MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2018

PRESENT

Ard-Mhéara Comhairleoir M. Finn.

NORTH EAST
Comhairleoirí S. Cunningham, T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh.

NORTH CENTRAL

NORTH WEST

SOUTH EAST

SOUTH CENTRAL
Comhairleoirí F. Kerins, P. Dineen, T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin.

SOUTH WEST

ALSO PRESENT
Mr. P. Ledwidge, Deputy Chief Executive.
Ms. J. Gazely, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs.
Ms. C. Currid, Staff Officer, Corporate & External Affairs.
Ms. V. O’Sullivan, Director of Services, Environment & Recreation.
Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect.

An tArd-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

• The Kenneally Family on the death of Gretta Kenneally.
• The Joyce Family on the death of Elizabeth Joyce.
• The McCarthy Family on the death of Abby McCarthy.
• The Kennedy Family on the death of Bridget Kennedy.
• The Cummins Family on the death of Christopher Cummins.
• The Thompson Family on the death of Frank Thompson.
• The Shine Family on the death of Patrick Shine.
• The Cannon Family on the death of Frank Cannon.
• The Twomey Family on the death of Sean Twomey.
• The O’Leary Family on the death of Joe O’Leary.
• The O’Callaghan Family on the death of Thomas O’Callaghan.

2. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES

• Blackpool Historical Society on organising the Remembrance of World War I Centenary and Tree Planting Ceremony.
• St. Michaels GAA Club on winning the Minor County Championship.
• Nemo Rangers GAA Club on winning the Under 21 County Championship.
• St. Finbarr’s Hurling and Football Club on winning the Cork County Senior Football Championship.
• Get well wishes to former Lord Mayor Donal Counihan.
3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

3.1 **CIVIC RECEPTION FOR ST. FINBARRS NHFC**

An Chomhairle approved an tArd-Mhéara’s proposal to host a Civic Reception for St. Finbarr’s NHFC on winning the Cork County Senior Football Championship.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

4.1 **SWITCH ON OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND GLOW 2018**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Moloney, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Executive dated, 12th November 2018 on the proposed holding of two events by Cork City Council under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and Planning and Development Regulations 2001. The events in question are the Switch on of the Christmas Lights and GLOW 2018.

4.2 **PARKING INCENTIVES IN SUPPORT OF LATE EVENING SHOPPING**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Chief Executive dated, 12th November 2018 on parking incentives in support of late evening shopping.

4.3 **PROPOSED WYLFA NEWYDD NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted correspondence from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in connection with a public consultation in respect of an application for the proposed Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Plant located at Anglesey, North Wales, UK.

4.4 **LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTED MEMBERS ROLE AND REMUNERATION REVIEW**

An Chomhairle considered and noted correspondence from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government regarding a call for submissions in relation to the Local Authority Elected Members Role and Remuneration Review.

5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. O’Leary, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held 22nd October 2018.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **LUMINOUS PAINT INDICATING THE LOCATION OF LADDERS ON THE RIVER LEE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-
Further to a recent motion of mine the luminous painting required to indicate the location of the ladders on both the south and north channels of the River Lee was to be carried out by 30 September 2018. This very important work has not been carried out so can the CE please ensure it is done as a matter of urgency.

(Cllr. Tim Brosnan)
Deferred from meeting of 22nd October

REPLY

The procurement process for necessary replacements has been undertaken and equipment is ordered. The replacement ladders will be installed following delivery and painting undertaken at the same time, subject to suitable weather and tidal conditions, it is expected that the work will be completed by end of January.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

6.2 REDUCED CHARGES FOR THE PARK AND RIDE AND CAR PARKS

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

How much finance has been spent by Cork City Council or forfeited on reduced charges for Park n Ride and Car Parks in the revised version of the Patrick Street/City Centre Movement Strategy?

(Cllr. Sean Martin)

REPLY

A parking promotion was introduced in August /September as part of a broader suite of measures which were introduced to support the City centre during the transition period following the introduction of the new public transport corridor.

The parking promotion comprised of a number of elements as follows –

1. Paul St & North Main St Car Parks: Half price parking for all vehicles entering between 1pm and 6.30 pm.

2. Black Ash Park and Ride: Free for all cars entering after 12pm

The net cost of the parking promotion is estimated at approx €151,000 over the eight week period.

This is based on the reduction in income over the period of the promotion as compared with the corresponding period last year. The cost of any parking promotion is dependent on a number of variables including the quantum of new custom arising as a result of the promotion (short term/long term), the of level benefit to existing users, the impact of any underlying trends and the degree of temporary or ongoing transfers from other parking facilities.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.
6.3 **PEDESTRIAN COUNTERS**

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

Following on from my Motion Ref R.06/18 -3.10 in which the Director of Services for Roads confirmed that both the original pedestrian counters and a second series of fibre optic cable counters were out of commission can the Manager please advice if a new system of pedestrian counters has been deployed and if so can council please be advised of their locations and be supplied with readings at the monthly meeting of the Roads Functional Committee. If new counters haven't been deployed what mechanisms exactly are officials using to compile statistics that allow them to comment accurately whether footfall is rising or falling on St. Patrick's St, Grand Parade and Oliver Plunkett St.

(Cllr. Tim Brosnan)

**REPLY**

A system of pedestrian counters was originally piloted, a number of years ago, as a proof of concept trial. It was based on what was then regarded as an emerging technology with a view to measuring trends in pedestrian flows. A fibre optic communications cable was not available throughout the City centre at that time and so a wireless based system was deployed. The trial was based using standard cameras as an add-on to a dedicated wireless communications network that also catered for both traffic signal coordination and CCTV monitoring on the St. Patrick’s Street junctions.

A fibre optic communications cable was subsequently installed and commissioned as part of the City Centre Movement Strategy (CCMS). On foot of this advancement the Transportation Division reviewed current systems on the market. Following a tender process a new pedestrian monitoring system was put in place to monitor pedestrian movement on St Patrick Street on completion of Phase 1 and 2 of CCMS. The related detector units have been measuring the level of movement on St Patrick St from 2nd August 2018.

There are six units in total and these are located at the Merchants Quay end, Academy Street & at the Daunts’ Square end of the street. They monitor northbound and southbound flows on both sides of the street. The movement data is outlined below and it is intended that the ongoing data be published on the City Council’s website on a monthly basis into the future.

It is to be noted that pedestrian activity is influenced by many factors. These include the range and attractiveness of the overall offering available (incl food/beverage, retail, entertainment, general amenity, public space etc), ease of access/movement to and within the area by all transport modes, weather (especially whether wet or dry conditions), the occurrence of events (festivals, sport etc), time of year, (eg Christmas period is very active relative to quiet periods pre and post) and competing alternatives including the ongoing expansion of internet shopping platforms.

In relation to access and movement it will be noted that in recent months, traffic flows have operated as anticipated with minor adjustments been made to signals where necessary. In late August/early September, schools and colleges all returned after the summer break and the network accommodated the expected seasonal increase in traffic across the City. The new traffic arrangements have also facilitates necessary restrictions arising from the major private and public developments currently underway in the City centre (eg offices and hotel off South Mall and Parnell Place, new bridge between Merchants Quay and St Patricks Quay and refurbishment of St Patricks St Bridge). As these projects move towards completion in the coming months the related lane restrictions will be removed.
Members will also be aware that Bus Eireann has recently confirmed that in period since 9th August bus journey times have improved for services using St Patrick St eg 205 and 208. More importantly the passenger numbers have increased significantly. 

Over the 12 week period following the completion of the traffic changes on St Patrick St passenger numbers increased by **311,000** or 14% as compared with the same period last year.

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<th>Week</th>
<th>7 day count data</th>
<th>% change versus pre bus lane</th>
<th>change week on week</th>
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<td>Week 1 (9th Aug-15th Aug)</td>
<td>627,212</td>
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<td>Week 2 (16th Aug-22th Aug)</td>
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<td>Week 3 (23th Aug-29th Aug)</td>
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<td>Week 5 (6th Sept-12th Sept)</td>
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G O BEIRNE
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION
6.4 **HOMELESS IN CORK**

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

Can the CE clarify if on the Minister for Housing Eoghan Murphy Department’s instructions a number of those classed as homeless in Cork have been taken off the homeless database despite still accessing homeless services?

What are the numbers involved and the reasoning for the re-categorisation?

*(Cllr. Michael Nugent)*

**REPLY**

No re-categorisation of homeless persons has taken place in Cork City Council’s jurisdiction and no individual or family has been removed from the Council’s homeless database. The Council does not provide “own door” emergency accommodation units and the Council has not received any such instructions as referred to in the Member’s question.

B. Geaney,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services.

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6.5 **COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS**

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

a) How many properties have Cork City Council attempted to compulsory purchase over the past four years?
b) How many properties has Cork City Council actually compulsory purchased in the past four years?
c) How many properties are Cork City Council in the process of compulsory purchasing at present?
d) How many properties does Cork City Council have on its derelict sites list?
e) How many more properties are derelict in Cork City but not on the Cork City Council’s derelict sites list?

*(Cllr. Thomas Gould)*

**REPLY**

a) Compulsory Derelict Sites Acquisitions = 10 (2018=6; 2017=2; 2016=1; 2015=1)
b) Compulsory Derelict Sites Acquisitions= 10 (2018=6; 2017=2; 2016=1; 2015=1)
c) Compulsory Derelict Sites Acquisitions= 3 under consideration, but no formal notice to acquire has been issued yet.
d) 97 as of 09.11.18
e) We are currently working on 46 other properties. These properties may be at different stages of the process, such as potential placement on the Derelict Sites Register,
possible re-development, or improvement works are required to address the issue of dereliction. The movement and number of properties which we work on continuously varies.

Paul Moynihan,
Director of Services,
Corporate & External Affairs.

6.6 **FOOTPATH AT ORCHARD CLOSE/BALLINCURRIG PARK**

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

Can the CE please provide an update on the delapidated footpath at Orchard Close / Ballincurrag Park? I understand a serious health and safety issue is presented by same and residents have petitioned for urgent works.

(Cllr. Nicholas O’Keeffe)

**REPLY**

The footpath in question is not currently in the charge of Cork City Council.

The residents of Orchard Close, Ballincurrag Park have submitted a valid plebiscite to have the footpath taken in charge. This was application received by Cork City Council’s Planning Department on July 4th 2018.

Cork City Council’s Development Management Section has been engaging with Irish Water with regard to taking in charge of underground services. It received confirmation from Irish Water on 5th November 2018 that they have no objection to taking in charge of the associated water services and drainage.

The Development Management Section is in the process of preparing a recommendation to the Roads Directorate to have the footpath and any relevant services taken in charge under Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. The sub-standard condition of the footpath is noted.

Pat Ledwidge,
Director of Services,
Strategic Planning and Economic Development

6.7 **“SUPER 7” MEASURES OF CORK CITY CENTRE MOBILITY PLAN**

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

To ask the CE what are the differences between the “Super 7” measures of the City Centre Mobility Plan launched in August 2018 & and the revised city Centre parking and marketing measures for November and December 2018?

(Cllr. Kieran McCarthy)
REPLY

The St Patrick St bus corridor was reintroduced on 9th August and a suite of supporting measures were rolled out in parallel. These measures included –

• the establishment of a network of free set down parking spaces
• the rerouting and expansion of the Park and Ride service
• an extensive public awareness campaign
• parking and bus service promotions
• an ongoing marketing campaign for the City centre
• revised signage arrangements and
• the rerouting of additional bus services to benefit from the new bus corridor.

The above mentioned parking promotion as approved by Council provided for free use of the park and ride after 12.00 each day and half price parking from 13.00 to 18.30 at the Paul St and North Main St car parks. This promotion ran until the end of September. A corresponding Bus Eireann bus fare promotion was also in place from 9th August until the 15th of September. An extensive City centre marketing campaign themed on Cork – An island of discovery was run on local radio, social and print media.

Members subsequently approved the annual autumn parking promotion which was put in place to support the work of the City center businesses in promoting activity in what was historically a quieter period before the pre Christmas season. It operates from 8th of October to the 17th of November and incorporates free parking Monday-Thursday from 10.00 to 12.00 in Paul Street and North Main Street car parks together with free parking on Saturdays in Black Ash Park & Ride and free late night parking on Thursdays & Fridays from 6.30 p.m. to 12 midnight in Paul Street Car Park and 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. in North Main Street Car Park

Council and other City centre stakeholders have also been examining further mechanisms to support City Centre businesses in operating a more extensive late evening shopping experience and this is subject to separate report.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

6.8 COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHOICE BASED LETTING SCHEME

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

Can the CE outline all costs associated with the establishment of the Council's Choice Based Letting Scheme, including (but not limited to):
A. The cost of creating the CBL IT system/ infrastructure;
B. The cost of transitioning the Council's tenants from the old system to CBL
C. Any costs related to upgrading/ supporting/ developing CBL since its initial rollout;
D. Any other costs.
If exact figures can't be identified, I ask that estimates be provided.

(Cllr. Stephen Cunningham)
REPLY

A. The cost of creating the Choice Based Letting (CBL) Scheme website system in 2015 was €69,223 excluding VAT. CBL development information is available to other Local Authorities and therefore the net cost of the system to Cork City Council at present is €48,223.

B. CBL relates to social housing support applicants and to transfer applicants. The above cost includes the integration of the CBL website with the back office system.

C. CBL Phase II scoped the project to extend to Approved Housing Bodies in 2017. The cost of this work was €6,576 excluding VAT.

D. Cork City Council expends €4,900 (excluding vat) for maintenance costs per annum.

B Geaney,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services.

6.9 BRICKFIELDS, SKEHARD ROAD, BLACKROCK

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

Could the Chief Executive give an update and details with regards to the Brickfields, Skehard Road, Blackrock, Cork regards to the ongoing concerns. The residents of Brickfields, Skehard Road, Blackrock, Cork, have now been without street lights for three months. This poses a serious safety risk to every resident in the complex, particularly those who have to access/egress to their homes from the rear of the buildings. The Brickfields Management Company has made representations to the relevant department within Cork City Council without solution. The Brickfields Management Company has informed residents that the fault is not with the Brickfields Management Company operators, but lies with Cork City Council and may be as a result of the Skehard Road realignment which was carried out over the past months.

a) Has the Brickfields Management Company made representations to Cork City Council about the fault been experienced with regards to street lighting, and if so when was the representation made?

b) What was the outcome of this representation?

c) Has the Brickfields Management Company made representations to have the estate to be “Taking in Charge” by Cork City Council?

d) When was this request made and what stage is the application currently at?

e) Was a Bond of an Insurance Company / Bank, or Other Security put in place at the time this Estate was been developed? If so for how much? If not why not?

f) Each owner currently pays about €1,260 each year to the Brickfields Management Company roads, Footpaths, Car Parks, Watermains, Sewers, Open Spaces and Public Lighting can any order be made to have them carryout work on the lighting in the Estate on Health and Safety grounds?

(Cllr. Chris O’Leary)
REPLY

The ESB has confirmed that the Brickfields public lighting fault lies within the private estate and therefore it does not relate to the Skehard Road Project.

a) Cork City Council received a phone call from the Brickfields Management Company in September 2018 concerning the public lighting fault.

b) Following this communication the matter was referred to the EBS & Airtricity for investigation.

c) A person acting on behalf of the developer (Masglen) has engaged with Cork City Council over a number of years with a view to having the estate taken in charge.

d) However, the estate has not been completed to “taking in charge” standard. Brickfields Management Company has not requested to have the estate taken in charge.

e) The initial taking in charge request was made in 2011. In Feb 2018, Masglen’s engineer advised that they did not intend to proceed with taking in charge of the estate. As there is a private management company in place, this proposal was acceptable to Cork City Council.

f) The Bond for Brickfields Phase 1 for €180,000 expired on 31/01/2008 and Phase 2 for €170,000 expired on 31/07/2009.

g) There is no mechanism under the Planning & Development Acts under which this issue can be enforced. This is a civil matter between the residents and the private management company.

Pat Ledwidge, Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services, Director of Services,
Strategic Planning & Economic Development Roads & Transportation.

6.10 TOURIST TRAIN

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

In view of information received that the Open Top Bus operator may be seeking to relocate his official stand for the Open Top Bus from the Grand Parade to a location closer to their new Tourist Information office on Patricks Street. I ask that if this were indeed true if it would be possible that the Tourist train could be facilitated by this move thus allowing the train to take up the vacated space on the Grand Parade. This will then enable the Tourist Train operator to honour his contractual agreements with the city council while at the same time provide the city and its visitors an additional tourist offering.

(Cllr. Paudie Dineen)

REPLY

Should the promoter of the tourist train wish to make a formal request to this Directorate for a new/different pick up/set down location other than that previously agreed with the
Promoter, such a request should be submitted, and this request will be reviewed and responded to accordingly.

Gerry O’ Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads and Transportation.

7. **PARTY WHIPS – 5th NOVEMBER 2018**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held 5th November 2018.

7.1 **CORK AREA STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle approved the nomination of Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll to the Cork Area Strategic Policy Committee.

8. **STANDING ORDERS REVIEW GROUP – 5th NOVEMBER 2018**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Standing Orders Review Group from its meeting held 5th November 2018.

9. **STRATEGIC PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 5th NOVEMBER 2018**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise Functional Committee from its meeting held 5th November 2018.

9.1 **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

9.1.1 **REPORT ON VISIT OF LORD MAYOR AND CORK DELEGATION TO ST. PETERSBURG AUGUST 2018**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Mr. Paul Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 1st November 2018 on the visit of the Lord Mayor and Cork delegation to St. Petersburg.

9.2 **HOUSING ESTATES**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on Housing Estates for Q3 2018.

9.3 **PLANNING STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on the number of planning applications determined and deferred for Q3 2018.
9.4 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on Planning Enforcement Statistics for period for Q3 2018.

9.5 UP-DATE ON SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 regarding the Up-date on Significant Decisions for Q3 2018.

9.6 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PLANNING & LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR LETTER PL06/2018

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government letter PL06/2018, re:
1. Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (Section 11) Order 2018
3. Progress on Implementation of the Vacant Site Levy

9.7 REPORT ON HISTORIC WINDOW CONSERVATION SEMINAR

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on a Historic Window Conservation Seminar held on the 2nd October 2018.

9.8 MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY AN CHOMHAIRLE

9.8.1 HERITAGE PIECES UNDER CORK CITY COUNCIL CONTROL

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would present Councillors with a written report on heritage pieces under control of the City Council. Per my Motion 13/380 which called for an annual audit of such pieces I have only heard reports of such pieces “going missing”, cast aside in Kinsale Road and Mahon Dept (Limestone), cast aside in Fitzgerald’s Park (Fireman’s Hut and Horse Trough). It is certain that much other valuable heritage of the City has come to be neglected and shamefully cast aside. A group of interested Councillors must visit these sites asap.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 18/189)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the Strategic Planning and Economic Development Directorate have coordinated a response to this motion.

Most of the depots/stores under the remit of Cork City Council do not have heritage items. In the case where there are heritage items in Cork City Council stores, it is proposed to carry out a survey and condition report of these items in cooperation with the relevant Directorates, and a report and recommendations from this survey will be brought back to Council for consideration.
9.8.2 **EXTEND AREA OF ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That City Council would extend the Area of Architectural Conservation to include areas of Glasheen Road which is very similar to Magazine Road. The area of most concern runs from Landscape Terrace to the entrance to Croaghta Park which are/were for the most part all terrace houses and are now in danger of being destroyed by developers changing house frontages and removal of railings, extensions etc.’

(Proposers: H. Cremin, T. Moloney 18/247)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the Architectural Conservation Areas are surveyed, assessed and adopted as part of the City Development Plan review. The next City Development Plan review will commence shortly and the new Plan will come into force for the period 2021-2027.

The Strategic Planning & Economic Development Directorate will assess the proposal to extend the UCC/College Road/Magazine Road ACA along Glasheen Road as part of the City Development Plan review.

9.8.3 **CORK LEARNING CITY DAY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That in recognition of Cork’s unique standing in Europe as a UNESCO Learning Cities Conference location (following the successful event in 2017), and in a bid to continue to promote learning opportunities in the City with all the participating partners, Cork City Council annually designates the last Thursday of September as ‘Cork Learning City Day’ as a legacy reminder and also as a response to the call to action.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Finn, Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 18/296)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Cork Learning City operates under a Memorandum of Understanding signed by lead partners: Cork City Council, Cork Education & Training Board, CIT, UCC, the HSE – Cork Kerry Community Health Care, and the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals. With other partners represented on the Growing Lifelong Learning in Cork working group (GLLiC) these groups work with Cork City Council to bring the three UNESCO Learning City policies adopted by Council, namely the Beijing Declaration (2014), the Mexico Statement (2016) and the Cork Call to Action on Learning Cities (2017) into action. The group members are strongly supportive of the designation of a Learning City Day by the Lord Mayor and are pleased that this motion is going to Council as it will assist in the delivery of the actions contained in the Cork Local Economic and Community Plan, and add momentum to the further and ongoing development of Cork as a global leader among Learning Cities. The
initiative has also received very positive feedback from the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning who stated that it is an idea that should be taken up by other learning cities worldwide.

9.8.4 HERITAGE PROJECT TO PRESEVE STONE MASONRY

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council facilitate the establishment of a specific heritage project to preserve, maintain and pass on to future generations the art and skills of stone carving and cutting and masonry that has given Cork its unique and defining limestone architectural landscape from churches and civic buildings to quay walls and other features of our built heritage.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 18/302)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Cork City Council, under the Cork City Heritage Plan, has funded a training course in traditional stone mason skills in 2017 in partnership with the Heritage Council. This was held in the Nano Nagel Centre grounds and was attended by members of the public, Cork City Council staff, practitioners, architects and historical groups. A second training course is planned for November 2018. This will take place on the 3rd and 4th of November in Bessborough, mahon and will cover items such as dry stone wall construction, lime mortars, architectural stone cutting, letter carving and the construction and installation of a stone arch.

9.8.5 REPORT ON ‘WE ARE CORK’ CAMPAIGN

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council report on the 'We Are Cork' campaign outlining the strategy involved, financial outlay and how it compliments other initiatives such as 'Pure Cork' & 'Visit Cork’.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 18/328)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that this report follows on from the Chief Executive’s Update Report to Council of 22 October 2018 on the Cork Placebrand – We are Cork.

We are Cork

We are Cork is the new placebrand for Cork City and County. It has been developed in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders – including Cork City Council, Cork County Council, UCC, CIT, Cork Airport, the Port of Cork, Cork Chamber, CBA, IBEC, IDA, Enterprise Ireland, Failte Ireland and Visit Cork. It builds on work undertaken in 2013/2014 which identified the key economic strengths of the Cork Region and what makes Cork unique and attractive.
The purpose of the Cork Place Brand project is to leverage all the existing strengths and opportunities of Cork so that we can celebrate them internally within Cork and communicate them externally to wider audiences. It will provide a shared identity, vision and voice that everyone can use to tell the Cork story with clarity, consistency and strength.

The We are Cork brand mark is the letter “C” made up of spokes which represent the different stakeholders and which come together to a centred hub point, signifying unity and a positive partnership between all involved. This Brand Mark is underpinned by the words “We are Cork”, reflecting a place that is confident, stable and working together – together, we are Cork.

**Campaign Strategy**

At the core of the placebrand is the concept “Cork Can” – this will be reflected in our messaging. It reflects Cork as a place of opportunity and possibility, Cork has the right mix of opportunities, resources and support for personal and business success, it is a place where anything can happen. ‘Cork Can’ helps us communicate a point of difference and is a reflection of all the attributes we want to be known for. It represents the can-do attitude of people in Cork and symbolises a mindset, a determination to succeed and achieve and an overarching essence of what makes us unique.

In order to bring the Cork placebrand to life a number of videos and photostories have been developed involving a cross section of people living and working in Cork – across business, culture, sport, community, food and drink and education. These harness the power of locals as the storytellers, actively participating in the positive positioning of their City and County. Each shares their story of “can” – showcasing the passion and power of what they do in their business, organisation or community while enjoying a unique quality of life in Cork. These stories of can are available on the placebrand website and via social media.

The new placebrand website, [www.wearecork.ie](http://www.wearecork.ie), is the first port of call for those interested in finding out more about Cork. It tells the high-level story of Cork and positions it as a great place in which to invest, live, work, study and visit. It uses short and concise narrative and creative visuals to showcase the key attributes of Cork and signposts users to relevant stakeholder websites. It also promotes the Cork placebrand and encourages its use by others in Cork.

We are Cork is an overarching or umbrella brand, which enables each stakeholder to project consistent values and messages and a shared visual identity, whilst also conveying specific messages to different market segments: students, investors, people considering relocating to Cork and so on. This partnership approach is a critical element of the placebrand strategy. Each of the partner organisations is already involved in marketing Cork, either directly or indirectly, at home and overseas. The development of a single brand which each can use to strengthen their message and incorporate into their own marketing campaigns, helps to unify the Cork story and maximise the effectiveness of this marketing effort.

It also enables the brand to be pushed out through existing promotional activities rather than developing a standalone campaign. This approach is increasingly seen as best practice globally and also is the most cost-effective way to leverage marketing spend in international markets.
Financial Outlay

The We are Cork initiative is one part of a larger project which is made up of two strands:

- Development of Cork placebrand, including visual identity and messaging, which works across the various pillars (education, investment, place to live, business, visitor offering etc)

- An investor-focused economic marketing strategy to promote and position Cork City and County as a global business destination for indigenous and foreign business.

Cork City Council fulfilled the role of project management for the project and in that regard has a contract with OCO Global (working with collaborate) to deliver both strands. The costs associated with the contract are shared by Cork City Council and Cork County Council. Additional contributions have also been agreed by the project partners. The total amount spent is €290,305.10 (this refers to a wider body of work than just the We are Cork branding as payments to OCO Global referred to both strands of the overall contract). Taking account of partner contributions the net expenditure of Cork City Council is €139,407.34.

Working with Other Brands

The placebrand is an overarching umbrella or parent brand. It will not replace existing brands (UCC and CIT will continue to use their brand to attract students, the Pure Cork brand will continue to be used in attracting visitors to Cork etc) but will support these brands and be used as a secondary brand.

Promoting Cork Limited, trading as Visit Cork, is the organisation charged with promoting Cork as a tourist destination. This is both for Business (Convention Bureau) and Leisure Tourism. Pure Cork was the visitor brand developed by Visit Cork to assist in promoting Cork City and County as a visitor destination. Its messages are targeted directly at the visitor markets – its core proposition is Cork as Ireland’s maritime haven and it is designed to specifically service the tourism needs of the region. It is strategically aligned to the We are Cork Place Brand, which can be used at a secondary level in communications aimed at overseas visitors, allowing the Pure Cork brand and messaging to take prominence.

9.9

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS APPERTAINING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE**

9.9.1

**DERELICT/VACANT SITES REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise dated 1st November 2018 on Derelict Sites and Vacant Sites.
10. **ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 5th NOVEMBER 2018**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment and Recreation Functional Committee from its meeting held 5th November 2018.

10.1 **REPORT ON LITTER**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services dated 1st November 2018 on Litter.

10.2 **REPORT OUTLINING THE PROCESS OF PURCHASE OF LANDS AT CARRIGROHANE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment & Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would prepare a report outlining the process of purchase of lands at Carrigrohane, the various proposed plans for their use and the process of consultation and determination of the current proposed usage.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 17/284)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the 106 acres of land at Inchigaggin lane was bought by the Cork City Council though an open market process. The overall site, including Inchigaggin House, a derelict Protected Structure, was officially brought to market on the 4th May 2017. Inchigaggin House comprises a 9 bay two storey house built c. 1800 with various out building. The building and site is in a poor state of repair and in need of complete refurbishment/redevelopment. The land which is in three principal divisions currently all under grass, approximately 30 acres and incorporating Inchigaggin House is zoned “landscape preservation zones” in the City Development Plan and the remainder of the land of approximately 76 acres both north and south Carrigrohane Road and is zoned “prominent and strategic metropolitan greenbelt” area in the Cork County Development Plan.

The Council’s offer of €2.63 million was recommended by the sales agent for acceptance to the High Court on the 30th June 2017. As the sale was ordered by the High Court through a Receiver significant delays were realised in formally acquiring the property and the property did not officially come into Cork City Council ownership until 6th June 2018.

This strategic acquisition adds to and consolidates the Council’s significant land ownership on the western side of the City and affords the Council the opportunity:

- to expand important recreational and amenities in the area to benefit the expanded city;
- to capitalise on opportunities presented by the boundary extension and the planned flood defence works by the OPW. Any development would need to be carefully planned and be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area;
• to expand the Lee Fields and sports fields recreational zone in the area and provide the space to create much needed public facilities to ensure its long term success and use by all members of the public;
• to protect and preserve the floodplain for the future of the City by bringing this important asset into public ownership;
• to provide the land required to facilitate strategic investment in the Western Trunk main and flood defences for the City.

As part of the Council’s due diligence and risk assessment process this important acquisition needed to be justified and the financial exposure of the Council ameliorated where possible. It was agreed, subject to matters being approved by Council and formalised through the Section 183 Process to:

1. Dispose of Inchigaggin House on the open market for the best price reasonably obtainable through a best bids process and help recover a portion of the overall acquisition costs. This building and site is derelict and in poor state of repair. Insurance and security costs in managing the building are significant and the building is not sustainable for Council use due to its condition, location, heritage status and the very high costs of refurbishment. In the absence of an alternative and funded viable use the building represents a liability for the council and is sale on the open market is the preferred option. The property is recommended for sale with stringent derelict site conditions to ensure its redevelopment in the short term. This strategy was deemed the most prudent and best approach to dealing with this part of the property.

2. Dispose by way of sale on the open market c.4.8 acres of land to the western side of Inchigaggin Lane and accessible to Model Farm Road for the best price reasonably obtainable through a best bids process. The sale of this land will recover a portion of the overall acquisition costs and help pay down the capital balance but most importantly allow reinvestment in the delivery of the expanded amenity facilities referenced above and development of plans to consider the wider development potential of the area. The sale of this land does not compromise the Council’s ownership in this location and does not materially impact on future plans the Council may have for development in this part of the city. This strategy was deemed the most prudent and best approach to dealing with this part of the property.

3. Dispose by way of a short term lease (1-3 years) for agricultural use the remaining 28 acres of land around Inchigaggin House, the 60 acres of land to the north of Carrigrohane Road and the approx. 29 acres of land on the western side of Inchigaggin Lane, total 117 acres. Given proposed flood defence works by the OPW and the Western Trunk Main by Irish Water conditions will be introduced to these short term leases to ensure that the lands can be vacated with 3 months notice to avoid conflict and delays of important strategic works. The rent of these lands will offset the Council’s liability in terms of insurance and security and address long standing problems of trespass. Such a strategy has proved the most effective means of managing the Council’s land banks in peripheral locations throughout the city.

The above sales processes and assessments is ongoing and the relevant disposals will be brought formally before Council in December 2018 for consideration.
10.3 **SPORTS GROUNDS ON THE CARRIGROHANE ROAD (held in Committee)**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motions referred to the committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would produce a report on current and future uses for the sports grounds on the Carrigrohane Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 17/393)

**OWNERSHIP OF LANDS FOR SPORTING PURPOSES**

‘That Cork City Council would produce a report of all grounds/lands in its ownership for sporting purposes currently not in use and would outline strategies for bringing them into future use.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 17/235)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Council has lands at Inchigagin Lane (19 acres) purchased in 2009, and lands at Leemount Carrigrohane (36 acres) purchased in 2006. A review of sporting needs will be undertaken in the coming months in the context of the extended City Boundary.

There are two rugby pitches at Carrigrohane Road vacated by Munster Rugby at the request of City Council as it is a medium term strategy to provide a Park and Ride Facility on the Western side of the city and this site is deemed suitable. In the short term, the Council will assess works required to reinstate these pitches with a view to arranging short term letting for sporting purposes.

10.4 **MORRISON’S ISLAND/FATHER MATTHEW QUAY FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That the Morrisons Island/Father Matthew Quay Flood Relief Scheme be reviewed in the context of maintaining maximum car parking in the area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 18/155)

The report of the Director of Services stated that this issue will be discussed further as part of the Part 10 Planning process, in conjunction with the Roads Directorate.

10.5 **TREE OUTSIDE 6 ILEN COURT, DEANROCK ESTATE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-
‘That City Council would trim back the branches of a tree right outside No. 6 Ilen Court Deanrock Estate as a matter of urgency as these tree branches are on top of this property presently.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 18/226)

The report of the Director of Services stated that pruning to remove the overhanging branches outside the above property will be carried out in the coming weeks.

10.6 LANDS AT THE REAR OF AVONMORE PARK AND MOUNT BROSNA, MAYFIELD

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council undertake to clean up and develop and draw up an area plan for the lands at the rear of Avonmore Park and Mount Brosna in Mayfield by doing the following:-

- Remove all the Rubbish from all this area.
- Cut all the grass and remove all the weeds and overgrowth and most importantly, landscape the area in exactly the same way as the adjacent Glenamoy Lawn is finished.
- Repair all the lighting fittings along the pathway.
- The residents have expressed interest in helping to develop and maintaining this area and also the allocation of allotments. There is a significant interest in this.
- Residents have asked if the clean up of this area and pathway could be enhanced further by the introduction of benches along this pathway and they have requested that this newly developed enhanced area be called "Mayfield Memorial Gardens" in memory of all those affected by suicide in the Mayfield area. People who have previously used this area as a public dumping ground would hopefully have more respect for the area in its new guise.

The residents are very much in favour of the potential development of this area of waste land and are very keen to put it to good use and of positive benefit to our local Community.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 18/237)

The report of the Director of Services stated that an assessment of works for the lands and embankment between the rear of properties at Corrib Lawn/Ballinderry Park and Avonmore Park/Mount Brosna is presently underway including an estimate of costs.

When complete, the project will be included in the 2019 Draft Parks Capital Programme for consideration.

10.7 FENCING AT FAIRFIELD, FARRANREE

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-
‘That Cork City Council installs fencing around the Fairfield similar to Popham’s Park Farranree to prevent antisocial behaviour and to protect the many users of this popular amenity.’

(Proposer: Cllr. Kenneth Collins 18/241)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the length of railings required to enclose the Fairfield is approximately 520 metres, plus at least four pedestrian and two vehicular gates.

The estimate for installation is €90k.

Opening and closing gates throughout the year including Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays would require an additional €20k in the Parks Revenue budget.

There is no provision in the 2019 Draft Parks Estimates to cover installation or opening and closing.

10.8 TREES IN WILLOW BANK, CHURCH ROAD, BLACKROCK

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That the trees in Willow Bank, Church Road, Blackrock would as soon as possible be trimmed as they are currently grossly overgrown.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 18/243)

The report of the Director of Services stated that trees at the above Estate are included in the schedule of tree works and will be attended as quickly as resources allow.

Any emergency pruning will be carried out as required.

10.9 TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That the Council put in place a significant tree planting programme within the 2019 budget’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 18/252)

The report of the Director of Services stated that provision is included in the 2019 Draft Park Estimates for replacement tree planting and, additional tree planting at selected locations in partnership with resident groups/associations.
**10.10 FORMER SOURCE HEALTH AND FITNESS COMPLEX**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council, further to my recent request to the CE would make every effort to purchase the former Source Health and Fitness Complex as a public leisure facility for the North East area of the city and that it should be managed by Leisureworld which has a proven track record in running similar facilities in Bishopstown and Churchfield.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 18/254)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has examined the feasibility of acquiring Source but has decided not to pursue the matter for reasons that are commercially sensitive at present.

It is hoped that the market produces a more suitable purchaser for the facility, as this acquisition is not suitable for the Council.

**10.11 LITTER BINS AT THE LEE FIELDS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That City Council would empty the litter bins along the Lee Fields on a more regular basis particularly in the Summer season as these are overflowing with litter and are a complete eyesore to the public who use this amenity and this does not sell our city to the tourists who frequent this walkway. Also that City Council would cut back or remove completely the overgrowth / hedge along the river between the pedestrian bridge and the rear of the Kingsley Hotel as this is blocking the walkway of this beautiful amenity for the past few months.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 18/236)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the frequency of emptying litter bins at the Lee Fields was increased this summer from two to three occasions (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) to address an increase in litter disposal. It is worth noting that close to 50% of the litter collected consists of small bags of domestic refuse.

As with all City amenities we strongly encourage users, where practicable, to take their litter home and, allow the Council to direct any savings to enhance amenity services.

The hedge between the river and walkway is scheduled for trimming in the coming ten days.
10.12 **MARINA PARK AND THE URBAN REGENERATION GRANT SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council submits the strongest possible application for the ‘Marina Park’ to be funded through the recently announced Urban Regeneration Grant Scheme. The Marina Park Project is more than qualified to be successful in round one of the grant scheme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 18/244)

The report of the Director of Services stated that an application for funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund has been submitted for Marina Park including the lands at the former Ursuline Convent.

The application was submitted under Category A (ready to go proposals that can draw down funding immediately and be initiated in 2019), Marina Park fulfils this requirement.

The value of the fund is €2 billion for the ten year duration of the National Development Plan (NDP) to 2027, with €550 million allocated in the NDP to 2022 and €100 million available for expenditure in 2019.

10.13 **DRAINS ON GREAT WILLIAM O’BRIEN STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would investigate and clear blocked and damaged drains on Great William O’Brien Street in light of the heavy rain forecast in the coming days.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 18/272)

The report of the Director of Services stated that we have had 4 call outs to this street this year, three to nr 53 (30/10/18, 24/9/18 and 12/03/18) and one to nr 51(4/4/18). Number 51 required an excavation and repair to a damaged section of sewer which tees onto the main from a laneway adjacent to the property. Number 53 was a blocked Buchan trap which we freed on both occasions.

We had one call out in all of 2017(23/5/17), which proved to be a private side issue.

We do not regard this as an especially troublesome sewer main. Historically there were some issues on the sewer teeing in from Sunday’s Well Lane and at the junction of North Mon Road and Great Wm O’Brien Street but these were both repaired a number of years ago.

We’ll take a look at this line this week and if it looks like it needs a cleaning we’ll arrange a Jet Vac.
If the issue at nr 53 proves to be a Buchan again we’ll place it on the dig-up list to be removed

10.14 **REMOVE OVERGROWTH OF IVY ON SUNDAY SCHOOL LANE, BLACKPOOL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would investigate, treat and remove the overgrowth of ivy on Sunday School Lane, Blackpool which is now growing on the wall at Seminary Villas and may potentially cause serious damage.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 18/273)

The report of the Director of Services stated that this motion is for the Roads Directorate and has been referred accordingly.

10.15 **RESTOCKING THE LOUGH**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That City Council would inform the Council of what measures have been taken since the fish kill in the Lough earlier this year and when will the process for restocking the Lough begin.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 18/246)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a full report on the outbreak of Carp Edema Virus at the Lough was presented to the last Functional Meeting of 5th June, together with a copy of the specialist fish veterinary report and a further report brought to the last Functional Meeting of 3 September. The most likely cause of the disease outbreak at the Lough was the use of infected fishing equipment.

Since early May, no further fish kills have been reported at the lake. On the recommendation of Inland Fisheries Ireland, no fishing has been allowed, with signage erected around the path perimeter. IFI are anxious that the ban on fishing continue to minimise the risk of the disease being carried to other waters. IFI are not in favour of any short term re-stocking due to risks to other local waters and the Fish Vet report also indicated this would be a high risk measure. IFI also would have biosecurity concerns at the Lough and any proposal to restock in the medium term would need to robustly consider how this would be managed.

Further testing on the remaining fish stock will be carried out by the Marine Institute. The UCC Zoology Department are undertaking a complete ecological assessment of the lake on behalf of the Council.

The Parks Department carries out testing of the water from six different points twice a week and the water quality is good. A further two water jets were installed in June near the
Slipway to further aerate the water during hot weather. Barley straw has been placed around the perimeter of the island in recent years each April, the decaying straw releasing toxins which help prevent algae bloom. The straw is removed each September.

10.16 DRAINAGE/SEWAGE SYSTEM IN GREENFIELDS/PARKLEY COURT, MODEL FARM ROAD

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That City Council would do a complete thorough inspection of the drainage/sewage system in Greenfields/Parkley Court Model Farm Road, as this is blocking up fairly regularly and the stench is overpowering at times until the drainage trucks comes to free/empty it.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 18/268)

The report of the Director of Services stated that we’ve received 2 call outs to Greenfields this year, both to nr 21 (5/02/18 and 20/02/18) and one to 9 Parkley Court. On each occasion the mains was blocked and needed to be cleared with a Jet Vac. We received one call out to Greenfields in both 2016 and 2017, to Nr’s 18 and 19 (10/05/18) and (28/11/17) – both reported the same issue and it was cleared with the Jet Vac on each occasion.

This frequency of call outs would not usually raise alarm bells with us but it’s possible there may be an underlying issue. We will arrange a further investigation and CCTV of this line.

10.17 MORRISON’S ISLAND PROJECT

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would now get a professional expert opinion on the Morrison's Island Project from a firm of Dutch consultants. As part of the brief provision should be made for the use of Cork Limestone and Irish Timber. As the ESB have announced half year profits of €140 million they should be charged for a new pedestrian footbridge as the current one must be condemned as it will cause significant flooding in the forthcoming winter.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 18/301)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Morrison’s Island project is primarily a Public Realm project, incorporating flood defence proposals. Cork City Council does not see any value in asking a firm of Dutch Consultants to comment on the project, particularly from a Public Realm point of view. If the motion is requesting Cork City Council obtain a professional expert opinion on the flood defence aspect of the project, reference should be made to the Manager’s Report for Part 8 Application for Morrison’s Island:

“The precursor to the Lower Lee FRS project, the Lee CFRAMS, was undertaken by a consortium led by Halcrow, a recognised international leader in the area of flood relief. Its work was supervised by OPW, the lead agency for flood relief in Ireland, itself having a
wealth of expertise in this area. The Lee CFRAMS identified a direct defence scheme in Cork as the optimum solution for Cork.

The current project, the Lower Lee FRS, is being undertaken by Arup, one of the largest international consultancy firms in the world, in conjunction with JBA Consulting, who also have significant international experience.

All aspects of the design undergo detailed internal reviews by the design team before being presented to the steering group for further review and approval. All aspects of the design are in accordance with best practice and current guidelines.

An international peer review has been carried out, of the implementation of Flood Risk Management Policy as led in Ireland by OPW.

This review was carried out by a Risk Review team appointed by the Dutch government. A key finding of the review was as follows – “The review team concludes that Irish FRM complies with international best practice. The international benchmark shows that Irish Flood Risk Management follows international best practices.” A copy of the review is available to view at the following website address https://www.opw.ie/en/media/drr-team-peer-review-report.pdf

Following over 10 years of study by OPW, Cork City and County Council, and a number of international consultants (expert in the delivery of flood relief schemes), all studies have arrived at essentially the same conclusion with regard to the optimum solution for Cork. In this time, Cork has suffered from a major fluvial flood event in 2009 and significant tidal events, particularly in 2014 and 2016. As such, OPW [and Cork City Council] see no benefit in undertaking a further review which would only serve to delay the delivery of this critical infrastructure for Cork”.

Regarding provision in the brief for the use of Cork Limestone and Irish Timber, the procurement of materials, including stone and timber, is governed by National and EU procurement regulations. Any overly restrictive specification regarding material sources would risk breaching procurement regulations.

The majority of the materials specified for the scheme can potentially be sourced domestically. However, it will be up to the main contractor to determine the most cost effective source which meets the specification.

Regarding Trinity Footbridge, the current footbridge is not responsible for causing tidal flooding.

The water levels in the River Lee at the Morrison’s Island and Union quays are tidally dominated, and so the tide level dictates water levels, rather than any local structures or “obstructions”.

By way of explanation, in a tidal zone, the tide reaches an elevation established by the water surface elevation in the greater Cork Harbour and ultimately the Atlantic Ocean. For that reason, even if the Trinity Bridge was removed entirely, the predicted astronomical tide would still reach its predicted level. Consequently, removal of the bridge at this juncture would offer no benefit in alleviating flooding in the city centre.
It is accepted that the current accesses from bridge to the quays on either side offer a low point whereby high tidal waters can flow on to the Quays. At present, high tide levels frequently flow through these bridge ends, and through ground level drainage outlets along the quays, to flood the quays. The Morrison’s Island project proposes to include demountable defences on either side of the bridge to protect the quays.

The proposals through the Morrison’s Island project for Trinity Bridge do not prevent any future replacement of the bridge, if such replacement project was ever to be proposed and should the required funding become available.

10.18 REPORT ON ANIMAL SHELTER AND POUND SERVICES

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council drafts a report on the disproportionate kill rate in relation to the animal shelter and pound services facilitated by this Local Authority.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Ryan 18/303)

The report of the Director of Services stated that under the Control of Dogs Acts 1986 & 1992 each Local Authority is obliged to have a Dog Shelter for the holding of seized dogs, accepted dogs or detained dogs under any provision of the Act. The CSPCA, which is a charitable organisation operates a Dog Shelter as an agent of the Council, the Shelter being one of the few custom built facilities, constructed in 2007 at Mahon.

The Shelter caters for a very high number of dogs each year 442 (2017), 495 (2016). The re-homing rate each year is one of the highest in the country 407 (2017), 457 (2016), approx. 90%, with a very modest put down rate of less than 10%, 43 (2017) and 50 (2016). The number of dogs put to sleep reflects the number of dogs entering the shelter in a state of neglect, with little choice but to humanely put them down. The shelter is inspected annually by a County Council Veterinary Inspection, to verify the standard of care.

10.19 ONLINE ADOPTION/FOSTERING SERVICE FOR ANIMALS

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council investigates what would be necessary to fund an online adoption/fostering service to highlight missing animals taken into custody by animal shelter/pound services and reduce the numbers of unnecessary animal deaths.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Ryan 18/304)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the CSPCA operate a Dog Shelter at Mahon where stray dogs or accepted dogs are detained. The CSPCA have a Website where photos of dogs are regularly updated. The facility is also open to the public who may be searching for a stray dog, or wish to adopt a dog.
All dogs leaving the Shelter are microchipped, for easier traceability afterwards, with a micro scanner on the premises also which can assist with reuniting strays with their owners.

The re-homing rate of the CSPCA is one of the highest in the county with widespread awareness of the Charity. There are no further plans to expand the online service further but the matter will be kept under review bearing in mind the expanded City Boundary next year.

10.20 ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING ON THE MORRISON’S ISLAND PUBLIC REALM AND FLOOD DEFENCE PROJECT

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment and Recreation dated 1st November 2018 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the decision of the European Court of Justice (CJEU) which mandates the Council to undertake a new environmental screening process on the Morrison's Island Public Realm and Flood Defence Project’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 18/306)

The report of the Director of Services stated that in March 2018, Cork City Council undertook an AA analysis and screening for the Morrison’s Island Public Realm and Flood Defence Project. This screening indicated that the potential for the project to have harmful effects on the Harbour Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and SACs (Special Area of Conservation) was minimal.

A Nature Impact Statement (NIS) was thus not considered necessary as under established practice (supported by extensive Irish case law and case law in other jurisdictions), the mitigation measures necessary to offset these potentially minimal harmful effects were instead factored into the project’s construction plan.

However, a month later in April, in an unrelated wind farm case, the CJEU issued a declaratory judgment stating that no mitigation measures can be considered when carrying out an AA screening. Accordingly, if there is any impact or potential impact, no matter how small or insignificant, then an NIS must be carried out. As this was a declaratory judgement, clarifying a point of law, it is retrospective and must therefore be applied to existing decisions and future decisions regarding AA screenings.

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) Case which has led to this outcome is case number C- 323/17 - People Over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta.

Thus following this European Court of Justice (CJEU) ruling, which overturned established practice in Ireland and across Europe, Cork City Council is now to undertake a new environmental screening of the Morrison’s Island Public Realm & Flood Defence Project.

The original environmental screening report for the Morrison’s Island project was completed a month before the CJEU decision and at the time of signing was in full compliance with all existing and established processes and procedures. However, as the CJEU decision was a clarification of its interpretation of the requirements of an EU
directive, the decision has retrospective effect. It imposes a new requirement upon Cork City Council that could not have been foreseen a month previous.

Due to this new requirement to undertake a new environmental screening process (termed ‘appropriate assessment’ (AA)), Cork City Council is not proceeding with the Part 8 planning process which was the subject of a judicial review.

The new AA screening will be completed as soon as possible. Upon completion of the AA process, the Council will immediately submit the Morrison’s Island project to An Bord Pleánala (ABP) for planning permission through the Part 10 planning procedure.

This new AA Screening is not being undertaken due to a flaw or error in either the Part 8 documentation or the processes undertaken which at the time followed the established processes of many years. The CJEU decision in effect overturned established practice both in Ireland and across Europe.

It is also important to note that no changes to the project design or scope are required or are being proposed, other than those which were agreed during the Part 8 process.

Cork City Council remains fully committed to the delivery of the full Morrisons Island project. This project is vital if we are to mitigate flood risk for Cork city traders and residents who, over the past decade, have suffered €130 million of damage by flooding. While the impact of this European Court ruling will result in delay, it is anticipated that by acting quickly the City Council will minimise delays to the project delivery timeframe.

At a hearing on the 16th October, Cork City Council agreed to a Judicial Order that as a result of the impact of the CJEU decision, the Part 8 decision of 14th May 2018 would be quashed.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence as follows:-

- Letter from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government dated 24th October 2018.
- Letter from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government dated 25th October 2018

12. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle considered and noted summaries by members of Conferences/Seminars attended as follows:-

- Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll at the AILG Autumn Training Seminar, Brexit held in Monaghan Town on 25th October 2018.
- Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll at the AILG Southern Region Training Seminar held in Limerick on 18th October 2018.
SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting past 8 p.m.

13. CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS

An Chomhairle considered and approved attendance at Conferences/Seminars as follows:-

- Comhairleoir S. Martin at the EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 conference to be held at the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford from the 14th – 16th December 2018.
- Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald at the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, Strengthening City Diplomacy for Health conference to be held in St. Petersburg from the 20th – 22nd November 2018.
- Comhairleoir F. Dennehy at the Local Authorities Budgets 2019 conference to be held at the Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny from the 9th – 11th November 2018.

13.1 ECAD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

An Chomhairle considered and approved the attendance of Comhairleoir M. Shields at the ECAD Executive Board Meeting in Stockholm on the 28th November 2018.

14. TRAINING

An Chomhairle considered and approved attendance at Training as follows:-

- Comhairleoirí T. Shannon and T. O’Driscoll at the Southern Region, Module 6, GDPR, General Data Protection Regulation and The Elected Member to be held at the Hotel Kilkenny, Kilkenny on the 15th November 2018.

15. CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report for September 2018.

16. MOTIONS

An Chomhairle considered and approved the referral to the relevant Committee of the following motions, due notice of which has been given:
16.1 **FUNDING FOR PEARSE SQUARE**

‘That Cork City Council make funding available to address the following matters in Pearse Square:-

1. Improved CCTV coverage of the Square.
2. Improved lighting all over the Square.
3. Topping the trees.
4. Removal of the small wall at the Pearse Road side of the Square.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 18/265)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.2 **CLARKS ROAD IN THE ESTATE RESURFACING PROGRAMME**

‘That upper and Lower Clarks Road be included in the estate resurfacing programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 18/266)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.3 **TRAFFIC CONGESTION ON WELLINGTON ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council address the ongoing and worsening matter of traffic congestion on Wellington Road and particularly during peak school hours by modifying the parking alignment on Wellington Road in the following manner:

- From the top of York Hill to the bottom of Sidney Hill where vehicles currently park nose to kerb will continue to do so but at a 45 degree angle. Parking bays can be painted in order to align all vehicles parking at a 45 degree angle.
- On the opposite side of this stretch of road, double yellow lines will be painted prohibiting vehicular parking just on this stretch of road.

These measures should go in some way to alleviate the chronic traffic congestion on this particular stretch of road and enhance the safety of pedestrians, motorists and cyclists in this busy area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 18/297)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.4 **DOUBLE YELLOW LINES ON LEYCESTER LANE**

‘That Cork City Council put in place continuous double yellow lines (there is intermittent double lines there at the moment) on both sides of the road on Leycester Lane from the junction with Middle Glanmire Road all the way up to the junction with Clifton Downs. I have raised this previously but nothing has been done. Cars are being left parked on this hill all day long from early morning on both sides of the road and this is presenting a serious danger to residents exiting from Merrion Court Estate whose view is completely obstructed by these parked cars on both sides of the entrance/exit. This is an accident
waiting to happen unless we put in place these continuous double yellow lines on both sides of the road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 18/308)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.5 **30KM SPEED LIMIT ON CONNAUGHT AVENUE**

‘I ask that Connaught Avenue be considered for a 30 km an hour speed limit. This area has become a rat run and speeding traffic is an issue with local residents.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 18/315)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.6 **ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAMME AT MONTENOTTE PARK**

‘That Cork City Council make provision in the 2019 estimate of expenses for the completion of the road resurfacing programme at Montenotte Park to include St. Christopher's Walk, St. Christopher's Avenue and St. Christopher's Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 18/319)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.7 **SAFETY PLAN FOR SCHOOL GOING PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS**

‘That Cork City Council Roads Directorate would reach out to school authorities at St Angela's Secondary School, Bruce College, Christian Brothers College Secondary and Primary Schools, Scoil Mhuire Secondary and Junior Schools and Hewitt College with a view to working together to make a Safety Plan for school going pedestrians and cyclists and relieving traffic congestion in the general area. Bearing in mind the City Council's intent in relation to traffic flow changes in the Bridge St. and MacCurtain St. areas, a Safety Plan for the school going population is an essential prerequisite to any attempt to introduce traffic flow changes. The initiative must be initiated by Council officials now as an urgent health and safety measure.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 18/320)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.8 **ROUNDABOUT AT THE JUNCTION OF GURRANABRAHER ROAD AND SUN VALLEY DRIVE**

‘That Cork City Council removes the roundabout at the junction between Gurranabraher Road and Sun Valley Drive and install traffic lights.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 18/332)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**
16.9 **INCLUDE GOULD STREET IN THE 2019 ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAMME**

“That Gould Street should be included in the 2019 roadworks resurfacing programme.”

_(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 18/334)_

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.10 **RESURFACING OF PATHWAYS AND UPGRADING OF THE SOCCER PITCH AT CLASHDUV PARK**

“That Council would provide an updated report on the work that's to be carried out on the resurfacing of pathways and the upgrading of the soccer pitch at Clashduv Park and what funding has been allocated for same.”

_(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 18/335)_

**Environment & Recreation Functional Committee**

16.11 **TACKLING KNOT WEED ON MODEL FARM ROAD**

“That City Council would give a full report on the progress of tackling knot weed across the South West constituency particularly in relation to the growth of same at the rear of the Tennis Village Model Farm Road.”

_(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 18/336)_

**Environment & Recreation Functional Committee**

16.12 **RESURFACE POPHAMS ROAD**

“That Cork City Council resurface Pohams Road from Knockpogue Avenue to the Commons Road.”

_(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 18/337)_

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.13 **REFURBISH THE PROPERTY AT 11 ASSUMPTION ROAD**

“That in view of the recent fire at 11 Assumption Road, that Cork City Council would make every effort to secure and subsequently refurbish the property.”

_(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 18/338)_

**Housing & Community Functional Committee**
16.14 **TAKE IN CHARGE OF BEAUMONT LANE**

‘That Beaumont Lane be taken in charge. The lane at the junction of Beaumont Drive and the Blackrock Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 18/339)

Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

16.15 **SURVEY OF OUT-DATED POLES/SIGNAGE IN THE CITY CENTRE**

‘That Cork City Council carries out an active survey of unused or out-dated poles/signage etc in the city centre and removes them quickly to avoid unnecessary clutter.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 18/340)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

16.16 **BOLLARDS IN CHURCHYARD LANE**

‘In light of the ongoing difficulty in illegal parking in the vicinity of the old post office sorting office - now a residence - that bollards be placed on the road in Churchyard Lane opposite entrances to houses. This would create a chicane into the road and would achieve improved safety slowing vehicles down, improved safety for pedestrians as cars would no longer be able to park on top of footpaths thereby forcing pedestrians to walk on the road, guarantee residents easy access to their homes as cars could no longer park where the bollards are, stop illegal parking on the road, and ensure emergency services have ready access to all houses on and through the Lane.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 18/341)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

16.17 **CORK CITY COUNCIL’S PARTICIPATION IN EARTH HOUR**

‘That Cork City Council locks in Earth Hour on its annual events calendar so it happens every year and is on par with other events. That Cork City Council participates in Earth Hour by switching off all of City Hall’s non-essential lights, particularly facade floodlights. That Cork City Council actively liaises with the relevant officials to broaden participation in Earth Hour to Cork City’s most-renowned buildings including: Saint Anne’s Church, North Cathedral, Saint Fin Barre’s Cathedral and the Aula Maxima in UCC.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 18/342)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

16.18 **INSTALL PUBLIC DRINKING FOUNTAINS**

‘That Cork City Council pilot the installation of public drinking water fountains in a number of locations with high pedestrian footfall, such as public parks and walkways, to
help reduce the levels of single use plastics, Council could seek partners in this initiative such as 'Cool Planet'."

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 18/344)

**Environment & Recreation Functional Committee**

16.19 **PUBLIC WIFI HOTSPOT IN BLACKROCK VILLAGE**

‘That Cork City Council install a public WiFi hotspot in Blackrock Village.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 18/345)

**Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee**

16.20 **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES ON ORCHARD ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council would undertake an engineering survey of Orchard Road to assess for traffic calming and speed reduction measures as well as consultation with residents living in the vicinity.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 18/347)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

16.21 **SURVEY OF THE ROAD NETWORK IN BENOIRLICH ESTATE**

‘That Cork City Council would undertake a survey of the road network in Benvoirlich Estate and would undertake resurfacing as appropriate.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 18/348)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

17. **MOTIONS**

17.1 **HEALTH AND SAFETY RULES ON HOUSING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Housing Minister to relax some of the overly-stringent health and safety rules preventing over 3,500 council-owned houses nationally from being allocated (except of course those with major deficiencies) as an immediate measure that would help in the growing housing crisis.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 18/331)
17.2 CONSTRUCTION OF A NORTH RING ROAD

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Government to prioritise the construction of a North Ring Road in view of the large increase in traffic using the N40 and the Jack Lynch Tunnel.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 18/333)

17.3 SUPPORT NATIONAL STANDING4WOMEN CAMPAIGN

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council, noting the recent Cervical Check Scandal, calls upon An Taoiseach and the Minster for Health to acknowledge, support and respond in detail to the demands of the national Standing4Women campaign. These include legislation and policy on mandatory open disclosure, the provision of a start and end date and full disclosure on the 1800 smears yet to be audited, and details of new packages being negotiated with laboratories carrying out smear slide analysis, including mandatory site audits.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 18/343)

17.4 STANDING4WOMEN CAMPAIGN

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That this Council noting the recent Cervical Check Scandal, calls upon the Minister for Health and An Taoiseach to acknowledge, support and respond in detail to the demands of the Standing4Women campaign. These include: Legislation and policy on mandatory open disclosure independent of the patient safety bill, provision of a start and end date and full disclosure on the 1800 smears yet to be audited, and a breakdown of the new packages being negotiated with laboratories carrying out smear slide analysis including mandatory site audits.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 18/346)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH