



## COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ

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### Minutes of Proceedings at Meeting of Cork County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Cork on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

#### I LATHAIR

Comhairleoir D. Ó hUrthuile, Méara Chontae

Comhairleoiri S. MacCraith, Mac Seafraida, Daltúin, Dheasmhumhnaigh, Ó Cainte, S. Ó Coileán, Ó hEarchaí, R. Mhic Cárthaigh, Ó Colmáin, Lombard, C. Ó Murchú, Ní Cochláin, G. Ní Mhuimhneacháin, Críod, Ó Gráda, Ó Riain, Ó Conbhuí, P. Ó Suilleabháin, C. MacCárthaigh, Ó Ceocháin, De Barra, O'Cádhlá, Rasmussen, N. Ó Coileán, Uí Thuama, N. MacCárthaigh, Léanacháin-Foghlú, Ó Floinn, Ó Dúghaill, Mhic Dháibhí, J. Uí Mhurchú, Ó Sé, G. Ó Murchú, Ó Muimhneacháin, Uí Mhaoláin, T. Ó Coileán, D. Ó Coileán, Ó Cearúill, S. Ó Suilleabháin, C. Ó Suilleabháin, P.G. Ó Murchú, Ó hAodha

#### PRESENT

Councillor D. Hurley County Mayor presided.

Councillors McGrath, Jeffers, D'Alton, Ó'Donnabháin, Desmond, Canty, J. Collins, Harris, R. McCarthy, Coleman, Lombard, K. Murphy, Coughlan, G. Moynihan, Creed, O'Grady, Ryan, Conway, P. O'Sullivan, K. McCarthy, Keohane, Barry, O'Cádhlá, Rasmussen, N. Collins, Twomey, S McCarthy, Linehan Foley, N. McCarthy, O'Flynn, Doyle, Dawson, O'Shea, Gearóid Murphy, B Moynihan, Mullane, T. Collins, D. Collins, Carroll, J. O'Sullivan, C. O'Sullivan, P. G. Murphy, Hayes,

Chief Executive, Senior Executive Officer.

#### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor Noel Collins

1(a)/10-1

Seconded by Councillor Noel McCarthy

#### RESOLVED:

“That the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.”

## **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

2/10-1

TO: The Cosgrave Family, on the death of their father, Liam

TO: Mr Pat Lehane, on the death of his wife, Claire

## **STATUTORY BUSINESS**

The Mayor asked Members to note that item 3(d) - Disposal of Property at 34 Ban Na Greine, Carrigtwohill, Co, Cork was listed in error on the agenda for the Council meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, therefore item 3(d) was omitted from the minutes of the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

### **Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

Members noted the following disposals.

#### **DISPOSAL OF SITE 1 TUARIN GLAS, BALLINCOLLIG, CORK**

3(a)/10-1

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

#### **DISPOSAL OF SITE 2 TUARIN GLAS, BALLINCOLLIG, CORK**

3(b)/10-1

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

#### **DISPOSAL OF SITE 3 TUARIN GLAS, BALLINCOLLIG, CORK**

3(c)/10-1

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT 174 THE QUADRANTS, BALLINCOLLIG, CO. CORK**

**3(d)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**LEASE OF LAND AND GRANT OF WAYLEAVE/RIGHT OF WAY, COURTMACSHERRY, CO. CORK**

**3(e)/10-1**

**DISPOSAL OF FREEHOLD INTEREST IN COTTAGE NO.11, MAULAGOW, LEAP, CO.CORK**

**3(f)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**GRANT OF RIGHT OF WAT AT CORREN BEG, GOLEEN, CO. CORK**  
**CO.CORK**

**3(g)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS LANDS AT TURBEAGH, MITCHELSTOWN, CO. CORK**

**3(h)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**DISPOSAL OF LAND AND PROPERTY AT FARRAN NORTH, FERMOY, CO. CORK**

**3(i)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT GORTNAHOWN, MITCHELSTOWN, CO. CORK**

**3(j)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**DISPOSAL OF FREEHOLD INTEREST AT BALLYMACOTTER, CHURCHOTWN SOUTH, CLOYNES, CO. CORK**

**3(k)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of 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> September, 2017.

**GRANT OF LEASE OF LANDS AT BALLINAGREE, CO. CORK**

**3(l)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of 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> September, 2017.

**DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT 4 THE LIFFEY, RATHCORMAC, CO. CORK**

**3(m)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of 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> September, 2017.

**AMENDMENT TO GRANT OF WAYLEAVE FOR FOUL SEWER AT COUNTY HALL CAMPUS, BY THE SUBSTITUTION OF “SHARTAR LIMITED” IN LIEU OF “GAINSTAR LIMITED PARTNERSHIP” – APPROVED AT COUNCIL MEETING 13/02/2017**

**3(n)/10-1**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of property as shown hereunder shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the notice issued to members dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

**AMENDMENT TO DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT BROOKLODGE, GLANMIRE, CO. CORK BY THE SUBSTITUTION OF “2.88 HECTARES” IN LIEU OF “2.56 HECTARES” APPROVED AT COUNCIL MEETING 25/11/2016**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of 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> September, 2017

**3(o)/10-1**

**FILLING OF VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL BODIES**

**4/10-1**

**APPOINTMENT OF NOMINEE FROM THE COUNCIL TO THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Members agreed the item would be deferred until the next meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2017.

**SECTION 4(2) AND SECTIONS 32-35 OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (SECTION 128E) REGULATIONS 2014 (SI NO. 234 OF 2014)**

**5(a)/10-1**

**Proposed by Councillor Kevin Murphy**

**Seconded by Councillor John O’Sullivan**

A casual vacancy has arisen on the West Cork LCDC. In accordance with the provisions of Section 4(2) and Sections 32-35 of the Local Community Development Committee (Section 128E) Regulations 2014 (SI No. 234 of 2014), the approval of the members is sought to the appointment of Mr. Thomas Collins as a replacement representative for the Public Participation Network (PPN) on the West Cork LCDC. The previous nominee (Mr. Cathal Wilson) is hereby de-selected.

**5(b)/10-1**

**Proposed by Councillor Cathal Rasmussen**

**Seconded by Councillor Mary Linehan Foley**

A casual vacancy has arisen on the South Cork LCDC. In accordance with the provisions of Section 4(2) and Sections 32-35 of the Local Community Development Committee (Section 128E) Regulations 2014 (SI No. 234 of 2014), the approval of the members is sought to the appointment of Mr. John Lyne (Dept. Social Protection) as a replacement representative for the Dept of Social

Protection on both the South Cork LCDC. The previous nominee (Ms. Maria Hurley) is hereby de-selected.

**5(c)/10-1**

**Proposed by Councillor Rachael McCarthy**

**Seconded by Councillor Gearóid Murphy**

A casual vacancy has arisen on the West Cork LCDC. In accordance with the provisions of Section 4(2) and Sections 32-35 of the Local Community Development Committee (Section 128E) Regulations 2014 (SI No. 234 of 2014), the approval of the members is sought to the appointment of Mr. John Lyne (Dept. Social Protection) as a replacement representative for the Dept of Social Protection on the West Cork LCDC. The previous nominee (Ms. Maria Hurley) is hereby de-selected.

Members agreed that all items on the meeting agenda would be dealt with before the meeting concluded.

## **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**6/10-1**

**SECTION 106 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM ACT 2014)**

**Proposed by Councillor Kevin Murphy**

**Seconded by Councillor John Paul O'Shea**

**RESOLVED:**

*“That Cork County Council is authorised to borrow by way of overdraft a sum not exceeding €10m for the twelve month period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government.”*

## **REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES**

**CORPORATE POLICY GROUP**

**7(a)/10-1**

**REPORT FROM CORPORATE POLICY GROUP ON MATTERS IN RELATION TO REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARRANGEMENTS IN CORK**

The Mayor stated that the report from Corporate Policy Group on matters in relation to Review of Local Government Arrangements in Cork was discussed at length by Members during the previous in committee meeting of Council, and that party leaders would now be invited to address the chamber in relation to the report from the Corporate Policy Group

During the discussion that followed Members made the following points;

- The Minister's appointment of an authorised person is an unhelpful and provocative step.
- The appointment is a very serious development, which has changed the rules of engagement.

- The appointment runs contrary to attempts for a negotiated solution between Cork County Council and Cork City Council.
- The window for an agreement is closing.
- If the Minister does not agree to mediation, the consequences will be very serious for Cork.
- This Council must respond robustly and adequately.
- The Mayor should write to the Minister offering an opportunity to appoint a truly independent mediator.
- It would be a derogation of this Council's duty not to proceed on the proposed basis.
- Our T.D's have a duty to ask the Minister to seek mediation.

The Mayor thanked Members for their cooperation and support, and said that it was with reluctance he had to send this letter to the Minister, which is an alternative to legal action.

The Senior Executive Officer read out the proposal under consideration, as follows;

“Council resolves that the Mayor write to the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government as per the attached letter and to authorise the initiation of legal proceedings as per the attached letter, and in the event of the Minister not acceding to this request that Council would reconvene immediately to be briefed by the Chief Executive on the nature of the proceedings that will be issued.”

**Proposed by Councillor Seamus McGrath**

**Seconded by Councillor John Paul O’Shea**

**RESOLVED:**

*“That the Mayor write to the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government as per the attached letter and to authorise the initiation of legal proceedings as per the attached letter, and in the event of the Minister not acceding to this request that Council would reconvene immediately to be briefed by the Chief Executive on the nature of the proceedings that will be issued.”*

Members agreed unanimously to the proposal.

**CONFERENCE LIST FOR OCTOBER, 2017**

**7(b)/10-1**

Members noted the Conference List for October, 2017 as approved by the Corporate Policy Group on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2017.

**PROPOSED TWINING ARRANGEMENT WITH SICTUATE, MASSACHUSETTS**

**7(c)/10-1**

Members noted the report from the Municipal District of West Cork “Background and Rationale to the Proposal”

**Proposed by Councillor Joe Carroll**

**Seconded by Councillor Patrick Gerard Murphy**

**RESOLVED:**

*“That the proposed twinning arrangement between the Municipal District of West Cork and Scituate, Massachusetts, be hereby approved”.*

**BALLINCOLLIG / CARRIGALINE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT:**

**8/10-1**

**MANAGER’S REPORT UNDER SECTION 179, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000:**

Part 8 Report: Proposed N28 Shannonpark Roundabout Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor Seamus McGrath

Seconded by Councillor Eoghan Jeffers

**RESOLVED:**

*“Noting that in accordance with Article 179 of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 2000, notice of the proposed development was published, that 4 No. submissions were received in respect of the proposal, approval pursuant to Article 179 of the said Act is given for the following:-*

**N28 Shannonpark Roundabout Scheme**

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM GOVERNMENTS DEPARTMENTS**

**DEPARTMENT OF RURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**9/10-1**

Members noted the letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, from the Department in response to the Council’s letter of 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2017, requesting that exemptions under the Control of Dogs Legislation be extended to persons in receipt of disability allowance.

Members said they were disappointed with the Minister’s response which outlined that the Minister will keep the matter under review; however at this time the Minister has no plans to review the legislation.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**AMGEM SITE**

**10/10-1**

Councillor Noel Collins proposed, seconded by Councillor John Paul O’Shea, the following notice of motion:-

*“That this Council ask the I.D.A. what proposals, if any, are envisaged for Amgem site in Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork. Taking into consideration that the development never materialised,*



this Council request the request the I.D.A. to hand over the site to Cork County Council to be used for much needed social housing in the East Cork region”.

Members noted report from the Director of Service, Planning, which outlined as follows:-

Carrigtwohill is designated as a Strategic Employment Area in the County Development Plan and has made a significant contribution to the success of Metropolitan Cork as an internationally significant driver of economic growth.

The availability of a commuter rail service to Carrigtwohill, together with the availability of approx 144ha of residentially zoned lands, further strengthens its attractiveness and points to Carrigtwohill's long-term suitability as a strategic location for economic investment.

The lands under discussion, and which comprise approx 56ha, have been zoned for industrial use in the recently adopted Cobh Municipal District Local Area Plan 2017-2023. While previously the lands were zoned for large scale, stand alone industrial use of regional or national importance, the land use zoning objectives of the recently adopted Cobh Municipal District LAP provides for a wider range of industrial uses on the site.

Cork County Council will continue to collaborate with IDA to deliver investment at this strategically important location.

Members thanked the Director of Planning for the report, and during the discussion that followed Members made the following points:

- This Council invested approximately €6 million in the Amgem site, and it should therefore have a legitimate claim to it.
- Should Council really consider transferring land already zoned as commercial use over to housing when the Council already has housing land zoned in Carrigtwohill?
- There would be serious issues rezoning the Amgem site.
- Clarification should to be sought from the IDA concerning its policy for the site.

Members agreed to write to IDA requesting that it clarify its plans for the Amgem site and to provide the Council with an update regarding same.

## **APPROVED APPLICANTS ON THE CURRENT SOCIAL HOUSING WAITING LIST IN CORK COUNTY**

**11/10-1**

Councillor Des O’Grady proposed, seconded by Councillor Melissa Mullane, the following notice of motion:-

“To seek a written report on the total number of approved applicants on the current Social Housing Waiting List in Cork County. The numbers to be given in tabular form within the following timeframes: less than 1 year, between 1 and 3 years, between 3 and 5 years, between 5 and 7 years, between 7 and 10 years and over 10 years.

The report to contain the number of Approved Applicants currently classed as Homeless, the number of those currently classed as having a Disability and the number, if any, who are included in both categories.

The report to also contain the total number of previously approved applicants who were removed from the waiting list during the Social Housing Needs Assessment 2016 and separately, the number of those removed due to non-return of forms, as well as the number of those removed for other reasons and the main reasons for those removals.”

Members noted report from the Director of Service, Housing, which outlined as follows:-

With regard to the number of applicants currently approved for social housing support with Cork County Council please find tables below.

Each applicant when approved for housing is assigned a basis of need/priority; it is only possible to select one basis of need per applicant.

The table below sets out those applicants who are approved with a disability or homeless basis of need/priority.

Duration on List	No. of Approved Applicants
Under 1 year	1194
1-3 years	1072
3-5 years	1202
5-7 years	571
7-10 years	512
over 10 years	220
<b>Total</b>	<b>4771</b>

Basis of Need	Number of Approved Applicants
Disability requirement - intellectual	40
Disability requirement - mental	115
Disability requirement - physical	237
Disability requirement - sensory	46
Exceptional Medical or Compassionate	53
Homeless, Institution, Emergency	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>583</b>

With regard to the number of applications closed during the SSHA 2016 please see extract below of report previously provided to SPC on the SSHA at the meeting held on 14.11.2016 and subsequently provided at each Divisional Meeting.

1955 files were deemed not to qualify for Social Housing Support following the HNA Process.

Reasons for closure include:-

- Applicants did not respond to requests for updated information
- Applicants have left the housing authority area or left the property
- Applicant no longer interested in social housing supports
- Applicants over the income limit

The total number of files closed due to non response to requests for updated information was 1559.

Members thanked the Director of Housing for the report, and during the discussion that followed Members made the following points:

- The numbers on the list have increased by 130 in the past year.
- Over 200 applicants are over ten years on the waiting list.
- It is clear the crisis has only worsened.
- Unless there is a huge increase in the number of houses being built, the housing shortage crisis will not be alleviated.
- Approximately 450 or 10% of applicants have a disability.
- After homeless people, applicants with disabilities should take preference on the housing list.
- Many people no longer on the list may not be aware they have been removed.
- We are running out of voids and housing acquisitions are taking too long.
- The Government is not providing sufficient financial support to Local Authorities to tackle the housing shortage problem.

### **EXTENSION OF TIME**

On the proposal of Councillor Kevin Conway, seconded by Councillor Gearóid Murphy, an extension of time to facilitate the completion of the meeting agenda was agreed.

Members continued their discussion on Councillor Des O’Grady’s notice of motion, and made the following comments;

- 92 approved applicants on the list are homeless or in institutional care.
- Members queried if HAP figures are included in the report.
- People qualify for Rent Supplement by being on the housing list.
- In West Cork only 53% of applicants are engaging with the Choice Based Letting System, and the remaining 47% are happy to receive rent supplement and remain in their current houses.
- There is a possibility that a portion of the 47% not using the Choice Based Letting System is not computer literate.
- Is there a possibility the Choice Based Letting System is not hitting the nail on the head.
- We need to concentrate our resources on the 53% actively seeking housing.
- Councillors should have a greater input into housing allocations.
- We must appeal to government to make additional funding available.

The Chief Executive confirmed that figures for people on the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) scheme are not included in the report.

### **ALLOCATION OF SOCIAL HOUSING**

**12/10-1**

Members noted the following notice of motion by Councillor Diarmaid Ó’Cadhla:-

“That this Council requests a statement regarding the policy for allocation of social housing (own stock, non –HAP/RAS) being followed by Cork County Council and also a report on allocations made during 2016 and year-to-date for 2017, including:

1. Analysis of data by number of years the beneficiary of each allocation was on the housing list.
2. Analysis by number of individuals accommodated per allocation, i.e. family/household size, revealing the total number of individuals accommodated.
3. Analysis by national origin, whether allocations were made to Irish citizens, citizens of EU members states or to people from outside the EU.

4. Analysis of prior status of beneficiaries of allocations – e.g. homeless families, homeless individuals, unaccommodated families or individuals (e.g. with parents etc.), private rental tenants, HAP or RAS tenants, former prisoners, identifiable minority (travellers), disabled peoples and other identifiable prior status indicators.”

Members noted the response from the Director of Service, Housing, as follows;

Due to the volume of information requested, the Housing Directorate is not in a position to provide a response for this coming meeting.

A response will issue for the next meeting on the 23rd October, 2017. It would be preferable if the Member would defer the notice of motion until the next meeting on the 23rd October, 2017.

Councillor Ó’Cadhla agreed to defer the notice of motion until the meeting on the 23rd October, 2017.

## **PROPERTY REGISTRATION AUTHORITY OF IRELAND**

**13/10-1**

Councillor John Paul O’Shea proposed, seconded by Councillor Kevin Conway, the following notice of motion:-

"That Cork County Council write to the Property Registration Authority of Ireland and the Government Department overseeing the works of this Authority and request them to urgently address the backlog of in excess of three years in the process of registration of properties; many of which have been sold as new family homes and cannot be developed in the interim"

During a discussion on the matter, Members stated they are aware of people that are not able to draw down their mortgage due to delays with the title on the property not transferring, despite planning permission for developing the property been granted two years ago.

Members agreed it is a very serious issue and to write to the Property Registration Authority and the of Ireland on the matter.

## **PÁIRC UÍ CHAOIMH**

**14/10-1**

Councillor Deirdre O’Brien proposed, seconded by Councillor Gearóid Murphy, the following notice of motion:-

"That Cork County Council supports a request to ask the Cork County GAA Board to name a stand in Páirc Uí Chaoimh in honour of Jack Lynch”.

During a discussion Members made the following points:-

- Jack Lynch exemplified the best qualities of a public representative
- He was a great leader, Taoiseach and was deeply steeped in the G.A.A.
- Members asked that other names be considered including Sam Maguire.

Councillor O’Brien wished to leave the original motion stand.

The Mayor said that Sam Maguire will be commemorated next year on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the presentation of the Sam Maguire Cup to Croke Park, and the original motion stands.

Members agreed to write to the Cork County GAA Board on the matter.

## **HACKNEY DRIVERS**

**15/10-1**

Councillor Christopher O’Sullivan proposed, seconded by Councillor Kevin Conway, the following notice of motion:-

“That this Council would write to the NTA, Taxi Regulator and Minister for Transport and Tourism Shane Ross to request a review of the licensing process, knowledge test and insurance requirements for hackney drivers who operate mainly in rural Ireland.”

Councillor O’Sullivan requested that the wording of the motion as stated on the agenda be amended as follows;

“hackney drivers” be substituted in lieu of “taxi drivers”.

During a discussion Members made the following points:-

- The situation on the ground is dire as people are finding it impossible to get taxis at certain times of the day.
- It is even worse during the summer months, with tourists and local left stranded in towns.
- The shortage of hackney drivers stems from the difficulty of the SPSV area knowledge test.
- Applicants undertaking the test must know the location of all hospitals, Garda Station, urban centres etc.
- The test is too hard and it needs to be reviewed.
- The test is designed to ensure applicants fail
- Eir codes and Sat Navs now guide drivers on route rather than local knowledge.
- The astronomical cost of insurance faced by taxi ranks is another enormous obstacle that must be addressed
- The issues raised by Members concerning the SPSV knowledge were brought to the attention of Minister Shane Ross during the summer.
- The stringent rules over the NCT for PSPV vehicles also need to be reviewed and this should be included in the letters to be sent.
- Members asked should the word reviewed be replaced with “simplified” in the letters to be sent
- If we want to provide greater rural transport options, then it should be made easier for people to get a SPSV driver licence.

Councillor O’Sullivan thanked Members for their support and said the wording of the motion would stand as is.

Members agreed to write to the NTA/Taxi Regulator and Minister for Transport and Tourism on the matter. Members requested that the Minister for Transport and Tourism be made aware of their comments that were raised on the matter.

## **AN BORD PLEANÁLA**

**16/10-1**

Councillor Seamus McGrath proposed, seconded by Councillor Eoghan Jeffers, the following notice of motion:-

“This Council recommends that An Bord Pleanála should be required to issue decisions to binding deadlines in a similar manner to the planning law which applies to Local Authorities.”

During a discussion that followed, Members made the following points:-

- Local Authorities have an established record in determining applications and are bound to strict time lines when assessing planning applications.
- These rules do not apply to An Bord Pleanála and open ended time lines are unacceptable.
- In the interests of transparency, timelines need to be imposed.
- An Bord Pleanála has a record of deferring applications on more than one occasion.
- The Indaver decision has been deferred five or six times and these is unfair on communities.
- Similar issues have arisen in relation to the breakwater in Baltimore, where the Bord keeps deferring a decision.
- The process being followed by An Bord Pleanála is delaying the building of once off houses.
- The Minister has proposed that large scale housing applications will bypass local authorities and go straight to An Bord Pleanála.
- An Bord Pleanála and the processes it follows need to be reviewed.

Councillor Seamus McGrath thanked Members for the comments and support.

Member agreed to write to the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government on the matter.

## **CORK TO NICE FLIGHTS**

**17/10-1**

Councillor Kevin Murphy proposed, seconded by Councillor Gillian Coughlan, the following notice of motion:-

“That this Council calls for the re establishment of the Cork to Nice flight on a daily basis without delay”

During a discussion that followed, Members made the following points:-

- It is time to re-establish the route, as it is important for all of Cork and Munster.
- There are currently three to four flights departing daily from Dublin to Nice.
- In a post Brexit era, France will be Ireland’s closest European neighbour.
- Flights to France’s Noire region have also been cancelled.
- Kinsale Town is twinned with Antibes in Southern France.
- Representative from Antibes have written to the Airport Authority requesting reinstatement of the Cork Nice flight.

Councillor Kevin Murphy agreed to include “Brussels into the motion at the request of Members.

Members agreed to write to Cork Airport on the matter and noted that the issue of numerous flights to various destinations being cancelled would be raised with Cork Airport Management at the meeting in Cork Airport on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

It was agreed that the remaining two items on the Agenda would be deferred to the next Council Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2017.

#### **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

**20/10-1**

- TO: Callum Walsh on winning the European Junior Gold at the European Boxing Championships in Albena, Bulgaria.
- TO: Glanmire Ladies Football Team on winning the Junior B Football County Championship.
- TO: Kilshannig Ladies Football on winning their County Final.
- TO: Don and Justine Kelly on the birth of their son, Ben.
- TO: Dominic Casey, Denise Walsh, Mark and Paul O'Donovan and Shane O'Driscoll of Skibbereen Rowing Club, following their success at the World Rowing Championships in Sarasota, Florida.
- TO: Spike Island being named as Europe's Leading Attraction at the World Travel Awards.
- TO: The Blue Haven Hotel, Kinsale on winning the prize for Best Breakfast in Ireland at the Hotel & Catering Review Gold Medal Awards 2017.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**21/10-1**

Councillor Paul Hayes requested an update on the letter s sent to the CEO of An Post inviting the CEO to meet with the elected members of Cork County Council to discuss its future plans for the post office network.

The Senior Executive Officer confirmed that An Post were recently in contact with the Corporate Services Department regarding the meeting request, and that Members will be notified in due course of a suitable Development Committee meeting date, once a date has been agreed.

**This concluded the business of the Meeting**