

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ONLINE MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK HELD ON MONDAY, 19TH APRIL, 2021 at 09:45 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor Sarah Kiely, Cathaoirleach

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors Benson, Butler, Collins, Costelloe, Daly, Hartigan, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, Murphy, Novak Uí Chonchúir, O’Dea, O’Donovan, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Secas, Sheahan (M), Sheehan (C), Slattery and Talukder.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Service Operations (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy), A/Director, Economic Development (Mr. V. Murray), Head of Property and Community Facilities (Ms. J. Leahy), A/Senior Planner, Economic Development (Ms. M. Woods), Senior Executive Planner, Strategic and Forward Planning (Ms. K. Burke), Executive Planner, Economic Development (Ms. L. Bolger), Senior Executive Engineer, Limerick Metropolitan District (Mr. A. Finn), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. S. Carroll).

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Online Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 19th March, 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;
Seconded by Councillor Butler;
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 Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 31st March, 2021 setting out proposals to dispose of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 52 Sycamore Avenue, Rathbane, 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 Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 9th April, 2021 setting out proposals to dispose of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 30 St. Laurence 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.

(c) Circulated, report of the Head of Property and Community Facilities dated 29th March, 2021 setting out proposals to dispose of 0.46 acres at Rhebogue, 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 and Community Facilities dated 1st April, 2021 setting out proposals for disposal at Mungret College, 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.

(e) Circulated, report of the Head of Property and Community Facilities dated 12th March, 2021 setting out proposals to dispose of 9 Lower Gerald Griffin Street, 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. Community Initiative Scheme 2021

It was proposed by Councillor Sheehan (C), seconded by Councillor Murphy and agreed to approve the allocations under the Community Initiative Scheme 2021.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed there was a slight amendment to the circulated report and that the correct description for one nominated group was Scoil Mhuire Banrion na hEireann Parents Association, Caherdavin.

LIMERICK CITY EAST

| Name of Group | Amount |
|---|---------------|
| Ahane 45 th Scout Group | €700 |
| Carew Park FC Soccer Club | €700 |
| Castleconnell Scout Group | €700 |
| Downs Syndrome Limerick | €700 |
| Granville Rangers FC Soccer Club | €700 |
| Hyde Rangers FC Soccer Club | €700 |
| Kilbane Residents Association | €825 |
| Lisnagry FC Soccer Club | €700 |
| Monaleen Cancer Support Group | €700 |
| Monaleen Park Residents Association | €275 |
| Pike Rovers FC Soccer Club | €700 |
| Scanlon Park Residents Association, Castleconnell | €1,400 |
| St Patrick's Men's Shed | €700 |
| Woodhaven Residents Association | €300 |

LIMERICK CITY NORTH

| | |
|--|--------|
| Caherdavin & District Actively Retired | €1,400 |
| Corpus Christi Boxing Club, Moyross | €1,400 |
| LPYMA Badminton Club | €700 |
| Mayorstone/Coolraine Residents Association | €700 |
| Patrickswell Power Lifting Club, Little Gerald Griffin St | €700 |
| Rhebogue Residents Association | €400 |
| Salesians Primary School | €700 |
| Scoil Mhuire Banrion na hEireann Parents Association, Caherdavin | €700 |
| St Mary's National School, Bishop St | €700 |
| St Mary's Secondary School, Corbally | €700 |
| St Patrick's GAA Club, Rhebogue | €1,700 |

LIMERICK CITY WEST

| | |
|---|---------|
| Ballinacurra Gaels GAA | € 700 |
| Ballybrown Clarina Tidy Towns | € 700 |
| Ballybrown NS Parents Association | € 700 |
| Boherbuoy Brass & Reed Band | € 700 |
| Breska Rovers FC Soccer Club | € 700 |
| Children's Grief Centre | € 1,400 |
| Cois Carraig Residents Association, Clarina | € 700 |
| Limerick Tidy Towns Committee | € 700 |
| Lumen Street Theatre | € 700 |
| Munster Indian Cultural Association | € 700 |
| St Patrick's FC Soccer Club | € 700 |
| Sudanese Community Centre | € 700 |
| Summerville Rovers FC Soccer Club | € 700 |

4. Economic Development**Draft Southern Environs Local Area Plan 2021 – 2027**

Circulated, Chief Executive's Report dated 19th March, 2021 on the Draft Southern Environs Local Area Plan 2021 – 2027, for consideration by Members.

Proposed by Councillor Leddin;
 Seconded by Councillor Butler;
 And Resolved;

"That the Draft Southern Environs Local Area Plan 2021 – 2027 be made, in accordance with the Chief Executive's Recommendations dated 19th March, 2021, under Section 20(3)(n) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)".

QUESTIONS

5. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney

I will ask the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the audit of Community and Arts facilities in Limerick City and County and the expected publication date.

REPLY: The final reports on the audit of Community Facilities and Arts and Cultural Facilities are currently being finalised. The actual audit of facilities in the city and the county is completed following an extensive data gathering exercise and a survey of organisations undertaken in co-operation with the three Limerick Local Development Companies. Draft reports have been prepared for Limerick Urban Area, West Limerick and East Limerick. A presentation on the high-level findings is being presented to the members of the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee on 19th April, 2021. Following this, a presentation will be provided to each of the Municipal Districts in May / June 2021.

When this process is complete, it is envisaged the final reports will be published.

6. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many road sweepers Limerick City and County Council has, where they are normally kept and will Limerick City and County Council allocate a permanent sweeper to the Limerick City East area.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council operates a combination of owned and hired, large and compact road sweepers based at multiple locations. In total, four large and four compact sweepers operate all year round with an additional two large road sweepers used seasonally.

From the Street Cleaning Depot on Park Road, three large and three compact sweepers operate in the Metropolitan area.

From the Roads Depot in Park Road, one large sweeper operates seasonally cleaning gully's.

From the Machinery Depot in Newcastle West, one large road sweeper operates on a full time rota in the NCW and CA / KM Municipal Districts. A second sweeper is hired in Autumn to facilitate the removal of leaves.

From the Rathkeale Roads Depot, a compact sweeper operates in the RK / AD Municipal District on a full time basis.

The street cleaning service in the Metropolitan area is currently under review with a view to providing a consistent frequency of service across the District on the main routes and secondary routes. The review will also take into consideration the possibility of providing a service to housing estates in the District.

7. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the Noise Action Plan 2018-2023 and if TII have given Limerick City and County Council a response regarding the implementation of noise mitigation measures for the M7, following the Council's meeting with TII in October last year.

REPLY: A cost benefit assessment was undertaken for the Monaleen hotspot (M7) comparing the monetised cost in terms of benefit to health by the implementation of mitigation measures against the cost of implementing them.

A report for that hotspot was submitted to TII and the Council met with their representatives in October last year. Comments on the report were received at the end of December 2020, which are currently being examined.

TII also committed to establishing the cost of implementing the mitigation measures, using an external consultant. The Council has been informed that their cost review is due shortly, in the coming weeks.

The Council is awaiting TII's costings in order to finalise the report.

8. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick when the Burial Ground Strategy will be presented to the Elected Members for approval and if the Metropolitan District of Limerick City and County Council have made any progress in identifying a suitable site for a new burial ground in Castletroy.

REPLY: The Draft Burial Ground Strategy is on the agenda for consideration at the April Meeting of the Community, Culture and Leisure SPC. If the draft strategy is recommended by the SPC, it is anticipated that it will be on the agenda for the Full Meeting of Limerick City and County Council in May. The Strategy will address the needs for a new burial ground in the Castletroy area.

9. Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what is the unit cost for reconnection of utilities due to long term vacancy and what was the total cost to Limerick City and County Council for 2020.

REPLY: ESB Networks and Gas Networks Ireland are the providers of connections/reconnections of housing related utilities.

The costs of such works are set by both companies with information on the fees related available on their websites.

The costs are on a case by case depending on a number of factors (in the case of ESB Networks the length of time of vacancy and certification costs, whereas natural gas connection costs vary due to the availability of supply, length of connection, trenching etc.).

In 2020, costs for disconnections/reconnections for electricity and gas to vacant units across all four electoral areas amounted €13,976.64 in relation to 26 units (on average €537.63 per unit)

10. Question submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick:

(1) How many developers have current full planning permission in Patrickswell area for housing.

(2) How many houses are presently granted full planning permission in Patrickswell.

REPLY: The table below sets out the details of the number of developers who have been granted full planning permission in the Patrickswell area in the last five years (2015-2021 incl.), including the number of residential units in each permission:

| Planning Reference | Developer Name | Location | Number of Residential Units |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 17/100 | Singland Homes Ltd | Barnakyle, Patrickswell | 6 |
| 17/1083 | Diceros Ventures Ltd | Barnakyle, Patrickswell | 49 |
| 17/8013 | Limerick City and County Council (Part 8) | Lisheen Park, Patrickswell | 16 |
| 18/10 | Garranroe Farm Ltd | Barnakyle, Patrickswell | 28 Serviced Sites |
| 18/200 | Datcha Construction Ltd | Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell | 48 |
| 18/346 | Diceros Ventures Ltd | Barnakyle, Patrickswell | 49 |
| 18/1193 | Datcha Construction Ltd | Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell | 48 |
| 18/8012 | Limerick City and County Council (Part 8) | Barnakyle, Patrickswell | 24 |
| 19/444 | Datcha Construction Ltd | Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell | 16 |
| 19/689 | Paul Mulcair | Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell | 8 |
| 20/125 | Eimear O'Connor and Noel Daly | Main Street, Patrickswell | 5 |
| 20/281 | Fitzgerald Prop Capital Ltd | Barnakyle, Patrickswell | 36 Serviced Sites |

11. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise what are the plans for the railway line running behind Rathbane and Janesboro. This unused railway line is causing anti-social behaviour and rubbish dumping

which is leading to rat infestation. Can the Council liaise with Irish Rail to get this problem sorted out.

REPLY: The railway line running behind areas of Rathbane and Janesboro is in the ownership of Iarnrod Eireann, rather than Limerick City and County Council, so Iarnrod Eireann as the legal owners are responsible for the management of it. Limerick City and County Council will arrange to write to Iarnrod Eireann to highlight the issues raised by the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District.

12. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise what plans they have in regard to the land bank between the wet green in Monaleen Park and the Motorway. Can the existing fence be extended the full length of the border and a gate fitted to be opened during the day so people can go walking. Also it would be a great idea to plant trees along the border.

REPLY: The land in question is located at the rear of Monaleen Park and is adjacent to the Limerick Southern Ring Road. These lands were acquired under the Adare to Annacotty Compulsory Purchase Order, with monies provided by the then, National Roads Authority, now Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). While these lands are registered in Limerick City and County Council's folio, plans for its future use are at the discretion of TII. The Council is not aware of any plans TII currently have for these lands.

13. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise if they have received an update from the TII on the mitigation remedies recommended by the Council in regards to noise from the M7.

REPLY: A cost benefit assessment was undertaken for the Monaleen hotspot (M7) comparing the monetised cost in terms of benefit to health by the implementation of mitigation measures against the cost of implementing them.

A report for that hotspot was submitted to TII and the Council met with their representatives in October last year. Comments on the report were received at the end of December 2020, which are currently being examined.

TII also committed to establishing the cost of implementing the mitigation measures, using an external consultant. The Council has been informed that their cost review is due shortly, in the coming weeks.

The Council is awaiting TII's costings in order to finalise the report.

14. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if temporary public toilets could be installed over the Summer months to support people accessing the city.

REPLY: There are no plans to provide temporary public toilets in the city centre during the Summer months, as there is no budget provided to facilitate this proposal. There would also be possible issues in relation to the ongoing supervision, maintenance and cleaning of temporary toilets, especially having regard to current Covid concerns.

15. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the "Guiding Limerick through Covid-19" plans and if the mobility plans will be reinstated for Summer 2021.

REPLY: The Council gained valuable experience from the implementation of the various plans in the Metropolitan area in the Summer of 2020. It should be noted that these plans provided for a mix of responses to circumstances pertaining due to the Covid 19 pandemic at that time. Some of these initiatives provided for the temporary/part-time closure of certain streets. Business interests represented to the Council of the adverse consequences of some of these closures.

Under proposals now being rolled out by the Government, the principal emphasis in 2021 will be providing support and stimulus to business to assist in economic recovery and the re-opening of businesses that have been closed for many months. This is possible due to the mass vaccination programme now underway that will ramp-up significantly in the coming months.

The Council recognises the very significant challenges that businesses face and endorses the Government's approach.

In this matter, the Council will be guided by a number of initiatives that are being led and funded by Government Departments and agencies and will seek to maximise funding to the benefit of businesses. This will be the first priority for the Council.

Any proposals for street closures submitted to the Council will be assessed in the context of the urgent need to allow the economy re-open and support businesses to re-open successfully and quickly.

16. Question submitted by Councillor J. Collins

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, regarding the Faillte outdoor dining capital expenditure funding:

How will locations be decided for outdoor dining investment.

What criteria will be used to assess proposed locations.

Will there be a formal application process to propose locations.

REPLY: The aim of the Weatherproofing and Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Scheme to support Local Authorities, to upgrade and enhance streets and public spaces and implement weatherproofing solutions, which will facilitate year-round outdoor dining in key tourism centres whilst meeting the needs of all citizens. It will be focusing on the city and town centres that have the biggest tourism impact and subsequently the street or area within these city and town centres that will facilitate the optimum number of year-round

outdoor dining spaces.

Limerick City and County Council will make an application to Fáilte Ireland to avail of funding for Weatherproofing and Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Scheme. The closing date for applications is 31st May, 2021. The area considered is Bedford Row and Lower Thomas Street. This area is best suited to the guidelines laid down by Fáilte Ireland, which are as follows:

- Be in a permanently pedestrianised or partially pedestrianised street;
- Contain a variety of businesses e.g. restaurants, pubs and cafes offering outdoor dining with a broad appeal to local and tourists;
- Offer dining opportunities for both lunchtime and evenings;
- Be in close proximity to visitor attractions, museums, galleries, hotels;
- Minimum of four separate individual hospitality businesses should be covered by the proposed solution.

17. Question submitted by Councillor J. Collins

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the proposed new cycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects on St. Nessian's Road and Dooradoyle Road. Have plans and a programme schedule been completed. Can they be circulated to Members.

REPLY: The proposed new active travel projects on St. Nessian's Road and Dooradoyle Road will be delivered in a number of phases over the coming months as follows.

- **Phase 1:** Dooradoyle Road: Construction of kerb to segregate existing on road cycle lanes by end of Q2:
 - Dooradoyle Road between Ballykeeffe Roundabout and Library entrance on the opposite side from the shopping centre;
 - Dooradoyle Road between Library entrance and playground entrance to both sides.
- **Phase 2:** Ballykeeffe Roundabout/Fr Russell Rd: Part 8 to be submitted by Q3 – a number of Landowners are affected. The Part 8 will include:
 - Ballykeeffe Roundabout to Library entrance along shopping centre boundary;
 - St. Paul's Roundabout to Ballykeeffe Roundabout;
 - Final section of Fr. Russell Rd where land take is required;
- **Phase 3a:** Dooradoyle Road Playground entrance to Huntsfield Roundabout: Part 8 to be submitted by end of Q2.
- **Phase 3b:** Huntsfield Roundabout to Dooradoyle Medical Centre: Section 38 by end of Q2.

The drawings are currently being finalised and will be circulated to all members once available.

18. Question submitted by Councillor J. Collins

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a progress update on proposed locations for dog parks.

REPLY: A pilot dog park will be developed in Mungret Park this year to trial this type of initiative and to identify any potential issues. A review of the pilot will be carried out after 6 months to assess its success.

19. Question submitted by Councillor J. Costelloe

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many planning enforcement notices have the Council issued since March 2020 up until March 2021 on the Northside of the city.

REPLY: 8 Enforcement Notices were issued in Limerick City North in the period March 2020 up until March 2021.

20. Question submitted by Councillor J. Costelloe

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what are the results of the extensive structural examination of the concrete structures on the Weir Bridge, which is situated in O'Dwyers Villas.

REPLY: BHP have completed vertical and horizontal testing of the concrete piers and core results have been provided to Garland Consulting Engineers. Initial assessment would suggest that the piers have capacity for select vehicular movements. However, a final conclusion cannot be made until such time as the foundation of the individual piers are assessed by Dive and Marine Contractors. Such an assessment has not been undertaken to date due to the high flow rates and water levels in the Shannon. It is envisaged that such an inspection will be undertaken in June/July of this year when river conditions are more favourable for these specialist works.

On receipt of such findings, Garland Consulting Engineers will then finalise their structural assessment.

21. Question submitted by Councillor J. Costelloe

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what are the results following an engineer's examination of the existing wall in Browns Quay, which runs parallel with the River Shannon, and the likelihood of more flooding occurring thus leaving residents vulnerable.

REPLY: The Consulting Engineers who are due to be appointed on Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme will be completing Asset Condition Surveys of any existing formal or informal defences in the City, as an early Programme Item. The existing walls in Brown's Quay will be assessed as part of this Survey.

22. Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what the assessment criteria for the disposal of lands in relation to the Whitebox/Cluid Coonagh site proposal that includes the private University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) hospital and if the proposal was considered in the context of proximity to regeneration areas.

REPLY: The assessment criteria for the disposal of lands is publicly available under e-tenders notice: **RFT 179556 - LCCC Housing Lands - Request for Expressions of Interest.**

It included the following criteria:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Project Proposal | 600 marks |
| 2. Scheme Feasibility Design | 450 marks |
| 3. Delivery and Capacity | 450 marks |
| 4. Delivery Methodology | 450 marks |
| 5. Financial and Regulatory Standing | 150 marks |

Furthermore, the expression of interest required applicants to have regard to the following objective for the site at the western boundary of Moyross as outlined in the briefing document, which formed part of the expression of interest:

“Requirement to assess this site with the current masterplan for Moyross as part of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan”

In accordance with the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan, the objectives under the Physical and Economic Framework Plans are to improve the tenure mix of Moyross (affordable and private housing) and to improve strategic employment opportunities and inward investment into the area. In January 2014, funding was granted by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government to purchase the Moyross site on the condition of using the lands for some commercial activities to generate employment and improving the tenure mix through the provision of private housing including private affordable housing.

The proposal was considered in the context of the objectives for Moyross under the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

NOTICES OF MOTION

23. **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery (to be referred to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee)**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that basketball facilities be established at parks and outdoor recreational facilities in Limerick City and County.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee.

24. **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor D. Butler**

I call on the Metropolitan District of Limerick City and County Council to work with Government to clearly define what wildlife conservation protections exist in trees and hedging boundaries between individual properties and between different housing estates, and also that Councillors be briefed on what, if any, existing powers currently apply locally.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Butler, seconded by Councillor O’Sullivan and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Butler highlighted the importance of preserving boundaries for the protection of hedgerows and natural habitats for wildlife.

REPLY: The question of hedge and tree protection involves the Forest Service, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, as well as Limerick City and County Council.

The emphasis for the NPWS centres mainly on the non- destruction of growing vegetation during the bird nesting season which is from the start of March to end of August. They may also get involved when trees play host to species such as bats, if there is a roost present as it is an offence to disturb a bat roost.

The Forest Service governs felling licences for trees. This is slightly different in urban areas where, in some situations trees in urban areas can be felled without the need to apply for a felling licence. (See attached explanatory leaflet from the Dept. of Agriculture, Food & the Marine)

The other means of tree and hedgerow conservation is through planning conditions applied by Limerick City and County Council, which would often seek the retention or management of trees and hedgerows as part of planning conditions associated with the grant of a permission.

It is also possible to apply for tree preservation orders as part of S.205 of the Planning Act and these are included in the Development Plan when complete. This is an involved process and means notifying the landowner serving a notice on him.

Limerick City and County Council has worked with the NPWS and the Forest Service in the past in relation to tree issues. Each organisation approaches the issue from its own perspective and legislative background. The Council is generally governed by the Planning Acts, the NPWS by the Wildlife Acts and the Forest Service by the revised Forestry Act 2014.

An explanatory document “New Tree Felling Requirements” from the Dept. of Agriculture, Food & the Marine) was also circulated as part of the reply.

25. **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Secas (to be referred to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee)**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Metropolitan District of Limerick City and County Council engage with OPW and other relevant agencies to remove the Annacotty Weir on the River Mulkear so that lampreys can travel the river freely.

As this Notice of Motion was already discussed at the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee, it was agreed to refer to Full Council.

26. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Secas (to be referred to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Metropolitan District of Limerick City and County Council introduce a digital advertising bins pilot program at parks that will remind people to feed the bin not the grass and will display public information messages and ads. Such a program will help the Council to get some revenue in return for the advertising opportunities.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

27. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council should examine the Community Wealth Building model with a view to incorporating it into their Local Economic Community Plans (LECP).

Community Wealth Building has emerged as a powerful approach to local economic development and has been particularly successful in Preston, England, North Ayrshire, Scotland and Cleveland, United States.

The model will allow counties to leverage existing resources, such as procurement, to meet local needs while creating quality employment and promoting equity and sustainability.

- The Council initiate dialogue with local public bodies and semi-state companies in the locality regarding their potential role in the strategy.

- Local businesses, enterprises and community activists need to be brought into the discussion around developing the project.

- The Council could also engage with Councils in Preston, North Ayrshire and elsewhere which have successfully developed this model.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Benson, seconded by Councillor Costelloe and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Benson highlighted the benefits of the Community Wealth building model in creating employment, the development of the economy and on the environment.

REPLY: The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) is presently considering the process for the development of new Local Economic Community Plans, as current plans have come to the end of their duration and need to be reviewed. The Community Wealth Building Model can be considered, and existing models such as the ones referred to will be examined as part of the preparation process of a new Local Economic Community Plan for Limerick.

The Council is awaiting Department Guidance on preparation process and timeframe for review of the existing Plan and the preparation of a new Plan.

28. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne (to be referred to the Local

Electoral Area Briefings)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a name change from Vartry Field to Vartry Park, Raheen in light of recreational works and public lighting carried out on behalf of local residents.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Local Electoral Area Briefings.

29. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne (to be referred to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, that in order to encourage development to start and once full planning permission is granted, that Limerick City and County Council give a reduction \ refund in their development levies of 10% to the developer, provided the development commences within the first two and half years.

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

30. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan (to be referred to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that road markings are reviewed when designing and upgrading roads to ensure they are in line with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets to facilitate the reallocation of space from private vehicles to pedestrians and cyclists.

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

31. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors J. Collins and E. O'Donovan

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, considering the increased funding for walking infrastructure, that footpaths from Ballinacurra Gardens and Roundwood be extended to the Rosbrien roundabout to facilitate people to safely walk this popular route.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

Members supported the motion and highlighted the benefits of providing this infrastructure with an increase in the amount of people walking and cycling this route. The Members noted that this was a long standing issue and noted that these improvements would also facilitate improved access to secondary schools, sports facilities, Council Offices, etc. in the area.

REPLY: This footpath was not included in the funding allocations from the NTA Active Travel Programmes of 2020 and 2021. Limerick City and County Council will undertake a feasibility study and estimate of cost for this project for consideration in future funding applications.

32. **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council carry out a site identification study for the provision of a Community Walkway and Playground in Patrickswell Village to ensure Limerick City and County Council are prepared to make a funding application for such works in the future.

The Motion was proposed by Councillor McSweeney, seconded by Councillor Butler and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor McSweeney highlighted the importance of providing suitable supports and infrastructure as a number of housing developments were proposed in the area. The Members agreed the importance, where possible, of providing proper supports and infrastructure in areas, before new housing developments were constructed.

REPLY: The Council supported Patrickswell Community Council to develop a Community Plan for the period 2020 – 2024 which is completed. The Plan has identified, following consultation with the local community, the need for a Playground and a Community Walkway. The Council will work with the Community Council to discuss suitable locations for both proposals, as local community input is critical. It is also essential that a site identification study consider the wider strategic plans for Patrickswell.

33. **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council permits outdoor dining at all commercial premises for Summer 2021. This would entail the use of outdoor awnings, canopies, seating and tables on pathways along all commercial hospitality frontage to assist commercial premises who had to close due to Covid-19 restrictions as they reopen for Summer 2021.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sheehan (C) and seconded by Councillor Secas.

Councillor O’Sullivan proposed an amendment to the Motion:

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council permits outdoor dining at all commercial premises for Summer 2021. This would entail the use of outdoor awnings, canopies, seating and tables on pathways along the frontage of all commercial businesses to assist commercial premises who had to close due to Covid-19 restrictions as they reopen for Summer 2021.

This was agreed by Councillor Sheehan (C).

Members supported the Motion and highlighted the importance of a co-ordinated approach from the local authority in supporting businesses in re-opening post Covid.

REPLY: The Council is actively supporting the re-opening of the economy through a number of initiatives in support of businesses that have been closed due to Covid.

These include the operation of the Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Business Scheme. Businesses, which sell food for consumption on the

premises, can apply to Limerick City and County Council for grant funding of up to €4,000 (up to 75% of the ex-VAT cost of equipment purchased/ installed) to buy tables, chairs, windbreaks, heaters etc. for outdoor serving.

The Council has a long established process in place for the licensing and regulation of street furniture. Planning Laws and Regulations govern this. It is also essential to protect the public realm and mobility of all persons, most especially those with limited or no personal mobility.

Interested businesses complete a Table and Chairs license application form. The 'Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Business Scheme' (above) will be administered in conjunction with the application process for tables and chairs licenses. Applicants will need to apply for a Table and Chairs license in the first instance. Where a footpath is deemed unsuitable for tables and chairs because it is too narrow, consideration will be given to a buildout. I.e. an extension or widening of the footpath to facilitate the location of street furniture adjacent to the premises. In this way, the business can install awnings, etc. The Council will require businesses to keep the pathway clean where the street furniture is placed. Furniture must be removable.

Limerick City and County Council will support approximately 10 buildouts for the Limerick Metropolitan District in 2021.

In recognition of the ongoing economic situation, Limerick City and County Council will waive fees for Tables and Chairs licenses. However, the requirement to submit an application for a license remains.

34. **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan (to be referred to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee)**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council identify suitable locations for additional public toilets within the Metropolitan area.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee.

35. **Best Wishes**

The Members extended their appreciation to James Clune, A/Senior Executive Officer for his work previously as Meetings Administrator in the Metropolitan District and wished him well in his new role in Human Resources.

36. **Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted and taken as read. This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Dated: _____