

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 25th JANUARY 2010

- PRESENT** An t-Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Murphy in the Chair.
- NORTH EAST** Comhairleoirí J. Kelleher, T. Brosnan, T. Tynan.
- NORTH CENTRAL** Comhairleoirí M. Barry, C. Clancy, P. Gosch, K. O' Flynn, T. Gould.
- NORTH WEST** Comhairleoirí D. McCarthy, J. O' Brien, M. O' Connell, T. Fitzgerald.
- SOUTH EAST** Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. McGonigle, D. O' Flynn, T. Shannon, C. O' Leary, K. McCarthy, J. Corr.
- SOUTH CENTRAL** Comhairleoirí L. Kingston, E. O'Halloran, S. Martin, M. Finn, F. Kerins.
- SOUTH WEST** Comhairleoirí J. Buttimer, M. Shields, B. Bermingham, H. Cremin, G. Gibbons.
- APOLOGIES** Comhairleoir M. Ahern.
- ALSO PRESENT** Mr. J. Gavin, City Manager.
Mr. A. Duggan, City Architect.
Mr. D. O'Mahony, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs.
Mr. D. Joyce, Senior Executive Officer, Roads & Transportation.
Mr. P. Moynihan, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Affairs.

An t-Ardmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1.1 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

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

- The Harty Family on the death of Kevin Harty.
- The Ryan Family on the death of Ann Ryan.
- The Cashill Family on the death of Mrs. Joan Cashill.
- The Leahy Family on the death of Mick Leahy.
- The Crockett Family on the death of Mark Crockett.
- To the people of Haiti following the recent earthquake.

1.2 LORD MAYORS ITEMS

- 1.2.1 An t-Ardmhéara proposed and it was unanimously approved, that a book of sympathy would be opened for the victims of the Haiti Earthquake Disaster.

1.3 **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

An Chomhairle extended a vote of congratulations to the following:-

- Mr. Richard O'Shea, on winning the Young Scientist of the Year.
- Neptune Basketball Club for their successful staging of recent matches.
- Cois Tine on the successful organising of the 'Unity in Diversity Interfaith Event' in City Hall, on Friday 22nd January 2010.
- The Glen Resource Centre and U.C.C. on the successful staging of Sports Day on the previous Saturday.
- Dr. Máirín Quill, Chair of the Organising Committee on the launch the previous Friday of the Aloys Fleischmann Centenary Celebrations.
- The Choir of Presentation Secondary School, Ballyphehane on singing at the launch of the Aloys Fleischmann Centenary Celebrations.

1.4 **BEST WISHES**

An Chomhairle extended best wishes to the Blue Demons Basketball Club in the Superleague National Cup Final on Sunday, 31st January 2010.

2. **MINUTES**

The minutes of Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on 11th January 2010, were considered and approved.

3. **QUESTIONS**

3.1 **TENANCY PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME**

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

Has the Manager any plans to include Noonan's Road, St. Finbarr's Road and Fort Street Tenants in the Tenancy Participation Programme. Given that the Director has stated Tenancy Participation is one of the cornerstones in developing improved service delivery. These programmes should foster and promote positive engagement with the residents and provide neighbourliness within the community?

The Social Housing Section is continuing its work supporting the development of residents associations. The purpose of these meetings is to bring residents together so that they can begin the process of establishing a residents association.

With regard to the Noonans Rd, St. Finbarr's Road and Fort Street areas, it is the view of the Social Housing Section and the South Area Housing Office that the establishment of residents associations can contribute to a better quality of life for residents. The Social Housing Section has already been in contact with existing residents associations in the area such as the Deane Street Residents Association.

It is planned that residents will be invited to attend meetings at the following locations where the process of establishing a residents association can commence. Gardai and

representatives of the Lough and South Parish Community Associations will also be invited to attend.

Schedule of residents meetings

Area	Time/date	Location
Noonans Rd/St Finbarrs Rd	2pm, Feb 17th	To be confirmed
Fort St.	2pm, Feb 24th	To be confirmed

3.2 SECOND HOME LEVY

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

Can the Manager please inform the members how much revenue was raised by the new “second home” levy? What was the projected income? What was the actual income? What money is believed to be outstanding? What action is being taken by the City Council on outstanding money? Has the money been transferred from the central fund to City Council accounts? Was this income included in the 2010 budget, if so where, if not why not?

The NPPR (Non-Principal Private Residence) charge is a self assessment liability.

While the responsibility for the collection of the levy rests with individual local authorities, these have combined to provide a centralised shared service and this has proven to be very efficient and effective. Monies received in the central fund are remitted to the various local authorities monthly in arrears.

In the absence of a database of “second home” owners, it is not possible to quantify exactly what the level of outstanding money is but with over 10,500 payments having been received, it is clear that the level of compliance is quite high. The City Council have access to the Private Rented Tenancy Board database and will be using this and other information available to us to pursue non compliance during 2010. The penalty for non-compliance of €20 per month accumulating remains the best incentive for compliance. The City Council will also be continuing its efforts at communicating through the media etc during 2010.

A sum of €2.1m (gross) has been raised in respect of Cork City Council for 2009 against a projected income of € 1.8m. The provision in the 2010 Revenue Budget is in Service Division H, Sub-service H 11.01.

3.3 CORK CITY COUNCIL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

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

Can the Manager supply to all members of Cork City Council a new telephone directory of Officials contact numbers and work mobile phone numbers, including details of their

position and their responsibility within Cork City Council, so that it can assist members in carrying out their duties as elected members of Cork City Council.

The employee telephone directory is available on Cork City Council's intranet which may be accessed by Members on their laptops provided by the Council. Members can access the directory by clicking on 'phonebook' on the home page and search by name, by directorate, by division and by building. The directory provides the name, position held, landline number, mobile or fastdial number and email address of the employee.

Following a recent meeting of Party Whips, a printed copy of the current directory has been issued to all Members. This directory shows employee details by directorate/department with landline number. It also provides a General Office number for each directorate/department.

3.4 **WATER LEAKAGE PERCENTAGE IN THE CITY WATER SYSTEM**

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

Can the Manager outline what work will be carried out in the short/medium term to bring down the water leakage percentage in the Cork City water system.

Currently Cork City Council has seven leak detection teams actively surveying for water leaks. Four of these teams consist of Cork City Council's own personnel and the remaining three teams are private contractors. There are also two water inspectors actively following up on queries from the public. Cork City Council repair teams are promptly repairing identified leaks as they are found.

The City Council's experience of leaks to date is similar to the experience of other local authorities nationwide in that there are multiple breaks in smaller water mains and service connections rather than major breaks in the larger water mains. This makes the process of leak detection and repair a more difficult and a slower process.

Cork City Council is also in the process of replacing those water meters damaged by last November's floods to its District Metering Areas (DMAs). The information provided by these meters is a vital tool in the process of leak detection.

As Members will be aware the City Council has applied to the Department of the Environment for funding to replace its higher risk water mains. These water mains would typically be cast iron and of an old age. The Department has responded favorably in relation to a first phase of such work and consultants will shortly be engaged to advance same.

3.5 **BRIDGES UNDER THREAT DURING RECENT FLOODING**

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

Can the Manager please advise what bridges have been found to have been under serious threat during recent flooding and when is an estimate going to be given to the Environment Minister in respect of the cost of any work that has to be done to secure such bridges in the event of a repeat of such flooding.

Following the flood event of 19th/20th November 2009 we had emergency inspections of the river bridges carried out by consulting engineers Malachy Walsh & Partners respectively. The cost of these inspections has been covered under funding from the DoEHLG.

These inspections were, under the circumstances, **preliminary** and did not involve underwater surveys to assess possible scour damage to bridge piers and abutments. The inspections did not reveal any significant causes for concern. The NRA have since carried out underwater scour surveys of National Road bridges on the River Lee. The majority of the River Lee bridges are non-National and we propose to carry out similar underwater scour surveys on the River Lee Non-National bridges.

3.6 **STANDARD OF ROADS**

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

Bearing in mind the serious damage done to many road surfaces during the recent harsh weather, will the Manager inform Council if there are any special measures proposed to deal with the situation, and if the resources and personnel are available to bring all roads back to a reasonable standard?

The damage to the city's roads during recent bad weather is currently being assessed and cost estimates will be prepared. Emergency repairs are underway and when the assessment is complete, available resources will be allocated to carry out localised permanent repairs. Following notification by the Department of Transport of Regional/Local Roads Grants next month, the funding position will be reassessed so that road resurfacing budgets are used to the optimum effect.

3.7 **HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS 2009/2010**

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

In relation to applications made to Cork City Council for Higher Education Grants (2009/2010), would the Manager please advise me as to:

- The number of applications made to Cork City Council?
- The number of applicants deemed to be eligible?
- The number of eligible applicants that have had their registration fees refunded in full to date?
- When he expects the remainder of eligible applicants to be refunded the registration fees in full?
- Have maintenance grants been paid to students to date in accordance with the terms and conditions of the scheme?

- The number of applications made to Cork City Council?
1180 (to date)
- The number of applicants deemed to be eligible?
1080 (to date)
- The number of eligible applicants that have had their registration fees refunded in full to date?
599
- When he expects the remainder of eligible applicants to be refunded the registration fees in full?
Registration fees are paid once invoiced by the colleges. The remainder of eligible applicants' registration fees will be paid once invoices are received.
All invoices received to date, have been paid.
- Have maintenance grants been paid to students to date in accordance with the terms and conditions of the scheme?
Higher Education Grants are paid in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Higher Education Grants Scheme.

3.8 **DEANROCK SITE**

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

Can the City Manager indicate what discussions have taken place with former residents, local community groups, the HSE and the PTSB Bank in relation to the regeneration of the Deanrock site, the current status of the plans and when it is hoped to bring plans forward to Council and public consultation.

The demolition of the Deanrock Flats was completed in 2007 with a view to advancing proposals on a Public Private Design Build basis.

The need to integrate existing commercial proposals on site and cater for the development of a Local Health Centre are currently being addressed.

The current economic climate and the low demand for affordable housing will now necessitate a further review of proposals for this strategic site. It is anticipated that a proposal for the site will be brought before Council for consideration within the next three months.

3.9 **COMPENSATION CLAIMS LODGED AGAINST CITY COUNCIL AS A RESULT OF FLOODING OR COLD WEATHER SNAP**

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

To ask the City Manager if any compensation claims have been lodged against City Council, either as a result of the flooding in November or during the more recent cold weather snap?

If so, can the Manager outline the nature of the claims and the expected cost to the Council?

And if no such claims have been received is there a provision for such payouts, in the event that they do arise?

No claims have been lodged with Cork City Council arising from the recent Civic emergencies.

Provision is made in the Annual Revenue Budget of the City Council each year for the payment of Public Liability Claims subject to the Conditions and Policy Excess of the City Councils Combined Liability Insurance Policy and a Legal Liability attaching to the City Council.

3.10 **PLANNING FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

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

Could the Manager please make a statement to Council on the situation regards to monies lodged to Cork City Council by Builders, Developers or their agents for payments to cover planning fees and contributions?

- a) to give a breakdown on any cheques being left uncashed, the amounts and the name of these parties from which these cheques were payments from since 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009.
- b) Have any cheques been mislaid or have bounced/returned unpaid, how much does this amount to, and over what period of time and whom were these from.
- c) What steps are and have been taken to recover these amounts.

a) We hold no uncashed cheques up to and including 25th January 2010.

b) No cheques have been mislaid.

Three cheques (in respect of three accounts) to a total value of € 2,972.30 bounced in 2009 (being 0.07% of monies received in 2009).

- c) Simple Contract Debt proceedings have been initiated in respect of two accounts.

Replacement cheque has been requested on the third account as subsequent cheques on this account have cleared.

3.11 **LITTER LAWS**

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

That the City Manager would comment on the City Council's policy on businesses and organisations breaking litter laws by erecting illegal signs on grass verges, poles etc around the city. How many businesses and organisations have been fined in 2008 and 2009? How many were fined for illegal signs in the south east ward?

Cork City Council implements the 1997 to 2003 Litter Pollutions Acts. Section 19(1) of the 1997 Act states

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

(a) exhibit or cause to be exhibited thereon any article or advertisement, or

(b) carry out or cause to be carried out any defacement thereof by writing or or other marks,

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

The number of on the spot litter fines issued under section 19(1) of the 1997 Litter Pollution Act is as follows:

2008: 46 South East Ward 2

2009: 133 South East Ward 29

3.12 **FINANCIAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH DAMAGE TO CITY'S ROADS**

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

Could the Manager outline the financial costs associated with damage to the city's roads during recent bad weather, how much money has been allocated to repair them and if the Council has received any additional emergency funding from national or European Government to complete such works?

The damage to the city's roads during recent bad weather is currently being assessed and cost estimates will be prepared. Emergency repairs are underway and when the assessment is complete, available resources will be allocated to carry out localised permanent repairs. Following notification by the Department of Transport of Regional/Local Roads Grants next month, the funding position will be reassessed so that road resurfacing budgets are used to the optimum effect.

3.13 **FLOODING IN BLACKPOOL**

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

What happened to cause Blackpool to flood on the 12 – 01 – 2010?

Was there anything Cork City Council could have done to prevent the flooding from happening?

Are plans being drawn up by Cork City Council to prevent flooding in Blackpool in the future?

Following heavy rainfall in the catchment earlier that morning, the river Bride was flowing at a high rate through Blackpool on 12th January, 2010. In the early afternoon the river began to overflow and water flowed out of Orchard Court onto Tomas Davis Street and collected at low point in Blackpool village. Water also flowed onto Gerald Griffin Street. A number of properties were flooded. However due to quick action of businesses and traders severe damage was averted. The City Council Drainage Section when alerted went onsite in the afternoon. They removed obstructive material from the downstream river screen at Orchard Court and the overflow subsided thereafter.

There are two screens located in Orchard Court – both upstream of the culverted sections of the river. They operate to reduce risk of debris being washed into and collecting in the covered areas. They are monitored regularly and are in particular checked when heavy rainfall has been forecast. These screens were cleaned on morning of the 12th January. It appears that the source of the main obstruction was a tree stump washed by the water from an area of the bank further upstream.

Arising from this event a review is being carried out with particular focus on whether the screen arrangements can be improved and/or altered, maintenance of banks including advising riparian owners of their responsibilities, inspection of the downstream culverted areas etc

On completion of review a more detailed report can be provided.

4. **CORK/ SWANSEA FERRY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the City Manager, dated 21st January 2010, on the Cork/Swansea Ferry and on the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Corr, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, unanimously resolved to invest the total sum of €200,000 in the West Cork Tourism Co-operative Society by way of investment in bonds being issued by the Society.

5. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 11th JANUARY 2010**

5.1 **ROADWORKS PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the progress of ongoing Roadworks Programme for month ended November 2009.

In response to queries the City Manager undertook to report to An Chomhairle on road repairs following recent severe weather.

5.2 **BEASLEY STREET IMPROVEMENT SCHEME – PART 8 PLANNING REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered the proposed scheme regarding Beasley Street, Improvement Scheme and the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 thereon. On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Corr seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle approved the proposed scheme regarding Beasley Street, Improvement Scheme and the report of the A/Director of Services thereon.

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that:-

Background

Beasley Street, which lies between the recently upgraded Oliver Plunkett Street and South Mall has historically been a one way street with vehicular traffic entering from South Mall and exiting onto Oliver Plunkett Street. In 2005 as part of the pedestrianisation of Oliver Plunkett Street, an automated bollard was installed which excluded vehicular traffic entering the street between the hours of 11am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday.

The street surface was originally constructed of cobble stones and was one of the few remaining examples of this type of construction as we approached the 21st century. These cobbles were largely removed (80%) during the course of a Cork Main Drainage contract and the reinstatement was done with bitumen macadam.

With the recent construction of a new 121 bedroom hotel of in excess of 8,000 Sq.m of floor space, other building developments on the street and the upgrading of Oliver Plunkett Street, it is now considered timely to upgrade/refurbish Beasley Street.

Proposal

The aim of the project is to upgrade the streetscape by replacement of the pavements, the creation of a suitable footway, new signage, street lighting and ancillary works as appropriate.

The proposed design/redevelopment includes for the incorporation of existing and new cobblestones in the street surface, thus enhancing the historical fabric of the area in an aesthetically pleasing manner.

The total footprint of the works is approximately 80 linear metres in length with an average width of 4.5 metres. The works will tie into the existing upgrades at Oliver Plunkett Street and South Mall.

The width of the street will allow for the existing controlled flow of one way traffic to be maintained. The existing speed table installed at the South Mall will continue to deter speeding traffic and inform motorists that they are entering a pedestrian priority zone. The main body of the street will be finished in cobbles and the footway together with the road crossing at the hotel entrance will be constructed with a reddish coloured natural stone.

At present, with the pedestrianisation of Oliver Plunkett Street and its side streets, vehicular traffic is prohibited from entering Beasley Street during daytime hours (1100-1700 hrs) Monday to Saturday. This traffic arrangement will be maintained using the retractable automated bollard.

Part 8 Planning

The Part 8 Planning process was initiated by the placement of an advertisement in The Irish Examiner on the 8th of August 2009 advising members of the public of the proposed scheme with the closing date for receipt of submissions listed as the 5th of October 2009.

Particulars of the proposal were available for inspection at the Reception Desk, City Hall from 10th August until 21st September 2009.

Site notices were erected at both ends of the street with similar details of the scheme as appeared in the Irish Examiner.

Submissions & Analysis

In total 11 individual submissions were received, 2 from business owners trading on the street, 1 from an elected member and the remainder from various City Council Directorates and the Emergency Services.

The submissions consisting of observations and suggestions, ranged from minor comments to major alterations to the proposed scheme. The attached schedule summarises the submissions received and Cork City Council's observations and comments on each of the submissions.

While the original proposed scheme was able to accommodate the majority of the submissions with little or no change, there were a number of requests that could not be accommodated without materially altering the scheme and particularly the required traffic arrangements.

These are set out as follows:

- The proposed footway along Beasley Street was planned to be constructed with red brick paving. A number of the submissions received suggested that this may not be in keeping with the historical fabric of the area and that a more appropriate material should be used. It is now proposed that a natural red stone with strong aesthetic appeal (Porphyry or equivalent) be used on the footway.
- The black and white granite slabs proposed for use at the hotel crossing and at the South Mall speed table was commented on as not being suitable at these locations. It was suggested that a historical type cut stone be used at these locations and now it is proposed to use a stone similar to the footway at the hotel crossing. The existing speed table at the South Mall will be retained as is.
- Two submissions were received requesting the construction of a footway on both sides of the street. This was considered but it was found that the street is insufficiently wide to accommodate two suitable footways and a viable traffic lane in between. Therefore the scheme will proceed with one footway on the western side as originally planned.
- A request was also received to increase the width of the single footway to 1.7m while reducing the available carriageway width. However the proposed width of

cobbled surface carriageway is required in order to allow adequate vehicular clearance on the hotel side with the proposed 1.5m footway width being considered adequate.

- A number of the submissions received concerned the movement of traffic on Beasley Street on completion of the scheme and how this will relate to the operation of the new hotel and the existing “Market Lane” premises.
- The representatives of the new hotel development have stated that the current traffic control regime will severely hinder their operational access during the hours of pedestrianisation. They have requested that the existing retractable bollard at the South Mall end be relocated to the northern end of the street. This is not a viable option for Cork City Council due to the daytime pedestrianisation. Therefore the bollards must be kept at the southern end to control access into the street at these times. The street is also too narrow to permit two way hotel traffic using the South Mall access point.

However the following is now proposed to overcome the problems of exiting vehicular traffic from the hotel. Egress out of the hotel will be allowed at all times, via Oliver Plunkett Street during the non pedestrianisation hours and by exiting out onto South Mall during pedestrianised hours. This exit onto the South Mall will be achieved by installing a vehicle sensor on Beasley Street to activate the retractable bollard, located at the South Mall end of Beasley Street. This arrangement will also require the installation of suitable traffic lights opposite the exit from the hotel car park to direct exiting traffic to the appropriate exit, via Oliver Plunkett Street during non pedestrianisation hours and via South Mall during pedestrianisation hours.

Access to the hotel car park (from South Mall) will be available only during non pedestrianisation hours as it is at present.

- The Market Lane has requested that a permanent bollard be installed at the northern end next to their property line with the new hotel. This would have the effect of pedestrianising the area adjacent to the Market Lane completely. This would close off the street completely. This is not a viable option as access out of Beasley Street onto Oliver Plunkett Street must be maintained outside of pedestrianised hours. It is now proposed to install a retractable bollard at the requested location during the hours of pedestrianisation to prevent vehicles exiting from the hotel and driving onto Oliver Plunkett Street during these times

Anticipated Outcome of the Project

This street improvement scheme will enhance the safety and ease of movement of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users while creating a suitably inviting environment for all users of the street. The scheme will result in the restoration of the historic character of the street with its cobblestone surface being the only such example remaining in the city centre.

5.3 2010 FOOTPATH & ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAMME

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council include:

- 1.) Ninety Eight Street in the 2010 Footpath and Road Resurfacing Programme.
- 2.) Sharman Crawford Street in the 2010 Footpath Renewal Programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 09/387)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Ninety Eight Street and Sharman Crawford Street will be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Footpath Renewal Programme.

Ninety Eight Street will be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Resurfacing Programme.

5.4 **PARKING RESTRICTIONS TO HILLSIDE, EARLWOOD ESTATE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council roll out parking restrictions to Hillside, Earlwood Estate and other areas in the vicinity of UCC, in order to protect access to local housing and make the roads a safer place for local children to play.’

(Proposer: Cllr. G. Gibbons 09/389)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the introduction of parking controls/restrictions in residential areas is usually carried out at the request of the local residents. The controls are normally required to alleviate the problems associated with commuters and long stay parkers who use these estates as day long free parking areas.

The procedure is that the residents and local representatives meet the Traffic Division on site, and discuss and agree the extent of the parking controls to be implemented. The installation of the parking controls is then inputted into the road signing and road marking programme. Accordingly, local residents in areas where parking controls are required should make contact with the Traffic Division in order to start the necessary process.

Parking controls will not necessarily make the roads safer for children to play on, as the absence of parked cars on roadways can encourage greater traffic speeds. The local residents should also contact the Traffic Division with the view of installing “Children-at-Play” signs, which will encourage motorists to be more aware and more alert in the areas they are installed.

5.5 **NAMEPLATE FOR MEADOW GROVE ESTATE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That the nameplate for Meadow Grove Estate be re-instated, as it was removed by Council while Buckleys Field was constructed.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill & Cllr. C. O’Leary 09/391)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that a new nameplate for Meadowgrove Estate is on the list of requests for nameplates and it will be ordered and installed in the near future.

5.6 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AT JAPANESE GARDENS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘In an effort to combat anti-social behaviour, that the Council investigate the possibility of installing public lighting at the Japanese Gardens, adjacent Douglas Swimming Pool.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 09/393)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the traffic division will contact the Recreation and Amenity Directorate to determine if they have funds available to provide public lighting in the Japanese Gardens, the maintenance and upkeep of which falls within their responsibility. Two issues will need to be considered before a decision is made to provide public lighting in the Japanese Gardens:

1. The park in question is very secluded and it is likely that it would be used very little in the late evenings and night periods. The energy and costs involved may not be justified.
2. Lighting the park during the hour of darkness will encourage some people to use it at this time, and because of the fact it is ‘off the beaten track’ and secluded, it may not actually be safe for people, particularly for individuals to do so.

The anti-social behaviour is a matter for the Gardaí and it is known that they do patrol the area from time to time.

5.7 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT SUNDAY’S WELL ROAD**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council would arrange to have the traffic lights at the junction of Sunday’s Well Road and Wellington Bridge turned on.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O’Connell 09/396)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that additional works are required at the junction of Sunday’s Well Road and Wellington Bridge before the traffic signals can be turned on. This will involve new footpath build-outs because of the existence of residential parking at the junction.

The work will be put forward for consideration to be included in the 2010 roads programme.

5.8 **TRAFFIC/ PARKING ISSUES**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council, in the interests of residents’ safety, undertakes a review at the following locations with a view to installing suitable measures to address serious traffic/parking issues:

- (i) Edward Walsh Road, Togher
- (ii) Clarke’s Road, Ballyphehane.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 09/398)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the introduction of parking controls/restrictions in residential areas is usually carried out at the request of the local residents. The controls are normally required to alleviate the problems associated with commuters and long stay parkers who use these estates as day long free parking areas.

The procedure is that the residents and local representatives meet the Traffic Division on site, and discuss and agree the extent of the parking controls to be implemented. Discussions on any other traffic issues can also be held at this time in an effort to identify possible mitigation measures.

These measures and the installation of the parking controls can then be inputted into the road signing and road marking programme. Accordingly, local residents in Edward Walsh Road and Clarke’s Road should make contact with the Traffic Division in order to start the necessary processes.

5.9 **TRAFFIC CALMING FOR FAIRFIELD AVENUE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council introduces traffic calming measures for Fairfield Avenue.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/194)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that a pelican pedestrian crossing was installed in Fairfield Avenue as part of the 2004 traffic calming schemes. The area will be assessed in order to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible further mitigation measures that could be provided there.

Any identified traffic calming solutions will be put forward for consideration to be included in the Roads Programme.

5.10 **PARKING PERMITS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘As Cork City Council are the only local authority in the country who insist that the PRTB cert be produced as opposed to receipt of same when parking permits are requested. This can delay the issuing of parking permits by up to 4 months. This is unacceptable, and needs to be reviewed by the City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 09/412)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the requirement for a PRTB certification is an attempt to reduce the amount of fraudulent claims for resident parking permits. It is known that this is causing hardship to some tenants because the onus is on them to obtain the certificate from the landlord. As many landlords are not easily contactable (many tenants deal with letting agencies, etc.), this can be very difficult. The question of the delay of 4 months actually refers to the time allowed to tenants to obtain the certificate. This period is regularly extended to six months.

The Pay Parking Bye-Laws in the context of permits for residents and visitors is currently being reviewed. A separate policy document on the issue of permits will also be produced. The requirement for a PRTB certificate will be examined in this process and a report will be made to Council when the process is complete.

5.11 **JUNCTION ON BARRACK STREET AND EVERGREEN STREET**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council Roads and Traffic Department would review the junction on Barrack Street and Evergreen Street with a view to implement a plan to make a safer crossing for pedestrians at this busy and dangerous crossing.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Kingston 09/413)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the junction of Barrack Street and Evergreen Street will be examined in conjunction with the Gardaí, and any measures necessary to improve the road safety for pedestrians there will be carried out.

5.12 **RESURFACING OF SILVERHEIGHTS AVENUE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council proceed with the resurfacing of Silverheights Avenue as agreed by Council as the monies for this work were allocated by Council and cannot now be juggled around by the Roads Directorate as suits.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 09/415)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Silverheights Avenue will be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Resurfacing Programme.

5.13 DIRECTION SIGN TO THE LEE TUNNEL

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That a direction sign showing the way to the Lee Tunnel be placed at the junction of Skehard Road and the Central Statistics Office Road, Mahon.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 09/416)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the Lee Tunnel (Jack Lynch Tunnel) is not a destination and therefore cannot be directly signposted. Major bridges and roads are not also directly signposted. However, symbols can be used to alert motorists that a tunnel is ahead in a particular direction, and the possibility of a tunnel symbol sign being erected at this location will be investigated.

New directional signs will also be ordered at this location (e.g. Dublin (N8), Waterford (N25), etc.) for traffic which will be routed through the tunnel.

5.14 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AT TRAMORE ROAD & TOGHER ROAD JUNCTION

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council, following a recommendation to the Joint Policing Committee on the 30th of November 2009, by the Togher Community Safety Forum, would immediately carry out the agreed programme of works at the junction of Tramore Road and Togher Road so as to ensure pedestrian safety and traffic flow.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 09/418)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that details are being finalised with Engineering Consultants on proposals for the operation the Togher Road/Tramore Road junction and these will involve:

- New pedestrian crossing facilities on the approaches to the junction.
- Replacement of the traffic signal control arrangement with a ‘mini roundabout’ arrangement.

The necessary works required to improve the road safety and operation of the junction will be put forward for consideration to be included in the roads programme.

5.15 **ASSESS TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT SARSFIELD ROAD AND BANDON ROAD ROUNDABOUTS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council in consultation with other responsible stakeholders, would assess the traffic light controlled Sarsfield Road and Bandon Road Roundabouts, and implement any changes necessary e.g. changes to light sequence and timing, the introduction of yellow junction boxes or other measures, to prevent traffic congestion and to ensure free-flow especially at peak times.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 09/419)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the traffic signals at the Sarsfield Road and Bandon Road Roundabouts are managed by the ‘state-of-the art’ MOVA computerised system. This automatic system adapts fully to traffic flow conditions and manages such items such as cycle time, green time on approaches, etc. The problems of congestion at these junctions are caused mainly by high peak demands, over and above the capacity of the junctions to deal with them. The long term solution is the grade separated schemes which have been earmarked for these junctions for several years now. Funding is awaited from the NRA for these projects.

Yellow boxes are not appropriate on signalised roundabouts because of the requirement to ‘stack’ vehicles in queues on the roundabout during certain stages of the traffic signal cycle.

5.16 **SHANDON BRIDGE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Shandon Bridge be repainted as a result of graffiti.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Gosch 09/420)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the repainting of Shandon Bridge will be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Roadworks Programme.

5.17 **ONE WAY SYSTEM ON ST. MICHAEL’S ROAD FARRANREE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘Residents of St. Michael’s Road, Farranree have requested that Cork City Council introduce a one way system in this Narrow Roadway, and other Traffic Calming Measures to prevent rat racing by vehicles on this Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/200)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that St. Michael's Road, Farranree will be added to the list of areas where a request for traffic calming has been received. The area will be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there.

Any identified traffic calming solutions will be put forward for consideration to be included in the Roads Programme. In relation to the introduction of a one-way system, this is not recommended because:

- One-way traffic flows do not generally improve road safety, particularly for pedestrians, because of increased traffic speeds and volumes of traffic in the direction of flow.
- Reduction in local accessibility and circulation occurs for traders and residents,
- Increased volumes of traffic will be created in the opposite direction in a parallel 'twined' road, in this case St Coleman's Road. The introduction of a one-way system in any roadway forces traffic in the 'opposite' direction' onto another roadway and this will have associated problems for that road.

5.18 **TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT CHURCHYARD LANE/ BLACKROCK ROAD**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

'That traffic lights be installed at the Churchyard Lane/ Blackrock Road Junction, as access from Churchyard Lane onto Blackrock Road is both dangerous for vehicles and pedestrians alike. Also that a sign at the top of Churchyard Lane be erected to indicate 'Not Suitable for Heavy Vehicles'.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 09/423)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the junction of Blackrock Road and Churchyard lane will be examined and assessed for the feasibility of providing traffic signals there. Issues to be considered include the narrowness of Churchyard Lane and the relative narrowness of Blackrock Road at the location. If signals are installed, it is likely that severe restrictions on parking on advance of the junction will have to be imposed.

If it is deemed appropriate for traffic signals to be provided at the junction, the work involved will be put forward for consideration to be included in the roads programme. The installation of a 'Not Suitable for Heavy Vehicles' sign at the on Churchyard Lane at its junction with Boreenmanna Road will be discussed with the Gardaí and if agreement is reached the sign will be erected in the near future.

5.19 **SLIPWAY TO ACCOMMODATE RESCUE RIBS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That a slipway where low tide water level of 5 ft min, suitable to accommodate rescue ribs be constructed between Docklands and Mahon. At present boats need to be launched in Monkstown off a private slipway. As most people are aware search parties use this waterway all too often.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D Cahill 09/424)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that a new public slipway will be constructed in the vicinity of the Lee Rowing Club as part of the Eastern Gateway Bridge Project. The provision of the slipway is expected to be a condition of planning for the Docklands transportation infrastructure as it forms part of the Schedule of Commitments issued to the An Bord Pleanála planning inspector. The slipway will be capable of accommodating boats of the type referred to above and is scheduled to be constructed by the end of 2011 subject to funding being made available.

5.20 **LEASED BICYCLE SCHEME**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council would prepare a report on the feasibility of introducing a leased bicycle scheme as recently introduced in Dublin and other European cities.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 09/428)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the bicycle scheme in Dublin and in some other European cities such as Paris, are sponsored by the advertising company JC Decaux. A comprehensive deal is normally done with the relevant authority concerned, where the advertising company is given exclusive rights to erect advertising boards on major routes in the City. The revenue from the advertising allows the company to provide the cycling scheme for the city concerned.

JC Decaux did approach Cork City Council at the same time when they approached Dublin City Council but they seemingly now have taken the view that they will wait until the scheme is fully embedded in Dublin before they consider proposing a scheme for Cork. We will monitor the situation in Dublin and will make contact with JC Decaux later on in the year with a view of developing a scheme for Cork.

In other cities in Europe, e.g. Copenhagen, Vienna, etc., schemes are operated by the city council’s themselves, however there are huge start up and maintenance costs involved and this option is well beyond the means of Cork City Council. A further report on the issue will be made to Council when a response is obtained from JC Decaux.

5.21 **POTHoles ON Closes ROAD, FARRANREE**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010, on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council repair the numerous potholes on Closes Road Farranree in the short term, include this area in the next resurfacing programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 09/429)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Closes Road will be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Resurfacing Programme. Pothole repairs were carried out on the road before Christmas.

5.22 **JUNCTION BOX AT DEANROCK ESTATE/ TOGHER ROAD**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the following motion which was held in committee.

‘That a junction box would be erected at the opening of Deanrock Estate/ Togher Road to eliminate Traffic congestion.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 09/383)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that a request has been made to the Gardaí for their comments and observations on the proposal to provide a yellow box at the junction of Deanrock Road and Togher Road.

If it is deemed appropriate, a yellow box junction will be installed at the location.

5.23 **FREE PARKING IN PUBLIC CARPARKS**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the following motion which was referred to Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘As an incentive to boost trading in Cork City and to help traders in these difficult economic times, that this Council would offer 2 hours free parking in the Council’s two public carparks on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on a trial period in early spring 2010, a period of time to be agreed upon.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 09/374)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that there are eight multi-storey car parks available to the public in the City Centre. The City Council owns and operates two; Paul Street and North Main Street Car Parks. Providing free car parking for the first two hours on Saturdays (busiest days) would have financial implications and would result in a loss of income to the City Council. It is proposed therefore that the two hour free parking facility in the multi-storey car parks will not be provided.

It was agreed that the motion be referred back to the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee for further reporting.

5.24 **REMOVE RESTRICTIONS IN PARKING IN THE WHITE STREET CAR PARK**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the A/Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the following motion which was sent back by Council to the Committee.

‘That Cork City Council will remove the restriction placed upon residents prohibiting them from parking in the White Street Car Park and re-instate the parking entitlements in zone N that was always in place for them since the creation of the White Street Car Park.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Kingston 09/339)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that parking in White Street Car Park is being enforced by the towing and clamping contractor. Local residents with resident parking permits are not now allowed to park in the car park for free. If this is causing undue hardship to local residents, consideration will be given to allow them to park in an adjacent resident parking zone, in addition to the one they are currently allowed to park in.

6. **HOUSING & COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 11th JANUARY 2010**

6.1 **MONTHLY REPORT**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, on Housing for the month of December, 2009.

6.2 **ANNUAL REPORT**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, on Housing for the year ended 31st December, 2009.

6.3 **APARTMENTS AT JUNCTION OF UPPER CATTLEMARKET AND BOYCES STREET**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council immediately undertake a survey of the apartments at the junction of Upper Cattlemarket and Boyces Street with a view to a major regeneration and upgrading in view of the very poor conditions of these City Council properties.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Clancy, Cllr. P. Gosch 09/380)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Housing Directorate will undertake a survey of the area with a view to bringing forward proposals in the context of the proposed Boyces Street Regeneration.

6.4 **WORKS DEPOT ON VICAR'S ROAD**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That the administration office at the Housing Department’s Works Depot on Vicar’s Road be re-opened.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 09/384)

The report of the Director of Services stated that it is not possible within current staffing constraints to replace the Clerical Officer at the Vicars Road Housing Maintenance Depot who retired earlier this year.

Arrangements are in place such that the requisite clerical/administrative work is being carried out by other staff and for tenants to contact Housing Maintenance by telephone.

6.5 **GATE BETWEEN MEALS ON WHEELS AND NO. 1 PATRICK HANLEY BUILDINGS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2010 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council erect a gate between Meals on Wheels and No. 1 Patrick Hanley Buildings to alleviate indiscriminate parking.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 09/388)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the area between Meals on Wheels and No 1 Patrick Hanley buildings provides access to the Meals and Wheels building which is owned by the Middle Parish Community Association. The area is not part of the city council property, No. 1, Patrick Hanley Buildings.

There would need to be further discussions with the building occupants and also regarding ownership of the area in question before any decision could be taken.

6.6 **DISPOSALS**

Members considered the reports of the City Manager dated 7th January, 2010 in relation to the following property disposals:

Property Disposals

1. On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kelleher seconded by Comhairleoir J. Corr disposal of property situated and known as No. 7, Meadow Gardens, Knocknacullen, Cork to Sean Rainey c/o Stokes & Co. Solicitors, 20 Grand Parade,

Cork by way of exchange for property at No. 25, Meadow Gardens, Knocknacullen, Cork, was unanimously approved.

2. An Chomhairle agreed to defer the disposal of property at No. 9, Parklawn, Parklands, Cork to Karen Corcoran c/o Daly Derham Donnelly, Solicitors, No. 1 Washington Street, Cork by way of exchange for property at No. 96 Kilmore Road Lower, Knocknaheeny, Cork, to the next meeting of An Chomhairle. The City Manager undertook to clarify any issues raised by Members with him within the following two days.

Fee Simple

3. On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Corr seconded by Comhairleoir M. Shields disposal of freehold interest in the premises situate at and known as “Windsor”, 7, Mount Pleasant Road, Turners Cross, Cork to Denis Murphy for the sum of €50.79 together with costs in the sum of €460.00 was unanimously approved.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

An Chomhairle noted correspondence from the following:-

- Letter from Officer of the Minister of Environment, Heritage and Local Government dated 16th December 2009 regarding Cork Flood Crisis.
- Letter from Ballinasloe Town Council dated 4th January 2010, regarding notice of motion.
- Letter from Limerick County Council dated 13th January 2010, regarding resolution on giving NRA the management of regional and local roads investment.
- Letter from Limerick County Council dated 19th January 2010, regarding embargo on employment of outdoor staff.
- Letter from Limerick County Council dated 19th January 2010, regarding flood plains and the taking in charge of our rivers nationally.

8. CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR SUMMARIES

An Chomhairle noted the following summaries by Members of Conferences/Seminars attended:-

- Cllr. P. Gosch – *Promoting Partnership in Tourism* – 26th - 28th November 2009, Ennistymon, Co Clare.
- Cllr.P. Gosch – *Local Government Budget for 2010* – 11th – 13th December 2009, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES (ITEMS 9 & 10)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. O’Leary, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, a vote was called for on whether to approve the attendance of Councillors listed at item 9 & 10 at the various seminars and conferences listed below, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Kelleher, D. Murphy, T. Brosnan, C. Clancy, P. Gosch, K. O’Flynn, D. McCarthy, M. O’Connell, T. Fitzgerald, L. McGonigle, D. O’Flynn, T. Shannon, J. Corr, L. Kingston, E. O’Halloran, J. Buttimer, M. Shields, G. Gibbons.-(18)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, T. Gould, J. O’Brien, D. Cahill, C. O’Leary, K. McCarthy, M. Finn, F. Kerins, H. Cremin.-(9)

An tArd-Mhéara declared the vote carried and the attendance of the Councillors at the various seminars and conferences approved, as listed hereunder

9.1 **TRAINING SEMINAR – “WASTE MANAGEMENT AND THE LAW”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí D. O’Flynn and K. O’Flynn at the “Waste Management and the Law” Training Seminar, held in the Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Galway City, on the 22nd – 24th January 2010.

9.2 **TRAINING SEMINAR – “FLOOD MANAGEMENT & LOCAL GOVERNMENT”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí M. O’Connell and L. Kingston at the Training Seminar – “Flood Management & Local Government, to be held in the Fall Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare, on the 5th – 6th February 2010.

9.3 **TRAINING SEMINAR – “MEDIA TRAINING & COMMUNICATIONS FOR COUNCILLORS”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir C. Clancy at the Training Seminar – “Media Training & Communications for Councillors”, to be held in the Clonea Strand Hotel, Clonea, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, on the 5th – 7th February 2010.

9.4 **AMAI SPRING SEMINAR 2010**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, M. Shields, M. O’Connell, L. Kingston and C. Clancy at the AMAI Spring Seminar 2010, to be held in Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo, on the 12th – 13th February 2010.

9.5 **21st COLMCILLE WINTER SCHOOL 2010 – “THE ROLE OF SMALL ENTERPRISES IN OVERCOMING THE RECESSION”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan at the 21st Colmcille Winter School 2010 – “The Role of Small Enterprises in Overcoming the Recession”, to be held in Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartan, Church Hill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on the 26th – 28th February 2010.

9.6 **TRAINING SEMINAR – “THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSING SERVICE”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Kelleher at the Training Seminar “The Local Government Housing Service”, to be held in the Killarney Plaza Hotel, Kenmare Place, Kenmare, Co. Kerry on the 18th – 20th March 2010.

10. **CONFERENCES**

10.1 **ANTRIM TOURISM CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí E. O'Halloran and C. Clancy at the Antrim Tourism Conference, to be held in the Dunadry Hotel, Muckamore, Dunadry, Co. Antrim on the 29th – 30th January 2010.

10.2 **ECAD ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Corr at the ECAD Advisory Board Meeting to be held in Vise, Belgium on the 5th February 2010.

11. **MOTIONS**

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

11.1 **CLIFF FACE OUTSIDE IMALL COURT, THE GLEN**

‘That the green fencing be continued to secure the cliff face outside Imall Court, The Glen.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/225)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

11.2 **TRAFFIC CALMING RAMPS ON REDEMPTION ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council put traffic calming ramps on Redemption Road, near Laffins Court as requested by residents.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/226)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

11.3 **NO CONFIDENCE IN AN BORD PLEANÁLA**

‘Given the recent inexplicable decision by the Planning Appeals Board (An Bord Pleanála), to refuse permission for development of a hospital on the Western Road that would have provided much needed jobs for Cork, we are calling for a vote of no confidence in An Bord Pleanála, and call for the resignation of the board members forthwith.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan, & Cllr. D. McCarthy 10/05)

Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee

11.4 **PROTOCOL IN RELATION TO NAMING OF STREETS & COUNCIL ESTATES**

‘That Cork City Council put protocols in place in relation to the naming of streets and Council Estates, and a dedicated committee of Council be allocated this function.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 10/06)

Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee

11.5 **INCLUDE ST. CLARES AVENUE IN ROADS RESURFACING PROGRAMME 2010**

‘That St. Clares Avenue be included in the Roads Resurfacing Programme for 2010.’

(Proposer: Cllr. G. Gibbons 10/07)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

11.6 **INCLUDE MAGAZINE ROAD IN TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAMME**

‘That Magazine Road be included in the Traffic Calming Programme for 2010.’

(Proposer: Cllr. G. Gibbons 10/08)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

11.7 **DATABASE OF RESIDENTS LIVING IN AREAS PRONE TO FLOODING**

‘That Cork City Council compile a database of mobile phone numbers of residents living in areas that may be prone to flooding in the future. This will allow for group texts to be sent to give residents in high flood risk areas adequate warning of potential flooding.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. O’Halloran 10/10)

Environment Functional Committee

11.8 **REGULATIONS REGARDING ERECTION OF SOLAR PANELS & WIND TURBINES**

‘That Cork City Council prepare a report for Council and the general public to outline the current planning/ environmental regulations regarding the erection of solar panels and domestic wind turbines on or in the curtilage of ordinary private residences.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 10/11)

Planning & Development Functional Committee

11.9 **E-LIBRARY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

‘That City Council set up an e-Library of Local Government to include legislation/ regulations and department circulars which could function as a training resource for Councillors and also help Councillors keep up to date with matters of relevance to Local Government. Perhaps a joint venture with the Department of Government at U.C.C. would be considered and/or a facility to access resources of the Department of Government at U.C.C. could be an additional training option for Councillors.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 10/12)

Corporate Policy Group

11.10 **EXTRA FUNDS FOR REPAIR OF ROADS**

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Departments of Finance and Transport to immediately make additional monies available to fund the exceptional and extraordinary damage done to the national and local roads network in the wake of recent flooding and freezing conditions.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 10/13)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

11.11 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON SARSFIELD ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council would investigate the ongoing health and safety needs at the pedestrian crossings on the Sarsfield Road between the Wilton Roundabout and the Sarsfield Road Roundabouts so as to determine if overhanging suspended lights are required given that some motorists fail to obey these signals, and that the junction box outside Wilton Court on the Sarsfield Road be reinstated.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 10/14)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

11.12 **LINK WITH VENEZUELA**

‘As Venezuela prepares to mark the 200th anniversary of independence in 2010, and mindful of the integral role played in this by Cork’s Daniel Florence O’Leary (who was born in Barrack Street), that Cork City Council supports ongoing moves to honour the famed General and also extend an invitation to a cultural group in Venezuela – such as the Bolivarian Youth Orchestra – to travel to Cork to mark the occasion and cement the historic links between the city and the South American Country.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 10/15)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

11.13 **DOUGLAS SWIMMING POOL**

‘That the City Council replace the relevant rotting timber frames of doors in Douglas Swimming Pool.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 10/16)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

11.14 **P.R. LITERATURE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN N.C.O. ON CITY COUNCIL’S EDUCATIONAL BODIES**

‘That P.R. literature on the City Council’s educational bodies such as the Lifetime Lab and Blackrock Castle and any other relevant funded bodies be placed on a table in the foyer of the new extension of City Hall for customers to peruse.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 10/17)

Corporate Policy Group

11.15 **HOUSES IN KNOCKNAHEENY INCLUDED IN 2010 MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME**

‘That Cork City Council would include houses in the E.F.G.H. area of Knocknaheeny in the planned maintenance programme for 2010.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O’Connell 10/18)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

11.16 **VACANT HOUSES IN THE NORTH WEST WARD**

‘That the Housing Department would bring a report to the next Housing Meeting outlining the amount of vacant houses in the North West Ward and how long each house has been empty for.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O’Connell 10/19)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

11.17 **PUBLIC WALKWAYS**

That public walkways are recognised as pedestrian priority. That signage on or next to pathways be installed to indicate such priority. Cyclists should be made are of such priority in a clear fashion.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 10/23)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

11.18 **DISABLED PARKING SPACES**

‘When issuing disabled parking discs to suitable applicants, could they also be provided with a map stating the areas where disabled parking spaces are situated in the City Centre – both private and public.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 10/24)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

11.19 **TREES & BUSHES IN SARFIELD TERRACE**

‘That Cork City Council would organise to have the overgrown trees and bushes in Sarsfield Terrace cut back and that a plan to maintain the green area would be put into place.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 10/25)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

11.20 **BAN OF “HEAD SHOPS”**

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Government to ban “Head Shops” in Ireland.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. O’Halloran 10/26)

Joint Policing Committee

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Corr, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kelleher, it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders and continue the meeting to 8.30 p.m.

12. **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered the following motions due notice of which has been given:-

12.1 **T.S.B. CLOSURES ON CATHEDRAL ROAD & TOGHER**

An Chomhairle approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would call on the TSB to reconsider its position regarding the proposed branch closures in Cathedral Road and Togher. The Cork City Development Plan outlines the importance of building sustainable communities and these closures will only further undermine both communities. Cork City Council therefore would call on the TSB to reconsider its position regarding the proposed branch closures.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 10/20)

12.2 **CONFERENCES & SEMINARS**

‘That Cork City Council requests the City Manager to set out the procedures involved in Members of Council attending conferences and seminars and the levels of payments for travel & subsidence applying to such attendance.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 10/22)

In response to the motion, the Meetings Administrator read the relevant provisions of Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2001 outlining the provisions for claiming of expenses for attendance at conferences, seminars and other events.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH**