

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 22nd JUNE 2015

PRESENT	An Leas Ard-Mhéara Comhairleoir M. Nugent and subsequently Comhairleoir T. Gould.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí S. Cunningham, T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh.
NORTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Barry, K. O'Flynn, L. O'Donnell, J. Sheehan.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, K. Collins.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy, 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, M. Shields, F. Dennehy, P.J. Hourican, T. Moloney.
APOLOGIES	An tArd- Mhéara Comhairleoir C. O'Leary.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. J.G O'Riordan, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. J. Gazely, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. V. O'Sullivan, Director of Services, Corporate & External Affairs & Housing & Community. Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise. Mr. T. Healy, Head of Finance. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Mr. E. Walsh, A/Director of Services, Environment & Recreation. Mr. D. Joyce, A/ Head of Information Systems.

An Leas Ard-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

An Leas Ard-Mhéara welcomed Mr. John Ger O'Riordan to his first meeting of An Chomhairle as Meetings Administrator, and wished him well in his new post.

1.1 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

On the proposal of Comhairleoir P. Dineen, Chairman of the San Francisco Sub Committee, An Chomhairle observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect to the six Irish students who so tragically lost their lives in Berkeley, California on Tuesday 16th June 2015.

- The Donohoe Family on the death of Ms. Ashley Donohoe.
- The Walshe on the death of Ms. Eimear Walshe.
- The Burke Family on the death of Ms. Olivia Burke.
- The Schuster Family on the death of Mr. Niccolai Schuster.

- The Culligan Family on the death of Mr. Eoghan Culligan.
- The Miller Family on the death of Mr. Lorcan Miller.

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

- The Browne Family on the death of Matthew Browne.
- The Higgins Family on the death of Liam Higgins.
- The O'Dowling Family on the death of Nora O'Dowling.
- The Cotter Family on the death of Stephen Cotter.
- The Falvey Family on the death Phil Falvey.
- The O'Mahony Family on the death of Kitty O'Mahony.

1.2 **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS / BEST WISHES**

- Comhairleoir K. McCarthy on obtaining his PHD in Geography.
- The organisers of the Shandon Street Festival on the success of this year's event.

1.3 **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

No Items under this heading.

1.3 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

1.3.1 An Chomhairle considered the following items:-

CORPORATE PLAN 2015- 2019

An Chomhairle considered the Cork City Council Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle agreed to adopt the Cork City Council Corporate Plan 2015-2019, and further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

'It is hereby resolved that, pursuant to Section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 49 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, Cork City Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019, having been considered is hereby adopted.

CORK CITY LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive updated An Chomhairle in relation to the Cork City Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP). An Chomhairle were circulated with the Cork City Local Economic & Community Plan, "Background Information and Draft Socio Economic Statement." The Chief Executive advised An Chomhairle that submissions on the LECD are being invited in writing or online until the 16th July 2015.

RENT REVIEW 2015

Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive circulated An Chomhairle with a report on the Rent Review 2015. Following consideration of the report by Members of An Chomhairle, a number of questions were raised by Members, to which the Director of Services, Housing & Community and the Chief Executive responded.

An Leas Ard-Mhéara Comhairleoir M. Nugent vacated the chair at 6.50 p.m. Comhairleoir T. Gould subsequently chaired the meeting of An Chomhairle.

2. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle considered and approved the following Minutes:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on the 8th June 2015.

3. **QUESTION TIME**

3.1 **TRAVELLER HOUSING**

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

Can the CE tell me in the last 4 years.

How many travellers have been offered housing from Cork City Council?

What is the refusal rate?

What are the reasons?

When a person puts down their 3 areas of preference are they offered housing outside their area of preference?

If so, Why?

How many travellers have been homed through the Traveller Accommodation Plan over the last 4 years?

What is the minimum standard of repair any house being offered to a perspective tenant needs to be at? EG Flooring, windows, doors, heating etc

REPLY

Can the CE tell me in the last 4 years..

How many travellers have been offered housing from Cork City Council?

The number of travellers offered housing by Cork City Council from 2011-2013 was 25. Since the introduction of the Social Housing Support Assessment (Summary) Regulations 2013, the main need for social housing support does not include a category of Traveller to describe the applicant unless it relates to a specific accommodation requirement and therefore information is no longer collated this way on the system.

What is the refusal rate?

In this timeframe from 2011-2013 the number of properties refused was 12 which is a refusal rate of 48%.

What are the reasons?

The following are the stated reasons for the 12 refusals:

Wants another area: 8

No longer interested in housing: 1

Applicant wants to be considered for houses only: 1

Applicant deemed property unsuitable to meet their needs: 1

Applicant could not be contacted in relation to offer: 1

When a person puts down their 3 areas of preference are they offered housing outside their area of preference? If so, Why?

Occasionally this may be necessary as Cork City Council may deem a specific property would meet the needs of the applicant better than the selected areas. In these cases the applicant would be contacted first to discuss same.

How many travellers have been homed through the Traveller Accommodation Plan over the last 4 years?

2014

- 3 families accommodated in Traveller specific group housing scheme
- 1 family accommodated in a halting site
- 1 family accommodated through the RAS scheme

2013

- 1 family accommodated in a halting site
- 1 family accommodated in standard social housing

2012

- 2 families accommodated in standard social housing

2011

- 10 families accommodated in standard social housing

What is the minimum standard of repair any house being offered to a prospective tenant needs to be at? EG Flooring, windows, doors, heating etc.

Properties offered to prospective tenants by Cork City Council are to be of a standard which satisfies the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008 and 2009.

In regard to the items noted in the question:

Flooring:

Cork City Council does not provide flooring, however where existing flooring is in good condition it will be left in place for new tenants.

Windows

Windows are checked to ensure handles, hinges, frames and glazing are in good condition and are repaired as necessary.

Doors

Internal and external doors are checked to ensure handles, hinges, frames and glazing are in good condition and are repaired as necessary.

Heating

Properties are provided with a heating system, this will include for hot water heating and the provision of a radiator in each habitable room.

Where funding is available from the Social Housing Investment Programme it may be possible in some vacant properties to replace single glazed doors and windows, install stoves, install heating controls and upgrades and carry out insulation works.

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

3.2 AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SCHEMES

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

- A) Of the outstanding debt on Affordable Housing how much is Capital, how much is rolled up interest?
- B) Of the 37 million on Community Schemes, how much is Capital, how much is rolled up interest?

REPLY

- A) The amount of loans outstanding in relation to Affordable House Schemes was €29.6m at the 31/12/14.
The total amount that has been rolled up in interest over the years on Affordable House Scheme loans was €6.1m approximately.
- B) The expenditure of €37m on housing and community schemes does not include capital or interest as no loan is in place for this expenditure.

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

3.3 **LIBRARY FACILITIES WITHIN THE MAHON AREA**

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

- A. Can the CE please outline all actions that have been taken on providing a permanent Library facility within the Mahon Area.
- B. What is its current status of the project?
- C. Can the CE confirm how much capital expenditure has been ring fenced for this project? Is this funding secure?
- D. In the CE's opinion what would be a realistic date for the completion of this project?

REPLY

- A. Part 8 Planning approved
Design team procured
Design Stage (ii)a completed
- B. At detail design stage
- C. The project is fully funded up to tender stage
- D. The Corporate Plan states a target completion date of 2019. The tender documentation for this project will complete by the spring of next year (2016).

Be tendered in mid 2016 and using a similar timescale to that of the Hollyhill library and pending on funding, the building contract should be completed by the end of 2017/early 2018.

**V. O’Sullivan,
Director of Services,
Corporate & External Affairs**

3.4 **REVIEW OF SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT APPLICANTS**

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

Can the Chief Executive give details of a review of some social housing applicants currently taking place by the Housing Directorate including the documentation to be submitted by applicants?

Can the Chief Executive also elaborate on a rent review of Cork City Council tenants?

What documentation is required and what are the penalties, if any, if review forms are not returned?

REPLY

Cork City Council has written to 1,000 Social Housing Support Applicants as advised to organise a review of their files in accordance with the Social Housing Assessment

Regulations 2011. This will form part of an ongoing review of Social Housing Support Applications to implement the Social Housing Strategy 2020 which seeks to increase the regularity of Housing Needs Assessments. Documentation to be submitted is in accordance with the Regulations to update their files.

However, Applicants who have already submitted birth certificates need not resubmit these as part of the review. Evidence of Income in particular is required with:

- either an up to date P60 and/or a minimum of 4 out of the last 6 payslips
- A recent statement from the Department of Social Protection of all social insurance benefits and social assistance payments, allowances and pensions that household members are receiving or
- For the self-employed, a minimum of 2 years accounts with an Auditor's Report or an Auditor's Report along with an up-to-date balancing statement and preliminary tax receipt.

Cork City Council has also written to over 5,500 tenants who haven't had their rent reviewed in 2014 or 2015.

The City Council's Differential Rent Scheme is based on household income. In order to complete the review, tenants are requested to provide the following depending on the incomes or otherwise of the household members:

Employment: 3 recent consecutive payslips for employment, FAS, CE Scheme, JobBridge, TUS etc.

Department of Social Protection Payment: Social Welfare Slip e.g. Jobseekers, One Parent Family, Disability, Invalidity, State Pension, Carers, etc.

Self-Employed: Most recent set of accounts.

Other Pensions: Details of work/private/overseas pensions.

F.I.S.: Proof of F.I.S. payments.

Maintenance: Copy of court order, bank statement or letter from Maintenance Debtor.

Dependent child aged between 16 & 21: Letter from the child's school/college confirming his/her attendance for the academic year 2014/2015. Otherwise an income will be assumed.

Under the terms of their tenancy agreement, tenants are required to notify the City Council of any change in their household circumstances. Tenants have been advised that if they do not return the form, a €25 penalty will be applied to the weekly rent.

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

4. **FINAL DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

The Meetings Administrator advised An Chomhairle before consideration of the Final Draft Annual Report 2014, that additional information was tabled for Members prior to the commencement of the Meeting. This information was received from the Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Directorate for inclusion in the Annual Report.

An Chomhairle considered the final Draft Annual Report 2014. On the proposal of Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Dennehy, An Chomhairle approved the Final Draft Annual Report 2014.

4.1 **STUDENT GRANT SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered the Student Grant Scheme 2015.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle approved the Student Grant Scheme 2015.

4.2 **HAP- HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT**

Ms. Valerie O’Sullivan, Director of Services, Housing & Community, briefed An Chomhairle in relation to the Housing Assistance Payment. The Director of Services, Housing & Community, subsequently advised Members of An Chomhairle that the HAP Scheme will be fully discussed at the next Housing & Community Functional Committee Meeting.

5. **PARTY WHIPS – 2ND JUNE 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the Minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held on the 2nd June 2015.

Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh raised item 5.1 of the Party Whips Minutes in relation to motion No. 15/136.

TOLL BOOTH AT ST LUKE'S CROSS

‘That the Toll Booth at St Luke's Cross be repainted and because of its historic significance a plaque be erected on the Toll Booth briefly outlining its origin and it's past uses.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 15/136)

Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, whilst in agreement with the referral of the motion, to the Commemorations Committee, requested that consideration be given to the painting of the Toll Booth in advance of a festival taking place in St. Luke’s during the August/September period. An Chomhairle had no objection to this request.

The Environment & Recreation Directorate will be advised of same.

6. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP- 15th JUNE 2015.**

An Chomhairle noted the Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held on the 15th June 2015.

6.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31st MAY 2015**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statement to 31st May 2015.

RETIREMENT OF MR. TIM HEALY, HEAD OF FINANCE

An Chomhairle thanked Mr. Tim Healy, Head of Finance for his work and dedication during his career of over 44 years with Cork City Council, and wished him well on his retirement.

7. **STRATEGIC PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 15th JUNE 2015.**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee from its meeting held on 15th June 2015.

Comhairleoir T. Gould, advised An Chomhairle prior to consideration of the items of Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee Meeting that Members had been circulated with details of an additional item- Data Centre (**Item No. 11 of Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee of the 15th June 2015**), which had been omitted from the Agenda of Council Meeting of the 22nd June 2015.

7.1 **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

7.1.1 **REPORT OF LORD MAYOR ON RECENT VISIT TO SAN FRANCISCO**

An Chomhairle noted the recommendation from the International Relations Committee on the report of the Lord Mayor dated 11th June 2015 on the recent visit to San Francisco in May 2015.

7.1.2 **REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SERVICES ON VISIT FROM TWINNED CITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CORK CITY MARATHON**

An Chomhairle noted the recommendation from the International Relations Committee on the report of the Valerie O Sullivan, Director of Service, Corporate & External Affairs dated 11th June 2015 on the recent visit to Cork by athletes from our twinned cities in June 2015.

7.2 **HOUSING ESTATES**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 11th June, 2015 on Housing Estates from 1st January 2015 to 31st May, 2015.

7.3 **PLANNING STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise dated 11th June, 2015 on the number of planning applications determined and deferred from 1st January 2015 to 31st May, 2015.

7.4 **ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise dated 11th June, 2015 on Planning Enforcement Statistics for period 1st January 2015 to 31st May, 2015.

7.5 **UP-DATE ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS AND SIGNIFICANT CURRENT APPLICATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 11th June, 2015 on significant proposed developments.

7.6 **BOOLE HOUSE, GRENVILLE PLACE**

An Chomhairle noted the recommendation of the Director of Services on Boole House, Grenville Place.

7.7 **PLANNING CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEME 2015 – 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise dated 11th June, 2015 on the Planning Contributions Scheme 2015 – 2016 and approved the recommendation that it go on public display for six weeks to enable stakeholders to make submissions on the scheme.

7.8 **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered the report of Director of Services dated the 11th June 2015 on the following motions which were referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir T. O’Driscoll, it was agreed that these motions would be referred to the Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee to be held in Committee until November 2015 whereby further discussion on the motions will take place.

7.8.1 **NEW NON –COMPETING RENTAL AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES**

‘New non –competing rental and commercial services aimed at new initiatives that have not traded in Cork in the past two years and that will not compete directly with existing enterprises. The grant to be applicable for new developments or for premises vacant for at least three months. The grant relief to be 100% for first three years (Blackrock Village, Blackpool, derelict inner city areas.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/141)

7.8.2 **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)

7.8.3 **ART CRAFT ARTISAN FOOD SHOPS IN OLD HISTORICAL CITY SPINE (BARRACK 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)

7.8.4 **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)

7.9 **DATA CENTRE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 11th June, 2015 on the Data Centre.

The following items did not form part of the Council Agenda but were subsequently raised by Members, with the approval of the Chair.

7.10 **BLACKPOOL LOCAL AREA PLANS**

Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, addressed the meeting and sought clarification from the Chief Executive as to whether or not Local Area Plans were in place for Blackpool.

Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise confirmed that plans are in place for Blackpool North and Farranferris, both of which are active at the present time, and also confirmed that sufficient strategies are in place for the Blackpool area. He further confirmed that all adopted plans are forwarded to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government.

7.11 **FUNDING FOR BLACKPOOL**

Comhairleoir T. Gould raised the issue of funding for Blackpool.

Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise addressed the issues raised and it was confirmed by the Chief Executive that a

report on Blackpool will be made available to Members at the next Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee meeting.

8. **ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 15th JUNE 2015.**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Environment & Recreation Functional Committee from its meeting held on 15th June 2015.

8.1 **PROTOCOL FOR THE ERECTION OF TEMPORARY POSTERS/NOTICES**

Comhairleoir M. Barry, at his request, sought that it be noted that the report of the A/Director of Services should be dated 11th June 2015 and not the 11th June 2014 as per the minutes of the Environment & Recreation Functional Committee meeting.

An Chomhairle considered the report of the A/Director of Services dated 11th June 2015 on the protocol for the erection of Temporary poster/notices.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Barry, seconded by Comhairleoir L. O'Donnell, a vote was called for where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí S. Cunningham, J. Kavanagh, T. Gould, K. O'Flynn, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, K. McCarthy, D. Cahill, L. McGonigle, T. Shannon, N. O' Keeffe, S. O'Shea, M. Finn, F. Kerins, S. Martin, J. Buttimer, H. Cremin, M. Shields, P.J Hourican, T. Moloney. (20)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, M. Barry, L. O'Donnell (3)

ABSTAINED: Comhairleoir P. Dineen

As those voting in favour of the report were greater than those voting against, Comhairleoir T. Gould declared the vote carried and the report of the A/Director of Services approved.

8.2 **COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE GRANTS SCHEME 2015**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the A/Director of Services on the Community Maintenance Grants Scheme 2015.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services dated 11th June 2015.

8.3 **BONFIRE NIGHT FAMILY FUN NIGHT PROJECT 2015**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services dated 11th June 2015.

8.4 **RESIDENTS REPLACING GRASS MARGINS AT OWN EXPENSE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services dated the 11th June 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That City Council would look favorably on requests from residents who would like to replace grass margins outside their houses with a concrete base at their own expense and the work carried out and certified by a tradesman with a C.2. Certification.

As a lot of these grass margins are constantly used for dog littering and at times this dog litter ends up in these residents houses.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/118)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that grass margins enhance the public realm, were part of the original landscape design plans for housing schemes, and in many cases are one of the few soft landscape features in an estate.

Whilst some cases may merit a review, it is essential that there is control over any removal of grass margins to ensure uniformity of alternative design proposals, with specific conditions regarding the aesthetics and compliance with health and safety for both design and carrying out of works.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle agreed to Suspend Standing Order to complete the Agenda.

8.5 **PATHWAY WHICH RUNS ALONGSIDE THE TRAMORE RIVER, FROM THE ENTRANCE AT THE SOUTH DOUGLAS ROAD RIGHT UP TO THE TRAMORE VALLEY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services dated the 11th June 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council commits to bringing the pathway which runs alongside the Tramore River, from the entrance at the South Douglas Road right up to the Tramore Valley, up to standard so that it can be used once more as an amenity for local residents. This path is a great resource in a very built up area and if cleaned up can become a place where walkers and cyclists alike can use.’

(Proposer: Cllr S. O'Shea 15/126)

The report of the A/Director of Services dated 11th June 2015 stated that upgrade works will be completed by Cork County Council in the coming months on this section of pathway.

8.6 **INFORMATION PANEL AND FLAGPOLE NEAR THE REPUBLICAN PLOT, ST. FINBARR'S CEMETERY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services dated the 11th June 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle

‘That Cork City Council will install an information panel and flagpole near the Republican Plot, St. Finbarr's Cemetery, Council will also consider improving signage to the Cemetery from the city centre and other areas.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/128)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that as part of its preparation for the 1916 Commemoration, the City Council will be erecting an Information Panel at the entrance to the Cemetery with particular mention of previous Tomas MacCurtain, Terence MsSwiney, previous Lord Mayor interred in the Republican Plot. Consideration will also be given to the erection of a flagpole. A review of signage will be undertaken.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted the following correspondence received from:-

- An Post dated the 16th June 2015 regarding the provision of post boxes in the Cork City area.
- Department of Environment, Community & Local Government dated the 12th June 2015 regarding training for Elected Members.
- Department of Finance dated the 11th June 2015 regarding Motion by Comhairleoir T. Gould on Buy to Let Properties.

10. **CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted Summaries by Members of Conferences/Seminars attended-

- Cllr Tom O’Driscoll - Learn from the Best Conference - Ballygarry House Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry - 11 June 2015.

11. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

An Chomhairle approved attendance at the following Conference/Seminar:-

- Comhairleoir T. Shannon at ‘The Councillors’ Development Plan ‘A Reserved Function’ conference on the 26th – 28th June 2015 at Whites Hotel, Wexford.
- Comhairleoir S. Martin at ‘Local Economic & Community Plan’ conference on the 10th – 12th July 2015 at The Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork.

12. **TRAINING**

No approval to attend training was requested on the night.

13. **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle approved the referral to the relevant Committee of the following motions, due notice of which had been given:-

13.1 **LOCAL AREA TRANSPORT PLAN**

‘That a Local Area Transport Plan be carried out by Cork City Council for the South Parish Evergreen, Greenmount Road network. The Plan to look at one way systems, pedestrian crossing and Junction.

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/180)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.2 **POLICY FOR TENANTS**

‘That Cork City Council should formulate a policy where tenants who wreck houses should be charged for the damage done and not given another Council house.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/181)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

13.3 **PEDESTRIAN ACCESS FROM ST VINCENTS GAA CLUB TO KILMORE ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council provide pedestrian access from the entrance of St Vincents GAA Club to Kilmore Road given the large number of children, players and officials attending the activities of the club.’

(Proposer: T. Fitzgerald 15/187)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.4 **REVIEW THE GREEN ROUTE ON THE NO 208 FROM BISHOPSTOWN TO CITY CENTRE**

‘That Cork City Council would review the current Green Route on the No 208 from Bishopstown to City Centre particularly on the Wilton Road and Wilton Gardens stretch of road in light of the Garda statistics that show that since the inception of the “Green Route” on Wilton Road over 100 serious accidents have been caused as a direct result of the Bus Lane.

Wilton Road, at 9.3 meters, is too narrow to accommodate a Bus lane, 2 traffic lanes, cyclists and pedestrians safely. A possible solution may be to revert to 2 traffic lanes and create two 1.5m dedicated cycle lanes; the Impact on bus journey time would be negligible on this small stretch of road and would have a significant improvement in overall safety for all road users and residents.

Also to review the effectiveness of the yellow box closest to Dennehy’s Cross, at the Harley Wood entrance by the church of the Descent of the Holy Ghost Dennehy’s Cross.

The Diagonal yellow box is confusing, ineffective and dangerous; it has been the scene of several serious accidents and daily road rage and confrontations. If Cork City Council takes the suggestion above to revert to 2 traffic lanes in this area then the yellow box will no longer be an issue.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/208)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.5 **REVIEW ROAD LANE LAYOUT ON SOUTH MAIN STREET R847 THROUGH WASHINGTON STREET JUNCTION TO SOUTH MAIN STREET ROAD R608**

‘That Cork City Council would review the current road lane layout on South Main Street R847 through Washington street junction to South Main Street road R608.

There is 2 lanes coming up South Main Street R847, the left hand lane is for turning left & straight ahead, the right hand lane is for turning right only. There are major delays on the traffic going straight ahead due to the fact the cars turning left are often delayed by the fact that Washington Street traffic is busy & there is little of no space for the cars turning left to go, causing a back log down South Main Street as far as North Main Street. A possible solution for this would be if the right hand lane was changed for traffic to go straight & turn right as there is a much better flow of traffic turning right than there is turning left and make the left hand lane turning left only increasing the flow of traffic all round in my opinion.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/209)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.6 **INCLUDE FATHER MATHEW ROAD, TURNERS CROSS IN THE RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING PROGRAMME**

‘That Cork City Council will include Father Mathew Road, Turners Cross in its reconstruction and resurfacing programme. The road surface on Father Mathew Road has drastically deteriorated in recent months and is now a danger to pedestrians and cyclists and damage to vehicles may become apparent should this surface not be attended to as a matter of urgency.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 15/210)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.7 **HEIGHT OF THE WALL AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE WHITE STREET CAR PARK**

‘That Cork City Council will address the height of the wall at the entrance to the White Street car park. The said wall is a magnet for people of all ages drinking alcohol and the area is prone to anti social behaviour on a regular basis due to its height which makes the wall easy to sit on from the car park. The wall which is street facing is opposite the Cluid Housing Complex which houses vulnerable residents. The drinking sessions on the wall often turn into fights and passing pedestrians are often intimidated and residents on the street live in fear of the anti social behaviour.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 15/211)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.8 **PLAYING PITCH AT CLASHDUV PARK**

‘That Cork City Council will take whatever measures required to restore and rejuvenate the playing pitch at Clashduv Park which has been unplayable for some time now due to sinking. This is a valuable resource for the local soccer clubs and should be repaired as a matter of urgency.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy (15/212))

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

13.9 **BIN COLLECTION**

‘Noting that the law requiring the segregation of waste at source and the requirement by householders to make use of the brown collection bins for waste food disposal, has created a possible health hazard by virtue of the fact that householders are having to cope with maggot infestation, resulting in many cases in thousands of maggots breeding in those bins during the two weeks period between collections, that the City Council take any steps necessary to ensure that the bins are collected on a weekly basis, particularly during the summer months. I acknowledge that this is now a privatised service but Cork City Council needs to recognise the health hazard associated with this problem and make representations to the companies involved.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 15/213)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

13.10 **ZONE PRINCES STREET AS A STREET DINING ZONE**

‘That Princes Street be made an on – street dining zone, a tourist and a food destination that we would zone the Princes Street for the on Street Dining concept.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 15/214)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

13.11 **SPEED RAMP IN BRIDE VALLEY VIEW**

‘Can Cork City Council install an extra speed ramp in Bride Valley view Fair Hill to reduce the speed of traffic.’

(Proposer: K. Collins 15/215)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.12 **PROGRESS REPORT ON TRAFFIC SURVEYS**

‘That Cork City Council provide a progress report on traffic surveys conducted previously by the City Council on the use of heavy goods vehicles of roads through housing estates in the Fairhill/Farranree area including if consideration has been given to traffic-calming measures.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/216)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.13 **COMMUNITY WARDENS**

‘Can Cork City Council look at supplying the four Community wardens with Cork City Council transport. The wardens are currently carrying out their employment duties in their own private cars. The council vehicles with the relevant signage will have the added benefit of promoting the services of the Community Warden who are a big part of the community.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 15/218)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

13.14 **STREET AUDITS**

‘That Cork City Council would undertake regular "Street Audits" to identify what improvements are required in the public realm to make it safe, attractive and unified place.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/221)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.15 **REPORT ON THE MAINTENANCE ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN LOUGHMAHON PARK, MAHON**

‘That Cork City Council reports on the maintenance arrangements within Loughmahon Park, Mahon & that Cork City Council repairs and upgrades existing facilities at the park along with providing further facilities within the popular park.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/222)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

13.16 **SURVEY ON THE BOUNDARY WALL AT THE JUNCTION OF BALLINTEMPLE AND BEAUMONT DRIVE**

‘That Cork City in the interest of public safety would carry out a survey and instructional investigation on the boundary wall at the junction of Ballintemple and Beaumont Drive. This very old wall is in a poor state of repair which is of concern to local residents who pass it every day.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 15/224)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

13.17 **SURVEY ON THE DRAINS, GULLY'S AND SEWAGE/WATER SYSTEM IN MC GRATH PARK, BLACKROCK**

‘That Cork City Council would carry out a complete survey on the drains, gully's and sewage/water system in Mc Grath Park, Blackrock, where major flooding is taking place on a regular basis.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 15/225)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

14. **MOTIONS**

14.1 **REVIEW AND AMEND LEGISLATION THAT PREVENTS AND LIMITS AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA FROM SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT KNOWN REPEAT AND PROLIFIC SHOPLIFTERS WITH RETAILERS IN THE CITY**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion.

‘That Cork City Council and the Joint Policing Committee calls on the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Data Protection to review and amend legislation that prevents and limits An Garda Síochána from sharing information about known repeat and prolific shoplifters with retailers in the City.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/220)

Following discussion, on the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Finn, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, it was agreed to amend the motion as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Data Protection to review and amend legislation that prevents and limits An Garda Síochána from sharing information about known repeat, prolific and convicted shoplifters with retailers in the City.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/220)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Barry, seconded by Comhairleoir L. O’Donnell, a vote was called for on the approval/rejection of the motion where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí S. Cunningham, J. Kavanagh, T. Gould, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, K. McCarthy, D. Cahill, T. Shannon, N. O’ Keeffe, S. O’Shea, M. Finn, F. Kerins, P. Dineen, S. Martin, J. Buttimer, H. Cremin, M. Shields, P.J Hourican, T. Moloney. (19)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, M. Barry, K. O’Flynn, L. O’Donnell. (4)

As the numbers voting in favour of the motion were greater than those voting against, Comhairleoir T. Gould declared the vote carried and the motion approved.

14.2 **REVERSE CUTS TO THE RAPE CRISIS NETWORK IRELAND**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council condemns the cuts to the RCNI (Rape Crisis Network Ireland) and calls on the Government to reverse these cuts immediately. The RCNI have a vital role in collecting data from survivors that can then inform national policies and legislation on sexual violence.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/223)

15. **MOTION DEFERRED FROM MEETING OF THE 8TH JUNE 2015**

15.1 **SUICIDE PREVENTION OFFICER**

An Chomhairle considered the following Motion:-

That Cork City Council employs a Suicide Prevention Officer, the position could be part-funded by the relevant health agencies, the officer would be an in-house resource for the City Council while also promoting suicide prevention, mental health awareness and providing supports to families affected by suicide and mental health issues across Cork City.

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 15/202)

Comhairleoir T. Gould, in the absence of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, and at his request, sought approval for the referral of the motion to Party Whips. An Chomhairle agreed that motion 15/202 be referred to Party Whips for consideration.

**ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH**