

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MERCHANT’S QUAY, LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2018.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor Daniel Butler, Mayor.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Collins, Costelloe, Crowley, Daly, Gilligan, Hogan, Hourigan, Keller, Leddin, Loftus, Lynch, McCreesh, Ó Ceallaigh, O’Dea, O’Hanlon, Pond, Prendiville, Secas and Sheahan.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Physical Development (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Mr. J. Clune), Director, Housing Development (Ms. A. Duke), A/Director, Capital Investment (Mr. J. Delaney), Senior Executive Officer (Mr. P. Fitzgerald), Acting Senior Executive Officer (Ms. M. Donoghue), Administrative Officer (Ms. F. McCormack), Senior Architect (Mr. S. Hanrahan), Acting Senior Planner (Ms. M. Woods), Acting Senior Executive Planner (Ms. K. Burke), Senior Executive Engineer (Mr. B. Lynch), Staff Officer (Mr. J. Cregan), Assistant Staff Officer (Ms. S. Carroll).

At the outset, the Mayor and Members extended their congratulations to the Limerick Ladies Football Team on their fantastic achievement in winning the All Ireland Ladies Junior Football Final in what had been a wonderful sporting year for Limerick.

The Mayor and Members extended their condolences and sympathies to staff members who had suffered bereavements over the Summer and also to the following :

- James Clune on the passing of his former partner, Marian McNamara.
- Pat Fitzgerald on the passing of his sister, Geraldine Byrnes.
- Cecilia O’Flaherty on the passing of her brother, Martin O’Flaherty.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 16th July, 2018.

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

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed”.

2. Disposal of Land

- (a) Circulated, report of the Acting Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services dated 12th July, 2018 setting out proposals to dispose of the Freehold Interest of a dwelling house situate at 26 Garryglass Avenue, Ballinacurra Weston, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (b) Circulated, report of the Acting Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services dated 24th July, 2018 setting out proposals to dispose of the Freehold Interest of a dwelling house situate at 25 Lilac Court, Southill, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (c) Circulated, report of the Acting Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services dated 26th July, 2018 setting out proposals to dispose of the Freehold Interest of a dwelling house situate at 38 St. Lawrence's Park, Garryowen, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (d) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Services dated 30th August, 2018 setting out proposals to enter into a new 99 Year Lease with the Trustees of Regional United AFC in relation to 2.94 Hectares of Land in use by them at Sluggary, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to the November Council Meeting in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (e) Circulated, report of the Acting Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services dated 27th August, 2018 setting out proposals to dispose of the Freehold Interest of a dwelling house situate at 11 Ballygrennan Road, Ballynanty, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

3. Service Operations Directorate- Planning and Environmental Services

Taking in Charge of Estates – Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads

(a) Ritaville, Old Cork Road

Circulated, Report of the A/Senior Planner, Planning and Environmental Services dated 24th August, 2018 seeking approval to the taking in charge of estate at Ritaville, Old Cork Road.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;
Seconded by Councillor O'Dea;
And Resolved:

“That the estate at Ritaville, Old Cork Road be taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993”.

It was agreed that the report be amended to include the commitment given by the Council to maintain the pumping station until this responsibility was transferred to Irish Water.

(b) Carrabullawn, Lower Park, Corbally

Circulated, Report of the A/Senior Planner, Planning and Environmental Services dated 28th August, 2018 seeking approval to the taking in charge of estate at Carrabullawn, Lower Park, Corbally.

Proposed by Councillor O’Hanlon;
 Seconded by Councillor Daly;
 And Resolved:

“That the estate at Carrabullawn, Lower Park, Corbally be taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993”.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Hourigan, it was agreed that the Meeting would adjourn for fifteen minutes.

4. Economic Development Directorate**(a) Proposed Castletroy Local Area Plan 2019 - 2025**

At the resumption of the Meeting, on the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Pond, it was agreed that this Item would be deferred for consideration at Adjourned Meeting to be held on Thursday, 20th September, 2018 at 6pm and that Standing Orders would be suspended to cater for this.

(b) Proposal to extend the life of the Castleconnell Local Area Plan 2013 -2019

Circulated, Report of the Deputy Chief Executive dated 17th August, 2018, enclosing copy of the Chief Executive’s Report dated 17th September, 2018 in relation to proposal to extend the life of the Castleconnell Local Area Plan 2013 – 2019, by a further 5 years, from today’s date.

Proposed by Councillor Secas;
 Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
 And Resolved;

“To Extend the life of the Castleconnell Local Area Plan 2013, by a further five years, from today’s date, in accordance with the Chief Executive’s Recommendations dated 17th September, 2018, under Section 19 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)”.

5. Capital Investment Directorate**(a) Part 8 Procedure – Housing Development at Lower Carey’s Road, Limerick**

Circulated, Report of the A/Director of Services, Capital Investment Directorate dated 31st August, 2018 and enclosed Report of the Deputy Chief Executive dated 31st August, 2018 setting out details of proposed Housing Development at Lower Carey’s Road, Limerick. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and

noted that it was proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 5 of the report. Members welcomed the proposed development and it was requested that the memo of meetings held with residents would be included in the report.

(b) Part 8 Procedure – Housing Development at Kileely Road, Thomondgate, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the A/Director of Services, Capital Investment Directorate dated 31st August, 2018 and enclosed Report of the Deputy Chief Executive dated 31st August, 2018 setting out details of proposed Housing Development at Kileely Road, Thomondgate, Limerick. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and noted that it was proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 5 of the report.

(c) Part 8 Procedure – Development of a Play Area and Outdoor Gym at Verdant Place, St. Mary's Park, King's Island, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the A/Director of Services, Capital Investment Directorate dated 31st August, 2018 and enclosed Report of the Deputy Chief Executive dated 31st August, 2018 setting out details of proposed development of a Play Area and Outdoor Gym at Verdant Place, St. Mary's Park, King's Island, Limerick. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and noted that it was proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 5 of the report.

(d) Part 8 Procedure – Housing Development at Clonmacken, Condell Road, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the A/Director of Services, Capital Investment Directorate dated 12th September, 2018 and enclosed Chief Executive's Report dated 12th September, 2018 setting out details of proposed Housing Development at Clonmacken, Condell Road, Limerick. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and noted that it was proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 5 of the report.

Members generally supported the development outlining the demand for housing in the area, particularly in the current housing crisis. A number of queries were raised in relation to the inclusion of CCTV in the scheme, pedestrian facilities, the option of using community buses and Estate Management proposals. The A/Director of Services, Capital Investment responded to the queries.

A number of Members expressed concern in relation to the development, highlighting issues including the lack of services and amenities in the area.

On the proposal of Councillor Hourigan, seconded by Councillor Hogan, it was agreed that the Meeting would adjourn for five minutes.

On resumption of the meeting, it was proposed by Councillor Gilligan, seconded by Councillor Daly, that the following amendments be made to the Scheme:

1. That the four bedroom houses be taken out and replaced with three bedroomed houses

to reduce density.

2. Review vehicular access arrangements when other houses in the area are built, for the safety of all concerned.

As all Members were not in agreement, a vote was taken which resulted as follows :

For the proposal:

Councillors Butler, Costelloe, Daly, Gilligan, Hogan, Hourigan, Keller, Leddin, Loftus, McCreesh, Ó Ceallaigh, Prendiville, Secas and Sheahan (14)

Against the proposal:

Councillors Collins, Crowley, Lynch, O’Dea, O’Hanlon and Pond (6)

The Meetings Administrator declared the Part 8 was approved subject to the agreed amendments.

(e) Part 8 Procedure – Housing Development at Sycamore Avenue, Rathbane, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the A/Director of Services, Capital Investment Directorate dated 12th September, 2018 and enclosed Chief Executive’s Report dated 12th September, 2018 setting out details of proposed Housing Development at Sycamore Avenue, Rathbane, Limerick. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and noted that it was proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 5 of the report.

Members welcomed the proposed development and acknowledged the level of consultation engaged in between the Officials and Residents of the area. It was requested that the memo of agreement between the Council and the residents be included in the report.

6. Question submitted by Councillor J. Leddin

I will ask Limerick Metropolitan Council how many void properties either public or privately owned are currently in existence within the city and what are times frames to eliminate where feasible void properties.

REPLY:

I wish to advise there are currently 33 LCCC social housing units on the voids list in the Metropolitan area which we expect to have delivered within 3 months.

There are 29 properties on the Derelict Site Register referring to the Metropolitan area.

There are also 52 cases on Sugar CRM in relation to Derelict Properties in the Metropolitan area. These cases are in progress and the properties have not been entered on to the Derelict Sites Register as the Urban Village Renewal Department are working with the property owners in relation to carrying out remedial measures to remove the property from dereliction.

7. **Question submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh**

I will ask at the next meeting when is it envisaged that remaining works on the upgrade of the Bloodmill Road will begin and be completed.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council is currently in discussions with landowners in the Towlerton area of Bloodmill Road to examine options for the upgrade of the lower Bloodmill Road. It is anticipated that a solution will be agreed in the next few months and will be progressed through the planning system next year.

8. **Question submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh**

I will ask at the next meeting how many houses are due to be knocked, refurbished, or built in each of Limerick's Regeneration areas in 2018 and 2019.

REPLY:

1. **Demolition Programme**

The timing of the demolition of each house scheduled for demolition in accordance with the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) is determined on a case by case basis as a number are occupied and in private ownership. Therefore, the number to be demolished to date in 2018 and 2019 cannot be confirmed. Two houses have been demolished to date in 2018 with thirteen currently scheduled for demolition prior to year-end.

2. **Refurbishment Programme**

All houses not scheduled for demolition in the Regeneration areas either have been or will be refurbished in accordance with the LRFIP. Under the Thermal Upgrade Programme 1,169 are complete or in progress (783 completed and 386 under construction) and 290 are being advanced. In addition to the Thermal Upgrade Programme, major refurbishment of local authority unoccupied 'Voids' and 'Derelicts' has taken place e.g. 1 – 3 Weston Gardens, 8 – 10 Gaol Lane, etc.

3. **New Build Construction Programme**

The number of new build homes to be constructed under the LRFIP, approved in 2014, is 593. This number reduced to 549 following a review in 2016 of the Demolition and Retention Strategy which resulted in a greater number of homes being retained. The number of new build homes constructed is 250 (as at 12th September, 2018). Therefore the programme is 45% complete. The overall completion date is 2023 in line with the 10 year programme set out in the LRFIP adopted in 2014. The above figure excludes major refurbishment of derelict houses such as 8 – 10 Gaol Lane, 1-3 Weston Gardens, etc. which while delivering 'new' units are classified as 'Derelicts'/Rebuilds. The number of new build houses constructed in 2018 to date is 42 with the total projection for 2018 of 61. These are broken down as follows: 42 – Southill and 19 – St. Mary's Park.

9. **Question submitted by Councillor E. Hogan**

I will ask at the next meeting, following the recent Press Release on Limerick.ie about the Housing Model being provided by Clenn Construction, is there any plan at present to engage with the Company to provide Housing in the Brownfield Sites in the Metropolitan Area.

REPLY: LCCC are very supportive of the establishment of a Company manufacturing rapid build-type homes in Limerick.

In the context of Rebuilding Ireland there is potential for this company to become involved in the delivery programme for Limerick and throughout the country.

We are exploring all options in relation to the acceleration of social housing delivery in Limerick.

10. **Question submitted by Councillor M. McCreesh**

I will ask at the next meeting have Limerick City and County Council made a submission to the EPA with regard to the licence request (P0029-06) from Irish Cement.

REPLY: The Physical Development Directorate intends to make a submission to the EPA in relation to Irish Cements Licence Review Application (ref P0029-06) before the deadline for the proposed determination, which is of 4th November, 2018.

11. **Question submitted by Councillor P. Keller**

I will ask at the next meeting for the latest figures for usage of the Limerick Tunnel and the cost to the state of subsidising it's functioning.

REPLY: Direct Route (Limerick) Ltd. Operates the Limerick Tunnel under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) agreement with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Limerick City and County Council has no role in the operation or financial matters of the Limerick Tunnel. Councillor Keller should contact TII directly to request the information he is seeking.

Transportation Infrastructure Ireland,
Parkgate Business Centre,
Parkgate Street,
Dublin 8,
D08 DK10,
Ireland
Tel: +353 1 6463600
info@tii.ie

NOTICES OF MOTION

12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Leddin (to be referred to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick Metropolitan Council prepare a submission as part of the NDP2040 to upgrade the existing disused rail lines in the city into new cycle routes under the €2 billion urban regeneration fund.

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

13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Leddin (to be referred to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick Metropolitan Council examine the feasibility of constructing a new pedestrian and cycle bridge across the river Shannon from O'Callaghan Strand to Bishops Quay using the original funds allocated for a footbridge.

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

14. Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh (to be referred to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council introduces designated parking spaces for motorbikes and mopeds in Limerick City centre and that these will be monitored to view the viability of their expansion at a later time.

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

15. Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh (to be referred to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting that efforts be made to include the refurbishment and re-opening of the Black Bridge in any plans for a Greenway/Cycleway along the river Shannon.

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

16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Hogan (to be referred to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council consider upgrading the waste litter offering in the Metropolitan Area to provide an option for recycling in the Litter Bins.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. McCreesh (to be referred to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council provide additional maintenance funding to facilitate the immediate response to outstanding requests from tenants of Council owned houses. Repairs considered essential have been left unresolved for a number of years due to the lack of funding allocation. This is specifically highlighted in the number of houses awaiting window and door replacements.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Prendiville (to be referred to the Protocol Committee)

I will move at the next meeting of Limerick's Metropolitan District that we stand in solidarity with the cities across America that have declared themselves Sanctuary Cities standing up to Donald Trump's agenda and declare Limerick City a Sanctuary City alongside them.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Protocol Committee.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Prendiville(to be referred to the Cultural Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next meeting of Limerick's Metropolitan District that we call on the Council to intervene in the threatened eviction of Ormston House to ensure this gallery retains a home in the heart of the city, preferably by purchasing the building they are currently in.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Cultural Strategic Policy Committee.

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor P. Keller

I will move at the next meeting of Limerick's Metropolitan District that we write to the Minister of Defence expressing our disagreement with the miserably low pay given to members of the Defence Force for their overtime work covering the recent visit of the Pope, and call for them to be paid similar rates to other forces required to assist in similar events in the future.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Keller and seconded by Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh.

In proposing the motion Councillor Keller highlighted the importance of the role played by the Defence Forces both in Ireland and overseas. It was agreed to write to the Minister for Defence in relation to this Notice of Motion and to also request that the rate of pay for all emergency services be looked at.

21. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
MAYOR

Dated: _____