

**LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL**

A Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 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, 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. Dowling, Director of Service  
Mr. P. Dromey, Director of Service  
Mr. J. Field, Head of Finance  
Mr. D. Tobin, Senior Planner  
Ms. P. Liddy, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. J. Ryan, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. E. Creamer, Staff Officer

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**STANDING ORDERS**

On the proposition of His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gilligan, seconded by Cllr. Cronin, it was unanimously agreed to suspend Standing Orders for forty minutes to allow the Special Meeting of Limerick City Council finish it’s business.

The Meeting reconvened at 4.40 p.m.

Cllr. J. Leddin paid tribute to the City Manager and staff on the success of the Reception for Munster and All Blacks in City Hall and for all the efforts made in portraying the city in a positive image in the days preceeding the Munster and All Blacks match in Thomond Park.

All Members wished to be associated with the tributes to the City Manager and staff.

**1. MINUTES**

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

“That the Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2008, copies of which were circulated, be and the same are hereby confirmed”.

Cllr. K. Leddin expressed concern that Feile Luimni were not approved for a Grant under the Arts Act and the Director of Service (Community and Enterprise) agreed to check out and revert to her on the matter.

Cllr. K. Leddin referred to her Notice of Motion which came forward as a Recommendation from the Economic Policy Development and Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 to the Monthly Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October and pointed out that this Notice of Motion had come forward and was approved as a stand alone motion with no amendments and requested assurance that Arthur's Quay Park will remain as a public park and will not be sold off for development purposes, in reply to which she was informed that at the Monthly Meeting of City Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 08 this Notice of Motion was adopted in principle and in the context of the Report of the Director of Service.

Cllr. Wallace pointed out that she did not propose that the bus route to Roxboro Road be included in Regeneration Plans and asked that the minutes be amended accordingly.

## **2. REPORT, SOCIAL POLICY AND HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER, 2008.**

The Chairman's Report, Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2008 was noted.

Cllr. O'Hanlon expressed concern at the condition of the halting site in Rhebogue. He had requested a meeting some time ago and also a security camera was to be erected there to stop dumping. He asked that progress be made on closing the site.

In reply, the Director of Service agreed to facilitate a meeting in relation to the Rhebogue halting site and added that the City Council are presently working on a solution.

Cllr. J. Leddin referred to a presentation given at the Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting on energy efficiency in local authority houses and asked that all members be circulated with a copy of same. He also asked that the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government be written to asking him to fund a Pilot Insulation Scheme for local authority houses for Limerick city.

In reply to Cllr. J. Leddin, the Director of Service (Housing) stated that the Housing Inspector will cover all of Limerick City and will be visiting tenants to ensure they are complying with their tenancy agreements and keeping the house and gardens in good condition.

Cllr. Scully expressed concern that the road between Annadale Estate and Bengal Terrace is being dug up for a storm sewer, in reply to which the Director of Service stated that he will check out the matter and inform the Ward Councillors accordingly.

Cllr. Fahy expressed concern at the condition of the halting site at Toppins Field. There is ongoing dumping taking place there and horses wandering around Rathbane. He pointed out that the travellers on the site are willing to co-operate and move out and appealed for an urgent solution to the problem.

The Director of Service (Housing) shared Cllr. Fahy's concerns regarding Toppins Field. He added that a lot of resources have gone into the site and added that the City Council is working closely with individual families there to resolve the problem.

In reply to Cllr. Kiely, the Director of Service (Housing) stated that no individual category of tenants will be housed in the turnkey development in New Road, Thomondgate.

Cllr. McLoughlin asked that money be set aside to raise the height of dividing walls between local authority houses to reduce the number of breakins and was asked by the Director of Service to let him know the location he is referring to.

Cllr. Wallace thanked the City Council for knocking the houses in Keyes Park which she has referred to on many occasions.

Cllr. K. Leddin referred to a caravan parked at the Coonagh roundabout and the Director of Service agreed to check out and revert back to her on the matter.

### **3. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2008**

The Chairman's Report, Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2008, was noted.

Submitted the following Recommendations from the Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 :

Notice of Motion

"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.

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. O'Hanlon and unanimously agreed to approve Director of Service' Report.

It was also unanimously agreed that a delegation from Limerick City Council request a meeting with the Minister for Environment, Mr. John Gormley, T.D., in order to put a case for funding to replace the lead piping in Limerick City.

Cllr. Long proposed that this Notice of Motion remain intact regardless of outcome of Meeting with Minister Gormley. Cllr. Kiely seconded Cllr. Long's proposal.

Cllr. Kennedy pointed out that Standing Orders state that you can not adopt City Manager's Report and a Notice of Motion, it has to be one or the other.

Cllr. Houlihan asked that the minutes be amended to incorporate a vote of sympathy which was passed at the Meeting to the family of the late Shane Geoghegan.

In reply to Cllr. K. Leddin, the Director of Service (Transportation and Infrastructure) stated that the quality of water in Limerick City Council is comfortably within compliance regulations, however, vigilance is still needed. An application for funding has been made to the Department as new standards will have to be met in a few years.

Cllr. K. Leddin asked that when roads are closed for various works that signs be erected informing members of the public that the road is closed very much in advance of the road so that people can take an alternative route.

Cllr. Wallace asked about resurfacing of Galvone Road and Kennedy Park which were to be done this year, in reply to which the Director of Service (Transportation and Infrastructure) stated that he will check out and revert to her on the matter. In reply to Cllr. Wallace, he also agreed to examine a Traffic Management Plan for the Jail Boreen.

Cllr. McLoughlin expressed concern at traffic congestion at the roundabout at Grove Island and suggested a filter lane from Corbally, in reply to which the Director of Service said he would check out and report back to him on the matter.

Cllr. McLoughlin said that there is a lot of traffic congestion also at the Markets Field especially during race nights and was informed by the Director that traffic management is a matter for the Gardai.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Submitted list of Tenders opened in respect of the following :

Coonagh to Knockalisheen Site Investigation Works  
Review of the Mid West Retail Strategy 2003 – 2011

#### **5. 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. O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr. Fahy :

- (a) Disposal of area consisting of a plot of land comprising 0.0235 hectares situate at New Road, Thomondgate in the City of Limerick and outlined in red on Drawing No. AG 3008 to Mr. Paddy Hayes or his nominees.
- (b) Disposal of area consisting of a plot of land 0.0097 hectares situate at St. Lawrence Park in the City of Limerick and outlined in red on Drawing No. AG 3005 to Mary Honan, 23, St. Lawrence Park, Garryowen or her nominees

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. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. O'Hanlon :

- (c) Disposal of area consisting of a plot of land 0.0037 hectares situate between the rear of O'Connell Avenue and Fitzgerald Place, Limerick and hatched on Drawing No. AG 3006 to Michael Bourke and Mel Gallagher or their nominees, Frank and Ann Coscia or their nominees, Joe and Claire Hayes or their nominees and Pdraig Frawley or his nominees.
- (d) Disposal of area consisting of a plot of land 0.22 acres situate at Ballinacurra in the City of Limerick and outlined in red on Drawing No. AG 968-A to Thomas and Breda Barry dated 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2003. This disposal requires Limerick City Council to consent to the removal of covenant (as per attached) in relation to this land.
- (e) Disposal of Freehold (Ground Rent) under Section 26 of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rent) (No. 2) Act, 1078 as per attached Section 183 Notices.

## **6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Submitted Financial Statement for the month of October, 2008, which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Scully, seconded by Cllr. Cronin.

Cllr. Scully complimented the Head of Finance and the staff on the increase in the water charges collection. He welcomed the improvement in the Capital Account by eleven million euro from last year but expressed concern that the City Council is still overdrawn by three million euro.

## **7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The Local Government Auditor's Report on Annual Financial Statement for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007 was noted.

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

It was proposed by Cllr. O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr. Long and unanimously agreed to approve participation by members at the following conferences :

Training Seminar for Councillors 'Homelessness in Ireland'

Held in The City West Hotel, Dublin

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €465.14

Conference Fee : €195.00

Dundalk Chamber in association with Dundalk Town Council : 'Meet the Planners – Works'

Held in The Park Inn, Dundalk, Co. Louth

3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €597.62

Conference Fee : € 65.00

The Third National Infrastructure Summit ‘ Challenging Times: Critical success factors in delivering world class infrastructure’

Held in Croke Park Convention Centre, Dublin

10<sup>th</sup> December, 2008

Estimated Travel and Subsistence : €465.14

Conference Fee : €495.00 Plus VAT

## **9. PLANNING PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS**

The Meeting noted the list of Planning Proposals under consideration at 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 and Decisions taken from 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 to 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2008.

Cllr. Wallace welcomed the removal of the planning application for a recycling centre on Childers Road from the list of planning applications under consideration.

In reply to Cllr. K. Leddin, the Senior Planner stated that the planning application for St. Lelia’s Credit Union, Ballynanty, was withdrawn pending a decision on the planning application for the premises nearby as they shared the entrance. The Credit Union has now resubmitted the planning application.

## **10. AN BORD PLEANALA**

The Meeting noted the Decisions taken by An Bord Pleanala from 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 to 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2008.

## **11. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Submitted the following Notice of Motion, due notice of which was given, which was adopted unanimously on the proposition of Cllr. Long, seconded by His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Gilligan :

‘That Limerick City Council request the Minister to appoint The Mayor (ex officio) and three Limerick City Councillors onto the Limerick Regeneration Board, in order to allow Limerick City Council input at initial policy making decisions. This will allow for accountability and transparency for all involved parties’

Signed : Cllr. Jim Long

## **12. 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 Meeting :

‘That Limerick City Council would C.P.O. the area at the rear of St. Michaels Rowing Club. This would allow the Council freedom to use this area to it’s best advantage’

Signed : Cllr. Kathleen Leddin

**13. 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 CCTV cameras would be installed at Shannon Bridge / Condell Road in the area adjacent to St. Michael’s Rowing Club. This would afford a security measure for people using the pathway adjacent to the Club’

Signed : Cllr. Kathleen Leddin

**14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**THE MEETING THEN ADJOURNED**

**A TRUE RECORD**

**T. MACKEY  
CITY MANAGER**

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

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**MAYOR OF LIMERICK**