

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, AND ONLINE, ON MONDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2026 AT 5.00 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, Galvin, Gavan, Hartigan (S), Hartigan (T), Hickey-O'Mara, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O'Donoghue, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan (O), O'Sullivan (T), Pond, Reale, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Ryan (M), Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan, Stokes, Talukder, Teeffy, Teskey and Ward.

**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, Regeneration, Community, Sport and Rural Development (Mr. B. McCarthy), Director, Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings (Mr. S. Lenihan), Director, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm (Ms. P. Liddy), Director, Environment, Climate Action and Fire (Mr. K. Lehane), Director, Planning, Heritage and Ryder Cup (Mr. S. Duclot), Meetings Administrator (Ms. C. Farrell), Administrative Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. C. Sheehy),

The Príomh Chomhairleoir opened the meeting and welcomed those attending in the gallery and online to the Special Meeting that had been convened to discuss the following issue as set out in the Agenda and accompanying Requisition:

“To consider a motion under Section 139 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) in relation to proposed works at Boro Park, Janesboro” as follows;

*“Section 139 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) sets out that an Elected Council or Joint Body as the case may be, may be resolution, direct that those works shall not proceed.*

*Taking into consideration that the existing Boro Park, Janesboro is currently zoned as “City Centre” in the 2022-2028 Limerick Development Plan. Section 12.4 of the Limerick Development Plan sets out in the “Land Use Zoning Matrix” that Leisure/Recreation Facilities is a generally permitted use on lands zoned “City Centre” and is a type of development which that the Council accepts in principle in the relevant zone.*

*Conscious of the increased housing needs across the City and County and to prevent any delay in delivering units by taking staffing resources and public funds to advance a Part 8 Planning Application for the said site when a more suitable site should be advanced as a priority.*

*Accordingly in the common good, of advancing housing delivery as a priority and for the local area and taking into consideration that the Boro Park, Janesboro, is the only safe green space for many existing residents to enjoy we the undersigned wish to propose this Council approves this resolution under Section 139 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) that the Council shall not proceed with any further such works to advance the delivery of SMART Housing on the said site."*

At the outset, the Mayor, delivered a presentation to the Members, as requested, which included the following:

- A discussion on whether the Motion before the Council represented an appropriate use of Section 139 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.
- The context of the housing crisis in Limerick and the challenges of housing delivery and meeting housing demand.
- Funding and the need for multiannual funding plans.
- The Colbert Quarter Framework which includes the provision of housing, new public parks and sports facilities and the context of the Boro Park site.
- The capacity of the Boro Park site to accommodate approximately 400 homes as an interim housing activation strategy for the site.
- The SMART Housing Model as a solution for affordable renting and modern method of construction prototype as a solution for the rapid delivery method for homes for 1 to 2 person households.
- Responses to community concerns raised at the Janesboro Public Meeting Listening Exercise.
- The overall framework vision for the Calendonian District, to include better public amenities and improved connectivity for the area.

On the proposal of the Príomh Chomhairleoir and seconded by Councillor Kiely, it was agreed to take a 10-minute adjournment to consider the Mayor's presentation.

Upon resumption, the Motion was proposed by Councillor Kiely and seconded by Príomh Chomhairleoir.

Councillor Kiely welcomed the representatives from the Janesboro community to the public gallery in the Council Chamber, as well as those who joined online, and outlined the importance of Boro Park to the local community.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kiely acknowledged the housing needs across the city and county, highlighting that other sites had been identified which were more suitable than Boro Park and the importance of advancing housing delivery on these sites. She further outlined the housing development planned for Carey's Road, which is adjacent to Janesboro, as well

as other developments led by the Land Development Agency which have not yet commenced and expressed concern regarding delays in their delivery.

Councillor Kiely outlined that Boro Park was considered the only safe green space for many existing residents in Janesboro, highlighting the significant value and the need to retain this community amenity.

Members expressed their support for the Motion noting their disappointment that it had been necessary to bring a Section 139 before the Council. They stressed the importance of Boro Park to the local community, which is used by people of all ages, and the need to retain this important green space for the Janesboro area.

While acknowledging the ongoing housing crisis and strongly emphasising that they did not want to stop any housing delivery, Members were of the view that more suitable alternative sites should be progressed.

Members commended the local community for their strong campaign to retain the park and stressed the importance of clear and ongoing communication with residents in relation to such developments.

It was proposed by Councillor Kiely that a roll call vote would be taken requesting Members to vote in favour or against the Section 139 Motion “That the Council shall not proceed with any works on Boro Park, Janesboro.” This was seconded by Príomh Chomhairleoir.

The Príomh Chomhairleoir instructed that a roll call vote would now be taken.

The Members were advised that under Section 17(5) of the Local Government (Mayor of Limerick) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2024 “The Mayor shall not have a vote in relation to a motion or resolution under Part VII or under Section 132, 138, 139 or 140 of the Principal Act (as modified by this Act)”.

**For**

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

(39)

**Against**

None

(0)

The Príomh Chomhairleoir declared the proposal that the Section 139 Motion “That the Council shall not proceed with the proposed works at Boro Park, Janesboro” as carried.

Proposed by: Councillor Kiely  
Seconded by: Príomh Chomhairleoir, Councillor Slattery  
And Resolved

“That under Section 139 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, that the Council shall not proceed with the proposed works at Boro Park, Janesboro.”

The Príomh Chomhairleoir thanked the people in the public gallery for their patience and highlighted the work carried out by Councillor Kiely on this matter.

This concluded the Meeting.

**Signed:**

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**Príomh Chomhairleoir**

**Date:**

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