on a monthly basis and, an external annual inspection carried out by ROSPA.

The playground budget for 2021 is €62,000, this covers the cost of emergency repairs arising from acts of vandalism, planned and routine repairs, replacement of faulty equipment, surface repairs and inspections.

The provision of items of equipment to cater for children of all abilities in ongoing and all new playgrounds are designed in the principles of universal design and must be inclusive play spaces for children of all abilities. During the design process for new playgrounds, extensive consultation is carried out with representative bodies including Centre for Excellence in Universal Design and Cork Access Group.

The funding for the provision of new playgrounds and the maintenance of existing playgrounds is provided from City Council resources. A very small grant is provided on an annual basis by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs towards the replacement of existing equipment. There is no regional funding available at present.

11. **COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 18th MARCH 2021**

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

11.1 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

11.1.1 **FUNDING FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, on the following motion:-

‘That City Council would, for the year of 2021 and beyond consider allocating some grants/funding for community groups/businesses in our towns and suburbs who would be interested in erecting Christmas lights to decorate and help bring some Christmas spirit into their areas and communities.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 20/455)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the provision of Christmas lights is done by various sections across Cork City Council.

The Arts and Events Section delivers a programme of events for GLOW - A Cork Christmas Celebration. The annual Christmas Festival takes place in the four weekends leading up to Christmas and its key aims are to kick-start the Christmas shopping season in Cork and to attract people into the city centre. Other elements of the Christmas offering, including lighting, are managed external to the CCP Directorate.

The Strategic & Economic Development Directorate works in connection with the Cork Business Association to organise the Christmas lights on Oliver Plunkett Street and provides some support to North Main Street.

The Operations Directorate’s 2021 Festive Lighting budget allocation only covers the city centre street trader groupings and has no additional provision for any additional communities, towns, or suburban groups. The Operations Directorate can however provide some technical assistance and advice on lighting types, suppliers, anchor systems etc.

The projects need to be led and delivered by the local communities and businesses themselves, as is the case in the City.

11.1.2 **EDUCATIONAL LEAFLET FOR CYCLISTS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, on the following motion:-

‘As part of Cork City Councils “Keep Well” strategy within the community and considering the extensive ongoing investment right across the city in our cycling infrastructure, that Cork City Council would launch an educational leaflet for all cyclists and particularly targeting schools, community centres and all relevant public buildings. This leaflet should create awareness on basic issues such as road safety, personal safety and basic issues such as:-

- Bicycle maintenance instructions (puncture repair, brake maintenance, etc)
- Safe use of cycle lanes
- Wearing a cycling helmet
- Bicycle lit up front and back. Be seen, be safe.
- Safe use of hand signals
- Avoiding cycling on undesignated cycleways such as public realm areas and footpaths
- Knowledge and awareness of sharing the road safely with other road users, i.e., distance between vehicles and cyclists.
- Observe basic road use and safety etiquette such as observe traffic light signals (not cycling through red lights) and only cycling in the right direction on one-way streets.
- Safe open road cycling i.e., cycling on left in single file and of course not cycling on main roads such as motorways.

In the interest of encouraging more people to cycle in our city and our suburbs and using our expanding cycle infrastructure, we need to encourage SAFE cycling for all ensuring that our carriageways are safe for all users at all times.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 21/046)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has previously produced a Cycling Skills leaflet, which is a comprehensive leaflet on cycling safety which will be available to the public when current restrictions are lifted.

Cork City Council has recently updated its website to include some cycling safety advice for cyclists and other road users.

We will also make the Road Safety Authority’s cycling safety leaflets available to members of the public.

Cork City Council provides the Cycle Right programme, which teaches and promotes safe cycling to schools in the city, bike safety and bike maintenance plays a big part in the annual Bike Week and European Mobility Week events.

11.1.3 **COMMUNITY FORA MEETING VIA ZOOM**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council arrange community forum meetings via zoom so that Council can continue the strong partnership with local areas and connect to the JPC.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 21/057)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has a long tradition of providing support to the Local Policing Fora which allows them to advise the Council and the Gardai on the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area. They work together to find

solutions to issues raised, report on progress and develop guidelines to manage difficulties that arise.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and adhering to best practice following public health guidelines, it has not been possible to hold Local Policing Fora in their traditional format. However, the City Council is currently in discussions with an Garda Siochana on how best to move forward.

11.1.4 **FUNDING FOR POLISH CULTURE CENTRE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council provided emergency funding to the Polish Culture Center & Library ABC EduLibrary, which is located at 52A Gould Street, Cork so as to enable it to continue to operate and to prevent its permanent closure. This well-equipped and professionally functioning, non-profit Library (with a diversified collection of over 10,000 books) and Culture Centre (which regularly organises exhibitions, competitions and events, including poetry evenings, art workshops, film club, mental health programs, kids club and toddler playgroup) is Cork’s only Polish language Library and Culture Centre. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, its revenue stream has dramatically decreased, and it will be forced to leave the premises at 52A Gould Street and permanently close down unless provided with emergency funding.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 21/121)

The report of the Director of Services stated:-

Supports for the Polish Culture Centre & Library

In 2019, the Director of Services for Community, Culture & Placemaking met with them at their premises with the city librarian and advised that while we are supportive of their initiative, the only funding available was through our existing grant schemes which they were encouraged to engage with.

They were informed of a number of avenues for funding, and they applied under our community grants scheme and were awarded €800 towards rental costs in 2020. Furthermore, they had previously applied and were awarded €1,200 under the Community Enhancement Programme 2019, paid out in September 2019.

Social Inclusion met with the Polish Library group early 2020 (Pre-Covid) with the Lord Mayor, Cllr John Sheehan in City Hall. The Polish Ambassador also attended this meeting.

At this meeting with the Lord Mayor, it was explained that Cork City Council were not in a position to provide a premises, and that like many other community groups who had similar requests, it would be something that Cork City Council could look at only in the context of a wider area and was a more long term aspiration.

Our library service have had many collaborations with this group in the past which have been very successful leading to very positive relationship with the Polish Group. Our Library Service will continue to collaborate on programming and exhibitions but are not in a position to offer them a premises or space.

They will be eligible to apply for funding under the Community Development Grants scheme which will be advertised shortly.

Cork City Council are continuously engaging with them and will continue to do so.

12. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MARCH 2021**

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

13. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MARCH 2021**

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

14. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22nd March 2021.

15. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22nd March 2021.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle agreed that item 3.1 - Traffic Calming and Resurfacing at Croaghtamore Square and the Lough View Terrace be put on the agenda of the Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 10th May 2021.

16. **SPECIAL SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 29th MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its special meeting held, 29th March 2021.

17. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 23rd MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 23rd March 2021.

18. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 16th MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance and Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 16th March 2021.

18.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

18.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of January 2021.

19. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 6th APRIL 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance and Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 6th April 2021.

19.1 **FINANCIAL RELATED REPORTS**

19.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO END OF FEBRUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of February 2021.

19.2 **LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, dated 1st April 2021, on the Local Area Committee Budget Framework 2021.

20. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 8th MARCH 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 8th March 2021.

21. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

22. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

23. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

24. **TRAINING**

None received.

25. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive’s Monthly Management report for February 2021.

26. **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.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle agreed to refer motion 21/151 - Attach QR Code to All Republican Monuments to the Centenary Commemoration 2019-2023 Steering Committee rather than to the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

27. **MOTIONS**

27.1 **COMPLETE PROPOSED RAIL STATION/PARK AT STONEVIEW**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call on Deputy Eamon Ryan, Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications and Minister for Transport and ask that the funding be made available to Iarnrod Eirean and Cork City Council to complete the proposed (as demonstrated in the approved CMATS programme) rail station/park on the outskirts of Blarney known as Stoneview. This project is regarded the easiest to deliver and the most cost effective of the eight locations set out in CMATS. The use of rail as a form of sustainable travel and the connectivity of Cobh to Blarney from a tourist perspective can then be realised and the predicted growth of both workers and residents in the area can be accommodated.’

(Proposers: Cllr. D. Boylan, Cllr. D. Cahill 21/150)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion to the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee.

27.2 **NEED FOR SPECIAL SCHOOL PLACES IN CORK**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to the Department of Education stressing the need for an urgent resolution to the significant lack of special school places in Cork with

many parents left upset that their children are left only with the option of home tuition.’

‘Go scríobhfaidh Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí go dtí an Roinn Oideachais ag lorg réiteach práinneach don easpa shuntasach spásanna i scoileanna speisialta i gCorcaigh, le mórán tuistí fágtha trí chéile nach bhfuil ach scolaíocht bhaile mar rogha dá bpáistí.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins 21/160)

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

‘That Cork City Council will write to the Department of Education stressing the need for an urgent resolution to the significant lack of special school places in Cork with many parents left upset that their children are left only with the option of home tuition. Furthermore, that Cork City Council will write to the HSE to request the restoration of Speech and Language therapy facilities in schools to specifically accommodate children who travel long distances for education.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins 21/160)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH