

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2015

PRESENT	An Ardmhéara Comhairleoir C. O'Leary.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí S. Cunningham, T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh.
NORTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí T. Gould, M. Barry, K. O'Flynn, L. O'Donnell, J. Sheehan.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí M. Nugent, T. Fitzgerald, K. Collins, M. O'Sullivan.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy, D. Cahill, T. Shannon, N. O'Keeffe, S. O'Shea.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, F. Kerins, P. Dineen, T. O'Driscoll, S. Martin.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí J. Buttimer, H. Cremin, M. Shields, F. Dennehy, P.J. Hourican, T. Moloney.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. J.G. O'Riordan, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. N. Carroll, Staff Officer, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. V. O'Sullivan, Director of Services, Housing & Community. Mr. G. O'Beirne, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation. Mr. P. Ledwidge, Director of Services, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise. Mr. E. Walsh, A/ Director of Services, Environment & Recreation. Mr. J. Hallahan, A/ Head of Finance.

An Ard-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1.1 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The Finn Family on the death Mr. Bartholomew Finn.
- The Geary Family on the death of Mr. John Geary.
- The Crowley Family on the death of Mr. William Crowley.
- The O'Connor Family on the death of Ms. Geraldine O'Connor.
- The Browne Family on the death of Mr. Tom Browne.
- The Lockyer Family on the death of Ms. Lily Lockyer.
- The Carroll Family on the death of Ms. Lucy Carty.
- The Murphy Family on the death of Mr. Séamus Murphy.
- The Rea Family on the death of Mr. Gerald Rea.
- Ms. Teresa O'Driscoll on the death of Mr. Charlie McCarthy.

1.2 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/ BEST WISHES

- Niall McCarthy, Managing Director of Cork Airport on securing flights to Boston and New York.

- Cork Ladies Football Team on their 10th All Ireland success in 11 years.
- TACT Project on winning the Supervalue Youth Award.
- Ronan Duggan & Committee on the inaugural St. Finbarr's Festival.
- Lifelong Learning Festival on the UNESCO City Award for Lifetime Learning.
- Briege Corkery and Rena Buckley on being the first players in GAA history to reach 16 All Ireland Senior medals in Ladies Football and Camogie.
- The Tourism, Arts & Culture office on organising Culture Night.
- Mayfield Harrier Club on winning the Senior All Ireland Drag hunt Title for the first time in the clubs history with Denise Ralls dog "Song of Magir" taking the major honours.
- Thomas McCarthy of Mayfield Boxing Club on winning the Celtic International Tournament in Waterford in the Youth A 51kg category.
- Mr. Sean Sherwin for his many years of involvement with Thomas Kent Family to insure the dignified State Funeral took place and his remains were interred in his family's plot in Castlelyons after 99 years.

1.3 **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

1.3.1 **IRISH CONGRESS OF TRADE UNION**

An Chomhairle agreed to meet in Committee regarding the Irish Congress of Trade Union correspondence received by An tArd-Mhéara on 24th September 2015.

1.3.2 **CIVIC RECEPTIONS**

An Chomhairle approved the holding of a Civic Reception for the following:-

- The Cork Ladies Football Team on winning their 10th All Ireland Success in 11 years.
- Culture Night & Heritage Week volunteers on a very successful Culture Night & Heritage Week.

1.4 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

1.1.4 **CORK OPERA HOUSE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Brosnan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Executive dated 24th September 2015 on Cork Opera House Board of Management.

1.4.2 **CORPORATE PLAN AND ORGANISATIONAL REFORM**

The Chief Executive updated An Chomhairle in relation to the Corporate Plan and Organisational Reform, and advised that following the approval of the Corporate Plan in July 2015, the subsequent appointment of Mr. P. Moynihan as Director of Services in July 2015 established the make-up of the 7-member Senior Management Team as provided for in the Council's approved Workforce Plan. The Chief Executive confirmed that the Council is now in a position to commence the process of re-structuring the organisation to deliver the goals and objectives of the Corporate Plan and to reflect the provisions of the Workforce Plan. The Chief Executive undertook to keep Members informed as this process progresses.

2. **MINUTES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved as correct record and sign Minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on the 14th September 2015.
- Special Meeting of An Chomhairle in Committee held on the 21st September 2015
- Special Meeting of An Chomhairle held on the 22nd September 2015.

3. **ITEMS DEFERRED FROM MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE DATED THE 14th SEPTEMBER 2015**

3.1 **HOUSING & COMMUNITY STRATEGIC POLICY GROUP – 24th AUGUST 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Housing & Community Strategic Policy Group from its meeting held on 24th August 2015.

3.2 **STRATEGIC PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC POLICY GROUP – 31st AUGUST 2015**

3.2.1 **TO CONSIDER REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE, ON THE FOLLOWING MOTION WHICH WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY AN CHOMHAIRLE:**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

REVISE THE BISHOPSTOWN WILTON AREA ACTION PLAN

‘That Cork City Council would review and revise the Bishopstown Wilton Area Action Plan by commissioning a Local Area Plan’.

(Proposer: Cllr J. Buttimer 15/195)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Bishopstown Wilton Local Area Plan was prepared in 2008 and the key policies and proposals were incorporated into the 2009 City Development Plan. These policies were reviewed and where appropriate updated as part of the preparation of the City Development Plan 2015-2021.

Local Area Plans (LAPs) are statutory plans intended to be prepared for areas which have significant potential for new development or in need of significant regeneration. Resources to prepare such plans are limited and it therefore necessary to prioritise the areas that would most benefit from them. On this basis the South Docks and Tivoli Docks have been identified for updated and new LAPs respectively, in the new City Plan.

Bishopstown Wilton is an established suburb of Cork City which does not have significant potential for new development and is not in need of significant regeneration. It is therefore

not a priority for the preparation of a Local Area Plan. There are a small number of sites for development and the framework for these is already set by the development Plan.

There may also be a number of specific issues that are of concern to local people, some of which are capable of being addressed by Cork City Council and some which are outside the local authority's area of influence. These issues would be most rapidly and effectively dealt with by recourse to the relevant Directorate rather than dedicating significant resources and time to preparing a statutory Local Area Plan.

I recommend that the Committee note the position and refer the report to An Chomhairle for information.

3.3 **STRATEGIC PLANNING , ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 31st AUGUST 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the Minutes of the Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee, and if so decided, to approve the following recommendations from its meeting held on 31st August 2015.

3.3.1 **HOUSING ESTATES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 27th August, 2015 on Housing Estates from 1st January 2015 to 31st July, 2015.

3.3.2 **PLANNING STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 27th August, 2015 on the number of planning applications determined and deferred from 1st January 2015 to 31st July, 2015.

3.3.3 **ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 27th August, 2015 on Planning Enforcement Statistics for period 1st January 2015 to 31st July, 2015.

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

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 27th August, 2015 on significant proposed developments.

3.3.5 **DERELICT SITES REPORT SOUTH CENTRAL WARD**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development dated 27th August, 2015 on the Derelict Sites Report South Central Ward.

An tArdmhéara and the Chief Executive wished Mr. J. Beecher, Administrative Officer, Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise well in his retirement and thanked him for his service with Cork City Council.

3.4 **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle agreed to hold Items No. 3.4.1 to 3.4.4 in Committee and the Director of Services to revert with reports.

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

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

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

3.4.2 **OFFICE REFURBISHMENT CITY CENTRE**

‘That Cork City Council facilitate refurbishment for new office accommodation and upgrading of existing offices excluding (equipment and furnishings). The grant to operate in a sliding scale of 100% to 25% over first three years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin, T. O’Driscoll 15/143)

3.4.3 **ART CRAFT ARTISAN FOOD SHOPS IN OLD HISTORICAL CITY SPINE (BARRACKS STREET TO SHANDON)**

‘A grant applicable for commercial premises that have been vacant for over three months and measuring less than 40sqm. The grant to offer 100% municipal rate payable for the first three years’.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin 15/144)

3.4.4 **FIT-OUT FOR NEW CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR ENCOURAGING NEW BUSINESSES**

‘That Cork City Council pay a grant only to occupy commercial premises that have been vacant for at least three months. The grant to provide 100% rates paid for the first year.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll, S. Martin 15/145)

3.4.5 **THAT NO 1 PARKGATE VILLAS, BISHOPSTOWN ROAD BE DECLARED DERELICT AS IT IS NOW A DANGEROUS STRUCTURE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘The above old unoccupied dwelling is a complete “eye-sore” and in a dangerous state with holes in the roof and loose slates. Slates have already fallen onto the main Bishopstown Road and footpath. Structurally there are large open cracks in the main walls of the house. There is large amounts of rubbish piled up in the back yard which is a health hazard and a habitat for rats and other vermin. It is also used by drinking parties at night time and is constantly used as a toilet.

I am requesting the Manager to have this structure assessed without delay and because of this house being situated so close to the busy main road there is a huge danger to the public, vehicles etc by slates falling or a further deterioration to the structure.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M Shields 14/285)

The report of the Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 stated that:-

“This building has been assessed and is considered derelict. The Strategic Planning & Economic Development Directorate is currently instituting proceedings under the Derelict Sites legislation to place it on the Derelict Sites Register”.

I recommend that the Committee note the position and refer the report to An Chomhairle for consideration.

3.4.6 **TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council expands the use of business improvement districts and new financial tools to create fresh financial opportunities for Local Authorities and Businesses to invest new urban projects such as Tax Increment Financing and Community Investment Funds’.

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/176)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Business Improvement Districts were considered in the preparation of the City Centre Strategy. Following consultation with stakeholders, it was decided that, as it would involve additional charges on businesses, it was not the appropriate time to proceed with this type of initiative.

Tax Increment Financing has long-term implications for future revenues that would need to be analysed and understood before embarking on initiative using this type of instrument. These implications should be fully considered by the Finance Committee and a report prepared for Council.

I am unaware of any community investment funds currently available for Cork City Council to access. The City Council has the capacity to create its own fund as it prepares the budget for 2016.

I recommend that the Committee note the position and refer the report to An Chomhairle for consideration.

3.4.7 **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR TURNERS CROSS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That a Local Development Plan be prepared for Turners Cross. The plan to encompass:-

1. Transport infrastructure
2. Community Facilities
3. Dereliction
4. Supports to encourage regeneration of existing housing stock
5. Assessment of Social Capital

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/179)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Planning & Development Acts 2000 - 2014 provides that a planning authority may prepare a local area plan for areas likely to be subject to large scale development within the lifetime of the development plan.

Departmental Guidelines specifies that Local Area Plans are intended to provide detailed planning policies for areas that are expected to experience significant development and change. In accordance with the Guidelines, the City Development Plan sets out priority development areas such as the City Centre, Docklands and Tivoli.

Turners Cross is an established neighbourhood of Cork City which does not have significant potential for new development and is not in need of significant regeneration. It is therefore not a suitable area for the preparation of a Local Area Plan. The significant resources required to carry out a Local Area Plan, would be more effectively employed in directly addressing issues, such as traffic management, dereliction and community facilities.

I recommend that the Committee note the position and refer the report to An Chomhairle for consideration.

3.4.8 **ZONE PRINCES STREET AS A STREET DINING ZONE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 15/214)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the City Council’s vision for Princes Street is set out in the *Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021*, and the background *Cork City Centre Strategy* (2014). Princes Street forms part of the City Centre Retail Area, which prioritises retail uses but encourages active uses in the area that contribute to the character and life of the City Centre, such as hospitality uses. The City Centre identifies

the potential for Princes Street to be developed as a “Restaurant Street” with outdoor seating, with a view to creating an attractive street environment and a food and drink destination with a strong brand for this. This is included in the City Centre Strategy Implementation Plan. Hospitality uses are compatible with the zoning objective / development objectives for Princes Street and are encouraged as a key contributor to the “vitality and attractiveness” of the City Centre in *Objective 13.1: Strategic Objectives: City Centre and Docklands* of the CDP2015-2021.

The occupation of streets is subject to s254 licences under the *Planning and Development Act 2000* (as amended), and is not a matter for the development plan. The policy and standards for the licensing of streets and spaces is set out in *Directions for the Management and Control of Roadworks in Cork City* (Cork City Council, 2010).

Work has been underway by the City Council in partnership with the Princes Street traders during 2015 to work towards Princes Street being recognised as a mixed use commercial street with a strong food and drink profile and developed as an outdoor food street destination. The Princes Street Food Street Pilot Project 2015 has provided a framework for food and drink businesses to apply for s254 street licences for outdoor seating and these are currently being processed with a view to the street being colonised for the remainder of the year to explore the benefits of this for the street and its business community, as well as wider City Centre revitalisation and policy / standards. Similarly, Little Cross Street has been colonised as a special pilot project in 2015 to provide street life in the Washington Street urban village.

As zoning is a long term measure, it does not have the flexibility necessary to address initiatives such as street dining zones. In addition, as indicated here, the current zoning allows for these initiatives to be supported.

I recommend that the Committee note the position and refer the report to An Chomhairle for consideration.

3.4.9 **ENHANCING TWINNING ARRANGEMENTS WITH COLOGNE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated the 27th August 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork and Cologne explore new ways of enhancing our twinning arrangement following the decision of Aer Lingus to commence direct flights from Cork to Dusseldorf in 2016.

N.B. Dusseldorf is just 25 miles from Cologne’.

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O’Driscoll 15/232)

This motion has been referred to the International Relations Committee who will report.

3.5 **TOURISM ARTS & CULTURE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 7th SEPTEMBER 2015**

3.5.1 **MOTION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle,

FLY THE TRICOLOUR ON CORK CITY COUNCIL BUILDINGS

“That Cork City would ensure that all public buildings owned or that Cork City Council have interest in would fly the tricolour everyday of the year in 2016 to commemorate the 1916 anniversary”

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 15/189)

The report of the Director of Services stated that it is the intention that the Tricolour will be flown at all major public buildings under the control of Cork City Council during 1916 subject to national protocol for the display of the Tricolour. Also, it is proposed that other building owners, institutions and businesses will be written to and encouraged to display the Tricolour throughout the year subject to the same protocols, and will be further encouraged to replace worn or otherwise unsightly copies of the Tricolour.

3.6 **FINANCE & ESTIMATES FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 7th SEPTEMBER 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the Minutes of the Finance & Estimates Functional Committee, from its meeting held on 7th September 2015.

3.6.1 **REPORT OF VALERIE O’SULLIVAN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES, HOUSING & COMMUNITY, DATED 3RD SEPTEMBER 2015, ON ALL OUTSTANDING LOANS IN THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, TO INCLUDE LAND AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME LOANS AND DETAILS REGARDING HOW SUCH LOANS ARE TO BE FUNDED**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services.

4. **QUESTION TIME**

4.1 **AWARDING OF CATERING CONTRACTS**

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

Can the Chief Executive outline the process in which City Council awards its catering contracts? Are there any obligations for the successful tenderers such as the payment of a decent wage and adequate terms and conditions for its employees?

REPLY

The Canteen catering contract was awarded under Cork City Council's Procurement Policy and Guidelines. Internal catering also complies with such Policy and Guidelines.

All contactors, catering or otherwise, are required by Cork City Council to complete and sign a "Contractors Certificate of Compliance" which states that the contractor complies with the relevant Irish employment laws and regulations including rates of pay, conditions of employment, safety health and welfare and Pension obligations.

Paul Moynihan,
Director of Services,
Corporate & External Affairs.

4.2 **STREET FURNITURE LICENCE**

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

How much was raised by Cork City Local Authority from the street furniture licence programme in 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012?

How much does it cost Cork City Local Authority to administer and police the programme?

How many businesses are licenced in the local authority area?

Finally, how much profit does the local authority benefit from the programme?

REPLY

1. The following fees are applicable for Street Furniture Licences:

Application Fee €110
Fee per table €125
Fee for use of public space €100

The following is the total combined income for Street Furniture for the respective years:

2015 - €48,775
2014 - €48,253
2013 - €31,030
2012 - €23,370

2. The administration of the licences involves the Roads Directorate, Planning Directorate, Fire Department and Law Department and costs approximately €50,000 per annum to administer.
3. 90 business are licenced for 2015.

4. The local authority does not profit from Street Furniture Licences.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

4.3 **CORK EVENT CENTRE**

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

Mindful of the fact that the BAM promoters insisted they could press ahead with the Cork Event Centre project irrespective of public funds, and given the 10 months period delay since the former Beamish & Crawford site was selected as the preferred option, can the CE please explain the inordinate delay in progress and perhaps agree that the selection process should be re- started?

REPLY

The delay in formal contract signing to allow works to begin on this project while unsatisfactory from our point of view is not untypical of projects with this level of complexity and risk. While we are disappointed with the pace of progress since selection of the preferred bidder it is not in the interests of the Council to restart a lengthy selection process the outcome of which would put us in the position of where we were 10 months ago.

Patrick Ledwidge,
Director of Services,
Strategic Planning and Economic Development.

4.4 **IRISH WATER LOGO**

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

Can the CE tell me why Cork City Council has chosen to put Irish Water's Logo on its homepage?

REPLY

The Irish Water Logo, located on the right-hand side of the masthead on the Cork City Council website home page, is a shortcut to www.water.ie. This is activated by double clicking the graphic.

Consequent on transfer of responsibility for provision of Water Services from local authorities to Irish Water in January 2014, Cork City Council placed a link on its homepage to facilitate easy transfer to www.water.ie, in order to seek further information or post requests for service.

Eamonn Walsh,
A/Director of Services
Environment & Recreation.

4.5 **PUBLIC LIGHTS**

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

- a) How many public lights are not working because they require Capital investment?
- b) How much finance is required to complete these works?
- c) Is there money in place to carry out the works?

REPLY

At present there is a total of 582 lights (representing **4%** of the total inventory of street lights) out of order awaiting repairs or lantern replacement. Of these, it is estimated 137 lights will be fixed by Airtricity Utility Solutions (AUS Ltd.) under their routine maintenance obligation but up to 40 locations require attendance by ESB Networks to get a number of lights or schemes back in operation. A further 237 lantern will be repaired on the Public Lighting Replacement & Renewal programme in 2015 at a cost of €301,000. The related work programme is being progressed at present and will be completed by AUS Ltd. before the end of this financial year. The remaining 208 Lights Out of Order will be repaired from January onwards under the 2016 Public Lighting Replacement & Renewal programme at an estimated cost of €265,000.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

4.6 **AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE NRA AND THE CITY COUNCIL IN RELATION TO THE JUNCTION AT MAHON**

An Chomhairle agreed to hold this question in Committee until the next meeting of An Chomhairle.

Can the Chief Executive set out the agreement reached between the NRA and the City Council in relation to the Junction at Mahon? Can the Manager clarify if the NRA are honouring the agreement?

4.7 **PENROSE QUAY HOARDING**

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

To ask the CE for an update on the Penrose Quay hoarding? Whilst acknowledging, the recent creation of a smaller hoarding space, it is now six years since my initial asking of when this remnant of the Cork Main Drainage Project will be completed and the site levelled off?

REPLY

As stated the hoarding on Penrose Quay was considerably modified and made more secure, earlier this year.

As previously indicated, it is intended that necessary venting works at the siphon location on Penrose Quay, will be carried out in tandem with the public realm and road improvement scheme for the area. This project is currently in the procurement phase and is expected to commence on site before year end, with completion in first half of 2016.

Eamonn Walsh,
A/Director of Services,
Environment & Recreation.

4.8 NEW PONTOON ON THE MARINA

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

Can the Chief Executive please advise the following information relating to the new pontoon on the Marina:

Who is responsible for the operation of the pontoon?

Which clubs and groups will use the pontoon? Is the pontoon available for members of the public to utilise?

What are the arrangements for the opening and closing of the pontoon? What are the hours of operation? Will these hours vary seasonally?

REPLY

The City Council is responsible for the operation of the new public pontoon at the Marina. The pontoon access is gated for health and safety reasons, as the gangway leads down to an open pontoon located in deep water.

At present, a number of boat clubs and maritime organisations such as Meitheal Mara, Cork Dragons etc have access to the facility. It is planned to have a fixed presence shortly on site at weekends to facilitate greater access by the public, hours of opening being tailored to meet demand.

Eamonn Walsh,
A/Director of Services,
Environment & Recreation.

4.9 BOILER SERVICES

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

Taking into consideration that 7.263 tenants have their rents increase for to cover the cost of boiler services, would the CE now be returning the moneys to those tenants that have

not had their boilers serviced in 2015 or into the fact that only 3102 boilers have been serviced to date?

REPLY

No.

The number of boilers serviced to date now stands at 3138. All boilers will be serviced by years' end unless there is a difficulty either carrying out a service (e.g. no gas supply to the boiler), the tenants refuse entry or the tenants do not make themselves available to facilitate a service.

The tenants who identify themselves as not having received a boiler service should report this immediately to the Council's help line.

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

4.10 **INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS OF BUS SHELTERS**

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

Can the CE advise me who is responsible for the installation, maintenance and repairs of Bus Shelters?

What is Cork City Council's role in same?

REPLY

Since 1st February 2013 Cork City Council has been responsible for the issuing and renewing of licences for the use of bus stops. This is in accordance with SI 12 of 2013 and Section 16 of the Road Traffic Act 2002, Prior to this, the responsibility rested with An Garda Síochána.

Bus shelters are provided and maintained by the bus operator. Cork City Council has no involvement in the maintenance of bus shelters.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Roads & Transportation.

4.11 **MARKET GARDENS, TOGHER**

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

Following the lighting fault which put Market Gardens in Togher in darkness for a considerable period of time, can the Chief Executive confirm if a maintenance contract is in place with Airtricity to maintain the street lights in this estate.

Can the C E also confirm what departments are responsible for maintenance of roads, green spaces and trees in Market Gardens?

REPLY

Market Gardens is an estate that was developed by the Housing Directorate and consists of a mixture of affordable units and social units. Roads matters remain the responsibility of the Housing Directorate, until the estate is formally taken in charge.

A maintenance contract is in place with Energia to maintain the street lights in the Market Gardens estate.

The Parks Division is responsible for the maintenance of green spaces and trees within Market Gardens.

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

4.12 TRAVELLERS SITE ON NASH'S BOREEN

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

To Ask the CE the following with regard to the Travellers Site on Nash's Boreen;

1. Is the Site located on City Council or County Council Land?
2. Who has operational responsibility for the site?
3. Are there any plans to supply Electricity to the site and, if not, what are the reasons for not doing so?

REPLY

1. The Nash's Boreen travellers site is located on land owned by Cork City Council but within Cork County Council's administrative boundary.
2. The travellers site is unauthorised. Cork City Council provide limited support to the residents of the site which include provision of skips and portable toilets.
3. There are no plans to supply electricity at this location as the traveller site is unauthorised.

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

4.13 MODULAR HOUSING

Has Cork City Council considered "Modular Housing" as part of its strategic housing options?

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

REPLY

Dublin City Council has recently invited modular housing suppliers to display their product on a site at East Wall Road. This initiative was in the context of a debate on the possibility of using modular housing as an alternative short term provision option for the numbers of homeless families in Dublin residing at present in hotels.

The technical aspects of compliance with building & planning regulations are currently being examined.

Cork City Council currently considers the use of modular pod bathrooms in respect of extensions and adaptations for persons with a disability where feasible and economically viable.

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

5. CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 21st SEPTEMBER 2015

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held on the 21st September 2015.

5.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31st AUGUST 2015

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

5.2 HEALTHY CITIES

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report on Healthy Cities.

6. SPECIAL MEETING OF PARTY WHIPS – 21st SEPTEMBER 2015

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Special Meeting of Party Whips from its meeting held on the 21st September 2015.

7. ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 14th SEPTEMBER 2015

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Group, from its meeting held on 14th September 2015.

7.1 REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED

7.1.2 REVIEW OF COACH PARKING IN CITY CENTRE

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report on the Review of Coach Parking in the City Centre.

8. **HOUSING & COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 21st SEPTEMBER 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Housing & Community Functional Committee, from its meeting held on 21st September 2015.

8.1 **DISPOSALS**

Members considered the reports of the Chief Executive dated 17th September, 2015 in relation to the following property disposals:

- a. Disposal of wayleave situated to the rear of “Lisnalee House”, Barringtons Avenue, Cork to John & Anne Higgins, c/o O’Connor Murphy Clune, Solicitors, No. 26, South Mall, Cork for the sum of €3,500.00 (plus VAT if applicable) plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT. On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy the disposal was approved.
- b. Disposal of freehold interest in property known as No. 6, Sullivan’s Lane, off Barrack Street, Cork to Brendan Cadogan, c/o O’Donovan Murphy & Partners Solicitors, Wolfe Tone Square, Bantry, Co. Cork for the sum of €91,000.00 (plus VAT if applicable). On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Moloney, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, the disposal was approved.
- c. Disposal of property known as “Kiosk 2”, Grand Parade, Cork by way of Lease for a period of 4 years & 9 months to “Three Fools Coffee Limited”, c/o Sweeney Solicitors, Marlboro House, Marlboro Street, Cork at an annual rent of €20,000.00 (plus VAT if applicable). On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Shields, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, the disposal was approved.
- d. Disposal of properties known as Numbers 3,4,8,16,20,22,23,29 and 30, Kilbrack Grove, Skehard Road, Blackrock, Cork to Doorway to Life Limited, c/o Coakley Moloney Solicitors, No. 49, South Mall, Cork by way of lease for a term of five years at a rent of €10.00 per annum (plus VAT if applicable). On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, the disposal was approved.
- e. Disposal of No. 1, Killiney Way, Knocknaheeny, Cork, to Brian Lee c/o Taylor Solicitors, Unit 3A, River House, Blackpool Retail Park, Cork in exchange for the property owned by the said Brian Lee at No. 64, Harbour View Road, Knocknaheeny, Cork. On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Shields, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, the disposal was approved.

8.2 **MONTHLY REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services on Housing for July/August 2015.

8.3 **CLÚID HOUSING ASSOCIATION – ACCOMMODATION AT BOREENMANNA ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the provision of 26 units of accommodation at Elderwood Avenue, Boreenmanna Road, Cork by Clúid Housing Association.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopted the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €1,129,175 be granted to Clúid Housing Association, subject to the terms of the Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme”.

8.4 **CARBERY HOUSING ASSOCIATION – ACCOMMODATION AT DUBLIN HILL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the provision of 1 unit of accommodation at No. 51, Hawthorn Mews, Dublin Hill, Cork by Carbery Housing Association.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopted the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €47,250 (Previous loan being €35,250) be granted to Carbery Housing Association, subject to the terms of the Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme”.

8.5 **CARBERY HOUSING ASSOCIATION – ACCOMMODATION AT CHURCHFIELD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the provision of 1 unit of accommodation at No. 35, Churchfield Road, Churchfield, Cork by Carbery Housing Association.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Shields, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €36,143 (Previous loan being €24,293) be granted to Carbery Housing Association, subject to the terms of the Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme”.

8.6 **TÚATH HOUSING ASSOCIATION – ACCOMMODATION AT BALLYVOLANE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the provision of 1 unit of accommodation at No. 130, Mervue Lawn, Ballyvolane, Cork by Túath Housing Association.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €56,700 be granted to Túath Housing Association, subject to the terms of the Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme”.

8.7 **TÚATH HOUSING ASSOCIATION – ACCOMMODATION AT DEANROCK, TOGHER**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the provision of 1 unit of accommodation at No. 2, Market Gardens, Deanrock, Togher, Cork by Túath Housing Association.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €35,250 be granted to Túath Housing Association, subject to the terms of the Capital Advance Leasing Facility Scheme”.

8.8 **SOCIAL HOUSING ACCOMMODATION AT SILVERSPRINGS, CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 in relation to the provision of social housing accommodation at Ashmount Mews, Silversprings, Cork.

8.9 **CHOICE BASED LETTING SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 in relation to an update on the Choice Based Letting Scheme.

8.10 **PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

ORIGINAL MOTION

‘That Cork City Council would produce a report on the number of properties purchased or acquired since 2010, the method of acquisition, the acquisition price, agents or parties involved, purpose of acquisition, current market value, loans or associated debts and current status of the properties and associated plans.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/194)

Clarification:

That Cork City Council would produce a report on the number of non-residential properties purchased or acquired since 2010, the method of acquisition, the acquisition price, agents or

parties involved, purpose of acquisition, current market value, loans or associated debts and current status of the properties and associated plans.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/194)

The report of the Director of Services stated that further to Councillor Buttimer’s revised query issued to the Property Department in July 2015 that the properties outlined in the table below represent all non-residential property acquisitions by Cork City Council since 2010. The method of acquisition, price and purpose of acquisition is outlined. As can be seen the vast majority of acquisitions over the period were to facilitate the delivery of strategic council objectives namely road widening or public park redevelopment plans. The parties involved in each transaction have been detailed save in the case of private individuals where it is considered that the information is not appropriate for disclosure.

The report further stated that no specific loans are outstanding on the properties. In the case of acquisitions for road widening the required monies would have been repaid by the National Roads Authority as part of the overall public funding for the project.

Location	Acquisition Cost	Method of Acquisition	Purpose of Acquisition	Current Market Value	Parties Involved	Outstanding Loans	Plans
Boreenmannagh Road	€2,000	Compulsory Purchase Order	Road widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project completed
Boreenmannagh Road	€80,000	Compulsory Purchase Order	Road widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project completed
Boreenmannagh Road	€35,000	Compulsory Purchase Order	Road widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project completed
Boreenmannagh Road	€20,000	Compulsory Purchase Order	Road widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project completed
Harbour View Road	€10	Negotiation	Road Widening	n/a	Cork City VEC	n/a	Roads project completed
Glen Avenue and Arderin Way	€50	Negotiation	Glen Regeneration	n/a	Cork Diocesan Trustees	n/a	Roads project completed
Ballyhooley Road	€25,000	Negotiation	Road widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project completed

Palaceanne Villas	€13,900	Negotiation	Road widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project planned
Drumcora, Blackrock	€400,000	Compulsory Purchase Order	Amenity use	n/a	Dunlop Social Club	n/a	To form part of the wider parks redevelopment in the South Docks
Model Farm Road, Cork (Ballincollig Green Route)	€75,000	Negotiation	Road Widening	n/a	Private property ownerz	n/a	Roads project completed
Model Farm Road, Cork (Ballincollig Green Route)	€54,000	Negotiation	Road Widening	n/a	Pilz Ireland Industrial Automation	n/a	Roads project completed
Model Farm Road, Cork (Ballincollig Green Route)	€3,250	Negotiation	Road Widening	n/a	Private property owner	n/a	Roads project completed
Lands at Farranferris, Redemption Road	€6,000	Negotiation	Facilitate the extension of Scoil Padre Pio, Churchfield	n/a	Cork Diocesan Trustees	n/a	Extension completed
71 Watercourse Road, Blackpool (Former Lido Cinema)	€57,000	Open Market	For the development of a community arts centre	€400,000	Bank of Scotland Ireland	n/a	Building practically refurbished
8/9 Parnell Place	€1.1 million	Negotiation	For the development of high quality offices	c. €1.5 million	NAMA	n/a	Funding and redevelopment options being considered.
1 Lapp's Quay/16 Parnell Place	€800,000	Open Market	To ensure the protection of a	c.€800,000	Permanent TSB Bank	n/a	Funding and redevelopment

			landmark city building. Exact use to be agreed.				options being consider ed.
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8.11 **PROPERTIES AT SKIDDY'S LANE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

That Cork City Council include the Skiddy's Lane in Vicars Road and Pouldauff Road in the Fabric Upgrade Programme.

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/174)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Fabric Upgrade Programme commenced in May 2013 for social housing stock in the ownership of Cork City Council. The properties at Vicars Road and Pouldauff Road are in the ownership of Skiddy's Charity and therefore cannot be included in the Programme.

8.12 **HOUSING APPLICANTS CONTACT DETAILS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

‘That City Council would review the process for obtaining housing applicants contact details due to the enormous amount of applicants that are not contactable when they have been chosen to be given an offer of housing.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/203)

The report of the Director of Services stated that social housing support applicants fill out the Personal Details Section in the Application Form. The onus is on the Applicants to notify the Housing Authority of any change in their circumstances including their contact details.

8.13 **DAMAGE TO COUNCIL PROPERTIES CAUSED BY TENANTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

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

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

The report of the Director of Services stated that it is the policy of the Housing and Community Directorate that where tenants have caused damage to properties above normal wear and tear that they will be required to make good such damage. In cases where this cannot be achieved, the costs of repairing damage or removing rubbish are calculated by the Housing Maintenance Section and are placed as a charge against the tenants rent account.

8.14 **COMMUNITY WARDENS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing & Community Services dated 17th September, 2015 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:

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

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

The report of the Director of Services stated that six Community Wardens were originally appointed by the City Council in August 2008; due to resignations there are now four wardens working in the RAPID areas of the City. Initially, funding was secured under the Sustainable Communities Fund and following the success of the initial pilot, the service was mainstreamed and is now funded wholly by Cork City Council.

The Community Warden’s role was intended to cover three main areas:

- *Community Liaison*
- *Monitoring of and Reporting of Local Authority Issues*
- *Enforcement of Local Authority Regulations*

The report further stated that the Community Warden Initiative is an important support to communities in disadvantaged areas and provides a significant City Council presence in communities. A key aspect of the community wardens’ role is to patrol their estates and identify any issues relevant to the Local Authority. The Wardens patrol the parks, specific estates and open spaces. Issues such as abandoned cars, litter, dumping, repairs and maintenance, etc. are reported to the appropriate Directorate/Agency and where possible proactive action is taken. Currently, this work is carried out on foot or by bicycle. This provides a very visible City Council presence in communities.

The report also stated that whilst a City Council van would add to the visible presence of the wardens in their areas and would assist them in carrying out their duties, the current budgetary provision is not sufficient to cover the cost of vehicle leasing. The non-staff budget allocated to the Community Warden Service in 2015 was €14,000 which covers all materials, equipment, uniforms, mobile phones, rent and cleaning materials. The cost of vehicle leasing for four community wardens would be €10,464 per annum plus fuel and insurance. There is no budgetary provision for vehicles.

9. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 21ST SEPTEMBER 2015**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Functional Committee, from its meeting held on 21st September 2015.

9.1 **MATTERS ARISING**

PART 8 REPORT FOR CITY CENTRE MOVEMENT STRATEGY (PHASES 1 & 2)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir N. O’Keeffe, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle agreed to accept the report of the Director of Services that a new Part 8 consultation process for stages 1 and 2 of the City Centre Movement Strategy be undertaken.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle agreed to Suspend Standing Orders to finish the business of An Chomhairle.

9.2 **ROADWORKS PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 on the progress of the ongoing Roadworks Programme for the months ending July and August 2015.

9.3 **PARKING PROMOTION 2015**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding Parking Promotion 2015.

9.4 **INTRODUCTION OF 30KPH IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding the Introduction of 30KPH in Residential Area.

9.5 **PEDESTRIAN COUNTER QUARTERLY REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2015**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding the Pedestrian Counter Quarterly Report – April to June 2015.

9.6.1 **CORK CITY APPOINTED STANDS (TAXI) BYE-LAWS 2015**

An Chomhairle agreed to re-number this item from 9.6 to 9.6.1

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding the Cork City Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2015.

9.6.2 **CORK CITY PARKING BYE LAWS 2015**

An Chomhairle agreed to re-number this item from 9.6 to 9.6.2

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding the Cork City Parking Bye-Laws 2015.

9.7 **CORK CITY COUNCIL SURFACE LEVEL PAY PARKING CAR PARK BYE LAWS 2015**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding the Cork City Council Surface Level Pay Parking Car Park Bye-Laws 2015.

9.8 **TAKING IN CHARGE OF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT SHELDON COURT, AUDLEY PLACE, ST. PATRICK'S HILL, CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, dated 17th September 2015 regarding the taking in charge of housing development at Sheldon Court, Audley Place, St. Patrick's Hill, Cork

On the proposal of Comhairleoir N. O'Keeffe, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, An Chomhairle agreed to include the words "Resolve That" in the following Resolution

"Resolve That , having considered the Report of the Director of Services, Roads and Transportation Directorate, dated 17th September, 2015, and the provisions of Section 11 (1) of the Roads Act 1993, it is now hereby declared by this Order that the said roads serving Sheldon Court, Audley Place, St. Patrick's Hill, Cork are public roads."

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dinnen, An Chomhairle agreed to adopt the Resolution.

9.9. **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WHICH WERE REFERRED BY COUNCIL TO THE COMMITTEE.**

9.9.1 **LOCAL AREA TRANSPORT PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

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

The report of the Director of Services stated that The South Parish Evergreen and Greenmount road network form part of the study area for South west Strategic Travel Corridor study and projects may be identified as part of the study.

Funding or resources are not available to prepare specific local area transport plans for individual areas at this time.

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

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

(Proposer: T. Fitzgerald 15/187)

The report of the Director of Services stated that footpath repairs were recently carried out at the junction of Dunnycove Crescent and Kilmore Road which will assist in access to St.Vincent’s GAA club.

The request for the provision of a pedestrian access from St Vincent’s GAA Club to Kilmore Road will be assessed. If deemed appropriate it can be put forward for consideration in any future roads programme.

In addition it should be noted that the Road Safety Authority (RSA) in association with the FAI, GAA, IRFU and Cycling Ireland has developed road safety guidelines for sporting organisations, entitled ‘Play it Safe’

These guidelines present information on:

- organising sporting events with road safety in mind;
- encouraging the use of high visibility material;
- safe driving practices;
- other important road safety information

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

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

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

Also to review the effectiveness of the yellow box closest to Dennehy's Cross, at the Harley Wood entrance by the church of the Descent of the Holy Ghost Dennehy's Cross. The Diagonal yellow box is confusing, ineffective and dangerous; it has been the scene of several serious accidents and daily road rage and confrontations. If Cork City Council takes the suggestion above to revert to 2 traffic lanes in this area then the yellow box will no longer be an issue.'

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

The report of the Director of Services stated that Green Routes are considered to be essential and a very beneficial development for the City. They have helped greatly in the improvement of public transport journey times and passenger numbers. Council policy is to continue to expand and improve Green Routes throughout the city. The South West Strategic Travel Corridor study is in progress and Wilton Road is being examined as part of same. Recommended improvements in support of sustainable travel will be brought to Members in due course.

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

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

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

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

The report of the Director of Services stated that the suggested changes and overall junction layout will be reviewed as part of an upcoming assessment in late October. If efficiencies or improved safety measures can be identified these will be implemented as soon as possible.

9.9.5 **SPEED RAMP IN BRIDE VALLEY VIEW**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

(Proposer: K. Collins 15/215)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Bride Valley View, Fairhill can be assessed to determine the extent of the problems that exist in order to identify any possible mitigation measures that could be provided there. However, there is no funding available for a traffic calming programme in 2015.

Any identified traffic calming solutions can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

9.9.6 **PROGRESS REPORT ON TRAFFIC SURVEYS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

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

The report of the Director of Service stated that a number of surveys looking at the volumes and speeds of HGV’s through the Fairhill/Parklands and Farranree area have now been undertaken. Any traffic calming measures need to take consideration of the current bus routes operating in the area. Considerable further work is required to identify the most suitable routes for vehicles and to assess signage requirements and possible traffic calming measures along the routes. Resources permitting we hope to undertake this work in 2016.

9.9.7 **STREET AUDITS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

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

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

The report of the Director of Services stated that Road Safety Audits are commonly undertaken as part of the design & construction process for new projects. Condition surveys or user audits are less common and tend to be undertaken as part of broader studies. General street audits are desirable however there is currently no funding available to undertake this work. The matter will be revisited if funding becomes available

9.9.8 **DOUBLE YELLOW LINES OPPOSITE 18 MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That double yellow lines be placed on the section of road directly opposite 18 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Friars Walk.’

(Proposer: T. O’Driscoll 15/227)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the section of road directly opposite 18 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Friars Walk can 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 measures can be put forward for consideration in any future programme.

9.9.9 **RESIDENTS ONLY PARKING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council allocate "Residents Only" Parking on Audley Place down to the top of Patricks Hill on the side of the road with the houses only. There is adequate public parking on the other side of the road for public parking, and residents quite often have difficulty parking outside the front door of their houses as motorists not living locally are parking directly outside these houses and leaving their cars there for long periods of time seriously inconveniencing the residents of Audley Place.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 15/231)

The report of the Director of Services stated that on-street parking constitutes a significant public asset, which must be managed in a manner that balances the use of this limited resource between the needs of residents, businesses, shoppers, visitors, tourists and the disabled.

The Residents Parking Permit Scheme allows for a resident who is the owner of a vehicle and who lives in a pay parking zone to apply to Cork City Council for a permit, which allows their vehicle to be parked without limitation as to time in any parking bay on any of the streets within the zone to which the permit relates. It is not possible to allocate specific parking bays for the exclusive use of particular permit holders.

9.9.10 **REPAINT THE DOUBLE YELLOW LINE AND ERECT BOLLARDS AT THE BOTTOM OF TOWER STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That to facilitate sight lines for vehicles turning right at the bottom of Tower Street, the double yellow lines are repainted, - and bollards erected, - to ensure unobstructed visibility at this busy junction, that no parking is enforced at this location and that a 'no left turn' sign is erected at the entrance to the new housing development on Evergreen St near Parkowen.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M Finn 15/233)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the junction of Tower Street and Barrack Street as well as the entrance to the new housing development on Evergreen Street, near Parkowen can 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 measures can be put forward for consideration in future works programme.

9.9.11 **REPAIR PUBLIC LIGHTING (POLE 3) ON CHURCH ROAD, BLACKROCK**

An Chomhairle agreed to refer this item back to Committee

‘That Cork City Council reports on the status of public lighting (pole number 3) on Church Road, Blackrock and takes urgent action to repair or replace the light. In a response to a previous motion I proposed (14/425), a report from the Roads Directorate dated 31st December 2014 suggested this pole would be repaired early in the New Year, yet it is still not working.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/234)

9.9.12 **REPAIR FOOTPATHS IN MCGRATH PARK, CHURCH ROAD, BLACKROCK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services dated 17th September 2015 on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

‘That Cork City Council take urgent action to repair and renew the footpath surfaces within McGrath Park, Church Road, Blackrock. The footpaths are in a dilapidated condition and urgently require attention.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/235)

The report of the Director of Services stated that footpath repair works are scheduled to commence in McGrath Park Church Road during September 2015.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade dated the 8th September 2015.

11. **CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

No summaries received.

12. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

12.1 An Chomhairle approved attendance at the following Conference tabled on the night:-

- Comhairleoir S. Martin at the conference “A Practical Guide to Budget 2016’ to be held on the 23rd – 25th October 2015 at The Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork.

- Comhairleoir M. Shields at the FETAC training seminar ‘Building & Control (Amendment) Regulations S.I. No. 9. 2014, Single Dwellings and Domestic Extensions’ to be held on the 23rd – 25th October 2015 at the Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

13. **TRAINING**

An Chomhairle approved attendance at the following training tabled on the night.

- Comhairleoirí M. Shields, T. Brosnan the AILG Training Module 5 – Roads, Transportation & Safety – A Key Function for Local Authorities to be held on the 17th October 2015, at the Silver Springs Hotel, Cork.

14. **MOTIONS**

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

14.1 **PAINTING GRANT SCHEME**

‘That Cork City Council increase the funding from €15,000 to €45,000 in the Painting Grant Scheme. This should be included in the 2015 Budget.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/186)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

14.2 **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES REQUIRED OLD YOUGHAL ROAD BETWEEN ST. JOSEPH’S CHURCH AND TINKER’S CROSS**

‘That the City Council carry out an urgent examination with a view to bringing in traffic calming measures on Old Youghal Road between St. Joseph’s Church and Tinker’s Cross. There is a major issue on this section of the road with speeding cars and it is vital that this be curbed by introducing proper control measures.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 15/261)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

14.3 **EMERGENCY SERVICES TO HOMES AT BUCKSTON HILL AND JANEMOUNT, SUNDAY’S WELL**

‘That Cork City Council makes contact with the receiver of the Good Shepherd Convent with a view to securing access for Emergency Services to 20 homes at Buckston Hill and Janemount, Sunday’s Well.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 15/264)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

14.4 **ADD THE FOOTPATHS OF OAKFIELD LAWN, BALLINLOUGH ROAD TO THE FOOTPATH RENEWAL PROGRAMME**

‘To add the footpaths of Oakfield Lawn, Ballinlough Road to the footpath renewal programme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 15/268)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

14.5 **EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF INNOVATION PROGRAMME**

‘That the Council engage with the European Capital of Innovation programme with a view to attaining such an accolade. The programme celebrates the European city which is building the best “innovation ecosystem”- connecting citizens, public organizations, academia, and business - with a view to helping the city scale up its efforts in this field – all of which Cork and its region have in abundance.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 15/269)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

14.6 **HOUSING ADAPTATIONS**

‘Cork people are one of the most generous kind hearted people in this country.

They give willingly every year to different charities, fundraising initiatives etc.

Cork City Council needs approximately €4 million to complete all housing adaptations within its own housing stock for the residents of Cork. We have only received €500,000 despite continuing lobbying of National Government leaving a short fall of €3.5 million.

I propose that Cork City Council apply for fundraising permits & every Councillor & any other Cork City Council staff member who is willing to give up 1 or 2 days of their time go around fundraising within the city centre, every shopping centre around the city and any other area that would be good for fundraising.

We could also open a bank account for any corporate donations, public donations etc.

All this more than likely will not reach the figure of €3.5 million but at least we will be trying something different, rather than giving lip service to a problem we are actually doing something about the problem.

Cork City Council might match the amount donated by the public Euro for Euro to show its commitment to the housing adaptation problem.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/271)

Housing & Community Functional Committee

14.7 **SIGNAGE ASKING CYCLIST NOT TO CYCLE ON THE FOOTPATHS**

‘That Cork City Council would erect signage asking cyclist not to cycle on the footpaths in Blackpool, in particular on Dublin Street as the footpaths are narrow and the doors of the house open directly on to the footpaths.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 15/272)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

14.8 **REMOVE FENCING AT THE ENTRANCE TO ARDCULLEN ESTATE, HOLLYHILL**

‘That Cork City Council will remove fencing at the entrance to ArdculLEN Estate Hollyhill that is not serving any useful purpose’.

(Proposer: Cllr M. Nugent 15/273)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

14.9 **TRIM OVERGROWN TREES IN THE AREA OF WYNDWOOD**

‘That Cork City Council would carry out some work in the area of Wyndwood in relation to the overgrown trees. These are a concern for residents and need to be trimmed back.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/275)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

14.10 **PERMANENT HOARDING ON VACANT SITE ON HAWKES ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council calls on NAMA to erect permanent hoarding on the vacant site on Hawkes Road and that Cork City Council develop a development plan for the site before it is sold by NAMA.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/276)

Strategic Planning & Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

14.11 **PARKING REGULATIONS IN HARTLANDS ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council would consult with residents in Hartlands Road regarding the efficacy of current parking regulations.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Buttimer 15/277)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

14.12 **ONE WAY SYSTEM IN HIGHFIELD AVENUE**

‘That City Council would consider introducing a one way system in Highfield Avenue due to the continuous traffic jams and damage to parked vehicles on a regular basis following complaints from residents.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 15/278)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

14.13 **FLOODING CAUSED BY BLOCKED DRAINS IN AVONLEA GARDENS, BLACKROCK**

‘That Cork City Council carries out a comprehensive investigation into continued flooding caused by blocked drains in Avonlea Gardens, Blackrock and that council take appropriate actions to alleviate this recurring issue before the Winter & inclement weather exacerbate the problem further. Can council also provide a report on any previous works carried out within this estate in the last three years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/279)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

14.14 **MAHON PARK RINGMAHON ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council have the area to the rear of houses in Mahon Park, Ringmahon Road cleared of built up litter from illegal dumping and have the overgrown hedges cut back & removed so that people on this particular row of houses can access & utilise their back entrances.

Council should also consider erecting a perimeter fence along the rear & side walls of the estate to deter people from using the estate as a shortcut.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 15/280)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

15. **MOTIONS**

15.1 **CARE OF OUR OLDER POPULATION**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion:-

‘While we acknowledge that nursing homes provide a vital service, we also strongly believe that they should not be seen as the first choice of care for our older population.

So we request that the government should be working to provide a range of options that are cost effective and preferable to the older person, their families and medical professionals. Some strategies that need investment in include:

- Increased Home Help and Care packages
- Housing Aid and Housing Adaptation Grant increases The utilisation of improvements in technology and improving healthcare to support older people to age at home
- The development of extra-care housing models Increases in funding to be focused on supporting people to age at home
- Nursing homes to concentrate on high and maximum care needs

We call on the government to put extra funding towards these strategies in Octobers budget in support of our older population.’

(Proposer Cllr. T. Moloney 15/244)

15.2 **RE-EXAMINE THE CONCEPT OF EQUALISATION POLICY ON VARIOUS TAX SCHEMES**

Comhairleoir M. Finn withdrew the following Motion:-

‘That given the inability of Cork City Council to carry out any meaningful programme of estate resurfacing or footpath renewal across the six wards (due to inadequate funding), and the fact that traffic calming measures have not been provided for in several budgets, this council calls on central government to re-examine the concept of equalisation policy on various tax schemes (including motor, property) which put larger urban authorities at a disproportionate disadvantage and either scrap it or improve the 80:20 ratio.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 15/253)

15.3 **LOCAL PROPERTY TAX**

An Chomharile approved the following Motion:-

‘Conscious of the recent LPT county by county figures (and the fact, whether by accident or design, that the Environment Minister's home county has one of the highest top-up payments), Cork City Council calls for a review of 'equalisation fund' processes in terms of tax receipts and ratios to ensure that larger urban areas like Cork City are not being penalised for size, currently manifesting in appalling lack of investment in roads, housing and most basic council services.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 15/257)

15.4 **HOUSING CRISES**

An Chomharile approved the following Motion and agreed to send a copy to Minister Alan Kelly, Department of Environment, Community & Local Government:-

‘That this Council condemns the Minister Alan Kelly’s blame of Councillors for not doing enough on the Housing crises.’

(Proposers: Cllr. S. Martin, T. Shannon, T. Fitzgerald, M. Shields, T. Brosnan, J. Sheehan, N. O’Keeffe, F. Dennehy, T. O’Driscoll, K. O’Flynn (15/265)

15.5 **LOCAL PROPERTY TAX**

An Chomharile approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would write to the Government asking them to abolish the Local Property Tax in the upcoming budget and to replace it with a block grant from central government to Local Authorities so that the council can provide adequate services for the people and the businesses of Cork City.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Gould 15/266)

15.6 **INCREASE IN THE STATE PENSION**

An Chomharile approved the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council acknowledges that between 2009 and 2013, the percentage of older people living in deprivation increased from 9.5 per cent to 16.1 per cent – just under 100,000 people.

And calls on the Government for an increase in the State pension, which has remained unchanged since 2009, and seeks an increase of €2.40 in the living-alone allowance, from €9 a week.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 15/270)

MOTION NO. 15/183 TABLED BY FINANCE & ESTIMATES

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Head of Finance on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle.

DIVIDEND PAID BY THE I.P.B INSURANCE

‘That the dividend paid by the I.P.B Insurance to Cork City Council be shown separately in the accounts and the dividend for 2015 be ring fenced for Roadworks programmes.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 15/183)

Finance & Estimates Functional Committee

Motions from Meeting dated 13th July 2015.

REPLY

The annual budget process takes into consideration all potential insurance liabilities and potential insurance rebates. The dividend paid by I.P.B Insurance to Cork City Council had been estimated for in the 2015 budget and has been netted off against the total estimated insurance liability.

16. **MOTIONS DEFERRED FROM MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE DATED THE 14th SEPTEMBER 2015**

16.1 **CARERS & THE HOUSEHOLD PROPERTY TAX**

Comhairleoir T. Moloney withdrew the following Motion:-

‘That Cork City Council lobby National Government to extend Local Property Tax exemptions to include households where a high level of care is provided, making a household where a high level of care is provided exempt from property tax.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/247)

16.2 **WATER AFFORDABILITY STRATEGIES FOR CARERS & THEIR FAMILIES**

Comhairleir T. Moloney withdrew the following motion:-

‘With the water charges bills coming to people’s homes, Cork City Council calls on the Minister to ensure that carers & their families are going to be assured of, water affordability strategies being put in place to support family carers with high essential water needs due to dialysis, peg feeding , ventilators, showers, washing sheets blankets etc...?’

Carers cannot be worried about the cost of water bills when they are caring for a family member.

The volume of water a carer will use when caring within the home is needs-based & considering how much carers save the government every year by the work they do, the very least we can do as a society & as a council is make sure they have one less stress in their already over stressed lives as carers.

Make sure that they get an exception in their water bill.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 15/248)

16.3 **REVIEW THE DOWNGRADING OF HISTORY AS A MANDATORY CORE SUBJECT ON THE REVISED JUNIOR CERTIFICATE CURRICULUM**

An Chomhairle approved the following Motion and agreed to send a copy to each Local Authority:-

‘That Cork City Council would request The Minister for Education and Science and the NCCA to review the downgrading of history as a mandatory core subject on the revised Junior Certificate Curriculum in second level school.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Shields 15/249)

An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle of the LPT Meeting to be held on Tuesday 29th September 2015 at 5.00 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH