

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 14th MARCH 2022

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir C. Kelleher.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, D. Boylan.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, E. Rying.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development. Ms. A. Rodgers, Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Mr. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. N. Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Housing. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Ms. A. Murnane, Meetings Administrator. Ms. C. Currid, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

1.1 **MINUTE’S SILENCE FOR UKRAINE**

On the proposal of an tArdmhéara An Chomhairle observed a minute’s silence for the people of Ukraine.

1.2 **CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that a Ceremony of Remembrance and Reflection would be held on Sunday 20th March 2022 to remember those who lost their lives during the Covid 19 pandemic, and to pay tribute to all frontline workers.

1.3 **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

An tArdmhéara invited Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond to brief An Chomhairle on local events held on the 8th March 2022 to mark International Women's Day, and on her work in promoting Cork City Council's Women's Caucus on her recent trip to the United States.

2. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

2.1 **CORK ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Executive on the proposed holding of an event by Cork City Council under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and Planning and Development Regulations 2001. The event is the Cork St. Patrick's Day Parade, Thursday 17th March 2022.

3. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Dennehy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 14th February 2022.

4. **QUESTION TIME**

4.1 **WASTE BYELAWS**

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

Can Cork City Council report or case study on the average timeframe it takes to implement the current Waste Byelaws in respect to starting point of sending out letters requesting proof of waste collection or a door-to-door visit by an officer from the point of sending the letter to the end point of prosecution for non-response or being unable to provide proof?

REPLY

The application and enforcement of the "Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste" Bye-laws has been very successful to date. In areas where the bye-laws have been actively enforced via door-to-door engagement or letter based engagements (more recently due to COVID) compliance levels with the proper and legal disposal of waste has been increased to greater than 92% in 2021 (with further work ongoing to increase same even further). It must be understood that

the locations targeted for enforcement to date are known litter black spots whereby it is evident that households did not avail of proper collection services to date. This increase in compliance levels is driven by the threat of financial penalties should households not comply with the legal requirement to properly disposal of their waste. The solution to illegal dumping is full compliance by households with the proper disposal of their waste and these bye-laws are a powerful tool which is being used to deliver this outcome.

As requested, please find below an outline of the process involved, which takes approx. 3-4 months to complete:

- The first letter/visit gives the householder 2 weeks to respond and provide the requested evidence
- The follow up letter (issued to households from whom a response has not been received) gives an additional 2 weeks to respond
- A further 1 week is given to give an opportunity for a response to be received (to take account of post delays etc.)
- A final letter gives a further 1 week to provide the requested proofs
- If a response to same is not received a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) is issued within 3-5 days following the final date of return for the final letter
- FPN's give 21 days for payment or appeal of the fine (this timeframe is fixed in the bye-laws)
- Following this, if proof is not provided, a file is prepared for the Law Department on each individual case (this process takes approx. 5 days)
- The Law Department process the files which will usually be scheduled for Court the following month (waste and litter cases are only dealt with once a month in Court)

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

4.2 **LOWER LEE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME**

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

In light of calls to repair crumbling quay walls near French's Quay and questions about the status of proposals for a boardwalk from Parliament Bridge to South Gate Bridge, can the CE give an update as to the progress or otherwise of the Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme which has these two issues along with the structural integrity of all the quay walls within its remit?

REPLY

The Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme is being progressed by the Office of Public Works under the Arterial Drainage Acts 1945 and 1995 in cooperation with the Cork Local Authorities. The Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme is currently at detailed design stage and it is expected that it will be submitted for confirmation to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform in Q3 2022. After the Scheme is confirmed by the

Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform contractor procurement will be undertaken and the works progressed over a number of contracts with an anticipated construction period of 5-6 years.

A boardwalk from Parliament Bridge to South Gate Bridge is part of a longstanding objective of Cork City Council to create a continuous public walkway along the south quays. The Lower Lee Flood Relief Scheme design has taken account of the proposal for a boardwalk and the flood defence works will be capable of adaptation to incorporate this development once it proceeds. Separately, Cork City Council is in the process of developing tender documentation for the repair of 150m length of quay wall from South Gate Bridge to Clarke's Bridge as part of the Beamish and Crawford Quarter public realm works. It is anticipated that this will commence on site in Q3 2022. In advance of this, Cork City Council intends to undertake temporary quay wall stabilisation works at the location of partial collapse at French's Quay.

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

4.3 **FORMER DOCTOR SURGERY IN FOYLE AVENUE**

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

Can the CE update me on the former doctor surgery in Foyle Avenue, Knocknaheeny, as this unit has been unoccupied for a period of 4 years with several requests from numerous agencies/groups requesting to utilize the space.

REPLY

The Former GP Surgery is being disposed of by way of a licence agreement to Let's Grow Together, this will be used as family support with a specific focus on early years. Taking into account the needs of the area, available spaces and the age profile, the importance of early years intervention and family support, it was deemed that the needs of Let's Grow Together for public facing office space was essential to allow the project to work to its optimum across the community. The GP Surgery is being let by way of a temporary convenience letting for a period of 11 months initially and the occupancy will be monitored and reviewed over the period. This has been approved and is currently being progressed by Law.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

4.4 **REFUGEE CRISIS IN UKRAINE**

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

To ask the CE in light of the current refugee crisis in Ukraine, can the CE outline what measures are Cork City Council planning to put in place to support refugees?

REPLY

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage issued an information note to all Local Authority Chief Executives on 4th March 2022 in relation to meeting the temporary accommodation needs of those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine and coming to Ireland.

The Department has advised that it is engaging with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and other relevant Government Departments regarding the types of facilities and structures that may be required to provide accommodation for those fleeing the conflict and presenting in Ireland and the planning implications associated with the provision of any such facilities and structures.

At the moment it is envisaged that the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) will take the lead in preparing and implementing arrangements to receive and immediately accommodate those fleeing the conflict. At present Local Authorities are advised that refugees should be redirected to IPAS where they present to a local authority and seek housing or emergency accommodation.

The Red Cross will be the centre point for all offers of assistance for accommodation coming from the public or through local authorities; it has opened a portal for pledges of accommodation www.redcross.ie .

Government Departments and Agencies are additionally considering the range of facilities and structures that may be required to provide accommodation for those fleeing the conflict and presenting in Ireland and Local Authorities are being asked to assist in this regard. These deliberations will also include possible legislative changes required to implement same.

There are emergency power provisions in section 181 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended (the Act), to enable the non-application of the Act to certain classes of development by or on behalf of a State authority. These were most recently used in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic to allow the change of use and repurposing of existing buildings and facilities, and/ or the provision of temporary new-build accommodation and structures by the HSE to address that emergency without having to undergo the normal planning procedures i.e. temporary hospitals, stepdown facilities, healthcare facilities, vaccination and testing facilities, ancillary infrastructure and other works to support such developments etc.

It is likely that these powers may have to be availed of again to address the accommodation and other requirements associated with managing the needs of those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine.

We await further communication from the Department regarding any legislative changes to the planning code to assist in addressing the situation.

A meeting of the Community Response Forum has also been called for Wednesday 16th March in response to a collective approach.

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

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

4.5 **NUMBER OF FINES FOR ILLEGAL PARKING**

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

To ask the Chief Executive the number of fines for illegal parking on bus lanes, cycle lanes and footpaths that have been made since the increase in the monetary amount of such fines from February 1st, 2022, and whether there has been an increase in these fines over February 2021?

REPLY

There has been an increase in the number of fines issued in February 2022 when compared to February 2021. The comparable numbers are as follows:-

Offence	01.01.2021- 28.02.2021	01.02.2022- 28.02.2022
Illegally parked in a bus lane	4	39
No of fines issue for cycle lanes	2	6
No of fines issued for footpaths	93	215

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

4.6 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME**

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

Can the CE report on the local Affordable Housing Program? Have all the conditions & stipulations for same been received from the Department of Housing allowing the various schemes to proceed asap?

REPLY

The City Council's Housing Directorate is in discussion with the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in relation to the Affordable Housing delivery targets for the period 2022 to 2026. The agreed affordable housing targets are

to be delivered by the City Council, Approved Housing Bodies and the Land Development Agency via Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental.

The Council awaits the completion of the enacting Affordable Housing legislation and associated legal documentation that will confirm the process to be used in delivering Affordable purchase units. Once finalised and issued the Council and public will be advised of the adopted approach.

The Council is committed to delivering affordable units across the city and is assisting in the delivery of the first cost rental project in Cork City at Lancaster Gate. This scheme will deliver 73 new homes available as cost rental housing in late 2022. This project is being delivered by an Approved Housing Body and is supported by the Council and central government.

The Council is also progressing the delivery of 117 new affordable purchase units at Newton Heights, Boherboy Road, Lotamore with the first phase expected to be delivered in Q2 of 2022. Cork City Council is working closely with the DHLGH to enable this scheme to progress to enable its advertisement and launch shortly. An affordable housing scheme is also being advanced on the Middle Glanmire Road for 27 units to be completed in Q4 of 2022 and other affordable schemes are currently being considered for delivery across the city.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

4.7 **BOOLE HOUSE**

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

To ask the CE about the use of Boole House on Batchelor's Quay and why it remains not in use? The project was undertaken in conjunction and partnership with UCC who co-funded the project with City Council. The property was handed over to UCC who are now in ownership of the building and responsible for its completion. The building remains unfitted out.

REPLY

Boole House was on the Derelict Sites Register and Cork City Council intervened to remove the dereliction and as stated a renovation project with University College Cork was carried out.

In 2017 these works were completed and the property was removed from the Derelict Sites Register and title vested wholly in UCC.

Cork City Council has requested an update from UCC for information purposes and they have replied as follows:

UCC is fully committed to completing the refurbishment and fit-out of no 5 Grenville Place (Boole House). The University is exploring funding options for the project and expects to proceed with detailed design and tendering of the remaining works in 2022.

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

4.8 **COST OF WASTE COLLECTION & PROVISION OF SERVICES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive the cost to Cork City Council of waste collection, including the operation of the civic amenity centre, servicing and provision of litter bins, street litter collection, provision of skips for local waste collection, environmental clean-up of illegal dumping, enforcement of waste bye-laws and other costs — and to estimate the equivalent euro value of the volunteer work of individuals and communities engaged in environmental clean-ups in the city.

REPLY

The information requested is not readily available. Our budget structure does not identify to a granular level the information requested. However an exercise has been carried out to provide estimated figures for the information requested.

- **Operation of the civic amenity centre**
The operating costs of the civic amenity site are in the region of €1.5m per annum. This includes all costs (including staff, disposal, maintenance, landscaping, electricity, heating and general operating costs) as well as all costs associated with the monitoring of the site for EPA compliance (the site being a disused landfill is subject to EPA licensing provisions)
- **Servicing and provision of litter bins**
Again this figure is built in to different budget codes but could be estimated in the region of €140,000 per annum based on 2021 estimates.
- **Street litter collection**
This item is again difficult to break down to one specific item as our services do not just collect litter but also provide other functions. Thus an estimate of the street litter only costs (including all costs), based solely on cleansing staff manually and mechanically sweeping would be in the region of €2m.
- **Environmental clean-up**
The costs associated with this activity have been estimated at €500,000 per annum.

- **Enforcement of waste bye-laws and other costs**
The costs associated with this activity mainly relate to staff time costs. Thus costs are influenced by time spent on this activity which varies throughout the year.
- **Volunteer work**
Cork city council have no way of estimating this figure.

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

4.9 **DERELICT SITES REGISTER & VACANT SITES REGISTER**

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

In respect of the derelict sites register and vacant site register:

How many sites have been revalued since initial inclusion on both registers respectively?

And:

Given the land/property price inflation over the last decade, how many sites will be revalued this year?

REPLY

In respect of the derelict sites register and vacant site register:

How many sites have been revalued since initial inclusion on both registers respectively?

Derelict Sites

3 valued in 2020.

9 valued in 2021

2 in 2022

4 sites under appeal currently

A number of sites sold during 2021 – no query on our market value.

Vacant Sites

A number of sites were sold in the previous 2- 3 years thus reducing to the levy to zero. No queries on our market value.

2 sites under appeal currently.

Sites generally are revalued again when it comes to acquisition.

Given the land/property price inflation over the last decade, how many sites will be revalued this year?

When a site is placed on each Register the site owner has an opportunity to appeal the site valuation to the Valuation Tribunal. This process can be lengthy and changes in valuations can be amended accordingly.

In the case of Vacant Sites, there is a further appeal mechanism whereby the amount of the levy can be appealed based on a number of criteria. One of which is where the site owner believes the amount of the levy has been incorrectly calculated. The vacant site levy is calculated based on 7% of the Market Value of the site

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

5. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

5.1 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive, dated 3rd March 2022 on the following property disposals:-

1. Disposal of the freehold interest in an area of ground (18.6 square metres approximately), together with grant of wayleave on land situated at Lee Road Waterworks, Lee Road, Cork to ESB Networks, Wilton, Cork for the sum of €1.00.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

2. Disposal by way of extension of lease of “The Lodge” (known as “The Lord Mayor’s Pavilion”), Fitzgerald Park, Mardyke Walk, Cork to Sample Studios CLG, c/o David Ryan CKT Solicitors, 2, Georges Quay, Cork, for a further period of 18 months at a rent of €100.00 per annum.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

3. Disposal of properties known as No’s 20, 21 and 22 Thomas Davis Street, Blackpool, Cork together with land at the rear of No’s, 17, 18 & 19, Thomas Davis Street, and ground to the northern side of 17, Thomas Davis Street, Blackpool, Cork to Respond, c/o Della Power Solicitor, Luke House Solicitors, Airmount, Dominick Place, Waterford for the sum of €221,315.00 (Plus VAT if applicable).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

5.2 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: APARTMENT 3, 387 BLARNEY STREET, CORK – PETER MCVERRY TRUST CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 24th February 2022 in relation to a loan facility for Peter McVerry Trust CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at Apartment 3, 387 Blarney Street, Cork.

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

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €231,237 be granted to Peter McVerry Trust CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one unit of accommodation at Apartment 3, 387 Blarney Street, Cork.”

5.3 **SECTION 85 AGREEMENT TO FACILITATE THE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF FIVE BRIDGE STRUCTURES ON NATIONAL ROUTES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure & Development, dated 7th February 2022, in relation to Section 85 Agreement with Kerry County Council to facilitate the repair and rehabilitation of five bridge structures on National Routes within the jurisdiction Of Cork City Council.

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

Now Council hereby RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS

To facilitate the repair and rehabilitation of Eamon De Valera Bridge, Michael Collins Bridge, Douglas Road Overbridge, Rochestown Interchange and Waterfall Bridge, Cork City Council is of the opinion that it would be more convenient that Kerry County Council would carry out on behalf of Cork City Council its powers functions and duties as a local authority and or as a road authority insofar as they relate to concern and or involve the proposed works set out in the Schedule hereto, insofar as the proposed works shall be situated within the administrative area of Cork City Council and Kerry County Council is able and willing to do so.

Accordingly, Cork City Council hereby resolves to enter into an Agreement with Kerry County Council pursuant to the provisions of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 14 of the Roads Act 1993.

Schedule

(“the proposed works” to be undertaken by Kerry County Council under the terms of the Agreement)

The proposed works consist of the following:

Bridge ID	Bridge Name	Proposed Works
CB-N27-006.00	Eamon De Valera Bridge	New expansion joints and potential re-surfacing.
CB-N27-007.00	Michael Collins Bridge	New expansion joints and potential re-surfacing.
CB-N28-002.00	Douglas Road Overbridge	New expansion joint on the west. Consideration should be given to the replacement of the east APJ or simply maintenance. Re-surfacing should be considered.
CB-N28-003.00	Rochestown Interchange	New expansion joint on the south. Consideration should be given to the replacement of the north buried joint and re-surfacing.
CB-N40-007.00	Waterfall Bridge	The type 6 joint should be replaced and consideration should be given to replacing the APJ.

6. **SPORT AND AMENITY FUND 2022**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Collins, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 8th March 2022 on the Sport and Amenity Fund 2022.

7. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 7th MARCH 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 7th March 2022.

ITEM 6.4 - ANTI HARASSMENT POLICY

‘That the CE will seek to have an anti harassment policy implemented at every Council supported event.’

(Proposers: Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. O. Moran, Cllr. J. Maher 22/101)

An Chomhairle noted the referral of the motion to the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Finn, An Chomhairle agreed to also refer the motion to the Arts Committee for consideration.

7.1 **REPORT ON MOTIONS**

7.1.1 **CORK CITY BOUNDARY EXTENSION PUBLICATION**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Acting Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 3rd March 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council commission a publication to record the administrative and political details covering the timeframe and details of negotiations of the Cork City boundary extension.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 22/054)

The report of the Director of Services stated that following a protracted process of reviewing the Local Government arrangements in Cork, the boundary of the city was extended on May 31st 2019. This followed the Local Elections which took place on May 24, 2019.

The various processes of managing the transition arrangements were lengthy, complex and were overseen by an Implementation Oversight Group appointed by the Minister. At this stage, just over halfway through the first term of a new Council for the extended administrative area, the arrangements are still in the process of being embedded firmly. At this point in time, I would not consider the commissioning of a publication by the City Council to be appropriate and may indeed be considered premature. It is likely that, in time, the undertaking of an academic, historical account of the Cork City Boundary Extension will be undertaken.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion back to the Corporate Policy Group for further consideration.

7.1.2 **CARBON NEUTRAL EVENTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Acting Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 3rd March 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council strives that public events organised under its auspices, be carbon neutral.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/095)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has made significant strides towards greening of festivals and events in an effort to improve their carbon footprint. The Greening of Glow, saw a move to a zero landfill over a three-year period and a move to LED lighting in the themed park. This involved a huge effort in terms of working with traders, moving to certified compostable packaging (EN13432) for all food markets, provision of segregated bin collectios and implementation of public awareness programmes. Other festivals (e.g. Seafest and

Carnival of Science) have used the learnings from the Greening of Glow and have added extra measures such as the water refill station at the Carnival of Science.

Cork City Marathon has also been moving to a more carbon neutral event over the past few years. The Council's approach has been to add a new "green" element each year. These included a move to reusable goodie bags, elimination of plastic packaging from marathon medals and the use of the "Refill" Finish line. This year, the City Council has partnered with An Dulra to offer participants the option to have a tree planted instead of taking a t-shirt.

The greening of festivals and events is a priority for the Council, and we look forward to continuing this work as festival and events return this year.

8. **PARTY WHIPS – 28th FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 28th February 2022.

8.1 **MOTION REFERRED BACK TO PARTY WHIPS FROM COUNCIL MEETING OF 13th DECEMBER 2021**

8.1.1 **MONUMENT TO SINKING OF SHIPS DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 22nd November 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council should erect a monument at an appropriate location on Penrose Quay to recall the sinking of the City of Cork Steam Packet Company ships during the years of the First World War (1914-1918). Cork city has few public reminders of the commitment and achievements of Cork people for the promotion of their city and who won international recognition for their particular genius.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 20/047)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as Cork Docklands commences its reform and regeneration, leveraged by the significant URDF investment received and coupled with the relocation of the Port of Cork, a structured programme in Q2/Q3 2022, to capture and memorialise the maritime history will be developed and implemented to assist in the realisation of opportunities which will be presented as a result.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Forde, An Chomhairle agreed that the motion be withdrawn.

8.2 **MOTIONS REFERRED TO PARTY WHIPS**

8.2.1 **COMMEMORATE CORK DOCKERS**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 24th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council ring-fence money from development charges on the docklands for a fitting commemoration and sculpture for the Cork dockers who served the city for hundreds of years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 21/463)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as Cork Docklands commences its reform and regeneration, leveraged by the significant URDF investment received and coupled with the relocation of the Port of Cork, a structured programme in Q2/Q3 2022, to capture and memorialise the maritime history will be developed and implemented to assist in the realisation of opportunities which will be presented as a result.

An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion back to Party Whips for further consideration.

9. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21st FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21st February 2022.

9.1 **UPDATES/REPORTS**

9.1.1 **PARKING PERMITS IN CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 21st February 2022 on the Parking Permit Policy and Parking Permit Scheme.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle approved the Parking Permit Policy and Parking Permit Scheme amended to provide that from 1st May 2022 households will no longer be permitted to apply for a fourth parking permit. However, any household that already holds a fourth will be permitted to retain it until 31st December 2026.

9.2 **MOTIONS**

9.2.1 **SIGN POSTED NETWORK OF QUIET CYCLEWAYS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 7th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the feasibility of developing a sign-posted network of quiet way cycleways using existing low-trafficked roads, such as estate roads, and low-cost interventions to provide linkages where necessary.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 21/494)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the City Council’s policy for the development of cycle infrastructure is set out in the Cork Cycle Network Plan. The Plan incorporates detailed proposals for new and upgraded cycle infrastructure across the city including primary, secondary, interurban and greenways. A variety of route types are identified in the Plan including main roads, residential areas, off road routes etc. The implementation of the Strategy is a key part of CMATS with improvements to be delivered through standalone schemes as well as the Bus Connects Programme. The City Council will, as requested, in delivery of new and upgraded cycle infrastructure further explore the potential for sign-posted quietway cycle facilities using existing low-trafficked roads, such as estate roads, and low-cost interventions to provide linkages where necessary. In accordance with established practice all proposals for new or improved cycle infrastructure will be discussed with Members at Local Area Committees with the implementation progress of approved measures reported to Area Committees and Council on a regular basis.

9.2.2 **SPACEFINDER APP**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 7th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council would agree to ask Council Mgmt to implement the “Spacefinder” app which is being currently trialled by Limerick City and County Council. The technology gives real time information on where free parking spaces are located and is supported by the Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland (DDAI).’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Forde 22/008)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council is aware of the “Spacefinder” app and has had preliminary discussions with the service provider. During 2022, this scheme and other similar products and services together with the scope of the service will be evaluated with a view to tendering for the provision of such a service should be a budget be made available in 2023.

On request from Comhairleoir D. Forde, the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations agreed to review the matter in six month’s time.

9.2.3 **TRAFFIC SIGNALS TRIGGERED BY BICYCLES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 7th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘The traffic signals be triggered by bicycles, particularly at key junctions close to cycle infrastructure.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/024)

The report of the Director of Services stated the NTA have provided funding resources in 2022 to enable the deployment of cycle detection technology on strategic junctions throughout the city. Design works commenced in 2021 and to date, the procurement of materials has been completed. It is envisaged that this material will be installed in Q2 of this year, once installation procurement is complete. A phase one rollout consists of the installation of detection equipment and reconfiguration of existing equipment on 33 key junctions. It is expected that phase two of the project will then commence on the balance of sites which require technology upgrades and will be implemented as funds allow.

10. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21st FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21st February 2022.

10.1 **CORK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION – SENSORY FRIENDLY SHOPPING INITIATIVES IN CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle noted a presentation was given by Helen Murphy in relation to sensory friendly shopping initiatives.

10.2 **BROADBAND IN THE CITY CENTRE**

An Chomhairle noted a presentation was given by Maurice Fitzgerald of E-Net in relation to broadband in the city centre.

10.3 **MOTIONS**

10.3.1 **REVIEW POLICY ON PUBLIC SEATING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 21st February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council review its policy on public seating and street furniture.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 21/363)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a team across a range of directorates will conduct a review of public seating in the city. This work has commenced, and the baseline of seating has been mapped.

10.3.2 **POLICY FOR PROVISION OF PUBLIC SEATING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 21st February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will develop a policy for provision of public seating in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. Oliver Moran 21/396)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a team across a range of directorates will conduct a review of public seating in the city. This work has commenced, and the baseline of seating has been mapped.

10.3.3 **TAKING IN CHARGE PROCESS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 14th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That a more efficient way of dealing with taking in charge would be developed. Currently the process would have to be viewed as a failure. There are estates agreed for over 5 years still not taken in Charge. Also, a live list of estates who are or are not taken in charge should be available including a section for those under consideration for taking in charge and how long they are approved but not completed.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 22/020)

The report of the Director of Services stated that since the expansion of the City boundary in May 2019, the number of estates required to be taken in charge increased by 114% in absolute number of estates.

Additional resources have been identified to be assigned to Development Management ‘Estates’ section to assist with progress on taking in charge of these residential estates.

Estates will undertake a review of processes applied in other local authorities to identify any best practice which could apply. The process of taking in charge estates is complicated by a number of factors such as the timing of requests from developers for TIC, the issues to be resolved which can include, but are not limited to, water, drainage, lighting, open spaces and roads and the timelines within which these works are completed and signed off as fully compliant.

Currently there are 99 estates that we have at some stage of the TIC which are categorised as follows:

Priority 2022	-	14 estates
Priority 2023/24	-	40 estates
Currently paused	-	45 estates

In addition to the above there are a number of estates not yet completed for which we have not officially received a TIC.

10.4 **MOTIONS HELD IN COMMITTEE**

10.4.1 **BROADBAND IN THE CITY CENTRE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 3rd March 2022 on the following motion:-

‘In light of the recent presentation on the city centre and the difficulty of rolling out broadband fibre cable to replace the old copper cable, that a suitable, sustainable and efficient technological solution be sought out with service providers. Cork City centre cannot be left behind in the roll-out.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 21/111)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Municipal Area Network (MAN) is a network of ducting throughout Irelands major Cities and towns and is managed by E-Net on behalf of the Department of Environment and Communications. There is an extensive MAN in Cork City centre available for use by all Internet Service Providers. Cork City Council makes an allowance in public realm contracts for the construction of ducting. The licensing unit of Cork City Council works closely with all internet service providers to ensure works for provision of fibre in the city centre and elsewhere are licensed. The Council will continue to facilitate the rollout of fibre broadband in the City Centre and throughout the city.

11. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 22nd FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 22nd February 2022.

11.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report on Housing for December 2021.

11.2 **MOTIONS**

11.2.1 **PROVISION FOR APPRENTICESHIPS ON PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 18th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘In keeping with Cork City Council’s stated goals in making Cork a “Learning City”, a desirable place to do business with a skilled workforce, we propose the following;

Cork City Council put in place a mandatory provision for at least 3% of the workforce on procurement contracts of over €200,000, to be apprenticeships or recognised internships.’

(Barry Murphy, ICTU)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as this matter does not solely affect the Housing Directorate and considering the wider corporate implications and ramifications in relation to procurement, legal and financial impacts across all directorates who would be involved and responsible for procurement contracts of over €200,000, this motion should be referred to the Corporate Policy Group for due consideration and action as appropriate.

11.2.2 **WAITING TIMES FOR TRAVELLER FAMILIES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 17th December 2021 on the following motion:-

‘That the CE will examine the waiting times for Traveller families on the housing list.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 21/433)

The report of the Director of Services stated that it is open to all social housing applicants to seek a review of their credit time if they feel their credit time as applied by Cork City Council does not reflect what they believe their credit time should be. The Council through the Traveller Accommodation Unit will always assist any traveller family who is seeking a review of their credit time.

11.2.3 **WAITING LIST**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 18th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council merge the HAP/RAS waiting lists to the full waiting list when reporting on waiting list numbers.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Ryan 21/464)

The report of the Director of Services stated that social housing support is housing provided to people who are assessed as being unable to provide accommodation from their own resources.

Housing support is provided in several ways:

- Rented tenancies in Cork City Council owned properties;
- Sourcing social housing properties from the private sector through schemes such as the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Scheme or Long Term Leasing (LTL) Scheme;

- Nominations to accommodation provided by approved housing bodies (AHBs). Approved housing bodies are independent, non-profit making organisations that provided rented housing on a similar basis to the City Council;
- Provision of specific accommodation for homeless people, older people and Travellers.

The current list, as reported to members, clearly and correctly identifies all social housing support applicants and their current housing status. As outlined above, applicants in receipt of RAS/HAP or transfer tenants in City Council owned properties are considered to be in receipt of a form of social housing support and are, therefore, identified as such on the report to members. This designation is also reflected in the collation of statistics nationally by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in the assessment of net housing need under the annual summary social housing assessment process.

It is important, for the purposes of reporting, that those persons who have not yet received any form of social housing support are recorded as a distinct category of applicant for members and for the public in general. The merging of the list would lead to a dilution of information to members in relation to each applicants social housing situation. It could also lead to confusion as the merged figure would not correlate to Cork City Council's return in the annual national report of net housing need.

11.2.4 **COST RENTAL HOUSING IN CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 18th February 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That the CE will furnish an update on the provision of cost rental housing in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 22/029)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the first cost rental project in Cork City is currently progressing on site at Lancaster Gate and will deliver 73 new homes available as cost rental housing in late 2022. This project is being delivered by an Approved Housing Body and is supported by the Council and central government. The City Council is also in discussion with the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in relation to agreeing the affordable housing delivery targets for the period 2022 to 2026 under the Housing for All Plan. These targets will include for the delivery of cost rental housing and other forms of affordable housing across the City to be delivered by the City Council, Approved Housing Bodies and the Land Development Agency.

11.2.5 **MOTION REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the various Church Dioceses and Religious Orders to determine if there are church owned properties that may be available for social housing purposes on long term leases.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins 21/509)

An Chomhairle agreed to write to the various Church Dioceses and Religious Orders to determine if there are any vacant and/or derelict church owned properties that may be available for social housing purposes on long term leases, and additionally to query if they have any underutilised lands that may be suitable for housing development.

12. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 15th FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 15th February 2022.

13. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 7th MARCH 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 7th March 2022.

13.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

13.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF JANUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of January 2022.

14. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28th FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28th February 2022.

14.1 **QUERY ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS STRUCTURE AT ST. PATRICK'S ROAD/FRIARS WALK**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24th February 2022 in relation to a query on the telecommunications structure at St. Patrick's Road/Friars Walk.

15. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28th FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28th February 2022

16. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28th FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28th February 2022.

17. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28th FEBRUARY 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28th February 2022.

18. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 1st MARCH 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 1st March 2022.

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

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report for January 2022.

20. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

21. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

22. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

None received.

23. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

23.1 **SEAI ENERGY SHOW, DUBLIN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí D. Boyle and T. Fitzgerald at the SEAI Energy Show, to be held in Dublin on the 30th and 31st March 2022.

23.2 **IRISH PLANNING INSTITUTE CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí D. Boyle, F. Dennehy, D. Cauty, D. Cahill and T. Shannon at the Irish Planning Institute conference, to be held in Kilkenny on the 7th and 8th April 2022.

24. **TRAINING**

None received.

25. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

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

An Chomhairle noted that motions 22/157, 15 Minute Communities and 22/159, Removal of Green Space, have been referred to the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning, and the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committees respectively, instead of to the Corporate Policy Group.

26. **MOTIONS**

26.1 **SANCTIONS AGAINST THE RUSSIAN REGIME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council are shocked at the Russian regime aggression and military attack on Ukraine, which goes against all international agreements and norms. The loss of life through this unprovoked attack and act of war is unacceptable. We call on the Irish Government and the EU and its allies to take the strongest sanctions possible against the Russian regime. The people of Ukraine are sovereign, and our support is with them at this exceptionally difficult time. That this motion be forwarded to Minister Simon Coveney, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 22/141)

26.2 **MOVE STATUE OF CHRISTY RING TO PÁIRC UÍ CHAOIMH**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the DAA authority asking them to give serious consideration to donating/moving the iconic and magnificent statue of Christy Ring to Páirc Uí Chaoimh.’

‘Go scríobhfaidh Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí chuig an DAA chun impí orthu dealbh Criostóir Ó Rinn a bhronnadh ar/bhogadh go Pháirc Uí Chaoimh.’

(Proposers: Cllr. E. Ryng, Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. M. Nugent 22/150)

26.3 **CONDEMN INVASION OF UKRAINE**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council condemns the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and stands with the people of Ukraine in their efforts to repel the invasion; as a City of Sanctuary, supports the non-violent and humanitarian efforts of the residents of Cork to assist the people of Ukraine in every way during this war; as a Nuclear Free Zone, condemns the threat of use of nuclear weapons by the Russian Federation in unequivocal terms; and shall forward this message to the Embassy of Ukraine in Ireland and the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Ireland.’

(Proposers: Cllr. O. Moran, Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, Cllr. T. Fitzgerald, Cllr. D. Boylan, Cllr. J. Maher, Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. J. Sheehan, Cllr. M. Finn, Cllr. G. Kelleher, Cllr. T. Moloney, Cllr. D. Forde, Cllr. P. Dineen, Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. D. Boyle, Cllr. L. Bogue, Cllr. E. Ryng 22/151)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy An Chomhairle approved the motion revised to read as follows, with Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, and T. Tynan added to the list of proposers:-

‘That Cork City Council condemns the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and stands with the people of Ukraine in their efforts to repel the invasion; as a City of Sanctuary, supports the non-violent and humanitarian efforts of the residents of Cork to assist the people of Ukraine in every way during this war; as a Nuclear Free Zone, condemns the threat of use of nuclear weapons by the Russian Federation in unequivocal terms; and shall forward this message to the Embassy of Ukraine in Ireland, the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Ireland, and Simon Coveney, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence.’

(Proposers: Cllr. O. Moran, Cllr. S. O’Callaghan, Cllr. T. Fitzgerald, Cllr. D. Boylan, Cllr. J. Maher, Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. J. Sheehan, Cllr. M. Finn, Cllr. G. Kelleher, Cllr. T. Moloney, Cllr. D. Forde, Cllr. P. Dineen, Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. D. Boyle, Cllr. L. Bogue, Cllr. E. Rying, Cllr. K. McCarthy, Cllr. T. Shannon, Cllr. T. Tynan 22/151)

26.4 **COMPANY AND IRISH LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS LEGISLATION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to the Department of Finance and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and to ask for reform of section 110 company and Irish Limited Partnerships legislation, given that this legislation which forms part of the Irish tax haven facilitates tax evasion that is being used to fund the current aggression towards Ukraine and other wars worldwide.’

(Proposers: Cllr. L. Bogue, Cllr. O. Moran 22/161)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH