

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 29th JANUARY 2007

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

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

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

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

- Allison Family on the death of Finbarr Allison
- O’Sullivan Family on the death of George O’Sullivan
- The family of Canon Bertie Troy
- O’Connor family on the death of Finbarr
- Yelverton family on the death of Cecilia
- Murphy family on the death of Willie

1.(b) **EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

An Chomhairle extended its expression of thanks to the City Hall Choir for their participation at Finbarr Allison's Funeral Mass.

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

An Chomhairle extended a vote of congratulations to the Glanmire Basketball Team on winning the Women's Senior National Cup and the under 20 and under 18 National Cup.

1.(d) **CIVIC RECEPTION**

An Chomhairle approved the hosting of the following Civic Reception for Glanmire Basketball Team on winning the Women's Senior National Cup and the under 20 and under 18 National Cup.

1.(e) **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

An tArdmhéara Comhairleoir M. Ahern proposed a suspension of Standing Orders to discuss motion 13.18:-

'That Cork City Council would hold a special public meeting to discuss the implications of the withdrawal of the Cork-Swansea Car Ferry and the effects that this will have on the tourism industry in Cork City and the South-West Region. Also to discuss the ongoing situation at Cork Airport, to include the Airport Debt, and the withdrawal of some carriers from the Airport and the reduction of some flights by others. Also in relation to the overall transportation problems in the City. That we should discuss the Urban Rail proposals which do not include a rail link to Blarney, Ballincollig and Carrigaline, and the failure of Bus Eireann to deliver a comprehensive service to commuters in the City and its negative response in refusing to reinstate a full service on the No. 3 bus to Farranree and the Fairhill area.'

(Proposer: Cllr. M. O'Connell 07/030)

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

FOR: Comhairleoirí M. Quill, T. Brosnan, J. Kelleher, D. Murphy, A. Spillane, M. Barry, C. Clancy, P. Gosch, J. O'Brien, D. McCarthy, C. Burke, M. O'Connell, C. O'Leary, D. O'Flynn, J. Corr, C. Lynch, T. O'Driscoll, J. Buttimer, B. Bermingham, M. Ahern. -(20)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí G O'Flynn, D. Wallace, T. Fitzgerald, D. Counihan, T. Shannon, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, M. Shields. - (8)

An tArd-Mhéara declared the vote carried and standing orders suspended.

A vote was called for on the holding of a Special meeting where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí M. Quill, T. Brosnan, J. Kelleher, A. Spillane, M. Barry, C. Clancy, P. Gosch, J. O'Brien, D. McCarthy, C. Burke, M. O'Connell, C. O'Leary, D. O'Flynn, J. Corr, C. Lynch, T. O'Driscoll, J. Buttimer, B. Bermingham, M. Ahern.- (19)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí D. Murphy, G. O'Flynn, D. Wallace, T. Fitzgerald, D. Counihan, T. Shannon, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, M. Shields.- (9)

An tArd-Mhéara declared the vote carried and that a Special Meeting of An Chomhairle would be held.

2. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on 15th January 2007 were considered and approved.

3. **QUESTIONS**

3.1 **FOOTPATH BETWEEN 94 AND 78 NUNS WALK**

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

When will the footpath between 94 and 78 Nuns Walk be refurbished. We did the section across the road and excluded the section outside the houses which is the footpath most used?

The footway between 94 and 78 Nun's Walk is being considered for inclusion in this year's footpath renewal scheme.

3.2 **FUTURE OF FARRANFERRIS COLLEGE**

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

Can the Manager tell me if Cork City Council have made a submission in response to the advertisement placed by Bishop Buckley in relation to the future of Farranferris College and the surrounding grounds, which covers an area of approximately 25 acres and would the Manager not consider as an option the provision of affordable housing and also the provision of housing for the elderly and associate health and day-care facilities for the people of the north side?

Farranferris College and its grounds are a very important to the northside of Cork city. Not only is the Farranferris College building an iconic landmark and Protected Structure, but its extensive grounds provide a tremendous asset to the area in terms of green space and sports pitches bordered by trees and hedges, and form a key portion of the Farranferris Ridge. The site also has development potential which should be realized in order to give the buildings a new sustainable purpose and for the wider benefit of the area as a whole. The site has been identified as a possible site for the Northside Centre for Higher Education, although other uses would also be appropriate within the terms of the *City Plan 2004*.

In order to inform the future development of the college site, the Planning and Development Directorate are preparing a development brief to amplify the development plan policy and to provide development guidance on the site to inform any future transformation.

3.3 **MARDYKE REGENERATION WORKS**

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

Would the Manager advise me as to when the Mardyke regeneration works will be completed? i.e.,

- A) The remaining bridge(s) due to be built?
 - B) Resurfacing of roadways, and footpaths in the area?
-
- A) Work will commence in April on construction of footpaths etc on lands west of Thomas Davis Bridge as part of the extension of the Banks of the Lee Walkway. Negotiations with the owners of the Kingsley Hotel are on going at present with a view to having work on the bridge crossing the South Channel commence in late Spring/early Summer, which will allow for completion of river walkway from the North Mall through to the Lee Fields in late 2007/early 2008
 - B) The Roads and Transportation Directorate is also currently finalising the design of road drainage here as Mardyke Walk does not have a drainage system at present. We propose to include the resurfacing of Mardyke Walk in the 2007 Roadworks Programme. In advance of the resurfacing work, we propose to install the necessary mainline drainage in order to carry the surface water from gullies to river outfalls. We intend to include new and upgraded footpaths and public lighting as part of the scheme.

3.4 **GATED HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

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

Will the Manager inform Council if he is concerned at the gradual increase in the number of “gated” housing developments being proposed, if this is contrary to the City Council’s policy of Social Inclusion, and if the Planning Department will keep this in mind when making a decision?

Cork City Council has put in place a number of measures to support the mainstreaming of social inclusion, in order to ensure that social inclusion is reflected as a core value in the plans and policies of the organisation and in service delivery.

With regard to housing provision achieving better social inclusion includes a range of measures such as

- Provision of Social and Affordable Housing under the provisions of the Joint Housing Strategy and through City Council provision.
- Housing re-generation programmes in Knocknaheeny, the Glen and Deanrock.

In most instances the Planning Authority neither permits nor encourages gated developments for conventional housing developments. The limited number of gated developments does not have a significant effect on social inclusion. However it is an aspect which can be considered when revising the Cork City Development Plan.

3.5 **YELLOW ROAD MARKINGS OUTSIDE TURNERS CROSS CHURCH**

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

Will the Manager please let me know when the yellow road markings be placed outside Turners Cross Church as requested by me in a motion last year.

The City Manager’s report on the request for a yellow box outside Turner’s Cross Church stated that the yellow box was not recommended because:

- Yellow boxes outside private property, car parks, etc. have no legal standing.
- Provision of these ‘non legal’ yellow boxes would generate more requests for similar boxes
- A yellow box here close to the nearby Turner’s Cross junction would also impact on the performance of the junction and increase congestion at peak traffic periods.

- Access to the car park is mainly at mass times on Sundays and Saturday evenings, and motorists should have no difficulty as traffic on the main road is relatively light during these periods.
- The Gardaí are opposed to the provision of the yellow box.

The City Manager's report was approved by Council on the 17th July 2006.

3.6 **RESIDENT PERMIT**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. O'Driscoll, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Is it possible for a resident in a Disc Parking Zone to obtain a parking permit if his/her landlord has not registered with the PRTB if the tenant informs the PRTB of his/her tenancy?

Under the current policy an applicant can get a residents parking permit provided an applicant brings in all the relevant documentation except the PRTB registration letter. A temporary four month permit is issued allowing the applicant the four months to submit a PRTB letter showing that the applicant's landlord has registered them with the PRTB. If this letter isn't forthcoming then the process comes to a halt.

Please note it is a legal requirement under the Residential Tenancies Act 2004 for a landlord to register his / her tenants. The PRTB has the legislative powers to prosecute non complying landlords. The onus is on the landlord, as the tenant cannot register a property because the registration form needs to be signed by both the landlord and the tenant.

3.7 **TRAFFIC CHAOS IN LEESDALE ESTATE**

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

Traffic chaos in Leesdale Estate, Greenfields and Parkway, Model Farm Road. Would it be possible to immediately address the chaos caused by huge numbers of cars parked daily in Leesdale Estate? The installation of double yellow lines are urgently needed to prevent cars parking on corners. Residents are having great difficulty exiting their homes because of cars parked too close to the entrance to their driveways which is very frustrating.

What are the best long term solutions and how soon can these be implemented?

The parking problems in Leesdale, Greenfields and Parkway, Model farm Road are associated with the overspill from the nearby CIT and FAS campuses. Yellow lines have already been installed in part of the estates in consultation with the local residents and public representatives. Further installation of yellow lines is

not planned because of the impact these parking restrictions would have on local residents. The main problems associated with CIT/FAS parking will only be resolved with the disc parking controls are implemented in the area.

The three estates are not in the 2006-2007 Disc Parking Zone extension scheme and disc parking controls cannot be installed there at present. However, because of the parking problems in the area it is likely that they will be included in the next DPZ extension scheme.

3.8 **GREEN AREA IN KNOCKFREE AVENUE**

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

Can the Manager inform me when will the work commence in relation to:

- (1) The development of the Green Area in Knockfree Avenue under the RAPID Programme?
- (2) In conjunction with this enhancement will the Manager also repair or replace the footpaths in front of the Health Centre which also leads into the Parochial Hall so that the many participants attending activities in the Parochial Hall can walk safely along the path way?
- (3) Given that the ownership issue is now resolved in the Green Area at the entrance to the Church of the Ascension, will the Manager ensure that an attractive flower bed is developed there as it is one of the few green areas on Cathedral Road?
- (1) Enhancement works incorporating provision of parking bays, decorative paving and semi mature tree planting will commence within the next 3 months.
- (2) Works will include new paving in this area, fronting shop units and the Parochial Hall.
- (3) Trees and flowers will be planted within the next 3 months.

3.9 **ST LUKES LOCAL PLAN**

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

That Cork City Council would confirm the expected publication date on the St. Lukes Local Plan and that in drafting same there would be no attempt by officials to interfere with or remove the Toll House or the horse trough and that residents

and business would have at least six weeks to consider the proposals in the Plan and in which to make submissions/objections and that all such submissions/observations would be reviewed by the 5 Ward Councillors?

The scheme for St. Lukes is being designed at the present time. The scheme will include upgrading the pedestrian environment in the area, both the Toll House and horse trough will be maintained. The design for the scheme will be completed in the next three weeks and it then will go through the Part 8 Planning Process whereby the public can make their comments over a period of six weeks from the publishing of the Part 8. Following on the comments from the public the scheme will be readdressed and brought to the Members for their consideration.

3.10 **PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS**

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

Request the Manager to respond with Cork City Council's professional advice and favourable consideration to the protection/listing of the following buildings of exceptional architectural / historic merit adding to the heritage, landscape and built environment of the Wilton, Model Farm Road, Bishopstown district, and bring before Council proposal/s for decision on your recommendation/s?

- 1.Dennehy's Cross Church
- 2.Wilton Church
- 3.Permanent TSB Bank, Curraheen Road
- 4.Bishopstown Credit Union, Wilton Road
- 5.Wilton Bar
- 6.Bishopstown Bar

Structures located within the Wilton/Bishopstown Action Plan area were assessed using statutory architectural heritage criteria issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government. A total of twenty-four structures were identified and were recently designated as Proposed Protected Structures. Among them are the two churches listed above: St. Joseph's, Wilton and the Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit at Dennehy's Cross. The other structures listed above were not considered to meet the criteria for designation, either because they were not judged as having sufficient architectural or historical significance or because they are modern buildings, too recently constructed or greatly modified to warrant designation as protected structures at this time.

3.11 **SHANDON CRAFT CENTRE**

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

To ask the Manager what is the up-to-date situation regarding the Shandon Craft Centre and when will the existing Traders be made aware of Cork City Council's plans for the Centre, so that those Traders can proceed with their own business strategies as they are being kept in a limbo situation for many years because of the lack of a plan and the uncertainty of who is responsible for its management?

The provision of a Cultural Centre in the Shandon Area encompassing the Shandon Craft Centre is being examined. Such a centre would be a focus for tourism and further urban development in the area. It is expected that a report on such a development will be available in March of this year.

The existing traders will be made aware of Cork City Council's plans at an early stage.

If a project is successfully developed for the area, it is expected that work would not commence in 2007.

3.12 **€2 CHARGE AT RECYCLING FACILITY AT KINSALE ROAD LANDFILL**

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

To ask the City Manager to explain to Council his reasons for introducing a €2 charge at the recycling facility at the Kinsale Road landfill site (which will take effect from 1st February, 2007) and does he believe that the introduction of such charges will further encourage greater recycling and use of the facility?

The Kinsale Rd facility has experienced increased activity in recent years and the €2 charge will contribute towards the cost of its ongoing operation. In this regard it is to be noted that local authorities do not receive net income from the operation of recycling facilities and that the average Civic Amenity Site costs in excess of €300,000 pa to operate. Notwithstanding the cost involved facilities such as that available at Kinsale Rd are essential for effective waste management and are particularly important for those who do not avail of the Council's dry recyclable collection service. Having regard to the need to provide a competitive waste service and avoid cross subsidization it would not be appropriate to raise the funds involved by increasing domestic or trade refuse charges.

The charge has been set at a low level and it represents excellent value for money for the service on offer. The experience in other Councils where similar or higher charges apply is that there has been no negative impact regarding use and that people are willing to contribute to the cost of recycling so long as the service is good and costs are reasonable. It is to be noted that the Council will continue to provide its own customers with a door to door collection service for dry recyclables.

3.13 **CITY COUNCIL MEETING LIVE ON THE WEB**

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

Can the Manager please inform Council as to the progress for plans to put out City Council meetings live on the web?

The refurbishment of the Council Chamber is currently under consideration with a view to improving the facilities for members and the public and to increase the use of information technology in facilitating meetings. As part of this refurbishment the facilities required to provide web casting of Council Meetings will be considered.

3.14 **REFUSE COLLECTION REFUND**

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

Can the Manager assure Council that his legal advice is that this Council will not be liable in the future to pay out refunds to any of the 15,421 refuse collection customers who availed of the early payment discount scheme 2006.

I have already advised that I do not believe that there is any case for a refund. The Law Agent is of the same view.

All of the households to whom the City Council provided a refuse collection service in 2006 had all of their refuse collected. No refuse was left uncollected. A weekly refuse service was provided throughout the year with residual and dry recyclables collected on alternate weeks. The 15,421 households referred to availed of the discount scheme for early payment.

3.15 **ST LUKE'S PLAN**

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

To ask the Manager the current position of the St. Luke's Plan – when work will commence on the implementation of the Plan?

The scheme for St. Lukes is being designed at the present time. The scheme will include upgrading the pedestrian environment in the area, both the Toll House and horse trough will be maintained. The design for the scheme will be completed in the next three weeks and it then will go through the Part 8 Planning Process whereby the public can make their comments over a period of six weeks from the publishing of the Part 8. Following on the comments from the public the scheme will be readdressed and brought to the Members for their consideration.

4. **ACQUISITION OF ST. LUKE'S CHURCH**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the City Manager dated 25th January, 2007 on the Acquisition of St. Luke's Church, Summerhill North, St. Luke's, Cork.

5. **DATA CENTRE AT MAHON TECHNOLOGY PARK**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the City Manager dated 29th January, 2007 on the provision of a Datacentre at Mahon Technology Park, Mahon, Cork.

6. **2006 PROGRESS REPORT - CORPORATE PLAN 2004 – 2009**

An Chomhairle approved the Report of the City Manager dated 25th January, 2007 on the 2006 Progress Report – Corporate Plan 2004 – 2009.

7. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 22nd JANUARY 2007**

7.1 **SUMMARY OF RATE COLLECTION FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2006**

An Chomhairle approved the Summary of Rate Collection for year ended 31st December 2006.

7.2 **INSTALLATION OF LIFT – STAGE IN CONCERT HALL**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the City Manager dated 22nd January 2007, on the following motion which was referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:

‘That this Council agrees to install a lift (sufficient in size) at the side stage in City Hall to facilitate wheelchair users to independently access the stage in a dignified manner to participate and be involved in a performance, production, etc.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 06/567)

The report of the City Manager stated that following extensive research and a recommendation by the City Architect, a portable wheelchair lift for access to stages and platforms has been ordered. This will provide independent access to the stage for wheelchair bound performers.

7.3 **CHARGES FOR SCHOOLS**

An Chomhairle approved the following motion which was recommended to An Chomhairle for approval:

‘That Cork City Council requests the Minister for Education to introduce a system which would facilitate the payment of water charges and refuse charges by all schools.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Ahern, Cllr. J. Corr, Cllr. J. Buttimer, Cllr. C. Lynch, Cllr. D. Wallace, Cllr. D. McCarthy)

8. **ENVIRONMENT FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 22nd JANUARY 2007**

8.1 **SANITARY AND OTHER SCHEMES**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services on Water, Sanitary and other schemes for the year to the 31st December, 2006.

8.2 **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services on Environmental matters for the year to the 31st December 2006.

8.3 **RAINWATER**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That this Council will consider and report on the ways and means with incentives and encouragement to provide for its tenants and give advice and assistance to other householders on how to gather rainwater directly for use in cleaning, gardening, flushing, etc, as Cork City Council’s part contribution to water conservation and efficient water usage.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 06/533)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the various elements of Consumer Demand Management in relation to water use. These include Rain Water harvesting and recycling of Wastewater.

The report identified various end uses and potential benefits and problems with rainwater harvesting. It is unlikely to be an attractive option to domestic consumers who do not have to pay directly for water use.

A number of key items require to be considered when installing a rainwater system – water quality, hazard assessment, and economics. Report concluded that in relation to domestic sector rainwater systems may not be suitable to meet significant internal house needs given the large storage system that would be required. In relation to the non domestic sector there is potential that non-

domestic users may identify cost savings associated with rainwater use and incorporate them into existing or new developments. The City Council will be happy to provide the information available in response to any requests received.

8.4 **GRAFFITI**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council Environment Department engage with the Gardaí to put in place a strategy to address the graffiti problem within the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Clancy 06/486)

It was agreed to refer the matter back to the Environment Functional Committee.

8.5 **BULKY GOODS COLLECTION**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council would carry out a Bulky Goods Collection in the Mayfield area early in 2007 in order to facilitate residents who need to dispose of fridges, freezers, washing machines, cookers and other such domestic goods.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 06/540)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council organised a successful bulky goods collection in the Knocknaheeny area during September 2006. Arrangements are currently being made for a similar collection in Roseville Estate, Mayfield, during the first quarter of 2007.

8.6 **STREET SWEEPING AND GULLEY CLEANING**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council in view of the heavy volume of on street parking in suburban areas would devise a programme to ensure that its street sweeping programme and gulley cleaning operations could continue on a successful basis.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 06/543)

The report of the Director of Services stated that cleaning of streets outside the City Centre area is carried out on a planned basis by a fleet of mechanical suction sweepers. This system has operated successfully in the past and is kept under review so as to ensure its continued effectiveness. Notwithstanding the foregoing if Members are aware of any specific problem areas the Waste Operations Section will examine same and if necessary liaise with the Traffic Department so as to put in place an effective solution.

Gully cleaning is dealt with by Roads and Transportation Directorate and the motion can be referred to the corresponding Committee for consideration.

8.7 **LITTER BINS**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That litter bins be provided adjacent to all bus stops.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 06/173)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Council provides additional litter bins throughout the City on an ongoing basis as resources permit and with due regard to the areas of greatest need/benefit. While the Council does not have the resources necessary to install and operate additional bins at all bus stops the Waste Operations section will examine any locations put forward by Members for consideration in the determination of priority areas for future installations.

The cost of providing litterbins includes a purchase/ installation element of circa €450.00 as well as additional revenue costs relating to staff, vehicles, landfill admission fees etc.

9. **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 22nd JANUARY 2007**

9.1 **TWINNING COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle approved the recommendations of the Twinning Committee from its meeting held on 22nd January, 2007.

9.1.1 **RENNES FAIR 2007**

An Chomhairle approved the participation of Cork City Council in the Rennes International Fair, 24th March – 1st April 2007. An Chomhairle also approved that Comhairleoir T. Shannon and Comhairleoir M. Quill in addition to the Lord Mayor would travel to the Rennes International Fair.

CONTINUATION OF MEETING

An Chomhairle agreed to continue the meeting beyond 8 p.m. and agreed unanimously that the meeting would finish at 8.30 p.m.

9.1.2 VISIT OF LORD MAYOR TO SAN FRANCISCO

An Chomhairle considered the recommendation of the Twinning Committee regarding the visit of the Lord Mayor to San Francisco. Comhairleoir M. Barry proposed and Comhairleoir C. O'Leary seconded that the number of Councillors travelling with the Lord Mayor be reduced from two to one.

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

FOR: Comhairleoirí M. Barry, J. O'Brien, C. O' Leary.- (3)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí C. Clancy, D. Wallace, D. McCarthy, C. Burke, M. O' Connell, T. Fitzgerald, T. Shannon, J. Corr, C. Lynch, T. O' Driscoll, F. Dennehy. – (11)

ABSTAINED: Comhairleoirí D Counihan, B. Bermingham, M. Ahern.

An tArd-Mhéara declared the vote defeated and the proposal lost. An Chomhairle approved the nomination of Comhairleoir D. Counihan and Comhairleoir B. Bermingham to travel to San Francisco in addition to the Lord Mayor as part of the official delegation.

9.2 HOUSING ESTATES

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development & City Engineer on Housing Estates – November/December 2006 dated 18th January, 2007.

9.3 PLANNING STATISTICS

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development & City Engineer dated 18th January, 2007 on the number of planning applications determined and deferred from 1st January, 2006 to 31st December, 2006.

9.4 ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning & Development & City Engineer dated 18th January, 2007 on Planning Enforcement Statistics for period 1st November, 2006 – 31st December, 2006.

9.5 **HOUSES IN SHANDON VIEW, WATERCOURSE ROAD ON DERELICT SITES REGISTER**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to this Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council Property Dept./ Planning Dept. start the process of putting the six adjoining houses in Shandon View, Watercourse Rd. that have been boarded up for over 5 years on the Derelict Sites Register.

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Clancy 06/519)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Pursuant to Section 8 of the Derelict Sites Act 1990, following an inspection by the Planning Authority on the 31st October, 2006 and the recommendation of the Senior Executive Officer, Planning, nos. 9-14 Shandon View Cottages were declared derelict on the 10th November, 2006 (Manager’s Order 7386/06 refers).

The matter was referred to the City Council’s Property Department on the 10th November, 2006. Prior to these properties being placed on the derelict sites register title investigations must be carried out, and notices of intention to enter on the register then served on interested parties. The Property Department is currently working on title investigation.

9.6 **GREEN AREAS IN VICTORIA VILLAGE AND VICTORIA COURT**

An Chomhairle approved the report of the Director of Services dated the 18th January 2007 on the following motion which was referred to this Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘I propose that the three small remaining green areas in Victoria Village and Victoria Court, Farranlea Road be retained as such. The residents of this area have maintained and kept the green areas in good order at their own expense for the past 16 years and should be considered the de facto owners of the greens and other common areas within the curtilage of Victoria Village / Court. Under no circumstances should planning for infill housing be allowed by Cork City Planners on these green areas.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 06/532)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as far as we are aware there have been no applications for development on these areas. Should any application be received it would have to be addressed in light of the policies and objectives set out in the Cork City Development Plan, 2004.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence.

11. **CONFERENCES**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance at the following Conferences:-

11.1 **LAMA AWARDS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT – PRINCIPLES, PRACTICE AND SUCCESS**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir D. Cregan at the LAMA Awards – Local Government – Principles, Practice and Success Conference held in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin on the 19/20 January 2007.

11.2 **MERRIMAN WINTER SCHOOL 2007**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, M. O’Connell, C. Clancy and C. Lynch at the Merriman Winter School 2007 held in the Hotel Westport, Westport, Co. Mayo on the 26th – 28th January 2007.

11.3 **THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING SERVICE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí S. Martin, T. Fitzgerald, T. Shannon, J. Buttimer, P. Gosch and M. O’Connell at the Local Government Planning Service Conference held in the Clonea Strand Hotel, Clonea, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford on the 1st – 3rd February 2007.

11.4 **ANTRIM TOURISM CONFERENCE – “FOOD FOR THOUGHT”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Shannon at the Antrim Tourism Conference – “Food for Thought” held in the Dunadry House & Country Club, Muckamore on the 2nd /3rd February 2007.

11.5 **AMAI SPRING SEMINAR 2007**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí D. McCarthy, T. Shannon, S. Martin, T. Fitzgerald, J. Buttimer and T. Brosnan at the AMAI Spring Seminar 2007 held in the Brandon Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry on the 9th and 10th February 2007.

11.6 **COLMCILLE WINTER SCHOOL – “THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE GAA TO THE SPORTING AND SOCIAL LIFE IN IRELAND”**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí S. Martin, T. Shannon and T. Brosnan at the Colmcille Winter School – “The Contribution of the GAA to the sporting and social life in Ireland” held in the Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartan, Church Hill, Co. Donegal on the 23rd – 25th February 2007.

11.7 **WICKLOW COUNTY TOURISM CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer at the Wicklow County Tourism Conference held in the Marriott Druids Gen Hotel & County Club, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow on the 21st /22nd February 2007.

11.8 **ENERGY AND THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – SUSTAINABLE, RENEWABLE, EFFICIENT**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer at the Energy & the Development Plan- Sustainable, Renewable, Efficient Conference held in the Clonmel Park Hotel, Clonmel, Tipperary on the 2nd – 4th March 2007.

11.9 **ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY & CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2007**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoirí T. Brosnan and J. Buttimer at the Association of County and City Council Annual Conference 2007 held in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford on the 8th – 10th March 2007.

11.10 **IMPLEMENTING THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2007 – 2013 – THE ROLE OF THE REGIONS**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer at the Implementing the National Development Plan 2007 – 2013 – The Role of the Regions held in the Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, Co. Limerick on the 15th /16th February 2007.

12. **ITEMS DEFERRED FROM ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD ON 15th JANUARY 2007**

12.1 **PROVISION OF NURSING HOMES FOR ELDERLY**

An Chomhairle approved the following motion.

‘I propose that Cork City Council call on the Government to provide four state of the art nursing homes in Cork City for the elderly of the city to show our thanks and appreciation to the people that helped build the Country that we have today.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 06/546)

12.2 **REMOVE AGE LIMIT**

An Chomhairle approved the following motion.

‘I propose that Cork City Council call on the Government to remove the existing limit on the number of people over the age of 55 who can be employed under the FAS CE scheme.

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 06/550)

12.3 **ADVERTISING – ALCOHOL LEVEL**

An Chomhairle approved the following motion.

‘That this Council calls on the Minister to bring in the necessary regulations ensuring that all advertising in newspapers, flyers, menu’s price list etc, etc will inform the public of the % alcohol level for each item advertised facilitating greater understanding and choice to choose low alcohol level products if desired.

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 06/568)

12.4 **DISCONTINUE FLUORIDE IN PUBLIC WATER**

An Chomhairle approved the following motion.

‘That Cork City Council again calls on the Minister for Health to discontinue the practice of insisting on the addition of fluoride to the public water supply and that the dangers of the long term accumulation of fluoride in the human body be taken seriously.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 07/005)

CONTINUATION OF MEETING

An Chomhairle agreed to continue the meeting beyond 8.30 p.m. for a further ten minutes.

12.5 **DISCLOSURES – COUNCILLORS**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion.

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Minister for the Environment to strengthen the rules of disclosure as they effect Councillors who are also auctioneers and estate agents in their dealings with planning and land re-zoning issues.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Lynch 07/008)

Comhairleoir C. Burke proposed and Comhairleoir B. Bermingham seconded that the motion be amended to read as follows:

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Minister for the Environment to strengthen the rules of disclosure as they effect Councillors in any areas where there are conflicts of interests in their dealings with planning and land re-zoning issues.’

An Chomhairle approved the amended motion.

13. **MOTIONS**

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

13.1 **INCLUDE RAMPS FOR CAPWELL ROAD IN NEXT YEARS TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAMME**

‘That Cork City Council include ramps for Capwell Road in next years Traffic Calming Programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin (06/201))

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.2 **REPLACE FOOTPATH OUTSIDE 10-25 PATRICK O'DONOGHUE PLACE**

‘That Cork City Council take immediate action to replace the footpaths outside 10 to 25 Patrick O'Donoghue Place as they are in very bad condition.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 06/262)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.3 **RENEWAL OF MOTOR TAX**

‘In order to renew your Motor Tax a motorist needs to

- Confirm details of the vehicle (including selection of a tax class for a new or imported vehicle.
- Name and address (change of address.)
- The period of taxation.
- Vehicle insurance details (name of insurer, policy number and expiry date).

This Council requests the Minister/Local Authorities that the

- The National Car Testing Service Ltd. (NCTS), pass Certificate or verification number by e-mail be required to ensure that vehicles on the Road network are in a safe condition. And
- That the Insurance details be verified before the Motor Tax Certificate is issued in the public interest.'

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 06/569)

Deferred to next meeting of An Chomhairle

13.4 TEMPORARY PARKING PERMITS

'That Cork City Council would issue temporary parking permits to residents in Disc Parking areas while their applications for permanent permits are being processed as it is entirely unreasonable to expect residents to place disks on their vehicles on an ongoing basis.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O' Driscoll 06/571)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.5 PUBLIC LIGHTING ON THE MARINA

'That public lighting would be installed on The Marina as to facilitate the public who use this amenity in the evenings for recreation purposes, as I feel this would enhance the area.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. O' Flynn 06/573)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.6 PUBLIC CROSSING ON THE BLACKROCK ROAD

'That a public crossing would be installed on the Blackrock Road, to facilitate the residents of Dunraven Downs and the surrounding estates to cross this dangerous stretch of road in safety.

(Proposer: Cllr. D. O' Flynn 06/574)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.7 **OPEN SPACE/ CAR PARK – GRATTAN STREET**

‘That Council (a) draw up a plan for the open space/ car park in Grattan Street, (b) take steps to ensure that it is kept in good condition.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’ Driscoll 07/001)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.8 **CORK CITY – TOURIST HOT SPOT**

‘That Cork City Council, in its drive to create the City as a **“Tourist Hot Spot”** and building on its History, its Historical Buildings and streetscape, noted charm, compactness, Retail, Hotel & B&B Developments, existing Tourist venues and facilities, etc will examine, seek and report on ideas / submissions from its citizens / residents and all interested, in order to plan and execute henceforth, such innovations necessary to attract and hold visitors in the City and Metropolitan Cork.

Suggestion -

That this Council will encourage, initiate and facilitate increased summertime lunch time concerts - Classical, Traditional, Gospel, and others as in demand and in a variety of venues such as Christchurch, Grand Parade, St Peters Church, North Main Street, St Luke’s Church in association with Tourist interests. etc

Suggestion

-

That this Council noting its Festival City image and noting the progress in the development of Cork’s School of Music

1. now considers all measures to create and enhance an image of Cork as a premier “Musical City” and
2. will consider and report on constructing a covered plaza fronting Cork’s City Hall on Terence MacSwiney quay with a state of the art Band Stand, seating, Lighting etc.

Suggestion

-

“Often billed as the "crookedest street," “Lombard Street is San Francisco’s-- and America's best known crookedest street. The steep, hilly street was created with sharp curves to switchback down the one-way hill past beautiful Victorian mansions. [built with eight switchbacks on a 40-degree slope]”. The street is paved with bricks and is an amazing site to see. Hordes of tourists come every year to see this famous street”

Cork City Council as a project with residents/property owners and its Twinned City San Francisco, will create a like Lombard Street on St. Patrick's Hill with substantial environmental and amenity enhancements...

- a. Street Paving.
- b. Pedestrian way and seating.
- c. Lighting.
- d. Possible one way vehicle facility southwards, with effective safety measures, and
- e. **Installation of the unique San Francisco's Cable Car** from a suitable location in St. Patrick Street to the summit and return.'

(Proposer: Cllr. B. Bermingham 07/002)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

13.9 FORMER MUNSTER INSTITUTE ADDED TO RECORD OF PROTECTED STRUCTURES

'I propose that the limestone gate lodge to the former Munster Institute building on the Model Farm Road (at the entrance to the IDA Technology Park) be added to the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) as it is a building of significant community and streetscape value, and as the former Munster Institute building itself is currently a protected building (PS637)

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 07/010)

Planning & Development Functional Committee

13.10 REPLACE WINDOWS – ARDCULLEN, HOLLYHILL

'I propose that Cork City Council would replace all windows in ArdculLEN, Hollyhill as a matter of urgency.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. McCarthy 07/011)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

13.11 ROAD SAFETY ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

'That we send a message to the Chief Superintendent of the Garda Síochána in Anglesea St. expressing our full support for the recent Road Safety Enforcement Campaign, which has reduced the number of accidents, deaths and injuries on our streets and roads.'

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kelleher 07/018)

Deferred to next meeting of An Chomhairle

13.12 **SALE OF TANK FIELD**

‘That Cork City Council use monies it receives from the sale of portion of the Tank Field to OPW to enhance public amenities in the surrounding area including Mayfield, Montenotte and Murmont.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 07/023)

Corporate Policy Group

13.13 **ERECTION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT NORTH RING ROAD/ PYNES VALLEY JUNCTION**

‘That Cork City Council now proceed with the erection of Traffic Lights at the junction of North Ring Road and Pynes Valley in accordance with proper planning and the safety of pedestrians and motorists living in Pynes Valley.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 07/024)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.14 **DEVELOP THE RESERVOIR**

‘That Cork City Council take immediate action to clean up and develop a plan to develop the Reservoir ('Old Basketball Court') and surrounding area in conjunction with the local residents in the Ardculen area.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 07/025)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

13.15 **SPEED RAMPS IN KILBARRY PLACE**

‘That Cork City Council would put in place speed control ramps in Kilbarry Place, Farranree, Cork.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Burke 07/026)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.16 **FILES ON NAZI WAR CRIMINALS**

‘Bearing in mind the recent revelations on R.T.E. television about the influx of NAZI War Criminals into this country after World War Two, that Council will write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Dermot Ahern, asking him to release all relevant files on this matter, for future use by researchers, academics and all those interested in historical accuracy.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kelleher 07/027)

Deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle

13.17 **GREEN AREA AT THE LAWN, TO BE SURFACED TO PROVIDE CAR PARKING**

‘That the green area at The Lawn, Redemption Road, be surfaced to provide increased car parking capacity in view of the fact that there is a serious shortage of car park spaces in that area of Redemption Road which is a very busy narrow road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Gosch 07/029)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.18 **TRAFFIC CALMING ON TORY TOP ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council will as part of its 2007 roads work programme put in place traffic calming measures on Tory Top Road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Lynch 07/031)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.19 **MUNICIPAL STADIUM IN CORK CITY**

‘That Council will undertake a study to explore the feasibility of building a Municipal Stadium in Cork City which would accommodate various sporting bodies and organisations.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Lynch 07/032)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

13.20 **ABOLISH VAT ON ESB, GAS AND TELEPHONE BILLS**

‘That this City Council calls on Central Government to abolish VAT on ESB, GAS and Telephone bills for OAP’s and Social Welfare Recipients.’

(Proposer: Cllr. A. Spillane 07/033)

Deferred to next meeting of An Chomhairle

13.21 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON GLENHEIGHTS ROAD**

‘That a pedestrian crossing is installed on Glenheights Road outside the College Shopping Centre as this is an extremely busy road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. A. Spillane 07/034)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.22 **CLEANSING AND MAINTENANCE OF RIVERS**

‘That, owing to the fact that existing staff in Drainage and Cleaning Departments have a full programme of work, Cork City Council create a separate section to carry out cleansing and maintenance of the many rivers and streams within the City boundary, several of which are in deplorable condition.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 07/035)

Environment Functional Committee

13.23 **DOG FOULING IN PUBLIC PLACES**

‘That Cork City Council take whatever extra measures are required to deal with the issue of dog fouling in public places, which is a cause of great concern to many citizens and a system be put in place to allow local community groups to avail of signage to discourage and create an awareness of dog fouling.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 07/036)

Environment Functional Committee

13.24 **GATES FOR JUNCTION OF MORROUGHS HILL AND BLARNEY ST.**

‘That gates be placed at the junction of Morroughs Hill and Blarney St in order to protect the residents against vandalism.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Gosch 07/037)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

13.26 **NEED FOR SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS**

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Minister for Health and the Government to recognise the need for services for people with neurological conditions in Munster by building a Rehabilitation Unit in Cork and for more clinical nurse specialists to meet the ongoing needs of people with neurological conditions.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 07/040)

Deferred to next meeting of An Chomhairle

13.27 **ALLOCATE PITCH(ES) TO CORK CITY AND COUNTY BORD NA NÓG**

‘That Cork City Council having purchased a bank of amenity land close to the city allocates pitch(es) to Cork City and County Bord Na nÓg for their use.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 07/041)

Recreation Amenity & Culture Functional Committee

14. **TENDERS**

The following tenders were opened:-

- 3 no. – 107 Churchfield Avenue, Cork
- 3 no. – 28 St. Declans Road, Gurrabraher, Cork
- 5 no. – 23 Churchfield Terrace West, Cork
- 6 no. – 1 O’Riordans Crescent, Tramore Road, Cork
- 4 no. – 21 Ascension Heights, Churchfield, Cork

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH**