

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 14th MARCH 2016

PRESENT	An tArd-Mhéara Comhairleoir C. O’Leary.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí T. Tynan, T. Brosnan, J. Kavanagh.
NORTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí T. Gould, 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, L. McGonigle, 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, F. Dennehy, P.J. Hourican, T. Moloney.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. J. G. O’Riordan, Meetings Administrator, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. J. Gazely, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate & External Affairs. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate & External Affairs. Ms. V. O’Sullivan, Director of Services, Housing & Community. Mr. J. O’Donovan, Director of Services, Environment & Recreation. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Mr. B. O’Hare, A/Head of Finance. Mr. D. Joyce, Senior Executive Officer, ICT & Business Systems.

An tArd-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Archer Family on the death of Jimmy Archer.
- The Fitzgerald Family on the death of Cllr. Dan Joe Fitzgerald.
- The O’Connor Family on the death of John O’Connor
- The Hodgins Family on the death of Richard (Dick) Hodgins
- The O’Sullivan Family on the death of Mary O’Sullivan
- The O’Sullivan Family on the death of John O’Sullivan
- The Stokes Family on the death of Patrick Stokes
- The Strahan Family on the death of John Strahan
- The Wallace Family on the death of Barry Wallace
- The Long Family on the death of Vincent Long
- The Murphy/Connelly Family on the death of Noelle Murphy Connelly
- The Leahy Family on the death of Noel Leahy

2. **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/ BEST WISHES**

- Mr Sean O’Sullivan on organising North City District Annual Awards at Clayton Silversprings Hotel.
- Mick Barry on winning the Hall of Fame in the North City District Awards.
- Mr Willie Walsh on winning the gold medal at the 4th World Bird Show.
- Gaelcholáiste Mhuire AG under 16 Comogie Team on winning the Munster Final Colleges.
- C.B.C. Senior Rugby Team on winning the Munster Schools Senior Rugby Cup.
- Blackrock National Hurling Club on holding a very successful 1916 Commemoration Festival over the weekend of 11th, 12th, 13th March 2016.
- Mr John Jones and Mr Noel Long, Environment Section, Cork City Council along with Cllr. P. Dineen, Cllr. T. Fitzgerald, Cllr. H. Cremin, Cllr. N. O’Keeffe, Cllr. J. Sheehan and Jackie O’Herlihy on hosting the Dog Fouling Awards on the week of the 25th April in the Concert Hall along with 300 pupils from 6 Schools around the City.
- Mick Barry T.D. on his election to Dáil Éireann.
- Cllr. Chris O’Leary, Lord Mayor and Ms. Jo Gazely, Corporate & External Affairs on the successful Lord Mayor’s Centenary Charity Ball 2016.
- Cllr. M. Shields on the birth of her new grandchild.
- Coláiste Chríost Rí on winning the Frewen Cup in the Munster under 16 ½ Championship.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to the end of the meeting to discuss the following motion which was tabled by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh.

‘There is a proposal to set up a “step down” prison facility on Patricks Hill in Westview House.

I request that Cork City Council in the interest of the Residents, 9 schools, and over 3,000 school children in this area ‘write to the Minister, the Prison Service, and the Department of Justice’ and voice our grave concern at his proposed development and ask that plans for this proposed facility be shelved and that this facility be used in a more productive manner for the benefit of the community.’

3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

3.1 **RETIREMENT OF DAMIEN O’MAHONY**

An tArd-Mhéara extended the best wishes of Council to Mr. Damien O’Mahony, Senior Executive Officer, TEAM on his retirement over 40 years of service and wished Damien well in his future endeavours and thanked him for his service to Cork City Council during his career.

3.2 **LORD MAYORS COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY AWARDS**

An tArd-Mhéara advised members that application forms were now available to Community & Voluntary Groups for inclusion in the Lord Mayor's Community & Voluntary Awards.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

4.1 **ITEM DEFERRED FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF AN COMHAIRLE HELD 22ND FEBRUARY 2016**

4.1.1 **ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2016**

An Chomhairle considered the Annual Service Delivery Plan 2016. On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle approved the Annual Service Delivery Plan 2016 and agreed to adopt the following resolution:-

Resolution:

“It is hereby resolved that, pursuant to Section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 50 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, Cork City Council's Annual Service Delivery Plan 2016, having been considered is hereby adopted.”

An Chomhairle requested that the Chief Executive, include a covering letter with the adopted Annual Service Delivery Plan 2016 when forwarding to the Department of Environment Community & Local Government highlighting the lack of funding available to Cork City Council and the impact on service delivery.

4.2 **FORMER CORK SAVINGS BANK**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Chief Executive relating to the former Cork Savings Bank.

4.3 **CORK ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL 2016 AND A STATE CEREMONIAL EVENT, MONDAY 28TH MARCH 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive on the proposed holding of two events by Cork City Council under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and Planning and Development Regulations 2001. The events in question are the Cork St. Patrick's Festival and Parade, 17th to 20th March 2016 and the State Ceremonial Event, Monday 28th March 2016.

5. **SECTION 19(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 – CASUAL VACANCIES**

5.1 **VACANCY IN CORK CITY COUNCIL**

An tArd-Mhéara advised An Chomhairle that as no notification had been received from the Anti-Austerity Alliance nominating a person to fill the casual vacancy in Cork City Council, this item was to be deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle.

6. **MINUTES**

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

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held on the 22nd February 2016.

7. **QUESTION TIME**

7.1 **MONEY SPENT ON CONSULTANTS BY CITY COUNCIL ACROSS THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Shannon was deferred.

To ask the CE to outline to City Council the amount of money spent on consultants by City Council across the various Departments, in the years 2009 to 2015. Please list the consultancy firms engaged and the projects they were engaged to work on.

7.2 **LOCAL PROPERTY TAX**

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

How much property tax was collected in 2014 and 2013 from private residences in Cork City?

How much was collected from local authority homes?

How much will Council have paid Government in property tax since its inception?

How much will Council have paid Government in property tax on local authority housing since its inception?

(Cllr. Sean Martin)

REPLY

The Local Property Tax, which is a charge on the market value of all residential properties in the State, came into effect with the passing of the “Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012”. It is being administered by the Revenue Commissioners and a half year charge applied in 2013. A full year charge applied in subsequent years.

The latest available figures published by the Revenue Commissioners, (December 31st 2015), advise that there was a national compliance rate of 97% in 2013 and 98% in 2014. For Cork City there was a compliance rate of 94.4% in 2013 and 94.8% in 2014.

In 2013 (half year), total LPT collection for Cork City was €5.9m which included €392,490 for Local Authority homes.

In 2014 (full year), total LPT collection for Cork City was €12.3m which included €782,730 for Local Authority homes.

Since LPT inception (2013-2015) the residents of Cork City will have paid the Government €26.93m in LPT. In the same period LPT paid on Local Authority houses was €1.874m.

John Hallahan
Head of Finance

7.3 **CARRY OUT SURVEY TO FIND MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS IN HORGANS BUILDINGS**

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

Following on from a motion requesting “that Cork City Council’s housing maintenance department carries out a survey of all the houses in Horgans Buildings immediately to find out all of the maintenance problems the residents are having. Then put in place a serious plan to rectify all of the issues the tenants are having”.

***Answer** Cork City Council is aware of a number of issues pertaining to the fabric of the properties at Horgans Buildings. The required repairs have been prioritised in line with the demands placed on the Housing Maintenance Department and the resources available. **Also** that a survey is being carried out on Horgans Building...*

As the CE will be aware the residents of Horgans Buildings are of a more senior age group & some of the residents will have a number of medical issues. It is imperative that Cork City Council look after all our tenants but the residents in Horgans Buildings shouldn’t be kept waiting for these repairs to be carried out, we have to make sure we look after our older residents as a matter of priority. It is important we give the residents of Horgans Building confidence that all repair works needed will be carried out in a timely manner and the residents should be given a time line as to when these repairs will be carried out. The tenants cannot be left waiting indefinitely for these works to be carried out.

1. *Therefore can the CE clarify what is the current position?*
2. *Has Cork City Council carried out this survey?*
3. *If not, why not? If so what was the result of the survey?*
4. *Has there been a programme put in place to correct all the houses in Horgans Building?*
5. *If not, why not? If so how long is it envisaged it will take to carry out all necessary repairs for all of the tenants?*

(Cllr. Thomas Moloney)

REPLY

1. The current position is that a number of properties in Horgans Buildings have issues regarding watertightness.
2. This survey has been carried out.
3. The survey indicates that the main sources of water ingress are defects in the chimneys and in the velux roof light flashings. The survey highlighted a number of other issues including failures of guttering and weathering to brickwork.
4. Works have been scoped for repairs to an initial 3 no. properties. Tender documents have been drawn up and posted on e-tenders. The closing date for receipt of tenders was the 29th February. It is intended that contracts will be awarded on 21st March with a view to works starting as soon as possible following this date. Following completion of these 3 houses it is expected that works will continue in Horgan's Buildings addressing the other properties experiencing water ingress.
5. Subject to the availability of funding the identified defects should be rectified in 6 months.

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

7.4 **POSITIONS OF TENANT OFFICER AND RESIDENTS PARTICIPATION OFFICER**

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

Can the CE confirm if the positions of Tenant Enforcement Officer and Residents Participation Officer will be filled in the short term?

(Cllr. Fiona Kerins)

REPLY

The City Council will shortly be filling the post of Tenancy Enforcement Officer from the current competition for Administrative Officer.

There is not a post of Residents Participation Officer on the establishment.

**Michael Burke,
A/Director of Services,
HR Management & Organisational Reform**

7.5 **CONFERENCE EXPENSES**

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

Could the CE give a full detail account (2014 – 2015) of conferences expenses for every Elected Member?

(Cllr. Kenneth O’Flynn)

REPLY

The required information for 2014 and January –September 2015 is available on www.corkcity.ie . Q4 of 2015 will be available in April.

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

7.6 **REGISTER DEELISH, BOHERBOY ROAD ON THE DERELICT SITES REGISTER**

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

Can the Manager without further delay enter Deelish, Boherboy Road on the Derelict Sites Register as it is in a shockingly rundown condition, it is not properly secured and it is a blight on the local community. Are the owners known to City Hall Management?

(Cllr. Tim Brosnan)

REPLY

The property known as “Deelish”, Boherboy Road, was entered on the City Council’s Derelict Sites Register on the 12th September 2014. The current owners, as listed publicly on the Derelict Sites Register, are Patrick Creedon and Fergal Murphy.

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

7.7 **FILLING POSITIONS OF TENANT ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND RESIDENTS PARTICIPATION OFFICER**

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

As a result of the partial lifting of the public service embargo, can the CE tell me if the roles of Tenant Enforcement Officer and Residents Participation Officer at the City Council will be filled in the short term?

(Cllr. Michael Nugent)

REPLY

The City Council will shortly be filling the post of Tenancy Enforcement Officer from the current competition for Administrative Officer.

There is not a post of Residents Participation Officer on the establishment.

**Michael Burke,
A/Director of Services,
HR Management & Organisational Reform**

7.8 **SITES AWAITING TREE PRUNING**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy was deferred.

To ask the CE how many sites across the city are awaiting tree pruning; how many sites executed last year?

When will the trees which flank the access road to the Trabeg housing scheme, Ashdene, Riverway, Nemo Rangers GAA Club etc off South Douglas Road be pruned?

7.9 **PROTOCOLS GOVERNING BURIAL PLOTS**

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

Can the CE outline the process and protocols governing burial plots at Cork City Council cemeteries? Is it the case that families are not allowed erect grave stones on plots if there are bills outstanding to funeral directors?

(Cllr. Kenneth Collins)

REPLY

Funeral arrangements are made by Undertakers on behalf of bereaved parties. Where a grave plot is not already owned, purchase of a right to burial is included in the process. The City Council issues monthly invoices to Undertakers for burials undertaken in the previous month in each of its four cemeteries.

Provision of a headstone requires the written permission of the City Council following submission of application form in each case. The headstone must conform to regulations in terms of size, competency of contractor etc. Payment for the plot and burial must be made before approval is granted. This is included in the Conditions of Purchase of Right of Burial in all the cemeteries, signed by all parties in advance of any burial.

**Jim O'Donovan,
Director of Services,
Environment & Recreation**

7.10 **BALLINCURRIG COURT, SOUTH DOUGLAS ROAD**

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

Can the CE please respond to the following queries regarding Ballincurrig Court, South Douglas Road:

- a) Is Ballincurrig Court considered to be in the city or in the county?*
- b) If it is in the city, is it considered to be a Cork City Council social housing estate?*
- c) If the estate is a social housing estate, is the estate under the charge of Cork City Council?*
- d) If the estate is under the charge of Cork City Council, who is responsible for cutting the grass in the estate?*
- e) If the estate is under the charge of Cork City Council, who is responsible for maintaining the footpaths and roads?*
- f) Does Cork City Council currently have a maintenance licence with any authority, including itself, for the maintenance of the public lighting within the estate?*
- g) Can the CE please outline the content of any such licence mentioned above, including any records of recent maintenance or planned works on the lights within the estate?*
- h) If there is no licence, can the CE please explain the reasons as to why no such licence is in place and also therefore commit to rectifying this as a matter of urgency and concern?*

(Cllr. Shane O'Shea)

REPLY

- a) Ballincurrig Court is in the City
- b) The units in Ballincurring Court are Social Housing Units
- c) The units are managed by Cork City Council Housing Department but the public realm has not been taken in charge by Cork City Council.
- d) The grass is cut by the Parks Department
- e) The footpaths and roads are part of the public realm which has not yet been taken in charge.
- f) No. However as an interim measure the Housing Directorate transferred the public lighting account into Cork City Council's name on the 24th February 2016 and SSE Airtricity Utility Solutions Ltd have been requested to survey the Public Lighting and relamp on the 15th February, 2016.

- g) Please refer to response to previous question
- h) There is no maintenance licence for public lighting in Ballincurragh Court as this estate has not been taken in charge. This estate is one of a number of estates in the City that have yet to be taken in charge. The City Council are currently progressing the taking in charge of these estates with the relevant directorates.

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

7.11 **HOMELESS SECTION**

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

How many staff members (full time & part time) are working in the homeless section of Cork City Council?

How many people contacted Cork City Council's homeless department in January and February 2016 and how many people contacted them for the same period last year?

Is the homeless section of Cork City Council overwhelmed by the numbers of families and individuals contacting them and the work load involved in supporting them?

Has Cork City Council a plan that will eliminate the homeless crisis in the city or will it continue to get progressively worse?

(Cllr. Thomas Gould)

REPLY

There are three Staff working in the Homeless section.

The first point of presentation for people who find themselves homeless is to the Homeless Persons Unit, Drinan Street operated by the Department of Social Protection. Nobody contacted the Homeless Section of Cork City Council to declare themselves homeless in January or February of this year and the section is not overwhelmed by people doing so.

The South West Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2013 to 2018 sets out the aims and objectives for addressing homelessness in the region and is available on the Cork City Council website.

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

8. **PARTY WHIPS – 7th MARCH 2016**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of Party Whips from its meeting held on the 7th March 2016.

9. **TOURISM, ARTS & CULTURE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 7th MARCH 2016**

9.1 **UPDATED 2016 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 3rd March 2016 on Updated 2016 Programme of Events.

9.2 **CITY COUNCIL APPLICATIONS TO LOCAL DIASPORA STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 3rd March 2016 on City Council applications to Local Diaspora Strategy Development Fund.

9.3 **TOURIST TRAIN**

An Chomhairle noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 3rd of March 2016 on Tourist Train.

9.4 **LIBRARY CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate and External Affairs dated 3rd March 2016 on Library Investment Programme.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle unanimously agreed that correspondence should be forwarded to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government requesting that the funding needs of Cork City Library would be revisited.

9.5 **MOTIONS**

9.5.1 **FUNDING FOR THE SHANDON COMMUNITY**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services on Funding on the following motion which was referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle;

‘In view of the success of the Shandon Street Festival and multiple other community based activities that Cork City Council would assess if further funding by way of a block support to the Shandon Community’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 16/003)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Council is very much aware of the valuable work done by the Shandon Street Festival and of the Festival’s value to the broader community.

Over the coming weeks I will be in discussions with community interests in the Shandon area to discuss a number of issues in the locality, and to look at means whereby the City Council can support initiatives that can contribute to the well-being of the community. I will advise Members of matters arising from these discussions in due course.

9.5.2 **LIBRARY SERVICES**

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

‘That sufficient staff resources are provided to ensure that (a) there will be no reduction in opening hours at any of the City's Branch libraries (b) that the local studies library, reference library and children's, library are able to operate a full service.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. O'Driscoll 16/013)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the City Council prepared and submitted a Workforce Plan for the Cork City Council Library Service to the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government in May 2015, as requested by the Department. This Workforce Plan was designed to provide for the appropriate numbers and grades of staff to sustain the library service over the medium to longer-term period. The Plan was undertaken to deal with reduced staffing resources - a total of 16 staff have retired without replacement since 2009. A response from the Department is awaited.

Due to the reduction in staffing numbers, the Council has been experiencing ongoing difficulties in maintaining the opening hours of a number of libraries in the city – opening hours have had to be curtailed in some of the departments of the Central Library, Grand Parade. The Children's Library is now closed every second Monday; the Reference Library has been reduced from a six-day to five-day per week service; and the Local Studies Library has been reduced from a six-day to four-day per week service.

There have also been unplanned closures in local libraries. As recently as Saturday, 26th February, Douglas Library (which is the busiest branch), was unable to open in the morning as sufficient staff were not available. The Library opened from 12:30 to 5:30pm on the day but the morning activities for children had to be cancelled at short notice. With current staffing levels, such unplanned closures are likely to re-occur. Regrettably, I believe that there is no prospect of reductions of service being reversed, and disruptions avoided, until staffing levels are restored to an appropriate level.

It should be noted that the impacts from the staff retirements have been mitigated somewhat by the temporary recruitment of University students and graduates. However, it is my view that this is neither a suitable nor tenable long-term solution in terms of delivering a sustainable and professional Library Service. I will continue to communicate with the Department in an effort to have the Workforce Plan approved, which would then enable the Council to undertake the necessary recruitment.

Finally, I wish to inform Members that due to staffing constraints it has proven to be extremely difficult to arrange for in-house training of staff, on matters such as Health & Safety, new technology, and related matters. For this reason it is proposed that Libraries would open a half hour later on Wednesdays, i.e. at 10:30am, to enable in-house training

and staff information meetings to take place. This will be kept under review in the context of any changes in staffing resources.

10. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE – 7th MARCH 2016**

10.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

10.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF JANUARY 2016**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of January 2016.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted the following correspondence:-

- Letter from Limerick City & County Council dated 25th February 2016.

12. **CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted the summaries by Members of Conferences/Seminars attended.

13. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

13.1 **ECAD XXIIIrd MAYOR'S CONFERENCE IN STAVANGER, NORWAY**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir M. Shields at the ECAD XXIIIrd Mayor's Conference, in Stavanger, Norway from the 9th - 11th of May 2016.

13.2 **LAMA CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir J. Buttimer at the LAMA Conference, to be held in the Sligo Park Hotel on the 1st and 2nd of April.

13.3 **HOUSING GRANTS AND SCHEMES CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir S. Martin at the Housing Grants and Schemes Conference, to be held in The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford Lough, Carlingford, Co. Louth.

14. **TRAINING**

14.1 **IPB INSURANCE TRAINING**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir S. Martin at the IPB Insurance Training for Board Members, to be held in Langton Hotel, Kilkenny on the 8th April 2016.

14.2 **IPB ANNUAL MEETING**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir S. Martin at the IPB Annual Meeting, to be held in Ashbury Hotel, Dublin, on the 29th April 2016.

14.3 **PLANNING & FOOD PLAIN INSURANCE AND FINDING SOLUTIONS TRAINING SEMINAR**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Shannon at the Planning & Food Plain Insurance and Finding Solutions Training Seminar, to be held in the Sligo Park Hotel, on the 1st and 2nd of April.

15. **MOTIONS**

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

15.1 **PRUNE TREES ON MELBOURN ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council prune trees on Melbourn Road to allow lighting lamps to shine on roadway and paths as the trees are blocking light from lamps and to shape trees after pruning was undertaken on behalf Eirgrid.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Buttimer, Cllr. H. Cremin, Cllr. M. Shields, Cllr. F. Dennehy, Cllr. P. J. Hourican, Cllr. T. Moloney 16/042)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

15.2 **RE-SURFACING ROAD SURFACES WITHIN MELBOURN ESTATE**

‘That Cork City Council undertake re surfacing to road surfaces within Melbourn Estate including Fremont Drive, Woburn Drive, Woburn Avenue, Beverly Drive and Allendale Ave, Foxford Avenue and Allendale Drive, to repair damaged footpaths throughout the estate which are a danger to pedestrians.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Buttimer, Cllr. H. Cremin, Cllr. M. Shields, Cllr. F. Dennehy, Cllr. P.J. Hourican, Cllr. T. Moloney 16/043)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.3 **FOOTPATH IN GREENHILLS COURT, SOUTH DOUGLAS ROAD, CORK**

‘That Cork City Council commits to fix the footpath and surrounding green area in Greenhills Court, South Douglas Road in order that residents can safely enter and leave their front gardens. A small bit of rain turns the footpaths into a flooded no go area, making it not only difficult but indeed very dangerous to simply enter their properties. This work should be undertaken at the earliest possible time as it is only an accident waiting to happen.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Shea 16/050)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.4 **TAKING IN CHARGE OF WILLOW BANK, CHURCH ROAD, BLACKROCK**

‘That Cork City Council begin proceedings to take Willow Bank, Church Road, Blackrock into charge. If there are reasons as to why this has not been possible to date, can these reasons be outlined and subsequently resolved so that the estate can benefit from being taken into charge.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Shea 16/051)

Strategic Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise Functional Committee

15.5 **REPLACE ENTRANCE SIGN AT CURRAHEEN ESTATE, BISHOPSTOWN, CORK**

‘That City Council would inspect and replace the Entrance Sign to The Crescent Curraheen Estate, Bishopstown.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 16/052)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.6 **LOADING BAY AT THE JUNCTION OF QUAKER ROAD AND EVERGREEN STREET**

‘That the Roads & Transportation Directorate would consider installing a loading bay at the junction of Quaker road, Evergreen street. This loading bay would service the 2 business's that operate there. The said business’s which are rate payers are finding it extremely difficult to conduct their daily business due to the unavailability of proper and adequate parking space for delivery vehicles.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 16/053)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.7 **INDEPENDENT REGULATION OF LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION COMMITTEE (LTACCs)**

‘Cork City Council calls for independent regulation of Local Traveller Accommodation Committee (LTACCs) to ensure an effective delivery of accommodation, and a commitment to proactive partnership by all partners. Council calls on the relevant Minister to ensure that LTACCs are linked to all Local Authority Housing & Community Directorate Functional and Strategic Committee with a view to ensuring the creation of new, and continued progress of existing accommodation.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. T. Fitzgerald, Cllr. T. Moloney, Cllr. M. Sheilds, Cllr. H. Cremin, Cllr. J. Sheehan 16/054))

Housing & Community Functional Committee

15.8 **REPORT ON THE OPERATION OF THE ENGLISH MARKET**

‘That City Hall officials prepare and present a Report to Council updating Councillors in relation to the English Market and its ongoing operation. In particular, the Report might advise in relation issues arising with traders and, are legal actions being threatened, do leases allow for sub-letting and is sub-letting being allowed in some cases and not in others.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 16/055)

Tourism Arts & Culture Functional Committee

15.9 **CLOSE QUARRY STEPS OFF BALLYHOOLEY ROAD**

‘That Cork City Council now proceed to finally permanently close the Quarry Steps off Ballyhooley Road on Health and Safety grounds as the health and safety of the local community takes precedence over any dubious benefit the steps might have to any one individual.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Brosnan 16/056)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.10 **CORK CITY COUNCIL & CORK SPORTS PARTNERSHIP TO CREATE EVENTS TO MARK EUROPEAN WEEK OF SPORT**

‘That the City Council in partnership with the Cork Sports Partnership create events in early September to mark European Week of Sport.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 16/057)

Environment & Recreation Functional Committee

15.11 **ACCESS TO SUPERMARKET ON BISHOPSTOWN ROAD**

‘That City Councils Roads and Transport Dept. would investigate the access and exiting for vehicles at the recently opened supermarket on the Bishopstown Road as some signage that was in place to direct traffic in a certain direction when they are exiting is now missing.

I would also ask that if traffic are allowed to turn right into this supermarket from the west that an arrow would be put in this median space thus preventing traffic heading west using this median space as an extra lane.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 16/059)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.12 **PUBLIC ACCESS TO KILMORE PARK & KILMORE ROAD, KNOCKNAHEENY**

‘That Cork City Council would facilitate public access to Kilmore Park & Kilmore Road from Ardmore Avenue/ Heights, Knocknaheeny. Previous 'Right of Way' to Kilmore Road for some residents was previously extinguished during regeneration works.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 16/060)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.13 **RE-INSTATE THE ELECTRONIC SPEED RADAR IN BEAUMONT DRIVE, BLACKROCK**

‘That Cork City Council re-instate the electronic speed radar sign along Beaumont Drive, Blackrock and looks at other suitable measures that would alleviate the dangers caused by speeding along this road.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N.O’Keeffe 16/063)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

15.14 **SPEED LIMIT ALONG THE CASTLE ROAD IN BLACKROCK**

That Cork City Council reports on the feasibility of reducing the permitted speed limit along the Castle Road, Blackrock. As this road is narrow and is popular with walkers & cyclists - cars travelling at the limit of 50km/h can pose a significant danger to all road users. A reduced speed limit may alleviate such dangers.’

(Proposer: Cllr. N. O’Keeffe 16/064)

Roads & Transportation Functional Committee

16. **MOTIONS**

16.1 **TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (TTIP) NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE EU AND THE US**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion;-

‘Cork City Council calls on the Government to protect both Cork & Irish interests in the ongoing Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations between the EU and the US.

We call on the Irish Government to;

- Protect Irish interests in the ongoing Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations between the EU and the US.
- Take all measures to remove Investor-State Dispute Settlements (ISDS) from the agreement.
- Publish the findings of the Copenhagen Economics study on TTIP’s potential impact on Ireland.

- Take all measures to protect Irish agriculture in TTIP negotiations.
- Take all measures to protect Cork’s Environment, Economy and Food standards from unregulated trade imports.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 16/058)

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

An Chomhairle suspended Standing Orders to discuss the following motion which was proposed by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill:-

‘There is a proposal to set up a “step down” prison facility on Patricks Hill in Westview House.

I request that the Chief Executive and Cork City Council in the interest of the Residents, 9 schools, and over 3,000 school children in this area ‘write to the Minister, the Prison Service, and the Department of Justice and voice our grave concern at his proposed development and ask that plans for this proposed facility be shelved and that this facility be used in a more productive manner for the benefit of the community.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Kavanagh, Cllr. D. Cahill)

Following discussion, An Chomhairle unanimously agreed that correspondence be issued on their behalf to the Probation Service, seeking clarification in relation to their plans for a “step-down” Prison Facility on Patrick’s Hill (Westview House). They further agreed that a meeting be convened with the Probation Service and Elected Members of Cork City Council, and that no transfer of land to the Department of Justice would take place until the meeting is convened with Council and clarification is sought regarding the proposed use of Westview House.

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH