

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 11th MAY 2015

PRESENT	An Ardmhéara Comhairleoir M. Shields.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh.
NORTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí T. Gould, M. Barry, K. O’Flynn, L. O’Donnell, J. Sheehan.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí M. Nugent, K. Collins, M. O’Sullivan.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, 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, F. Dennehy, P.J. Hourican, T. Moloney.
APOLOGIES	Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. T. Keating, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. N. Carroll, Staff Officer, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. Valerie O’Sullivan, Director of Services, Corporate & External Affairs & Housing & Community Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise. Mr. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation. Mr. T. Healy, Head of Finance.

An tArd-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, An Chomhairle agreed to Suspend Standing Orders to record its disapproval of the omission of Blackpool from the Living Cities Plan.

1.1 **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

A vote of sympathy was passed unanimously with An Chomhairle standing in silence to:-

- The O’Leary Family on the death of Rosarie O’Leary.
- The Shaw Family on the death of Anna Shaw Sexton.
- The Murphy Family on the death of Pat Murphy.
- The O’Riordan Family on the death of Patrick O’Riordan.
- The Lynch Family on the death of Jack Lynch.
- The O’Neill Family on the death of Richard O’Neill.
- The O’Leary Family on the death of Noel O’Leary.
- The Roche Family on the death of Ray Roche.

- The Fitzgerald Family on the death of Theresa Fitzgerald.
- The Cummins Family on the death of Margaret Cummins.
- Finbarr Archer on the death Mrs. Kearney.
- The O’Leary Family on the death of Patricia O’Leary.

1.2 **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS / BEST WISHES**

- Mr. David Cameron, The Conservative Party, U.K. Prime Minister.
- Mr. Andy Lyons on his retirement.
- Mr. John Lane on his retirement.
- Robert & Marion Heffernan on the birth of their daughter Tara.
- Togher Boxing Club on an outstanding visit to Gwent Boxing club, Swansea and the Lord Mayor of Swansea.
- Mayfield Unit AFC on gaining promotion to the Munster Senior League Premier Division on May 6th.

1.3 **LORD MAYORS ITEMS**

No items under this heading.

1.4 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

- 1.4.1 An Chomhairle noted Cork City Council’s Cork Local Government Review Further Information document.

2. **MINUTES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following Minutes:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on the 27th April 2015.

3. **QUESTION TIME**

3.1 **CORK COUNTY POUND**

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

Can the CE tell me if Cork City Council gives any money to the Cork County Pound and if we do, how much?

Also has Cork City Council wrote to the Cork County Pound after we passed a motion last month requesting,

“Cork City Council calls on the Cork County Pound to put in place a web page to advertise the stray animals it takes into its shelter on a daily basis. We further call on the pound to extend the length of time they hold onto these animals and try other means to re-home the large volume of strays they receive every year, especially in the light of the reported unacceptable high rate of animals that are put to sleep (66% of all dogs brought in by council’s wardens are put down) within the Cork County Pound which is reported to be the highest in Ireland”. (Ref. Examiner Wednesday, February 18th 2015.)

And if we did has there been response to our request?
If there was a response, what was it?
If there wasn't a response, what can we as a Council do to encourage the Cork County Pound to extend the length of time they hold onto the animals brought into the Pound?

REPLY

Under the Control of Dogs Acts, Cork County Council has sole responsibility for the functions of the Acts in Cork County area, and any funding associated with same. The County Council will be notified of the adoption of the motion.

Jim O Donovan
Director Of services
Environment and Recreation

3.2 **WHAT CAPITAL AND INTEREST HAS BEEN PAID OF THE 37 MILLION**

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

What capital and interest has been paid of the 37 million

- a) on Affordable Housing
- b) Land Banks i.e, the 37 million owed on the seven land banks

REPLY

- a) Cork City Council have outstanding loans of €29.6m from the Housing Finance Agency for the funding of Affordable Housing Schemes. The City Council paid an annual sum of €719,667 being interest only in respect of these loans for the years 2013 & 2014.
- b) Cork City Council borrowed €37.5m from the Housing Finance Agency for the purchase of lands for housing purposes. The Cork City Council paid an annual sum of €749,200 being interest only in respect of these loans for the years 2013 & 2014.

V. O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services

3.3 **PLANNING PERMISSION**

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

Could the CE please inform the Council as to what type of planning permissions is needed for a premises to sell water pipes, scales, bongs, blubbers, seed banks, rolling papers and vapo rizers and also what planning permission is needed for the use of the marijuana leaf logo in advertising in public areas.

REPLY

Under current planning legislation, the selling of these goods comes under the definition of a 'shop' in article 5(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended):

“ 'shop' means a structure used for any or all of the following purposes, where the sale, display or service is principally to visiting members of the public –

- (a) for the retail sale of goods,
- (b) as a post office,
- (c) for the sale of tickets or as a travel agency,
- (d) for the sale of sandwiches or other food or of wine for consumption off the premises, where the sale of such food or wine is subsidiary to the main retail use, and “wine” is defined as any intoxicating liquor which may be sold under a wine retailer's off-licence (within the meaning of the Finance (1909-1910) Act, 1910), 10 Edw. 7. & 1 Geo. 5, c.8,
- (e) for hairdressing,
- (f) for the display of goods for sale,
- (g) for the hiring out of domestic or personal goods or articles,
- (h) as a launderette or dry cleaners,
- (i) for the reception of goods to be washed, cleaned or repaired,

but does not include any use associated with the provision of funeral services or as a funeral home, or as a hotel, a restaurant or a public house, or for the sale of hot food or intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises except under paragraph (d), or any use to which class 2 or 3 of Part 4 of Schedule 2 applies;”

Therefore, a premises currently operating as a shop could sell these items without requiring planning permission. However, planning permission for a shop, or retail use, would be required to operate a premises selling these items, if it was not already a shop.

With respect to advertisements, all advertisements must comply with the exempted development provisions relating to advertisements set out in the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended). Otherwise planning permission is required. There is no current planning legislation or guidance that deals specifically with marijuana leaf logos.

Patrick Ledwidge
Director of Services
Strategic Planning and Economic Development

3.4 REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR BOXING IN CORK

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

Noting the concerns of the Cork County Boxing Board in relation to the proposed Boxing Centre of Excellence on Knocknaheeny Avenue, can the CE update members on any issues that may be resulting in delaying the progression of the centre?

REPLY

The City Council is very supportive of efforts to develop a Regional Centre of Excellence for Boxing in Cork. There is a funding shortfall in relation to the current proposal which the Council is trying to progress with the Cork County Boxing Board, together with ensuring a sustainable project for the future.

Council has reserved a site at Knocknaheeny for the project and has managed the contractual and tendering process to date.

The Council is in regular contact with the Board, and has met with representatives of the Board as recently as last week in relation to the matter.

The meeting with the Chief Executive requested by The Board will be arranged in the coming weeks.

Council is committed to delivering a viable project for boxing in the city in partnership with the Boxing authorities.

Jim O Donovan
Director Of services
Environment and Recreation

3.5 **SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS**

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

'Of the targeted 1,349 new social housing units to be delivered in 2015-2017 as part of the Government's Housing Strategy, can the CE estimate how many of these units will be new builds on City Council owned land-banks?

REPLY

The Housing Agency are currently undertaking a scoping exercise nationally on lands in local authority ownership with regard to prioritising suitable lands for development in the lifetime of the strategy. This exercise will have regard to a number of factors including the local demand for social housing, planning issues and the physical characteristics of the lands.

Members will be updated on progress in advancing development proposals for these lands following the completion of the scoping exercise and discussions on same with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government.

It is therefore not possible at this juncture to project the numbers of social housing units that will be constructed on City Council owned lands for the period 2015 – 2017.

V. O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Housing & Community Services

3.6 **CORK PUBLIC MUSEUM**

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

Can the CE inform the Council of the following:

Is there any possibility that the opening hours in the Museum at Fitzgerald's Park could be extended to the weekends during the Summer season to facilitate the people of Cork and also for the tourists visiting our beautiful city?

REPLY

Given the staffing resources available in the Cork Public Museum at present, it would not be possible to have the opening hours extended to weekends outside the summer season.

The matter will be kept under review, to consider if it may be possible to enhance opening hours, at a date in the future.

**Valerie O'Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Corporate & External Affairs**

3.7 **ILLEGAL DUMPING**

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

Can the CE please advise what measures have been or will be put in place to deal with illegal dumping & other problems associated with the upcoming bonfire night?

REPLY

The City Council's Parks staff will address issues of illegal dumping on bonfire night by using approved systems of collection and disposal in accordance with relevant site specific Risk Assessments and Health and Safety Guidelines. Every effort is made to remove all illegally dumped material, however, this is unrealistic given the quantity of material dumped in advance of the night and, the staff and finances available for this operation. The prime objective of the Council in the lead up to bonfire night is, to ensure safety and minimise the risk of injury to local residents and, damage to property, overhead cables and adjacent roads and footpaths. Collection and disposal follows in line with available resources.

The Council will also be operating its bulky goods collection service in all Wards prior to Bonfire Night itself.

In addition to the above, the City Council organises supervised family friendly events in various parks across the City in partnership with local communities etc, and supported by the Gardai, as well as supporting various other alternative community events. Attendance at these events is now in excess of 12,000 with the project having made a noticeable

difference in recent years to the levels of problem fires throughout the City, corroborated by feedback both from the Fire Service and the Gardai.

Jim O Donovan
Director Of services
Environment and Recreation

4. **PARTY WHIPS–5th MAY 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the meeting of Party Whips, from its meeting held on 5th May 2015.

4.1 **PARTY WHIPS TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTORS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF CORK LOCAL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP LTD.**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the nominations of Directors to the Board of Management of Cork Local Sports Partnerships Ltd.

They are:- Comhairleoirí J. Buttimer, K. Collins, N. O’Keeffe.

The Chief Executive agreed to re-nominate Jim O’Donovan, Director of Services, Environment & Recreation.

4.2 **PARTY WHIPS TO APPROVE THE COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES MEMORIALS AND MONUMENTS PROCEDURE AND POLICY DOCUMENT AND REFER TO AN CHOMHAIRLE FOR ADOPTION.**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Commemorative Plaques Memorials and Monuments Procedure and Policy Document.

4.3 **MOTION**

4.3.1 **2.5 KM TRACK IN TRAMORE VALLEY PARK BE CALLED AFTER WORLD CHAMPION ROB HEFFERNAN.**

An Chomhairle considered and agreed to refer this Motion to the Commemoration Committee.

‘That the 2.5 km track in Tramore Valley Park be called after World Champion Rob Heffernan.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/098)

4.4 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

An Chomhairle noted the following Motion which had been deferred from the previous meeting:-

4.4.1 **COUNCIL MINUTE**

‘In an attempt to save paper Cork City Council should only print out minutes to each committee meeting once and only send them out once in the Councillor’s packs. Stop reprinting them for every meeting. It is the responsibility of members to make sure they have the copy they receive for the meeting. Also in an attempt to save paper council should stop sending out in Councillor’s packs every week a vote of congratulations & vote of sympathy sheet of paper. Councillors can collect them from inside the council if & when they need them. There is quite a large waste of paper generated within council and we should all have an aspiration to stop this wastage.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/080)

The Party Whips noted that this Motion has been superseded by the identification by the I.S. Department of a solution to enable Council Meetings to go paperless.

The Party Whips also noted that Comhairleoirí T. O’Driscoll, C. O’Leary, D. Cahill and T. Moloney have been selected to test this application.

5. **STRATEGIC PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE -MONDAY 27TH APRIL, 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee, from its meeting held on 27th April 2015.

5.1 **LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of the Director of Services, Pat Ledwidge on the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP)

The report stated that a report was circulated by Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services to the Committee. He set out the outcome of the workshop for Elected Members on the LECP which was held on Thursday, April 23rd 2015, Strategic Planning and & Economic Development & Enterprise Policy Committee. The Chairman outlined the main contents of the report. Members welcomed the report and highlighted importance of:

- faster broadband for business and social purposes
- a review of the rates system
- targeted flights and the expansion of Cork Airport for attracting economic activity
- improved access to Cork Airport from the region
- retention of tourists for some part of their holiday in the city
- improved accessibility to the North West of the city
- social housing to sustainable development
- construction firms should be on a register to ensure quality
- possibility to downsizing to free accommodation and to meet actual need of people on the housing list
- reliefs for city centre communities are discommoded by behaviour of tenant in rented properties

5.2 **CORK CITY LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE – ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services on the Local Enterprise Office Cork City Enterprise Development Plan 2015.

5.3 **CITY CENTRE GRANT SCHEMES 2015**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services on the Built Heritage Grant Schemes.

6. **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HOUSING FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 27th APRIL 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Special Meeting of Housing & Community Functional Committee, from its meeting held on 27th April 2015.

6.1 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll left the Chamber due to conflict of interest.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 23rd April 2015. The report set out details of the proposed Community Development Grants to be allocated for 2015.

7. **HOUSING & COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 5th MAY 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Housing & Community Functional Committee, from its meeting held on 5th May 2015.

7.1 **DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive dated 30th April, 2015 in relation to the following property disposals:

- a. Disposal of a wayleave at Monahan Road, Cork to Monahan Road Development Limited, c/o Diarmaid Falvey, Solicitors, Church Street, Cloyne, Co. Cork for the sum of €3,500.00 (plus VAT if applicable) plus costs of €1,500.00 (plus VAT). On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.
- b. Disposal of leasehold interest in area of ground to the rear of “Leahurst”, Douglas Road, Cork to John K. and Aileen M. Stringer, c/o Colm S. O’Riain & Co., Solicitors, No. 4, Washington Street West, Cork for the sum of €2,000.00 (plus VAT if applicable) plus costs of €1,500.00 (plus VAT). On the proposal of Comhairleoir L. McGonigle, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

- c. Disposal of leasehold interest in area of ground to the rear of “Moorlands”, Douglas Road, Cork to Margaret Lane, c/o Eamon Murray & Co., Solicitors, Nos. 6/7, Sheares Street, Cork for the sum of €4,000.00 (plus VAT if applicable) plus costs of €1,500.00 (plus VAT). On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairleoir approved the disposal.

7.2 **MONTHLY REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services on Housing for April 2015.

7.3 **CARBERY HOUSING ASSOCIATION – ACCOMMODATION AT DUBLIN HILL, CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the provision of 1 unit of accommodation at No. 51, Hawthorn Mews, Dublin Hill, Cork by Carbery Housing Association.

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government had approved a funding application from Carbery Housing Association under the Capital Advance Leasing Facility for a loan not exceeding €35,250 in respect of the provision of 1 unit of accommodation at No. 51 Hawthorn Mews, Dublin Hill, Cork. The scheme involves the Local Authority advancing a loan to the voluntary body to cover 22% of total capital outlay plus 1.5% of expenses incurred for the purchase of No. 51 Hawthorn Mews, Dublin Hill, Cork for social housing use under the Mortgage to Rent Scheme.

The report further stated that the granting of assistance in the manner proposed is a reserved function. The Director of Services recommends that the required loan facility be granted and that the following resolution be referred to Council for adoption:

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €35,250 be granted to Carbery Housing Association, subject to the terms of the Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme”.

7.4 **SOCIAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2015 - 2017**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 in relation to targets for delivery under the Social Housing Strategy 2015 – 2017.

The report of the Director of Services stated that Members were aware that the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government announced in early April delivery targets under a range of housing programmes for the period 2015-2017. The targets notified in respect of Cork City Council were as follows:

Current & Capital Targets 2015 – 2017 (Number of Housing Units)	Estimated Cost of delivery (Current & Capital)
1,349	€124.4million

The report further stated that Cork City Council has now been notified with additional detail as to how the target is broken down between capital and current programmes and how funding will be attached to that delivery. These targets and programmes can be grouped under three headings as follows:

1. Capital Programme

A target of 643 units has been set for Cork City Council to be delivered under capital programmes encompassing Local Authority Housing (Construction, Acquisition including Part V acquisitions), Capital Assistance Scheme (through Approved Housing Bodies) and the return of void properties for the period 2015 – 2017.

The provisional allocation to support this target is €118.9m. The Council has been informed that the number of void units for which Department funding will be made available will be notified shortly.

A “Call for Proposals” under the Capital Assistance Scheme has been initiated with the Approved Housing Bodies.

2. Targets under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme

A target of 493 units for delivery under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme (SHCEP), previously referred to as the Social Housing Leasing Initiative during 2015 – 2017 has been determined with 128 of these units for delivery in 2015.

It is important to note that under SHCEP, units can be delivered in a variety of ways and local authorities are encouraged to explore using all of the mechanisms where possible:

- Multi-unit developments directly leased by authorities
- Individual units either leased or through rental arrangements that can be acquired using local authorities delegated sanction, and
- Units can be leased, purchased or constructed by Approved Housing Bodies

The Council will actively engage with Approved Housing Bodies to determine their capacity to assist in delivering units and to build a programme of delivery for the AHB sector in the course of the strategy.

3. Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

It is intended with the national introduction of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and subject to demand, that RAS as a targeted scheme to transfer rent supplement recipients to local authority accommodation would gradually phase out.

RAS, however, remains a very relevant and significant part of the suite of social housing options currently available to those who are assessed as being in need of housing support.

A target of 105 RAS units to be delivered by the City Council has been set for 2015 with the number of units estimated to be delivered under the scheme in the period 2016-2017 at 108 units.

Council Lands

Members have previously raised the issue of the four significant sites available for social housing and in the ownership of the City Council which are as follows:

- Old Whitechurch Road
- Boherboy Road, Lotamore, Mayfield
- Thomas Davis Street, Blackpool
- Nash's Boreen

The Housing Agency are currently undertaking a scoping exercise nationally on lands in local authority ownership with regard to prioritising suitable lands for development in the lifetime of the strategy. This exercise will have regard to a number of factors including the local demand for social housing, planning issues and the physical characteristics of the lands.

The report also stated that Members would be updated on progress in advancing development proposals for these lands following the completion of the scoping exercise and discussions on same with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government. The City Council are fully committed to delivering the targets outlined in the Strategy within the timelines issued. The Director advised that she would be meeting with the relevant officials shortly in the Department to agree the breakdown of the targets under the Capital programme outlined in item one above. The focus of the programme for the current year will be the return of void units and acquisition of units to meet current housing need.

7.5 FABRIC UPGRADE SCHEME

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 in relation to progress on the Fabric Upgrade Scheme.

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Fabric Upgrade Programme commenced in May 2013. As of 31st December 2014 a total of 1,623 properties has been upgraded. The upgrade consists of the installation of cavity wall and attic insulation where appropriate. Total expenditure on the project by 31st December 2014 amounted to €3.4m. Between 1st January 2015 and 29th April 2015 the number of properties surveyed for inclusion in the project was 1,975 and the number of properties assigned to contractors for upgrade works during this period was 1,842.

The reasons for the difference (135) between the two indicators include:

- a. Some properties do not require or need the upgrade
- b. The upgrade is not applicable to the property
- c. The tenant is not available (e.g. no one answers the door)
- d. The tenant does not want the upgrade

The report also stated that thus far in 2015 the Council has committed €2.87 million to the project. Of this €1,447,792 has been paid out to contractors for works on 989 properties.

As details of the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government allocation have not yet been finalised, the decision has been taken not to issue any more work to contractors until the 2015 allocation has been authorised. Property surveys will continue for the foreseeable future in anticipation of funding being allocated by the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government.

7.6 **ALLOCATION OF VACANT UNITS**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That Cork City Council would set up a fast track & incentive scheme to prevent housing units becoming vacant by allocating housing units before the people living in the houses move out. If Cork City Council knew in advance when tenants were leaving they could have new tenants ready to move in immediately. Tenant leaving could receive a rent rebate from one to three months dependant on the condition the property being handed back. Where a housing unit needs necessary works that Cork City Council would fast track the work and ensure its completion and allocation with three months of the house becoming vacant.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 15/063)

The report of the Director of Services stated that in the vast majority of cases, Cork City Council are not notified in advance of properties becoming vacant. Most vacancies arise as a result of the death of a tenant, the tenant goes into long term care or the property is abandoned.

The report further stated that where a tenant does notify the City Council in advance that they intend to vacate a property, a preliminary inspection takes place and the tenant may be advised to complete some repair works. However, a full inspection can only be completed once the keys have been handed back to the City Council. Every effort is made to return such properties to a lettable condition promptly. An incentive scheme through rent rebate depending on the house condition is not realistic as it may be considered inequitable to tenants who cannot afford to maintain their houses as well as others.

7.7 **FLATS ON BAKERS ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That Cork City Council will replace the windows and doors at Baker's Road flats which have been in place for many years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/067)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government have advised that as part of the Fabric Upgrade Programme Phase 2, a survey of all windows and doors installed in social housing will be carried out and upgraded as necessary. Phase 2 of the project will not commence until Phase 1 of the project is complete.

7.8 **REGENERATION OF BOYCES STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That Cork City Council would arrange a meeting between the Housing Department Directorate, members of the North Central Ward and community representatives as a matter of urgency to discuss the ongoing issues and the regeneration of Boyces Street.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 15/071)

The report of the Director of Services stated that plans have been prepared by the City Architects Department to carry out improvement works to the existing housing stock at Boyces Street. Cork City Council is now at the appropriate juncture where the Housing & Community Directorate will arrange a meeting with public representatives, community representatives and An Garda Síochána to discuss the proposed improvement works for the area.

7.9 **SURVEY OF HOUSES AT SYCAMORE PLACE**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That a survey of all decramastic roofs in the houses at Sycamore Place, Togher, be carried out and that a report will be prepared for Council on the matter which will include previous replacements and warranties provided by the installer.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 15/086)

The report of the Director of Services stated that there is currently no funding or resources available to undertake this survey. This may be undertaken as part of a stock survey if and when funding and resources are made available.

7.10 **WORKS PROGRAMME/PLANNED MAINTENANCE**

Members considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That Cork City Council introduce a testing system as part of their works programme and planned maintenance thus enabling tenants to communicate and know in advance when works will commence. It will also create greater goodwill and be positive P.R.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/053)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the only planned maintenance being carried out at present is the Fabric Upgrade Programme. In order to determine what works can be done to a property under the programme, a survey of the property must take place in the first instance. Tenants are informed by letter in advance of this survey and subsequent construction.

7.11 **STATUS OF COUNCIL HOUSING STOCK**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That Cork City Council housing department reports on the current status of housing maintenance of council housing stock. To include the amount of repairs logged for repair currently, the breakdown priority of these outstanding repairs and the expected average waiting time for repairs within each priority.

Can the report also provide a breakdown of how maintenance repairs are prioritised into different categories, example: Emergency, Urgent, Routine and give a list of the most common repairs in each.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/108)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the information relating to the current status of housing stock can only be identified following a stock survey if and when funding and resources are made available. Meanwhile, the City Council is only aware of issues reported by tenants.

Year 2014 Response Maintenance	Emergency	Urgent	Routine	Total
Number of repair requests received	377	2,896	12,954	16,227
Number of repair requests cleared	377	2,146	8,466	10,989
Percentage of repair requests cleared	100%	74%	65%	68%

The housing maintenance database does not have a facility to produce reports on the average times taken for different categories. However, the target times are as follows:

CATEGORY	TIMESCALE
Emergency	1-3 Working Days
Urgent	10 Working Days
Routine	12 Weeks

Emergencies are given priority and are completed within the timescale above. It should be noted that due to current resource levels the actual timescale for completing urgent and routine repairs has increased.

Repair requests are categorised as follows:

EMERGENCY: This is an issue where there could be a danger to life or imminent serious damage to the property

URGENT: This is an issue which could cause serious damage to the house if not repaired quickly.

ROUTINE: This is an issue which needs attention but is not a danger to life or property and which can wait until emergency and urgent problems have been dealt with.

<u>Examples of repair requests categorised as EMERGENCY</u>	<u>Examples of repair requests categorised as URGENT</u>	<u>Examples of repair requests categorised as ROUTINE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • electrical • burst waterpipe • plumbing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blocked sewer • roof repairs • plumbing • gas heating repairs (winter) • water seeping through ceiling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plumbing • windows & doors • mould/damp • gas heating repairs (summer)

8. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 5th MAY 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Roads and Transportation Functional Committee from its meeting held on the 5th May 2015.

8.1 **ROADWORKS PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of the Director of Services, dated 30th April, 2015 on the progress of the ongoing Roadworks Programme for the month ended April, 2015.

8.2 **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WHICH WERE REFERRED BY COUNCIL TO THE COMMITTEE.**

8.2.1 **SURVEY OF FOOTPATHS IN FRIARY GARDEN**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council carry out a survey of the footpaths in Friary Garden with a view to re-surface.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/041)

The Report stated that, the footpaths in Friary Gardens will be surveyed in the coming months. Any remedial works will be dependent on the results of the survey and available resources.

8.2.2 **DOUBLE YELLOW LINES AT ST ANTHONY’S BOYS NATIONAL SCHOOL, BEECHWOOD PARK, BALLINLOUGH AND AT OAKFIELD LAWN BALLINLOUGH RD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council roads maintenance dept would arrange to have the double yellow lines at St Anthony’s Boys National School, Beechwood Park, Ballinlough and at Oakfield Lawn Ballinlough Rd, repainted as they are in a bad state of repair.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 15/096)

The Report stated that, the renewing of the double yellow lines at St. Anthony’s Boys National School, Beechwood Park, Ballinlough and at Oakfield Lawn Ballinlough Rd will be inputted into the road painting programme and will be done as soon as is practical.

8.2.3 **REMEDY THE MAJOR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS ON THE BOREENAMANNA RD AT GLENCOO LAWN**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

An Chomhairle also agreed that a Ward Meeting would be held on this issue to which the GAA would be invited.

‘That Cork City Council Traffic Dept would take immediate action to remedy the major traffic problems on the Boreenamanna Rd at Glencoo Lawn, especially at match days. The local residents lives are constantly at risk due to the disgraceful parking by some match goers who appear to have no concern for them. One action that is required is to remove or reduce the parking here to allow greater line of sight for residents exiting from Glencoo Lawn on to the Boreenamanna Rd.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 15/097)

The Report stated that, the traffic management arrangements for GAA matches at Páirc Uí Rinn and Páirc Uí Chaoimh are fully controlled by the Gardaí. The City Council may become involved for the major matches by the provision of signage requested by the Gardaí.

The Gardaí will be approached with any complaints from local residents in connection with blocked driveways, parking on footpaths etc. and any appropriate actions by Cork City Council will be taken subject to funding being available. Double yellow lines have been installed at the junction with Boreenamanna Rd so as to improve sight lines for motorists and these will be reviewed as requested and extended as necessary.

8.2.4 **AMEND THE "GENERAL LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR TABLES AND CHAIRS ON PUBLIC ROADS / FOOTPATHS"**

An Chomhairle agreed that this Motion would be referred back to the Roads & Transportation Functional Committee.

‘That Cork City Council amend the "General Licence Conditions for Tables and Chairs on Public Roads / Footpaths" schedule of charges for suburban retail stores not selling alcohol or involved in the restaurant business. At present I believe the charges are as follows , Annual Admin Fee €110 , Use of Public Space fee €100 per licence and a Licence Fee of €125 per table / bench. These annual fees are same for city centre Public Houses and Restaurants as small suburban shops which sell coffee and sandwiches and that is clearly not fair.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 15/103)

The Report stated that, the administrative fee of €110 is a standard fee which covers the cost of processing applications. The same procedure is followed when processing applications regardless of the nature of the business applying for the licence. The fee of €100 is for the use of the public space. The Planning and Development Regulations 2001 states that the licence fee for “Tables and chairs outside a hotel, restaurant, public house or other establishment where food is sold for consumption on the premises” is €125 per table. The fees are payable per calendar year if street furniture is placed on a public space.

8.2.5 **EMERGENCY REPAIRS IN THE WESTERN SIDE OF KELLEHERS BUILDINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council carry out emergency repairs to the steeped area in the western side of Kellehers Buildings as many of the flagstones are loose and a danger to the elderly residents who may have occasion to use them.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 15/104)

The Report stated that, the area in question at Kelleher's Buildings will be surveyed in the near future and any essential repairs will be carried out in the coming months in order to eliminate the principal trip hazards for the residents of the area.

8.2.6 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT THE JUNCTION OF BARRACK STREET AND LOWER EVERGREEN STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork city council would install a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Barrack street and lower Evergreen street, this crossing is used by hundreds of pedestrians (many of whom who are elderly) that commute to and from the city centre on a daily basis and all of whom experience difficulty at this junction.’

Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 15/105)

The Report stated that, there are two uncontrolled crossings at the junction of Barrack Street and Lower Evergreen Street. One facilitates the movement of persons who wish to cross east west across Lower Evergreen Street. The other facilitates those who are on the western side of Lower Evergreen Street and wish to travel in a north south direction. For those who wish or need to use a controlled pedestrian crossing facility, this is available at the intersection of Lower Evergreen Street with South Gate Bridge, Sullivan's Quay and French's Quay.

8.2.7 **SPEED RAMP OR RAMPS BE PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE RESIDENTS HOMES OF O'RIORDAN'S TERRACE, TRAMORE ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That a speed ramp or ramps be provided outside the residents homes of O'Riordan's Terrace, Tramore road and associated pavement bollards be installed on the pavement immediately after the exit from the roundabout to prevent parking on the said pavement so as to assist and enhance the safety of resident's in their attempt's to access & egress their driveways. The speed ramp or ramps should be installed on the left hand lane as traffic exits the roundabout heading east onto Tramore Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 15/106)

The Report stated that, O' Riordan's Terrace, Tramore Road can be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there. However there is no funding available for a traffic calming programme in 2015.

Any identified traffic calming solutions can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

8.2.8 **ROAD TRAFFIC AMENDMENT BILL 2015**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

Noting that Cork City Council at its last meeting passed a motion calling on the Minister for Transport to pass the Road Traffic Amendment Bill 2015 commonly known as Jake's Law, Council will in the interim introduce bye-laws limiting the speed limit in housing estates to 20Kmh.

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/107)

The Report stated that, the limiting of the speed limit in housing estates is desirable and should be self enforcing to ensure compliance by all road users. However it may not be appropriate to introduce a single special speed limit of 20kph speed limit for every estate road within the City Council administrative area. In some instances, for example, estate roads are quite wide and drivers would be naturally inclined to drive at speeds in excess of 20kph, irrespective of the actual speed limit. In such cases, there may be a requirement for physical traffic calming works or other measures in parallel with a reduced limit.

As Members will be aware the Council can amend the current bye-laws so as to introduce lower speed limits in any part of the City. Any housing estate that Members would wish to have considered for a lower limit be assessed with due regard to the relevant guidelines in place and the bye-law amendment process commenced as appropriate.

8.2.9 **PARK SPACES FOR DISABLED DRIVERS IN THE CAR PARK AT CARRIGROHANE ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘‘That City Council would designate a number of parking spaces for disabled drivers in the recently extended Car Park on the Carrigrohane Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/110)

The Report stated that, the car park on Carrigrohane Road is part of the Lee Fields recreation area and this request will be passed onto the Parks section of our Environment & Recreation Directive for comment.

If approved by the Environment & Recreation Directive, the request for the allocation of a number of car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be will be inputted into the road painting programme and will be done as soon as is practical.

8.2.10 **INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES / RAMPS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF WOODLAWN TRAMORE ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That City Council in the interest of safety for the Residents of Woodlawn Tramore Road would install traffic calming measures / ramps within the estate itself. As the singular

ramp near the entrance to Woodlawn is not sufficient to deter motorists speeding within the estate particularly at the T Junction.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/111)

The Report stated that, Woodlawn Tramore Road can be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there. However there is no funding available for a traffic calming programme in 2015.

Any identified traffic calming solutions can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

8.2.11 **RESURFACING AT BENVORLICH ESTATE AND KENLEY CRESCENT**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That significant patching and/or resurfacing would be undertaken at Benvoirlich Estate and Kenley Crescent.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/113)

The Report stated that, the road surfaces at Benvoirlich Estate and at Kenley Crescent will be assessed and considered for inclusion in the next Estate Road Resurfacing Contract.

8.2.12 **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES AND THE INSTALLATION OF ROAD CUSHIONING ON THE COMMONS ROAD**

An Chomhairle agreed to refer this Motion back to the Roads & Transportation Functional Committee.

‘In light of recent traffic incidents on the Commons Road, that Cork City Council would engage with residents in the back Commons Road from Blackpool Bridge to Dinos Drive-in area regarding the installation of traffic calming measures and the installation of road cushioning.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 15/114)

The Report stated that, the section of the Commons’ Road between Fairfield Avenue, west of Dino’s Drive-in area and Blackpool Bridge is a single carriageway road with two way traffic and in some locations, parallel parking on both sides. It is within the 50kph speed zone. The parallel parking on both sides of the road narrows down the effective width of the road thereby causing motorists to drive slower. The introduction of more specific traffic calming measures along this section of the Commons’ Road is not recommended.

In relation to a recent incident on the section of Common’s Road between Blackpool Bridge and its intersection with Popham’s Road where a number of parked cars were damaged on St. Patrick’s night, An Garda Síochána has confirmed that this was as a result of poor driver behaviour and the presence of traffic calming measures, such as speed ramps, would not have prevented this incident.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, An Chomhairle agreed to continue the meeting beyond 8.00 p.m.

8.2.13 **HALF AN HOUR FREE PARKING IN BLACKPOOL VILLAGE ON A ONE YEAR PILOT SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council would provide a half an hour free parking in Blackpool Village on a one year pilot scheme to support local business by making it easier for customers to park and shop in Blackpool Village.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 15/115)

The Report stated that, on-street parking spaces are finite and at a premium and these spaces are intended to be used for the convenience of those who wish to spend a relatively short period of time (one or two hours) in an area. It is important that a constant turnover of spaces occurs, and on-street charges and time limits are a means to achieve this.

Free parking on-street in the Blackpool village area would create difficulties in enforcement for customers who overstay the free period. It is likely that this would lead to abuse of the spaces by vehicles parking for long periods, thereby reducing turnover and availability of spaces, and consequently reducing the footfall in the area, creating the opposite of the intended effect.

Surveys in the area are being arranged in order to ensure the optimum parking arrangements are in place at all times.

8.2.14 **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES ON CONNOLLY ROAD, NEAR MORNING STAR SCHOOL**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That this council would explore the possibility of installing traffic calming measures on Connolly Road, near Morning Star School.’

(Proposer: Cllr F. Kerins 15/116)

The Report stated that, Connolly Road, near Morning Star School can be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there. However there is no funding available for a traffic calming programme in 2015.

Any identified traffic calming solutions can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

8.2.15 **INCLUDE MAGLIN GROVE AND ARAGLEN COURT ESTATE IN THE 2015/2016 ESTATE RESURFACING PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That City Council would include Maglin Grove and Araglen Court both in Deanrock Estate in the 2015/2016 Estate Resurfacing Programme.

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/117)

The Report stated that, the road surface at Maglin Grove and Araglen Court will be assessed and considered for inclusion in the next Estate Road Resurfacing Contract.

8.2.16 **OFF-ROAD AND ON-ROAD SIGNAGE, ELECTRONIC SPEED INDICATORS, ALSO INSTALL TEMPORARY TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT WILTON GARDENS JUNCTION**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council as a matter of emergence put in place immediately appropriate off-road and on-road signage, electronic speed indicators, also install temporary traffic lights and pedestrian crossings at Wilton Gardens junction as recommended by Superintendent Barry and pedestrian crossings at Wilton Roundabout which is becoming increasingly dangerous for pedestrians due to the huge increase in traffic volumes over the years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/121)

The Report stated that, Cork City Council recently undertook a speed survey at Wilton Road. The survey measured vehicular speeds in both directions at two locations on a continuous basis over seven days and followed on from a similar survey undertaken in 2011.

The findings confirmed average speeds of **41.5km per hour** and **40.9 km per hour** respectively at the two locations. The speed limit in place is **50km per hour (kmph)**. The survey also confirmed the 85% percentile at the two locations as 51.5 kmph and 51.1 kmph. The 85% percentile figure refers to the speed which 85% of all vehicles do not exceed, i.e., they travel at or below this speed level. National and international guidelines for speed limits state that the speed limits should approximate as close as possible to the 85% percentile value.

The survey also indicated that:

- The average speed at the two locations between 7am and 7 pm was 41 kmph and 34.2 kmph;

- The lowest recorded average speed at the two locations were 32.5kmph (which occurred between 4 – 5 pm) and 20.9kmph (which occurred between 8-9am). This would be consistent with heavy traffic volumes on the road during these times;
- The average speed of 50kmph was only exceeded at the two locations between 11pm & 7am;
- The % of vehicles >50 kmph was 9.6% and 18.6% but the % >60 kmph was 3.8% and 3.9%;
- The highest average speed at the two locations were of 58.7kmph (which occurred between 3-4 am) and 65.3 kmph (which occurred between 5-6 am).

The survey confirmed that speeding was generally not a significant issue during the 7am to 11 pm period. The higher speeds recorded are largely associated with night hours when there are low traffic levels and few other users including pedestrians and cyclists. The Council will review the signage in place following consideration of the detailed results of the survey.

As Members will be aware, it is an objective of Council that the road infrastructure in the area be improved. This includes Wilton roundabout, Wilton Road and its junctions, Dennehy's Cross etc. It is anticipated that funding will be provided by the National Transport Authority for such improvements under the Regional Cities and Accessibility Programme. The Council has engaged consultants to undertake the South West Strategic Corridor Study under which future improvements for sustainable transport (walking, cycling and public transport) will be identified and assessed. It is expected that this process will be completed the coming months and the resultant report will be provided to Members when received.

8.2.17 **SPEED LIMIT AND SPEED WARNING SIGNS BE ERECTED ON DOUGLAS AND SOUTH DOUGLAS ROADS**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That speed limit and speed warning signs be erected on Douglas and South Douglas Roads.’

(Proposer: Cllr K. McCarthy 15/122)

The Report stated that, the default speed limit within the City administrative area is 50kph unless signed otherwise.

The erection of ‘repeater’ style signs to state that the speed limit is 50kph is not recommended as it can lead to confusion with drivers who think that speed limit in advance of the repeater sign is in excess of 50kph.

Excessive signage can also cause driver distraction with the result that drivers can miss what is actually happening on the road itself.

8.2.18 **RAMPS AND SPEED LIMIT SIGNS BE ERECTED ON BLACKROCK ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That ramps and speed limit signs be erected on Blackrock Road leading down from the St Michael’s Church to the pier.’

(Proposer: Cllr K. McCarthy 15/123)

The Report stated that, Blackrock Road leading down from the St Michael’s Church to the pier can be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there. However there is no funding available for a traffic calming programme in 2015.

Any identified traffic calming solutions can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

8.2.19 **UPGRADE THE TRAFFIC ISLANDS ALONG THE SKEHARD ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council upgrades the traffic islands along the Skehard road with appropriate illuminated signage as a matter of urgency. The minimal cost would surely outweigh the significant health & safety concern they pose at the moment.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/132)

The Report stated that, the traffic islands along Skehard Road can be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there. However there is no funding available for a traffic calming programme in 2015.

Any identified traffic calming solutions can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

8.3 **TO RECONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WHICH WERE HELD IN COMMITTEE.**

8.3.1 **INSTALL A YELLOW HATCH BOX AT THE ENTRANCE TO CLOVER HILL ESTATE, SKEHARD ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the Report of Director of Services dated 30th April, 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council would investigate the possibility of providing a yellow hatch box at the entrance to Clover Hill Estate, Skehard Road. The residents have difficulty exiting the estate at peak traffic times, particularly as its entrance is located in the direct vicinity of the Mahon Industrial Estate’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/094)

The Report stated that, the request to, paint a yellow box at the intersection of Clover Hill Estate with Bessboro Road, can be assessed.

If appropriate, the work can be inputted into the road painting programme and will be done as soon as is practical, subject to funding being available.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter from Office of the Minister regarding Aer Lingus dated the 1st May 2015.
- Letter from Minister of State, Kathleen Lynch T.D. regarding bi-annual meetings dated the 23rd April 2015.
- Letter from Department of Environment, Community and Local Government regarding disabled persons grant allocation dated the 23rd April 2015.

10. **CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

There were no summaries to note.

11. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

Comhairleoirí S. Martin & T. Shannon at ‘The Courthouse’ Restoration Conference at the Courthouse Oughtarard on the 29th May 2015.

12. **TRAINING**

None received.

13. **MOTIONS**

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

13.1 **QUARRY STEPS**

‘That the gated steps at the Quarry area between Ballyhooly Road and Old Youghal Road be permanently closed off as this has become an area of serious anti social behaviour and the gated access option has not worked. This has become a no go area at certain times because of the increasing levels of anti social behaviour.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 15/137)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.2 **MURMONT GROVE**

‘That the pedestrian access at the side of the former AIB Bank on Old Youghal Road be closed off. The residents of Murmont Grove and Murmont Crescent are being exposed to serious levels of antisocial behaviour as a direct result of this access point which is totally unnecessary.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 15/138)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.3 **NEW FOOTPATH AND CROSSING AT THE JUNCTION OF BLARNEY ROAD/
TOP OF STRAWBERRY HILL**

‘That Cork City Council construct a new footpath and crossing at the junction of Blarney Road/ top of Strawberry Hill to facilitate the pupils of Sunday's Well boys and girls schools crossing the road to attend school safely.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 15/139)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.4 **REPAIR THE ENTRANCE TO HOLLYVILLE ESTATE**

‘That Council take the immediate steps to repair the entrance to Hollyville Estate as the tabletop entrance is too high and is a road safety issue for residents entering the estate.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 15/140)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.5 **INCLUDE UPPER DERRYNANE ROAD IN A MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION AND
RESURFACING PROGRAMME**

‘That the road once known as Upper Derrynane Road be included in a major reconstruction and resurfacing programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/142)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.6 **OFFICE REFURBISHMENT CITY CENTRE**

‘That Cork City Council facilitate refurbishment for new office accommodation and upgrading of existing offices excluding (equipment and furnishings). The grant to operate in a sliding scale of 100% to 25% over first three years.’

(Proposer: Cllr, S. Martin, T. O’Driscoll 15/143)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

13.7 **ART CRAFT ARTISAN FOOD SHOPS IN OLD HISTORICAL CITY SPINE
(BARRACKS STREET TO SHANDON)**

‘A grant applicable for commercial premises that have been vacant for over three months and measuring less than 40sqm. The grant to offer 100% municipal rate payable for the first three years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin 15/144)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

13.8 **FIT-OUT FOR NEW CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR ENCOURAGING NEW BUSINESSES**

‘That Cork City Council pay a grant only to occupy commercial premises that have been vacant for at least three months. The grant to provide 100% rates paid for the first year.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin 15/145)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

13.9 **PROBLEMS WITH OVERHANGING TREES AT THE REAR OF TENANTS PROPERTIES**

‘That the Housing Department would take on board the ongoing problems that our tenants of Arigdeen Lawn and Togher Road are experiencing in relation to the overhanging trees from the private property of Harleywood Complex at the rear of our tenants properties.

This developer/landlord/owner of this complex cannot be traced in order to compel them to carry out this work, so again our tenants have to endure total darkness and slippery conditions in their back gardens due to this for years now.’

(Proposer: H. Cremin 15/162)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

13.10 **PARKING INITIATIVES IN THE CITY**

‘That City Council in partnership with the C. B. A. would investigate the following proposal.

When you park in one of the city car parks, you receive your parking ticket on the way in.

This ticket could be validated at each store you shop at, each retailer could have a scan your

ticket (probably use the same scanner, they use to scan each item you purchase)

Say you spent over €100 in a clothes shop, this shop could have an offer say reduce your parking by €2 if you spent over €100 in the store. The next shop you walk into could be a sweet shop, they could have an offer say spent over €5 reduce your ticket by say 10 cent. And so on, each trader could have its own special offer.

I do take on board that this would depend on the technology available.’

(Proposer Cllr. H. Cremin (15/163)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.11 **ONE WAY SYSTEM AT FAIRFIELD ROAD**

‘Can Cork City Council look into the possibility of Fairfield Road being made a one way system upwards from the junction of Farranferris Avenue and Fairfield Avenue up to the entrance of Parklands.’

(Proposer: Cllr K. Collins 15/164)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.12 **SURVEY KILMORE ROAD LOWER FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

‘That Cork City Council survey Kilmore Road Lower, Knocknaheeny to determine if further traffic-calming measures are required, the survey should include re-examining the possibility of a pedestrian crossing to access St. Vincent's GAA Club.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/166)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.13 **RESIDENTS' PARKING**

‘That given the new Development Plan aim of increasing the population of the city, the whole area of residents' parking be revisited and the policy re permits in multi-unit developments be amended (or alternatives provided) to facilitate those wishing to live and work in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 15/168)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.14 **NATIONAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS ON HOUSING**

‘In light of two high-profile national government announcements on housing, can the CE outline the funding received to date and the plans for same (ie ratio of new builds, acquisitions etc).’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 15/169)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

13.15 **PUT AN ESTATE SIGN OUTSIDE CASTLE CRESCENT, MAHON.**

‘That Cork City Council would; as a matter of urgency; put an estate sign for 'Castle Crescent' outside Castle Close on Ferney Road, Mahon. Castle Crescent was built behind the original estate (Castle Close) and the park is not visible from the road. This can cause confusion for emergency services personnel & others looking for the estate.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/170)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.16 **REPORT ON FAULTY STREET LIGHTING**

That Cork City Council compiles a comprehensive report based on all reported faults on public street lighting that are outstanding & awaiting repair in the Cork South East Ward to include: the date the fault was first reported, the fault associated with each light, any action that has already been undertaken & the expected waiting time for each light to be repaired."

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/171)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

14. **MOTIONS**

14.1 **BUY TO LET PROPERTIES**

An Chomhairle considered and unanimously approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would write to Department of Finance and Department of Environment asking them to contact the Banks and request that where a Bank is reposing a buy to let property that is being rented by a family of individual who is on the social housing waiting list that the local authority involved would be given the first opportunity to purchase the property at market value for social housing stock and in turn leave the family renting the property remain in it. Otherwise families are being evicted from properties and because of the shortage of rent accommodation in Cork City become homeless and then they go into emergency accommodation while waiting to be allocated a council house.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 15/165)

14.2 **REFERENDUM ON LOWERING THE AGE OF CANDIDATES TO 21**

An Chomhairle considered the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council supports the upcoming referendum to lower the age at which citizens can stand for the office of President of Ireland from 35 to 21 years of age.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/167)

A vote was called for where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, T. Gould, K. O’Flynn, L. O’Donnell, J. Sheehan, M. Nugent, K. Collins, N. O’ Keeffe, F. Kerins, H. Cremin, F. Dennehy. (11)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh, M. O’Sullivan, L. McGonigle, T. Shannon, M. Finn, S. Martin, M. Shields, P.J Hourican, T. Moloney. (10)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, J. Buttimer.

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

AN tÁRD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH