

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 26TH JANUARY, 2015, AT 3.00 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor K. Sheahan, Mayor.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive (Mr. C. Murray), Deputy Chief Executive (Mr. P. Dowling), A/Director, Community, Leisure and Emergency Services (Mr. D. Brady), 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. P. Crowe), Meetings Administrator (Mr. E. Griffin), Senior Planners (Mr. L. Conneally and Ms. M. Woods), Administrative Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. T. Knox), Arts Officer (Ms. S. Deegan).

At the outset, the Mayor advised that at the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Monday, 19th January, 2015, it had been agreed to honour posthumously "Limerick Women of Distinction," Charlotte Grace O'Brien, Sophie Mary Peirce and Kate O'Brien. He added that it was proposed to hold a Civic Reception on Friday, 6th March, 2015, and that the event would be organised in association with the University of Limerick in celebration of International Women's Day. The Members welcomed this proposal and it was noted that an invitation to the event would issue in due course.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copies of draft Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (a) Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 24th November, 2014.
- (b) Special Meeting of the Council held on 15th December, 2014.
- (c) Budget Meeting of the Council held on 12th January, 2015.

The Meetings Administrator stated that amendments to the Minutes of Meeting of 24th November, 2014, were required in relation to appointments to Strategic Policy Committees as follows:

Home and Social Development

Remove Councillors Sheahan (J), Teefy and McMahon and include Councillor Sheehy.

Travel and Transportation

Remove Councillor Collins (M).

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning

Remove Councillor Sheehy and include Councillor Collins (M).

Environment

Remove Councillor Quinlivan and include Councillors Sheahan (J), Teefy and McMahon.

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

“That, the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed, subject to the amendments outlined above to the Minutes of Meeting of 24th November, 2014.”

A short discussion took place in relation to the composition and establishment of the Strategic Policy Committees. In response to a query from the Members, the Chief Executive stated that there was no reason why each of the Strategic Policy Committees could not meet even though their membership was not yet fully complete. It was agreed that details of SPC Membership would be circulated to the Members.

2. March Council Meeting

Circulated, correspondence dated 12th January, 2015, with request from Dr. Maria Hinfelaar, President, Limerick Institute of Technology, to hold a Council Meeting in LIT.

The Meetings Administrator advised that an invitation had been received from the President, Limerick Institute of Technology, Dr. Maria Hinfelaar, in relation to the holding of a future Council Meeting at their Campus. The Members welcomed the invitation and on the proposal of Councillor Gilligan, seconded by Councillor Quinlivan, this was agreed. It was further agreed that the Executive would make contact with staff in the Limerick Institute of Technology to agree details. It was agreed to revert to the Members once date and time had been agreed.

3. Disposal of Land

- (a) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 1st December, 2014, concerning lease of land at Touknockane and Cooleen, Co. Tipperary.

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

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the lease of land measuring 9.810ha at Touknockane and Cooleen, Co. Tipperary, to St. Flannan’s Fishing Club, Killaloe, Co. Clare, for €100 per annum for the duration of the lease, the lands to be leased for 4 years and 9 months commencing on 1st February, 2015, and to be used for purposes ancillary to fish farming only, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 1st December, 2014.”

- (b) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 17th December, 2014, concerning disposal of land at Garraun, Co. Limerick.

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

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land measuring 0.270ha at Garraun, Co. Limerick, to Shane Carroll and Laura McEntee, Hillcrest, Ballysheedy, Co. Limerick, for the sum of €47,000, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 17th December, 2014.”

- (c) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 7th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land, comprising of a 28 unit apartment complex, at Hyde Road, Limerick.

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

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land comprising of a 28 unit apartment complex at Hyde Road, Limerick, measuring 0.26 hectares, to Clúid Housing Association, for a nominal €1 fee, subject to the following conditions: (1) Clúid will enter into a Capital Advance Agreement, Payment and Availability Agreement with the Council, for 30 years, in order to satisfy the conditions of the Capital Advance; (2) The Council will have 100% nomination rights for these units in accordance with the Council’s Scheme of Letting Priorities; (3) The Council’s Differential Rents Scheme will apply to nominated tenants; (4) The Deed transferring the ownership of Hyde Road Scheme to Clúid shall contain a covenant (i) restricting the use of the units to Social Housing or to such other use as the Council may agree; (ii) ensuring that development is in compliance with Part VIII or as otherwise agreed by the Planning Department; (iii) ensuring early delivery of the project, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 7th January, 2015.”

- (d) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land at 5, Marian Place, Roxboro, Limerick.

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

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of freehold (ground rent) to tenant purchaser holding under a Transfer Order which created a leasehold interest, at 5 Marian Place, Roxboro, Limerick, to Eoin Daly, for the sum of €403.36, the disposal to be carried out by way of Deed of Conveyance of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

- (e) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land at 12, Rossa Villas, Mulgrave Street, Limerick.

Proposed by Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh;
 Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (M);
 And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of freehold (ground rent) to tenant purchaser holding under a Transfer Order which created a leasehold interest, at 12 Rossa Villas, Mulgrave Street, Limerick, to Rose Kennedy, for the sum of €458.59, the disposal to be carried out by way of Deed of Conveyance of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

- (f) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land at 21, Elm Place, Rathbane, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan (M);
 Seconded by Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh;
 And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of freehold (ground rent) to tenant purchaser holding under a Transfer Order which created a leasehold interest, at 21 Elm Place, Rathbane, Limerick, to Sandra Mitchell, for the sum of €939.75, the disposal to be carried out by way of Deed of Conveyance of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

- (g) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land at 27 Ballynanty Road, Ballynanty, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Daly;
 Seconded by Councillor Quinlivan;
 And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of freehold (ground rent) to tenant purchaser holding under a Transfer Order which created a leasehold interest, at 27 Ballynanty Road, Ballynanty, Limerick, to Lisa Wilson, for the sum of €410.16, the disposal of be carried out by way of Deed of Conveyance of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

- (h) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land at 41, Talbot Avenue, Prospect, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Butler;
Seconded by Councillor McCreesh;
And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of freehold (ground rent) to tenant purchaser holding under a Transfer Order which created a leasehold interest, at 41 Talbot Avenue, Prospect, Limerick, to Jevgenija Lapickaja, for the sum of €1,174.70, the disposal to be carried out by way of Deed of Conveyance of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

- (i) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of land at 157, Hyde Road, Limerick.

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

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of freehold (ground rent) to tenant purchaser holding under a Transfer Order which created a leasehold interest, at 157, Hyde Road, Limerick, to Russell and Sheila Hickey, for the sum of €404.63, the disposal to be carried out by way of Deed of Conveyance of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

- (j) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015, concerning disposal of house at Corgrigg, Foynes, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Scanlan;
Seconded by Councillor Gilligan;
And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of house at Corgrigg, Foynes, Co. Limerick, to Aidan and Fiona Quinn, for the sum of €44,000, by means of Deed of Transfer, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 15th January, 2015.”

The Director of Home and Social Development replied to query raised in relation to disposal of house at Corgrigg, Foynes, Co. Limerick, and, in particular, in relation to consideration/sale price for the house.

4. Corporate Services

(a) Chief Executive's Report

Circulated, Chief Executive's Reports for the months of November and December.

The Meetings Administrator referred to resolution passed at the November Council Meeting which stated that Reports of the Chief Executive would be brought before Council on a bi-monthly basis as part of the Council Meeting Agenda.

Under Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, he stated that there was also a requirement for the Report to be furnished to the Members on or before the seventh day of each month or on a date in each month that would be set by resolution of the Council. He explained that it was a matter for the Members to specify a different date for circulation of the Report. On the recommendation of the Meetings Administrator, it was agreed that the Chief Executive's Report would be circulated to the Members on or before the fourteenth day of each month.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (J);
Seconded by Councillor O'Hanlon;
And Resolved:

"That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, that Reports of the Chief Executive be furnished to the Members on or before the fourteenth day of each month."

(b) Customer Charter and Compliments, Comments and Complaints Procedure

Circulated, report of the Deputy Chief Executive dated 9th January, 2015, enclosing the Customer Charter for Limerick City and County Council, together with the Council's Compliments, Comments and Complaints Procedure.

The documentation circulated was noted by the Council.

5. Economic Development and Planning

(a) Proposed Variation No. 4 to Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

Circulated, report of the Director of Economic Development and Planning dated 14th January, 2015, enclosing Chief Executive's Report dated 14th January, 2015, on the proposed Variation No. 4 to the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 in regard to: (i) Incorporation of the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan as Volume IV; (ii) Removal of reference to the City Centre Strategy 2008 and replacement with reference to the 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan; (iii) Amendment to advertising policy relating to "Bus Shelters/Other Stand-Alone Structures" (page 196 in City Development Plan 2010).

A number of Members referred to the system in Planning whereby one Councillor was nominated to a Planning File and that Councillor would then be notified of any decisions. It was generally felt that this system had worked very well and reservations were expressed in relation to any change to this system. The Chief Executive stated that there were two different systems in operation prior to the merger and that both would need to be reviewed. He highlighted the importance of ensuring conflict of interests were managed appropriately while at the same time maintaining mutual respect for the position of the Elected Member and that of staff. He agreed to discuss the matter further at a Meeting of the Party Leaders.

Proposed by Councillor Leddin;
 Seconded by Councillor O'Hanlon;
 And Resolved:

"That, the proposed Variation No. 4 to the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 in regard to (i) Incorporation of the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan as Volume IV; (ii) Removal of reference to the City Centre Strategy 2008 and replacement with reference to the 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan; and (iii) Amendment to advertising policy relating to "Bus Shelters/Other Stand-Alone Structures" (page 196 in City Development Plan 2010), as recommended in the Chief Executive's Report dated 14th January, 2015, be made in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)."

(b) Taking in Charge of Estates - Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads

Circulated, report of the Director of Economic Development and Planning dated 7th January, 2015, in relation to the taking-in-charge of the following estates: (i) Ballinvoher, Fr Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick; (ii) Drominbeg, Rhebogue Road, Rhebogue, Limerick; (iii) Evanwood, Golf Links Road, Castletroy, Limerick (part of); (iv) Log na gCapall, South Circular Road, Limerick; (v) Mungret Woods, Mungret College, Mungret; (vi) Slugaire, Dooradoyle Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick; (vii) Willowbrook, Abbeyfeale.

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

"That, the following estates - (i) Ballinvoher, Fr Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick; (ii) Drominbeg, Rhebogue Road, Rhebogue, Limerick; (iii) Evanwood, Golf Links Road, Castletroy, Limerick (part of); (iv) Log na gCapall, South Circular Road, Limerick; (v) Mungret Woods, Mungret College, Mungret; (vi) Slugaire, Dooradoyle Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick; (vii) Willowbrook, Abbeyfeale - be taken in charge, in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2014, and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993."

6. Home and Social Development

Raising of Loan

Circulated, report of the Director, Home and Social Development, dated 9th January, 2015, seeking the Council's approval to the raising of a loan of €90,263 from the Housing Finance Agency for the additional approved funding of Phase 2, Gortboy, Newcastle West (Clúid Housing Association).

It was noted that a report dated 11th November, 2014, had been circulated for Meeting of the Council held on 24th November, 2014, and that, following discussion, this matter had been deferred pending clarification on a funding aspect.

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

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the raising of a loan of €90,263 from the Housing Finance Agency for the additional approved funding of Phase 2, Gortboy, Newcastle West (Clúid Housing Association).”

7. Conferences

• Participation by Members at Conferences

Details of the following Conferences had been circulated electronically to the Members: (a) Áiseanna Tacaíochta (ÁT) Event “Realising Equality through Active Participation” held in Dublin on 3rd December, 2014; (b) Seminar “Microsoft Excel Workshop for Councillors” held in Clonakilty, Co. Cork, from 19th to 21st December, 2014; (c) Conference “Tourism, Technology and Competitive Strategies for 2015” held in Clonakilty, Co. Cork, from 9th to 11th January, 2015; (d) Conference “The Finance Act 2014” to be held in Carlingford, Co. Louth, from 23rd to 25th January, 2015; (e) Conference “Government's Construction 2020 Strategy, Local Government Housing Supply” to be held in Wexford from 6th to 8th February, 2015; (f) Conference “Sustainable Tourism Development” to be held in Galway from 20th to 21st February, 2015; (g) CILIP Ireland & Library Association of Ireland Annual Joint Conference 2015 to be held in Belfast from 8th to 10th April, 2015.

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

Clonakilty, Co. Cork (9th to 11th January, 2015): Councillor Butler.

Carlingford, Co. Louth: Councillors Leddin and Sheahan (M).

Galway: Councillor O’Dea.

- **Reports on Conferences**

Circulated, reports by Members who had participated at Conferences.

The reports were noted by the Members.

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:

8. Question submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue

I will ask at the next Meeting, in relation to the recent moving of districts in Roads and Services, if personnel with valuable local knowledge can be kept in the areas where they have built up this knowledge and where they have established strong working relationships.

REPLY: The assignment of staff is a matter for the Chief Executive and the Human Resources Department. It is not envisaged that there will be significant movement in terms of the location of the Council's outdoor workforce. Where change is required, it is the Council's intention to minimise that for the existing staff as much as possible.

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will at the next Meeting for a breakdown of all properties liable for Local Property Tax within our Authority in terms of total in number scheduled in individual bands with each expressed as a % of all properties liable.

REPLY: As the collection of the Local Property Tax is now a Revenue Commission function, we have provided the approx number of properties below based on Local Property Tax Statistics as issued by Revenue Commission dated April 2014.

Circular Fin 15/2014 provided information in relation to property valuation bands for each local authority area from the Revenue Commission.

| Bands € | % | Approx. No. of Properties |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| Band 0 - 100,000 | 32 | 24,000 |
| Band 100,001 - 150,000 | 33 | 25,000 |
| Band 150,001 - 200,000 | 23 | 17,000 |
| Band greater than 200,000 | 12 | 9,000 |
| Total | 100 | 75,000 |

10. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting for a breakdown of rents payable by our local authority tenants in terms of numbers contributing (a) less than €50 per week (b) between €50/€75 per week (c) €75/€100 per week (d) €100/€125 per week and (e) those on payment of €125 per week and over.

REPLY: The following is the breakdown of rents for our tenants as requested:

Rent debit applied on 12th January, 2015.

| <u>RENT</u> | <u>Number of Households</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) < €50 | 2,913 |
| (b) €50 - €75 | 1,444 |
| (c) €75 - €100 | 370 |
| (d) €100 - €125 | 77 |
| (e) > €125 | 24 |

Total: 4,828 rented properties.

11 Question submitted by Councillor S. Keary

I will ask at the next Meeting for a % breakdown of the recently adopted Budget of circa €155.87 million to be expended in the followings areas: (a) Metropolitan District of Limerick; (b) Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District; (c) Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District; (d) Newcastle West Municipal District.

REPLY: I wish to refer to Circular LG 27/2014 - FIN 21/2014 regarding the requirement under Section 103A of the Local Government Act, 2001, and Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW) for adoption by the Municipal Districts. The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use within each Municipal District of funding provided in the overall Council budget. The SMDW is currently being prepared for consideration and adoption, with or without amendment, by the Municipal District Members.

NOTICES OF MOTION

12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council calls on the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Mr. Paschal Donohoe, TD, for a full review to be carried out on the manner in which 'Go Safe' vans are operating in the country and especially in our county; also, that the following information be provided by the Department of Transport: how many (a) fatalities and (b) accidents have occurred inside the 50 km/h speed limit in the following areas over the past 10 years which are all on the N21 Abbeyfeale to Limerick Road: (i) Mountmahon, Abbeyfeale; (ii) Croagh Village; (iii) Adare Village; (iv) Templeglantine; and (v) Newcastle West.

Councillor Galvin, in proposing the Motion, stated that while he was in favour of the use of 'go-safe' vans, he did not necessarily think they were always located in areas where most needed. He asked for a review to be undertaken in relation to the manner in which 'go-safe' vans were operating on Irish roads. In addition, he asked that consideration be given to roads where there had been a loss of life.

Councillor Keary in seconding the Motion, called for a full review in relation to this matter. He asked for 'go-safe' vans to be located on regional roads.

The Motion was agreed.

13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. McCreesh

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council support the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation in the planned industrial action that nursing staff deem necessary to highlight yet again the difficult working environment faced by staff on a daily basis at the University Hospital Limerick and which is impacting on the other UL Group Hospitals in Ennis, Nenagh and Croom, and that Limerick City and County Council call on the Minister for Health to listen to these experienced healthcare workers and provide the resources necessary to solve this ongoing health risk for both patients and staff.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor McCreesh, referred to the acute overcrowding in the Accident and Emergency Department, University Hospital Limerick, and asked for immediate works to be carried out in terms of equipping and staffing of the new Emergency Department.

The Motion was seconded by the Mayor, Councillor Sheahan (K), and agreed.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins (J), seconded by Councillor Neville, it was agreed to issue an invitation to the Management/Group Chief Executive Officer of University Hospital Limerick to address a future Meeting of Limerick City and County Council in relation to overcrowding in the Accident and Emergency Department.

14. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Quinlivan

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council (1) supports the Mandate Trade Union and their members working in Dunnes Stores both here in Limerick and across the State in their struggle against zero hour contracts, (2) calls on the management of Dunnes Stores to respect and implement the Labour Court's recent recommendation in respect of the dispute i.e. to sit down with the Union to discuss all of the issues in dispute including: (i) the implementation of banded hour contracts which would give workers security of hours and earnings; (ii) individual and collective representational rights for Dunnes workers; (iii) a review of Dunnes excessive use of temporary contracts of employment; (iv) fair pay for all workers in Dunnes Stores.

At the request of Councillor Quinlivan and with the permission of the Meeting, this Motion was withdrawn.

15. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L.M. Sheehy

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council commits to supporting and actively campaigns for marriage equality in Ireland and calls for a positive and progressive outcome in the upcoming referendum on same sex marriage, extending equal rights and opportunities to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community under law.

Councillor Sheehy proposed an amendment to the Motion as follows:

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Councillors commit to support the campaign for marriage equality in Ireland and call for a positive and progressive outcome in the upcoming Referendum on same sex marriage extending equal rights and opportunities to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community under law.

In proposing the amended Motion, Councillor Sheehy asked for support for the campaign for marriage equality in Ireland. She said that all couples, same sex or otherwise, should be entitled to the same obligations, rights and privileges.

The Motion, as amended, was seconded by Cmhr. Ó Ceallaigh and agreed.

16. Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhr. S. Ó Ceallaigh

In order to show our support for the ongoing peace process in Spain and the Basque Country, I will move at the next Meeting that this Council calls on all TDs, Senators and Irish MEPs to call on the Spanish Government to end the policy of dispersion which is applied to Basque political prisoners and that the Council will write to each of these representatives and urge them to do so in each of their authorities.

The Motion was proposed by Councillor Ó Ceallaigh, seconded by Councillor Browne, and agreed.

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Browne

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council recognise the home as a centre of care and signal our commitment to recognising and respecting Carers and responding to their needs to ensure that family Carers have the resources, services and supports necessary to care with confidence at home.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Browne stressed that the home was a special place and evidence had repeatedly shown that those with care needs wanted to continue living at home and being cared for within their own homes and communities. He added that Elected Representatives had a duty to challenge decisions and policies that impacted on people's ability to be cared for at home and that they also had a responsibility to ensure that all major policies and programmes were carer-proofed.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor O' Hanlon and agreed.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue

I will move at the next Meeting that representations be made to Minister Heather Humphreys, TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, to remove the time restrictions on hedge-cutting in relation to main roads and secondary roads, in the interest of public safety.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor O' Donoghue asked if the hedge-cutting season could be extended to allow hedges to be cut 12 months of the year, in the interest of safety for road users.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor O' Brien and agreed.

19. Correspondence

The Correspondence circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

MulkearLIFE Award

The Mayor said he was delighted with the news that MulkearLIFE had won a Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA) Award on 24th January. He added that MulkearLIFE had been nominated by Councillor Secas and had won in the category of 'Most significant contribution to Water Quality.' He stated that the award was for work done with local landowners to improve the quality of water in the Mulkear Catchment.

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 Acts, 2000-2014, was also available for inspection by the Members.

Signed:

Mayor

Date:
