

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> 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 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, M. Ahern, B. Bermingham, H. Cremin, G. Gibbons.
- ALSO PRESENT** Mr. J. Gavin, City Manager.  
Mr. A. Duggan, City Architect.  
Mr. D. O'Mahony, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs.  
Mr. F. Long, Senior Engineer, Housing & Community.  
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 Skillington Family on the death of Noel Skillington.
- The O'Leary Family on the death of Kevin O'Leary.
- The Kiely Family on the death of Derek Kiely.
- The Tyrrell Family on the death of Ann Tyrrell.
- The O'Sullivan Family on the death of Michael O'Sullivan.
- The Crowley Family on the death of Flor Crowley.
- The Looney Family on the death of Maura Looney.
- The O'Herlihy Family on the death of Dick O'Herlihy.
- The O'Sullivan Family on the death of Mrs. O'Sullivan.
- The Coughlan Family on the death of Bina Coughlan.
- The McCarthy Family on the death of Ella McCarthy.

**1.2 LORD MAYORS ITEMS**

- 1.2.1 An tArdmhéara invited the City Manager to provide an update to An Chomhairle in relation to the recent flooding crisis and severe weather.

### **Flooding Crisis:**

The City Manager informed An Chomhairle, as requested at previous meeting, that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government had recouped a total of €3.1 million to the Council prior to Christmas in respect of the additional costs incurred as a result of the Flooding Crisis in November.

### **Severe Weather:**

The City Manager informed An Chomhairle of the ongoing works by the Council staff throughout the ongoing period of severe weather. The Manager advised members that water supply difficulties would continue to be experienced for a period as a result of the severe weather and stressed the need for the public to conserve water.

- 1.2.2 An tArdmhéara informed An Chomhairle that the Lord Mayor's Flood Appeal had raised €150,000 and paid tribute to the staff of the Housing Directorate, H.S.E, the Red Cross and Society of St. Vincent de Paul for their efforts in distributing relief to needy families. An tArdmhéara thanked all those who contributed and paid tribute to Bishop John Buckley for organising Church Collections for the fund.

### **1.3 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

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

- Dr. Martin McAleese on his ongoing work on the Northern Ireland Peace Process.
- Bord Gais on making fuel vouchers to the value of €10,000 available to needy cases in Cork City and for providing €1m. nationally to deal with hardship cases as a result of the recent severe weather.
- Heritage Unit, Cork City Council, on the publication of 'Nature in the City'.
- Kylie O'Sullivan and the Irish Gazza Support Group on the international relief convoy sent to Gazza over the Christmas period.
- The Opera House and organisers of the Pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk", on another well run pantomime.

### **1.4 VOTES OF BEST WISHES**

An Chomhairle extended a vote of Best Wishes to the following:-

- Mr. Brian Lenihan, Minister for Finance on a speedy recovery.
- Mr. Peadar Heffron, PSNI Officer, who was injured in a car bomb attack recently.

## **2. MINUTES**

The minutes of Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and Budget Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009, were considered and approved.

## **3. QUESTIONS**

### **3.1 FLAT COMPLEX NUMBERS**

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

Could the Manager please explain why the flat complex numbers:

175 – 191 Pearse Road  
156 – 178 Pearse Road  
137 – 153 Pearse Road  
112 – 134 Pearse Road  
205 – 219 Pearse Road

Have not been included in the Housing Programme specifically in relation to

- (1) Facia and Soffit
- (2) Central Heating
- (3) Window & Door Replacement
- (4) Damp & Wet Bedrooms

These complexes are over 50 years old and should long have been included in various Work Programmes. In some cases the chutes are broken and have fallen down.

Locations for Planned Maintenance repairs such as these are prioritized on the basis of need as indicated by condition surveys and inspections and carried out within the constraints of the resources available.

There are 11 purchased properties within these flat complexes. Of the remaining 38 Cork City Council owned properties:

- 1) Fascias and soffits and guttering are already scheduled for inspection for possible inclusion in the 2010 Planned Maintenance programme.
- 2) 20 properties had central heating installed by Cork City Council in recent years.  
6 properties already had central heating.  
Tenants of 2 properties declined to have central heating installed.  
Tenants of the remaining 10 properties did not respond to canvas by letter or phone or could not be contacted by personal call to each property.
- 3) All of the City Council owned properties within these complexes have had PVC double glazed windows installed in recent years. A number of doors have also been replaced as required.
- 4) City Council records indicate repair requests regarding damp and wet bedrooms in 4 of these properties. These will be investigated to establish the cause which may be condensation.

### 3.2 **REMUNERATION FOR LORD MAYOR**

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

Can the Manager please confirm on a year by year basis the remuneration for Lord Mayor as provided in Estimates from 1991 to 2009 inclusive.

Records are available back to 1992, as follows:

<b>Lord Mayor's Allowance</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>€</b>
1992	34,900
1993	37,500
1994	37,500
1995	42,300
1996	44,900
1997	47,200
1998	47,200
1999	50,200
2000	58,700
2001	69,600
2002	69,600
2003	74,500
2004	82,100
2005	87,200
2006	90,800
2007	95,400
2008	100,200
2009	100,200

### 3.3 **ROAD TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

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

How much would it cost Cork City Council to complete all the road traffic calming measures that have been passed and that are awaiting completion?

Can funding be sought from central government to clear the back log and if not at the current rate of completion how long will it take to clear the back log?

The cost of carrying out the traffic schemes selected by the Elected Members in 2008 & 2009 is in the order of €500,000. Because of the deferral of the 2008 schemes which had been ready for construction in 2009 but deferred due to funding cutbacks, the design of the 2009 schemes and subsequent public consultation etc did not take place. Consequently the exact cost of the 2009 schemes has not been determined.

In the absence of Government grants, which we had received up to and including 2008, the remaining traffic calming schemes, already selected, would take 3-4 years to complete using the annual allocation of €130,000 of Council funding.

### 3.4 **LINDVILLE, BLACKROCK ROAD**

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

To ask the Manager:

1. To immediately set in train the process for taking in charge Lindville, Blackrock Road.
2. To arrange to have the fence erected by the developer a number of years ago around the green open space removed, and the area in question restored in order that local children and residents can enjoy its amenity value.

I wish to advise that the Council is not in a position to “immediately set in train the process for taking in charge Lindville, Blackrock Road”. The consideration by the elected Council of the proposed taking in charge of Lindville must await the outcome of the adjourned hearing of the proceedings before the High Court on the 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2010. Thereafter, on receipt of the Order of the Court, the Elected Council will be in a position to consider the proposed taking in charge. Subject to this being done and to an order being made by the Council under section 11 (1) of the Roads Act, 1993 in compliance with section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 1980 as amended, the roads, open spaces, car parks, sewers, watermains or service connections within the attendant grounds of the development shall be taken in charge. This will enable the Council to make arrangements for the removal of the fence erected by the developer on the open space situated at the north eastern corner of the development.

### 3.5 **CAUSES OF THE FLOODING IN THE CITY IN LATE NOVEMBER**

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

In relation to the flooding in Cork in November:

Does the Manager have any new information regarding the causes of the flooding in the city in late November and has the ESB – in his opinion – sufficiently answered the questions as to why almost double the initially anticipated levels of water were released:

What is the situation regarding the request for funding from central government to upgrade the Lee Road Waterworks:

Has there been any further progress on the publication of the CFRAMS Study by the OPW.

Have all Council tenants who were forced to evacuate moved back into their homes, and are there any concerns about the structural integrity and general living conditions of these properties in the medium to long term?

The Council is not in receipt of any additional or new information in relation to the recent flooding incident in Cork City.

The Council is in discussion with the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government in relation to its recommendation for both an upgrade of the Lee Road Water Treatment Plant and the establishment of a link between the Lee Road and Inniscarra water schemes.

It should be noted that the Department also recently recouped circa €3.1m expenditure incurred by the Council in dealing with the Civic Emergency.

Work is continuing in relation to the CFRAMS and it is understood that it may be ready for publication and consultation in late January or early February.

All except one of the tenants who were temporarily re-accommodated by Cork City Council have now returned to their homes. Cork City Council has no concerns about the structural integrity and general living conditions of these properties in the medium to long term.

Discussions are ongoing with the Community Welfare Officer with a view to the remaining tenant returning home shortly.

### 3.6 **EXCESSIVE NOISE FROM PRIVATE HOUSES**

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 powers are available to the local authority to intervene and take action in cases of excessive noise from private houses, the number of times that these powers were invoked in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and the outcomes of these actions?

The matter of excessive noise from houses can be dealt with Section 108 of the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 and the related Environmental Protection Agency Act (Noise) Regulations 1994. While the legislation does not set precise levels or standards for noise, it does allow any person experiencing excessive noise or a local authority to lodge a complaint with the local District Court. The Court can assess both sides of the case and, if finding in favour of the claimant, it can issue an Order requiring a person or body to reduce, limit or cease in relation to the noise. The maximum fine for conviction on breach of noise regulations is €3,000 or 12 months in prison or both.

The Councils Environment Enforcement Section has not initiated cases under the section but has advised complainants of the provisions of the legislation and the process involved including the provision of evidence relating to the times, durations and frequency of the excessive noise experienced

It is to be noted that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has published a detailed and comprehensive consultation paper on the issue of noise in accordance with the Programme for Government commitment. The consultation documentation outlines various existing legislative provisions in connection with different forms of noise and sets out a variety of issues that might be addressed in the proposed legislation. These include

- The setting of appropriate standards
- Introduction of on the spot fines
- New powers for An Garda Síochána to enable them to respond to complaints of noise pollution and new powers for local authorities to address potential noise sources

- The drafting of codes of practice for industry, construction, commerce and domestic situations for the reduction of noise
- A higher profile for noise issues through an annual reporting mechanism
- The creation of a website to provide information to affected persons on appropriate means for addressing complaints.

It is anticipated that draft legislation will be prepared and published in due course.

### 3.7 **ICY CONDITIONS IN THE CITY**

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 he would make a statement to the Council on the recent icy conditions in the City and the City Council's response in respect of salting/gritting.

In his answer could the Manager refer to the following points:

- Did the embargo on overtime affect the Council ability to salt/grit effectively.
  - How much salt/grit was used.
  - Did Cork City Council run out of supplies of Salt/Grit at any stage during the cold weather spell.
  - What was the overall cost to the Council.
1. The operation has not been affected by any overtime embargo.
  2. This operation is ongoing on a daily basis and the information can be compiled and made available at the end of the cold spell.
  3. No but stocks have had to be managed to ensure that they are not exhausted.
  4. As Item 2.

### 3.8 **SALTING/ GRITTING OF ROADS IN THE CITY**

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

To ask the City Manager to report on the salting/gritting of roads in the city over the Christmas period. What is the Council's position in dealing with serious icy road conditions? What roads were prioritised? How many emergency Council teams were in operation? Where do the Council source their salt/grit?

We have defined salting routes covering main traffic routes, bus routes, areas adjacent to schools and other busy roads susceptible to ice. We have been extensively salting these routes during the cold spell of weather. Salt stocks have had to be managed to ensure that they are not exhausted so we have at times mixed stone grit with the salt on these routes.

We have an indefinite supply of grit which is obtained from local quarries and we also mix this with salt and spread manually, mainly used on footpaths but also on some secondary roads.

The salting routes employ two crews and the manual gritting/salting operation involves an average of six other crews during the current freeze.

We obtain the salt from a local hardware supplier who receives it by sea mainly from Spain.

### 3.9 **COST OF GRITTING DURING THE RECENT COLD SNAP**

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

Can the City Manager please state:

1. How much was spent on gritting by the Council during the recent cold snap?
  2. How many man hours were spent carrying out gritting of roads and footpaths?
  3. Was there a shortage of grit available to the Council?
  4. Is there any funding left for further grit in the event of future cold snaps?
- 
1. This operation is ongoing on a daily basis and the information can be compiled and made available at the end of the cold spell.
  2. As Item 1.
  3. No but salt stocks have had to be managed to ensure that they are not exhausted.
  4. It is intended to deal with future cold weather in a similar manner to the current one.

### 4. **ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

#### 4.1 **COST EQUALISATION SYSTEM**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services, Environment dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2009 on the following motion which was referred to Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council Environment Department would include as part of it’s Waste Management Plan a Cost Equalisation System with regard to the Refuse Waiver to include Private Waste Collectors making a financial contribution in order to sustain the refuse Waiver for Cork Families provided by Cork City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Clancy 09/370)

The report of the Director of Services stated that such powers were not available to the Council under current legislation. However it was noted that the recently published International Review of Waste Policy included a recommendation that the Waste Management Act be amended to make the collection of household waste the responsibility of the local authority and that thereafter all households be required to use the service provided by the local authority or other collector acting on its behalf (subject to waivers).



It was agreed that An Chomhairle should write to the Minister for the Environment Heritage and Local Government, regarding the development of a Cost Equalisation System and that a meeting with the Minister would be sought.

5. **ENVIRONMENT FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

5.1 **WATER, SANITARY AND OTHER SCHEMES**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 on Water, Sanitary and other Schemes for the Year to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

5.2 **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment dated 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009 on Environmental Matters for the year to the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

In response to queries raised, the City Manager agreed to have a report provided to Members in relation to arrangements for Bottlehill Landfill Site and the development by the City Council of Civic Amenity Facilities.

5.3 **BLACKROCK HARBOUR BE DREDGED**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009 on the following motion which was referred to committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That the Blackrock Harbour be dredged in conjunction with the removal of the Japanese knotweed.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 09/367)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a plan was previously prepared by the Roads and Transportations Directorate for the renewal of the public realm in the Blackrock Harbour area. Included was a proposal to dredge the Harbour. Funding of the project has to date not been sourced.

If the project were to proceed, a first priority would be safe and effective removal of the Japanese knotweed. This is an expensive and time demanding process and is best carried out during its growing season ie Springtime.

At present no work is scheduled to be carried out on the knotweed at Blackrock Harbour, but will be reviewed during the growth period in the new year. Dredging, however, will have to await implementation of an overall redevelopment project.

5.4 **DOG FOULING SIGNS THROUGHOUT GURRANABRAHER**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Environment dated 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 on the following motion which was referred to committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That signs be erected throughout the Gurranabraher area to alert people to remove dog fouling if their animal is responsible for same and that fines would be incurred for non-compliance.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/185)

The report of the Director of Services stated that a number of no dog fouling signs, incorporating the on the spot fine of €150, will be provided in the Gurranabraher area.

6. **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

Upon the opening of Item 6, Comhairleoir D. McCarthy raised the issue of a recent decision of An Bord Pleanála to refuse planning permission for a hospital on the Western Road, and proposed that An Chomhairle would call for the abolition of An Bord Pleanála. The proposal was seconded by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan.

A vote was called for on the Suspension of Standing Orders in order to take the proposal at the end of the meeting where there appeared as follows:-

**FOR:** Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan, M. Barry, K. O’Flynn, T. Gould, D. McCarthy, C. O’Leary, K. McCarthy, S. Martin, M. Finn. (9)

**AGAINST:** Comhairleoirí J. Kelleher, D. Murphy, T. Tynan, C. Clancy, P. Gosch, J. O’Brien, M. O’Connell, T. Fitzgerald, L. McGonigle, D. O’Flynn, T. Shannon, J. Corr, L. Kingston, E. O’Halloran, F. Kerins, J. Buttimer, H. Cremin, G. Gibbons. (18)

An tArdmhéara declared the vote to Suspend Standing Orders lost.

6.1 **HOUSING ESTATES**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009, on Housing Estates to November, 2009.

6.2 **PLANNING STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009, on the number of planning applications determined & deferred from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

6.3 **ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009, on Planning Enforcement Statistics for period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

6.4 **COMMUNICATION MASTS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Development dated 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 on the regulations governing the erection of Communication Masts and Antennae.

6.5 **LIGHTS AT SOUTH RIDGE, TIVOLI**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009, on the following motion which was referred to committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘That officers of Cork City Council approve the repair of 4 non functioning light standards at South Ridge, Tivoli. ESB has advised residents that it isn’t responsible for repair as the Estate hasn’t yet been taken in charge due to delays by the City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 09/371)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Planning Directorate has recommended to Roads that South Ridge, Tivoli be taken in charge.

The Roads Control section have confirmed that this will be advertised for taking in charge shortly.

7. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

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

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

8.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2009**

An Chomhairle approved the Financial Statement to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

8.2 **COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE FOR FORMER LORD MAYORS**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the City Manager the following motion which was referred to Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council establish a commemorative committee to mark next year’s 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the deaths of Lord Mayors Tomás MacCurtain and Terence McSwiney.

That the committee organise a calendar of events both civic and public to commemorate the life and death of both men during the course of 2010.

That the committee make contact with the MacCurtain and McSwiney families to ensure they are included in the process.

That the events be organised with the participation of the widest possible sector of civic society including schools, community groups, arts projects, the general public, historical societies and other interested parties.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 09/403)

An Chomhairle considered the recommendation of the Corporate Services Group and agreed that the matter be referred to the Party Whips to organise appropriate commemorative events.

### 8.3 **COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION**

An Chomhairle approved the recommendation of the Corporate Services Group on the following motion which was referred to Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council would reconvene the committee on alcohol consumption in public places so as to review the effectiveness of current by-laws, restrictions and prohibitions.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 09/408)

The Corporate Services Group had recommended that the issue be left in the Joint Policing Committee.

### 8.4 **INCREASE THE ‘ON THE SPOT DRINKING ON THE STREET FINE’**

An Chomhairle considered the recommendation of the Corporate Services Group on the following motion which was referred to Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘That Cork City Council increase the ‘on the spot drinking on the street fine’ from €63.00 to €100.00.’

(Proposer: Cllr. G. Gibbons 09/417)

The Corporate Policy Group had recommended that the fine be increased to €75.00 which is the maximum allowable under Statutory Instrument 362/2006 of the Local Government Act 2001 (Bye-Laws) Regulations 2006.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir G. Gibbons, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle unanimously approved the increase in the “on the spot drinking on the street fine” to €75.00.

## 9. **AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010, on the following Disposals and

- a) On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Corr, disposal of property No. 9 Kilbrack Grove, Skehard Road, Cork to Affordable Housing applicant under the Affordable Housing Scheme was unanimously approved.
- b) On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kelleher, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Buttimer, disposal of property No. 2 Ard na Rí, Banduff, Cork to Affordable Housing applicant under the Affordable Housing Scheme was unanimously approved.
- c) On the proposal of Comhairleoir L. McGonigle, seconded by Comhairleoir M. O’Connell, disposal of property No. 54 Coppingers Acre, Cork to Affordable

Housing applicant under the Affordable Housing scheme was unanimously approved.

- d) On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir E. O'Halloran, disposal of property No. 77 Beech Tree Avenue, Ard Sionnach, Shanakiel, Cork to Affordable Housing applicants under the Affordable Housing Scheme was unanimously approved.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence from the following:-

- Letter from Fine Gael regarding Cork Docklands Project, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- Email from Drogheda Borough Council regarding notice of motion, dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- Letter from Mary O'Mahony, dated 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009.
- Letter from O.P.W. regarding Lee Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Scheme, dated 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009.
- Letter from Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General regarding Ministerial Pensions, dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- Letter from Office of Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding Representational Payment for Councillors, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009.

11. **CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

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

- Cllr. B. Bermingham – *Alternative Energy Improving Carbon Footprint* – 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> 2009, Galway.
- Cllr B. Bermingham – *Equality & Diversity in Modern Ireland* – 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> 2009, Galway.
- Cllr. E. O'Halloran – *Local Gov Budget 2010- 11<sup>th</sup>-13 Dec 2009-* Bunclody, Wexford.
- Cllr. M. O'Connell – *Representatives Entitlements- 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2009-* Bushypark, Galway.
- Cllr. M. O'Connell – *Local Gov. Planning and the Environment* – 20/22 Nov 2009, Galway.
- Cllr. M. O'Connell – *Alternative Energy Improving Carbon Footprint* – 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> 2009, Galway.
- Cllr. M. O'Connell – *Equality & Diversity in Modern Ireland* – 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> 2009, Galway.
- Cllr. D. McCarthy *Alternative Energy Improving Carbon Footprint* – 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> 2009, Galway.
- Cllr. C. Clancy - *LAMA Annual Winter Seminar* – 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009, Limerick.
- Cllr. C. Clancy - *Local Gov Budget 2010- 11<sup>th</sup>-13 Dec 2009-* Bunclody, Wexford.
- Cllr. C. Clancy – *Representatives Entitlements- 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2009-* Bushypark, Galway.
- Cllr. L. McGonigle – *LAMA Annual Winter Seminar* – 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009, Limerick.
- Cllr. L. McGonigle – *Local Gov Budget 2010- 11<sup>th</sup>-13 Dec 2009-* Bunclody, Wexford.
- Cllr. T. Brosnan – *Promoting Partnership in Tourism* -26/28 Nov 2009- Ennistymon.
- Cllr. T. Brosnan – *Local Gov Budget 2010- 11<sup>th</sup>-13 Dec 2009-* Bunclody, Wexford.
- Cllr. L. Kingston - *Local Gov Budget 2010-11<sup>th</sup>-13 Dec 2009-* Bunclody, Wexford.

- Cllr. J. Buttimer - *LAMA Annual Winter Seminar* – 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009, Limerick.
- Cllr. J. Buttimer - *LAMA Annual Winter Seminar* – 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009, Limerick.

### **SEMINARS & CONFERENCES (ITEMS 12 & 13)**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. O’Leary, seconded by Comhairleoir J. O’Brien, a vote was called for on whether to approve the attendance of Councillors listed at item 12 & 13 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, T. Fitzgerald, L. McGonigle, D. O’Flynn, T. Shannon, J. Corr, L. Kingston, E. O’Halloran, S. Martin, J. Buttimer, G. Gibbons. (15)

**AGAINST:** Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, T. Gould, J. O’Brien, C. O’Leary, K. McCarthy, M. Finn, F. Kerins, H. Cremin. (8)

An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried and the attendance of the councillors at the various seminars and conferences approved, as listed hereunder.

#### **12.1 “REPRESENTATIVES ENTITLEMENTS – THE LEGAL BASIS”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir C. Clancy at the “Representatives Entitlements – The Legal Basis” Seminar, held in the Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark, Co. Galway, on the 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2009.

#### **12.2 “LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET 2010”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí L. Kingston and C. Clancy at the “Local Government Budget 2010” Seminar, held in the Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford, on the 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2009.

#### **12.3 “ALTERNATIVE ENERGY – IMPROVING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí B. Bermingham, D. McCarthy and M. O’Connell at the “Alternative Energy – Improving Your Carbon Footprint” Seminar, held in the Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City, on the 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

#### **12.4 “EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IN MODERN DAY IRELAND”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí C. Clancy, M. O’Connell and E. O’Halloran at the “Equality and Diversity in Modern Day Ireland” Seminar, held in the Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry on the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

12.5 **TRAINING SEMINAR – “PUBLIC LIABILITY, HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan at the Training Seminar – “Public Liability, Health & Safety issues in Local Government”, to be held in the Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford on the 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

12.6 **TRAINING SEMINAR ON THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN – “A GUIDE TO THE CHILD PROTECTION”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir M. O’Connell at the Training Seminar on the Welfare of Children – “A Guide to the Child Protection”, to be held in the Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on the 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

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

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Brosnan at the Training Seminar – “Flood Management & Local Government”, to be held in the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare on the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2010.

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

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí M. O’Connell and P. Gosch at the Training Seminar – “Waste Management and the Law”, to be held in the Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City on the 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

12.9 **“MEDIA TRAINING & COMMUNICATIONS FOR COUNCILLORS”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, T. Fitzgerald, J. Kelleher and S. Martin at the “Media Training and Communications for Councillors” Seminar, to be held in the Clonea Strand Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, on the 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

12.10 **AMAI SPRING SEMINAR**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí S. Martin, J. Buttimer, T. Fitzgerald and T. Shannon at the AMAI Spring Seminar, to be held in the Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo, on the 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2010.

12.11 **TRAINING SEMINAR – “ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE AND HEALTH & SAFETY”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer at the Training Seminar – “Alcohol & Drug Abuse and Health & Safety”, to be held in the Raheen House Hotel, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary on the 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

12.12 **21<sup>ST</sup> COLMCILLE WINTER SCHOOL**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon and S. Martin at the 21<sup>st</sup> Colmcille Winter School – “The Role of Small Enterprises in Overcoming the Recession”, to be held in the Colmcille Heritage Centre, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, on the 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2010.

13. **CONFERENCES**

13.1 **“ANTRIM TOURISM CONFERENCE”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon and M. O’Connell at the Antrim Tourism Conference to be held in the Dunadry Hotel, Muckamore, Dunadry, Co. Antrim, on the 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010

14. **MOTIONS DEFERRED FROM MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

14.1 **BYE LAWS**

**An Chomhairle agreed to circulate the list of the Bye Laws to the Councillors.**

‘That Cork City Council publish a list of all Bye Laws passed since 1900.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 09/426)

14.2 **INSURANCE NEEDS OF THE DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL SECTOR**

**An Chomhairle approved the following motion:-**

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Government to address the future insurance needs of the domestic and commercial sector, where individuals are unable to get property insurance because of prior claims due to flooding.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 09/427)

15. **MOTIONS**

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

15.1 **CCTV IN BLARNEY STREET**

‘That CCTV would be installed in Blarney Street to help tackle anti-social behaviour.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/220)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**



15.2 **REPAIR FENCING IN PARK OPPOSITE GLENHEIGHTS ROAD**

‘That the fencing in the park opposite Glenheights Road be repainted and where it is broken be replaced.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 09/222)

**Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee**

15.3 **ROAD OPENING LICENCE**

‘That Cork City Council ensure that all utilities that apply for a Road Opening Licence be obliged to contact other users with a view to informing them of the intended work.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 09/430)

**Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee**

15.4 **DERELICT SITE ON BALLINLOUGH ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council would take immediate action to declare the site on the Ballinlough Road, formally know as MelMacs Video Shop declared derelict, and take possession of the site where upon it could be cleaned up and transferred to the local primary school.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Shannon 09/431)

**Planning & Development Functional Committee**

15.5 **DEVELOP/ CLEAN UP THE TRAMORE RIVER WALKWAY**

‘That Cork City Council develop/ clean-up the Tramore River Walkway from the Kinsale Road to Togher as a public walkway. In recent years the walkway has become overgrown and unsightly.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. O’Halloran 09/432)

**Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee**

15.6 **WATER ON LOWER GEARNEYS BOREEN**

‘That the Roads and Recreation & Amenity Departments combine efforts to stop the flow of water flowing onto the road from the green area at Lower Gearneys Boreen opposite the Common’s Inn Hotel.

‘The constant water flow is causing dangerous conditions for pedestrians and traffic in this area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 09/433)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee &  
Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee**

15.7 **TRAFFIC FLOW AT JUNCTION AT FRIAR STREET/ EVERGREEN STREET/ DOUGLAS STREET AND INDUSTRY STREET**

‘That Cork City Council reviews traffic flow and safety precautions at the spaghetti junction at Friar Street/ Evergreen Street/ Douglas Street/ Industry Street and introduces any required features including road markings and/ or electronic roadside signage, mindful of increased one-way traffic travelling west along Evergreen Street and the implications that this is having on the junction.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 09/434)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

15.8 **2010 ROADS PROGRAMME**

‘That the following be included in the 2010 Roads Programmes: -

- Resurfacing of Deerpark Estate
- Resurfacing of Barrack Street
- Resurfacing of Tramore Road
- Resurfacing of stretches of Green Street and Mount Sion Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 09/435)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

15.9 **‘NO BALL PLAYING’ SIGNS IN PEARSE SQUARE**

‘That Cork City Council erect signs stating ‘No Ball Playing’ in Pearse Square to alleviate the anti social behaviour that is causing problems for customers and traders.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Kingston 09/436)

**Roads & Transportation Functional Committee**

15.10 **TEXT WARNING SYSTEM FOR POTENTIAL FLOODING**

‘That Cork City Council would establish an opt-in text warning system for potential flooding and that it would be offered to residents living in identifiable flood risk areas.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 10/01)

**Environment Functional Committee**

15.11 **NEW FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM**

‘That Cork City Council would in conjunction with relevant stakeholders e.g. the ESB, MET Éireann and others, seek to develop a new flood warning system which would give greater predictive accuracy and would develop a new graduated warning system that could be tailored for localized areas.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 10/02)

**Environment Functional Committee**

15.12 **POT-HOLES IN DOUGLAS SWIMMING POOL**

‘That the pot-holes in Douglas Swimming Pool car-park (public and staff) be filled in.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 10/03)

**Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee**

15.13 **RE-DISCOVER CORK INITIATIVE**

‘That the City Council support the up and coming Re-Discover Cork Initiative which is being led by the Cork Tourism Learning Network made up of 47 small tourism Cork organisers. They are looking for a suitable venue, namely the Millennium Hall. This would be a great initiative to showcase Cork to its citizens especially in light of the Lonely Planet Accolade.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 10/04)

**Corporate Policy Group**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**ARDMHÉARA  
CATHAOIRLEACH**