

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 9th JANUARY 2017

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| PRESENT | Ard-Mhéara Comhairleoir D. Cahill. |
| NORTH EAST | Comhairleoirí S. Cunningham, T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh. |
| NORTH CENTRAL | Comhairleoirí T. Gould, F. Ryan, K. O’Flynn, Lil, O’Donnell, J. Sheehan. |
| NORTH WEST | Comhairleoirí M. Nugent, T. Fitzgerald, K. Collins, M. O’Sullivan. |
| SOUTH EAST | Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy, C. O’Leary, L. McGonigle, T. Shannon, N. O’Keeffe, S. O’Shea. |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | Comhairleoirí M. Finn, F. Kerins, P. Dineen, T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin. |
| SOUTH WEST | Comhairleoirí J. Buttimer, H. Cremin, M. Shields, F. Dennehy, P.J. Hourican, T. Moloney. |
| ALSO PRESENT | Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive Mr. J. G. O’Riordan, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. J. Hayes, Administration Officer, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. J. Gazely, Administrative Officer, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Environment & Recreation Directorate. Ms. V. O’Sullivan, Director of Services, Housing & Community Directorate. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Mr. M. Burke, A/Director of Services, H.R. Management & Organisation Reform. Ms. A. Bogan, Senior Planner, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise. |

An tArd-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Goggin Family on the death of Eddie Goggin.
- The Martin Family on the death of Ellen Martin.
- The Chute Family on the death of John Chute.
- The Crotty Family on the death of Dr. Tom Crotty.
- The Ryan Family on the death of Denis Ryan.
- The Feeney Family on the death of Andrew Feeney.
- The Kelly Family on the death of John Kelly.
- The Cullinane Family on the death of Claire Cullinane.

2. **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES**

- Togher Boxing Club for winning Cork Boxing Club of the Year.
- T.J. Hogan on being selected as a finalist for the volunteer of the year L.A.M.A. Award.

3. **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

No items raised.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

4.1 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report for November 2016.

Comhairleoir T. Brosnan raised concern that the Local Government Auditor Report was reported on in the press before the Report was seen by An Chomhairle.

The Head of Finance advised that the Report will be available to An Chomhairle when it has gone through the appropriate process as set out in legislation.

5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir N. O'Keeffe seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held 12th December 2016.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **PLANNING DECISIONS IN RELATION TO 10 AND 10A FRIARY GARDENS**

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

Would the CE outline all planning decisions arrived at in relation to 10 and 10A Friary Gardens.

(Cllr. Sean Martin)

REPLY

09/33755 10A Friary Gardens

Grant: retention permission granted for retention of vehicular entrance to front.

09/33754 10 Friary Gardens

Grant: retention permission granted for vehicular entrance to front and permission for entrance door and first floor window to front.

99/23555 **10 Friary Gardens**
Grant: retention permission granted for variation to 95/19814 to amend conditions, to alter vehicular access and to retain shed for 18 months.

95/19814 **10 Friary Gardens**
Granted: permission to erect dwelling in the side garden

Ann Bogan,
A/Director of Services,
Strategic Planning, Economic Development.

6.2 **KILBARRY RAIL PROJECT**

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

Further to reply of question asked at City Council meeting of 24th October, 2016 and in light of clarification that the Kilbarry Rail project is not going ahead. In accordance with article 49, levy scheme of the 2000 Act, can the CE confirm the time frame for refunding those affected?

(Cllr. Kenneth O'Flynn)

REPLY

The various Supplementary Development Contribution Schemes in place since 2004 were made to fund the Cork Suburban Rail Project which consisted of the following elements:

- Re-opening of and operation of suburban rail services on the Cork to Midleton line
- Provision of new rail services between Blarney and Cork (some to continue to Mallow)
- Upgrading of rolling stock and frequency on the Cobh rail line as demand increases

The total cost of the project was calculated at €120 million in 2004.

As the development contributions collected under the scheme have been properly allocated to the Cork Suburban Rail Project, the issue of refunds does not arise.

Ann Bogan,
A/Director of Services,
Strategic Planning, Economic Development.

6.3 **DESIGNATED OFFICIALS TO DETER DUMPING ON THE SPOT**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Finn was deferred till the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held 23rd January 2017:-

Given recent reportage of excessive dumping in Cork and the associated financial and health implications for the city, (as well as the reported dearth of personnel to deal with it within City Council) is it not the case under the Litter Pollution Act that we have up to 11 personnel who are designated to issue fines and carry out enforcement who could help solve the problem, and can the CE – given the fact there is no dumping investigation unit

operational on Saturdays or Sundays and no litter warden service on Sundays – designate additional people (ie those who empty public bins) as officials so they can act on dumping on the spot which might act as a deterrent to regular dumping practices?

(Cllr. Mick Finn)

6.4 **COACH PARKING BAYS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

How many coach parking bays are available in the vicinity of the city centre and are there any plans to increase this number?

(Cllr. Tom O’Driscoll)

REPLY

Saint Patrick’s Quay is the primary location for coach parking in the City centre. A number of scheduled coach services also operate from this location and there is sufficient space available to accommodate up to ten busses. In addition a number of private scheduled services avail of existing facilities at various other locations including Grand Parade, Western Road and Lower Glanmire Rd.

A number of additional coach parking bays have also recently been installed in or close to the City centre – including Victoria Road, Boreenmanna Road and adjacent to Cork City Gaol. These have been installed on foot of the 2015 Coach Parking Review which was undertaken following consultation with operators and endorsed by Council. Additional coach parking facilities will be rolled out during 2017 in accordance with the recommendations of the Review.

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

6.5 **HOUSES BUILT BY CORK CITY COUNCIL IN 2016**

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

How many houses did Cork City Council build in 2016 that were fully completed and were allocated to families on the housing waiting list?

(Cllr. Thomas Gould)

REPLY

Members will be aware that the meeting of social housing need is delivered by a suite of housing options and have repeatedly been briefed on the fact that the acquisition, return of vacant housing units and other target categories have naturally been met faster than those under the construction target. Members have also been advised on several occasions on the progress now underway with regard to housing construction activity.

The delivery of unites therefore since the publication of the Social Housing Strategy focused out of necessity on the following categories:

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Return of Vacant Housing Units (2014 – 2016): | 840 units |
| Acquisition of Housing Units (2015 & 2016): | 169 units |
| Housing Construction (2015 – 2016): | 149 units (3 occupied in 2016) |
| Rental Accommodation Scheme (2015 – 2016): | 157 units |
| Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (2015 – 2016): | 1,106 units |
| Social Leasing (2015 – 2016): | 124 units |
| Current Social Housing Construction Project Pipeline | 585 units |
| Total | 3,130 units |

Valerie O’Sullivan
 Director of Services
 Housing & Community Services.

6.6 **HOUSING UNITS PROVIDED BY NAMA**

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

Will the CE report on the number of housing units NAMA provided to the Cork City Council since 2014 and the areas involved? What are the projected number of available units in 2017? Has the Council declined any offers of units over the same period from NAMA as they were deemed unsuitable and reasons for same?

(Cllr. Michael Nugent)

REPLY

A total of 60 units for social housing have been sourced from properties that were attached as security to loans in NAMA’s portfolio since 2014 to date. These properties were delivered at three locations namely Knocknacullen, Silversprings and Farranlea Road.

The projected number available in 2017 is 37 units of accommodation. The City Council did not decline any offers of accommodation from NAMA for this period.

V. O’Sullivan
 Director of Services
 Housing & Community Services.

6.7 **PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARINA PARK**

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

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

(Cllr. Kieran McCarthy)

REPLY

The demolition contract of the existing Showgrounds buildings is currently out to tender with responses due back on January 25th 2017. A contract will then be awarded following the completion of the tender assessment process.

Consultation with the Cork County Board design team is ongoing to ensure that the final stadium design will tie seamlessly into the proposed Marina Park.

The detailed design of the Marina Park will be progressed over the coming months with the tender for the construction of same issuing once the detailed design works are completed.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Environment & Recreation.

6.8 **FINES BY COUNCIL OFFICIALS**

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

Can the CE explain why a school in a DEIS area and some voluntary Sports Clubs have been targeted for Fines by Council Officials who seem to be acting on orders from their superiors?

(Cllr. Tim Brosnan)

REPLY

The simple answer to this question is that there has been no targeting of anybody on the basis of being in a DEIS area or being a voluntary Sports Club.

The background to the recent issue of litter fines to some schools and sports clubs is as follows:

Section 19 (1) of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 states:

Where any structure or other land, door, gate, window, tree, pole or post is in or visible from a public place, a person who is not the owner, occupier or person in charge thereof shall not –

- (a) Exhibit cause to be exhibited thereon any article or advertisement, or*
- (b) Carry out or cause to be carried out any defacement thereof by writing or other marks,*

Unless the person is authorised in advance to do so in writing by such owner, occupier or person in charge or by or under any enactment.

Members will also be aware that Cork City Council, in an effort to limit and control posterage throughout the City introduced a protocol on the 1st August 2015.

Part of the duties of the Litter Wardens employed by Cork City Council is to uphold the provisions of S19 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 while also working within the guidelines of the posterage protocol.

In enforcing the regulations fines are issued by the Litter Wardens in a fair, equitable and, impartial manner without fear or favour.

The cases referred to in this question relate to two schools and five sports clubs across the City.

In all cases signage/advertising was erected on public property and without permission and each was an offence under the Act.

All offenders were advised to make an appeal application to the independent appeals committee. The appeal's committee took a pragmatic and lenient view of the circumstances of the offences given the nature of the offences and the entities/organisations involved. In all cases the fines were cancelled and the offenders written to, enclosing a copy of the postering protocol, advising them that any future erection of posters should be carried out in accordance with the City Council's postering protocol.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Environment & Recreation.

6.9 **ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT IN THE LOUGH**

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

Following on from my motion

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 28th OCTOBER 2014

ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT AT THE LOUGH

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 16th October 2014 on following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

'I propose that Cork City Council put adult exercise equipment strategically placed around the Lough. The Lough is an area used by everyone around the whole city, and with the placement of adult exercise equipment around it, it would encourage other users to this area as well as encouraging present users to get more active.' (Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 14/323)

The report of the Director of Services stated the Lough is one of the most visited and used amenities within Cork City and the greater Cork area. The area caters for walkers, joggers, various field sports, informal recreation, play and wildlife study/observation. The Lough has limited green space and the provision of additional activities/attractions is likely to lead to over use and conflict with existing users. Usage levels and overall value for money in respect of this type of equipment has not been established. However the matter will be kept under review.

Since then I have had a consultation with a company who are an outdoor fitness equipment installation group, who have installed many adult exercise equipment around Cork. They have come out and looked at the space in the Lough and viewed where these exercise

equipment could be installed making sure it wouldn't lead to over use and conflict with existing users. The spot that would be perfect is just off the path by the Hawthorn Barside of the Lough running close by the current playground.

Can you tell me, what is the current opinion of the director in relation to getting adult exercise equipment placed strategically in the Lough?

(Cllr. Thomas Moloney)

REPLY

The location of outdoor exercise equipment is key to ensuring maximum usage. People are reluctant to work out in very public areas in full view of other walk users etc with the Lough already having a large number of users with limited green space. Installation of outdoor gym equipment will be considered at suitable more discreet locations within Tramore Valley Park and other park areas in the coming years as funding permits.

David Joyce
Director of Services
Environment & Recreation.

6.10 **PITCH AT CLASHDUV PARK**

Can the CE provide an update on the urgently required upgrade and infill of the playing pitch at Clashduv Park and also is it feasible to use soil from the new Deanrock housing development to provide at least a temporary solution to the problem which would allow this much needed pitch to be operational?

(Cllr. Fergal Dennehy)

REPLY

Playing pitches require specific soil types/sand mixtures to ensure a quality playing surface and free flowing drainage. Soil from construction activity would thus not meet the technical requirements for pitch infill.

It is also important to note that soil from a construction site is classed as "waste" under both National and European waste legislation. As such, like any other type of waste, it can only be accepted at a site where a Waste Licence or a Waste Facility Permit exists. This thus also precludes it from being used as pitch infill.

There is currently no funding available in the Environment & Recreation Directorate to carry out upgrade works to Clashduv Park playing pitch. However, a sports capital grant application will be made shortly to the Department of Transport Tourism and Sports (Sports Capital Unit) for a grant towards necessary remedial works required.

David Joyce
Director of Services
Environment & Recreation.

7. **PARTY WHIPS – 3rd JANUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips held 3rd January 2017.

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 19th DECEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held 19th December 2016.

8.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30th NOVEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 30th November 2016.

8.2 **MOTIONS DEFERRED FROM LAST MEETING OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP**

8.2.1 **ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ACCESS OFFICERS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services 15th December 2016, on the following motion which was referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Council receive a report on the role and responsibilities of its access officers.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 16/321)

The report of the Director of Services stated that The Disability Act 2005 was designed to advance and underpin the participation of people with disabilities in society by supporting the provision of disability specific services and improving access to mainstream public services. The Disability Act 2005 is part of a framework of Government legislative measures which support social inclusion such as the

- the Employment Equality Act 1998
- the Equal Status Act 2000
- the Equality Act 2004

The Disability Act 2005 provides a legal basis for making public services accessible. Sections 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the Act place obligations on public bodies to make their public buildings, services and information accessible to people with disabilities.

Cork City Council has 1 Access Officer appointed in accordance with section 26(2) of the Disability Act 2005. Their role is defined in the Act under Section 26(2) as “to provide or arrange for and co-ordinate the provision of assistance and guidance to persons with disabilities in accessing its services”.

8.2.2 **HIRE CHARGE FOR CITY HALL AND MILLENNIUM HALL**

An Chomhairle considered and discussed the report of the Director of Services 15th December 2016, on the following motion which was referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would forthwith charge Cork Chamber of Commerce k/a Cork Chamber the full hire charge for City Hall and the Millennium Hall for the Chambers Annual Dinner.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 16/324)

Following this discussion An Chomhairle approved the Report of the Director of Services 15th December 2016.

At the request of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan his name was not associated with approval of the Report of the Director of Services, 15th December 2016.

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork Chamber is a significant business organisation for the promotion and development of economic and commercial activity in the Cork region, objectives which are also central to the achievement of core goals of Cork City Council. In these circumstances, the City Council's support for the Chamber Annual Dinner by way of reduced rental charges for the City Hall is considered reasonable.

8.2.3 **BIODEGRADABLE ITEMS AT CORK CITY COUNCIL EVENTS**

Ah Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services dated 15th December 2016, on the following motion which was referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘That at all Cork City Council events would only use biodegradable cutlery, plates, container, cartons, and cup lids including all City Council sponsored events must not have plastic disposables, but paper, timber and vegetable based plastics which degrade within 12 months.

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 16/283)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council endeavour to use biodegradable products where possible when staging events, festivals etc.. For instance, for the Glow Festival 2016, TEAM has been working with Cork City Council’s Environment Directorate with respect to rolling out a process for traders to use biodegradable products and the introduction of an appropriate refuse collection system. All traders partaking in the Glow Festival were requested to provide information on their packaging and environmental policies as part of their application, and the promotion of Environmental Sustainability has been a feature of Glow 2016. Principles of Environmental Sustainability will form part of our planning process for significant events being undertaken or supported by Cork City Council going forward.

8.3 **MOTIONS**

8.3.1 **REVIEW OF PROCEDURES RE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE MEDIA**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services dated 15th December 2016, on the following motion which was referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘Given that incorrect information was provided by Council to the media (July 14) re the unofficial traveller site in Blackpool, that Cork City Council carry out a review of the procedures re information provided to the media with a view to introducing safeguards to ensure that Cork City Council can stand over the full accuracy of its statements and avoid further such incidents of this sort.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Ryan 16/334)

The report of the Director of Services stated that this matter was substantially dealt with by a response to a question by Councillor Finn given to the Meeting of An Comhairle held on 24th October, 2016. The response read as follows:

“We had a difficulty initially establishing the correct identities of the illegal occupants of the site in Blackpool and this led to a delay in establishing that they were on the Housing waiting list.

As there is an upcoming court case regarding this matter I am precluded from commenting further.”

City Council has designated Communications Liaison Officers who hold responsibility for the communications function within each Directorate. These Officers are often required to deal with detailed and varied queries, often in relation to matters of substantial complexity. Regularly they are expected to respond within very challenging time-frames. In responding to queries, Council staff can only discharge these duties on the basis of the available information, and I am satisfied that they do so in good faith and to the best of their abilities within the constraints pertaining to any particular matter.

9. **HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING – 12th DECEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing and Community Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held on 12th December 2016.

9.1 **MOTION**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the A/Director of Services, H.R. Management & Organisation Reform dated 21st November 2016 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would request from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, that informing their policies to deal with the Housing and Homelessness crisis now facing our country that Local Authorities be allowed to build social housing using Direct Labour which it has delivered successfully in the past.

This could be achieved by a re engineering of the Loan Grant and Subsidy currently available to Approved Housing Bodies allowing those Bodies to access funding which can be kept off of the States Balance Sheet.

Local Authorities have a lot of the expertise in house in dealing with such Building programmes. Having extra staff at their disposal on fixed term contracts it would also allow Local Authorities to deal with the substantial number of voids countrywide.

Substantial Land Banks an properties are owned by both the Local Authorities and NAMA and these could be used as a means of securing the necessary funding for the building projects.

It would also give opportunities of employment to hundreds of construction workers throughout the state and also give opportunities for apprenticeships for some of the 60,000

school children that will be sitting their leaving cert this year. It would obviously in turn boost the states tax take, reduce numbers on the live register and give a much needed boost to small business in our local communities.

This policy would in fact be self financing as any loans incurred could be paid down using the rents collected.

With interest rates at an all time low this is a unique opportunity which would be foolish to waste.'

(Proposer: Barry Murphy, ICTU)

The report of the A/Director of Services, H.R. Management & Organisation Reform stated the following:

1. Direct Labour undertook House Construction Programmes on behalf of the Council up until the late 1980's. Government policy subsequently has focused exclusively on the provision of Housing units by a variety of other means.
2. Council staff employed in the Housing area are utilised in the upkeep and maintenance of its current housing stock. In this regard, the Council is currently undertaking a review of service delivery options to ascertain the most appropriate mix of resources i.e. in-house and contract, for the delivery of housing refurbishment and maintenance activities going forward. This review is being undertaken in consultation with staff representative groups.
3. Since the ease on the staffing moratorium the Council has recommenced staff recruitment subject to overall numbers and budgetary limitations.
4. The H.R. Management & Organisation Reform Section are currently examining the feasibility of recommencing an apprenticeship programme in the Council.

10. **TOURISM, ARTS & CULTURE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 19th DECEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Tourism, Arts & Culture Functional Committee held 19th December 2016.

10.1 **SUPPORT OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC IN CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs, dated 15th December 2016 on Support of Traditional Music in Cork.

10.2 **LIBRARY SERVICES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs, dated 15th December 2016 on Library Services.

The comments of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, endorsed by An Chomhairle, congratulating the City Librarian on the reopening of Mayfield Library were noted.

10.3 **ARTS COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Arts Office dated 19th December 2016.

10.4 **ARTS GRANTS 2017**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services dated 15th December 2016 on Arts Grants 2017.

The comments of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, endorsed by An Chomhairle, congratulating Ms. Jean Brennan, the Arts Officer were noted.

10.5 **2016 COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAMME AND ST. PETERS CHURCH**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate & External Affairs, dated 13th December 2016 on 2016 Commemorative Programme and St. Peters Church.

10.6 **CREATIVE IRELAND PROGRAMME 2017/2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services dated 15th December 2016 on Creative Ireland Programme 2017/2022.

10.7 **MOTIONS**

10.7.1 **BANNER ON THE GRAND PARADE HOTEL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs, on the following motion which was referred to Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That the historic themed banner on the old Grand Parade Hotel facade have the theme of the Ford Factory, Marina for 2017.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 16/342)

The Report of the Director of Services, dated 15th December 2016 stated that Cork City Council is currently liaising with Ford with regard to a number of proposals to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Ford in Cork in 2017. The possibility of a Ford themed banner on the Old Grand Parade Hotel facade has been raised in the context of these discussions.

10.7.2 **SUPPORT OF THE RED HEAD CONVENTION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs, on the following motion which was referred to Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘In view of the world wide publicity the Red Head Convention receives, that Cork City Council explore ways to try and Support this unique festival.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 16/357)

The Report of the Director of Services, dated 15th December 2016 stated on an ongoing basis, Cork City Council engages with a broad range of individuals, groups, and promoters etc., in relation to the staging of events and festivals in the City. The Council would be happy to engage similarly with the organisers in this case.

10.7.3 **STRATEGY TO BRING OPEN AIR CONCERTS TO CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs, on the following motion which was referred to Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would develop a strategy and policy of engagement with relevant stakeholders to bring large open air concerts to Cork on an annual basis.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 16/361)

The Report of the Director of Services dated 15th December 2016 stated that Cork City Council constantly engages with relevant parties in the staging of open air concerts. Such events are subject to event licensing and by their nature require a very significant degree of planning and stakeholder cooperation.

11. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 19th DECEMBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Functional Committee from its meeting held 19th December 2016.

11.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

11.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF OCTOBER 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of October 2016, and a detailed discussion took place.

11.2 **MOTIONS**

11.2.1 **CAPITAL COMMUNITY FUND**

An Chomhairle agreed to defer this item until the next Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle to be held 23rd January 2017.

12. **STRATEGIC PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 3rd JANUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee from its meeting held 3rd January 2017.

12.1 **CORK BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTRE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the presentation on the Cork Business Innovation Centre, Growth Pathway Program 2016/2017.

12.2 **HOUSING ESTATES**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 22nd December, 2016 on Housing Estates from 1st January 2016 to 31st December, 2016.

12.3 **PLANNING STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 03rd January, 2017 on Planning Statistics from 1st January 2016 to 31st December, 2016.

12.4 **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle considered the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 3rd January, 2017 on Planning Statistics from 1st January 2016 to 31st December, 2016 and a discussion ensued in relation to planning applications for retention. An Chomhairle agreed that the issue of planning applications for retention should be referred to the Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

12.5 **DERELICT SITES QUARTERLY REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 03rd January, 2017 on the Derelict Sites Quarterly Report and refer it to An Chomhairle for consideration.

12.6 **CORK CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY AND PUBLICATION HERITAGE GRANTS SCHEME**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development, dated 22nd December, 2016 on the proposed Local Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2017 and the proposed Local Heritage Publication Grant Scheme 2017.

12.7 **OTHER GRANTS SCHEMES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 22nd December, 2016 on the Other Grants Schemes.

12.8 **SURVEY OF ALIEN INVASIVE FLORA SPECIES WITHIN CORK CITY COUNCIL**

An Chomhairle agreed to refer this item to the Environment & Recreation Functional Committee for further consideration.

12.9 **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTION REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY AN CHOMHAIRLE**

12.9.1 **1 PARKGATE VILLAS, BISHOPSTOWN ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 22nd December, 2016 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘In the interest of health and safety, I am requesting Cork City Council to undertake asap a Compulsory Purchase Order on No 1 Parkgate Villas, Bishopstown Road, which would ultimately bring it into public ownership and secure the site in the public interest.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Shields 16/317)

The Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016 stated that while fully acknowledging the issues in relation to this site, it is not considered that Compulsory Purchase is a viable solution to addressing the dereliction on site at this time. In particular:

- Following very recent works at the property, Building Control consider the building to be secure at this time, and do not deem it to be a Dangerous Structure under the Sanitary Services Act. Therefore there are no grounds for action in relation to health and safety.
- The site is not a strong candidate for compulsory acquisition under Derelict Sites at this time, as other sites have been identified as more critical priorities for 2017. These sites are terraced houses which are causing severe amenity impacts for adjacent home owners. In addition, this property has significant development limitations given its location and context which would restrict any sale and future use by City Council.

13. **ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 3rd JANUARY 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment & Recreation Functional Committee from its meeting held 3rd January 2017.

13.1 **OVERFLOW OF WATER FROM A GREEN AREA IN BRIDEVALLEY PARK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016, on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would address a significant overflow of water from a green area in Bridevalley Park on to Hazelville est, Onslow Gardens there is some local concern that the leak will weaken a boundary wall while it is also quite a waste of water.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 16/314)

The Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016 stated that the water department have checked the water network in Hazelville and there is no evidence of a leak in the network. A sample of the water was taken and the test classified it as spring water. It is clear therefore that there is no leak that should give rise to concern.

Bridevalley Park slopes quite steeply towards the boundary wall at Hazelville Estae. Provision has been made in the base of the wall, with a number of drainage apertures, to accommodate surface water and ground water runoff from the Park.

However majority of flow, on recent inspection was concentrated on a single aperture. This is located in close proximity to a road gully which was able to cater for the flow. This inspection was relatively dry conditions and it is not clear what situation is during and after a prolonged wet period.

An initial inspection of the wall did not reveal any indications of distress. I have arranged to have the runoff at this location monitored over the next couple of months to ascertain whether there is a necessity to alter drainage arrangements.

13.2 **BIN IN THE PUBLIC PARK ON SKEHARD ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council will install a bin in the public park on the Skehard road, or on the footpath just outside the park.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. McGonigle 16/337)

The Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016 stated that the replacement bin is scheduled to be installed at Clover Hill Park, Skehard Road, during January, 2017.

13.3 **HONAN MEMORIAL TOMB IN ST. FINBARRE’S CEMETERY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016, on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘In light of the Honan Chapel Centenary, that the broken stained glass window of the Honan memorial Tomb in St Finbarr’s Cemetery be secured so that no other damage can get to it; plus a partnership be struck with UCC and the Honan chapel in an effort to restore the broken glass and collapsing roof of this prominent memorial tomb.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 16/343)

The Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016, stated that whilst the Honan Vault at St. Finbarr’s Cemetery is privately owned, contact has been made with UCC as a possible joint partner in having essential repairs carried out to the structure. Costs will be sought to carry out repairs to the stained glass window and roof, repainting of railings with a view to agreeing a mechanism to have the works undertaken.

13.4 **CLOSE ACCESS TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AT FLY TIPPING BLACKSPOTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd of December 2016, on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That city council would examine closing off access to vehicular traffic in areas which are known to be black spots for fly tipping and in the meantime we would introduce 24hr C.C.T.V. to try and record the culprits / law breakers that are costing our city hundreds of thousands of euros annually to clean up their mess.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 16/346)

The Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd December 2016 stated that the physical and monetary impact on the City of current level of fly tipping is to be deplored.

The Director of Services advised that he has commenced an exercise of reviewing the most frequented fly tipping locations. An analysis will be carried out of the nature of activity i.e. vehicular or pedestrian and the feasibility of various options of controlling access, monitoring (cctv), surveillance and community activism at each location. I would hope to develop a programme of deterrence with a view to achieving a marked reduction in this antisocial behaviour. As we proceed I would intend to update Council on progress.

13.5 **JOHN F. CONNELLY ROAD, CHURCHFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Report of the Director of Services dated 22nd of December 2016, on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council believes that John F. Connelly Road, Churchfield Industrial Estate is not a suitable location for a 'bring facility', Council supports the opinion of local residents that the industrial estate is already over-subscribed with waste facilities and that there should be no extension to the operations of such facilities.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. T. Gould 16/348)

It was agreed that the Environment & Recreation Functional Committee would arrange to write to the Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) and An Taisce in this regard.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. O’Leary, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting past 8 p.m.

At this juncture the Lord Mayor vacated the Chair and Deputy Lord Mayor Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh assumed the duties of the Chair from this point on.

14. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Comhairleoir F. Ryan’s query regarding the correspondence received from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government was noted.

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

15. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

16. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

16.1 **ECAD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING- KAUNAS, LITHUANIA**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle considered and approved the attendance of Comhairleoir Mary Shields at the ECAD Executive Board Meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania on February 10th, 2017.

17. **TRAINING**

None received.

18. **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the referral to the relevant Committee of the following motions, due notice of which has been given:

18.1 **INTRODUCE GREEN TO PARKING WHERE PRACTICABLE**

‘That Cork City Council would re-introduce a programme of Green to Parking for all city areas where practicable.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 16/299)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

18.2 **RE-PAINTING ALL DISABLED PARKING BAYS**

‘That Cork City Council would implement a policy where by a re-painting of all disabled parking bays would take place.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 16/300)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

18.3 **SLOW DOWN MEASURES IN SHANAKIEL**

‘That cork city council put in place

1. Slow down signs
2. Cut back hedging and over growth onto footpath. Council or private
3. Clean, Replace and repairs footpaths from Calvary cross to traffic lights
4. Appropriate Slow down measures on Shanakiel Road so that pedestrians and motorists from Shanakiel Park can exit the estate safely and that children and parents from neighbouring estates can walk to school safely.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 17/001)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

18.4 **INVEST IN A USER FRIENDLY INTERACTIVE URBAN SOLUTION**

‘That Cork City Council invest in a user friendly interactive urban solution stand alone units that delivers all information that matters in the right place at the right time. To bring cities closer to people who live, work and travel in it. To promote multiple activities and points of interest such as touristic, cultural, local commerce, public services among others. Including: Information, Local News, Traffic Information, Warnings and Alerts, **Culture**, Event sharing, Cultural agenda, Music, cinema, theatre, Cultural and Artistic Promotion **Local Commerce**, Where to Eat, Where to sleep, Categories, Business area, Nearby Points of Interest. **Mobility** Search Destinations, Find Transportation, Schedules, Prices. Online Social Engagement and Selfie Trend. Note unit example <http://tomiworld.com/>’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 17/002)

Tourism, Arts & Culture Functional Committee

18.5 **FOOTPATH ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ENTRANCE TO WYNDWOOD**

‘That City Council would investigate putting a footpath on either side of the entrance to Wyndwood , Model Farm Road so that residents who reside here can reach a safe place to get across the Model Farm Rd. [Safely].’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 17/003)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

18.6 **BRIEFING SESSIONS WITH DAIL REPRESENTATIVES**

‘That the Council would hold quarterly briefing sessions with the Dáil representatives for Cork North-Central and Cork South-Central and with locally based Seanad members to discuss developments in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 17/007)

Corporate Policy Group

18.7 **FOOTPATH RENEWAL, BALLYPHEHANE**

‘That sections of the footpaths in the vicinity of the Church of the Assumption, Ballyphehane be renewed as they are in very poor condition.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 17/008)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

18.8 **SCRAMBLER MOTOR BIKES AT TINKERS CROSS SPORTS FIELD**

‘That Cork City Council take such measures as required to prevent the use of the scrambler motor bikes on the Sports Field at Tinkers Cross as the open access at present is an invitation motorcyclists engaged in scrambling. The illegal activity has been reported to Gardai on numerous occasions but the open access is the root cause of the problem.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 17/009)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

18.9 **REPORTS TO MEMBERS ON THE PUBLIC BIKE SCHEME**

‘That the Roads and Transport Directorate would include the following in future reports to members on the Public Bike Scheme in Cork City.

Amount of trips taken over 30 mins

| | |
|------|------|
| over | 1hr |
| over | 2hrs |
| over | 3hrs |
| over | 4hrs |

Total amount of trips.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 17/012)

Roads & Transportation Functional Meeting

18.10 **REPORTS ON NEW AND ALTERED PROPERTIES IN THE COUNCIL'S ADMINISTRATIVE AREA YET TO BE VALUED FOR COMMERCIAL RATES**

‘That Cork City Council will report on the number of new and altered properties in the Council's Administrative area yet to be valued for commercial rates, progress being made by the Valuations Office in clearing the backlog and outline an estimation of any financial return for the Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 17/013)

Finance & Estimates Functional Committee

18.11 **REGISTERING PRIVATE RENTAL PROPERTIES WITH PRTB**

‘That Cork City Council will report on whether a landlord must have their rental property registered with the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB) prior to entering in to a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 17/016)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

19. **MOTIONS**

19.1 **CONVENTION AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN ORGANS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call on the Irish government to ratify, as soon as possible, The Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs which was adopted by the Council of Europe on 9 July 2014 in order to criminalise illegal organ transplantations[1]. The Irish Government has already signed this convention, but is yet to ratify it.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 17/004)

19.2 **CALL ON OIREACHTAS FOREIGN AFFAIRS RE: HUMAN RIGHTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘To call on the Oireachtas Foreign Affairs committee to follow through on the pledge made by the Oireachtas Sub Committee on Human Rights to "investigate to the maximum extent possible"[2], persistent, credible reports of forced organ harvesting and other severe human rights abuses imposed on Falun Gong practitioners and other prisoners of conscience in China.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 17/005)

19.3 **PUBLIC TRANSPORT SUBSIDY SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on Shane Ross TD, Minister for Transport to introduce a Public Transport Subsidy scheme (similar to that paid to CIE) to be paid to Taxi Drivers who work between the hours of 12 Midnight and 6am at weekends and designated holiday peak periods.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 17/010)

19.4 **INCREMENTAL PURCHASE SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That City Council would seek an updated report from the D.E.C.L.G. on what was the uptake / response nationally from tenants in all local authorities to the Incremental Purchase Scheme introduced in 2016.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 17/011)

19.5 **INCREASING ELEGIBILITY THRESHOLD FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY SOCIAL HOUSING SCHEMES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

“That Cork City Council calls on the Ministers for Housing and Finance to increase the eligibility threshold for local authority social housing schemes to 15% above the existing net income social housing threshold. This would ensure that those on just over 1.5 times average gross earnings or close to €54,000 would qualify for social housing.”

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 17/017)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH