



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí

Cork County Council

Minutes of Proceedings at Meeting of Cork County Council held by Microsoft Teams on 14th June 2021 at 11am.

I LATHAIR

Comhairleoir Máire Léanacháin - Uí Foghlú, Méara Chontae

Comhairleoiri: Ó Dubhghaill, Ó Sé, Sean Pól, Ó Murchú, 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 Héigheartaigh, Ní hEachthigheirn, 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, Sean, Uí Shuilleabháin, Máire, Ó Donnabháin, Ó Coileáin D, Ó Murchú PG, Ó Conaill, Mac Craith, Uí Daltún, , Uí Bhuachalla, Ó Conchubair L, 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 Mary Linehan-Foley, County Mayor, presided.

Councillor: Doyle, O’Shea JP, Murphy Gerard, Creed, Moynihan G, Looney, Coughlan M, Lynch, Lucey, Hayes Pat, Murphy Gearóid, Kennedy, Madden, O’Shea T, Linehan – Foley, Hegarty, Ahern, Twomey, McCarthy S, Quaide, Kelly, Carroll, Hurley, Coakley, Hayes Paul, Coughlan G, Coleman, O’Sullivan J, O’Sullivan M, O’Donovan, Collins D, Murphy P.G, Murphy Katie, O’Connell, McGrath, D’Alton, Buckley, O’Connor L, 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, Mr. Padraig Barrett, Director of Service, Director of Service, Roads & Transportation.

[a] CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1/6-1

Proposed by Cllr. Karen Coakley

Seconded by Cllr. Michael Hegarty

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 24th May 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

[b] VOTES OF SYMPATHY

2/6-1

TO: Cllr. Paul Hayes on the death of his uncle, Miah Hayes.

TO: Mr. Anthony Cogan on the death of his father, Eddie Cogan.

[c] STATUTORY BUSINESS

3/6-1

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY:

SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001:

Members noted the following disposals:

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT BALLYMAKEERA, CO. CORK

3(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 3rd June, 2021.

SITUATION: Disposal of land at No. Ballymakeera, Co. Cork

AREA: (1) 0.0288 hectares/0.0711 acres, and (2) 0.0125 hectares/0.0308 acres

CONSIDERATION: €5,000 per costs

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT CARRIGTWOHILL, CO. CORK

3(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 3rd June, 2021.

SITUATION: Disposal of land at Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork

AREA: 1.145 hectares (2.83 acres)

CONSIDERATION: €114.25 per annum

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT OLD WATER TOWER, MAIN STREET, PASSAGE WEST, CO. CORK

3(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 3rd June, 2021.

SITUATION: Disposal of land at Old Water Tower, Main Street, Passage West, Co. Cork

AREA: Part of Folio CK159245F

CONSIDERATION: €5,000 per annum

GRANT OF RIGHT OF WAY AT FINNOW GROVE, KILLARNEY ROAD, MILLSTREET, CO. CORK

3(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 3rd June, 2021.

SITUATION: Grant of Right of Way at Finnow Grove, Killarney Road, Millstreet, Co. Cork to facilitate Council turnkey development.

CONSIDERATION: €1.00

DISPOSAL OF MADONNA HOUSE, STATION ROAD, BALLINCOLLIG, CO. CORK

3(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 3rd June, 2021.

SITUATION: Disposal of Madonna House, Station Road, Ballincollig, Co. Cork

AREA: As outlined on Folio CK106996F and CK105804F

CONSIDERATION: €1 – as per Section 20 of the Cork City Boundary Extension Act

4(a)/6-1

PART 8 MANAGER’S REPORTS

SECTIONS 179(3) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)

RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 179 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000, AS AMENDED.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KANTURK MALLOW:

Part 8 - Chief Executive’s Report for Proposed Development at Love Lane, Charleville, Co. Cork

Proposed by Councillor Ian Doyle

Seconded by Councillor John Paul O’Shea

RESOLVED:

Noting that in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000, (as amended), notice of the proposed development was published, no submissions were received in respect of the proposal, approval pursuant to Section 179 of the Act is given for the following:

The development of 9 no. one bed, single storey residential housing units at Love Lane, Charleville, Co. Cork.

Councillor Ian Doyle declared he was a member of the Board of Charleville Care Project CLG who is the Approved Housing Body developing the project in partnership with Cork County Council.

4(b)/6-1

Part 8 - Chief Executive’s Report for Proposed Development of Carpark at Mount Hillary Forest, Curraghrour East, Mallow, Co. Cork.

Proposed by Councillor John Paul O’Shea

Seconded by Councillor Pat Hayes

RESOLVED:

Noting that in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000, (as amended), notice of the proposed development was published, 2 submissions were received in respect of the proposal, approval pursuant to Section 179 of the Act is given for the following:

The development of Carpark at Mount Hillary Forest, Curraghrour East, Mallow, Co. Cork.

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

Proposed Material Contravention of Fermoy Town Council Development Plan 2009. Planning Reference 20/5237 – Sherwood Oaks Limited.

Members considered the report of the Chief Executive and during the discussion said;

- Was a very important and exciting development for the local community as it is in the centre of the town.
- Proposed development will attract people from a 30 mile radius of the town.
- Will create 20 full time jobs and 15 part time jobs for the area.

Councillor Noel McCarthy proposed, seconded by Councillor Kay Dawson the following resolution:

“That this Council resolves to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive, as set out in his report prepared in accordance with section 34(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that permission be granted for planning application 20/5237 from Sherwood Oaks Limited for proposed development at Carrignagroghera, Grange East, Fermoy which materially contravenes the Fermoy Town Development Plan 2009”

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

FOR: Councillors: Coughlan Gillian, Coleman, Murphy Kevin, O’Sullivan John, O’Sullivan Marie, O’Donovan, Collins D, Murphy P.G, O’Connell, McGrath, D’Alton, Buckley, O’Connor Liam, Dalton O’Sullivan, 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, Lynch, Lucey, Hayes Pat, Murphy Gearóid, Kennedy, Madden, Linehan-Foley, Hegarty, Ahern, Twomey, McCarthy S, Quaide, Kelly, Carroll, Hurley, Coakley, Hayes Paul

[50]

AGAINST: None

[0]

ABSTAIN: None

[0]

The Senior Executive Officer declared the results as follows: 50 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention.
The Mayor declared the resolution passed.

SECTION 19 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001:

6/6-1

Filling of the Casual Vacancy arising from the resignation of Cllr Aidan Lombard.

“That Mr. Michael Paul Murtagh be co-opted as a Member of Cork County Council to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor Aidan Lombard.”

Proposed by Councillor. John Paul O’Shea

Seconded by Councillor Michael Hegarty

At this juncture Councillor Michael Paul Murtagh joined the meeting.

Councillor Murtagh thanked the people of Crosshaven and his colleagues for voting for him. He wished Aidan Lombard and his family all the best for the future. He said he hoped he would bring a positive contribution to the Council.

- The Mayor and a member from each party welcomed Councillor Murtagh and said they looked forward to working with him.
- The Chief Executive congratulated Councillor Murtagh and wished him all the best.

**SECTION 134 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001:
ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2021**

7/6-1

Members considered the Cork County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021 and resolved to adopt the Plan pursuant to Section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 50 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, without amendment.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Hegarty

Seconded by Councillor Seamus McGrath

[e] REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES

8/6-1

COMMEMORATIONS GRANT SCHEME:

Members resolved to approve the County Cork Commemorations Grant Scheme 2021 which had been considered by Commemorations Committee and also by the Corporate Policy Group at its meeting on the 1st June, 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Susan McCarthy

Seconded by Councillor Liam Madden

- Members welcomed the Grant Scheme.
- Thanked the Conor Nelligan, Heritage Officer and Claire Looney O’Sullivan for all the work done on the Scheme.
- Members welcomed allocations for all divisions and said it was very positive for local groups.

PROGRAMME FOR REVIEW OF SPEED LIMIT BYE-LAWS 2022:

Mr. Padraig Barrett, Director of Service, Roads & Transportation stated that the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport published the document '*Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits*' in 2015. The last review of speed limits in Cork County took place in 2017 and it takes place every four years. It is a 10-month process which involves 17 steps. On Friday the 18th June, a notice will be published in the newspapers inviting submissions from the general public until 19th July 2021.

The review will include the all requests for changes to speed limits received from both public and Members since 2017. All requests will be collated into the Municipal District areas.

The submissions will be compiled in August and considered at the Municipal District Committee meetings in September. The next step is to prepare the schedules and maps for the Draft Bye-Laws which will published in October and November for further public consultation.

In December a Notice will be published again in the newspapers and the draft Bye-Laws will be available for viewing in Council offices and on the Council website. Objections can be made over a 30 day period either by post or e-mail.

In January 2022 the objections and submissions will be considered, and a report will be prepared on the changes. The report will be considered by the Municipal District Committees in February and March 2022.

In May 2022 the final report will be brought to the Full Council with a view to adoption of the byelaws and will come into law on 1st September 2022.

Mr. Barrett stated that he would send the Members copies of the Presentation and Guidelines after the meeting.

During the discussion the Members made the following points:

- The Members thanks Mr. Barrett for the presentation.
- Said they welcomed the review and said it was pro-active on public consultation as appropriate speed limits are needed.
- Cllr. Marcia D'Alton referred to her Notice of Motion in November 9th 2020 which received widespread support. She said the 30 km speed limit in town and village centres would bring enormous benefits for town centres and vulnerable road users.
- Members believed the review should happen more frequently than 4 years.
- Requested that speed limits should be properly reviewed in built up areas.
- Stated that public consultation was very important but suggested that the review should be promoted online as well as published in the newspapers.
- Members hoped TII would listen to the review findings
- Some roads needed upgrading.
- Members asked if Housing Estate speed limits could be included in the Review.
- Cyclists speed needs to be noted.
- All road users need to be aware of safety
- Said Road Signs need cleaning in some area
- Said many Community Groups will be interested in the Review
- Suggested passing bays were needed in some Regional roads so vehicles can pass trucks.
- Members get high numbers of representations regarding reducing speed limits.
- Members asked if all roads were covered in the Review (National, Regional and Local)
- Will 30 km speed limit be part of the process?

- Will the Executive be putting forward proposed changes?

Mr. Barrett stated that all roads were included in the Review. For lower speed limits to be considered, 85 % of traffic should be already travelling at the speed. An extensive media campaign will take place including through the Mayor's office. The TII must approve changes on National Roads for the changes to come into effect. Mr Barrett said he will arrange a review of the speed limit signage. He agreed that safe passing measures are needed in certain roads. He will look at the issue that was mentioned relating to Kildorrey. He stated that all villages should be slow zones. Other engineering measures to reduce speed will be looked at case by case. He confirmed there would be an email address for online submissions for the review. He stated that in some towns and villages there are no alternative routes for traffic to travel so the roads must accommodate all road users therefore 30 km speed limit zones are not appropriate everywhere. Some locations can be considered, and they will be examined case by case where there will not be undue enforcement or excessive engineering costs.

[g] CORRESPONDENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

10/6-1

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FOOD & THE MARINE

Members noted correspondence dated 31st May 2021 in response to Council's letter dated 12th May 2021 in relation to the Glanbia Joint Venture with Royal A-Ware, Continental Cheese Production Development at Belview.

11/6-1

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT:

Members noted correspondence dated 8th June 2021 in response to Council's letter dated 16th December 2020 in relation to the Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS).

Councillor Gobnait Moynihan proposed, seconded by Councillor Michael Looney:

Members agreed to write to the Irish Aviation Authority and ask that it would consider carrying out a feasibility study into the viability of using Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) on wind turbines as an alternative to red light as ADLS are not an expensive solution.

12/6-1

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, CULTURE, ARTS, GAELTACHT, SPORT & MEDIA:

Correspondence dated 8th June 2021 in response to Council's letter dated 13th April 2021 in relation to the supports for Regional Newspapers.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Expressed their dissatisfaction with the response and said it did not cover their concerns.

Members agreed to write back to Minister Catherine Martin, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts & Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and request more immediate funding for local and regional newspapers similar to the Covid 19 initiative operated by the Broadcasting Authority for independent commercial radio stations.

13/6-1

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE:

Correspondence dated 2nd June 2021 in response to Council's letter dated 16th May 2021 in relation to stalking legislation.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Expressed their dissatisfaction with the response but said there was liaison happening with Members in other Local Authorities on the matter and Members will see what feedback will come from that process.

[h] NOTICE OF MOTIONS

14/6-1

COUNCIL RETAIN 20% LOCAL PROPERTY TAX EQUALISATION FUND:

“In light of the recent findings of the Independent All Ireland Research Observatory (AIRO) report commissioned for Cork County Council. We are formally proposing that this council would retain the 20% Local Property Tax equalisation fund which is paid to central government every year in lieu of the €750 million euro required to bring our county roads up to an acceptable standard, and the years in which County Cork has not been receiving our fair share of funding under National government funding schemes.

We are requesting a delegation to meet the Taoiseach and Senior Ministers with this proposal at the earliest convenience, in conjunction with the already planned meeting with the Taoiseach and Senior Ministers to discuss the recent report.”

Councillor Ben Dalton O’Sullivan proposed, seconded by Councillor Danny Collins:

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members said the AIRO report was an explosive report which showed Cork County Council was not receiving its share of the Local Authority funding.
- Member were taken aback at the funding issues found in the report.
- Said they were not asking for extra funding, but they were just asking that all of Local Property Tax collected in Cork county should be retained here.
- Members owe it to the people of Cork to seek equitable funding.
- Said increased funding would be a life saver to rural communities
- Stated Motor Tax collection also goes back to Central Government
- Stated this problem arose when the Government began recognising Cork County Council as one Local Authority as previously it was dealt with as 3 divisions with separate budgets
- Said autonomy of local authorities and the power to raise local taxes needs root and branch review

It was agreed that it would be discussed at the meeting with the Cork Oireachtas members on Friday 18th June 2021. It was also agreed that follow up in respect of the findings was needed afterwards with Ministers and Department officials.

15/6-1

DISCONTINUE BUILDING ONE-BEDROOM HOUSES OR AT LEAST SOME ADDITIONAL SPACE SUCH AS BOX ROOM OR SHARED GUEST FACILITY:

Councillor Gerard Murphy proposed, seconded by Councillor Seamus McGrath

“That a report be made available on the Policy Proposal by the Housing SPC that the Council discontinue building one-bedroom houses and explain if the Department of Housing Regulations are preventing this policy being implemented. Extract from Report on Age Friendly Homes: “as result of recent survey and Paper by Dr Emer Coveney suggested in one small section that the assessment indicated that 93% of those who responded want flexibility to invite a friend, a carer including grandchildren to stay occasionally, for this reason homes should incorporate a second bedroom or at least some additional space such as box room or shared guest facility.”

RESPONSE:

Cork County Council’s Housing Needs Assessment 2020 identified 2470 applicants in need of housing. To meet this need a significant number of proposals for the development of social housing units are being progressed through a combination of direct build, turnkey developments, acquisitions, and AHB projects. These developments incorporate a mix of dwelling types.

Almost 50% of the applicants on the Council’s housing list are single persons. Many are not in the elderly category and the provision of unit types to meet this demand will continue to include one bed roomed dwellings. Funding for Housing First, which provides accommodation with wraparound supports for vulnerable homeless persons, is provided specifically for one bed roomed accommodation. In relation to elderly applicants, the Council will continue to look at options, such as increased living space and shared guest facilities, that will cater for visitors. The Council is also committed to implementing the SPC policy, which was agreed in 2015, of allocating 20% of all two bed roomed units to single persons.

The Dept of Housing, Local Government & Heritage strongly promotes the development of one bed roomed units and encourages local authorities to ensure appropriate accommodation types are provided for all the applicants on the housing list. The new Planning Framework also requires the delivery of a large portion of future developments on brownfield sites within town centres, while achieving appropriate densities to ensure the best use value of development lands. In such locations, this is generally achieved through the development of Duplex or apartment type units, that allow the Council to provide one bed units on a cost effective basis. The Council is progressing a number of schemes like this across the county. On sites that are suitable, these developments include one bed roomed single storey units that have been specifically designed to allow living areas be used for sleeping accommodation for a carer or visitor. Over 50% of the one bed proposals that are at the various stages of planning and design will be Age Friendly and provide good universal access.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Said there was a range of situations where additional space was needed for people in one bed roomed accommodation
- Member asked that the County Architects Department look at providing a temporary solution for allowing carers, children and friends of single people and elderly people to stay over when necessary
- Said the draft County Development Plan included a provision for housing for the elderly and there was a need for flexibility

Members agreed that it would be discussed further at the Housing SPC meeting. Members also requested that the Architects Department look at an innovative way to allow people living in one-bedroom homes have someone (Carer, child, friend, etc) stay over when necessary.

IRISH WATER PROJECTS IN LINE WITH CORK COUNTY DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councillor Ian Doyle proposed, seconded by Councillor Deirdre O'Brien.

"That Cork County Council would seek from Irish Water their definitive projects in line with our Draft County Development Plan as regards capital projects and remedial works associated to Cork County".

RESPONSE:

The Council's Water Services Department and Strategic Planning unit have carried out an extensive review of water services infrastructure capacity in our key towns and villages relative to growth targets emerging from the review of the County Development Plan. This process has highlighted where there are deficits in water supply or wastewater treatment capacity which could impact on our Plan's objectives. We have been engaged with Irish Water over the last year on this issue and have provided them with the details of our assessments, and requirements of the Draft County Development Plan, to inform their strategic planning priorities. In April of this year, Michael Lynch, Director of Planning & Development and myself met with Irish Waters Head of Asset Management to highlight in particular schemes with inadequate capacity which are not include in Irish Water's current Capital Investment Plan which runs up to 2024. Irish Water are reviewing this information in the context of the preparation of their next Capital Investment Plan and are also assessing possible interim measures where required. I have referred this Notice of Motion to Irish Water's Head of Asset Management for formal response on 10th June.

The following response was received from Mr. Sean Laffey, Head of Asset Management, Irish Water on 11th June:

"We are continuing to engage with the CRU on the final approval for our investment programme for Revenue Control 3. As soon as we have approval from the CRU we will be in a position to release the full programme of works for Cork out to the end of 2024."

During the discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members stated that several towns and villages were not equipped with adequate wastewater management and will hamper progress of proposals in Draft County Development Plan.
- Said capacity of Irish Water infrastructure impacting growth of towns and villages.
- Suggested that Irish Water needs to be held to the timelines given for projects.
- Said that people cannot be expected to build housing in town and villages at the moment as the services are not in place.
- Said that limescale was an issue in some water supplies.
- Suggested that the county development will be impacted negatively as towns and villages cannot expand.
- Said leaks are an issue
- Suggested that a Multi-Annual programme is needed from Irish Water as well as an Emergency Programme.
- Suggested that Irish Water take all schemes in charge and upgrade them
- Members proposed temporary Wastewater Treatment Plants be constructed where there is a delay with infrastructure provision

Members agreed that Irish Water would be invited to a Development Committee to discuss this matter further.

EXTENSION OF TIME TO 13.45:

Proposed by Councillor Seamus McGrath

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Barry

17/6-1

CONSISTENT POLICY ON “USER GUIDELINES” FOR CYCLE AND

Councillor Sheila O’Callaghan proposed, seconded by Councillor Deirdre O’Brien.

“In light of the increased number of Greenways, cycle and pathways throughout the County, that Cork County Council would promote a consistent policy on “user guidelines” to ensure safe and enjoyable usage for all.”

RESPONSE:

The range of recreational walkway/cycleway infrastructure across the county is quite diverse, ranging from pedestrian pathways, to shared use pedestrian/cycle pathways, to designated greenways. These facilities have been developed in accordance with various standards and in some case have been constructed in accordance with Part 8 planning permission.

A “Code of Conduct” will be developed for the Midleton to Youghal Greenway (MY Greenway) currently under construction. Fundamental “user guidelines” are already in place for the Harbour Greenway, i.e. keep left, pass right, keep dogs on a lead, this is a shared space. These guidelines are displayed on signage along the route of the Harbour Greenway.

It may be of benefit to develop one overall policy or set of guidelines which would reflect the different greenways, cycle and pathways throughout the County. The broader experience of greenways nationally must also be considered, and the Dept of Transport has indicated that it wishes to standardise signage etc across all such infrastructure.

Where areas are designed as a shared space for cyclists and pedestrians, the development of a Code of Conduct again which would reflect the different nature of the facilities, which will be promoted on these routes through signage etc.

It would be appropriate to have the matter considered further through the SPC.

During the discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members thanked Niall Healy, Director of Services for his response.
- Members stated they were concerned about the various modes used on Greenways
- Said clarity was needed on how cyclists on Greenways should pass at junctions.
- Suggested that consistency between City and County Greenways was needed as old Greenways were 3 metres wide and the new Greenways are 4 metres.
- Members said messaging needed to be rolled out to all users for safe use of amenities.
- Members stated that old signage was in place in areas and signage is not always at the start of a Greenway and this can cause confusion.
- Supported need for new Guidelines.

Members agreed it would be discussed further at the Roads & Transportation SPC.

PREPARE A SPECIFIC LITTER ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE

Councillor Seamus McGrath proposed, seconded by Councillor Marcia Dalton.

“To request that Cork County Council prepare a specific Litter Enforcement response to the increase in outdoor activities this Summer, to include a multi-agency approach and enforcement activity outside of normal business hours.”

RESPONSE:

Cork County Council traditionally commits significant resources to street cleaning and town presentation, and this high standard of maintenance and upkeep of open spaces and town centres will be maintained and enhanced this summer.

Members will note that Cork County Council services a total of 958 no. litter bins across the county. Bins in busy locations are emptied on a daily basis, and in many cases are emptied several times during the day including at weekends. In any given summer day, there are circa 80 no. council staff deployed to empty bins. This is a substantial resource and coincides at a time when council resources are already committed to supporting the county roads strengthening programme, surface dressing etc.

The council has facilitated a partnership approach with communities for several years. Council staff provide a range of supports to community associations and tidy towns groups across the county. These supports range from provision of litter picking equipment, to transport for removal and disposal of waste. Many groups are provided with community funding to support their endeavours. This approach is well regarded as being effective and responsive and is a key reason why Cork county towns and villages have performed particularly well in anti-litter initiatives.

Indeed, it is estimated that circa 1,000 tonnes of waste/litter are disposed of by Cork County Council each year (this waste having been collected from street litter bins, community clean-ups etc). This would not have been possible without the council implementing a multi-agency approach in partnership with local community groups, tidy towns associations and business interest groups. The provision of a clean environment in town centres involves collaboration with business, and the Council engages with business in this regard.

For its part, Cork County Council will ensure that street cleaning regimes are maintained.

The council employs litter wardens and traffic wardens (with a majority of the traffic wardens also having litter enforcement powers). A strong emphasis is placed on education and awareness, with enforcement through the application of fines. The litter wardens will continue to take action where appropriate.

As stated previously, the primary issue regarding littering is public behaviour. A high degree of personal responsibility needs to be borne by the public. Where bins are full - or where there are no waste bins available - the public should exercise personal responsibility and take their litter home with them. The council has embarked on a widespread publicity campaign to this effect in recent weeks.

Government has recently announced an anti-littering initiative and Cork County Council is currently liaising with the Department to avail of the additional financial and infrastructural supports that are being made available to local authorities.

Cork County Council will continue to ensure that available resources continue to be applied to support a clean environment for all to enjoy.

During the discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members thanked Niall Healy, Director of Services but said the response did not address enforcement.

- Members stated that littering was an issue at amenity spots, now that outdoor activities had increased.
- Said awareness does not reach a section of the population as they do not engage with information programmes. This is a widespread issue.
- Members asked if out of hours enforcement can be changed to include weekends.
- Asked the Chief Executive to meet the Chief Superintendent to arrange for a Litter Wardens accompany a local Garda to patrol amenity spots.
- Members said litter is still an issue at beaches as signs asking people to take it home are not working.
- Members agree that bins are only a part of the solution.
- Said dog fouling is another problem in many areas.
- Suggested a multi-agency approach is needed.
- Members thanked voluntary groups for the work they are doing.
- The Mayor said a large number of bins already in place are not being used.

The Chief Executive stated that Cork was one of the best in the country for providing outdoor space facilities. He said the Council's own resources as well as national funding was used to provide facilities. The Corporate Policy Group was briefed recently on how additional portaloos were provided at the coastline amenities and said additional large bins are about to be installed at various locations. He said Council staff are stretched especially in the Summer. He said enforcement requires challenging people and this is not a safe environment for staff. He said the answer is to ensure people respect the amenities. He asked if it is feasible to give out fines in the beach setting. Staff must be in a safe work environment.

The Chief Executive stated that the proposals have been put forward to the Department on how to spend the funding of €5 m allocated to Cork County Council. No response has been received to date. He stated that €4 m funding has been allocated for outdoor dining but is awaiting the circular letter from the department.

19/6-1

ISSUING OF FORESTRY LICENCES

Councillor Deirdre Kelly proposed, seconded by Councillor Frank O'Flynn

"That this Council would contact the Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine in relation to the issuing of Forestry Licences."

During the discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members stated that there was an issue with forestry licences that needed to be addressed.
- Said there was an impact of lack of available timber for builders and this was adding to the cost of houses
- Said the licencing situation was not incentivising farmers to engage in forestry

Members agreed to write to Minister Charlie McConalogue, Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine asking that the process for issuing of Tree Felling Licences be reviewed as presently there is a large number of applications waiting decisions and Members asked that the backlog be addressed.

[I] VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

20/6-1

TO: Maxine O'Sullivan on achieving Champion Lady Rider for the third year in a row and fifth in her career.

TO: Cllr. Liam Quaide and his wife Róisín, on the recent birth of their son Rossa Patrick.

TO: Judge Terrence Finn on his recent retirement from the District Court.

TO: St. Brogan's College, Bandon on winning the Junior Category, Climate Change Award at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: St. Brogan's College, Bandon on winning the Senior Category, Eco Innovation Award at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: Millstreet Community School on winning the Energy Award at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: Patrician Academy, Mallow on winning the SDG Award at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: St. Aloysius College, Carrigtwohill on winning the Local to Global Award at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: Loreto Secondary School, Fermoy on winning the People's Choice Award at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: St. Peter's Community School, Passage West on winning the Junior Category, Waste Award and was also the overall Junior Winner in the at the National Eco-UNESCO Young Environmentalists Awards.

TO: Berehaven Golf Club on winning the All Ireland Jimmy Bruen 2020.

[J] ANY OTHER BUSINESS

21(a)/6-1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - FRIDAY 25TH JUNE CHANGE OF TIME TO 12.30 P.M.

Proposed by Councillor Seamus McGrath

Seconded by Councillor Michael Hegarty

SETTING ASIDE CASUAL TRADING BYE-LAWS

21(AOB)/6-1

Councillor Seamus McGrath proposed. Seconded by Councillor Michael Hegarty

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members requested that the Corporate Policy Group discuss a solution to the byelaws that are not being advanced.

The Chief Executive said he would arrange an update for the Corporate Policy Group.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY MONITOR:

Eoghan McCarthy of People & Places gave a presentation on the monitor and types of data.

The Cork Economic and Community Data Monitor provides reliable data on many facets of the county's economic and social profile across a range of geographical levels, including spatial planning areas, administrative divisions, municipal districts and twenty-seven settlements across Cork County. With fifteen different themes, such as population, social deprivation, employment, income and living standards, education and the property market, the platform offers a comprehensive overview of key authoritative datasets from public agencies in Ireland.

It is a single point of access for data for the people of Cork. The Cork Economic and Community Data Monitor is updated on a quarterly basis, providing a current view of the economic and social status within the county for the years to come. There is no threat to data confidentiality and does not contain any personal information relating to citizens.

During the discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members stated it will be a very useful tool.
- Members stated that it contains very important information for Community Groups seeking Clár funding and asked Mr. McCarthy if Clár areas were included.

Mr. McCarthy stated that Clár areas were not included but could be considered. He welcomed Members contacting him with queries regarding the monitor.

The Mayor thanked Members for their co-operation during her term and their help during the difficult year caused by covid 19 pandemic. She also thanked County Hall staff.

~ THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING ~