

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 8th JULY 2019

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| PRESENT | Leas Ard-Mhéara Comhairleoir T. Shannon |
| NORTH EAST | Comhairleoirí K. O'Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, G. Keohane. |
| NORTH WEST | Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, T. Gould, K. Collins, F. Ryan, D. Boylan. |
| SOUTH EAST | Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy. |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. O'Callaghan, P. Dineen. |
| SOUTH WEST | Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, T. Moloney, H. Cremin. |
| APOLOGIES | Comhairleoirí Ard-Mhéara J. Sheehan., J. Kavanagh, D. Forde, S. Martin, F. Kerins and G. Kelleher. |
| ALSO PRESENT | Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive Ms. C. Kelly, Meetings Administrator. Mr. N. Carroll, Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. F. Reidy, Strategic & Economic Development Mr. B. Geaney, Director of Services, Housing. Mr. G. O'Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Transition. Ms. A. Rodgers, Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. J. Stapleton, Senior Executive Engineer, Infrastructure Development. Mr. A. Quinn, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Infrastructure Development. Ms. H. O'Riordan, Senior Engineer, Operations. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. |

An tArd-Mhéara recited the opening prayer.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Gould, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders in order to discuss the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council believes the decision by An Post to close its Little Island Mail Centre is a devastating blow to over 200 employees and to the Cork region. Council calls for the closure to be reversed with options examined to keep the centre open including use of the building as a parcel depot.’

(Proposers: Cllr. T. Gould, Cllr. K. Collins)

An Chomhairle agreed to discuss this motion at the end of the meeting.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Twomey Family on the death of Very. Rev. Kieran Twomey PP.
- The Barrett Family on the death of Noel Barrett.
- The Barry Family on the death of Patsy Barry.
- The Williamson Family on the death of Lisa Marie Williamson.
- The Cogan Family on the death of Patrick Cogan.
- The Sexton Family on the death of Jack Sexton.
- The Barry Family on the death of Paddy Barry Jr.
- The McCarthy Family on the death of Kathleen McCarthy.

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

- Cork Women's School Girls Soccer League on winning the Girls (under 15) Gaynor Cup National Title.
- Shandon Street Festival.
- Lifetime Lab on the Carnival of Science.
- The Organisers of the Midsummer Festival.

3. **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

3.1 **MEETINGS SCHEDULE**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle agreed to hold meetings of the North West Local Area Committee on the 4th Monday of each month.

3.2 **STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES**

The following amendments were made to the members of the Strategic Policy Committees:-

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Moloney, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Maher, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir M. Finn to the Strategic & Economic Development & Planning Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir J. Maher.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Gould, seconded by Comhairleoir H. Cremin, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir K. Collins to the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by D. Canty, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir D. Cahill to the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir G. Kelleher.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by D. Canty, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir G. Kelleher to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir D. Cahill

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Ryan, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir D. Boyle to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of L. Bogue.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Ryan, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir L. Bogue to the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir D. Boyle.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn to the Strategic & Economic Development & Planning Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir T. Shannon to the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy to the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Comhairleoir T. Shannon.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

4.1 **NORTH MAIN STREET**

An Chomhairle noted the report of Mr. David Joyce, Director of Services, Transition dated 7th July 2019 on North Main Street.

4.2 **DERELICT SITES**

An Chomhairle noted the report on Derelict Sites dated July 2019.

5. **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2018**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Draft Annual Report 2018, subject to the inclusion of a record of the Cork City Boundary.

6. **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME – ACQUISITION THE HOLLIES, MAGAZINE ROAD, CORK – SOPHIA HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Housing dated 4th July, 2019 in relation to a loan facility for Sophia Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of 4 units of accommodation at The Hollies, Magazine Road, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Canty, 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 €988,000 be granted to Sophia Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of four 2 bedroom duplex apartments at The Hollies, Magazine Road, Cork.”

7. **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME – ACQUISITION 8 ANGLESEA MEWS, ANGLESEA STREET, CORK – CIRCLE VOLUNTARY HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Housing dated 20th June, 2019 in relation to a loan facility for Circle Voluntary Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of one 4 bed unit of accommodation at 8 Anglesea Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boyle, 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 €325,000 be granted to Circle Voluntary Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of one 4 bed unit of accommodation at 8 Anglesea Mews, Anglesea Street, Cork.”

8. **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT SPRINGVILLE HOUSE, BLACKROCK ROAD, CORK**

In accordance with Section 179 (4) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, on the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed residential development at Springville House, Blackrock Road in the City of Cork and the report of the Director of Housing thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) dated the 4th July 2019.

9. **PROPOSED WILTON CORRIDOR PHASE 1: DENNEHY’S CROSS TO WILTON GARDENS**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 179 (4) (a) of Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), An Chomhairle considered the proposed Wilton Corridor Phase 1: Dennehy's Cross to Wilton Gardens development and the attached report of the Director of Infrastructure Development thereon, as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir F. Ryan, seconded by Comhairleoir O. Moran, a vote was called for where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí O. Moran, T. Gould, K. Collins, F. Ryan, L. Bogue, D. Boyle, C. Finn, H. Cremin. (8)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí K. O’Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, G. Keohane, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, D. Cahill, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen, F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Kelleher, T. Moloney. (16)

As those voting against was greater than those voting in favour, An Chomhairle rejected the proposed Wilton Corridor Ph 1: Dennehy's Cross to Wilton Gardens development and the attached report of the Director of Infrastructure Development thereon, as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

10. **PAINTING GRANTS SCHEMES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Painting Grant Scheme recommendations in the report from the Director of Services dated 17th June 2019.

11. **ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREA GRANTS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Architectural Conservation Area grant recommendations in the report from the Conservation Officer dated 12th June 2019.

12. **CHAIRPERSON OF THE LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle approved the appointment of Comhairleoir O. Moran as Chairperson of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee in accordance with section 22 (1) of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the meeting beyond 8 p.m.

13. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Annual Meeting of An Chomhairle held 7th June 2019.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held 10th June 2019.

14. **QUESTION TIME**

14.1 **CITY COUNCIL HOUSING LIST**

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

To ask the CE now that the boundary extension has happened between the City & the County and there has been an addition 1,500 people joining the City Council Housing List, can the people who lost their time transferring over from the County to the City or vice a versa before the boundary extension regain their time lost in the transfer at that time.

(Cllr. Thomas Moloney)

REPLY

All citizens with applications for social housing supports transferred from Cork County Council to Cork City Council were given the benefit of the credit time accrued on their current open application. To ascertain if any such applicants had prior applications which were closed by Cork County Council would require each file to be individually reviewed; such an undertaking would be a substantial application of housing staff resources.

It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure to keep his or her file up to date so that the Council can contact them as necessary and respond to ongoing reviews of housing need which are issued to the household. To restore credit time to applicants whose applications were legitimately closed would be a disservice to the vast majority of housing applicants who prioritise keeping their application updated, despite sometimes difficult personal or household circumstances.

B. Geaney,
Director of Housing.

14.2 **OPW FLOOD DEFENCE SCHEME**

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

Can the Chief Executive provide an update on the status of the independent review of the OPW flood defence scheme.

(Cllr. Fiona Ryan)

REPLY

The OPW is the agency responsible for the assessment and development of Flood Relief Schemes Nationally. Cork City Council Councillors called for an independent review of the Lower Lee (Cork City) Flood Relief Scheme. In August 2018 the Minister of State for the Office of Public Works and Flood Relief Mr Kevin Moran TD responded that there was no requirement for further review.

Sean Lynch,
A/Director of Operations.

14.3 **EVENT CENTRE**

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

That an update be given on latest of play in terms of the Event Centre, outlining in particular any updates from departmental DG Mr. Martin Fraser – who has taken on an overall supervisory role for the multiple moving parts – and any correspondence from the developers BAM/Live Nation or from the Tánaiste, Simon Coveney?

(Cllr. Mick Finn)

REPLY

Two meetings have been held between Cork City Council and BAM/Live Nation recently both chaired by Martin Fraser. All sides have reiterated their commitment to deliver this project and have positively discussed the challenges that remain which include level of design uncertainty, amount and form of public funding and the continuing amount of construction inflation currently running at 7%. The resolution of these issues may well have further implications for state aid and the public spending code compliance.

On foot of these discussions BAM have invested significant funds in preparing all further information requested of them under the planning process which has now been submitted to Cork City Council and the review of this information has commenced.

As well as the meetings referred to above contact is ongoing between the parties with a view to resolving the remaining challenges.

John Hallahan
Chief Financial Officer

14.4 **FOOTPATHS AT LEHENAGHBEG/LEHENAGHMORE**

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

Can the C.E. provide the following information, as to when City Council intends to progress the plan to ensure the footpaths on Lehenaghbeg/Lehenaghmore are progressed, when will the Council proceed to part 8 for the L2455 upgrade, whether detailed design is now complete, what the timescale for delivery of the upgrade is, and whether the Council will consider interim footpath for the locality?

(Cllr. Henry Cremin)

REPLY

The Lehenaghmore Project is currently at preliminary design stage. It is expected that the Part 8 proposals for the project will be ready for publication in Q4 2019. Detailed design and land acquisition can be progressed thereafter. Subject to funding approval, planning approval and land acquisition the construction phase could be commenced towards the end of Q3 2020. Interim footpaths cannot be provided along the route as the existing road corridor has multiple pinch points.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Infrastructure Development.

14.5 **FORMER ST. KEVIN'S HOSPITAL**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to ensure that all discussions with the Land Development Agency regarding any development on the site of the former St. Kevin's Hospital will involve local residents in the Sunday's Well, Shanakiel and Lee Road area with a view to its long term plans and impact on the local surrounding communities.

(Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald)

REPLY

Having discussed the matter with the Land Development Agency (LDA), a presentation will be made on plans for Saint Kevin's Hospital landbank to the Cork City North West Local Area Committee at the appropriate juncture, which is likely to be later this Autumn. The most suitable method of meaningful stakeholder engagement being considered can be discussed by the Members with the relevant LDA officer at that stage.

B. Geaney,
Director of Housing.

14.6 **URBAN REDEVELOPMENT FUNDING PROJECTS**

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

To ask the CE for an update on the progress of the successful Urban Redevelopment Funding projects and also a listing on those projects, which were not successful?

(Cllr. Kieran McCarthy)

REPLY

On June, 2019 Cork City Council received confirmation from the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government approved funding for Cork City Council for two projects:

- Cork Docklands €450,000: This is to contribute towards design of transport infrastructure, drainage planning and local area planning. Cork City Council has advanced the local area plan for Cork Docklands. Designs for the transport are at tender stage and a strategy to address drainage has commenced.
- Cork City Centre €916,000: Towards public realm works and development of Bishop Lucy Park. The design competition has commenced in relation to the development of Bishop Lucy Park. The design of public realm works is dependant on the final design of the Events Centre.

Unsuccessful projects in 2019 are:

- Development of the North East Orbital Route at Ballyvolane.
- Development of City Parks.

Meetings are ongoing with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to prepare seek funding for strategic projects for Cork City in future funding rounds.

Fearghal Reidy,
Director of Strategic & Economic Development.

14.7 **DERELICT SITES**

To ask the Chief Executive the amount of monies collected through the Derelict Sites Levy on the properties 62-65 North Main Street; 93-94 North Main Street and 118-119 Barrack Street, since said properties have been entered onto this Council's Derelict Sites Register in December 2015?

(Cllr. Dan Boyle)

REPLY

Derelict Sites invoices are issued to the owner of a site in the first quarter each year, this is followed by ongoing and regular issuing of statements for the remainder of the year. It would not be appropriate to comment on payments on individual cases such as the question has posed.

In general, ongoing engagement with the owners with regard to payment of levies is standard practice, Cork City Council monitors sales of properties, works with solicitors, auctioneers and any relevant 'interests' in the property to ascertain payment of the levy.

When properties change ownership, outstanding loans are purchased by third parties, and general complex commercial circumstances can occur in relation to ownership and the number of billing parties involved in a parties involved in a particular site.

The collection of levies can be challenging, frequently the derelict sites levies are discharged in a sale of properties. There have been circumstances where sales of complex sites can take some time to complete. There Derelict Sites Register has a complex tenure of properties, former family homes, commercial sites, sites without structures. In certain cases, site owners may not have the financial means to pay the levies.

We are also working with the Law Department to advance the collection of levies through the legal process.

In 2019 a total derelict site levy of €140,000 was collected.

Fearghal Reidy,
Director of Strategic & Economic Development.

14.8 **PROTECT BUILDINGS FROM DEMOLITION**

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

This month, at least four buildings in the city included by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage have been proposed

to be demolished. These are three buildings on North Main Street that collapsed and the Sextant on Albert Quay, which is proposed to be demolished for development.

In the case of the demolition of the Sextant, the Cork City Council Twitter account commented supportively on the plan that will see its demolition. In the case of the three buildings on North Main Street, these buildings have remained listed on the city's derelict sites register since 2015.

What methods are available to Cork City Council to protect buildings such as these from demolition and what efforts were employed in these cases?

(Cllr. Oliver Moran)

REPLY

Planning permission is required for the demolition of buildings such as those which are part of the streetscape of North Main Street. The requirement for planning permission may only be set aside where a notice under the Local Government Sanitary Services Act 1964 is served requiring demolition of a structure on public safety grounds. Measures to make the building safe would generally be the preferred option and a notice requiring demolition would only arise where other options are not feasible.

The Cork City Development Plan 2015-21 states that demolition of buildings in an Architectural Conservation Area will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Objective 9.30 states:

'Demolition of structures or parts of structures will in principle only be permitted in an Architectural Conservation Area where the structure or parts of the structure are not considered to contribute to the special or distinctive character, or where the replacement structure would significantly enhance the special character more than the retention of the original structure.'

Cork City Council encourages and supports owners to maintain their properties through the annual Architectural Conservation Area Grant Scheme and incentives to refurbish buildings in the much of the city centre are available under the Living City Initiative.

The responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of buildings to ensure that they do not become derelict and potentially become a danger to public safety is that of the building owner or their appointed agents.

Note that Cork City Council has not yet approved the demolition of any of the buildings referred to in the above question. The Building Control Section has informed the owners of Number 62, 63 and 64 North Main Street that the facade of no 63 must be stabilised and is working with them to ensure these works are commenced without delay. Key elements of Numbers 62 and 64 also need to be stabilised.

Development proposals for Carey's Tool Hire and the Sextant will have to go through a Planning Application process where all aspects of the proposal will be fully assessed, either by Cork City Council or An Bord Pleanála, as appropriate as is the case for Strategic Housing Developments (SHDs).

Fearghal Reidy,
Director of Strategic & Economic Development.

14.9 **ELECTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

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

Can the CE outline the section(s) in the City Council Standing Orders that governs the election of elected members to Council committees & external bodies including whereby the Cathaoirleach has discretion in determining the voting procedure for same.

(Cllr. Kenneth Collins)

REPLY

The relevant section of Standing Orders is 6A.

Catherine Kelly,
A/Director of Services,
Corporate Affairs and International Relations.

14.10 **ILLEGAL PARKING IN CYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE**

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

Earlier this year, Cork City Council advised that the issue of illegal parking in cycle infrastructure would be dealt with through enforcement.

Can the CEO please provide the following information:

- A. A narrative outlining what change in enforcement practices Cork City Council has put in place since enforcement was designated the preferred option to cycling infrastructure.
- B. Figures on enforcement measures that have been implemented in this time. These figures may include number of hours of enforcement staff, numbers of enforcement of parking fines in this period and any other relevant figures.
- C. The same figures as part B for the same period one year previously as a comparison.
- D. Figures for revenue generated by Cork City council from enforcement measures related to cycle paths broken down over the two periods.

(Cllr. Lorna Bogue)

REPLY

Enforcement in respect of illegal parking is undertaken by An Garda Síochána and Cork City Council. The system deployed by Cork City Council is based on Fixed Charged Penalty Notices issued by Traffic Wardens. This system applies to various forms of illegal parking including footpaths, cycle lanes, sets downs, disabled parking bays etc. and operates six days a week, Monday to Saturday and is primarily focused on locations with high demand in the Central Business District as well as responding to complaints across the city.

The number of fines issued for parking in cycle lanes is as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Jan to June 2019 | 129 |
| Jan to June 2018 | 64 |
| Jan to June 2017 | 63 |

Sean Lynch,
A/Director of Operations.

14.11 **AUDITS OF DERELICT PROPERTIES**

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

Who many audits of derelict properties have Cork City Council carry out over the past twelve months and what were the results of those audits. How many derelict sites have Cork City Council compulsory purchased over the past twelve months. Will Cork City Council be carrying out a full audit of all derelict sites in Cork City to ensure that none of them are dangerous and will Cork City Council being carrying out a survey to ensure that all derelict sites in Cork City are included on the derelict sites register?

(Cllr. Thomas Gould)

REPLY

Derelict sites (as defined by the Derelict Sites Act , 1991), are generally identified by area surveys carried out on a periodic basis and as a result of reports from members of the public or others. The Derelict Sites Act mainly addresses visual and amenity impacts related to dereliction.

Separately, public safety arising from **dangerous structures** is addressed by the Building Control Division of Cork City Council under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964.

The Building Control and the Derelict Sites Sections of Cork City Council coordinate on structures that are both derelict and potentially dangerous.

The building owner, or their appointed agent, is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of buildings. The Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964 confers limited powers on Cork City Council when dealing with dangerous buildings or dangerous places. Cork City Council is committed to treating any report of a dangerous structure as a priority issue, and will promptly investigate any report.

Depending on the degree of risk and the simplicity of remedial works involved, in most cases, Cork City Council can negotiate a solution with the building owner without taking formal action. In some cases the action of Cork City Council may involve the serving of a Dangerous Structure Notice, which may subsequently involve District Court proceedings if the terms of the notice are breached.

Cork City Council may also carry out such works as it considers necessary, in the interest, and for the protection of public safety. The costs of such works may be recovered from the owner.

Under the legislation, Cork City Council cannot direct the owner / undertake remedial works to a property beyond ‘making safe’.

The 100 properties currently on the Derelict Sites Register are classified by status in the table below. The vast majority of sites are subject of planned or ongoing interventions, including use for social housing, physical improvement works, planning permission or disposal subject to removal of dereliction. Around 25% of the sites have no actions being taken by the owner and will therefore be higher priority candidates for compulsory acquisition.

Status of Sites Currently on the Derelict Sites Register

| Status | No. of Sites |
|---|--------------|
| Owner is currently carrying out physical works to remove dereliction | 15 |
| Grant of planning permission or site is in the planning process | 13 |
| Being considered for social housing proposals | 10 |
| New owner (site recently sold or for sale) | 11 |
| Recently added to the register | 11 |
| Sold by Cork City Council subject to legal agreement to remove dereliction | 3 |
| Recommended for compulsory acquisition | 10 |
| No action by owner and will be considered for next tranche of compulsory acquisition | 15 |
| <u>Other various circumstances</u> | <u>12</u> |
| Total | 100 |

Actions 2014-2019

In the past five years, Cork City Council has

- Placed 95 properties on the Derelict Sites Register
- Compulsory acquired six houses under the Derelict Sites Act
- Opened 195 new files for investigation
- Closed 90 derelict sites files following the renovation/redevelopment of the properties.
- Inspected an additional 50 sites that were found not to be derelict.
- Facilitated sites for the development of social housing
- Sold derelict sites with legal agreements in place to remove dereliction

How does this Compare Nationally?

The most recent derelict sites statistics available from the Department of Housing, Planning, and Local Government are from 2017.

- In 2017 each Local Authority added an average of 4 sites to their respective Derelict Sites Registers. Dublin City and Cork City were at the top of the list, adding a total of 25 each in 2017.
- In 2017 Cork City had 75 sites on the Derelict Sites Register at year end, ranking fourth behind Cork County (197); Westmeath (105); and Kerry (88).
- Cork City compulsory acquired two sites in 2017, ranking third after Monaghan (20) and Dublin City (11).

- Cork City levied the most sites during the year (65), followed by Dublin City (47). Sixteen Local Authorities did not impose a levy on any sites, despite having sites listed on their respective Derelict Sites Registers.
- Cork City collected just under €40,000 in derelict sites levies in 2017 but was still the second highest after Dublin (at €193,000). Cork City Council's collection increased to €140,000 by 2019. Waterford, Limerick, and Galway City reported no collection of levies in 2017. Cork County reported €900.

Fearghal Reidy,
Director of Strategic & Economic Development.

14.12 **REMOVE RUBBLE FROM GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS SITE**

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

Can the CE update on Council efforts to ensure concrete rubble is removed from the former government buildings site on Sullivan's Quay, It seems the pile of rubble was flattened out from public view rather than removed?

(Cllr. Fiona Kerins)

REPLY

Planning officials met with BAM in March this year in relation to the rubble on site. Planning enforcement proceedings commenced and a Warning Letter was issued to BAM on 18th April 2019. BAM submitted a response to the letter in May which is currently under consideration by the City Council. The City Council is continuing to engage with BAM in relation to this matter.

Adrienne Rodgers,
Director of Community, Culture & Placemaking.

14.13 **MANHOLE COVER IN WOODLANDS, MONTENOTTE**

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

Can the Manhole cover on the Estate Road outside Number 1 Woodlands Estate on Middle Glanmire Road be refitted as it has become very loose and is in danger of becoming displaced by the regular passing residential traffic.

(Cllr. Joe Kavanagh)

REPLY

The manhole has been assessed. Following assessment our manhole contractor has been informed that priority should be given to completing repair work at this location. Work is expected to be completed within the coming fortnight.

Sean Lynch,
A/Director of Operations.

15. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 1st JULY 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held 1st July 2019.

15.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31st MAY 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 31st May 2019.

15.2 **REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SERVICES, HOUSING, DATED 25th JUNE 2019 TO BORROW FROM THE HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY PLC.**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 25th June 2019 in relation to resolution required for borrowing from the Housing Finance Agency Plc.

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

‘That Cork City Council in accordance with S. 106 of the Local Government Act 2001 approves the raising of a loan of €15 million from the Housing Finance Agency Plc. for any purpose authorised under the Housing Acts.’

15.3 **MOTIONS**

15.3.1 **IRISH LANGUAGE INTERPRETER AT PUBLIC MEETINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Corporate Affairs and International Relations dated 27th June 2019 on the following motion referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘Acknowledging section 6 of the Irish Sign Language Act 2017 and the duties of public bodies therein, Cork City Council will have its public meetings interpreted by an Irish Sign Language interpreter and that this interpretation is made publically available with the minutes of Cork City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 19/214)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that according to Section 28 of the Disability Act 2005:

Where a public body communicates with one or more persons, the head of the body shall ensure –

(a) If the communication is an oral one and the person or persons aforesaid has a hearing impairment and so requests that as far as is practicable, the contents of the communication are communicated in a form that is accessible to the person concerned.

If sufficient notice is given that a member of the public attending a public meeting organised by Cork City Council has a hearing impairment Cork City Council will as far as is practicable provide an Irish sign language interpreter. Minutes of public meetings are available www.corkcity.ie.

15.3.2 **INTERPRETERS FOR ISL SPEAKERS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Corporate Affairs and International Relations, dated 27th June 2019 on the following motion referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘Acknowledging that members of the deaf community have specific requirements in accessing Cork City Council services, Cork City Council will provide interpreters for ISL speakers in line with section 6 of the Irish Sign Language Act 2017.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 19/215)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Cork City Council provides a loop service at its main reception desk for members of the public who have a hearing impairment and use a hearing aid. Cork City Council will as far as practicable provide access to interpreters for ISL speakers to access Cork City Council Services once sufficient prior notice is provided. At Events such as a Freedom of the City, and the Lord Mayor’s Community and Civic Awards, an ISL Interpreter is provided.

15.3.3 **IRISH LANGUAGE INTERPRETER AT PUBLIC MEETINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Corporate Affairs and International Relations dated 27th June 2019 on the following motion referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘Acknowledging section 6 of the Irish Language Act 2017 and the duties of public bodies therein, Cork City Council will have its public meetings interpreted by an Irish Sign Language interpreter and that this interpretation is made publically available with the minutes of Cork City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 19/260)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that according to Section 28 of the Disability Act 2005:

Where a public body communicates with one or more persons, the head of the body shall ensure –

(a) If the communication is an oral one and the person or persons aforesaid has a hearing impairment and so requests that as far as is practicable, the contents of the communication are communicated in a form that is accessible to the person concerned.

If sufficient notice is given that a member of the public attending a public meetings organised by Cork City Council has a hearing impairment Cork City Council will as far as is practicable provide an Irish sign language interpreter. Minutes of public meetings area available on www.corkcity.ie

15.3.4 **INTERPRETERS FOR ISL SPEAKERS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Corporate Affairs and International Relations dated 27th June 2019 on the following motion referred to the Group by An Chomhairle:-

‘Acknowledging that members of the deaf community have specific requirements in accessing Cork City Council services, Cork City Council will provide interpreters for ISL speakers in line with section 6 of the Irish Sign Language Act 2017.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Fitzgerald 19/261)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Cork City Council provides a loop service at its main reception desk for members of the public who have a hearing impairment and use a hearing aid. Cork City Council will as far as practicable provide access to interpreters for ISL speakers to access Cork City Council Services once sufficient prior notice is provided. At Events such as the Freedom of the City, and the Lord Mayor's Community and Civic Awards, an ISL Interpreter is provided.

16. **PARTY WHIPS – 24th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held 24th June 2019.

16.1 **CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations dated 19th June 2019.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Moloney, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Dennehy, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

‘RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 50 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended by Section 42 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, Cork City Council hereby approves the establishment of a Climate Action Committee to consist of 11 Elected Members.’

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Gould, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle to nominate 15 members to the Climate Action Committee at the next meeting of An Chomhairle.

16.2 **WORKINGS OF LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the working of the Local Area Committees/Strategic Policy Committees with one amendment under Point C; that Local Area Committees will have the opportunity to discuss and make observations on reports such as Part VIII's that are tabled for approval at the next Council Meeting.

An Chomhairle agreed to refer item B to Party Whips for discussion.

17. **INTERIM HOUSING POLICY COMMITTEE – 17th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Interim Housing Policy Committee from its meeting held 17th June 2019.

18. **INTERIM STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES – 17th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the Interim Strategic & Economic Development and Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committees from its meeting held 17th June 2019.

19. **SOUTH-CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 24th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the South-Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held 24th June 2019.

20. **SOUTH-WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 24th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the South-West Local Area Committee from its meeting held 24th June 2019.

21. **NORTH-EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 24th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the North-East Local Area Committee from its meeting held 24th June 2019.

22. **NORTH-WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 24th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the North-West Local Area Committee from its meeting held 24th June 2019.

23. **SOUTH-EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 25th JUNE 2019**

An Chomhairle noted the minutes of the South-East Local Area Committee from its meeting held 25th June 2019.

24. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 1st JULY 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held 1st July 2019.

24.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

24.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF MAY 2019**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of May 2019.

24.2 **DISPOSAL OF GRATTAN HOUSE TO THE MIDDLE PARISH ASSOCIATION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs and International Relations dated 18th June 2019 on the following motion referred to the Committee by An Chomhairle:-

‘I call on Cork City Council to consider the disposal of Grattan House to the middle Parish Association for a nominal annual fee so as to address the issue of possible dereliction at Grattan House. The residents have expressed that they would be interested in setting up museum highlighting the Marsh and Coal Quay in by gone days at this location and I would urge the Council to consider this proposal. In recent Grattan House has been attracting a lot of drug use and anti social behaviour and it has become a sorry site over the years and is blighting the area. Putting Grattan House into good use would offset any further dereliction

and enhance the area while at the same time create another tourist attraction within the city centre.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 19/164)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has received a number of expressions of interests in Grattan House. This building, along with the adjacent building at 47 Sheares Street has been unoccupied for some time and both properties are in poor condition, structurally and mechanically/electrically.

The intention now is to conduct a full options appraisal of the two properties, taking into account the interests we have received, the actual condition of the properties and the potential for redevelopment.

A fully informed proposal will be brought before Council with a clear plan for the properties in due course.

24.3 **BORROWING OF €15M FROM THE HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY PLC**

An Chomhairle considered noted this item was considered at item 15.2.

24.4 **DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Executive dated 27th June 2019 in relation to the following disposals:-

- (a) Disposal freehold interest in the property known as No. 9, Capwell Road, Turners Cross, Cork to James O’Mahony, c/o Fiona A. Walshe Solicitors, Plunkett Chambers, No. 21-23, Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork, for the sum of €10.16 together with costs in the sum of €460.00 plus VAT.
On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Dennehy, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.
- (b) Disposal freehold interest in a plot of ground situated to the front of No. 62, Arderin Way, The Glen, Cork to James and Mary O’Donovan, c/o Kevin Hegarty Solicitors, Brian Dillon House, Dillon’s Cross, Cork for the sum of €1.00.
On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.
- (c) Disposal of the freehold interest in a plot of ground situated to the front of No. 64, Arderin Way, the Glen, Cork to Garret and Sheila Murphy, c/o Kevin Hegarty Solicitors, Brian Dillon House, Dillon’s Cross, Cork for the sum of €1.00.
On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Gould, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.
- (d) Disposal of freehold interest in a plot of ground situated to the front of No. 65, Arderin Way, The Glen, Cork to Timothy and Ann O’ Connor, c/o Kevin Hegarty Solicitors, Brian Dillon House, Dillon’s Cross, Cork for the sum of €1.00.
On the proposal Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Gould, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

- (e) Disposal of freehold interest in a plot of ground situated adjacent to No. 66, Arderin Way, The Glen, Cork to Billy and Betty Lynch, c/o Michael Joyce Solicitors, No. 9, Washington Street West, Cork for the sum of €1.00.
On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.
- (f) Disposal of Cork City Council’s freehold and leasehold interest in premises known as “St. Kieran’s”, Rope Walk, Cork to Liam Burke and Marian Burke, c/o Guilfoyles Solicitors, Tuckeys House, No. 8, Tuckey Street, Cork for the sum of €100,000.00.
On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.
- (g) Disposal of Cork City Council’s interest in a plot of ground situated adjacent to “Blue Cottage”, No. 3, Rope Walk, Blackrock, Cork to Jason and Lucy Griffin, c/o Taylor Solicitors, Unit 3a, River House, Blackpool Retail Park, Cork for the sum of €4,444.40 (plus VAT if applicable) plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT.
On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

25. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted the following correspondence:-

- Letter and report from Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Transition to Mr. T. Barry, Oversight Committee, regarding Chief Executive’s Oversight Committee Monthly Report – June 2019.
- Letter from Clare County Council dated 20th June 2019.
- Letter from Clare County Council dated 20th June 2019.
- Letter from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government dated 18th June 2019.
- Letter from the Department of Health Office of the Minister dated 31st May 2019.
- Letter from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government dated 13th June 2019.
- Letter from the Office of the Taoiseach dated 11th June 2019.
- Letter from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government dated 10th June 2019.
- Letter from the Department for Employment Affairs and Social Protection dated 10th June 2019.
- Letter from RTE dated 16th May 2019.

26. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

None received.

27. **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

None received.

28. **TRAINING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the attendance at the following Training:-

- Comhairleoirí C. Kelleher and K. O’Flynn at the AILG Autumn Seminar – Climate Change and Planning held at the Hilgrove Hotel, Monaghan on the 11th-12th September 2019.

29. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report for April 2019.

30. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE ROADS & TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the referral to the relevant Committees of the motions in Appendix 1 attached.

31. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE HOUSING & COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the referral to the relevant Committees of the motions in Appendix 1 attached.

32. **MOTIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the referral to the relevant committees on Appendix 2 attached as determined by the Meetings Administrator.

Note: Item 1.43 to be forwarded to Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee.

33. **MOTIONS**

33.1 **DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT NETWORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That the NTA would establish an office in Cork with the specific remit of furthering the development of an integrated public and sustainable transport network which contributes to environmental sustainability, social cohesion and economic progress in Metropolitan Cork and other urban areas outside of Dublin.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 19/291)

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Gould, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend Standing Orders in order to discuss the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council believes the decision by An Post to close its Little Island Mail Centre is a devastating blow to over 200 employees and to the Cork region. Council calls for the closure to be reversed with options examined to keep the centre open including use of the building as a parcel depot.’

An Chomhairle approved the motion.

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARD-MHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH