



# Comhairle Contae Chorcaí

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## Cork County Council

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Minutes of Proceedings at Meeting of Cork County Council held in the Foyer, Ground Floor, County Hall, Cork on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.

### I LATHAIR

#### Comhairleoir Ian Ó Dubhghaill, Méara Chontae

**Comhairleoiri:** Ó Dubhghaill, Ó Sé Sean Pól, Ó Múchú Gearóid, Críod, Ní Mhuineacháin G, Ó Luanaigh, Ó Cochláin M, Uí Loinsigh, Ó Luasa, Ó Haodha Padraig, Ó Murchú Gearóid, Ó Cinnéide, Ó Madaoin, Ó Sé T, Léineacháin- Uí Foghlú, Ó Coileáin N, Ó Heachtigheirn, Ní Heachtigheirn, Uí Thuama, MacCarthaigh S, Mac Uaid, Ní Cheallaigh, Ó Cearbhaill, Ó Muirthile, Uí Chaochlaioich, Ó Haodha Pól, Uí Chochláin G, Ó Colmáin, Ó Murchú Caoimhín, Ó Suilleabháin S, Uí Shuilleabháin M, Ó Donnabháin, Ó Coileáin D, Ó Murchú P.G, Uí Mhurchú Cáit, Ó Connail, MacCraith, Uí Daltún, Lombard, Uí Bhuachalla, Daltún Ó Suilleabháin, Ní Cheallacháin, Barra, Sheppard, Rasmussen, Ó Conchubair S, Ó Conchubair A, MacCarthaigh N, Ó Flionn, Uí Bhriain, Ó Laoghaire, Dawson, De Róiste.

### PRESENT

#### Councillor Ian Doyle, County Mayor, presided.

**Councillor:** Doyle, O'Shea J.P, Murphy Gerard, Creed, Moynihan G, Looney, Coughlan M, Lynch, Lucey, Hayes Pat, Murphy Gearóid, Kennedy, Madden, O'Shea T, Linehan-Foley, Collins N, Hegarty, Ahern, Twomey, McCarthy S, Quaide, Kelly, Carroll, Hurley, Coakley, Hayes Paul, Coughlan G, Coleman, Murphy Kevin, O'Sullivan J, O'Sullivan M, O'Donovan, Collins D, Murphy P.G, Murphy Katie, O'Connell, McGrath, D'Alton, Lombard, Buckley, Dalton-O'Sullivan, O'Callaghan, Barry, Sheppard, Rasmussen, O'Connor S, O'Connor A, McCarthy N, O'Flynn, O'Brien, O'Leary, Dawson, Roche.

Chief Executive, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. Loraine Lynch Head of Finance, Mr. Michael Lynch, Director of Services Planning.

### [a] CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*Proposed by Cllr. Noel Collins*

1/6-1

*Seconded by Cllr. John Paul O'Shea*

### RESOLVED:

“That the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.”

*Proposed by Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen*

2/6-1

*Seconded by Cllr. Noel Collins*

**RESOLVED:**

“That the minutes of the Meeting held on 25th May 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.”

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Proposed by Councillor Ben Dalton O’Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Seamus McGrath requested the suspension of standing order to discuss the issue of An Garda Síochána resourcing in light of a recent serious incident in Carrigaline.

**[b] VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

3/6-1

No votes of sympathy recorded.

**[c] STATUTORY BUSINESS**

**DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY**

**SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001:**

**Members noted the following disposals:**

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CARRIGALINE**

***Disposal of Land at Kilmoney Heights, Carrigaline, Co. Cork***

4(a)/6-1

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Disposal of Land at Kilmoney Heights, Carrigaline, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 0.01073 hectares (0.0265 acres)

**CONSIDERATION:** Nominal Fee of €1 plus €500 towards Council’s Legal Costs

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF WEST CORK**

***Disposal of Site No. 2 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork*** **4(b)/6-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Site No. 2 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 0.2544 hectares (0.6288 acres)

**CONSIDERATION:** €80,000

***Site no. 3 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork*** **4(c)/6-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Site No. 3 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 0.1638 hectares (0.4049 acres)

**CONSIDERATION:** €80,000

***Site no. 5 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork*** **4(d)/6-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Site No.5 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 0.0937 hectares (0.2316 acres)

**CONSIDERATION:** €45,000

***Site no. 18 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork*** **4(e)/6-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Site No.18 Dromleigh Heights, Dromleigh North, Bantry, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 0.3189 hectares (0.788 acres)

**CONSIDERATION:** €90,000

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KANTURK / MALLOW**

***Disposal of land at Fiddane, Charleville, Co. Cork***

**4(f)/6-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Disposal of Land at Fiddane, Charleville, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 0.60 hectares (1.48 acres)

**CONSIDERATION:** €5,000

***Grant of wayleave at Annabella, Mallow, Co. Cork***

**4(g)/6-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of the property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

**SITUATION:** Grant of Wayleave<sup>3</sup> at Annabella, Mallow, Co. Cork

**AREA:** 24.8m x 2m wide and 15.3m x 2.5m wide

**CONSIDERATION:** €1.00

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) ACT 2000, AS AMENDED**

**5/6-1**

Councillor Cathal Rasmussen proposed, seconded by Councillor Anthony Barry.

Proposed Material Contravention of the Cobh Town Development Plan 2013 – Planning Ref No. 19/6705 – Caraden Construction Ltd:

**Proposed Development:** The construction of 21 no. two-storey dwellings adjacent to the under - construction Martello Estate. The proposed development will consist of 3 no. 3 bed terraced units, 6 no. 3 bed semi-detached units, 10 no. 4 bed semi- detached units and 2 no. 4 bed detached units. Access to the proposed development will be via the under-construction junction from Norwood Grove and the under- construction internal road network permitted under register reference 17/6764. The proposed development will also include all associated drainage, site development and landscaping works. The proposed development is within the curtilage of Sacred Heart Convent and Lodge, Protected Structure (RPS Nos. 31, 32, 33 and 34.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members supported the development
- Members raised concern over traffic flow from estate

Members were informed that commitment has been given by the local engineers regarding traffic flows.

The Mayor called for a vote to be taken which resulted as follows:-

**FOR:** Councillors: Coughlan G, Coleman, Murphy Kevin, O'Sullivan J, O'Sullivan M, O'Donovan, Collins D, Murphy Katie, McGrath, Buckley, O'Callaghan, Barry, Sheppard, Rasmussen, O'Connor S, O'Connor A, McCarthy N, O'Flynn, O'Brien, O'Leary, Dawson, Roche, Doyle, O'Shea J.P, Murphy Gerard, Creed, Moynihan G, Looney, Coughlan M, Lynch, Lucey, Hayes Pat, Murphy Gearóid, Kennedy, Madden, O'Shea T, Linehan-Foley, Collins N, Hegarty, Ahern, Twomey, McCarthy S, Quaide, Kelly, Carroll, Hurley, Coakley, Hayes Paul **[48]**

**AGAINST:** **[0]**

**ABSTAINED:** Councillors: O'Connell, D'Alton **[2]**

The Senior Executive Officer declared the results as follows: **48 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 2 ABSTENTIONS.**

**[d] FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**FINANCIAL AND BUDGET 2020 REVIEW 6/6-1**

Head of Finance, Ms. Loraine Lynch gave the following presentation to Elected Members:

- 2020 had been a difficult budget to balance
- First year post boundary with revised activity levels and costs
- Revenue outturn Q1 2020 shows a deficit of €112,946
- Impact of Covid19 would be reflected in Q2

**INCOME REVIEW**

**1. IMPACT OF COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS ON INCOME**

Based on current information:

- No reductions expected in grant income
- No change to LPT income expected.

## 2. COMMERCIAL RATES

- Estimated reduction of 54% in rates income
- €14.8m per quarter or €59.2m per annum
- Current Rates Waiver for impacted businesses for 3 months only
- Businesses are impacted for more than 3 months – greater reduction in income
- No estimation of the impact on Commercial Rates beyond 2020-impact likely to continue to the next financial year

## 3. GOODS & SERVICES

- Parking fines & Charges Estimated loss - €1,000,000
- Planning Fees Estimated loss - €250,000
- Fire Charges Estimated loss - € 400,000
- Leisure/Tourism Facilities Estimated Loss - €1,000,000
- Civic Amenity Sites Estimated Loss - €250,000

## 4. UNDER REVIEW

- Housing Rents Budget is €20.5 - influx in rent reduction requests
- Housing Loans Interest Budget is €1.6 m -mortgage breaks requested
- Road Opening Licences, building control and piers/harbours

## 5. OVERVIEW EXPENDITURE

- 2020 Budget balanced using €2.3m revenue reserve
- Cost reductions identified in all service areas by Directors
- Net cost reductions of €3m identified
- Funding identified for reactivation of county is €6m

## 6. IMPACT ON REVENUE RESERVE

<b><u>IMPACT ON BUDGET 2020</u></b>	
REVENUE RESERVE Y/E 2019	€7.3M
BUDGET 2020 DEFICIT	-€2.3M
RATES IMPACT (DEPENDENT ON FUNDING)	-€15M/€20M
GOODS & SERVICES (DEPENDENT ON FUNDING)	-€6M/€8M
2020 DEFICIT	-€23M/€30M
LEAVING CUMULATIVE DEFICIT	-€16M/€23M

## 7. SUMMARY

- Income reduction is the issue
- Expenditure not capable of reduction to the same extent
- Activity not reduced and in some service areas activity will increase
- Without national funding will have a serious 2020 deficit
- National funding needs to cover loss of Rates, Goods & Services and addition Covid related expenditure
- Budget 2021 -will be impact on leisure/tourism/rates
- Deficit will impact on capacity to budget 2021 and availability of funds & services for 2021

## 8. RESTART GRANT

Cash Loss Range	No. of Applications received
Between €20,000 - €50,000	359
Between €50,000 0 €100,000	340
Less than €20,000	246
Between €100,000 and €200,000	218
€200,000 or more	197

## 9. RATES 3 MONTH WAIVER

- Period from 27<sup>th</sup> March to 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- For businesses that had to close due to public health requirements
- Exchequer will provide €260m nationally to fully fund the cost of this initiative

The position post 27th June, 2020 will be considered as part of a wider review of options to support enterprises and employment, and associated local authority funding implications

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members described it as a sobering report
- Members expressed concern over the frightening figures
- Acknowledged that Elected Members need to use political power to ensure government funding for Local Authorities
- Concerns were raised over depleted reserves and ability to carry out delivery of services
- Members should lobby EU for financial support
- Advised that recovery was needed in the Council to support local businesses
- Members enquired as to what was Cork County Council capacity to borrow
- Expressed disappointment that there has been no further clarification on Rates Waiver
- Noted that the level of applications for Restart Grant was lower than expected.

The Chief Executive outlined that certainty on the funding model for Cork County Council was needed and that funding was required in order to continue to deliver services.

The Head of Finance said that Cork County Council was in an unprecedented financial position and was pushing at a national level to obtain clarity regarding funding.

## [g] **CORRESPONDENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS**

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

7/6-1

Members noted correspondence dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in response to Council's letter of 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 with regards to Mental Health Intellectual Disability.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members raised concerns regarding services being impacted by funding shortfall
- Acknowledged how those in communities without services or family are very vulnerable

- Raised the lack of transparency and said needs of people are not being met
- Said that nursing homes were not always the correct environment for people with specific needs.

Members agreed to write redirect this query to Mr. Reaney Chief Officer for Cork and Kerry Community Healthcare Organisation.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY**

**8/6-1**

Members noted correspondence dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in response to Council’s letter of 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in relation to Parental Alienation.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members said the response was not a full reply but acknowledged the fact that that the issue was being highlighted
- Said the matter was a social justice issue and should be addressed by family law
- Acknowledged the responsibility to look after all citizens equally

#### **DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AFFAIRS**

**9/6-1**

Members noted correspondence dated 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in response to Council’s letter of 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in relation to grant aid to childcare services to comply with regulations in the sector.

### **[h] NOTICE OF MOTION**

#### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**10/6-1**

Councillor Seamus McGrath proposed, seconded by Councillor Gearóid Murphy

*“To seek a full written progress on each of the six identified Affordable Housing sites in Cork County with a detailed outline of timelines for the next stages of advancement towards development.”*

Members noted response from Mr. Maurice Manning, Director of Service Housing as follows:

#### **Response:**

In August 2019, Cork County Council received approval in principle, under the Serviced Sites Fund, for the delivery of affordable housing on six Council owned sites, in Clonakilty, Kinsale, Carrigaline, Middleton, & Mallow. In December 2019, the DHPLG sought significant further information in relation to each of these proposed schemes. This necessitated a redesign of the schemes in Clonakilty, Carrigaline, Mallow & Kinsale to meet minimum density standards in accordance with national planning guidelines. The Council responded to these queries, in May 2020, and approval from the



Department to further progress these schemes. is awaited. The following table lists a synopsis of the revised proposals and anticipated delivery dates for each scheme.

<i>Proposed Affordable housing scheme</i>	<i>Original Approval &amp; Budget</i>	<i>Updated Proposal &amp; Funding application</i>	<i>Anticipated Commencement of Part 8 Process</i>	<i>Estimated Delivery Date</i>
<i>Beechgrove, Clonakilty</i>	17 units 1,041,432€	31 units 1.55m €	Q4 2020	Q3 2022
<i>Cammogue, Kinsale</i>	50 units. 2,819,458 €	91 units 4.55m €	Q1 2021	Q4 2022
<i>St Josephs Road, Mallow</i>	50 units 2,800,791€	79 units 3.95m €	Q 2 2021	Q4 2023
<i>Kilnagleary, Carrigaline</i>	38 units 2,025,328€	70 units 3.5m €	Q2 2021	Q4 2023
<i>Abbeywood, Midleton</i>	45 units 2,250,000€	45 units 2.25m€	Part 8 in place	Q4 2023
<i>Broomfield, Midleton</i>	44 units 2,200,000€	44 units 2.20m €	Q1 2022	Q3 2024

Once a revised approval has been issued by the DHPLG, it is intended to brief Members at Municipal District level with regard to each individual site, with a view to launching the Part 8 planning process on a rolling basis from the end of 2020 and bringing affordable housing units to market from 2022 onwards.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members reiterated that housing was a significant issue for couples having lost their jobs
- Acknowledge the fact that people need state support to get on the property ladder
- Expressed concern at the lack of impetus for delivery of affordable houses
- Members said there was a lack of urgency and priority at a National Level
- Advised that Cork County Council needs to plan for the next phase of Affordable Housing
- Expressed concern that the Covid 19 pandemic had slowed the provision of Affordable Housing

Members agreed to write to Minister Eoghan Murphy, Minister for Planning, Housing and Local Government expressing concern regarding the lack of impetus for delivery of Affordable Housing and to seek urgent emphasis on this issue.

#### CATCHMENT AREA

11/6-1

Councillor William O’Leary proposed, seconded by Councillor Joe Carroll.

*“That this Council would urgently call on the Department of Education and Skills to carry out a full review of the school catchment areas with regards to primary and second level institutions, given the fact that the current criteria does not take into account where students from a particular area may have historically attended secondary school, that this Council would agree that the current guidelines are outdated and no longer fit for purpose, and that this Council would further*

***agree that the current guidelines has caused unnecessary stress on many families each year when it comes to the allocation of bus seats for school transport over the past number of years, and also called on the Minister to confirm that all school going children will be given transportation to school.”***

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members expressed their concern about the existing catchment areas and said they were not fit for purpose
- Members said parents are facing into another year of frustration in obtaining bus seats
- Due to Covid 19 there will be a loss of more seats due to social distancing and restrictions
- Members called on the Department of Education to carry out a full review on all catchment areas
- Members acknowledged the stress that parents were under because of the issue
- Members stated that this issue also related to primary level students and agreed an amendment to the Notice of Motion and agreed also that that the Minister should confirm that all school going children will be given transportation to school.
- Expressed the importance of promoting public transport for Environment/Climate measures

#### **FAIR DEAL SCHEME**

**12/6-1**

Councillor Ian Doyle proposed, seconded by Councillor Noel Collins.

***“In light of the present Covid-19 epidemic that Cork County Council would write to the Minister of Health seeking that the Fair Deal Scheme be looked at that would include community setting care i.e. shelter housing and also be looked for the care of the elderly in their own homes.”***

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members expressed their gratitude to frontline staff for their excellent work during the Covid19
- Members acknowledged that nursing homes have been to the fore during the pandemic
- Members suggested a package under the Fair Deal scheme be made available to make resources available to care for the elderly at home
- Acknowledged that carers go beyond the call of duty
- Members requested the need to promote and facilitate retirement villages

Member agreed to write to the Minister of Health seeking that the Fair Deal Scheme be looked at that would include community setting care i.e. shelter housing and also be looked for the care of the elderly in their own homes.

#### **EXTENSION OF TIME TO 1.30PM**

Proposed by Councillor Kay Dawson  
Seconded by Councillor Declan Hurley

## **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

### **AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA RESOURCES IN COUNTY CORK**

**SO1/6-1**

Councillor Ben Dalton O’Sullivan proposed, seconded by Councillor Seamus McGrath that Members write to Commissioner Drew Harris requesting a meeting be held with a delegation from Cork County Council to discuss the need for extra Garda resources to be made available in Cork Suburbs.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members said they were appalled and shocked by a recent disturbing incident in Carrigaline
- Members said that urgent action needed to be taken to increase Garda visibility
- Members expressed their frustration at the lack of resources in Cork suburbs which is an ongoing issue
- Acknowledged that anti-social behaviour was on the rise
- Members advised that previous requests have been made to increase Garda recruitment.

## **[i] ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **BROADBAND**

**AOB1/6-1**

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members outlined that 78,000 approximately home and businesses are in the amber broadband zone
- Members said that families were parked in car parks during Covid 19 with families doing homework and people working on laptops in order to access broadband
- Members requested a report on the situation in County Cork
- Expressed the importance of internet as a necessity going forward for connectivity
- Advised that Cork has been committed to €345m over 25 years for broadband

The Chief Executive said that a presentation on Broadband will be given to Elected Members at the next Development Committee Meeting.

### **UCC STUDENT ACCOMMODATION**

**AOB2/6-1**

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Acknowledged that UL were issuing refunds for student accommodation
- The rise in the cost of UCC student accommodation by 19% was discussed as a previous Notice of Motion
- Requested to see if Cork County Council had received any correspondence from UCC on same

## **OUTDOOR SEATING**

**AOB3/6-1**

Councillor Gearóid Murphy proposed, seconded by Councillor James Kennedy.

Members agreed to write to Minister for Justice and Equality requesting that businesses be allowed outdoor seating in areas where social distancing and sanitising are carried out after every use.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members requested for clarification on outdoor seating for restaurants
- Acknowledged that recent reports from the DPP suggested that restaurants cannot have outdoor seating
- Advised that outdoor seating increases footfall for businesses
- Businesses are willing to follow all advice in order to keep outdoor seating

## **PLAYGROUNDS AND PUBLIC TOILETS**

**AOB4/6-1**

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members spoke on Government announcement allowing for playgrounds to open
- Members asked that people obey advice and guidelines on use of playgrounds
- Members expressed the need to open public toilets as these are essential facilities.

## **IRISH WATER**

**AOB5/6-1**

Councillor Seamus McGrath proposed, seconded by Councillor Ben Dalton O'Sullivan.

Members agreed to write to Irish Water requesting that water mains breaks and leaks need to be responded to in a swift and urgent manner.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members acknowledged that Irish Water had publicised a hose ban to conserve water
- Members advised that some water breaks are not repaired until 24 hours after being reported
- Members said thousands of litres of water are being lost due to lack of urgency in carrying out repairs

## **DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**AOB6/6-1**

The Mayor advised Elected Members that Divisional Committee Meetings were to be held in Council Chambers, County Hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 at the following times:

- Southern Divisional Committee Meeting 10.00am – 12.00pm
- Northern Divisional Committee Meeting 12.30pm – 2.30pm
- Western Divisional Committee Meeting 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Members approved to alternative locations for Northern and Western Divisional Committee Meeting which is required by standing orders.

#### **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

**TO:** Ms. Margaret Crowley - On celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday in May.

**TO:** Councillor Declan Hurley and his wife Catherine - On the birth of their baby boy.

**TO:** Mr. John Murphy - On winning the Byron Nelson Award allowing him to play in PGA next May

**~ THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING ~**