

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh.
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
<b>NORTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, D. Boylan.
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, D. Forde.
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Kerins.
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin.
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. G. O’Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Ms. A. Rodgers, Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Mr. T. Keating, Interim Director of Services, Housing. Mr. A. Mahony, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads & Environment Operations. Ms. A. Murnane, Meetings Administrator. Ms. C. Currid, A/Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

**1. LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

**1.1 ATTENDANCE OF ELECTED MEMBERS AT COUNCIL BUILDINGS**

In light of the deteriorating situation regarding Covid19, An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle of the AILG/LGMA/LAMA Standard Operating Guidance regarding attendance of Elected Members at Council buildings. He advised that attendance should be by pre-arranged appointment, and for essential business reasons only.

## 1.2 **HOUSING MAINTENANCE TEAM**

An tArdmhéara paid tribute to the Housing Maintenance team for their exemplary work, and support given to Cork City Councils tenants during the Covid19 crisis.

## 1.3 **RETIREMENT**

An tArdmhéara proposed, and An Chomhairle passed a vote of best wishes to Comhairleoir P. Dineen on his retirement from the ambulance service.

## 1.4 **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

An tArdmhéara proposed, and An Chomhairle passed votes of congratulations to Marty Walsh and Gina McCarthy on their appointments to President Elect, Joe Biden's cabinet as Labour Secretary and National Climate Advisor respectively.

## 2. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

### 2.1 **CCMA LOCAL AUTHORITY FRAMEWORK**

The Chief Executive briefed An Chomhairle on the current situation with Covid19 and its effect on Cork City Council Services. She reminded An Chomhairle of the CCMA Local Authority Framework for Future Covid19 Response update of, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### 2.2 **CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Chief Executive updated An Chomhairle on the steps that have been undertaken regarding the City Development Plan.

As of 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2021 Cork City Council formally advanced to preparation of the draft City Development Plan. The draft plan will be presented to Members for their consideration in March 2021. It will then be published and available to the public by June 2021. As part of the process, public consultation will resume in June 2021.

## 3. **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, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

An tArdmhéara invited Comhairleoir T. Tynan to raise a point of clarification in relation to Jadotville.

## 4. **ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Forde, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle considered and adopted the Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021

5. **ARTS GRANTS 2021**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture and Placemaking, dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the proposed allocation of Arts Grants for 2021.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **RENT A BIKE SCHEME**

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

Has the CE received any explanation from the NTA about the state of disrepair of the rent a bike scheme in Cork? To my knowledge the scheme at Morrison's Island has been out of order for over a year. More recently both the station at Grand Parade and the junction of Patrick's Street and Academy Street are also out of order.

**REPLY**

The station at Morrisons Island is out of action due to damage to the cabling and unit caused by ongoing flooding of the station and repairs to date have proved ineffective. It is the intention to relocate this station as part of the Morrison's Island scheme.

The National Transport Authority has confirmed that there were issues at a number of stations before Christmas due to software malfunction. A new version of software has now been installed at these locations and all stations are back in operation. This new software is also being rolled out to all of the existing stations in Cork and this should reduce the instances of short term outages for the foreseeable future.

Edith Roberts,  
A/Director of Services,  
Infrastructure Development.

6.2 **VACANT PRIVATE BUILDINGS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive what mechanisms are used to quantify the amount vacant private buildings that exist in the city, and what the current level of such vacancies is believed to be.

**REPLY**

The mechanisms used to quantify vacant private building is best addressed by separating commercial and residential development as two distinct topics:

### **Commercial Vacancy**

- **Employment and Land Use Survey:** The most comprehensive exercise to determine vacant commercial premises is the Employment and Landuse Survey, which is conducted by Cork City Council every five years in conjunction with the national census. The last survey took place in 2016 and indicated 1,000 no. vacant commercial units within the old city boundary, 476 no. of which were within the City Centre. (Note that this figure includes small offices as well as shops.) Like census, the next survey has been postponed until 2022.
- **An Post Geodirectory:** provides quarterly data that indicates vacancy, the most recent of which available is from Q3 2020. However, given that this is not the primary purpose of the dataset, the vacancy figures reported tend to be an undercount. Geodirectory indicates 470 vacant commercial units within the entire new Cork City boundary in Q3 2020. While this figure is an undercount, it is interesting to note that Geodirectory has indicated a substantial drop in overall commercial vacancy since 2016.
- **Rates Data:** provides information on rateable accounts, which does not necessarily correlate with premises. Preliminary figures for 2020 indicate that 137 accounts received a write off for being either incapable of Beneficial Occupation (IBO), derelict or demolished; 698 accounts were fully vacant, and they will receive the COVID19 75% rates waiver; 100 accounts are partially vacant and will receive a partial vacancy write off.
- **City Centre Survey of Primary Shopping Street:** An Annual survey of the central island has been conducted in Q2 since 2015. In 2021, this will also be supplemented by work carried out as part of the Retail Strategy in association with the Development Plan.

### **Residential Vacancy**

- **Census:** The census, conducted every five years, formally reports on residential vacancy. The most recent data available is from Census 2016. It indicated over 4,000 vacant homes within the old Cork City boundary, a vacancy rate of 7.7%. (This figure includes both private and social housing). However, research conducted in 2018 indicates that this figure may have been an overcount in the first instance and further that a substantial number of vacant properties had been occupied between 2016-2018 (see more details below). The next census has been postponed until 2022.
- **2018 Pilot Surveys:** A sample of census areas (“SAPS”) were surveyed on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage to compare data with figures reported in the 2016 Census. Whereas the census had indicated an overall vacancy rate of 10.6% for these select areas, surveys established that the 2018 vacancy rate for these areas was only 3.8% and further that 1/3 of these houses were only temporarily vacant due to renovations, being on the market, etc. Based on these findings, it was estimated that the likely number of longer-term vacant private homes within the old city boundary in 2018 may have been closer to around

1,100. However, it is emphasised that this is an informed hunch more than a hard figure.

- **Vacanthomes.ie:** Vacant houses are publicly reported through vacant homes.ie but do not represent a comprehensive vacancy count.
- **An Post Geodirectory:** An Post Geodirectory indicates around 950 vacant residential units in Cork City in Q3 2020. Previous interrogation of Geodirectory data has shown that it likely an undercount.

Details about national mechanisms used to collect residential vacancy data in other countries is available from study conducted as part of the Rebuilding Ireland Programme (<https://rebuildingireland.ie/news/minister-english-launches-two-new-reports-on-vacant-properties/>).

Fearghal Reidy,  
Director of Services,  
Strategic & Economic Development.

### 6.3 **FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS/AGREEMENTS BY CORK CITY COUNCIL**

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

Can the CE give an extensive list of all monies committed to by CCC to other agencies example (Cork Food Bank and Food Cloud, FAI etc.), the length of time the commitment is for, and any other relevant information in relation to financial commitments/agreements Cork City Council has entered into?

#### **REPLY**

##### **Parks & Recreation**

Mayfield Sports Complex	The City Council makes a contribution each year towards the public swimming pool	€39200
Cork County Boxing Board	The City Council have agreed to support the provision of a Centre of Excellence for 3 years	Up to € 30k per annum up to 2023
Irish Water Safety	The City Council makes an annual statutory contribution	€1900
CIT	The City Council makes an annual contribution towards the operating deficit	Variable approx.. € 23k

## Community, Culture & Placemaking

€27,571 match funding under the Asylum Migrant Integration Fund to Nasc, 50/50 split between Council and HSE, three years, 2021 being year 3.

**Arts Office** – Below are the organisations that the Arts Office provides strategic funding to, renewable on an annual basis. The amounts shown are funds allocated in 2020.

Arts and Disability Supported Studios	€8,000
Cork Opera House	€250,000
Cork Mid-Summer Festival	€70,000
Cork Jazz Festival	€8,000
Cork Butter Museum	€20,000
Cork Folk Festival	€35,000
O Bheal	€10,000
Cork Academy of Music	€25,000
Munster Literature Festival	€48,000
Triskel Christchurch	€52,000
Music Generation	€53,000
National String Foundation	€6,000
Sounds from a Safe Harbour	€10,000
St. Peter's Vision Centre	€200,000

## Sports & Sustainability

Cork Environmental Forum	€12,000	Annual Contribution from Budget
Cork Sports Partnership	€31,000	Annual Contribution from Budget
Meitheal Mara (Ocean to City)	€27,000	Annual Contribution from Budget
Cork City Sports	€36,000	Annual Contribution from Budget
FAI Development Officer	€24,125	50/50 split between CCC and FAI for a period of 2 years to 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2022.

## Communities

Public Participation Network	€35,000	Annual ongoing match funding with the Department of Rural & Community Development
NASC Migrant & Refugee Rights Centre	€13,750	€27,571 match funding under the Asylum Migrant Intengration Fund to Nasc. 50/50 split between Council and HSE, so €13,750 from Council for a period of three years, 2021 being year 3.

## Cork City Fire Service

MRCC – Munster Regional Communication Centre	€360,000	Annual Contribution from Budget
--	----------	---------------------------------

## Housing

Newbury House Family Centre	10,000	Year by Year Basis
Threshold	8,000	Year by Year Basis
Age Action Ireland	20,000	Year by Year Basis
Cork Academy of Music	20,000	Regeneration Social Element – Year by Year Basis
GMC Beats Garry McCarthy	5,000	Regeneration Social Element – Year by Year Basis

## Strategic Economic Development

Recipient	Amount €	Duration and Purpose
Ignite, UCC*	56,667	Entrepreneurship Support – since 2010
Sprint, UCC	5,000	Entrepreneurship Support – since 2016
Nimbus, CIT	3,000	Support of the Beyond IoT – International innovation event
CorkBIC	25,000	Entrepreneurship Support – since 2010
Benchspace clg <sup>1</sup>	10,000	Fablab support – since 2017
Design Pop Festival <sup>1</sup>	15,000	Festival development support – since 2019
Young Social Innovators	10,000	Youth Engagement for 3 year programme
Network Cork <sup>2</sup>	7500	Since 2017 for promotion of female entrepreneurship
IWish Event <sup>2</sup>	6,050	Since 2017 for entrepreneurship element of Iwish event
Food Science UCC <sup>2</sup>	2,500	Since 2018 for Food Science Start-up awards

<sup>1</sup>Partially funded by Enterprise Ireland through the Local Enterprise Office

<sup>2</sup>Fully funded by Enterprise Ireland through the Local Enterprise Office

Walled Towns Network	1,250	Participation in Ireland's walled towns network since 2006.
Royal Irish Academy	12,000	Irish Historic Towns Atlas for Cork (three year period)
Cork Environmental Forum	6,951	Supporting environmental awareness.
The Heritage Council	1,250	Membership fee.
SECAD	6,570	Pollinator Framework
Southern Regional Assembly	219,170	Annual payments to regional assembly.

#### 6.4 **VACANT COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES**

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

To ask the CE to report on the number of vacant commercial properties in the Cork City Administrative area.

#### **REPLY**

There are a number of data sets that present the level of vacancy in commercial properties in Cork City Administrative Area as follows:-

- **An Post Geodirectory** provides quarterly data that indicates vacancy, the most recent of which available is from Q3 2020. However, given that this is not the primary purpose of the dataset, the vacancy figures reported tend to be an undercount. Geodirectory indicates 470 vacant commercial units within the entire new Cork City boundary in Q3 2020. While this figure is an undercount, it is interesting to note that Geodirectory has indicated a substantial drop in overall commercial vacancy since 2016.
- **Rates Data:** provides information on rateable accounts, which does not necessarily correlate with premises. Preliminary figures for 2020 indicate that 137 accounts received a write off for being either incapable of Beneficial Occupation (IBO), derelict or demolished; 698 accounts were fully vacant, and they will receive the COVID19 75% rates waiver; 100 accounts are partially vacant and will receive a partial vacancy write off.

Fearghal Reidy,  
Director of Services,  
Strategic & Economic Development.

#### 6.5 **AIR QUALITY MONITORING UNIT**

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

To request an update from the CEO regarding the Air Quality Monitoring Unit in Mayfield Post Office, which was installed last year, and for the provision of readings from the monitoring equipment.

#### **REPLY**

The outdoor Air Quality Monitoring Unit at Mayfield Post Office is in operation.

The data can be downloaded from the Purple Air Website (<https://www.purpleair.com/>).

Instructions on how to download the data are available on the City Council's website – search 'Air Quality Monitoring Program'.

Helena O’Riordan,  
A/Director of Services,  
Roads & Environment Operations.

6.6 **UNDERGROUND POWER LINES IN DOUGLAS VILLAGE**

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

Can council report on feasibility of putting the overhead power lines in Douglas Village underground, clarify the process and possible funding sources and timeline for same.

**REPLY**

There is no specific funding stream available for the undergrounding of existing overhead powerlines. Where undergrounding has been undertaken in the past costs have been covered by internal city council funding for Urban renewal projects or as part of costs associated with upgrading of public lighting, replacement of footpaths etc. within a large transport scheme.

The replacement of overhead power lines is rarely undertaken as the ESB Networks cost are typically prohibitive when it comes to the undergrounding of services. ESB Networks do not favour undergrounding from an asset management perspective and the Council are usually the body seeking to clear the street infra and thus there are continual difficulties with the civil works certification from the ESB point of view. The civil works associated with such a proposal would warrant and need to be incorporated into a full Urban Renewal Project as road crossing and pavement works are extensive. There are currently no plans to underground services in Douglas Village.

Edith Roberts,  
A/Director of Services,  
Infrastructure Development.

Helena O’Riordan,  
A/Director of Services,  
Roads & Environment Operations.

6.7 **REPAIR WORK ON PARLIAMENT BRIDGE**

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 repair work on Parliament Bridge on its north-western side?

## **REPLY**

Cork City Council is in the process of appointing a contractor to undertake emergency repair works to a partial collapse of the northwest wing wall at Parliament Bridge.

It is anticipated that these works will be completed by mid to late February 2021.

Edith Roberts,  
A/Director of Services,  
Infrastructure Development.

### 6.8 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME**

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

Can CE update me on the new affordable housing scheme.

## **REPLY**

Currently, Cork City Council is progressing with affordable housing projects at various locations in the City on the basis of supports from the Serviced Sites Fund and the Help to Buy existing Government schemes.

However, the Council understands that legislation for a new affordable housing scheme, which would allow eligible low- and middle-income applicants to purchase state subsidised homes, is in preparation and is scheduled to come before Dáil Éireann in early 2021 and that the launch of such a scheme will take place shortly thereafter.

The City Council would welcome such a scheme and it will brief members at the appropriate juncture.

Tadhg Keating,  
Interim Director of Services,  
Housing.

### 6.9 **REPLACING OF CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE ON APPROACH TO MAHON POINT SHOPPING CENTRE**

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

Can the Chief Executive please advise on the rationale for replacing the cycling infrastructure on the approach to the Mahon Point Shopping Centre with a bus lane and no cycling infrastructure on the route; Can the Chief Executive answer this question in the context that the speed limit on this road is 50km per hour and as such this change does not appear to be in line with DMURS – The use of DMURS being mandatory for all road authorities (Circular RW 6/2013) and (PL 17/2013) applies to all Roads and Streets in Urban Areas. Can the Chief Executive in their comments provide a timeline for when this issue will be rectified?

## **REPLY**

The works taking place are in relation to Planning App. 18/38036 on the Former Ma/Comm site, Loughmahon Link Road, Mahon, Cork by City Gate Plaza Developments Ltd. Planning permission was granted under TP18/38036 for demolition of an existing reservoir and reservoir building and the construction of an office development. The proposed development includes two office buildings Block A will be four floors over ground floor with terraces and Block B will be three floors over ground floor with terraces. The proposed development also includes a ground floor café, additional car parking, bicycle shelters, security hut, bus shelters, waste management area, landscaping and all associated site works. The proposed development will provide for general offices and/or business & technology uses and/or office based industry uses on all floors and the proposed office space will be designated to be suitable for single user or multiple users with subdivisions. The proposal also includes for the provision of a northbound bus lane from the N40 junction to the traffic signals at Mahon Point Shopping Centre as set out in the relevant planning consent drawings.

Condition number 1 of the planning consent provides for the following:

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and particulars received by the planning authority on 29/08/2018, as amended by the plans and particulars received by the planning authority on 16/11/2018.

The bus lane has been designed in compliance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads & Streets. The northbound traffic lanes have been reduced in width to encourage lower vehicle speeds and the width of the footpath has been increased where the space allowed.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the Mahon Link Road will be fully re-examined as part of the Bus Connects plans which will be rolled out in the coming years.

Adrienne Rodgers,  
Director of Services,  
Community, Culture & Placemaking.

## **6.10 PROPOSALS IN 2013 TO INSTALL CCTV CAMERAS IN CEMETERYS**

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

Can the CE report on proposals in 2013 to install CCTV cameras with voice over facilities and 24/7 monitoring in the then 4 City cemeteries? What measures were put in place subsequently and since the bouts of significant vandalism in St. Catherine's Cemetery, Kilcully in December 2019-January 2020?

## **REPLY**

In 2013, following a number of incidents at St. Joseph's Cemetery in June of the previous year, and in response to a motion requesting the Council to consider better

security measures at its cemeteries by closing gates each night, it was reported that CCTV security cameras would be installed at all of its then four cemeteries, including voice-over facilities and 24 hour monitoring.

CCTV cameras were installed at all locations, cameras being in place already at St. Catherine’s Kilcully since 2008. It was not deemed necessary at the time to proceed with voice over or 24hour monitoring and the cameras have proved very effective to date.

Prior to the damage in December 2019/January 2020 that was caused at St. Catherine’s Cemetery, there was no record of any vandalism at the burial ground. The Council is satisfied, from its knowledge of this particular case (and contact with the Gardai), that the damage caused, which was very upsetting for family members, was an isolated incident and would have been perpetrated regardless a 24 hour monitoring system was in place.

Following a review of the system at St. Catherine’s Cemetery last year, eight new cameras were installed with voice over and 24 hour monitoring.

Helena O’Riordan,  
A/Director of Services,  
Roads & Environment Operations.

6.11 **ESTATES TO BE TAKEN IN CHARGE**

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

What is the total amount of estates that are due to be “taken in charge” by Cork City Council & how much money is required to ensure that this work is carried out?

What estates are expected to be “taken in charge” for 2021?

**REPLY**

The following table indicates the number of estates that are at various stages of the Taking in Charge (TIC) process:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>No. of Estates</i>
1	Estates under construction	35
2	Developer/receiver liaising with Cork City Council on remedial works	9
3	Cork City Council is carrying out works with funds from bond or DOECLG	5
4	TIC process stalled for various reasons (bond lapsed, developer not engaging, etc.)	18
5	Plebicite	6
6	Estate is being considered for taking in charge.	52
		<b>125</b>

In preparing this response, the references below to investigating the costs associated with Estates refers to Category 4,5 and 6. In general, there is funding available and/or an engaged developer is able to carry out works to an estate for Categories 2 and 3 and estates are not taken in charge until construction is completed i.e. Category 1.

An in-depth assessment is required of 76 no. estates (Category 4,5 and 6) to determine:

- 1) Surety available, if any;
- 2) Works required by each infrastructure department to bring estate up to TIC standard and
- 3) Shortfall between surety available and cost of works required.

A representative sample approach would indicate that Cork City Council would be looking at in the order of €1,111,772 to €1,667,659. These costs do not include consultant fee, consumer price index (CPI) and deterioration of assets since assessment.

It should be noted that In the experience of the Senior Executive Engineer, estates have many variant and unique factors and in the context, consideration is being given to alternative assessments.

With regard to the number of estates that would be taken in charge in 2021, this would be dependent upon funding being available.

Adrienne Rodgers,  
Director of Services,  
Community, Culture & Placemaking.

#### 6.12 **NEW BUILD HOUSING UNITS**

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

“To ask the Chief Executive the number of new build housing units added to City Council stock for each month during the years 2020, 2019 and 2018”

#### **REPLY**

For the years 2018 – 2020, the new build units added to Cork City Council stock (i.e. excluding single dwelling acquisitions, Approved Housing Body build & acquisition, long-term leasing units and new homes in the ownership of the Council but managed/leased by: AHB’s) were as follows:

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>New build units Cork City Council stock</b>
Q1 2018	21
Q2 2018	7
Q3 2018	32

Q4 2018	56
Q1 2019	0
Q2 2019	13
Q3 2019	50
Q4 2019	288
Q1-Q3 2020	0 <sup>1</sup>
Q4 2020	165 <sup>2</sup>

A more comprehensive report on 2020 delivery will issue in due course to members, outlining the total delivery under the Build, Acquisition, and Leasing Programme, including approved housing body delivery.

<sup>1</sup>Covid 19 pandemic and related public health measures had a significant effect on completions and programme throughout 2020.

<sup>2</sup>Q4 of 2020 statistics being finalised and validated.

Tadhg Keating,  
Interim Director of Services,  
Housing.

## 7. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

### 7.1 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Chief Executive dated, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 on the following property disposal:-

Disposal by way of lease of office premises known as the Cork National Roads Design Office, Glashaboy, Glanmire, Cork to Cork County Council, Carrigrohane Road, Cork at an annual rent of €1.00 (if demanded).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Canty, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

### 7.2 **SECTION 38 – IMPROVEMENTS AT SKEHARD ROAD**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir M.R.Desmond, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendations of the A/Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, following public consultation, on the proposed Improvements at Skehard Rd, Cork pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

### 7.3 **DUNKETTLE TO CARRIGTWOHILL PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ROUTE – SECTION 85 AGREEMENT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure & Development, dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020 in relation to Dunkettle to Carrigtwohill Pedestrian and Cycle – Section 85 Agreement.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Maher, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

To facilitate to Dunkettle to Carrigtwohill Pedestrian and Cycle Route as set out, Cork City Council is of the opinion that it would be more convenient that Cork County Council would carry out on behalf of Cork City Council its powers functions and duties as a local authority and or as a road authority insofar as they relate to concern and or involve the proposed works set out in the Schedule hereto, insofar as the proposed works shall be situated within the administrative area of Cork City Council and Cork County Council is able and willing to do so.

Accordingly, Cork City Council hereby resolves to enter into an Agreement with Cork County Council pursuant to the provisions of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 14 of the Roads Act 1993.

**SCHEDULE**  
**(“the proposed works”)**

The proposed works consist of the procurement of the necessary design work, the procuring of and carrying the construction works and such other powers, functions and duties necessary for the provision of a pedestrian and cycle route, a controlled signal crossing and public lighting along a section of the L.2998 from the City Boundary to connect to the Dunkettle cycleway, a section of approx.. 190m.

7.4 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT 16A KERRY ROAD, MAYFIELD, CORK**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Tynan, seconded by An tArdmhéara Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, in accordance with Section 179(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed residential development at 16A Kerry Road, Mayfield, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive thereon as required under Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

7.5 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT GLENAMOY LAWN, MAYFIELD, CORK**

On the proposal of An tArdmhéara Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Tynan, in accordance with Section 179(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed residential development at Glenamoy Lawn, Mayfield, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive thereon as required under Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

8. **MOTION DEFERRED FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD, 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

**OLD TERMINAL BUILDING AT CORK AIRPORT**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘I ask that Cork City Council would write to the Minister of Transport Mr. Eamon Ryan TD and call on him to instruct the Dublin Airport Authority (DAA) to begin the process of handing over the old terminal building at Cork Airport to Ryanair. The old terminal building is currently standing empty and falling into disrepair. Because of the pandemic Ryanair like many other airlines around the globe have seen a huge downturn in passengers numbers and as a result of this Cork Airport has suffered, Cork City has suffered, the hospitality and retail sectors have suffered, and jobs and the security of employment have suffered. Ryanair CEO Michael O’Leary has recently (Dec 20) said that he is confident that airlines will recover somewhat in the summer of 21 with the huge improvement on that come the summer of 22. I feel that now is the time for us to reinvigorate the old terminal and I firmly believe that should the DAA and Minister Ryan allow Ryanair the opportunity to invest and set up an airline HUB in the old terminal that that investment will go a long way in helping to rebuild our economy in the Southern Area. I ask my fellow Cllrs to support my call on the Minister to act swiftly on this motion.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 20/435)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Canty, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion to the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

9. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

9.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

9.2 **SUPPORT PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE FOR DISABLED PEOPLE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘Considering the unanimous motion passed in Dáil Eireann on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019, that Cork City Council recognises:

- In March 2018 Ireland formally ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD), which under Article 19 states that disabled people have the right to live in the community and have access to a range of in-home and other supports including PAS to support this.

- Its obligation to consult closely with disabled people and their representative organisations in policy development as enshrined in Article 4.3 of the UNCRPD which states that “in the development and implementation of legislation and policies... States Parties shall closely consult with and actively
- Involve persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organisations”, specifically in relation to services provided by this local authority which impact on disabled people’s lives, such as planning, housing, transport, social inclusion and enterprise.
- The motion passed in Dáil Eireann on the 19<sup>th</sup> November and as such reaffirms that PAS supports disabled people to live independent lives should be legislated for as a right.

That Cork City Council supports the right to a Personal Assistance Service (PAS) for disabled people to have freedom, choice and control over all aspects of their lives to enable them to fully participate in an inclusive society as equals.’

(Proposers: Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. T. Moloney 20/425)

## 10. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

### 10.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report on Housing for October 2020.

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by An tArdmhéara Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting past 8p.m.

### 10.2 **MOTIONS**

#### 10.2.1 **INCREMENTAL TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council expand the Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme so as to enable tenants in Council owned apartments and 4 bedroom houses to purchase their homes from the Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 20/321)

The report of the Interim Director of Services stated that the incremental tenant purchase scheme came into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 and is open to eligible tenants of local authority houses that are available for sale under the scheme. The

Housing (Sale of Local Authority Houses) Regulations 2015 governing the scheme provide for a number of specified classes of properties to be excluded from sale, and also provide for local authorities to exclude houses for reasons of proper management of housing stock.

Each local authority administers the Scheme in line with the overarching provisions of the Regulations and in a manner appropriate to their individual housing requirements.

While the disposal of property under the Tenant Purchase scheme gives rise to a once-off capital receipt, dwellings are sold at a discount of between 40% and 60% of market value, therefore, the proceeds of sales are never sufficient to cover the replacement costs of housing stock. In addition, as the market value of council stock is not recorded in local authority accounts, the proceeds of sales are recorded as revenue, conveying the impression that such sales generate a profit. Whilst disposals generate cash, it is not a sustainable practice that can be used to compensate for the loss of regular and recurring revenue income through the differential rents scheme which is an important revenue source for maintaining social housing stock. Furthermore, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage restricts the application of such capital receipts.

It is also relevant to note the ‘pro cyclical’ nature of social housing funding and output, whereby it has increased as the economy has expanded, and declined during periods of recession as public expenditure is restricted. Therefore, spending is concentrated at the peak of economic cycles when land and construction costs are likely to be higher.

While Tenant Purchase may traditionally have been regarded as the only route to home ownership for lower income households, there are now a broad range of supports available through local authorities to increase home ownership as outlined below:

- Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) discount involves a €20,000 discount on a property’s sales price. This is subject to a ‘claw back’ provision should the property be sold within 5 years of purchase.
- Help-to-Buy Scheme is a Revenue based scheme whereby eligible applicants may be able to avail of an additional discount of up to €30,000 subject to having tax clearance and being a first-time buyer of a new build/self-build unit.
- Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan scheme (which replaced the previous Local Authority House Loan) allows applicants to apply for a mortgage if they have been refused by 2 or more financial institutions. The loan assists applicants who don’t meet the social housing eligibility criteria but are not in a position to secure funding from the commercial banking sector.
- Mortgage Allowance Scheme which allows for an allowance of €11,000 to be paid over a 5 year period to Cork City Council and Approved Housing Body tenants who surrender their tenancies when purchasing a property.
- New Affordable Housing Legislation is pending.

Further information on all of the above initiatives is available both online and through the City Council’s Housing Loans and Grants section.

There are currently 2 and 3 bedroomed units available in a new scheme in Ballinglanna, Glanmire which has both LIHAF funded and Help-to-Buy discounts available. Uptake of these supports has been very popular, with the scheme almost fully subscribed at this time. A further affordable scheme is planned at Boherboy Road, Mayfield with delivery expected in 2021/2022. Two additional affordable housing schemes are at the very early stages of development in the Bishopstown and Montenotte areas.

Members will be aware that a key principle of *'Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing & Homelessness'* is for local authorities to make best use of social housing stock, and to achieve optimum occupancy of existing units. Retaining ownership of the relatively scarce supply of smaller and larger housing units is considered prudent to provide scope for a 'lifecycle' based model for social housing tenants, whereby sufficient appropriate stock continues to be available to facilitate the transfer of growing families in overcrowded properties, and opportunities for downsizing for older tenants.

In light of this, it is currently Cork City Council's policy to only sell three-bedroom houses, based on the profile of our existing social housing stock when assessed against current demand. Three-bedroom houses represent 62% of the City Council's social housing stock, but only 18% of the City Council's current demand profile based on the housing need of qualified applicants so it is considered that making such units available for purchase is appropriate.

A recent academic study noted that nationally between 1990 and 1999, local authorities bought or built an additional 25,702 council houses, but concurrently sold 20,780 dwellings and thereby added only 4,922 net additional dwellings to their housing stock during this decade. To date in 2020, Cork City Council has acquired 16 one-off housing units through capital acquisitions and disposed of 16 units through the Tenant Purchase scheme.

In light of the current and growing unprecedented demand for social housing support, and due to the financial and supply factors as specified above, it is not envisaged that the current operation of the scheme should be amended at this time.

#### 10.2.2 **CALCULATION OF RENT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

'That Cork City Council will not charge less than 50% than a 25 year mortgage monthly repayment for a property that they buy in a housing estate.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Cahill 20/358)

The report of the Interim Director of Services stated that Part III of the 1966 Housing Act laid the foundation for local authorities to set and collect rents on their dwellings. Further to Article 64 of the Housing Regulations 1980, Circular Letter HRT 6/86 dated 14 August 1986 and Circular Letter 26/2015, all local authority tenants pay an income-

related, differential rent in respect of their accommodation. The guidelines issued by the Minister require local authorities to ensure that rent schemes adopted by them are based on certain broad principles, one of which is that rent payable should be related to income.

In line with all local authorities, Cork City Council charges a differential rent to all its social housing tenants. Rent is based on a household's ability to pay; this is an equitable rent where families availing of social housing support, either in a property provided directly by Cork City Council in a City Council estate or in any other estate or location where the City Council may have purchased a property or in a RAS or a HAP property pay a similar rent regardless of location.

### 10.2.3 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council prepares a proposal and makes appropriate arrangements with government support to make affordable homes available for sale to eligible applicants at a number of high demand locations across the city. Such measures would deliver hundreds of new homes and enable a considerable cohort of young people and eligible persons to purchase their own homes at less than market value.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 20/362)

The report of the Interim Director of Services stated that at present, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has made funding available to Local Authorities for the provision of affordable homes, through the Serviced Sites Fund. This fund was established to provide key facilitating infrastructure, on public lands, to support the delivery of affordable homes for sale to eligible applicants. In addition, the Government ‘Help to Buy’ scheme is also in place to further assist qualified homebuyers to a limit of €30,000 per successful applicant subject to the terms and conditions of the scheme.

To date, Cork City Council has sought and obtained funding for 3 projects under the Serviced Sites Fund:

- Boherboy Road (116 affordable homes currently under construction),
- Glanmire (at design stage – circa 60 affordable homes), and
- Lower Kilmore Road, Churchfield East (21 affordable homes).

In the meantime, Part 8 planning approval was granted by An Chomhairle for the provision of affordable homes in mixed tenure schemes at Montenotte (27 affordable homes) and Bishopstown (35 affordable homes).

A further scheme of 17 homes is being developed in Knocknaheeny by O’Cualann Housing Cooperative in partnership the City Council. The City Council proposes to further develop its affordable housing programme and delivery pipeline in 2021, and a strategic report outlining the Council’s proposed ambitious interventions and

proposed investment to make affordable housing available across the City will go before the January 2021 meeting of Council.

#### 10.2.4 **INCREMENTAL TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME – 2 BED PROPERTIES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme be extended to sell 2 bedroom properties to tenants over 15 years in tenancy.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn20/279)

The report of the Interim Director of Services stated that the incremental tenant purchase scheme came into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 and is open to eligible tenants of local authority houses that are available for sale under the scheme. The Housing (Sale of Local Authority Houses) Regulations 2015 governing the scheme provide for a number of specified classes of properties to be excluded from sale, and also provide for local authorities to exclude houses for reasons of proper management of housing stock.

Each local authority administers the Scheme in line with the overarching provisions of the Regulation and in a manner appropriate to their individual housing requirements.

Members will be aware that a key principle of *‘Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing & Homelessness’* is for local authorities to make best use of social housing stock, and to achieve optimum occupancy of existing units. Retaining ownership of the relatively scarce supply of smaller housing units is considered prudent to provide scope for a ‘lifecycle’ based model for social housing tenants, whereby sufficient appropriate stock is available to facilitate opportunities for downsizing for older tenants.

It is currently Cork City Council’s policy to only sell three-bedroom houses, based on the profile of our existing social housing stock when assessed against current demand for various property types based on the housing need of qualified applicants. Three-bedroom houses represent 62% of Cork City Council’s social housing stock, but only 18% of the City Council’s current demand profile. In major contrast to this, however, two-bedroom properties represent just 21% of stock but more than 36% of the City Council’s current demand profile.

Accordingly, it is not envisaged that the current operation of the scheme should be amended to include two bedroom units at this time.

#### 10.2.5 **HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council endeavour to ensure elements of new social housing developments, either new builds, leased units and acquisitions, are to universal design i.e. suitable for people with disabilities.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 20/456)

The report of the Interim Director of Services stated that all new build social housing developments, new build leased units and new build acquisitions as applicable are required to comply with Building Regulation Technical Guidance Part M 2010 (As amended) ‘Access & Use’ which references the Disability Act of 2005. Such requirements of Part M set out guidance on the minimum level of provision to meet these requirements and aim to ensure:

- (a) Buildings other than dwellings are accessible and usable by people and disabilities, and
- (b) Dwellings are visible by people with disabilities.

In support of same, the Housing Directorate has further regard in its design and construction of buildings to the philosophy of universal access, with consideration afforded to making additional provision where practicable and appropriate, and subject to funding and approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Designs provide for flexibility in use, accessibility, and adaptability, with the aim to ensure that new homes can meet the changing needs of occupants over their lifetimes.

Funding is provided for design layouts which adhere to the Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities guidance gross floor areas (GFA). Larger units which are over and above the GFA, will be considered where supported by Occupational Therapist reports.

Cork City Council’s Rightsizing Initiative also takes a strategic approach to the provision of age friendly homes, to facilitate independence and choice, and provide older persons with the opportunity to live in ‘right size’ housing appropriate to their needs. Cork City Council will therefore continue to endeavour to ensure that elements to its new social housing developments contain an appropriate level of homes which are of universal design, suitable both for older persons and people with disabilities.

#### 10.2.6 **REPORT ON RETROFITTING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Interim Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will put together a report on the investigation and research it has completed so far into retrofitting for example the type of system they are planning to use on social housing and the procurement criteria for same.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 20/461)

The report of the Interim Director of Services stated;

## **TYPES OF SYSTEM**

Cork City Council has a number of options when it comes to the retrofitting of its existing social houses. These relate to the level of retrofit to be carried out and the types of equipment to be used. The Council is guided by instructions received from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage when it allocates monies for retrofitting projects. The following documents are of particular importance when designing energy retrofitting works:

- (a) The building regulations particularly in relation to the technical guidance documents Part B (Fire Safety), F (ventilation) and L (Conservation of fuel and energy). The other technical documents should be adhered to also where required.
- (b) S.R. 54:2014/A1:2019: Code of Practice for the Energy Retrofit of Dwellings

There are three levels of retrofit:

- a. Shallow (low hanging fruit): Attic insulation, cavity wall insulation, LED lighting, draught proofing windows
- b. Medium: External wall insulations, window upgrades
- c. Deep Retrofit: Installation of renewable technologies e.g. heat pumps, solar panels.

The programme to install attic and cavity wall insulation is now complete, except for outliers (mainly tenants who refused it when offered).

The latest fabric upgrade phase two programme is aimed at bringing each property up to an energy rating of B2 (though not necessarily in a single project). This is the recognised minimum standard (nZEB) for existing dwellings if Ireland is to meet its obligations under the Paris Accord. Maximum grant amounts of funding are available for the following works:

- Attic Insulation;
- Cavity Wall Insulation;
- Dry Lining;
- External Wall Insulation;
- Window Upgrades;
- Central Heating Upgrades including heat pumps;
- Solar Panels

In determining what measures to undertake, the Council looks at the most cost-effective solution. This would involve a combination of the measure listed above.

## **PROCUREMENT**

Cork City Council aims to procure all retrofitting works in accordance with the rules of public procurement. The principal mechanism is the Framework for Energy

Efficiency Improvement Works established by the Local Government Operational Procurement Centre.

## RESEARCH

In 2010, Cork City Council piloted a project to establish the feasibility of carrying out deep energy efficiency improvement works in 32 apartments whilst they are occupied. Cork also participated in the development of Ireland's Renovation Strategy. Cork City Council is involved in a number of research projects that aim to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the home. These projects are at design/procurement/implementation phase and include:

- a. **EEMMR**: This is a project that aims to measure the benefits of retrofitting by measuring the Energy and Environmental conditions of eight houses prior to and post retrofit. The system installation has just been completed and recording of data has commenced.
- b. **RED-WOLF**: This project aims to improve the effectiveness of ten houses that use electric storage heating through the installation of solar panels, an electric battery and the purchase of electricity from the grid when its carbon content is low. The design is almost completed. A suitability assessment questionnaire has been issued on eTenders so as to create a shortlist of suitable bidders for the works.
- c. **MiniStor**: This project aims to store heat in a device (MINimal sized thermal STORage device) containing thermochemical (TCM) materials. Using these materials (Ammonia, Sodium Chloride and Graphite) ten times the amount of heat can be stored compared to a similar water-based device. Heat for the device is derived from Solar Thermal panels. The heat in the device can be used to heat the hot water and operate in parallel with the primary heating system in the home. This project is at the design stage.
- d. **UPSTAIRS**: This project aims to develop and analyse the performance of a virtual one stop shop that will dispense information and training to citizens and those involved in the retrofitting industry to see how beneficial they would be in persuading the citizens and those involved in the retrofitting industry to see how beneficial they would be in persuading the citizens to decarbonise their homes.
- e. **INDU-ZERO**: Cork City Council is an advisor to this project which aims to cut the cost of retrofitting by 50% through industrialisation of the process and off-site construction whilst also achieving the net zero energy building standard.
- f. **Build Upon<sup>2</sup>**: This project aims to develop and test a multi-level renovation impact framework containing a suite of milestones and measurable progress indicators such as emissions reductions, increased employment and improved health. By capturing data at a local level, the framework will link renovation to policy and decision-making processes at a national level. Cork City is a follower (learning) city on this project.
- g. **RetroKit**: A project funded through the Gas Innovation Fund and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) that aims to measure the relationship between a property's Building Energy Rating, household size and household income utilising data from the BER database held by the SEAI, and energy consumption and income data held by the Central Statistics Office. The houses chosen for this project are all city council owned properties. The completed project will give the Council insight into the incidence of fuel poverty amongst its tenants and those

properties that should be prioritised for retrofitting. This project is still at the design stage.

- h. **SHAPES:** This project aims to install energy and climate measuring equipment with data loggers attached in sixty houses. The data is downloaded each month “by hand” onto a data collection device and stored in the cloud. The data will be collected for one year prior to retrofitting and one year post retrofitting. The data will be analysed to see what benefits have accrued from the project. This project is currently being assessed for approval by the European Union Horizon 2020 program.

## **FUNDING**

The Department has assured the City Council that there will be further investment in 2021 for retrofitting for social housing, with a €60m fund to be announced early in 2021. We have a number of projects and plenty of stock that we will take every opportunity to improve. Any funding call/allocation is welcomed and can significantly help to improve the standard of accommodation for our tenants.

Retrofitting with deep energy efficiency improvement measures are part of the Government’s plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the housing stock in order to achieve the targets set out in the Paris accord and Cork City Council’s commitments as a signatory to the Covenant of Mayors. By 2030 under the Government’s Climate Action Plan (2019), 500,000 homes in Ireland will be retrofitted.

Under the Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme, a number of properties around the City have already benefitted from Fabric Upgrade Phase II funding in conjunction with the Better Energy Communities Programme over the last number of years (160 properties approx.) The current Apartment Deep Retrofit Programme (*set out under the South Eastern Assembly Operational Programme 2014 to 2020*), has received almost €10m funding to date and is currently set to deliver over 200 apartment deep retrofits, approximately 20% of our apartment stock.

The planned next phase of Fabric Upgrade, Phase II, including external wall insulation, on social housing stock for 2021, is to properties in the Churchfield area. The target is for properties to have a B2 energy rating. In addition, we are improving the energy efficiency of the older apartment blocks in the city, having delivered 129 upgrades in 2018/2019. Deep retrofit of apartments is currently delivering 81 units, having recently been awarded €3.5m energy efficiency funding from the department. The next phase of apartment deep retrofit is being progressed with the Department. We are seeking to link in a district approach Deep Retrofit Programme with Climate Action Objectives in the Noonan’s Road area of the City.

## 11. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

## 11.1 **REPORTS**

### 11.1.1 **CORK METROPOLITAN INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEM POLICY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 regarding the Cork Metropolitan Intelligent Transport System Policy.

## 11.2 **MOTIONS**

### 11.2.1 **ZERO TOLERANCE TO PARKING ON PUBLIC FOOTPATHS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That this Council adopt a zero tolerance approach to the parking of any motor vehicle on public footpaths, recognising the physical damage caused by such parking, resulting in an unacceptable cost of repairing being met; with the general public being unfairly restricted in using footpaths that are being illegally blocked in this way. This Council further resolves to categorise the parking on footpaths as an anti social activity.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle, Cllr. C. Finn 20/333)

The report of the Director of Services stated that parking on public roads is governed by the Roads Traffic Acts, the Road Traffic Regulations and parking byelaws as adopted by Cork City Council. Parking enforcement in respect of illegal parking is undertaken by An Garda Síochána and Cork City Council. In accordance with the governing legislation the system deployed by Cork City Council is based on Fixed Charge Penalty Notices (FCPN) issued by Traffic Wardens. The legislation does not allow the classification of this type of offence as anti-social behaviour. If a vehicle is parked on a footpath, a FCPN can be issued, and if the FCPN remains unpaid, it can lead to a court conviction. Any illegal parking on footpaths is issued with a FCPN once observed and Cork City Council has a strict approach to parking on footpaths.

### 11.2.2 **DISCOURAGE CULVERTING OF WATERWAYS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the joint report of the Directors of Services, Roads & Environment Operations and Infrastructure & Development, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That as a matter of policy this Council discourage the culverting of waterways in its jurisdiction, recognising that such works have been ecologically damaging and counterproductive as a response to flooding.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 20/336)

The joint report of the Directors of Services stated that waterways form an important and valued component of the environmental and heritage assets of the City. Their

protection and enhancement is supported by a significant body of legislation and policy, as well as the activities of a range of statutory bodies and voluntary organisations. Many urban waterways have been modified over time in response to changing demands relating to transportation, recreation and amenity facilities, adjoining developments, drainage requirements, habitat protection/enhancement etc. Proposals to undertake work along waterways, such as the installation of new culverts or the amendment or adjustment of existing culverts, is subject to the relevant legislative requirements and permissions required for such work, which include consideration of the environmental and heritage impacts of said proposed works.

As part of the City Council's maintenance responsibilities role, it carries out routine maintenance and repairs to combined storms overflows and culverts across the City.

### 11.2.3 **CYCLE PROTECTION MEASURES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the joint report of the Directors of Services, Roads & Environment Operations and Infrastructure & Development, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That the CE would report on the cycle protection measure implementation recently tendered for in the city, to include the City to CUH and the N22 to the R618 routes, though not exclusively.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 20/338)

The joint report of the Directors of Services stated that the following locations have been completed under the Operations Directorate ‘Supply & Installation of Cycle Lane Bollards Contract, 2020’.

- Colaiste Choilm, Ballincollig
- Rossa Avenue near CIT
- Wester Road at UCC Gates
- Bachelor's Quay
- South Main Street
- Washington Street
- Southern Road
- Summerhill South
- Alfred Street

It is hoped that the following locations will be done in week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 subject to bollard availability:

- Kinsale Road
- R618 Poulavone to Leemount Junction
- Churchyard Lane

The following locations will be done over the coming weeks – dependent on the next arrival of bollards from Spain. Supply chains are limited at the moment.

- Mahon Link Road
- Clashduv Road

A contractor has recently been appointed to undertake the approved works for Donovans Road and College Rd. The detailed design for works along Glasheen Path is currently near completion and will be the subject of procurement shortly.

#### 11.2.4 **CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS FOR WORKERS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure & Development, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on connectivity improvements for workers between Glanmire and Ringaskiddy, including the anticipated overall journey times, proposed through BusConnects under CMATS; and the feasibility of a direct public transport route for workers between Glanmire and Ringaskiddy in the overall provision of public transport in CMATS.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 20/340)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport System (CMATS) sets out the proposed transport system for Cork over the period to 2040. CMATS includes specific improvement proposals for all land based transport modes amongst which bus transport is of particular importance. In keeping with the provisions of the National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan. CMATS supports to implementation of a Cork Bus Connects Programme. In doing so it details the need for increased bus services, frequencies and improved journey times with significant investment to be made in developing bus priority measures across the road network. This includes services connecting the city centre to Glanmire and Ringaskiddy as well as orbital routes. Design Teams are currently being established by the National Transport Authority (NTA) to develop the necessary detailed proposals and staff are being recruited/assigned by City Council and NTA to support same. The NTA is also currently progressing the selection and appointment of consultants for the related bus service review. This will be a critical input to the overall programme. It is envisaged that these will be extensive public consultation in relation to the emerging detailed proposals and Members will be updated in relation to same as details become available.

#### 11.2.5 **CYCLE LANE WIDTH**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That the CE would comply or explain the deviation from the NTA’s National Cycle Manual for cycle lane width. Section 1.5.2 states cycle lanes at a minimum should be 1.5m wide and preferably 2m.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 20/377)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council are currently delivering what is known as 'light segregation' of existing cycle lanes. This is relatively new form of protection delivered quickly and cheaply by creating a physical barrier between traffic and cyclists. This is being carried out at 14 locations across the City, segregating 4.5km of existing cycle lanes. The average length of 12 of these locations is 142m. These are short sections focussing on areas where continuous parking of vehicles on existing cycle lanes has led to calls for urgent action.

The National Cycle Manual (NCM) published in 2011 does call for a minimum 1.5m cycle lane widths. The NCM does not however feature guidance on light segregation. Most recently, cycling guidance from the UK (Cycle Infrastructure Design, DOT, July 2020) outlines in the use of light segregation and states that bollards must be installed inside the continuous white line delineating the cycle lane, resulting in many cases in a double white line with a bollard installed between the two lines. This is deemed best practice. This is evident in new installation by other Local Authorities as well as some of the new infrastructure recently built in Cork City e.g. Horgan's Quay. This work was a COVID-19 related measure with funding confirmed in August. A quick decision had to be made as to whether locations requiring urgent action would be included or not, with inclusion at some locations balancing increased safety with a slight reduction of the cycle lane width over a short length.

In locations that were space constrained, the alternative option of placing the bollards outside the existing white line, and place an additional new white line outside of this was considered. Where bollards were proposed on both sides of the road, such as outside Colaiste Choilm, this could potentially reduce the existing full carriageway width of 60cm. In many locations this may not be achievable due to the requirement to maintain minimum carriageway widths and would require a detailed geometrical assessment, which would delay the overall delivery of the project, potentially resulting in no interventions being taken at key locations where protection was identified as being desirable. In many locations, the option to place the bollards outside the existing white line was possible and this option was taken. In the few locations where this was not possible there were only two options:

- (a) Retrofit bollards and slightly narrow the existing cycle lane by 20cm but create a safer short section of cycling infrastructure or
- (b) Take no action i.e. no intervention, no light segregation

Where required by space limitations option (a) was taken rather than resorting to option (b) of doing nothing. It must be stated that 75% of the overall length of cycle lane upgrades delivered in Cork City will not see a reduction in width below 1.5m following the implementation of the segregation measures. There has been a positive response to the project to date. Bollards are adaptable and can be quickly removed or relocated. Following completion of the project, a review will take place. Where resources allow, detailed assessment of road widths at locations where cycle lane widths are reduced can be carried out, with a view to seeing if any gains in cycle lane width can be achieved.

#### 11.2.6 **POLICY FOR TOWING VEHICLES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That this Council reinstitute a policy of towing away vehicles (of any type) causing obstruction to other users of the public realm, when such vehicles are illegally parked/placed on footpaths, cycle paths, bus lanes, or the misuse of disability parking spaces.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 20/383)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as stated in the response to a similar motion in October 2019, Cork City Council previously operated a tow away regime but terminated this operation in 2011. This regime was terminated as it was not a cost effective arrangement to manage the on street parking facilities in the city and more importantly it created a negative perception of the city and the city’s strategy of encouraging people to shop, socialise and work in the city with the consequential impact on traders and businesses. Having regard to the current operations and the impact of alternative arrangements on the city it is not recommended that towing of vehicles be implemented as a city wide enforcement tool.

#### 11.2.7 **STREET OR PLACE NAME FOR FREDERICK DOUGLAS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee-

‘Given that the 175th anniversary of the visit of Frederick Douglass to Cork is on October 11<sup>th</sup>, that Cork City Council will investigate marking the occasion by naming a street or place for Frederick Douglas.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 20/253)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Roads Maintenance will investigate the request and examine a list of unnamed streets for consideration and sustainability. A report will then be prepared for Party Whips.

#### 11.2.8 **GREENWAY FUNDING FOR JOHN BARLEYCORN SITE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure & Development, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘Can I ask that Cork City Council please make a funding application to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for the Greenway Funding that was recently announced with a view to purchasing the old John Barleycorn site in Glanmire.’

(Proposer: G. Keohane 20/199)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Council is currently seeking to acquire land in Glanmire for the provision of planned new cycle infrastructure. This includes the proposed acquisition of circa 1300m<sup>2</sup> from within the site referred to above. Temporary access is also being sought to some additional land which will be required during the construction phase.

The lands to be acquired at this location form part of a Compulsory Acquisition Order which has been submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval and it is expected that the related Oral Hearing will be scheduled for early 2021.

Funding for new cycle infrastructure is provided by the Department of Transport through both a Greenways Grant Scheme and a larger Sustainable Transport Measures Grant Scheme. The latter is administered by the National Transport Authority on behalf of the Department and is primary source of funding for such works in the larger urban authorities. The Council has made initial contact with the National Transport Authority in relation to potential funding for the proposed cycle infrastructure and will seek to progress same in the coming months. Members will be kept apprised of progress in relation to the latter as well as progress in relation to the land acquisition process.

### 11.3 **MOTIONS HELD**

#### 11.3.1 **ADDITIONAL CHARGING POINTS FOR ELECTRIC AND HYBRID CARS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council work with the other relevant stakeholders to provide for the installation of a large amount of additional charging points for electric and hybrid vehicles in the City, particularly in residential areas where off street parking is not available.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 20/011)

The report of the Director of Services stated that as stated at previous SPC meetings it was intended over the coming months that Traffic Operations would review the current demand for EV charging points on public roads, the likely demands over the coming years, how the infrastructure is to be deployed and the optimum parking model to be implemented to meet future needs. The report further stated that a guideline for the future deployment of EV charging would be developed following this analysis and this would form the basis of changing the parking network over time. It is important that any infrastructure installed in Cork is compatible with the complimentary to other infrastructure which is being installed around the Country. Nationally there is a CCMA subcommittee looking at the installation challenges of EV charging points in Ireland. Issues to be addressed include who installs and maintains the infrastructure, agreeing charging mechanisms and costs for usage, installation locations and densities as well as the appropriate technology to use (as there are different types and different specifications). Cork City Council is awaiting the outcome of this review before

commencing our process of putting in place a local guideline on EV Charging Infrastructure.

12. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

12.1 **DOCKLANDS CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the overview on the key elements of the Docklands Cork and the partnership with the Land Development Agency.

12.2 **MOTIONS**

12.2.1 **INSPECT BUILDINGS ON SOUTH AND NORTH MAIN STREET AND WASHINGTON STREET**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development and the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘Arising from the difficulties with some older buildings within the old medieval core, that a plan be put in place that every single building be inspected from ground to roof on South and North Main Streets, and on Washington Street – and the data be collated and presented to the Planning SPC.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 20/372)

The report of the Directors of Services stated that this matter spans two sections of Cork City Council, the Fire and Building Control Department, who deal with Dangerous Structures and Planning Policy who manage the Derelict Sites Register.

The Fire & Building Control Department of CCC has well established inspection practices and procedures in dealing with Dangerous Structures under the Local Government Sanitary Services Act 1964. Inspections and investigations are carried out as a result of specific complaints from the Gardai, emergency services, other Cork City Council Departments and the general public.

The department is committed to treating any report of a Dangerous Structures as a priority issue and will promptly investigate any report. Under the Local Government Sanitary Services Act 1964 we cannot insist works beyond making safe and removing the danger to public safety. It is important to note, ultimately, responsibility for dangerous structures and places rests with private property owners.

The Derelicts Sites Team has commenced a systematic approach with regard to Dereliction whereby they will conduct an audit on a street by street basis. The team

will engage with Building Control on matters where additional concerns are identified. The Derelict Sites Team will report to Council in 2021 on this initiative.

### 12.2.2 **ZERO CARBON ECONOMY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council believes a just transition, ensuring no workers or communities are left behind as society transitions to a zero-carbon economy, is an essential element of successful climate action. Acknowledging the role of local government in ensuring a just transition, Cork City Council will develop objectives relating to a just transition within the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028.’

(Proposers: Cllr. O. Moran, Cllr. C. Finn, Cllr. L. Bogue 20/342)

The report of the Director of Services stated that just transition spans a range of social, economic, cultural and environmental instruments designed to address climate change. It is envisaged that the city development plan will contain a range of policy objectives that support the sustainable development of Cork and reduce the carbon emissions of the city. Such policies will include supporting the transition of the economy and society to adjust to these changes, reflecting the objectives of just transition. In addition, Cork City Council is actively pursuing just transition measures as part of South West Regional Enterprise Plan.

### 12.2.3 **STRATEGIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS ON LANDS AT BESSBORO**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council acknowledges public concerns regarding a Strategic Housing Development (SHD) proposal for 179 apartments over three buildings of up to 7 storeys on lands at Bessboro. Council believes these concerns, particularly those articulated by the Cork Survivors and Supporters Alliance, which represents more than 50 families of children who died at the former mother and baby institution at Bessboro, should be seriously considered and responded to as part of the application to An Bord Pleanála.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. F. Kerins, Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. H. Cremin 20/446)

The report of the Director of Services stated that An Bord Pleanála is the planning authority for Strategic Housing Developments (SHDs). Cork City Council will prepare a Chief Executive’s report in relation to the Bessboro SHD, which is the case for all SHD schemes. There is an opportunity for the views of interest groups, including those representing the Cork Survivors and Supporters Alliance, to be represented in the report, either through their own submission or as part of the report of the engagement with the elected members.

Cork City Council will give consideration to all submissions made in its report to An Bord Pleanála.

#### 12.2.4 **CIVIC TRUST FOR DERELICT PROPERTIES IN THE CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020, and the verbal report of the Director of Strategic & Economic Development, on the following motion referred to the Committee:-

‘That Cork City Council will establish a self-financing civic trust or similar body to purchase, compulsorily if necessary, derelict properties in the city, which this body will repair for sale, lease or another useful purpose.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 20/374)

The report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations stated that Cork City Council has tendered for the development of a City Centre strategy that will include the consideration of international models of best practice on addressing the future of the City Centre. The process of developing the strategy will include an assessment of delivery mechanisms proposed.

The verbal report of the Director of Strategic & Economic Development stated that it was agreed a more robust multifaceted approach is needed to address dereliction. Financial resources are of concern in terms of the compulsory purchase of sites, but work is being done to tackle dereliction.

#### 13. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

#### 14. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence as follows:-

- Letter from the Department of Health dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter to the Minister for Health dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter from the Department of Health dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.
- Letter from the HSE dated 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
- Letter to the HSE dated 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter from the Minister for Defence dated 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter to the Minister for Defence dated 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter from Galway County Council dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter from the Department of Social Protection dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Letter to the Office of An Taoiseach dated 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- Letter from Wexford County Council dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

15. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

16. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

17. **TRAINING**

None received.

18. **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.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, Comhairleoirí K. McCarthy and L. Bogue agreed to withdraw motions 21/004 and 21/023 respectively given the matter of EV charging points was addressed at item 11.3.1 of the agenda.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, An Chomhairle agreed that motion 21/021 be referred to An Chomhairle for consideration at the next Ordinary Meeting to be held, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 rather than to CPG.

19. **MOTIONS**

19.1 **MONIES CONFISCATED UNDER THE PROCEEDS OF CRIME LEGISLATION**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the Ministers for Justice, Finance and Public Expenditure to make provisions where monies confiscated under the Proceeds of Crime Legislation be redirected from central funds back into local addiction services, youth organisations, and community initiatives to combat the effect of addiction on our communities, and that the necessary legislation is changed as a matter of urgency to allow this vital funding support to happen.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 20/403)

An Chomhairle noted that this matter was addressed at the Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and that the Meetings Administrator subsequently issued letters to the Ministers for Justice, Finance and Public Expenditure in relation to same.

19.2 **FUTURE OF THE POST OFFICE NETWORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call upon the Minister for Climate Action, Communications Networks and Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan, T.D, the Minister of Finance, Paschal Donoghoe T.D and the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath T.D to urgently enact the private members' motion previously passed in November 2016 by the previous Government regarding the future of the Post Office Network. This is a matter of urgency to ensure the sustainability of our existing community Post Office Network.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. O’Flynn 20/408)

19.3 **POST OFFICE NETWORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘We request that Cork City Council call upon the Minister for Climate Action, Communications Networks and Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan, T.D, the Minister of Finance, Paschal Donoghoe T.D and the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath T.D to urgently enact the private members' motion previously passed in November 2016 by the previous Government regarding the future of the Post Office Network. This is a matter of urgency to ensure the sustainability of our existing community Post Office Network.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Cremin 20/409)

19.4 **BUS SERVICES TO CEMETERIES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would write to and request that Bus Éireann would restructure bus services to have buses stop at the different cemeteries around the city making it easier for people to visit loved ones in the cemeteries.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 20/438)

19.5 **NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL IN BALLINCOLLIG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will ask the Department of Education for an update on the new secondary school in Ballincollig that is expected to accept students in September 2021.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 20/445)

19.6 **COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF LANDS AT BESSBORO**

**On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle agreed to defer consideration of the following motion to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021:-**

‘That Cork City Council write to the appropriate department/person in government and request that the lands at the former Mother and Baby Home site at Bessboro, Mahon would be compulsory purchased and given over to Cork City Council to manage. Cork City Council could then (in line with request made by survivor groups), have the children’s burial ground made part of the Cork City cemeteries section, and the ground be marked and a wildflower garden be established.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Moloney 20/465)

19.7 **CIVIL RIGHTS LAWYER PAT FINUCANE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion noting Comhairleoir K. McCarthy’s abstention:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to the relevant body to ask, in line with political leaders in Northern Ireland, that a public inquiry be held on the killing of civil rights lawyer Pat Finucane that complies with international human rights law.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 21/026)

19.8 **SOUTH DOC FACILITY IN BLACKPOOL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the management of South Doc to re-open its facility in Blackpool immediately.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 21/027)

This concluded the business of the meeting

**ARDMHÉARA**  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**