

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ONLINE, ON TUESDAY, 12TH MAY, 2026 AT 4.00 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Príomh Chomhairleoir, Councillor C. Slattery

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Moran.

Councillors Beasley, Benson, Butler, Carey, Collins (B), Collins (M), Conway, Daly, Donoghue, Doyle, Foley, Gavan, Hartigan (S), Hartigan (T), Hickey-O'Mara, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O'Donoghue, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, Pond, Reale, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Scanlan, Sheahan, Stokes, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey and Ward.

An apology for their inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillors Ryan (M) and Secas.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director General (Dr. P. Daly), Deputy Director General and Director, Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development (Mr. J. Delaney), Director, Finance, Investment and Governance (Mr. M. White), Director, Housing (Mr. V. Murray), Director, Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings (Mr. S. Lenihan), Director, Planning, Heritage and Ryder Cup (Mr. S. Duclot), A/Director, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm (Mr. T. Fitzgerald), Meetings Administrator (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Planner (Ms. N. O'Connell), Senior Executive Planner (Ms. G. O'Keeffe), Administrative Officer, Development Management and Place-Making (Ms. M. O'Brien), Executive Planner (Mr. E. O'Brien), Graduate Planner (Mr. I. Cunningham), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. S. Carroll).

1. Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 – Material Contravention

Circulated, Director General's Report dated 5th May, 2026, in accordance with Section 34(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) in relation to Planning Reference 25/60670 for the change of use of 4 vacant and derelict cottages to be linked to form 1 café/bar with outdoor terrace, associated conservation and refurbishment of, and minor alterations to, existing one and two storey structures, single storey rear extension and all ancillary site works at 1-4 Toll Cottages, Verdant Place, Limerick.

Introduction to Item

The Príomh Chomhairleoir gave an introduction to the item as follows:

- The item before the Members as set out in the agenda is a proposal to consider the Director General's Report and recommendation to grant planning permission for the conservation, refurbishment and change of use of the Toll Cottages at Verdant Place.

- The Report was circulated to the Elected Members on the 5th May, 2026 and a workshop took place on Thursday last to discuss the proposal in more detail. The Senior Executive Planner will provide a short re-cap and overview of the presentation given.
- The proposed development represents a material contravention of the Limerick Development Plan. In accordance with the Section 34(6) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the Elected Members will be asked to vote on the recommendation to grant permission for the development.

Members expressed their support for the proposal, noting that the buildings had been derelict for many years and that the development would provide an excellent amenity in this key tourist area. Members further noted the potential for the proposed development to create employment opportunities for the local community.

Queries were raised in relation to waste and bin storage, the proposed opening hours for the café / bar, and a traffic management plan for the area. These queries were responded to by the Senior Planner and Senior Executive Planner.

The proposed material contravention was proposed by Councillor Butler and seconded by Councillor O’Hanlon as follows:

“That, pursuant to Section 34(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to approve a proposed material contravention of the Limerick Development Plan 2022 – 2028 for the change of use of 4 vacant and derelict cottages to be linked to form 1 café/bar with outdoor terrace, associated conservation and refurbishment of, and minor alterations to, existing one and two storey structures, single storey rear extension and all ancillary site works at 1-4 Toll Cottages, Verdant Place, Limerick. Planning Reference 25/60670 refers”.

A vote was taken and the result of the voting was as follows:

In Favour

Councillors Beasley, Benson, Butler, Carey, Collins (B), Collins (M), Conway, Daly, Donoghue, Doyle, Foley, Gavan, Hartigan (S), Hartigan (T), Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, Moran, O’Donoghue, O’Hanlon, Pond, Reale, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Scanlan, Sheahan, Slattery, Stokes, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey, Ward. **(34)**

Against

Councillors Hickey-O’Mara, O’Donovan. **(2)**

Abstentions

There were no Abstentions.

Accordingly, the following resolution was adopted by the same voting:

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

“That, pursuant to Section 34(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to approve a proposed material contravention of the Limerick Development Plan 2022 – 2028 for the change of use of 4 vacant and derelict cottages to be linked to form 1 café/bar with outdoor terrace, associated conservation and refurbishment of, and minor alterations to, existing one and two storey structures, single storey rear extension and all ancillary site works at 1-4 Toll Cottages, Verdant Place, Limerick. Planning Reference 25/60670 refers”.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Príomh Chomhairleoir

Date:
