

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY, 2006

- PRESENT** An tArdmhéara, Comhairleoir D. Clune in the chair.
- NORTH EAST** Comhairleoirí M. Quill, T. Brosnan, J. Kelleher, A. Spillane.
- NORTH CENTRAL** Comhairleoirí M. Barry, C. Clancy, G. O' Flynn, D. Wallace, P. Gosch.
- NORTH WEST** Comhairleoirí J. O' Brien, D. McCarthy, M. O' Connell, T. Fitzgerald.
- SOUTH EAST** Comhairleoirí D. Counihan, C. O' Leary, D. O' Flynn, T. Shannon,
- SOUTH CENTRAL** Comhairleoirí C. Lynch, S. Martin, T. O' Driscoll, D. Cregan.
- SOUTH WEST** Comhairleoirí J. Buttimer, F. Dennehy, M. Shields, B. Bermingham, M. Ahern.
- APOLOGIES** Comhairleoirí D. Murphy, C. Burke, J. Corr.
- ALSO PRESENT** Mr. J. Gavin, City Manager.
Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services, Docklands Development
Mr. J. Kennelly, Director of Services, Recreation Amenity & Culture
Mr. D. O'Mahony, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs
Mr. S. Coughlan, Senior Engineer, Docklands Development
Ms. N. Mulcahy, A/Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Affairs.
Ms. J. Gazely, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. (a) **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

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

- The Lane Family on the death of Sheila Lane.
- The Gray Family on the death of Ita Gray.
- The Buckley Family on the death of Eamonn Buckley.

1. (b) **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

An Chomhairle extended a vote of congratulations to:

- Sr. Kathleen Butler, on celebrating her Jubilee year with Sisters of Mercy

1. (c) **BEST WISHES**

An Chomhairle extended a vote of best wishes to:

- Toddy O’Sullivan on a speedy recovery from his recent illness.

2. **MINUTES**

- a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on 13th February, 2006 were considered and approved.
- b) The Minutes of the Special Meeting of Committee of Whole Council held on 20th February, 2006 were considered and approved.

3. **QUESTION TIME**

3.1 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT RIVERVIEW ESTATE, BALLYVOLANE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Tim Brosnan, a written reply was circulated which stated that the ‘civil’ works for the new traffic lights at Riverview Estate have been completed. The Electrical Contractor is due to start work in the near future and it is planned to have the traffic signals workings within the next 2/3 months.

The provision of traffic signals at the junction of Pynes Valley/Park Court/North Ring Road is being assessed and it is planned that work on this project will begin later on in the year.

3.2 **GREENMAN CROSSING AT THE JUNCTION OF TOGHER ROAD AND ARDMANNING AVENUE**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Sean Martin, a written reply was circulated which stated that the area adjacent to the junction with Ardmanning Avenue (opposite the Shopping Centre) has been identified as a location where a pedestrian crossing facility is required. It is on the current list of locations where pedestrian crossing facilities are to be provided and it is marked as a priority. It is planned that work will begin on the installation of the facility in the near future.

3.3 WALL ON HOLLYHILL LANE

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Dave McCarthy, a written reply was circulated which stated that work will commence on the construction of the new wall at Hollyhill Lane on the Hillcrest Estate side by the end of March, 2006.

3.4 PLANNING PERMISSION FOR APARTMENTS AND RETAIL UNITS AT DENNEHY'S CROSS

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Fergal Dennehy, a written reply was circulated which stated that the development in question is planning reference 05/30132 Permission was sought for the development of a site comprising of Dennehy's Crash Repair Centre, a former petrol filling station, Dennehy's Cross Bar and all ancillary structures, at Dennehy's Cross, Victoria Cross Road, Magazine Road, Cork. The proposed development includes the demolition of all existing structures to facilitate a mixed use residential, retail and commercial development. The building height proposed on the street edge is 4 storey plus 1 set back.

The site is on the north east corner of Dennehy's Cross, which is located in the south west suburbs of Cork City. The site is located at the junction of Victoria Cross Road and Magazine Road. Dennehy's Cross is a local focal point. The site is 1.7 acres (0.7 h) in area and slopes downward from the west to east boundary towards the Glasheen River. This site level difference between the west and the east boundary is approx. 6 metres. Existing development on the site consists of a large vehicle crash repair centre, a former petrol station, Dennehy's public house and ancillary structures.

The two-storey public house is located on the south west corner of the site, with a decking area and informal parking area to the rear. The former petrol station stands in poor repair. The east section of the site consists of an ancillary warehouse and open storage of vehicles. There are tall and mature trees along the east boundary which abut the Glasheen River. The site is bounded to the north by the Farm Centre (4 storeys) office block and on the opposite side of Magazine Road by commercial warehousing activities.

The site is zoned as a "Residential, community and local services" within Figure 10.5 of the Cork City Development Plan, 2004. The eastern section of the site abutting the Glasheen River is proposed as a public walk linking Magazine Road with Glasheen Road.

In principle, the proposal meets the zoning and development objectives set out in the Cork City Development Plan, 2004 and satisfies the requirements of the Ministerial Residential Density Guidelines for Planning Authorities 1999. It is

considered that the site development strategy is good, with the delivery of a public walkway and is therefore acceptable.

The site is located in an inner suburban area and is on a public transport corridor and is in an area where the emerging pattern of development is good quality, higher density residential development. The redevelopment of this large brownfield and relatively stand-alone site for higher density residential units is acceptable in this context. The provision of a mix of street level local services is also considered acceptable. Our Traffic Section considered the development acceptable from a traffic viewpoint – the proposed development will result in the creation of an additional traffic lane on Magazine Road. As a formal planning application was made the local authority was statute bound to make a planning decision within the relevant time-period.

In assessing this application the Planning Authority requested further information on 24th November, 2005. A response to this further information request was received on 18th January, 2006. Planning legislation, in particular Section 34(8) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, requires that a decision is made within 4 weeks of the receipt of further information.

This meant that a decision had to be made on or before 14th February 2006. It was not open to the Planning Authority to request an extension of time and a decision to grant permission subject to 29 conditions was made on the 14th February, 2006.

3.5 **NEW MAHON LIBRARY**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Denis O’Flynn, a written reply was circulated which stated that the Council is currently in discussions with a developer regarding the provision of a Library of ca 1,100 m² to serve the communities in the South East Ward. It is expected that a report on this matter will come before the Recreation, Amenity & Culture Functional Committee in the near future.

Should these discussions prove fruitful, the construction and fitting out of the proposed library would take 12-15 months.

3.6 **GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR MAINTAINING OLD BUILDINGS IN THE CITY**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Tom O’Driscoll, a written reply was circulated which stated that:-

GRANT 1 - CONSERVATION GRANT SCHEME

(A) Cork City Council administers a DOEHLG funded Conservation Grant Scheme on an annual basis. The scheme is advertised in January and the closing date for applications is in February each year.

- (B) A structure qualifies under the scheme if it is included in the Record of Protected Structures of the planning authority or if the planning authority proposes to include the structure in its Record of Protected Structures at the earliest possible opportunity.

The scheme does not apply to works begun before the commencement of the scheme.

Works in receipt of tax relief under other schemes such as Section 482 or Urban Renewal cannot be grant aided under this scheme.

Grants are available to owners or occupiers of all protected buildings except those owned by state bodies.

GRANT 2 - NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN GRANT SCHEME

- (A) Under the National Development Plan 2000 -2006 a scheme of EU co-financed grants is in place for the restoration and conservation of the architectural heritage. Under the scheme operated by the DOEHLG, grants may be provided in respect of buildings which are in public ownership or open to the public generally which are considered to be of architectural merit. In general applications are invited from Local Authorities, Civic Trusts and other non-profit making organizations. It is hoped that a similar scheme will operate under the new 2006-2013 National Development Plan.
- (B) Buildings in use for public administration or which are in private ownership are not eligible for grant aid under this scheme.

GRANT 3 HERITAGE COUNCIL BUILDING AT RISK PROGRAMME

- (A) The Heritage Council funds a Programme of grants for historic structures. The aim of the Programme is to safeguard buildings which are at serious risk but not yet in a ruinous state. At present the Heritage Council is considering roof repairs only for funding.
- (B) This fund is available on a year to year basis. The funding may cover up to 50% of the project cost and range from €1,000 - €20,000. The closing date is the 31st of March.

3.7 ACTION UNDER THE LITTER POLLUTION ACT 1997

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Ciarán Lynch, a written reply was circulated which stated that:-

Section 3 (1) of the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 to 2003 states that:

No person shall deposit any substance or object so as to create litter in a public place or in any place that is visible to any extent from a public place.

In the same legislation:

“Public place” means any place to which the public has access whether as of right or by permission and whether subject to or free of charge.

The back gardens of houses are regarded as being private, i.e. not public, places and accordingly the provisions of the Litter Pollution Acts do not apply unless they are visible from a public place.

The practice of accumulating high densities of refuse and other material in back gardens is anti-social and may give rise to odour and public health nuisance. Such situations have to be dealt with and eliminated under appropriate legislative provision.

3.8 **CONDUCT AN ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL ON VICTORIA CROSS, MODEL FARM ROAD AND SURROUNDING AREAS**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Tony Fitzgerald, a written reply was circulated which stated that the preparation of a Local Plan for Bishopstown and surrounding areas, as requested by Members of Council, has commenced. The study area takes in the area south of the River Lee and west of Vistoria Cross/ Wilton Road (while taking in the areas around Victoria Cross and Dennehy’s Cross them selves.) The plan will consider a wide range of issues including the urban design and building height issues raised in the question. Consultation with stakeholders on the issues will take place in March, followed by the preparation of draft plan for the area.

3.9 **PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE IN RELATION TO MOTION 14.9 AMENDMENT TO CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2004 – 2009**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Jerry Buttimer, a written reply was circulated which stated that the preparation of a local plan for Bishopstown and surrounding areas has commenced. This plan will address a wide range of issues including building height and urban design.

In relation to the motion referred to, since then, no planning permission has been granted for high rise in low rise sub-urban housing areas.

Planning decisions are made subject to the policies in the City Development Plan.

3.10 **INSPECTIONS ON PROPERTIES OCCUPIED BY PERSONS RECEIVING RENT SUBSIDY**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Patricia Gosch, a written reply was circulated which stated that Cork City Council carries out inspections of private rented dwellings pursuant to the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations, 1993. Over 5,000 registered and unregistered properties have been inspected since 1997: -

2000	-738
2001	-545
2002	-838
2003	-850
2004	-730

Inspections are carried out both proactively and in response to complaints received. Inspections in response to complaints make up a very small percentage of the overall number of properties examined. Improvement Notices are issued for all breaches of standards. The majority of Notices issues are for minor breaches. Follow up inspections are carried out to ensure compliance with Improvement Notices.

Inspections relating to fire standards are carried out pursuant to the Fire Services Act, 1981, the Building Control Act, 1990 and the Licencing of Indoor Events Act, 2003. Non compliance warrants the issue of a statutory notice and, if necessary, enforcement of that notice through the Courts.

3.11 **TIMESCALE FOR REFURBISHMENT OF THE BELLVUE CRESCENT FLATS**

In response to question submitted by Comhairleoir Mick Barry, a written reply was circulated which stated that:-

- a) The refurbishment of the flats to allow for privatisation of back gardens will be completed in 3 to 4 weeks. Any further development work will need to be assessed and prioritised.
- b, c) Repair requests regarding rodents are passed on to a pest control company who attend at the location and deal with the problem as appropriate. Generally no report as such is commissioned. Copies of Ecolab dockets received regarding the recent situation can be made available to interested parties if required.
- d) No, instances of complaints regarding rodents are dealt with locally by Housing Maintenance staff.

4. **ECONOMIC STUDY FOR DOCKLANDS**

An Chomhairle received a presentation from Marion Chalmers of DTZ PIDA on the Cork Docklands Economic Study and a number of queries were responded to.

5. **DOUGLAS SWIMMING POOL**

An Chomhairle considered Reports of the City Manager dated 2nd & 21st February, 2006 on the Douglas Swimming Pool.

An Chomhairle also considered the recommendations coming forward from the Special Meeting of the Committee of Whole Council held on 27th February 2006, at 4.30 p.m..

1. On the proposal of T. Shannon, seconded by S. Martin an Chomhairle approved the recommendation coming forward from the Special Meeting of the Committee of Whole Council held at 4.30 p.m., that An Chomhairle wishes that the new pool be in public ownership rather than be provided on a Public Private Partnership basis.

Comhairleoirí B. Bermingham and M. Barry requested that their objection to this proposal be noted.

2. On the proposal of T. Shannon, seconded by S. Martin an Chomhairle approved the recommendation coming forward from the Special Meeting of Committee of Whole Council held at 4.30 p.m. that An Chomhairle wishes that the new pool would have the same process implemented as applied in the case of Churchfield.
3. On the proposal of T. Shannon, seconded by S. Martin a vote was called for to decide on whether An Chomhairle wished that the new pool was to be provided on the Douglas site or on the Mahon site.

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

FOR DOUGLAS: Comhairleoirí G. O' Flynn, D. Wallace, D. McCarthy, T. Fitzgerald, D. Clune, D. Counihan, D. O' Flynn, T. Shannon, C. Lynch, S. Martin, T. O' Driscoll, F. Dennehy, M. Shields, M. Ahern. (14)

FOR MAHON: Comhairleoirí M. Quill, T. Brosnan, J. Kelleher, A. Spillane, C. Clancy, P. Gosch, J. O'Brien, M. O' Connell, C. O' Leary, D. Cregan, J. Buttimer, B. Bermingham. (12)

ABSTAINED: Comhairleoir M. Barry. (1)

As the number of members voting in favour of the Douglas Site was greater than that for the Mahon Site, An tArd-Mhéara declared that An Chomhairle wishes that the new pool would be provided on the Douglas Site.

6. **RENNES FAIR 2006**

On the proposal of J. Buttimer, seconded by D. Wallace, an Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí P. Gosch, T Fitzgerald, M. Ahern and D Counihan at the Rennes International Fair 2006, on the 18th – 21st March 2006.

Cllr. M. Barry requested that his objection to this proposal be noted.

7. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP**

7.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31ST JANUARY 2006**

An Chomhairle approved the Financial Report for the period to 31st January 2006.

7.2 **SUMMARY OF RATE COLLECTION FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2005**

An Chomhairle approved the Summary of Rate Collection for year ended 31st December 2005.

7.3 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

An Chomhairle approved the Report of the City Manager dated 20th February, 2006, on the following motion referred to the Committee to An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would consider as part of its response to combat antisocial behaviour appointing community wardens to work alongside An Garda Síochana and report anti-social behaviour incidents to the local authority and An Garda Síochana and also to act as professional witnesses in court.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O’Connell 06/41)

The report of the City Manager stated that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government introduced a pilot scheme for Community Wardens in February 2002, for an initial period of three years, to January 2005. Five local authorities took part in the pilot scheme – Galway City and County Councils, Leitrim County Council, Wexford County Council and Naas Town Council. In January 2005 the scheme was extended for a further year.

A review of the operation of the Community Warden Scheme in the five local authorities has been carried out by Fitzpatrick Consultants. This review is now being examined by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

I recommend that Cork City Council await the outcome of this examination before making any decision on appointing Community Wardens I ask the Corporate Policy Group to accept this report and recommend it to An Chomhairle for approval.

8. **CONTINUATION OF MEETING**

An Chomhairle agreed to continue the meeting beyond 8 p.m. and agreed unanimously that the meeting would finish at 9 p.m.

9. **RECREATION, AMENITY & CULTURE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 20TH FEBRUARY, 2006**

9.1 **QUARTERLY REPORT ON LEISURE AND LIBRARY FACILITIES**

An Chomhairle noted the Quaterly Report of the Director of Services dated the 20th February 2006 on Leisure & Library facilities.

9.2 **ARTS GRANTS 2006**

An Chomhairle approved the recommendation of the Arts Committee in relation to Arts Grants 2006. An Comhairleoir M. O’Connell requested that his opposition to this recommendation be recorded.

9.3 **CENTRAL LIBRARY**

An Chomhairle approved the Report of the City Manager dated 2nd February, 2006 on the Central Library which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

The Report of the City Manager stated that the Central Library on Grand Parade no longer meets the needs of a growing city. It is appropriate to plan for the provision of a modern Central Library which reflects today’s requirements. Accommodation of approximately 55,000 sq.ft. gross will be needed.

The site on which the current library is located on Grand Parade is larger than required to accommodate a modern well designed library so there is great potential to generate capital towards the cost of the new library from the better utilisation of the site.

It is proposed to invite proposals for the design and construction of a new library on Grand Parade or in the vicinity of Grand Parade. The current site will be offered as consideration for the new facility. Under the proposed invitation, interested parties may offer to build on the existing site or a site on, or in, the vicinity of Grand Parade. The new library will be required to comply with a development brief prepared by the City Council.

Under the proposed procedure the Council can expect to see a new Central Library in place within two years and at a very affordable price. The development brief will include a requirement that appropriate alternative accommodation be provided for a temporary library if the current site is to be used for the new library.

9.4 **PART 8 REPORT ON TANK FIELD, MAYFIELD**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Quill An Chomhairle approved the Director of Services report on the proposed development at Tank Field, Mayfield. The development proposed is relocation of one pitch eastwards by 57m, construction of new entrance and erection of low perimeter railing.

The development will mean change of use from open space to sport grounds but will ensure more beneficial recreational use of the area and eliminate present difficulties and problems. Public access to the pitch area and lands on the perimeter for walking will be maintained.

The proposal was advertised on the Examiner on the 4th November 2005 in accordance with Article 81, Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 2001, with 15 submissions being received by closing date of 16th December 2005.

The report dealt with submissions received, confirmed that access was being maintained from St. Christopher's Road and that it was intended that public access would be maintained to the field.

The Report of the Director of Services stated that the Tank Field at Mayfield consists of two playing pitches used by Brian Dillons Hurling & Football Club, a small open space area between the pitches and open space adjoining area on the western side which is not generally in use. The Field as well as being used by the local club for sporting purposes is also used by the wider community for walking.

The Development proposed to be carried out is relocation of pitch eastwards by 57m, construction of new entrance and erection of low perimeter fence. The proposed development is to accommodate possible development of a Gael Scoil on a portion of the site. Any application to develop a Gael Scoil will be dealt with separately through the normal planning process and will require a variation of the City Development Plan.

The site is zoned sports grounds and open space. in the City Development Plan 2004. It is considered that the proposed development is consistent with the zoning objectives as set out in the plan.

The small open space area between the pitches is heavily abused by wanton vandalism and is constantly subject to littering, broken bottles and discarded beer

cans. Bench seats that were erected in the mid 1990's were removed at the request of residents because of unsocial gatherings.

Changing the use of this small area from Open Space to Sports Grounds will ensure more beneficial recreational use of the area and eliminate the present difficulties and problems. Public access to the pitch area and lands on the perimeter for walking will be maintained via various pedestrian access points along the proposed 1.2 metre high perimeter post and nail fence.

The proposal was advertised in the Examiner on the 4th November 2005 in accordance with Article 81, Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 2001, with 15 submissions being received by closing date of 16th December 2005.

The submissions were as follows:-

- (i) Objection to closing off access to the Tank Field from St. Christopher's Road/Avenue.
- (ii) Objection to loss of amenity.
- (iii) Objection to fencing in of Tank Field.
- (iv) Objection to panel wall
- (v) Objection to permanent netting behind goal mouth.

(i) **Closing Off of access from St. Christopher's Road**

At present the residents of St. Christopher's Road can gain access to the Tank Field from their road. The footpath linking St. Christopher's Road and Murmont Road will be retained. Following submissions, an additional gate on Murmont Road nearer to St. Christopher's Road will be provided to allow for easier access.

(ii) **Objection to loss of amenity**

The area of land being disposed of to the OPW is largely not in use, whilst the remainder of the Tank Field is being retained. It is intended that public access will be maintained to the Field, it being of amenity value to the local residents.

(iii) **Fencing in of Tank Field**

It is intended to construct a low concrete post and rail fence on the outer perimeter of the Field, only 1.2 metres high with various pedestrian access points. The intention is that the amenity area will be defined by the fence similar to many other areas throughout the City and also making it more secure for those using the area.

(iv) **Panel Wall**

The perimeter railing will be concrete post and rail construction and not a wall.

(v) **Permanent Netting**

The proposed goal netting is located behind both goal mouths on the new pitch area, with the aim of preventing balls going onto the entrance roadway to the clubs premises or into adjoining property on the other end. The measure is designed from a health and safety view to protect by-passers from injury.

The area of land on the eastern boundary and partly planted with mature trees is visually attractive and important to the attractiveness of the area. This area will be maintained in its present state in the interest of the above.

‘I consider that the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and I recommend that the proposal proceed.’

9.5 **PART 8 REPORT ON MEELICK PARK**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Clancy, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, An Chomhairle approved Part 8 Report as required under Article 81, Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 2001 on the construction of a new playground at Meelick Park. The proposal was also in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development of the area, enhancing an existing area zoned open space in the City Development Plan. The project is costed at €150K with a grant of €60K committed by the D.O.E.H.L.G. under the Local Authority Playground Grant Scheme 2005.

The Report of the Director of Services stated that in recent years, the Council has developed a number of high quality playgrounds throughout the City which have proved to be very popular. At present, there is no playground facility in the wider Ballyvolane area.

It is now proposed to install a playground at Meelick Park to cater for the needs of the area. Following consultation with local residents, it has also been agreed to fully enclose the park area.

The proposal was advertised in accordance with Article 81 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 2001 in the Irish Examiner on 15th December 2005 with no submissions being received by closing date of 2nd February 2006. It is in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development of the area, enhancing an existing area zoned open space in the City Development Plan.

The project is costed at €150K including playground, additional railing, upgrading of footpaths etc., with a grant of €60k committed by the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government under the Local Authority Playground Grant Scheme 2005.

9.6 **MONUMENT IN GERRY O’SULLIVAN PARK**

An Chomhairle approved the Verbal Report of the Director of Services on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That this City Council erect a fitting monument in Gerry O’Sullivan Park in recognition of Gerry O’Sullivan’s contribution to politics in Cork, both at a national and local level. That the City Council commission this monument without delay and that his family be asked to unveil it at an official ceremony.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. O’Brien 05/393 – referred back from Council)

The verbal Report of the Director of Services stated that it was intended to erect a commemorative plaque in honour of Jerry O’Sullivan at the park.

9.7 **PASSAGE WEST RAILWAY LINE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 16th of February 2006 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Litter Bins would be placed on the old Passage West Railway Line/Walkway as to facilitate the public who use this amenity area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. O’Flynn 06/17)

The Report of the Director of Services stated that there is no serious litter problem on the Mahon Walkway. Very often installation of litter bins encourages a litter problem in the vicinity of the bins. However, litter bins will be placed at the start of the walkway and at the Atlantic Pond end and additional dog litter bins on the walkway itself.

9.8 **CAPITAL OF CULTURE SPONSORS/CONTRIBUTORS**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle and approved the recommendation of Arts Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council would devise an appropriate means of acknowledging the generous contribution of a number of sponsors/contributors who through their

support enabled our City to Celebrate its designation as European Capital of Culture 2005 with energy and style.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Quill 05/305)

The recommendation from the Arts Committee stated that a publication be prepared to include all names of sponsors, contributors was also considered.

9.9 **PARADE OF CHAMPIONS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 16th of February on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘To honour its victorious sporting champions in an extraordinary year of sporting endeavour that Cork City Council would host a parade of champions of all its National winning teams and individuals to coincide with the closing ceremonies of Cork City of Culture 2005.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 05/428)

The Report of the Director of Services stated that the Lord Mayor has invited the victorious Cork teams to be Grand Marshalls of this year’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade. This is considered to be the most appropriate way to ensure that as many people as possible have a chance to applaud the various sporting heroes with attendances of upwards of 60,000 expected to view the Parade on the day.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence.

11. **CONFERENCES**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance at the following Conferences:-

11.1 **THE REGION AND THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2007 – 2013**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, C. Lynch & C. Clancy at the Region and the National Development Plan 2007 – 2013 Conference on the 16th – 17th February, 2006 in the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare.

11.2 **CONFERENCE OF ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY & CITY COUNCIL'S**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, M. Shields, D. Wallace & M. O'Connell at the Conference of Association of County & City Council's on the 9th – 11th March, 2006 in the Fairways Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

11.3 **THE COUNCILLOR AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, J. Buttimer, D. Counihan & D. O'Flynn at the Councillor and Civic Leadership conference on the 3rd – 4th March in the Raheen House, Raheen Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

11.4 **MEDIA SKILLS FOR COUNCILLORS**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Shannon at the Media Skills for Councillors Conference on the 28th January, 2006 in the Clarinbridge Court Hotel, Galway.

11.5 **COLMCILLE WINTER SCHOOL**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir D. O'Flynn at the Colmcille Winter School Conference on the 24th – 26th February, 2006 in the Colmcille Heritage Trust, Gartan, Church Hill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

11.6 **LAMA – LOCAL GOVERNMENT – DELIVERING THE FUTURE NOW**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí D. McCarthy & J. Kelleher at the LAMA – Local Government – Delivering the future now, on the 20th – 21st April, 2006 in the Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny.

11.7 **22nd ANNUAL ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí D. Counihan, D. McCarthy, J. Corr, J. Buttimer, M. Shields, J. Kelleher, C. Lynch, C. Clancy, D. O'Flynn, P. Gosh, S. Martin, C. Burke, M. Ahern, T. O'Driscoll, T. Shannon, B. Birmingham, F. Dennehy, J. Fitzgerald, M. Quill, D. Cregan, D. Wallace, G. O'Flynn, M. O'Connell, D. Clune at the 22nd Annual Environmental Conference – “The Cost of Waste Disposal”, on the 4th and 5th May 2006 at Carrigaline Court Hotel.

11.8 **DOES MEDIA REPORTING OF OPINION POLLS DURING AN ELECTION AFFECT THE RESULT?**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Chomhairleoirí M. O’Connell and J. Buttimer at the Media Reporting of Opinion Polls Conference on the 31st March – 1st April 2006 at the Great Southern Hotel, Rosslare.

11.9 **THE FUTURE OF OUR PAST – THE ROLE OF HERITAGE & CULTURE IN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Chomhairleoir M. O’Connell at the Future of our Past Conference on the 23rd and 24th March 2006 at Dolmen Hotel, Kilkenny Road, Carlow.

11.10 **THE LAW OF DEFAMATION (LIBEL & SLANDER) AS IT AFFECTS COUNCILLORS**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Chomhairleoir D. Counihan at the law of Defamation (Libel & Slander) as it affects Councillors Conference on the 8th April 2006 in Tralee, Co. Kerry

12. **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle referred the following motions to the relevant Committees:-

12.1 **RE-FURBISH & REGENERATE THE PARK ON CONNAUGHT AVENUE**

‘That Cork City Council draw up plans in consultation with the ward councillors and the Connaught Avenue Resident Association to re-furbish and regenerate the park on Connaught Avenue.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 06/07)

Recreation, Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

12.2 **DERELICT SITE – UPPER HOLLYHILL**

‘That Cork City Council would distribute the derelict site in Upper Hollyhill between the adjoining houses in Hollyville, Hollyhill.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 06/25)

Planning & Development Functional Committee

12.3 **GUTTERING ON THE HOUSES – SUNVIEW FAIRHILL**

‘That the guttering on the houses in Sunview Fairhill be cleaned.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Clancy 06/29)

Housing Functional Committee

12.4 **DEVELOP PARK OWEN TO AN ART FACILITY**

‘That Cork City Council bring forward plans to develop Park Owen and endeavour to make this a state of the Art facility for the local community.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 06/35)

Recreation, Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

12.5 **LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM FROM AIRPORT TO CITY CENTRE**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to the Minister for Transport to seek funding for a dedicated light rail system from the airport to the city centre to service the growing number of passengers using the facility.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 06/50)

12.6 **DERELICT PROPERTY REF 1530 D.S. IN MAHONY’S SQUARE, OFF GREAT WILLIAM O’BRIEN STREET**

‘That Cork City Council Property Department pursue the owner of the Derelict Property ref 1530 D.S. in Mahony’s Square off Great William O’Brien Street to make good the site as its condition and appearance is a concern to local residents.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Clancy 06/51)

Planning & Development Functional Committee

12.7 **REVIEW OF TAXATION SYSTEM FOR REGISTERED CHARITIES**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls for a review of the taxation system for registered charities with particular reference to the payment of VAT in view of the fact that many of these organisations are under increasing financial pressure due to changes in society in recent years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 06/55)

12.8 **RECREATION PROJECTS FOR KNOCKNAHEENY**

‘In relation to the Knocknaheeny RAPID area, that Cork City Council:-

- a) Develop a new play ground for the Children in Hollyhill near the Ardculen / Hollyville area.
- b) Develop a Scrambling Park in a suitable location in the area.
- c) Develop a play area for the Children of Killala Gardens/Churchfield Green on the Sporting Grounds of Knocknaheeny Avenue.
- d) Resurface Hollyhill Road (Northwards) from Harbour View Road to Kilmore Road and to take away the small green borders on the lane as they are of no benefit to the community at large.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 06/77)

Recreation, Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

12.9 **NORTH WEST BY-PASS**

‘That Council calls on Management to arrange for representation from the National Roads Authority to attend a full meeting of City Council in Committee to discuss the proposed North West By-Pass and that such a meeting should be held within two months.’

(Proposer: Cllrs. C. Burke, J. Corr, J. Buttimer, P. Gosch, D. Murphy,
B. Bermingham 06/81)

Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

12.10 **TOMÁS MAC CURTAIN MONUMENT IN BLACKPOOL**

‘That this Council carry out immediate work on the Tomás Mac Curtain Monument in Blackpool. The monument is in the ownership of Cork City Council and is in need of cleaning and some minor repairs.’

(Proposer: Cllr. A. Spillane & J. O’Brien 06/82)

Recreation, Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

12.11 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT WILTON ROAD JUNCTION**

‘In order to make the area safer for traffic and to facilitate residents of Wilton Gardens in exiting safely from the area onto the Wilton Road, that traffic lights be erected at the junction of Wilton Road and Wilton Gardens as a replacement for the existing hatched box which has not worked.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 06/83)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

12.12 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT SUMMERSTOWN JUNCTION**

‘That in order to facilitate the residents of Summerstown and surrounding estates, traffic lights be fitted at the Summerstown/Glasheen Road junction, as it is almost impossible to exit that area at, or near, peak traffic times.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 06/84)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

12.13 **REFUSE PLANNING APPROVAL FOR HIGH RISE BUILDINGS IN BISHOPSTOWN, WILTON AND DENNEHY’S CROSS**

‘I am proposing that Cork City Council’s Planning Department would forthwith refuse all Planning approval for high rise buildings and major developments in Bishopstown, Wilton and Dennehy’s Cross until completion and approval of The Area Action Plan at present being discussed.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Shields 06/85)

Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee

12.14 **AIRPORT CHARGES**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Cork Airport Authority to maintain airport charges at current levels until the issue relating to the airports future debt is resolved.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 06/86)

12.15 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON LOWER GLANMIRE ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council in conjunction with National Roads Authority and Bus Éireann erect a pedestrian crossing on the Lower Glanmire Road to cater for people living at Lover’s Walk, the Acres, Tivoli Woods and all the new developments east of Silversprings Hotel who wish to cross to the southern side of Lower Glanmire Road to get a bus to the city centre. This whole public safety aspect seems to have been ignored by the Planning Authority when granting permission for hundreds of apartments.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 06/88)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

12.16 **PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion:-

An t-Ard Mheara requested her opposition to this motion be recorded.

‘That Cork City Council expresses its deep concern at the damage being done to the health of the citizens of Cork by the Health Authority’s continued insistence on adding fluoride to the public water supply and insists that the HSE and the Minister for Health be held accountable for any adverse effects on public health that will become manifest in future years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 06/89)

12.17 **EXAMINATION OF WATER PRESSURE – MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE**

‘That Cork City Council will carry out an examination of water pressure of households in Mount Pleasant Avenue, along with testing fire hydrants in the general area and bring a report before Council on the matter.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Lynch 06/90)

Environmental Functional Committee

12.18 **IMPROVE AND EXTEND THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT**

‘That this Council supports the view that Washington Street from the Courthouse to Grand Parade needs substantial upgrading /improvement [lighting, footpaths, etc] as it is very dull in comparison with the modernised Patrick Street / Grand Parade, and should be considered part of an extended Central Business District. The Courthouse & St. Augustine Church should be dressed with a special lighting feature giving prominence to these two splendid historic buildings.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 06/91)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

12.19 **COMPENSATION TO TENANTS**

‘That this Council in recognition to its tenants, who over time, substantially enhanced their rented dwelling with new doors, windows, flooring etc, should henceforth if leaving that property be compensated for such improvements. The new tenant benefiting along with Cork City Council in quickly reletting the house without the necessity in spending large sums in improving the house.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 06/92)

Housing Strategic Policy Committee

12.20 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS FOR SHANAKIEL ROAD**

‘That the traffic lights which were approved for Shanakiel Road/Sunday’s Well and Wellington Bridge be put in place as a matter of urgency.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O’Connell 06/93)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

12.21 **REGENERATION PLANS FOR KNOCKNAHEENY**

‘That Cork City Council’s Housing Department do an up-to-date report on the proposed regeneration plans for Knocknaheeny. The Report should clearly identify the time scale for full implementation of the plan and the overall cost. It should also clarify the situation of existing tenants as to whether they may have to be offered alternative accommodation elsewhere to facilitate the plan and would potential tenants be consulted at the earliest opportunity if they have to be transferred.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O’Connell 06/94)

Housing Functional Committee

12.22 **COMMEMORATION OF 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1916 RISING**

‘That Cork City Council would organise suitable ceremonies to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the 1916 rising. The central theme of this commemoration should be to recognise in a tangible way the outstanding contribution the members of Cumann Na mBan made during the struggle for Irish Freedom and the establishment of the state. All sections of our community, the Defence Forces, the Gardaí, the Trade Union Movement, commercial interests, and the general public at large should be invited to take part.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 06/95)

Party Whips

12.23 **RESIDENTS PARKING PERMIT**

‘That the administrative charge associated with the residents parking permit be abolished immediately.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 06/96)

Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

12.24 **REPLACEMENT OF TREES ON PEARSE ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council will replace the trees that were recently removed on Pearse Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Lynch 06/100)

Recreation, Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

12.25 **MEMBERSHIP RATE FOR PENSIONERS**

‘That Cork City Council would reduce the annual membership rate for pensioners at the Rory Gallagher Music Library from 30 euro to 20 euro.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Barry 06/101)

Recreation, Amenity & Culture Strategic Policy Committee

12.26 **CHERRY LAWN ESTATE, OFF CHURCH ROAD, BLACKROCK**

‘That City Council, in relation to Cherry Lawn Estate, Off Church Road, Blackrock put in place the following items in order to enhance the estate:-

- a) Name Plates
- b) Children at play sign
- c) Cul-de-sac.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Counihan 06/102)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

12.27 **REMOVAL OF PUMP HOUSE FROM CURRAHEEN ESTATE**

‘That Cork City Council would remove the pump house from Curraheen Estate.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 06/103)

Environment Functional Committee

12.28 **INSTALL CCTV CAMERAS IN BISHOPSTOWN AREA**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council, given the high level of student activity in the Bishopstown area calls on the Department of Justice to provide resources to install CCTV cameras and or provides out of its own resources CCTV for the Curraheen Road, Model Farm Road and Melbourne Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 06/104)

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH**