

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ADJOURNED SPECIAL MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE MILLENNIUM THEATRE, LIMERICK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MOYLISH, LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 16TH JUNE, 2021, AT 9 AM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor M. Collins, Mayor.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Benson, Collins (B), Collins (J), Costelloe, Daly, Foley, Galvin, Hartigan, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Mitchell, Murphy, Novak Uí Chonchúir, O'Brien, O'Dea, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Ruddell, Ryan (E), Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Sheehan (C), Slattery, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey.

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Leddin and O'Donovan.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive (Mr. P. Daly), Deputy Chief Executive and Director, Support Services (Mr. S. Coughlan), Director, Community Development (Mr. G. Daly), Director, Housing Development (Ms. A. Duke), Director, Capital Investment (Ms. N. Gallagher), A/Director, Physical Development (Mr. R. Gallagher), Director, Service Operations (Mr. K. Lehane), A/Director, Economic Development (Mr. V. Murray), Meetings Administrator (Ms. L. Flannery), Administrative Officers, Corporate Services and Governance (Mr. M. Leahy and Ms. F. McCormack), Senior Planner, Strategic and Forward Planning (Ms. M. Woods), Senior Executive Planner, Strategic and Forward Planning (Ms. K. Burke), Assistant Planner, Strategic & Forward Planning (Ms. S. O'Dwyer), A/ASO Strategic & Forward Planning (Ms. L. Hanley)

An apology for her inability to attend the Meeting was received from the Director, National and Regional Shared Services.

DRAFT LIMERICK DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028:

Already circulated (a) Report from the A/Director, Economic Development, dated 9th June, 2021, and (b) Report from the Chief Executive dated 26th April, 2021, together with Draft Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028.

The Mayor welcomed those present to the Adjourned Special Meeting to continue discussion on the Draft Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028. He confirmed that the required three days' notice of this Adjourned Meeting was not possible in the time available since the original Special Meeting on the 14th June and confirmed that on the proposal of Councillor J. Sheahan, seconded by Councillor O'Hanlon that Standing Orders had been suspended to allow for this.

1. Change Record of Protected Structures

Cllr Scanlon proposed the following amendment:

Proposed the update to the Record of Protected Structures for the Newcastlewest Municipal District to remove the following structures as they are no longer in place:

- RPS No. 51 Fitzgibbon's – Ballinruane, Kilmeedy;
- RPS No. 271 Lane's – Cloncrippa, Feenagh;

Remove the following structures as they are no longer of architectural merit:

- RPS No. 409 Glengort School – Knockinadiha;
- RPS No. 445 Sexton's – Gortskagh, Castlemahon;
- RPS No. 1162 Woodfield House – Dromcolliher;
- RPS No. 1174 Gayers – Feenagh.

The Senior Planner, Strategic and Forward Planning confirmed that the Conservation Officer was not in favour of the removal of these 4 structures from the Record of Protected Structures.

The amendments were proposed by Cllr Scanlon, seconded by Cllr J. Sheahan.

Cllr John Sheahan proposed the removal of the following structure as it is in a dangerous condition and discussions were held with Limerick City and County Council Conservation officer, who agreed that its removal was warranted.

- RPS 702 – Elm Hill, Skehanagh, Ardagh, Co. Limerick.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr J. Sheahan, seconded by Cllr Ruddle.

2. Change to Chapter 4-Objective ECON 036 part (g)

Cllr Hartigan proposed the following amendment:

The removal of the wording “and the potential of the former Fisheries building at Browne's Quay”

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Hartigan, seconded by Cllr Costelloe.

3. Change to Chapter 7- Objective IN 010, Part g

Cllr Hartigan proposed the following amendment:

Amend wording to include: “This will not restrict with the future potential of using this roof space for solar power”

Some Elected Members opposed the proposed amendment and highlighted the potential cost implications that this would create for developers or businesses, which might result in them looking elsewhere in the country to invest. Concerns were also raised in relation to possible cost implications for educational facilities as well.

Cllr O’Donoghue proposed that the amendment be removed in full, seconded by Cllr O’Brien.

A vote then took place to decide whether to remove the amendment in full:

In favour of removing the amendment:

Councillors Collins (B), Collins (J), Collins (M), Daly, Foley, Galvin, Keary, Kiely, Mitchell, Murphy, O’Brien, O’Dea, O’Donoghue, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Ruddle, Scanlan, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Slattery, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey.

(24)

Against removing the amendment:

Costelloe, Hartigan, Novak Uí Chonchúir, Secas.

(4)

4. Change to Chapter 7

Cllr Hartigan proposed the following amendment:

Amendment to Section 7.7.1.2 – remove the wording “be encouraged to”

Some Elected Members opposed the proposed amendment and highlighted the cost implications that this amendment would possibly create.

A vote then took place on the proposed amendment:

In favour of proposed amendment:

Costelloe, Hartigan, Novak Uí Chonchúir.

(3)

Against proposed amendment:

Councillors Collins (B), Collins (J), Collins (M), Daly, Foley, Galvin, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Mitchell, Murphy, O'Brien, O'Dea, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Sheehan (C), Slattery, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey.

(28)

5. Change to Chapter 11

Cllr Hartigan proposed the following amendment:

An amendment to 11.3.9 Trees as follows: After the 4th sentence include the following text: "Any proposals to remove trees shall be done as part of the planning application process"

Cllr Hartigan outlined his reason for the proposed amendment that he is not against the possible removal of some trees to facilitate the construction of a building, but stressed that it is important that the Council are notified first so that any proposals can be examined in order to protect trees where possible.

Some Members expressed concerns that the amendment would be too restrictive and queried whether planning permission would be required to move a tree from a garden or farm. After further consideration and discussions, the following revised amendment was proposed by Cllr Hartigan:

"Any proposals to remove mature trees shall be done as part of the Planning application process, in order to prevent mature trees being removed on lands zoned for development in advance of a planning application being submitted, where there is an intention to develop the lands."

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Hartigan, seconded by Cllr J. Sheahan.

6. Change to Chapter 5

Cllr Hartigan proposed the following amendment:

Proposed the inclusion of text and objective from the existing City Development Plan to be inserted in Chapter 5 as follows:

Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes

The DEHLG have undertaken a 'Survey of Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes' where this inventory includes over 6,000 records of historic gardens and designed landscapes throughout Ireland. Phase One and Two (Historic Ordinance Surveys and Aerial Photography) desktop surveys are complete for Limerick City with Phase three (field surveys) yet to be complete. Within Limerick City, some of these historic gardens include: o Castlepark House (Moyross) Reference: LI-65-R-561597, Grid Reference : 561597 o Corbally House (Corbally) forming grounds of St Munchin's College, Reference: LI-65-R584590; o Clonmacken House: LI-65-R-548568. Grid Reference : 548568

It is the policy of the Council to protect and maintain surviving remnants of Historic Gardens, Designed Landscapes and surrounding Parklands including form and patterns of hard and soft landscaping and all mature trees and vegetation as highlighted in the DEHLG 'Survey Of Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes' Inventory.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Hartigan, seconded by Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir.

7. Change to Chapter 5

Cllr Hartigan proposed the following amendment:

Proposed inclusion of additional objective: 'The parkland characteristics and mature trees in the area surrounding Castle Park House which is zoned for enterprise and employment use shall be retained as part of any new development'

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Hartigan, seconded by Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir.

8. Change to Chapter 4

Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir proposed the following amendment:

Proposed the inclusion of additional text to part 5: "The use and quality of public spaces in the city centre, including the provision of public facilities such as public toilets, drinking water fountains and seating"

The Members noted the costs associated with the provision of public toilet and drinking water facilities but agreed the importance of providing such facilities where at all possible.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Novak Uí Chonchúir, seconded by Cllr. Hartigan.

9. Change to Chapter 6

Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir proposed the following amendment:

Amendment to Objective TR 014, part (b) – remove “where possible”

Some Elected Members opposed the proposed amendment on the basis that work is being carried out where it is appropriate, and there are many narrow roads that are not wide enough and it would be potentially dangerous.

A vote then took place on the proposed amendment:

In favour of proposed amendment:

Cllrs Hartigan, Novak Uí Chonchúir, Secas, C. Sheehan

(4)

Against proposed amendment:

Councillors Collins (B), Collins (J), Collins (M), Costelloe, Daly, Galvin, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Mitchell, Murphy, O’Brien, O’Dea, O’Donoghue, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Scanlan, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Slattery, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey.

(26)

10. Change to Chapter 6

Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir proposed the following amendment:

Amend Policy TR P9 – Remove the word “enhance” and replace with “maintain” and remove the wording “and improving”

Following some discussion on this proposed amendment by the Elected Members, Cllr Novak Uí Chonchúir agreed to withdraw the proposed amendment.

11. Change to Chapter 9

Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir proposed the following amendment:

Include 3 locations in the list of Public Rights of Ways – Coonagh, Condell Road and Barringtons Pier as these were already shown on the map.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Novak Uí Chonchúir, seconded by Cllr. Hartigan.

12. Change to Chapter 11

Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir proposed the following amendment:

Proposed amendment to Section 11.3.5 – Remove “Dished Kerbs” replace with “Continuous footpaths”

Some Elected Members opposed the proposed amendment and noted the Councils engineers advice that they were not in favour of changing the wording as it is place dependent and the amendment may cause possible safety issues and that all designs are in accordance with DMURS.

A vote then took place on the proposed amendment:

In favour of proposed amendment:

Cllrs Hartigan, Novak Uí Chonchúir.

(2)

Against proposed amendment:

Councillors Benson, Collins (B), Collins (J), Collins (M), Costelloe, Daly, Galvin, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Mitchell, Murphy, O’Brien, O’Dea, O’Donoghue, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Sheehan (C), Slattery, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey.

(29)

13. Change to Chapter 11

Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir proposed the following amendment:

Amend Section 11.4.1.4 to include additional text re: electric points for charging electric bikes/scooters with the inclusion of the following text: “Each storage room shall provide appropriate electric points for the purpose of charging electric bikes/scooters.”

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Novak Uí Chonchúir, seconded by Cllr. Hartigan.

14. Change to Chapter 4

Cllr. K. Sheahan proposed the following amendment:

Inclusion of an Objective to Section 3: ‘It is an objective of the Council to recognise the heritage value of Limerick’s towns and villages such as Adare, Kilmallock and Askeaton and seek opportunities to enhance their tourism potential’

Some Elected Members highlighted that other towns and village names be also included, or else not refer specifically to the names of actual towns and villages in the amendment. After consideration it was agreed that the proposed amendment would go through and that submissions on the issue could be considered again when the Plan is on Public Display.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr K. Sheahan, seconded by Cllr. B. Collins.

15. Change to Chapter 8

Cllr. K. Sheahan proposed the following amendment:

Proposed that the area to the south of the proposed Foynes to Limerick Road Scheme, indicated in green hatching on the map, be designated as open for consideration for wind energy in the Draft Limerick Development Plan 2022 – 2028.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr K. Sheahan, seconded by Cllr. B. Collins.

16. Change to Chapter 3

Cllr. K. Sheahan proposed the following amendment:

Proposed that the definition of ribbon development be amended to read ‘four houses in adjoining site’.

Following some discussion and clarification from Council officials on this proposed amendment, Cllr K. Sheahan agreed to withdraw the proposed amendment.

17. Change to Chapter 3

Cllr. K. Sheahan proposed the following amendment:

Propose the inclusion of an objective in Chapter 3 as follows: It is an objective of the Council to support a pilot programme in each Municipal District of Limerick to develop a limited number of houses in scenic areas.

Following some discussion and clarification from Council officials on this proposed amendment, Cllr K. Sheahan agreed to withdraw the proposed amendment.

18. Change to Chapter 9

Cllr. J. Sheahan proposed the following amendment:

Proposed an amendment to Chapter 9, under Section 9.6, Childcare facilities to add the following text after 4th bullet point: “in or within close proximity of schools and educational facilities including catchment area of rural schools”

The amendment was proposed by Cllr J. Sheahan, seconded by Cllr. Galvin.

19. Change to Chapter 9

Cllr. Benson proposed the following amendment:

Proposed the inclusion of an objective in Chapter 9, as follows: “It is an objective of the Council to prepare a Leisure Strategy for Limerick City Centre, within the lifetime of the Development Plan and seek to deliver the strategy on completion, subject to resources.”

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Benson, seconded by Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir.

20. Change to Chapter 10

Cllr. Benson proposed the following amendment:

Amendment to Chapter 10 in Objective M 01 – Moyross, to amend M 01 (e)(iv) to read: Provide a new **road** connection between Moyross Avenue and Cratloe Road.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Benson, seconded by Cllr. C.Sheehan.

21. Change to Chapter 10

Cllr. Benson proposed the following amendment:

Amend M 01 (e)(v) to read: Create a new **road** connection between LIT and the District Centre at Watch House Cross.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Benson, seconded by Cllr. Costelloe.

22. Change to Chapter 10

Cllr. Benson proposed the following amendment:

Proposed an amendment to insert a new section (g) Chapter 10 in Objective M 01 – Moyross – (g) To ensure sufficient land zoning around the Coonagh/Knockalisheen Road capable of delivering a Northside Business campus as referred to in the RSES, to attract and enhance job creation and economic investment in the area

Reason: A Northside Business campus is outlined in RSES and zoning of sufficient and suitable lands with direct access to the Coonagh Knockalisheen Road is essential. The aim of the Coonagh/Knockalisheen Road was to improve connectivity and attract employment to Moyross as set out in the Regeneration framework.

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Benson, seconded by Cllr. Costelloe.

23. Changes to Chapter 6

Cllr. Benson proposed the following amendment:

Objective TR 017 – Enhanced Public Transport – it is an objective of the Council to support and encourage public transport providers to enhance the provision of public transportation **and frequency of** services throughout Limerick, including the provision of enhanced accessibility from the City Centre to Shannon Airport

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Benson, seconded by Cllr. Secas.

24. Changes to Chapter 9

Cllr. Costelloe proposed the following amendment:

Proposed an amendment to: Policy SCS1 025 Playgrounds. Which states – Support play policies to address the play and recreation needs of children and young people **with specific consideration given to the needs of children and young adults with disabilities.**

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Costelloe, seconded by Cllr. O'Brien.

25. Changes to Chapter 9

Cllr. Costelloe proposed the following amendment:

Proposed to include the following text in 11.5 Community facilities: “That this Council recognise and provide the need for an all-purpose facility to support the various Suicide Prevention groups in the City”

Following a discussion of this proposed amendment by the Members, the following revised wording for the amendment was agreed:

“That this Council recognise and provide the need for an all-purpose facility to support the various Suicide Prevention and Search and Rescue Groups in the City and County.”

The amendment was proposed by Cllr Costelloe, seconded by Cllr. Slattery.

In view of time constraints and Meetings Guidelines relating to Covid 19, it was agreed to adjourn the Meeting to Thursday, 17th June, 2021, at 9am, and if possible the Members agreed to hold the Meeting online, rather than having it in the Millennium Theatre again.

The Meetings Administrator advised that she would confirm that it was in order to hold the Meeting online and would arrange to issue an online Meetings invite to Members once confirmed.

She also confirmed that the required three days’ notice of the Adjourned Meeting would not be possible in the time available, and on the proposal of Councillor J. Sheahan, seconded by Councillor O’Hanlon Standing Orders were suspended to allow for this.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Date: _____