

**LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL**

An Adjourned Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 at 4.00 p.m.

The following were in attendance :

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

**COUNCILLORS :** M. Hourigan, K. Leddin, J. Cronin, K. Kiely, J. Ryan, K. O'Hanlon, K. Walsh, G. McLoughlin, D. Scully, G. Fahy, J. Houlihan, L. Wallace, P. Kennedy, M. Byrne, J. Leddin and J. Long

**STAFF :** Mr. T. Mackey, City Manager  
Mr. K. Lehane, Director of Service  
Ms. C. Curley, Director of Service  
Mr. P. Dromey, Director of Service  
Mr. P. Dowling, Director of Service  
Mr. J. Field, Head of Finance  
Mr. D. Keane, Senior Engineer  
Mr. K. Reeves, Senior Executive Planner  
Mr. J. O'Shaughnessy, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. R. McDermott, Senior Executive Technician  
Mr. G. Dillon, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. D. Crowe, Administrative Officer  
Ms. E. Creamer, A/Administrative Officer  
Mr. S. O'Doherty, Staff Officer  
Ms. V. Stundon, Assistant Staff Officer

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Prior to the business proper of the Meeting, Cllr. Hourigan thanked His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gilligan and Elected Members for their expressions of sympathy and condolences on the death of his son, Patrick, at yesterday evening's meeting.

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gilligan proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the following on their bereavements :

Caroline Curley, Director of Service, on the death of her mother, Brigid.  
Mark Connolly, Accountant, on the death of his father, Ben.  
Claire Prendergast, Clerical Officer, on the death of her father, James.  
Mike Collopy, Supervisor, on the death of his mother, May.  
Mr. Alan Wallace, former official, on the death of his mother, Nora.  
Mrs. Margaret Murray, on death of her husband, Donal, former employee.  
The family of the late Michael O'Sullivan, former employee.

All Members wished to be associated with the votes of sympathy.

The City Manager, on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff of City Council, also wished to be associated with the votes of sympathy.

## **1. MINUTES**

On the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. O’Hanlon, it was unanimously agreed :

“That the Minutes of Annual Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2008, copies of which were circulated, be and the same are hereby confirmed”.

## **2. MINUTES**

On the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. O’Hanlon, it was unanimously agreed :

“That the Minutes of Adjourned Annual Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2008, copies of which were circulated, be and the same are hereby confirmed”.

Cllr. J. Leddin stated that he had received a number of complaints regarding street cleaning. He enquired if staff numbers had been reduced. He suggested that the Chamber of Commerce be involved in litter clean ups.

Cllr. Byrne supported Cllr. J. Leddin adding that the streets other than the city centre streets are not being swept and the suburbs are being neglected.

Cllr. Fahy, in agreeing with the previous speakers, said that a more thorough but less frequent clean up of the streets would be much more productive than a rushed job every day.

Cllr. Cronin expressed concern regarding the large amount of rubbish generated from take-aways and suggested that the owners of these premises be approached regarding their packaging..

In reply, the Director of Service (Environment) stated that street cleaners are operating seven days a week and there are one hundred and sixty bins throughout the city but it is still difficult to keep up with the large volume of rubbish. There are presently three Environmental Inspectors who issue fines and follow up with court cases. Some of the pedestrian areas throughout the city are cleaned three times a day but no sooner have the sweepers left than more rubbish is deposited on the streets. She also added that appropriate action is being taken in regard to rubbish generated by commercial premises.

The City Manager added that the basic problem is the people who continuously throw litter on the ground. Some European cities only sweep their streets every few months so it is imperative to try and change peoples attitude. Limerick City Council continue to promote anti litter campaigns. He added that the extended area has not affected city areas as work here is being carried out by contractors. In regard to the request for additional staffing he advised that the Department has directed that there by a 3% decrease in staff costs.

In reply to Cllr. J. Leddin, the Director of Service (Social Policy & Housing) stated that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has sanctioned a loan to Limerick City Council for housing purposes. The City Council is particularly pleased to receive sanction for this loan as it was competing with other Local Authorities for same. Allocations are received every year for central heating programme and traveller accommodation. The allocation for construction and purchase of houses and regeneration has been exceeded.

Cllr. Houlihan, supported by Cllr. Wallace, expressed concern that despite numerous requests, no clean up of Keyes Park has taken place to date, in reply to which the Director of Service (Environment) stated that she will revert back to Cllr. Houlihan on the matter.

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gilligan pointed out that himself and Cllr. Wallace met with some of the Keyes Park residents recently to discuss the anti social behaviour in the area and he agreed to meet with members of the Regeneration Agency, the City Council and the Gardai

Cllr. Kiely expressed disappointment that, as Chairman of the Joint Policing Committee, he was not informed of the anti social behaviour in Keyes Park. Cllr. Wallace pointed out that she has spoken to the Gardai on a number of occasions regarding this anti social behaviour. She stated that a police presence is needed in Keyes Park especially at night time and not just during the day.

Cllr. O'Hanlon referred to the walls of Limerick which are overgrown with ivy in places and asked that this be looked at. He congratulated the Parks and Environment Departments on the planting of shrubs and clean up of the canal. He referred to the problem with the flow of water in the canal and proposed that Waterways Ireland be asked to meet with appropriate Officials and Ward Councillors in relation to the Canal. Cllr. McLoughlin seconded Cllr. O'Hanlon's proposal.

In reply, the Director of Service (Environment) agreed there is an issue with regard to the flow of water in the canal and stated that the City Council is in correspondence with Waterways Ireland trying to get clarification on the matter. She agreed to seek a meeting with them.

In reply to Cllr. K. Leddin, the Head of Finance stated that additional details have been requested in relation to the planning application for the Limerick Boat Club and discussions are ongoing.

### **3. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS, SOCIAL POLICY AND HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008 AND 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008.**

The Chairman's Report, Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 and 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2008, were noted.

Submitted the following Recommendations from the Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 which were adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan :

- (a) Policy on Housing Aid for Older People.
- (b) Policy on Housing Adaptation Grants Scheme.
- (c) Policy on Mobility Aids Grant Scheme.

Submitted the following Recommendations from the Adjourned Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2008, which were adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Ryan :

- (a) That regeneration be removed as a standing item from the Social Policy and Housing S.P.C. Agenda and that meetings in relation to regeneration to which all Councillors would be invited would take place outside of the S.P.C.
- (b) To approve : -
  - (i) Housing Maintenance and Repair.
  - (ii) Service Level Agreement for Funding of Estate Management Groups.

Cllr. Byrne referred to applicants whose applications were successful for improvement works in lieu of local authority housing but whose applications can not proceed now due to lack of finance and asked that contact be made and other schemes identified to them. She referred to speculation that Bridgeland House in John's Square was being moved to Alphonsus Street and asked for clarification on same.

In reply, the Director of Service (Social Policy and Housing) stated that applications for improvement works in lieu of local authority housing which have been granted will proceed and agreed to write to the other applicants outlining other options. A number of possible solutions are being examined in relation to the relocation of the Wethouse.

Cllr. Kiely queried if it was still feasible to continue to knock or lock up houses which are in good condition in the regeneration areas, especially as there is no finance available to buy more houses this year and the allocation will possibly be cut for next year. Also the house building programme has ceased.

Cllr. J. Leddin agreed with Cllr. Kiely and the City Council needs to react to demand. The City Council should continue to build and purchase houses within the city limits, particularly low density developments for the elderly and single people. He asked for an update on the proposed Regional Strategy with Limerick and Clare County Councils as it is an important step in terms of proper spatial planning in the mid west region. He enquired how many meetings have been held with these local authorities and if any progress has been made on the matter. He said it was imperative that as a Council previous mistakes in terms of estate design, lack of appropriate sporting and community facilities are not made. With a housing waiting list of just under 2,000 people and over 200 of those elderly or suffering from a disability, the City Council has a duty and responsibility to provide housing. He asked that an urgent meeting be organised with the Limerick Southside Regeneration Group.

Cllr. K. Leddin reiterated what Cllr. J. Leddin said in relation to the lack of developments for the elderly and vulnerable of our society.

In reply, the Director of Service expressed hope that there will be an improvement next year in the allocation for house purchases. He pointed out that it is a delicate balancing act between knocking/boarding up houses and reallocating them. If it is possible to re-allocate houses the City Council will do so, however, there are times where certain houses have to be boarded up. He assured members that it will be kept to a minimum and is a matter between the Regeneration Office and the City Council. The Director stated that a number of meetings have been held in relation to the Regional Strategy, however, it is a long and arduous process. Agreement was reached in relation to advertising for consultants. He added that there is still capacity within the city for building houses and he shared Cllr. J. Leddin's views regarding specific housing needs. There is a lot of land adjacent to existing social housing in the city and he agreed that the City Council will work closely with voluntary organisations to resolve the matter.

Cllr. J. Leddin complimented all concerned on the Windows and Doors Scheme and also the Central Heating Scheme which are now coming to an end. He asked if a scheme for insulating houses could be started up. He enquired what negotiations are taking place in relation to affordable houses.

In reply, the Director stated that some evaluations have taken place and it was agreed to bring the issue of home insulation before the next Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting. There were eighteen affordable houses constructed in 2008. He would like this to be more, however, housing construction is mainly taking place on the fringes of the city and not in the city area.

In reply to Cllr. Walsh, the Director of Service stated that the Traveller Accommodation Programme is being prepared at present and will be presented to the Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting shortly. He also informed Cllr. Walsh that there will be an announcement shortly in relation to the filling of the Housing Inspector position.

Cllr. Fahy referred to the development by a private developer of four houses on the Old Cork Road and enquired if Limerick City Council intends to purchase these houses once completed. He asked that the residents in the area have an input before any decision is made in relation to this development.

The Director of Service assured Cllr. Fahy that the Councillors and residents in the area will be kept informed in relation to this development.

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gilligan referred to the Regional Housing Strategy and referred to the statement by Clare County Council that they do not want to join with Limerick City Council in any housing policies for the future.

#### **4. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008**

The Chairman's Report, Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2008, was noted.

Submitted the following Recommendation from the Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2008, which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Long :

“To approve amendments to the Taking-in-Charge Policy”.

Cllr. Kiely referred to the houses in O’Dwyer Villas which are serviced by a communal sewer. A section of the sewer is now blocked and causing problems for many residents there, most of whom are elderly. Upon checking the matter with the City Council the resident was told to hire their own contractor to sort out the problem. Cllr. Kiely said Limerick City Council used to service all communal sewers in the past and enquired why that policy has now changed. He proposed that the City Council revert back to servicing all sewers in local authority housing areas. This was seconded by Cllr. Long and supported by Cllr. Wallace.

In reply, the Director of Service (Transportation and Infrastructure) stated that Limerick City Council, like all other Local Authorities, do not clean common drains. These are the responsibility of the individuals. He pointed out that the main sewer is serviced by the City Council. He stated that he does not have all the details now but will examine any area for Cllr. Kiely. He added that some people have built over common drains and caused a lot of problems with blockages etc. He stated that the financial implications would be very substantial if Cllr. Kiely’s proposal was adopted.

Cllr. McLoughlin enquired about the quality of water in his electoral area and Cllr. K. Leddin asked if the lead piping scheme has been finished or if it is still progressing.

In reply, the Director of Service (Transportation and Infrastructure) stated that Limerick City Council does regular lead tests on the water and confirmed that there are no particular problems with the quality of the water in Limerick and do not anticipate any. The City Council is in contact with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding funding for replacing the lead pipes and is presently awaiting a response. Water conservation is also a big issue with lead piping.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Submitted list of Tenders opened in respect of the following :

- (a) Demolition of Regeneration Areas
- (b) Non National Road Resurfacing
- (c) Annual Maintenance Management Contract of the Limerick Civic Centre
- (d) Abbey River Navigation Scheme
- (e) The Mid West Area Strategic Plan
- (f) Prequalification for participation for Rathbane Golf Course Upgrade Works Contract
- (g) Provision of Property Valuation and Agronomy Services in relation to Land Procurement for the Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road
- (h) Topographical Survey of Proposed Boardwalk at Clancy Strand
- (i) Topographical Surveys of Sarsfield Street, William Street, Upper William Street, O’Connell Street and City Quays.

- (j) Town Wall Refurbishment
- (k) Dublin Road – Cycle Lane – Phase 2
- (l) Design and Build of New Playground at Shelbourne Park
- (m) Topographical Survey of Sarsfield Street, William Street, Upper William Street, O’Connell Street and City Quays, Limerick City

Submitted invitation from The Royal British Legion Limerick Branch, to His Worship the Mayor and Councillors to attend the Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at The War Memorial, Pery Square on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 and to a Service of Remembrance at St. Mary’s Cathedral on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2008 at 11.30 a.m.

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Long and unanimously agreed to accept the Invitation and to robe for the occasion.

## **6. 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. Walsh :

- (a) Disposal of properties consisting of two apartments situate at 23 and 25, Parkville Court, Dublin Road, Limerick by way of lease to Limerick Youth Service for a period of 4 years and 9 months (deferred at Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2008).
- (b) Disposal of lands comprising the dwelling house situate at and known as 5, Cnocan Saingil, Garryowen in the City of Limerick to Thomas and Lillian (otherwise Lilly) Bergqvist.
- (c) Disposal of lands comprising the dwelling house situate at and known as 198 Rock Place, John Carew Park in the City of Limerick to Jacinta Hannon.
- (d) Disposal of Freehold (Ground Rent) under Section 26 of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 as per attached Section 183 Notices.

## **7. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Submitted Financial Statement for the month of August, 2008, which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Walsh.

Cllr. Hourigan enquired if the slowdown in the construction industry has had a negative effect on the finances of Local Authorities.

In reply, the Head of Finance stated that County Councils have been more affected by the slowdown in the construction industry than City Councils as rural housing developments have slowed down. City Councils are not as exposed or affected. However, the downturn will have an affect on levies received.

## **8. DRAWDOWN OF BRIDGING LOAN TO FUND LIMERICK MAIN DRAINAGE PHASE 1**

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and unanimously agreed to approve drawdown of bridging loan to fund Limerick Main Drainage Phase 1.

Cllr. Scully congratulated the Head of Finance on the improvements to the City Council's financial situation.

In reply to members concerns regarding the high level of interest on bridging loans, the Head of Finance stated that the City Council will get more competitive market rates if the Minister has guaranteed the loan. He stressed that the City Council has got bridging loans in the past and such loans are not the same as for the private sector. €26m approximately is the worse case scenario and it is hoped that once monies have been spent, they can be drawn down immediately from the Department before paying out the next amount. The interest will be attributable to the capital scheme and the proposal is it will be treated as part of the scheme.

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

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

Fifth National Conference on Substance and Alcohol Misuse for Local Authorities, The Public Service and Drug / Alcohol Service Providers "Getting a Grip 2008 – Addiction Proofing our Communities"

Held in The Malton (Formerly the Great Southern Hotel), Killarney, Co. Kerry  
2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence :	€460.11
Conference Fee :	€230.00

Greystones Town Council in association with Ards Borough Council & The La Touche Legacy Committee 2008 Autumn Seminar (20<sup>th</sup> Year) – "The Relationship between Local Authorities and the Business Sector – Are there lessons to be learned?"

Held in The Charlestown Golf & Country Club Hotel, Greystones, Co. Wicklow  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence :	€647.14
Conference Fee :	€210.00

Community ECO – Challenge. Ecological Footprint Conference and Exhibition 2008 – "A Step in the Right Driection for Councils"

Held in the Armagh City Hotel, Armagh  
16<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence :	€592.42
Conference Fee :	€ 25.00 Sterling



Climate Change Conference hosted by Dublin City Council

“The Way Forward for Local Authorities”

Held in Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin

16<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €465.14

Conference Fee : No Fee

Third Sector Forum Seminar Local Authority Financing

“A crisis brewing, the challenge for Councillors”

Held in The Killarney Plaza Hotel, Kenmare Place, Co. Kerry

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €460.11

Conference Fee : €235.00

Association of Irish Regions 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

“Ireland’s Waters : An Untapped Resource?”

Held in Inchydoney Island Lodge & Spa Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork

17<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €387.21

Conference Fee : €170.00

Douglas Hyde Conference 2008 : “Lost in Translation – Amu in Aistriuchan”

Held in Abbeyfield Hotel, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon

17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €597.79

Conference Fee : €250.00

A 2 Day Green Infrastructure International Conference

“Connecting Nature, People and Places”

Held in The Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €631.56

Conference Fee : €295.00

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceifin Conference

“Family Life Today – The Greatest Revolution”

Held in West County Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €202.78

Conference Fee : €330.00

A National Tourism Conference organised by Clare Tourist Council in conjunction with Clare County Council

“Co-Operation and Integration – The key to successful Tourism”

Held in The Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare

27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €384.78  
Conference Fee : €245.00

Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Annual Winter Seminar 2008  
Held in The TF Royal Hotel, Old Westport Road, Castlebar, Co. Mayo  
28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €564.02  
Conference Fee : €195.00

#### **10. DRAFT VARIATION (NO. 1) TO THE CAHERDAVIN LOCAL AREA PLAN 2005 – 2011 FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The proposed Draft Variation (No. 1) to the Caherdavin Local Area Plan 2005 – 2011 for public consultation was noted.

#### **11. PLANNING PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS**

The Meeting noted the list of Planning Proposals under consideration at 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 and decisions taken from 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 to 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2008.

Cllr. Kennedy referred to planning application 08/301 – demolition of 2 no. semi detached bungalow houses and construction of entrance, 15 no. terraced townhouses, 46 no. apartments and associated site works at Lynwood Park, Singland and stated that he had many serious concerns in relation to same. In his opinion, this development would be in breach of Section 34 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and also the Limerick City Development Plan. Cllr. Kennedy proposed that Limerick City Council refuse planning permission for this development and in support of the refusal prepare a report in relation to the grounds of objection and the past history of the developer.

Cllr. Ryan seconded the proposal and was supported by Cllr. Wallace.

Cllr. Scully thanked the Senior Executive Planner for meeting with residents at short notice in relation to this planning application. He stated that the opposition from the residents for this planning application is total and nobody refused to sign the petition objecting to same. He also added that the Elected Members are also totally opposed to this proposed development. He asked what the correct mechanism is for refusing this planning application and asked that the Law Agent be asked for his legal opinion on the matter.

Cllrs. Byrne and Fahy also supported the previous speakers in relation to proposed development at Lynwood Park adding that this is a high density area with very little open spaces.

In reply, the Senior Executive Planner stated that the Planning and Development Department will be seeking reports from various departments within City Hall in relation to this planning application prior to any decision being made. He assured members that all reports and objections will be examined very closely as the City Council must be legally very clear on it's decision.

The City Manager pointed out that this planning application has not been fully considered yet and is not due for a decision immediately, therefore, it would be premature to do anything at present. He acknowledged the Members concerns, however, pointed out that the applicant must be treated fairly also.

Cllr. Scully asked that legal advice be sought before the October City Council Meeting in relation to the Elected Members total opposition to this planning application and their request to have the application refused planning permission.

The City Manager agreed to consider this point and to prepare a report on the matter and the members agreed with that proposal.

## **STANDING ORDERS**

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. McLoughlin and unanimously agreed to suspend Standing Orders for fifteen minutes.

Cllrs. Kennedy and Byrne supported residents concerns in relation to planning application 08/304 – demolition of existing shop unit, construction of 3 no. 3 bedroom duplex units, 7 no. 2 bedroom apartments, car parking, bin stores and ancillary site works at corner of Ballysimon Road and Woodlawn Park.

Cllr. Cronin expressed concern at planning application 08/366 – extension of existing shop floor area to ground floor dwelling, internal alterations, off street parking, goods entrance at rear at Johnsey's Shop, 47, O'Callaghan Avenue, Kileely. In his opinion, this area is over developed And the proposed development would necessitate having to use the green area nearby which is, he believed, owned by the City Council. Also, traffic in the area is a major concern at present without adding additional traffic.

Cllr. Kiely pointed out that this shop has served the people of the community very well and is the only shop in the area. The planning application is for the extension of same.

In reply, the Senior Executive Planner stated that he will be referring this application to the Traffic and Roads Department for their comments and agreed to take Cllr. Cronin's observations into consideration when issuing a decision.

Cllr. Cronin, supported by Cllr. K. Leddin, referred to the planning application for a bus shelter at the top of DeValera Park, Thomondgate and added this proposed bus shelter would be very near to the residential houses and could attract anti social behaviour and was informed by the Senior Executive Planner that he would examine this planning application.

Cllr. Byrne referred to the proposed community centre for the Simon Community in Davis Street and added that the elderly residents and businesses in this area are totally opposed to this proposal. This is a predominantly residential area that already has a number of other problems.

In reply, the Senior Executive Planner stated that he met with the traders from Davis Street to discuss this proposal The Simon Community and the traders have been asked to outline

their proposals.

He confirmed to Cllr. Byrne that access to the proposed development in the former racecourse site is through the Dock Road and it is hoped to link this development to the McInerney lands.

Cllr. K. Leddin referred to planning applications 08/249 and 08/269 – development works at Bridge Street and Court House Lane and stated that this is in an old part of the city and any developments should be in keeping with the area and suggested that the Heritage Officer liaise with the developers in relation to any works being carried out there.

In reply, the Senior Executive Planner stated that additional details have been sought in relation to materials and designs.

## **12. AN BORD PLEANALA**

The Meeting noted the Decisions taken by An Bord Pleanala from 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 to 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2008.

## **13. PROPOSAL FOR GREEN ROUTE ON CONDELL ROAD**

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and unanimously agreed to approve proposal for Green Route on Condell Road.

The Director of Service (Transportation and Infrastructure) stated that the proposed green route on Condell Road stretches from the old city boundary to the Shannon Bridge. He pointed out that the Condell Road will be declassified in late 2010 or early 2011. The road itself is not wide enough nor the pavement strong enough to become a green route. It would be economically more viable now to extend the green route on the Condell Road. €650,000 has been secured for this and it is hoped to deliver this project before the end of this year.

The Senior Executive Technician (Roads) then gave presentation on the proposal for green route on Condell Road.

## **STANDING ORDERS**

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

Cllr. K. Leddin welcomed the proposed green route on Condell Road and the fact that the Ennis Road option is not being proceeded with.

Cllr. Kiely complimented the Director of Service and relevant officials on taking the views of the Elected Representatives and the residents into consideration in this matter.

Cllrs. Ryan, Hourigan, Long, Byrne and Kennedy also welcomed this proposed green route and expressed hope that it will be continued out the Dock Road. The proposal shows good vision and is an ideal location and project. All locations should be examined on their merits.

Cllr. K. Leddin suggested that small buses be introduced into the city for inner city routes and suggested that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government be asked to fund these buses and that Limerick city be used as a pilot scheme perhaps.

In reply to Cllr. Hourigan, the Director of Service stated that a Park and Ride study is to commence shortly as part of the Planning and Land Use Study.

#### **14. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was agreed to list on City Council Agendas until the matter of Green Routes is resolved :

“That Limerick City Council withdraws and deletes the proposals contained in the Green Routes Corridor Selection Report for the provision of Green Routes on Ballinacurra Road / O’Connell Avenue ; Mulgrave Street / Roches Street”.

Signed : Cllr. Pat Kennedy

#### **15. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was referred to the Cultural and Sporting Strategic Policy Committee Meeting :

“That Limerick City Council establish a committee to include relevant organisations such as the VEC., Shannon Development, Belltable and others to prepare an application and strategy to secure necessary funding and support for the redevelopment of the former Theatre Royal Building on Cecil Street as a cultural centre and cinema”.

Signed : Cllr. Joe Leddin

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

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Wallace, seconded by Cllr. Kennedy :

“That Limerick City Council urgently source a bank loan to commence and complete fire safety upgrading works at No. 1 to No. 110 Glasgow Park.

Signed : Cllr. Lilly Wallace

In reply to Cllr. Wallace, the City Manager stated that the approval of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government will have to be sought first in relation to this matter, then submitted to City Council for approval.

#### **STANDING ORDERS**

Standing Orders were suspended for five minutes on the proposition of Cllr. K. Leddin, seconded by Cllr. Fahy.

## **17. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was referred to the relevant Area Meeting :

“That Limerick City Council consider the placing of pelican lights on Courtbrack Avenue before the roundabout at Fennesseys and also the placing of pelican lights at the zebra crossing on New Street so as to ensure the safety of pedestrians, and also to alert motorists to slow down”.

Signed : Cllr. Joe Leddin

## **18. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was referred to the Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting :

“That Limerick City Council rejects any proposals for Social and/or Regeneration Housing in the general area of Carey’s Road / Hyde Road / Lord Edward Street”.

Signed : Cllr. Pat Kennedy

## **19. 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 make provision for related costs to upgrade the lead pipes and common sewer outlets throughout the affected housing areas of Limerick City, this motion will include the application of a loan application to the relevant department, or inclusion in the upcoming estimates”.

Signed : Cllr. Jim Long  
Cllr. Kevin Kiely, P.C.

## **20. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was referred to the relevant Area Meeting :

“That(a) a Traffic Management Plan be prepared for the Rhebogue Dublin Road Area.  
(b) a pedestrian crossing be provided at Corbally Road near St. Munchin’s College.  
(c) a pedestrian crossing be provided at Mulgrave Street near O’Grady monument”.

Signed : Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon

## **21. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. Fahy :

“That Limerick City Council is totally opposed to the illegal detention, transfer and torture of prisoners in all circumstances. There is never a legitimate reason for illegal detention, transfer and torture of anyone.

Limerick City Council commits to ensuring that our community is a Rendition-free Zone effective immediately.

To this end Limerick City Council will ensure that where there is reason to believe that activities aimed at carrying out such activities as rendition or associated operations the relevant law enforcement authorities will be notified and public records of all such notifications will be maintained.

The human rights of all individuals must be upheld, protected and promoted at all times. Limerick City Council will endeavour to ensure that our community leads the way in upholding the human rights of all people within our jurisdiction”.

Signed : Cllr. John Ryan

## **22. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was referred to the Economic Policy Development and Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee :

“We the undersigned hereby request that a Local Area Plan be prepared for the Rhebogue / Dublin Road area in order to achieve the following : -

- That affordable and accessible childcare and pre-school facilities be made available for the local community.
- That all lands available for future housing and retail development be identified and planned in a co-ordinated manner in order to protect and enhance the natural environment, open spaces and to provide a range of high quality and accessible recreational facilities and amenities.
- That additional affordable housing be made available.
- That local sporting organisations be encouraged and supported in providing high quality sporting facilities for the youth of the area.
- That high quality roads, footpaths, traffic control management and street lighting be provided and enhanced.
- To assess the adequacy of existing community / educational facilities in the area and make provision for future needs.
- That the zoning of lands at the old Dublin Road be considered having regard to the developments at Groody Valley and the Childers Road.

- That a joint Feasibility Study with Limerick County Council be commissioned for use for a bus corridor or light rail system to run between the city and Annacotty”.

Signed : Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon  
Mayor John Gilligan  
Cllr. Kieran Walsh

Cllr. McLoughlin asked that a meeting be arranged with the Director of Service and Ward Councillors regarding the Rhebogue / Dublin Road area.

**23. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business

**THE MEETING THEN ADJOURNED**

**A TRUE RECORD**

**T. MACKEY  
CITY MANAGER**

**CONFIRMED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2008**

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



