

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2015, AT 3.00 P.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:**

Councillor L. Galvin, Mayor.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Browne, Butler, Byrne, Clifford, Collins (J), Collins (M), Daly, Donegan, Foley, Gilligan, Gleeson, Hourigan, Hurley, Keary, Keller, Leddin, Loftus, Lynch, McCreesh, McMahon, Mitchell, Neville, O'Brien, Ó Ceallaigh, O'Dea, O'Donnell, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, Prendiville, Quinlivan, Ryan, Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (M), Sheehy, Teefy.

An apology for his inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor Crowley.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive (Mr. C. Murray), Deputy Chief Executive (Mr. P. Dowling), Director, Community, Leisure and Emergency Services (Ms. J. Cotter Coughlan), Director, Economic Development and Planning (Mr. P. Daly), Director, Environment and Water (Mr. K. Lehane), Head of Finance, Motor Tax and ICT (Mr. T. Gilligan), Director, Home and Social Development (Ms. C. Curley), Director, Travel and Transportation (Mr. G. Daly), Meetings Administrator (Mr. C. O'Connor), Senior Executive Officer, Environment (Mr. G. Dillon), Administrative Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. T. Knox), Administrative Officer, Local Enterprise Office (Mr. A. Coleman), Administrative Officer, Environment (Ms. M. O'Donovan), Veterinary Officer (Mr. J. McCarthy).

At the outset, the Mayor said it was a pleasure to welcome the new Director of Service, Mr. Gordon Daly. The Chief Executive and the Members stated that they were very pleased with this appointment and that they looked forward to working with him in the future.

**Vote of Sympathy:**

With the permission of the Mayor, a Vote of Sympathy was extended to Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon and the O'Connor Family, Keating Street, Limerick, on the death of Councillor O'Hanlon's sister, Veronica (Ronnie) O'Connor. It was unanimously agreed to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

## **1. Adoption of Minutes**

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (a) Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2015.
- (b) Special Meeting of the Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.
- (c) Special Meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2015.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan (J);  
 Seconded by Councillor Collins (M);  
 And Resolved:

“That, the draft Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2015, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed.”

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan (J);  
 Seconded by Councillor Daly;  
 And Resolved:

“That, the draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed.”

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan (J);  
 Seconded by Councillor Collins (M);  
 And Resolved:

“That, the draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed.”

With the permission of the Mayor, the following items were then raised:

- **Civic Reception for Special Olympian, Ashleigh O’Hagan**

On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hurley it was unanimously agreed to host a Civic Reception for Ashleigh O’Hagan in recognition of her achievements at winning 2 bronze medals and three world placement medals in Gymnastics at the Special Olympics World Games this summer. It was also agreed that the Special Olympic Volunteers involved with Ashleigh would be invited to this reception.

- **Invitation to Mayor from Tourism Ireland**

The Meetings Administrator said that the Mayor had received an invitation from Tourism Ireland to attend an event which was being hosted by the Lord Mayor of London. He added that the event was an annual event and that this year marked the 800<sup>th</sup> year of the Lord Mayor’s procession. The purpose of the visit was to enhance the profile of Ireland, promote the destination for tourism and to further build on the current relationships which existed with diaspora contacts in Britain. The estimated cost of the trip was €750.00.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan (J);  
 Seconded by Councillor Mitchell;  
 And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to proposed visit to London, in accordance with Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended).”

### **Adjournment of Meeting**

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor Collins (M), it was agreed to take a 15 minute adjournment before dealing with Item No. 2 on the agenda.

On resumption, the Meeting proceeded with Item No. 2.

## **2. Disposal of Land**

Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, together with report of the Director, Environment and Water Services, dated 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, in relation to the disposal of land, by means of lease, at Ballinacarriga, Kildimo.

On the proposal of Councillor O’Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J), it was agreed to defer this item to the next Meeting.

## **3. Finance, Motor Tax and ICT**

### **(a) Fixing of Date – Budget Meeting**

Circulated, copy of Circular Fin 08/2015 dated 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in relation to 2016 Budget Meeting and other Budget matters.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins (M), seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J), dates for meetings in relation to Budget 2016 were fixed as follows:

#### **Full Council**

Workshop on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2015, at 4pm.  
 Statutory Budget Meeting on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2015, at 10am.

#### **Metropolitan District of Limerick**

Workshop on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, at 12.30pm.  
 GMA Budget Meeting on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, at 2.30pm.

**Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale**

Workshop on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, at 9am.  
GMA Budget Meeting on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, at 11am.

**Municipal District of Newcastle West**

Workshop on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2015, at 10am.  
GMA Budget Meeting on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2015, at 12 Noon.

**Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock**

Workshop on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015, at 3.30pm.  
GMA Budget Meeting on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015, at 4.30pm.

**(b) Local Property Tax**

Circulated (i) report from the Head of Finance dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, entitled '*Local Property Tax – Local Adjustment Factor 2015 – Report on Public Submissions Received; and (ii) report from Head of Finance dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, entitled 'Local property Tax – Local Adjustment Factor 2016.'*

The Head of Finance introduced this item by informing Members that a local authority could, as a Reserved Function, resolve to vary the basic rate of the Local Property Tax (LPT) within its functional area by a maximum of +/-15%. He added that any decision to vary the basic rate of LPT must be taken by 30<sup>th</sup> September each year in order to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November (the liability date) and therefore determine the LPT liability of taxpayers for the following year.

The Head of Finance stated, in his report dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015, that in accordance with Section 7 of the Local Property Tax Local Adjustment Factor Regulations, 2014, an advertisement seeking submissions from the Public had been placed in the local newspaper and also on the Council website. Submissions had been invited via completion of an online survey, by email or by post. The closing date for receipt of submissions was 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2015. A total of 14 valid submissions had been received with outcome as follows:

No. of valid submissions received:	14
No. of submissions requesting a reduction:	10
No. of submissions requesting an increase:	1
No. of submissions requesting no change:	3

Councillor Collins (M) proposed no change in the Local Property Tax basic rate for 2016. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J).

Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh proposed to vary the Local Property Tax basic rate downwards by 15% for 2016. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Browne.

The Chief Executive addressed the Meeting stating that the value of a potential increase or decrease in 2016 Local Property Tax allocation, if maximum variation of 15% were implemented by Limerick City and County Council, would be

€2,302,060. The report of the Head of Finance had stated that based on preliminary projections for Budget 2016, the Council had additional unfunded demands of €5.0 million and a reduction in income from Local Property Tax would increase that funding gap. In light of that, there was no scope to reduce the base rate of LPT for 2016.

The Mayor directed that a Vote be taken on the proposal put forward by Cmhrl. Ó Ceallaigh and seconded by Councillor Browne to vary the Local Property Tax basic rate downwards by 15% for 2016. The result of the voting was as follows:

### **For**

Councillors Browne, Keller, Loftus, McCreesh, McMahon, Cmhrl. Ó Ceallaigh, Prendiville, Quinlivan, Sheehy. **(9)**

### **Against**

Councillors Butler, Byrne, Clifford, Collins (J), Collins (M), Daly, Donegan, Foley, Galvin, Gleeson, Hourigan, Hurley, Keary, Leddin, Lynch, Mitchell, Neville, O'Brien, O'Dea, O'Donnell, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, Ryan, Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (M), Teefy. **(28)**

There were no abstentions.

The Mayor declared the Motion defeated and accordingly the following resolution was adopted:

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);  
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);  
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with Section 20 of the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act, 2012, as amended by the Finance (Local Property Tax) (Amendment) Act, 2013, Limerick City and County Council hereby determines that the basic rate of Local Property Tax (LPT) should not be varied for the period of one year from the next Local Property Tax liability date in respect of relevant residential properties situated in the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council.”

### **(c) Overdraft Accommodation**

The Meetings Administrator stated that the approval of the Council was requested to bank overdraft accommodation in the sum of €27.5 million for the twelve month period ending 31st December, 2016.

Arising from queries raised by Members, the Head of Finance clarified the following:

- No cost in relation to the provision of an overdraft.
- Actual request was for €27.5 million which was a reduction on the previous year.
- Data was available regarding the overdraft facility in the monthly Chief Executive's Reports.
- It was hoped that recourse to the use of the overdraft would not be needed at any stage.

Proposed by Councillor Leddin;  
 Seconded by Collins (M);  
 And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to bank overdraft accommodation in the sum of €27.5 million for the twelve month period ending 31st December, 2016, subject to the sanction of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government and in accordance with Section 106 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended.”

#### **4. Corporate Services**

##### **(a) Polling Scheme 2015**

Circulated, report from the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2015, in relation to Draft Polling Scheme, 2015 – Revised Dáil Boundaries, together with the following: (i) Proposed Changes to Scheme; (ii) e-mail from the County Registrar dated 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2015, in relation to change of location of Ballybricken Polling Booths; and (iii) draft Polling Scheme.

The report stated that the Scheme had gone through the statutory consultation process, including presentation at each Municipal District and Metropolitan Meetings during July 2015. The issues raised by the Members at those Meetings and submissions had been forwarded to Limerick County Registrar, Mr. Pat Wallace, for consideration. The changes accepted by the County Registrar were reflected in the Draft Polling Scheme.

The approval of the Council was required for the making of the Polling Scheme 2015 for Limerick City and County, in accordance with the Electoral Act, 1992 (as amended) and the Electoral (Polling Schemes) Regulations, 2005.

Concern was expressed at removing the 2 Ballybricken Polling booths to Knockea National School. The Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, referred to clarification on this matter which had been received from the County Registrar and had been circulated to the Members with the report.

Proposed by Councillor Ryan;  
 Seconded by Councillor Byrne;  
 And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the Electoral Act, 1992 (as amended) and the Electoral (Polling Schemes) Regulations 2005. the Polling Scheme 2015 for Limerick City and County be and is hereby made.”

**(b) Filling of Vacancy – Environment Strategic Policy Committee**

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, dated 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, in relation to the filling of vacancy to represent the Business / Commercial Sector on the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

The report stated that correspondence had been received from Chambers Ireland enclosing the nomination of Mr. Seamus Leahy, Rusal Aughinish, to replace Ms. Sinead Ryan who had stepped down from the Environment Strategic Policy Committee and a resolution of the Council was now required to approve Mr. Leahy’s membership of the Committee.

On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor O’Hanlon, it was agreed that Mr. Seamus Leahy, Rusal Aughinish, would be appointed to replace Ms. Sinead Ryan on the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

**(c) Chief Executive’s Report**

Circulated, Chief Executive’s Reports for the months of July and August.

The Chief Executive’s Reports for the months of July and August were noted by the Members.

**5. Environment and Water**

**(a) Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2015**

Circulated, report signed jointly by the Chairperson of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee and the Director of Environment and Water, dated 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, in relation to the Limerick City and County Council (Control of Horses) Bye-Laws, 2015, together with copy of the draft Bye-Laws.

Councillor Sheahan (M) proposed the following amendment to the draft bye-laws and this was seconded by Councillor Hurley:

- *“That a time restriction be placed to prohibit the use of sulkies on public roads, in the former City area only, between the hours of 7.30am to 9.30am and from 4.30pm to 7.30pm.”*

Councillor Hourigan proposed the following 2 amendments to the draft bye-laws and these were seconded by Councillor Byrne:

- “That the detention period as set out at Bye-Law 11 shall not apply in the case of a horse that has not been identified in accordance with the law. In such circumstances, the horse shall be disposed of within 24 hours from time of seizure.”
- “That in the case where a horse is identified in accordance with the law, the 5 day detention period be reduced to 3 days.”

Councillor Prendiville suggested that efforts should be made first to re-home horses, including through the horse rescue groups, and only if that failed should other options be considered.

The Director of Environment and Water recommended that the draft bye-laws, as circulated, be made and that the additional amendments, as raised by the Members, would be brought back to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee for consideration in relation to the preparation of amended bye-laws to take account of these factors.

Proposed by Councillor Ryan;  
Seconded by Councillor Byrne:  
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and the Control of Horses Act, 1996, the Limerick City and County Council (Control of Horses) Bye-Laws, 2015, as circulated, be and are hereby made.”

### **Litter Management Plan 2015-2018**

Circulated, report dated 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, signed jointly by the Chairperson of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee and the Director of Environment and Water, together with Draft Litter Management Plan 2015-2018.

The report stated that the Draft Plan was prepared and considered by the Environment Strategic Policy Committee at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2015, following which it was advertised. One submission was received in response to the advertisement but was not considered material to the Draft Plan and the Draft Plan had therefore not been amended. The statutory consultation process had now concluded.

The making of the Litter Management Plan was a Reserved Function of the Council.

Proposed by Councillor Hurley;  
Seconded by Councillor Byrne;  
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with Section 10 of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997, the Limerick City and County Council Litter Management Plan 2015-2018 be and is hereby made.”

## **6. Economic Development and Planning**

### **Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018**

Circulated, report of the Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office, dated 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, together with draft Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018.

The Mayor welcomed Mr. James Burke, James Burke & Associates, to the Meeting.

Mr. Burke stated that, in relation to a Food Strategy for Limerick, the vision was to enhance Limerick’s reputation for great food and to build on existing support structures which were designed to help maximise the economic prosperity for its food stakeholders. He gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Members, highlighting the following in relation to the preparation of the Food Strategy:

- The process involved.
- Strengths and weaknesses.
- Opportunities and strengths.
- Short term Actions/Long Term Considerations.

Mr. Burke continued by stating that the new Food Strategy which was being developed by the Council anticipated creating 86 new jobs in the local food industry over a three year period. He explained that the report presented to the Members focused on the development of “food tourism” in Limerick. It also highlighted the potential for creating a food brand and logo for Limerick products.

He further explained that the strategy was broken into 2 sections:

- Short term actions.
- Long term considerations.

The key short term actions included the following:

- To develop a united food community.
- To improve business skill sets.

The considerations recommended for the longer term were:

- Tell the Limerick Food Story.
- Develop a food zone.
- Put enablers in place to support the strategy roll-out.

In summing up, he said that it was hoped the Strategy, when in place, would result in increased food exports. The establishment of more new food businesses and stronger credentials for Limerick as a food processing retail and tourism destination, as well as increased employment opportunities, would result.

In response to a query raised, the Director of Economic Development and Planning confirmed that the Council was supportive of the project.

The Members were unanimous in their support for the Food Strategy and welcomed the proposals contained therein.

Proposed by Councillor Gleeson;  
Seconded by Councillor Leddin;  
And Resolved:

“That, the Limerick City and County Council Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018 be and is hereby adopted.”

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

As the time was approaching 5.30pm, on the proposal of Councillor Collins (M), seconded by Councillor O’Dea, Standing Orders were suspended in order to complete the agenda.

## **7. Community, Leisure and Emergency Services**

### **Limerick Privilege Card**

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Paul Moriarty, Manager, Limerick Volunteer Centre, who was in attendance for this item.

Circulated, report of the Chair of the Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, in relation to the Limerick Privilege Card.

The report stated that Limerick Volunteer Centre (LVC) wished to roll out a proposed Volunteer Reward Scheme called the “Limerick Privilege.” The initiative proposed the development of a discount-type card which LVC could distribute as a reward to volunteers.

The scheme had been piloted in 2014 – over 100 organisations had applied for the cards, over 7,000 volunteers were given cards and 85 businesses offered discounts to card holders. The LVC was seeking the support of Limerick City and County Council, in its civic leadership role, for the initiative. The Council’s logo would be prominently displayed on the discount cards and used for all advertising.

Members, in welcoming this initiative, thanked Mr. Moriarty and stated that it was most innovative.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Sheehy, the Council unanimously agreed with the recommendation of the Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee to endorse and support the Limerick Privilege Card.

## **8. Conferences**

### **(i) Participation by Members at Conferences**

Details of the following Conferences had been circulated electronically to the Members: (a) Conference “Local Economic & Community Plans,” held in Horse & Jockey, Co. Tipperary, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2015; (b) Seminar “Government Re-think? on Districts Municipal / Borough / Metropolitan” held in Wexford from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2015; (c) Conference & Exhibition Food & Drink 2015 held in Dublin on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015; (d) Conference “Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015,” held in Carlingford, Co. Louth, from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2015; (e) Conference “Mobile Marketing Tourist Destinations” to be held in Clonakilty, Co. Cork, from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2015; (f) Conference “Clusters as Drivers of Competitiveness,” to be held in Limerick on 30<sup>th</sup> September/1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015; (g) CIF Annual Conference “Activity, Jobs and Solutions” to be held in Dublin on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015; (h) Conference “Planning and Leadership for inclusive mainstream public services to People with Disabilities,” to be held in Dublin on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2015; (i) Conference “Cannabis – Why not?” to be held Dublin on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015; (j) Seminar “Building & Control (Amendment) Regulations S.I. No.9-2014 Single Dwellings and Domestic Extensions” to be held in Letterkenny, Co Donegal, from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2015; (k) Conference “Social Innovation: Improving Effectiveness and Efficiency in Public Service Delivery through Co-Design and Co-Creation,” to be held in Maastricht, the Netherlands, on 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> October, 2015; (l) AOIFE Annual Conference to be held in Ballinasloe, Co Galway, on 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.

On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J), it was agreed that the following Members would attend:

**Carlingford, Co. Louth:** Councillors Donegan, Collins (M), Gleeson.

**Limerick:** Councillor Hurley.

**Dublin (16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015):** Councillor Lynch.

### **(ii) Reports on Conference/Seminar/Meeting/Event**

Circulated, reports by Members who had participated at Conference/ Seminar/ Meeting/Event.

The reports were noted by the Members.

## **National Tidy Towns Awards - 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

The Mayor stated that it gave him great pleasure to outline the initial 2015 Tidy Towns Results for Limerick.

Adare had once again been awarded a Gold Medal in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2015. Galbally, Ardpatrick, Kilmallock and Newcastle West had all been awarded Bronze Medals again in the Competition. Abbeyfeale Tidy Towns had received a Special Endeavour Award.

First time winners Moyross had won a special category innovative award for their Food Waste Prevention Project. This project was organised through the Environment Department and the Southern Region Waste Management Office.

He highlighted that the concept of promoting community involvement in the improvement and enhancement of the local environment had been developed and strengthened over the years by Limerick City Council and Limerick County Council. This had further been enhanced through the considerable involvement of community groups, tidy towns committees, residents' associations and local businesses in the TLC (Team Limerick Clean-Up) Campaign, National Spring Clean and the Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition.

The Mayor congratulated all Tidy Towns participants who had done Limerick proud in the Competition and stated that a full report would be circulated to all Members once all results had been finalised.

## **ADJOURNED NOTICE OF MOTION**

### **9. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan**

*I will move at the next Meeting that a Quantitative Risk Assessment be immediately carried out so as to assess the risks or none of the operation of a Gasification Plant at Gortadroma.*

The Chief Executive stated that legal advice was awaited in relation to this matter.

It was noted by Members that this Motion had already been deferred. However, in view of the Chief Executive's update, it was agreed to defer this Motion to the November Meeting.

## **QUESTIONS**

Replies to the following Questions on the Agenda were circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting and the Questions were therefore considered as having been dealt with:

**10. Question submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue**

*I will ask at the next Meeting if Limerick City and County Council can appoint a fulltime liaison person between the Council and undertakers to facilitate burials seven days per week.*

**REPLY:** There are approx. 250 Council cemeteries in County Limerick and there are burial caretakers for approx. 90 of these cemeteries. The relevant caretaker in each cemetery is the liaison person for the funeral undertakers. There are presently vacancies for caretakers in Castlemungret Cemetery and Kilmurry Cemetery. There is a liaison person available 7 days per week for these cemeteries. The funeral undertakers have recently been provided with a list of the burial ground caretakers and the liaison person for Castlemungret and Kilmurry Cemeteries. The Council will provide a liaison person for cemeteries where there is no burial ground caretaker. The contact details for the liaison person will be provided to the funeral undertakers.

**11. Question submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the N20 improvements, as promised, at Anahid Cross and at Banogue.*

**REPLY:** A Strategy Report for the N20 is currently being prepared which will identify needs on the N20. The Report will examine the existing N20 on a section by section basis, and will recommend a series of improvement works to be designed and implemented. Anhid Cross and Banogue will both be looked at in preparing this Strategy Report.

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

**12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Prendiville**

*I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council support the calls for a Referendum to completely delete the 8th Amendment from the Irish Constitution.*

Councillor Prendiville, in proposing the Motion, stated that a Referendum was needed to delete the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment from the Irish Constitution and this was evident from the outcome of the 'Y' case. He added that the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment was a blanket ban on abortion, regardless of the circumstances, including the physical or mental health of the mother.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Keller.

A lengthy discussion ensued with a number of Members opposed to the Motion and a number of Members in favour of the Motion.

In the absence of agreement, the Mayor instructed that a Vote be taken in relation to Councillor Prendiville's Motion and the result of the voting was as follows:

**For**

Councillors Browne, Clifford, Gilligan, Keller, Loftus, McCreesh, McMahon, Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh, Prendiville, Quinlivan, Secas, Sheehy. (12)

**Against**

Councillors Butler, Byrne, Collins (J), Collins (M), Donegan, Foley, Galvin, Gleeson, Hourigan, Hurley, Keary, Mitchell, Neville, O'Brien, O'Dea, O'Donnell, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, Ryan, Scanlan, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (M), Teefy. (23)

There were no abstentions.

The Mayor declared the Motion defeated.

**13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan (to be referred to 1916/2016 Commemoration Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting that this Council agree to take the necessary steps to name the Shannon Tunnel in memory of Kathleen Clarke (nee Daly) and Cumann na mBan, as part of the 1916 Commemoration.*

It was agreed to refer this Motion to the 1916/2016 Commemoration Committee.

**14. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors S. Browne, M. Collins, F. Foley, L. Galvin (Proposer of Motion), J. Scanlan, J. Sheahan**

*We will move at the next Meeting that, in the formulation of the Budget for 2016, Limerick City and County Council allocate a specific budget to each Municipal District and to the Metropolitan District for Christmas Lights.*

The Motion was proposed by Councillor Collins (M) and seconded by Councillor Scanlan who requested that the budget for Christmas lights be allocated on a pro-rata basis by District to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of the money.

A short discussion took place on this Motion. It was noted that it was proving difficult for a lot of towns and villages to cover expenditure associated with the purchase and running costs of Christmas Lights..

**15. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Collins (to be referred to Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council take in charge and maintain the Great Southern Trail with immediate effect.*

It was agreed to refer this Motion to the Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee.

**16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue (to be referred to Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting that the Travel and Transportation Department would take responsibility for the maintenance and management of all road-facing hedgerows and grass margins, in the interest of public safety.*

It was agreed to refer this Motion to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee.

**17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Browne**

*I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council call on the Government to restore in full the respite carer grant in the forthcoming budget.*

Councillor Browne, in proposing the Motion, stated that the full restoration of the respite care grant must be a priority for the Government. He believed that the focus in the budget should be on protecting the vulnerable. Carers were, he said, the unsung heroes of communities across Limerick. They provided constant care for their loved ones.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Loftus and unanimously agreed.

**18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Quinlivan (to be referred to Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council set up a Tourist Forum to promote Limerick, both nationally and internationally.*

It was agreed to refer this Motion to the Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee.

**19. Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhrl. S. Ó Ceallaigh (to be referred to Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting that this Council seek to have an alternative route established on the Wild Atlantic Way, which will include Coastal Limerick and Limerick City; this will act as an alternative for those who wish to continuously drive the Wild Atlantic Way without the use of a ferry, as is in place in other locations along the route.*

It was agreed to refer this Motion to the Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee.

**20. Correspondence**

The Correspondence circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDERS:**

The Register of Orders made by the Chief Executive up to the date of the Meeting was available for inspection by the Members.

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:**

The Register of Decisions on applications under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) was also available for inspection by the Members.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_