

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 29TH APRIL, 2019 AT 3PM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor J. Collins, Mayor.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Butler, Cahillane, Collins (M), Costelloe, Crowley, Daly, Donegan, Foley, Galvin, Gilligan, Gleeson, Hogan, Hourigan, Hurley, Keary, Keller, Leddin, Loftus, Lynch, McCreech, McMahon, Mitchell, O'Brien, Cmhr. Ó Ceallaigh, O'Dea, O'Donnell, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, Pond, Ryan, Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Sheehy, Teefy, Teskey.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive (Mr. C. Murray), Deputy Chief Executive and Director, Economic Development (Mr. P. Daly), Director, Service Operations (Mr. K. Lehane), Director, National and Regional Shared Services Centres (Ms. C. Curley), Director, Support Services (Mr. S. Coughlan), Director, Housing Development (Ms. A. Duke), Director, Social Development (Mr. G. Daly), A/Director, Capital Investment (Mr. J. Delaney), Meetings Administrator (Mr. J. Clune), Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development (Mr. P. Fitzgerald), A/Senior Executive Officer, Physical Development (Mr. D. McGuigan), Administrative Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. F. McCormack), A/Administrative Officer, Business Improvement (Ms. A. Madden).

At the outset of the Meeting, the Mayor requested a vote of sympathy to be extended to the family of Journalist, Lyra McKee on her tragic passing in Derry. Mayor Collins proposed a minutes silence which was agreed by the Members.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor Collins (M), it was agreed to the suspension of Standing Orders, in order to acknowledge the contribution of the Councillors who were retiring and those not standing for re-election.

Cllr Gleeson thanked the Executive and the outdoor staff for their assistance and co-operation throughout his term as an Elected Member. Cllr Gleeson thanked his party colleagues and the Councillors. He also paid tribute to his colleagues on the Southern Regional Assembly and acknowledged the work completed to date.

Cllr Gilligan recalled his time as a public representative as an enjoyable time in his life and recalled the immense pride he felt when he served as Mayor. He recalled the last 28 years and the tough times that Limerick City had endured such as the collapse of the economy and the increase in criminal activity. He referred to the tough decisions that had to be made to drive Limerick in the right direction. He thanked the staff and his fellow colleagues and wished them well for the future.

Cllr Hourigan referred to the last 20 years and the work that has been completed in that timeframe. He spoke of the importance of promoting the city from a social, political and cultural point of view and referred to the different city that Limerick is today. Cllr Hourigan

recalled his term as Mayor of the City and how it was an honour for him to serve as Mayor. Cllr Hourigan thanked the Executive for their assistance over the years and his colleagues on the Council. Cllr Hourigan also thanked his Fine Gael party colleagues for their support and friendship.

Cllr O'Donnell thanked the Executive for their assistance over the last 10 years and referred to the many changes that had taken place in that time period. He enjoyed his role as an Elected Representative and is grateful for the friends that he has made. He wished the Members the best of luck in the local elections and in particular his own party colleagues. Cllr O'Donnell also wished the Councillors who were not returning the best of luck for the future.

Cllr Sheehy thanked the Members and staff for an enjoyable 5 year term. Cllr Sheehy was grateful for the difference that she made in her local community as a result of her role as an Elected Representative. Cllr Sheehy referred to the need for more women and young people to get involved in politics and was disappointed that the younger members were not running for re-election.

Cllr McMahon thanked the staff of the Council for their assistance over the last 5 years and stated how much she had learned in her role as an Elected Representative. Cllr McMahon wished the Councillors who were standing for re-election the best of luck and those who were not returning wished them all the best for the future.

Cllr Crowley referred to the bittersweet circumstances in which she commenced her role as an Elected Representative following the passing of her father Cllr Joe Crowley. Cllr Crowley spoke of her disappointment that 3 of the youngest elected members were not standing for re-election. Cllr Crowley spoke of the opportunity to continue the work of her late father and also the opportunity to work with his colleagues. Cllr Crowley referred to the immense pride she has in Limerick and how far the City and County has come over the last number of years.

The Mayor thanked the outgoing Members for their commitment and dedication. Mayor Collins wished each Elected Member and their families the best for the future.

The Chief Executive acknowledged the contribution that the Members who are not standing for re-election made and wished the Members and their families the best in the future. The Chief Executive wished all the Members the best of luck in the local elections on May 24th.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor Daly, it was agreed to deal with item 3 (f) on the Agenda.

3(f) Limerick City and County Council Corporate Plan Review

The Chief Executive made a Presentation on Limerick City and County Council Corporate Plan Review highlighting the following;

Outlining the 7 aims identified within the Corporate Plan and the leadership, vision and decision making shown by the Members that has supported key strategic enablers and resulted in the creation of strategic delivery vehicles.

The Chief Executive informed Members that Limerick has become the fastest growing economy in Ireland and the Irish urban success story of the last decade.

The Chief Executive outlined the key strategic enablers highlighting the last 5 progressive revenue and capital budgets totaling €2.55billion, single annual rate on valuation, additional 25% funding for the Rural Development Programme, €170m funding secured through the European Investment Bank and the Council of Europe Development Bank.

The Chief Executive referred to key decisions made by the Council such as overdrafts to enable the delivery of the Gardens International site and deliver on the objectives as set out in Limerick 2030. Those decisions acting as the catalyst to drive Limerick forward. The Chief Executive emphasised the importance of City of Culture 2014 and how this financial commitment from the Council placed focus on the cultural offering in Limerick. The Chief Executive also referred to the success of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Plan Implementation Plan.

Marketing and communications have played a key role in promoting the good news story in Limerick. The creation of organisations within the local authority has accelerated this success such as HAP Shared Service Centre, Limerick 2030, Innovate Limerick and Southern Waste Region.

The Chief Executive gave an overview of the financial profile of the organisation and stated that Limerick City and Council has gone from the 6th largest local authority in spend to the 2nd largest resulting in the provision of over 690 services. CRM plays an important part in identifying the services required and also the representations made by Members.

Housing has been a national focus over the last few years and Limerick City and County Council has delivered 4955 units since 2014. 2019 target of 269 will be delivered through various delivery mechanisms and Limerick City and County Council will continue to work with various agencies to deliver homes. The Chief Executive informed Members that Limerick City and County Council have provided 8496 tenancies to date through schemes such as RAS, HAP and local authority tenancies. Part V is also a mechanism for delivery of units and 317 Part V units have been agreed. The Chief Executive outlined to Members the key objectives and deliverables within the Housing Directorate to date namely reducing the housing waiting list, delivering specialist homes, tackling homelessness, implementing strategic connections, adoption of the Limerick Framework Implementation Plan, delivering community facilities, enabling rapid build, ensuring high quality housing schemes, ensuring €15m loan agreed for preventative maintenance, activating public lands for mixed tenure and proactively tackling dereliction.

The Chief Executive referred to the success of the HAP Shared Services Centre, which is the national financial transactional Shared Services Centre operated by Limerick on behalf of 31 local authorities which has resulted in the creation of 75 jobs.

The Chief Executive provided Members with an overview of the Social Development Directorate and on their work on dereliction and vacant properties. 800 inspection cases were carried out in 2018 and a Vacant Sites Register was established. The Chief Executive

emphasised the importance of delivering on the commitment of civic engagement through Belonging to Limerick, Learning Limerick Strategic Plan and Limerick Going for Gold. The Chief Executive referred to other initiatives, which have been successful in delivering for communities such as We're Breastfeeding Friendly, Age Friendly Limerick and Healthy Limerick 2017.

The Chief Executive referred to the legacy of the City of Culture 2014 and the tourism and cultural offerings in Limerick outlined in the recently launched Tourism Development Strategy.

The Chief Executive referred to €150m in Revenue Expenditure, which attributed to the upgrading of 18% of the road network and upgrade to 50 bridges. 4,000 public lights have also been upgraded to LED.

In relation to Capital Expenditure, the Chief Executive outlined the key capital projects such as LIHAF Mungret, Coonagh to Knocklisheen Road, advancement of the Foynes to Limerick Road Scheme, M/N20 Limerick to Cork, Limerick Smarter Travel and completion of Mungret Park. The Chief Executive also referred to the completion of the Foynes Flood Relief Scheme and the various bye-laws adopted. From an environmental perspective, the Chief Executive confirmed to Members that 2000 farm inspections and 500 river inspections have been completed. He also referred to the Noise Action Plan 2018-2023 and the establishment of the Mague River Trust.

The Chief Executive conveyed the key strategic results in respect of economic development confirming 14000 jobs created and a €2bn investment profile. The Chief Executive confirmed that there is a 30% increase in planning applications and 1.1m square feet of enterprise space under construction. He outlined the 4 key strands that comprise economic development directorate Digital Strategy & EU Projects, Local Enterprise Office, Trade & Investment and Marketing & Communications. The Chief Executive emphasized the establishment of Limerick 2030 and Innovate Limerick and the significant part that these have played in delivering on the objectives of the Limerick 2030 Plan.

The Chief Executive paid tribute to the previous Mayors in establishing new international links and building on the existing relationships.

Following the presentation, the Members raised the following issues;

- Acknowledged the amalgamation of the two authorities and scale of the work undertaken in the last 5 years
- Referred to the establishment of Limerick 2030 and the borrowing of finances from European investment banks to deliver key strategic sites
- Members referred to the number of void properties and the urgent need to return these properties to use
- Members acknowledged the investment for City of Culture 2014 and the importance of improving on the cultural offerings for the future
- Members discussed the upcoming plebiscite on the Directly Elected Mayor

On completion of the presentation, the Mayor thanked the Chief Executive and acknowledged the difficult decisions taken by the Members in order to deliver on the achievements to date.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copies of draft Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (a) Special Meeting of the Council held on 20th March, 2019.
- (b) Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 25th March, 2019.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan (J);

Seconded by Councillor Hogan;

And Resolved:

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

2. Disposal of Land

- (a) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 26th March, 2019, concerning disposal of land at Castlevue Gardens, Clancy Strand, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Galvin;

Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);

And Resolved:

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.0131 acres of land at Castlevue Gardens, Clancy Strand, Limerick to Róisín and Conor Buckley for the sum of €5,000.00, subject to the covenants and conditions contained therein, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 26th March, 2019.”

- (b) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 28th March, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 27 Collins Avenue, Kincora Park, Southill, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Galvin;

Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);

And Resolved:

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 27 Collins Avenue, Kincora Park, Southill, Limerick to Tracy and Mark Aldridge for the sum of €125.42, the disposal to be 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 28th March, 2019.”

- (c) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 11th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 22 Mullally Lawn, Cappamore, Co. Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 22 Mullally Lawn, Cappamore, Co. Limerick to James and Ann Healy for the sum of €9,650, the disposal to be by way of Deed of Transfer of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property and subject to the covenants and conditions contained therein, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 11th April, 2019.”

- (d) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 11th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 2 Galtee View, Galbally, Co. Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 2 Galtee View, Galbally, Co. Limerick to Joseph and Kathleen Cunningham for the sum of €9,280.75, the disposal to be by way of Deed of Transfer of the interest of Limerick City and County Council in the property and subject to the covenants and conditions contained therein, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 11th April, 2019.”

- (e) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 18th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at Askeaton, Co. Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.02190 acres of land at Askeaton, Co. Limerick to The Trustees of Askeaton Ballysteen Tennis Club for the sum of €1 per annum (if demanded), the disposal to be by way of 25 year lease and subject to the covenants and conditions contained therein, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 18th April, 2019.”

- (f) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 17th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 33 Quins Cottages, Prospect, Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 33 Quins Cottages, Prospect, Limerick to Matt Moran for the sum of €229.20, the disposal to be 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 17th April, 2019.”

- (g) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 17th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 48 Keane Street, Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 48 Keane Street, Limerick to Joe Markham for the sum of €129.20, the disposal to be 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 17th April, 2019.”

2A. Disposal of Land

- (a) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 9 Gaol Lane, Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 9, Gaol Lane, Limerick to Geraldine Nicholas and Willie Nicholas, in exchange for 66, St. Munchin’s Street, St. Mary’s Park, Limerick and subject to the covenants and conditions contained therein, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019.”

- (b) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at Cosgrave Park, Moyross, Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.3822 Hectares at Cosgrave Park, Moyross, Limerick to Co-Operative Housing Ireland, for the sum of €1, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the contract, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019.”

- (c) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at Delmege Park, Moyross, Hartigan Villas, Moyross and College Avenue, Moyross, Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.5542 Hectares (in total) at Delmege Park, Moyross, Limerick, Hartigan Villas, Moyross, Limerick and College Avenue, Moyross, Limerick to The Peter Mc Verry Trust, for the sum of €1, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the contract, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019.”

- (d) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019, concerning disposal of land at John Carew Park, Southill, Limerick.

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

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.2158 Hectares at John Carew Park, Southill, Limerick to The Peter Mc Verry Trust, for the sum of €1, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the contract, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 16th April, 2019.”

3. Support Services Directorate

(a) Chief Executive’s Report

Circulated, Chief Executive’s Report for the month of March, 2019.

The Chief Executive’s Report was noted by the Members.

(b) Annual Report

Circulated, Limerick City and County Council Annual Report 2018.

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

“That, the Annual Report 2018 for Limerick City and County Council be and is hereby adopted”.

(c) Unaudited Annual Financial Statement 2018 – Limerick City and County Council

Circulated, Unaudited Annual Financial Statement for year ended 31st December, 2018, for Limerick City and County Council, together with report from the Chief Executive dated 18th April, 2019.

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

“That, in accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014) the Annual Financial Statement for year ended 31st December, 2018, for Limerick City and County Council, be and is hereby adopted”.

Director of Support Services, presented a report to the Mayor and members on AFS 2018 requesting members to consider the Annual Financial Statement of 2018 under Section 108 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014) and authorise additional expenditure for financial year ended 31st December 2018 under Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014), including Capital transfers.

Director of Support Services confirmed to Members a surplus for the year on the Revenue Account and outlined in detailed the expenditure across the various programme groups as follows;

- Schedule of Municipal District works
- €1m on footpath repair works across City and County to target areas where there is links to insurance claims
- Reflects additional resources allocated by members to delivery of local services of €1.18m.

Director of Support Services informed members of the funding provided in the Capital Account to advance projects, which members have considered as part of 3-year capital programme, which may have not commenced or would have to be funded from loan drawdown, which would be a draw on the Revenue account over a number of years. Example includes an Urban and Village Renewal Fund created and commencement of a number of strategic capital projects.

Director of Support Services confirmed that the authority is compliant with General Government Borrowing (GGB) and a focused debt collection across all major income headings has resulted in significant reduction in arrears.

Director of Support Services provided the Members with a detailed breakdown of the actual spend from 2014-2018 and the actual income for 2018. He also provided members with the Analysis of Revenue Expenditure by Division and the income and expenditure details for the HAP Shared Service Centre.

Director of Support Services presented the additional expenditure 2018 in excess of Budget 2018 by Service (including Transfers to Capital) for each division. Director of Support Services provided information to the Members regarding other commitments provided for in AFS 2018 as follows;

- €630k transferred to fund LCCC contribution to Housing Grants eg: HAGS, HOPS
- €200k Transfer provided to provide funding for ICT strategy
- Provision for Machinery / Fleet €600k
- RAS ringfenced surplus €646k
- Funding of Lite Project €300k
- Transfer of balance of Culture fund €253k
- Fund library capital works €175k and Corporate Buildings Refurbishment Works €1.2m
- Balance of transfers to fund small capital debit balances

Director of Support Services outlined the key income / expenditure variances versus Budget excluding transfers and referred to the positive performance in collection of commercial rate arrears, which resulted in the reduction of bad debt provision. Director of Support Services stated that NPPR remained a significant income source in 2018.

Director of Support Services provided the members with analysis of capital expenditure and income for 2018. Director of Support Services presented the balance sheet identifying a fixed asset value of €3.3 billion. Director of Support Services also confirmed that the loans payable outstanding was €92.3m, which was an increase of €1.5m on 2017.

The increase in the % yields reflects a positive trend and in relation to commercial rates has been helped by the focused incentive schemes adopted by the Council and promotion of Direct Debit.

Director of Support Services referred to the Small and Medium Business Support Scheme and payment of 9% of 2018 rates subject to a maximum payment of €1,000 which has proved to be a year on year success with a projected collection rate of 86% in 2019.

(d) Additional Expenditure 2018

Circulated, report of the Director of Support Services dated 18th April, 2019, setting out details of additional expenditure incurred in excess of that provided for in the Annual Budget for the year ended 31st December, 2018, including capital transfers.

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

“That, authorisation is given, in accordance with Section 104 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, to the additional expenditure incurred in excess of that provided for in the Annual Budget for the year ended 31st December, 2018 including capital transfers, as set out in the report of the Director of Support Service, dated 18th April, 2019.

It was proposed by Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor O’Dea and agreed to suspend Standing Orders in order to complete the agenda.

(e) Alternative Title to Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

The Mayor referred to the proposal on the Agenda to change the name from Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick in accordance with Section 32 of the Local Government 2001, as amended.

A discussion took place regarding the importance of the title of Mayor for the city and the 800 years of history associated with this title. Members also spoke of the confusion caused by having two Mayors and the consequent need to explain that the Mayor of the City & County of Limerick is our community’s First Citizen.

The Chief Executive referred to the confusion that existed since the merger and the desire to change the title in the Municipal District to Cathaoirleach. He acknowledged Members comments in relation to the historical title of Mayor of the City but stated that this was now incorporated into the title of the Mayor of the City & County.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh and seconded by Councillor Gilligan that the proposal be amended to keep the status quo and retain the title of Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick. A vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For the Proposal to Change the Name from Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick:

Councillors Cahillane, Collins (J), Galvin, Gleeson, Hurley, Keary, Lynch, McMahon, Mitchell, O’Dea, O’Donnell, Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheehy.

(16)

Against the Proposal to Change the Name from Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick:

Councillors Costelloe, Gilligan, Hogan, Loftus, McCreesh, Ó Ceallaigh.

(6)

Abstention

Councillor Keller

(1)

The Meetings Administrator declared the proposal to change the name from Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick in accordance with Section 32 of the Local Government 2001, as amended, as carried.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor O’Dea, it was agreed to suspend the Standing Orders in order to deal with the business on the Agenda.

(g) Strategic Policy Committee Reports

- (i) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee dated 18th April, 2019, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 8th April, 2019.

Councillor Crowley, Chairperson of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee, presented an overview of matters discussed at the Meeting.

The Report was noted by the Members.

- (ii) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee dated 24th April, 2019, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 23rd April, 2019.

Councillor O’Donnell, Chairperson of the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee, presented an overview of matters discussed at the Meeting

The Report was noted by the Members.

- (iii) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee dated 15th April, 2019, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 8th April, 2019.

Councillor Daly, Chairperson of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee, presented an overview of matters discussed at the Meeting and outlined the following Recommendation which was agreed at the SPC Meeting:

Recommendation

**“That the Council considers the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Hogan as follows:
“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council reinstate the Park and Stride arrangements, which had previously operated at Christmas, for a 3 month period at Cleeve’s Car Park and possibly at the Bus Éireann yard on Roxboro Road to provide parking support for hard pressed retailers in Limerick City”.**

On the proposal of Councillor Hogan, seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J), the recommendation was agreed.

- (iv) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee dated 23rd April, 2019, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 23rd April, 2019.

Councillor Scanlan, Chairperson of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee, presented an overview of matters discussed at the Meeting and outlined the following Recommendations which were agreed at the SPC Meeting:

Recommendation 1

“That the Draft Litter Management Plan 2019-2022 be published, and that a public consultation be undertaken in relation to the Draft Plan”.

On the proposal of Councillor Secas, seconded by Councillor Galvin, Recommendation No. 1 was agreed.

Recommendation 2

“That the Draft Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 be published, and that a public consultation be undertaken in relation to the Draft Strategy”.

On the proposal of Councillor Gilligan, seconded by Councillor Galvin, Recommendation No. 2 was agreed.

Recommendation 3

“That the Council write to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment requesting that he consider the introduction of an environmental levy on chewing gum to enable local authorities to fund the removal of chewing gum litter from public footpaths”.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor O’Donnell, Recommendation No. 3 was agreed.

Recommendation 4

“That the Council factor the financial cost of carbon emissions exceeding the carbon emission reduction target for the Local Authority sector, into all our major developments”.

On the proposal of Councillor Gilligan, seconded by Councillor O’Donnell, Recommendation No. 4 was agreed.

Recommendation 5

“That the Council consider installing a number of drinking fountains in appropriate locations to cut the number of plastic bottles being used”.

On the proposal of Councillor O’Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Galvin, Recommendation No. 5 was agreed.

- (v) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Community Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee dated 23rd April, 2019, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 15th April, 2019.

Councillor Hurley, Chairperson of the Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee, presented an overview of matters discussed at the Meeting.

The Report was noted by the Members.

- (vi) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Cultural Strategic Policy Committee dated 16th April, 2019, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 9th April, 2019.

Councillor O’Hanlon, Chairperson of the Cultural Strategic Policy Committee, presented an overview of matters discussed at the Meeting and outlined the following Recommendations which were agreed at the SPC Meeting:

Recommendation No. 1

“That the recommendations for the Theatre Bursary Scheme go forward to Full Council for approval, a total of €15,000”.

On the proposal of Councillor O’Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Galvin, Recommendation No. 1 was agreed.

Recommendation No. 2

“That the recommendations for the Grants under the Arts Act go forward to Full Council for approval, a total of €20,000”.

On the proposal of Councillor O’Hanlon, seconded by Councillor O’Donnell, Recommendation No. 2 was agreed.

4. Economic Development Directorate

Development Fund Allocations 2019

Circulated, Report of the Director, Economic Development, dated 17th April, 2019 setting out details of the proposed allocations from the Development Fund 2019.

The proposed allocations were noted by the Members.

5. Conferences

(i) Participation by Members at Conferences

Details of the following Conferences had been circulated electronically to the Members:

- (a) "Health and Safety for your Council, The Workplace and your Constituents" held in Leighlinbridge, Carlow on 3rd, 4th and 5th May, 2019.
- (b) "The Irish Economy, An Economic outlook in uncertain times" held in Dundalk, Co. Louth on 23rd May, 2019.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor O'Donnell, the Council approved the attendance of the following Members:

Conference "Eurocities Creative Competitive Cities 2018" Edinburgh, Scotland - 28th, 29th and 30th November, 2018 - Kieran O'Hanlon

Conference "Nuclear Free Local Authorities All Ireland Forum Spring Energy and Nuclear Policy Seminar" High Street, Kilkenny - 22nd March, 2019 - Jerome Scanlan

(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.

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:

6. Question submitted by Councillor S. Lynch

I will ask at the next meeting for an update on when Limerick City and County Council will take in charge Steamboat Quay.

REPLY: In 2014 requests were received from businesses and residents of Steamboat Quay for Limerick City Council to take the area in charge. Since the economic downturn of circa 2009 onwards, there had been little investment in the public space of Steamboat Quay.

Limerick City and County Council is currently engaged with property owners in Steamboat Quay to resolve issues around roads and public open spaces, and to take the whole area in charge. There are a number of different owners of

car parking, footpaths and open space along Steamboat Quay and engagement with the various parties is ongoing.

If the Council were to take Steamboat Quay in charge, there would be a significant cost to the local authority to bring it up to an acceptable standard. Extensive works are required on the following elements: road pavement, footpaths, boardwalk, storm and foul drainage, public lighting, signage and road marking and parking.

It is difficult to put a timeline on when these matters will be resolved, but the Council will continue to progress the matter in 2019.

7. Question submitted by Councillor S. Lynch

I will ask at the next meeting for an update on Maddens Derelict Building on Ellen Street, Limerick City. It is a major concern to business people, residents and pedestrians.

REPLY: The site was placed on the Derelict Sites Register in February 2018. A planning application was submitted in 2018 and permission granted for a language school, retail shops, apartments and a car park. An amendment to the planning permission for a guest house instead of the retail shops has been applied for (planning ref: 18/1077).

The site is also on the Vacant Sites Register and a vacant sites levy is due on the property on 1st January 2020. In addition works to secure the property have been carried out on foot of notices submitted under the Sanitary Services Act (1964) – Dangerous Structures Notice.

All unresolved derelict site cases are under regular review.

NOTICES OF MOTION

8. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Cahillane

I will move at the next Limerick City and County Council Meeting that we write to the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, asking :

- 1. How much are the HSE spending on private ambulances in UHL.**
- 2. That the 17 beds closed on March 29th be re-opened with immediate effect.**

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cahillane and seconded by Councillor McCreesh.

9. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next full Council Meeting that this Council call on the Department of Health to reinstate the services at the Health Centre, Abbeyfeale (dispensary) and purchase the portion of ground to the rear to provide parking.

In proposing the motion Councillor Galvin referred to dental services that are no longer being provided to the primary school children in Abbeyfeale and the importance of this service being reinstated in Abbeyfeale. Cllr Galvin requested this notice of motion be forwarded to the Limerick TD's for their attention also. This motion was seconded by Councillor Gilligan.

10. Notice of Motion submitted by the Members of Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District, (Councillors M. Donegan, N. Gleeson, G. Mitchell, W. O'Donnell, E. Ryan, L.M. Sheehy, B. Teefy)

I will move that this Council write to the Minister for Transport requesting the present legislation recently enacted in relation to the Road Traffic Act in relation to vehicle drivers be revisited.

In proposing the motion Councillor Mitchell referred to the new legislation enacted and the impact that this is having on rural drivers. In seconding the motion Councillor O'Donnell stated while he doesn't condone drink driving he stated that the new laws are creating fear in rural Limerick and people don't fully understand the limitations.

Cmhlr. O'Ceallaigh opposed this notice of motion and referred to the need for drivers to promote road safety.

Following further discussion, a vote was taken which resulted as follows:

In Favour of the Motion:

Councillors Collins (J), Galvin, Mitchell, O'Donnell

(4)

Against the Motion:

Councillors Cahillane, Costelloe, Gilligan, Keller, Loftus, McCreesh, Ó Ceallaigh.

(7)

Abstention:

Councillor Sheahan (J).

(1)

The Meetings Administrator declared the Motion defeated.

11. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will move at the next meeting that this Council write to the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, Minister Pascal Donohue, Minister Simon Harris and Minister Finian Mc Grath requesting that they instruct their relevant Departments to introduce a universal scheme to provide for the care and needs of people with disabilities, focusing solely on the person with the disability and not on household income as is the case at present.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Sheahan (J) referred to the parents of children with a physical disability and the urgent need for respite to be provided regardless of their financial means. The restrictions on the financial income of a family results in some cases, one parent having to give up their job in order to care for their child. In seconding the motion, Councillor Galvin referred to a specific case that he became aware of recently and stated the urgent need for families with a disabled child to be prioritised by the introduction of a universal scheme.

12. Correspondence

The Correspondence circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

With the permission of the Mayor, Cllr Costelloe wished to acknowledge the contribution that Cllr Gilligan had made over the last 28 years and wished for his appreciation to be noted. Cllr Costello provided Members with a brief recap on the achievements of Cllr Gilligan. Cllr Costello wished Cllr Gilligan well in the future and thanked him for his years of public service.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDERS:

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

Signed:

Mayor

Date:
