

**ITEM NO. 1**

**LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL**

The Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 at 4.00 p.m.

The following were in attendance :

**IN THE CHAIR :** Cllr. J. Leddin, Mayor

**COUNCILLORS :** M. Hourigan, J. Cronin, K. Kiely, J. Ryan, J. Gilligan,  
K. O’Hanlon, K. Walsh, G. McLoughlin, G. Fahy, D. Scully,  
J. Houlihan, L. Wallace and J. Long

**STAFF :** Mr. T. Mackey, City Manager  
Mr. K. Lehane, Director of Service  
Mr. P. Dromey, Director of Service  
Ms. C. Curley, Director of Service  
Mr. P. Dowling, Director of Service  
Mr. J. Field, Head of Finance  
Mr. D. Tobin, Senior Planner  
Mr. V. Murray, Senior Engineer  
Mr. P. Foley Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. J. Delaney, Senior Executive Officer

**APOLOGIES :** Cllr. Kathleen Leddin

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Prior to the business proper of the meeting, His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. J. Leddin, on his own behalf and on behalf of the other Members of City Council, extended a vote of congratulations to the five TD’s recently elected in the Limerick East constituency.

**1. MINUTES**

On the proposition of Cllr. Hourigan, seconded by Cllr. Kiely, it was unanimously agreed:

“That the Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2007, copies of which were circulated, be and the same are hereby confirmed”.

**2. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION, SOCIAL POLICY AND HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2007**

The Chairman’s Report, Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 was noted.

A general discussion took place on the John Fitzgerald report and on the proposition of Councillor O’Hanlon seconded by Councillor Cronin the members welcomed the contents of the Report.

In reply to Cllr.Scully, the City Manager advised that it would be a matter for the Council to determine the policy with regard to tackling the housing waiting list.

In response to Cllr.O'Hanlon and other members, he advised that the Council were in discussions with the HSE regarding the difficulties surrounding the Hostel in St. John's Square.

Regarding the John Fitzgerald Report he advised that, while it would take time for the process to evolve, he was confident it was moving in the right direction.

In reply to Cllr.Long, the Director of Service (Social Policy and Housing) advised that he would examine the request to improve the security of access at the Watergate apartment complex.

In reply to Cllr.Wallace, the Director of Service (Community and Enterprise) advised that while necessary maintenance work would be carried out in St.Enda's its long term future was best determined through the implementation of the John Fitzgerald Report.

### **3. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2007**

The Chairman's Report, Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 was noted.

In reply to the members queries, the Director of Service (Transportation and Infrastructure) advised the members that :

- If a commitment has been given the box junction at Thomondgate will be completed this year
- He will work with Limerick Institute of Technology regarding the issue of car parking in the college and adjacent estates
- Parking on green areas will be examined in the context of a review of the traffic by-laws
- He will examine the reported speeding on Knocklisheen Hill
- Public consultation will continue on all possible Green Routes
- A redesign of the Watchhouse Cross junction will be advanced this year

It was proposed by Councillor Gilligan seconded by Councillor Walsh that recommendation 2 concerning the removal, storage and disposal of vehicles be rejected.

As all members were not in agreement with Cllr. Gilligan's proposal a Roll Call Vote was held which resulted as follows :

#### **FOR COUNCILLOR GILLIGAN'S MOTION**

Cllr. J. Cronin, Cllr. J. Gilligan, Cllr. L. Wallace, Cllr. K. Walsh, Cllr. J. Long (5)

#### **AGAINST COUNCILLOR GILLIGAN'S MOTION**

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. J. Leddin, Cllr. M. Hourigan, Cllr. K. Kiely, Cllr.K.O'Hanlon,Cllr. J. Ryan, Cllr.G.McLoughlin, Cllr.D.Scully, Cllr.G.Fahy, Cllr. J. Houlihan (9)

As a result of the Roll Call Vote, Cllr. Gilligan's proposal was defeated. The Mayor declared recommendation no. 2 of the Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting approved and on the proposition of Councillor Gilligan seconded by Councillor Kiely the remaining recommendations were approved.

#### **4. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS, ECONOMIC POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> MAY, 2007**

The Chairman's Report, Economic Policy Development and Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2007, 2007 was noted.

Submitted the following Recommendation from the Economic Policy Development and Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting which was adopted unanimously.

"That the Georgian area of Limerick should be on the Agenda for discussion at the next Council meeting".

A general discussion took place on the design of buildings in the City Centre area.

The Mayor advised that the Forum on Limerick City Port will revert back to the members shortly with their report.

The City Manager advised the members that the Council could not directly influence recent amendments to transportation policy regarding 'Open Skies'

He advised that the Council could carry out research but the Mid West Regional Authority was primarily involved from a local government viewpoint.

#### **STANDING ORDERS**

Standing Orders were suspended for fifteen minutes on the proposition of Cllr. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. Kiely.

#### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Submitted letter from the Athlone Town Council seeking support in relation to their concerns regarding the proposal of Dublin City Council to extract water from Lough Ree.

It was agreed to refer the matter back to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Submitted letter from Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland seeking motions for their upcoming conference.

Submitted list of Tenders opened in respect of the following :

- (a) Riverside Improvement Works.
- (b) Construction of 15 houses in Ballynanty.
- (c) Provision of Central Heating in Local Authority houses.
- (d) Uniform requirements for certain grades of staff.

## **6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Submitted Financial Statement for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan.

## **7. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER 2006**

Submitted Financial Statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006 which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan.

## **8. APPROVAL TO OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER 2007**

Submitted request for over expenditure for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2006 which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan.

Cllr. Ryan requested that the Council be advised in writing of those areas that the Council received additional income over the budgeted amount.

## **9. DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY**

Submitted the following Disposal of Property in accordance with Notices already circulated under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 which were adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan :

Disposal of Freehold (Ground Rent) under Section 26 of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 in accordance with the Section 183 Notice as circulated.

## **10. PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS AT CONFERENCES**

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan and unanimously agreed to approve participation by members at the following conferences :

All Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities Forum : Seminar, AGM and Business Meeting  
To be held in The Board Room, District Council Offices, O'Hagan House, Newry  
5<sup>th</sup> June, 2007

Estimated Travel and Subsistence per member : €628.79  
Conference Fee : Nil

Inaugural Summer Conference "Eco-Tourism : Getting the Balance"  
To be held in Portaferry, Co. Down  
8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2007

Estimated Travel and Subsistence per member : €873.13  
Conference Fee : £95.00 Sterling

BMW Regional Assembly Annual Conference  
"Renewable Energy – A Role for the Regions"  
To be held in Carlingford, Co. Louth  
13<sup>th</sup> June, 2007

Estimated Travel and Subsistence per member : €633.98  
Conference Fee : €150.00

Confederation of European Councillors Summer Seminar  
“Tackling Poverty and Social Need in Ireland, North and South”  
To be held in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh  
29<sup>th</sup> June, 2007  
Estimated Travel and Subsistence per member : €587.23  
Conference Fee : €190.00

13<sup>th</sup> Byrne / Perry Summer School  
“1916 – 1923 War, Civil War, Fallout”  
To be held in Gorey, Co. Wexford  
29<sup>th</sup> June – 1st July, 2007  
Estimated Travel and Subsistence per member : €621.17  
Conference Fee : €130.00

The John Hewitt International Summer School  
To be held in Armagh  
23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2007  
Estimated Travel and Subsistence per member : €1,047.51  
Conference Fee : €224.00

**11. TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT OF LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DECMEBER 2006**

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan and unanimously agreed to approve the draft Annual Report as circulated.

The members requested that consideration be given to the provision of a mobile skate-park for the summer months.

**12. TO APPOINT FOUR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO THE BOARD OF PAUL PARTNERSHIP(ONE MEMBER FROM EACH ELECTORAL AREA)**

It was proposed by Cllr. Houlihan, seconded by Cllr. Walsh and unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr. K. Leddin to represent electoral area 1.

It was proposed by Cllr. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. Walsh and unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr. G. McLoughlin to represent electoral area 2.

It was agreed to defer the remaining appointments to the June meeting.

**13. PLANNING PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS**

The Meeting noted the list of planning proposals under consideration at 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2007 and Decisions taken from 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 to 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2007.

In reply to the members queries the Senior Planner advised that

- He was available to meet the members over their concerns regarding proposed development in the Ennis Road Area
- A Warning Notice had been served on the subway outlet in O’Connell Street
- In relation to a proposed housing development in Garryowen, structural issues were not a matter for consideration by the Planning Authority.

#### **14. AN BORD PLEANALA**

The Meeting noted the Decisions taken by An Bord Pleanala from 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 to the 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2007.

#### **15. TO CONSIDER REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER DATED THE 21<sup>ST</sup> OF MAY 2007**

The full pedestrianisation of O'Connell Street between William Street and Roches Street, the remodelling and widening of footpaths and improved landscaping of the remainder of O'Connell Street, the remodelling and widening of footpaths and improved landscaping of William Street.

All of the above works will include the installation of high quality surface finishes, distinctive new street furniture, improved public lighting, landscaping, improved public service vehicle stands and the introduction of new traffic regulations to control the movement of vehicles and vehicle classes on these streets on O'Connell Street and William Street, Limerick" (C07/2).

The members noted the report of the City Manager.

#### **16. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion due notice of which was given which was referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting :

"That Limerick City Council in considering proposals for bus lanes consider the provision of a park and ride facility on lands adjacent to the cement factory on the Dock Road and that a bus lane be operated along the Dock Road from this facility to the City Centre and that the existing service along O'Connell Avenue and Ballinacurra Road remain unchanged".

Signed : Cllr. Maria Byrne

#### **17. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion due notice of which was given :

"That the decision of the City Council of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, 1918, to the effect that the name of Lord Dunraven be erased and struck off the Roll of Freeman of the City, be revoked".

Signed : Cllr. Kieran Walsh.

It was agreed to defer consideration of this motion to a Protocol Committee Meeting of the City Council.

#### **18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

In reply to Cllr. Wallace, the Director of Service (Community and Enterprise) advised the members that it was necessary to include St.Endas in the Regeneration Scheme in order to be best positioned to secure its future as a sports and recreation facility.

**THE MEETING THEN ADJOURNED**

**A TRUE RECORD**

**T. MACKEY  
CITY MANAGER**

**CONFIRMED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2006**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR OF LIMERICK.**