

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 11th DECEMBER 2023

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir K. McCarthy.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, D. Boylan.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, T. Shannon, D. Forde.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, P. Dineen, F. Kerins.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, Orla O’Leary.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. N. Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Housing. Ms. A. O’Rourke, Director of Services, Housing Delivery & Regeneration. Mr. D. O’Brien, Interim Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Ms. C. Kelly, Senior Executive Officer, Property/Health & Safety Ms. A. Murnane, Meetings Administrator. Ms. N. Stewart, Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Ewing family on the death of Michael Ewing.
- The Holland family on the death of Maureen Holland.
- The Cahill family on the death of Finbarr Cahill.
- The Burton family on the death of Pat Burton.
- The McCarthy family on the death of Gerard McCarthy.
- The Dennehy family on the death of Phil Dennehy.

- The Holland family on the death of Nora Holland.
- The Wolfe-Murphy family on the death of Cora Wolfe-Murphy.
- The Cremin family on the death of Mary Cremin.
- The Cremin family on the death of Jim Cremin.
- The Twomey family on the death of Tom Twomey.
- The Reen family on the death of Con Reen.
- The Hughes family on the death of Val Hughes.
- The Quinn family on the death of Máiréad Quinn.
- The Casey family on the death of Frances (Frankie) Casey.
- The Heskin family on the death of Ann Heskin.
- The Flynn family on the death of Dan (William) Flynn.
- The Mee family on the death of Claire Mee.
- The Twomey family on the death of Frank Twomey.
- The Callanan family on the death of Noreen Callanan.
- The Allen family on the death of Vincent Allen.
- The Marshall family on the death of Eleanor Marshall.

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

- St. Vincent's GAA Club on celebrating its 80th Anniversary and its huge contribution to the sporting and social life of the community.

3. **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

3.1 **STUDY VISIT WITH THE DUTCH CYCLING EMBASSY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the travel of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, M. Finn, T. Moloney, P. Dineen, D. Canty and K. O'Flynn to the Netherlands from 29th January 2024 – 1st February 2024, to attend a study visit with the Dutch Cycling Embassy.

3.2 **WORKSHOP TO REVIEW STANDING ORDERS**

An tArdmhéara advised An Chomhairle that a workshop will be held for elected members in order to review standing orders in January, and correspondence will issue on same in the coming days.

3.3 **CIVIC RECEPTION**

An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle that a Civic Reception will take place on 12th December 2023 for the Cork Senior Camogie Team at 6.30pm in the Atrium.

3.4 **TRAVEL TO SAN FRANCISCO**

An tArdmhéara sought political expressions of interest for travel to San Francisco at the end of March.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

An tArdmhéara advised that notification had been received from Comhairleoir O. Moran of his intention to suspend standing orders, and called on Comhairleoir O. Moran to read his motion:-

‘That, in light of the failure of the United Nations Security Council to reach agreement in calling for a ceasefire and release of hostages, Cork City Council will write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs requesting that Ireland refers the attacks by Hamas of 7 October and the Israeli attacks on Gaza since then to the International Criminal Court for urgent investigation and the issuing of arrest warrants as necessary to prevent the continuing commission of crimes.’

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Maher, a vote was called for on the suspension of standing orders to take the motion, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane, M. Nugent, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, L. Bogue, M. Finn, D. Boyle, F. Kerins, C. Finn, T. Moloney, O. O’Leary. (14)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Kavanagh, T. Fitzgerald, J. Sheehan, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, M.R. Desmond, T. Shannon, D. Forde, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, G. Kelleher. (13)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoir K. McCarthy. (1)

As those voting in favour of the proposal to suspend standing orders did not meet the 2/3 majority required in accordance with standing orders, An tArdmhéara declared the proposal defeated.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

No items raised.

5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Moloney, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 13th November 2023.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Shannon, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Special Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 13th November 2023.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Budget Meeting of An Chomhairle, held 15th November 2023.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **ACTIVE TRAVEL MEASURES – FRANKFIELD ROAD**

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

The Active Travel Measures on Frankfield Road Scheme was passed by Cork City Council on 13th February 2023. Could the Chief Executive please provide an update on the proposed scheme, including:-

- details regarding NTA funding for the scheme?
- details regarding the current status of the scheme and when it is likely to move to the next stage of the process?
- the approximate date upon which it is hoped to commence work on the scheme?
- the approximate date upon which it is hoped that the scheme will be completed and ready for use by the public?

REPLY

The proposed Frankfield Road Active Travel Scheme provides for the installation of improved pedestrian and cycle facilities on Frankfield Road in Douglas. The main elements of the scheme include the installation of segregated cycle facilities, footpath widening, provision of raised tables at junctions, traffic calming measures, toucan crossing modifications, new signalised pedestrian crossing and cycle crossing facilities, additional green space & planting, road realignments and new markings.

The scheme was approved by Council earlier this year following a public consultation process under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, as amended. Funding for the design and planning phases of the scheme has been provided by the National Transport Authority. The project is currently being progressed through the detailed design stage and tender documents will be ready in the coming months. The works will be tendered thereafter subject to confirmation of continued funding for the construction phase of the scheme. Details of the next round of annual funding are expected to be confirmed in early new year and members will be further updated following receipt of same. The construction period for the scheme is estimated at circa 10 months.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

FLOOD PREVENTION FOR RIVERVIEW ESTATE & GLENDALE

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

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the flood prevention actions being taken for Riverview Estate and Glendale in Glasheen. Both estates suffered from flooding during recent storms on August 18th and on October 18th. Local residents believe that during one or both of the aforementioned events the culvert may have been blocked and they are also concerned about the level of maintenance of the Glasheen River. I would like to ask the Chief Executive for a reply to the above two points and also to provide me with details of what actions Cork City Council is taking to prevent this type of flooding happening in future.

REPLY

In response to predicted heavy rainfall and storm warnings, Cork City Council Drainage Crews inspect all gratings and trash screens across the City. I can confirm that such inspections were carried out in advance of the storm events of the 18th August, 27th September and 18th October 2023 on the Glasheen River adjacent to Riverview Estate. In all three instances, the trash screen and culvert on the Glasheen River were free and clear of blockages.

During Storm Betty on the 18th August significant flooding was experienced in Glasheen Estate. This flooding was due to extreme rainfall which exceeded the capacity of the river channel.

In response to this, flooding representations from residents and locals concerned about the risk of flooding were received. On foot of these, emergency works were carried out on the Glasheen River. These works commenced on Monday 18th September and ceased on Thursday 5th October. The works were carried out to improve conveyance and reduce the risk of flooding. The works involved the clearing and removal of debris and vegetation that may give rise to blockages. Silt was removed from the river to improve conveyance.

During Storm Agnes on the 27th September, the extreme rainfall led to significantly high river levels, but the Glasheen River did not overtop the riverbank due to the emergency works carried out.

However during Storm Babet on the 18th October, significant flooding was experienced in Glasheen Estate again. This flooding was due to extreme rainfall which exceeded the capacity of the river channel. Storm Babet was different to the earlier two flooding events in that it was an orange rain warning and resulted in significantly more rainfall in this area than either of the two previous events. The size and scale of the Babet Storm event cannot be underestimated. This was a very serious rainfall and flooding event, right across the entire City, and indeed the Country.

Cork City Council is reviewing what future interventions could be deployed along the Glasheen River to reduce the occurrence of flooding events during extreme rainfall

occurrences. When suitable interventions are identified funding will be sought to implement same.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations Directorate.

6.3 **TAKING IN CHARGE – RIVERVIEW RISE**

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

Could the CE kindly confirm the anticipated date when Cork City Council will be taking charge of the Estate of Riverview Rise?

REPLY

Planning Reference No. 04/28230 Riverview Rise estate has several elements still outstanding to progress the Taking in Charge (TIC) Application.

The main issue is the requirement for wayleaves involving multiple properties and owners. The timeline for completing this exercise, given the interaction with 3rd parties, is unknown. Consultation has occurred with residents in relation to wayleave requirements.

Other outstanding elements which require funding allocation are as-builts drawings and minor roads/footpath issues. In addition, a Drainage CCTV/Manhole Inspection is due to conclude Q1 2024 where CCC Estates Team will be able to estimate costs for works, if required, to the combined network.

David O’Brien,
Interim Director of Services,
Community, Culture & Placemaking.

6.4 **EVENT CENTRE**

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

As we come to the close of another Q4, and six months out from this council term, can the CE update council on the execution of plans for the Event Centre on South Main Street including whether or not an ask for extra funding has been made of national government and/or the developers (given talk of inflated development costs) and if a briefing to update elected members can be arranged?

REPLY

Verification of the detailed design cost of the Events Centre has now been completed. Cork City Council is currently engaging with the consortium on the outcome of this

verification process and will in due course be making a recommendation to the department as to the amount of the public contribution required.

It is anticipated that construction will commence in Q1 2024.

Ann Doherty
Chief Executive

6.5 **EVENT CENTRE**

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

Can the CE please provide an update on the progress in terms of timeline on the proposed Event Centre Development Project.

REPLY

Verification of the detailed design cost of the Events Centre has now been completed. Cork City Council is currently engaging with the consortium on the outcome of this verification process and will in due course be making a recommendation to the department as to the amount of the public contribution required.

It is anticipated that construction will commence in Q1 2024.

Ann Doherty
Chief Executive

6.6 **APPROVED HOUSING BODY DWELLINGS**

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

To ask the City Manager for a list of Approved Housing Body dwellings that have been vacant for 6 months or more, as of 1st December, setting out, in each case:

The address?
The reason for the vacancy?
The name of the Approved Housing Body?
And the length of the vacancy?

REPLY

For security reasons, it is not appropriate to list addresses of any vacant properties managed by Cork City Council or Approved Housing Bodies in Cork city. As of 1st December, 2023 six number Approved Housing Body properties are vacant for over 6 months or more. Of this six, four are currently under offer and 2 are being tenanted on 11th December, 2023. One of the four currently under offer was previously refused and is on offer number 2 to an applicant.

In the case of two of the properties the vacancy arose as the tenants surrendered their tenancy. In another case the tenant moved to residential care, and in the remaining three cases the vacancy arose due to the death of the tenant.

Properties provided or managed by Approved Housing Bodies are not recorded on our iHouse system, therefore the monitoring of vacancies is dependent on information received from the Approved Housing Body. In recent months, Cork City Council has agreed with the management of the main Approved Housing Bodies that they will submit a monthly report detailing new tenancies created during the previous month and current vacancies, this arrangement will be progressed with all Approved Housing Bodies in 2024. In addition, we meet regularly with the management of each Approved Housing Body to review vacancies, new developments and any issues arising with nominations.

It is envisaged that Approved Housing Body properties will migrate onto iHouse in 2024, which will also allow us to monitor vacancies as we monitor vacancies within our own stock.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing Operations.

6.7 **CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION**

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

Will the successful procedure (where trees were shredded and removed up to 10pm) that was implemented in January 2023 for the Christmas tree collection at Clashduv recycling centre be repeated in 2024?

REPLY

The same procedure as last year will continue for the Clashduv site the details of same are below.

The official sites that the public can drop off trees at are as follows:

- Gus Healy Swimming Pool, Ballinlough (green adjacent)
- Clashduv Park, Togher (adjacent to bring bank site)
- Ballincollig Regional Park, Ballincollig (green adjacent to bring bank site)
- Murmont Road, Montenotte (green adjacent)
- Sam Allen Sports Complex, Gurranabraher (green adjacent)
- Tramore Valley Park, South Link Road
- Cork City Council Office, Glanmire T45 YD83 (green area at front)

The procedure for last year was that all trees at the site of Clashduv Park, Togher will be shredded daily, resulting in no trees being at that site after 17.00.

Gardaí have been written to seeking monitoring assistance at the Clashduv, Togher site.

Regular inspections will also be carried out by Cork City Council staff to ensure trees are being removed throughout January.

Extra security will be in place at the site in Clashduv up until 10pm during the busy period.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations Directorate

6.8 **CITY NORTH WEST REGENERATION SCHEME**

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

Can the CE report on any progress ensuring that Phase 2C of the City North West Regeneration Scheme is finished out in the near future?

REPLY

The construction site on Kilmore Road, Knocknaheeny forms part of the City Northwest Quarter Regeneration Programme, and part of Cork City Council's wider social housing delivery programme.

The project is, however, the subject of a complex contractual dispute. There is a quality control issue with the works on site which the employer, Cork City Council, is addressing contractually with the main building contractor.

Works are not currently being progressed on site by the contractor. Cork City Council is treating this with the utmost priority and is seeking to progress a prompt solution to this matter with a view to the earliest possible delivery of more quality homes at this location. The project is subject to legal and commercial privilege due to the contractual dispute, with the consequence that further detail cannot be provided at this time.

A. O'Rourke,
Director of Services,
Housing Delivery & Regeneration Directorate.

6.9 **TRIAL REALLOCATION TRAFFIC WARDEN HOURS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if the trial reallocation of traffic warden hours has to date found many tickets being issued between 6.30pm and 8.30pm, on applicable days and if so, what parts of the City are such tickets being issued?

REPLY

As advised to Members in September, an additional budget to pay for a parking enforcement pilot to deliver an out of hours extended service on a pilot basis (evenings and Sunday) was requested as part of Budget 2024 process. I can now confirm that €30,000 has been approved in the 2024 Budget to fund this pilot project. This will allow us to deliver the pilot project during 2024. At the end of this pilot an evaluation will be undertaken. This will inform our 2025 budget application process.

David Joyce,
Director of Services,
Roads & Environment Operations Directorate

6.10 **ILLEGAL PARKING ON MACCURTAIN STREET**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if there is anything preventing parking tickets being issued for vehicles parked on paving next to double yellow lines on MacCurtain Street; and the number of tickets that have been issued for illegal parking on MacCurtain Street, broken down by category, since the revised street layout was formally opened on 25 November, 2023?

REPLY

The areas in question can now be the subject of parking enforcement in accordance with the parking lines and signs which are in place. All signage and lining works associated with the MacCurtain Street Public Transport Improvement Scheme are complete save for the introduction of a night time taxi rank outside the laundrette and Café Spresso which will be installed over the coming weeks.

Parking Enforcement since the re-opening of the street has involved liaising with drivers to advise what is permissible on the street together with enforcement. Tickets issued to date are outlined below.

FCPN Issued On Mccurtain Street, Coburg Street, Pine Street, Devonshire Street, St Patricks Quay & Leirim Street for the period 25-Nov-2023 to 10-Dec-2023	
Offence	Number of Tickets
With flow bus lane	1
Failure to display valid disc	18
Parking on a footway	37
Failing to display a Current Vehicle Licence Disc	4
Parking a vehicle at a time prohibited	8
Parking a vehicle illegally on double yellow lines	1
Parking a vehicle on a roadway to which a no parking sign applies	6
Parking a vehicle wholly or partly within omnibus stopping place	3
Unlawful parking of a vehicle in a loading bay	21
Grand Total	99

Gerry O’Beirne,
 Director of Services,
 Infrastructure Development.

David Joyce,
 Director of Services,
 Roads & Environment Operations.

6.11 **PUBLIC LIGHTING – CURRAHEEN ESTATE**

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

To ask the CE given the removal of several public lighting columns in Curraheen Estate, Bishopstown, what actions will be taken to ensure that lighting levels in the estate are sufficient to detect hazards at night and ensure adherence to health and safety requirements? Many residents are worried that this currently isn't the case.

What does this plan entail and when will it be implemented? Will it contain the very necessary and urgent engagement with residents, and will it ensure that replacement public lighting columns are placed in the nearest public domain?"

REPLY

Cork City Council are constantly upgrading public lighting throughout the city through either maintenance works or dedicated capital projects. Currently 35% of all lighting in Curraheen Estate has been upgraded to LED lanterns with 50% of the public lighting columns within Curraheen estate due for renewal through a capital works programme which is currently scheduled to begin in 2024.

As with all new lighting designs carried out in Cork City, the Public Lighting Section looks for the most energy efficient design for each installation (to help ensure Cork City Council meets its 2030 emissions requirements), while also ensuring that appropriate lighting levels are provided. New public lighting installations are designed using the current EN:13201 public lighting design standards.

David Joyce,
 Director of Services,

Roads & Environment Operations Directorate.

7. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

7.1 **CORK CITY CASUAL TRADING BYE-LAWS 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 30th November 2023, in relation to the adoption of Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2023.

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

“It is hereby resolved to make the proposed Cork City Casual Trading Byelaws, 2023 in accordance with Section 6 (9) of the Casual Trading Act, 1995 and that these Bye-Laws shall come into operation on the 1st day of March 2024. The new Bye-Laws shall come into force and effect on the 1st day of March, 2024, being not less than 30 days after the Council meeting adopting and making these bye-laws, in accordance with the provisions of Section 200(5)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001.”

7.2 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive, dated 30th November 2023 on the following property disposals:-

1. Disposal by way of lease, of property situated at No. 1, Imaal Court, The Glen, Cork to St. Brendan’s The Glen Senior Citizens CLG, c/o Kevin Hegarty Solicitor, Brian Dillon House, Dillons Cross, Cork, for a period of 4 years and 9 months subject to a rent of €520.00 per annum.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir O. Moran, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

2. Disposal of the freehold interest in four sites (Blocks 28, 31, 32 and 34) within the residential development of Newton Heights, Boherboy Road, Lotamore, Mayfield, Cork, to Lyonshall Ltd and Clancy Project Management Ltd in equal shares as tenants in common c/o, Niall Daly, Solicitor, BDM Boylan, Clarkes Bridge House, Hanover Street, Cork, for the sum of €405,900 (inclusive of VAT).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

7.3 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 5 ST. DOMINICK’S TERRACE, FRENCH’S QUAY, CORK - GALTAN CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 23rd November 2023 in relation to a loan facility for Galtan CLG in respect of the provision of one unit of accommodation at 5 St. Dominick’s Terrace, French’s Quay, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, 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 €284,531.30 be granted to Galtan CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one unit of accommodation at 5 St. Dominick’s Terrace, French’s Quay, Cork.”

7.4 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 88 SUNDAYS WELL ROAD, CORK - GALTAN CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 23rd November 2023 in relation to a loan facility for Galtan CLG in respect of the provision of 2 no. units at 88 Sundays Well Road, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boylan, 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 €393,112.80 be granted to Galtan CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 2 no. units at 88 Sundays Well Road, Cork.”

7.5 **ACTIVE TRAVEL MEASURES UNDER THE PROPOSED BANDUFF ROAD SCHEME - SECTION 38 APPROVAL**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir O. Moran, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 6th December 2023, following public consultation, on the proposed Banduff Road Scheme pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

7.6 **ACTIVE TRAVEL MEASURES FOR BLARNEY BUSINESS PARK LINKAGE - SECTION 38 APPROVAL**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 29th November 2023, following public consultation, on the proposed Active Travel Measures for Blarney Business Park Linkage pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 4th DECEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 4th December 2023.

8.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31/10/2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 31/10/2023.

8.2 **ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2024**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir G. Kelleher, An Chomhairle adopted the Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2024.

8.3 **MOTIONS**

8.3.1 **RECORDING AND UPLOADING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 30th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council recognises:

- The importance of transparency and accountability in Council proceedings
- The potential for education and empowerment through viewing of full Council meetings
- The need to increase engagement in Council operations with young people and vulnerable minorities especially
- The timing of full Council meetings prevents educational institutions and many ordinary people from viewing the live streaming of the meeting

And agrees to:

- Draft an amendment to Standing Orders to allow for the recording, and uploading, of Council meeting video on the Council website
- Engage with educational institutions to explore how Council proceedings can be incorporated into student curriculum.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 23/516)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Standing Orders are currently being reviewed and to that end Party Whips agreed that a workshop would be held in January to support that review process. It is recommended that the proposed amendment to Standing Orders would be considered as part of that process.

9. **PARTY WHIPS – 27th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 27th November 2023.

9.1 **MEETING SCHEDULE 2024**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Meeting Schedule for 2024.

10. **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & TOURISM STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 20th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 20th November 2023.

10.1 **RECENT ACTIVITIES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Members considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 15th November 2023 on recent activities in International Relations.

11. **ENVIRONMENT, WATER & AMENITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21st NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21st November 2023.

11.1 **LOCAL AUTHORITY ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted a presentation was given by Mr. Noel Murtagh on Cork City Council's Environmental Performance.

11.2 **MOTIONS**

11.2.1 **CIVIC AMENITY CENTRES IN THE NORTHSIDE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 15th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council setup publicly owned civic amenity centres on the northside of the city. This would be a good start and improve recycling in the area and to stop fly tipping.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 23/218)

The report of the Director of Services stated that that Cork City Council does not have plans at present to develop a Civic Amenity Site on the north side of the city.

The Council currently operates a very substantial Civic Amenity Site at Kinsale Road (part of Tramore Valley Park) where a range of disposal and recycling options are available to the public.

This site provides a city wide service and in fact is used by members of the public from neighbouring Local Authorities.

Developing a new Civic Amenity Site will entail significant costs (site purchase, capital and operating costs). These costs are not budgeted for at present.

Developing a Civic Amenity Site will also require significant time, energy and resources in terms of seeking planning permission, obtaining a waste licence from the EPA, assessing the impacts of facility operations as well as assessing the need for same given the very small geographic footprint of the City Council's administrative area.

There will also most likely be other challenges in terms of objections from residents, nearby businesses, and industry etc.

The Council does not outright dismiss the proposal for developing a northside Civic Amenity Site; it is however, not on the immediate project development list, at this time.

As the implementation of the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 progresses there may be opportunities to explore options for expanding the Civic Amenity site provision across the City.

11.2.2 **PILOT 'DOG PARK' AT LEE FIELDS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 15th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That a cordoned-off area in the Lee Fields, currently used by dog walkers while waterworks are ongoing, is considered for a pilot 'dog park' in light of previous requests for same in other parks which were deemed too expensive. Minor upgrades to the current set up may well satiate the need for such a park where dogs can be let off-lead.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Finn 23/229)

The report of the Director of Services stated that during the laying of a new trunk water main, as part of the Western Trunk Watermain Project, an area of the Lee Fields was cordoned off as a construction site to accommodate the laying of the main. These works are now completed, the fencing removed and the area in question back in public use. The Lee Fields are very popular for walkers and others for informal recreation space and any reduction in the open space along the linear park would have a negative impact on the amenity users.

Following discussions with other Local Authorities, a Draft Plan was developed for the creation of a Dog Park. This would require a large area, allowing for the segregation of small and larger dogs. The Regional Park was identified as a possible site, but the cost of provision was close to € 100k, with no available budget to bring it to fruition. Should the required funding be provided going forward, this project will be progressed.

11.2.3 **PARKS IN THE NORTH WEST AND NORTH EAST WARD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 15th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘To ask Council to set out:

1. The number (names) of parks in the NW and NE ward.
2. List all the amenities in each park.
3. List all new amenities since 2019 that have been installed, upgraded and are due to be installed this year.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 23/317)

The report of the Director of Services stated that there are 19 parks in the North East and North West Wards, listed below, and are made up of enclosed parks as well as public open spaces and amenity walkways.

1. Gerry O’Sullivan Park, Churchfield - enclosed

Size: 2.55Ha

Facilities: Children’s Playground, Multi Use Games Areas, Outdoor Gym, Calisthenics, Parklet, Path Network, Community Garden, Biodiversity Areas, seating, litter bins

Awarded An Taisce Green Flag Award 2023

2. Popham’s Park, Farranree - enclosed

Size: 1.98Ha

Facilities: Childrens Playground, Outdoor Gym, Multi Use games Area, Pitches & changing Rooms, seating, litter bins, Path Network

3. Bridevalley Park, Fair Hill - enclosed

Size: 0.42Ha

Facilities: Childrens Playground, Multi Use Games Area, Path Network

4. Fairfield, Fairfield Road - enclosed

Size: 3.17Ha

Facilities: Pitches & Changing Rooms, Path Network, Outdoor Gym

5. Glenamoy Park, Mayfield - enclosed

Size: 0.82 Ha

Facilities: Childres Playground, Multi Use Games Area, Path Network

6. Meelick Park, Ballyvolane - enclosed

Size: 2.66 Ha

Facilities: Childrens Playground, Multi Use Games Area, Tennis Courts, Car Parking, Path Network, Designated Biodiversity Area, seating, litter bins

7. Military Cemetery, The Glen - enclosed

Size: 1.46 Ha

Facilities: Childrens Playground, Historic Military Cemetery, Path Network

8. St. Anne's Park & Dr. Mary Hearn Park, Shandon - enclosed

Size: 0.24 Ha

Facilities: Informal Recreation

9. Railway Park, Middle Glanmire Road - enclosed

Size: 0.01 Ha

Facilities: Childrens Playground

10. Ballincollig Regional Park

Size: 54 ha

Facilities: series of walks and trails, a large playground, a Multi Use Games Area, a Skatepark, outdoor gym, playing pitches and informal recreation space. Car parking & Toilets

An Taisce Green Flag Awarded in 2021.

11. Glen River Park, the Glen

Size: 25.2 Ha

Facilities: Seating, litter bins, River Walk, Path Networks, car parking

12. Bell's Field, Richmond Hill

Size: 0.75 Ha

Facilities: Informal Recreation, seating, litter bins

13. Tank Field, Mayfield

Size: 1.8 Ha

Facilities: Pitch, seating, litter bins, paths

14. Spring Lane, Blackpool

Size: 0.46 Ha

Facilities: Informal Recreation, Seating, Path network

15. Waterloo Amenity Walk, Blarney

Length: 2.4km

Facilities: River Walk, Carparking available, Seating

16. Tower Park, Tower

Size: 0.7 ha

Facilities: Childrens Playground, Seating, Path Network

17. Hazelwood, Glanmire

Size: 0.8 ha

Facilities: Multi Use Games Areas

18. Clogheenmilcon Amenity Walk & Playground, Blarney

Length: 6.4km

Facilities: amenity walk, car parking available, Childrens playground

19. John O'Callaghan Park

Size: 5.16 Ha

Facilities: Childrens playground, Outdoor Gym, ~1km walking route

3. List all new amenities since 2019 that have been installed, upgraded and are due to be installed this year.

Gerry O’Sullivan Park

Upgrade of children’s playground
Wheelchair Swing installed
Concrete Footpath and Drainage Repair Works
Outdoor Gym, and calisthenics units installed
Development of Community Garden
ongoing Drainage Works
Installation of parklet
Repair to paths & boundary walls

Meelick Park

Refurbishment of Playground completed
Wheelchair Swing installed
Water Fountain Installed
Carpark & Tennis Courts upgraded.
Installation of Outdoor Gym

Fairfield Park

Outdoor Gym Installed
Seating installed

Popham’s park

Outdoor Gym installed
Wheelchair Swing installed

Blarney Childrens Playground

Upgrade of Childrens Playground
Wheelchair Swing installed
Safer surfacing works completed

Glenamoy Park

New Play equipment installed

John O’Callaghan Park

Contract for additional play equipment has been awarded.

Tank Field

Public Lighting installed, with 3 seats installed.

11.2.4 **POTENTIAL TREE PLANTING SITES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 15th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council Tree Officer would engage with the members of each Local Electoral Area in order to identify potential sites where more trees could be planted. By engaging with local communities and harnessing local knowledge re potential tree planting sites we should aim to significantly increase the number of trees planted. Local communities and businesses may wish to support or sponsor tree planting. By engaging with local communities the Council should aim to significantly increase the number of trees planted.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 23/323)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council’s Parks & Recreation staff, including the Tree Officer and the Biodiversity Officer currently engage with a wide variety of stakeholders and community groups such as Tidy Districts Committees, Residents Associations etc. to facilitate and carry out the Council’s annual planting program. The Council has planted on average over 4000 trees each year since 2021, with a similar level of planting anticipated going forward. Any new specific requests can be referred to the Tree Officer for attention.

Available public land for planting has been assessed through a variety of methods including digital mapping software, engagement with stakeholders, community groups and elected members.

11.2.5 **COMMUNICATION FROM UISCE ÉIREANN RE WATER OUTAGES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 15th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would engage with Uisce Éireann in order to improve the communications re water outages. Following a recent water outage in the Tower/Cloghphilip area residents were without water for approx. 3 days with few updates from Uisce Éireann.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 23/324)

The report of the Director of Service stated that as of the 19th of July 2023 Cork City Council is no longer responsible for operating and maintaining public drinking water infrastructure and supplies in Cork City.

As per the provisions of the national legislation governing the provision of water services Uisce Eireann have sole responsibility for the provision and management of public water drinking supplies.

A letter can issue to Uisce Eireann on behalf of Council asking them to review their public communications strategy.

However I would suggest that individual Councillors who are concerned about this or any other Uisce Eireann related matters should contact the Local Representative Support Desk in Uisce Eireann directly:

- Telephone: LRSD (Local Representative Service Desk) - 0818 178 178
- Email: localrepsupport@water.ie or lrsd@water.ie
- Web: www.water.ie

11.2.6 **AVAILABLE SPACE IN THE CITY CENTRE FOR A CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 15th November 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That in view of the increasing number of residents in the City Centre area, that Cork City Council would access available space in the City Centre area such as the underused shopping centre on North Main Street to be considered as a community space for a children's play area or a similar outdoor space for a playground/park.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 23/465)

The report of the Director of Services stated that The Parks & Recreation Division will liaise with the Strategic & Economic Development and Community, Culture & Placemaking Directorates to identify if any city centre locations may be suitable and deliverable for Childrens Play provision.

It is also worth noting that Children's playgrounds are provided at present in both Fitzgerald's Park and Shalom Park.

12. **COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 23rd NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 23rd November 2023.

13. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 15th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 15th November 2023.

14. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 4th DECEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 4th December 2023.

14.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

14.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF OCTOBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to the end of October 2023.

15. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th November 2023.

16. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th November 2023.

17. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th November 2023.

18. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th November 2023.

19. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28th NOVEMBER 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its special meeting held, 28th November 2023.

20. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

21. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted summaries of conferences/seminars attended as follows:-

- Comhairleoir S. Martin at the AILG Module 6 training, Road Safety, New Speed Limit Policy, and Safeguarding Road Users, held at Clayton Hotel, Co. Galway, 17th - 18th November 2023.
- Comhairleoirí G. Kelleher and T. Shannon at the LAMA Autumn Seminar, Climate Action, Sustainable Business, and Balanced Regional Development, held at Ard Ri House Hotel, Tuam, Co. Galway, 25th - 26th October 2023.
- Comhairleoir D. Canty and Ardmhéara Comhairleoir K. McCarthy as part of the City Council Delegation visit to Shanghai and Wuxi, China, 30th October - 8th November 2023.

- Comhairleoir F. Dennehy at the AILG Module 2 training, Local Authority Climate Action Plan, held at Fairways Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth, 25th March 2023.
- Comhairleoir F. Dennehy at the AILG Module 4 training, Uisce Éireann, held at Radisson Blu Hotel, Co. Sligo, 22nd July 2023.
- Comhairleoir F. Dennehy at the AILG Annual Training Conference 2023, held at Hotel Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny, 19th - 20th April 2023.
- Comhairleoir F. Dennehy at the AILG Module 3 training, Overview of Existing Planning Legislation, held at Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny, 17th June 2023.
- Comhairleoir F. Dennehy at the AILG Autumn Training Seminar, Future of Local Government, held at Sligo Park Hotel, Co. Sligo, 13th – 14th September 2023.

22. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

None received.

23. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

24. **TRAINING**

None received.

25. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive’s monthly management report for October.

26. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle noted the motions on Appendix 1, that have been referred to the relevant Committees as determined by the Meetings Administrator, due notice of which has been given.

27. **MOTIONS**

27.1 **NEW LEGISLATION PERMITTING LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO AUTHORISE CCTV IN PUBLIC PLACES**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the Minister for Justice Helen McEntee and the Minister for Local Government Darragh O’Brien calling on them to introduce new legislation permitting local authorities, in consultation with local Gardaí, to authorise the installation and operation of CCTV in public places for the purpose of securing public order and safety, without having to first go through the long and cumbersome

process of obtaining authorisation from the Commissioner of An Garda Síochána pursuant to Section 38 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 23/557)

In the absence of the proposer of the motion, the motion was considered withdrawn.

27.2 **EDUCATE DRIVERS ON TARGET FIXATION**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That the CE will write to the RSA to educate drivers on target fixation.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 23/562)

An Chomhairle unanimously approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

‘That the Cork City Council will write to the RSA to educate drivers on target fixation.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 23/562)

27.3 **GARDAÍ NUMBERS IN CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council notes the vital work undertaken by An Garda Síochána in our communities and commends them in their work.

Further notes that Cork City was allocated a single Garda from the latest allocation of Garda recruits in October and that this is contributing to feeling on the ground that the Gardaí are not accessible and that there is less visible policing in our communities.

Notes in particular that Ballincollig Garda Station opens for fifteen hours a week and that this is contributing to a feeling of disconnect among residents and Gardaí.

Therefore, Cork City Council calls on the Government to start listening to communities and to provide a fair allocation of Gardaí to Cork City to carry out visible patrolling duties, to properly staff stations and to bring criminals to justice.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. O’Leary 23/573)

An Chomhairle unanimously approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council notes the vital work undertaken by An Garda Síochána in our communities and commends them in their work.

Further notes that Cork City was allocated a single Garda from the latest allocation of Garda recruits in October and that this is contributing to feeling on the ground that the Gardaí are not accessible and that there is less visible policing in our communities.

Notes in particular that Ballincollig Garda Station opens for fifteen hours a week and that this is contributing to a feeling of disconnect among residents and Gardaí.

Therefore, Cork City Council calls on the Minister for Justice to start listening to communities and to provide a fair allocation of Gardaí to Cork City to carry out visible patrolling duties, to properly staff stations and to bring criminals to justice.'

(Proposer: Cllr. O. O'Leary 23/573)

27.4 **ADOPTION OF THE FOSSIL FUEL NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'That this Council urges the international adoption of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 23/580)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH