

LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL

The Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, 28th January, 2008 at 4.00 p.m.

The following were in attendance :

IN THE CHAIR : Cllr. G. Fahy, Mayor

COUNCILLORS : M. Hourigan, K. Leddin, J. Cronin, K. Kiely, J. Ryan, J. Gilligan, K. O'Hanlon, K. Walsh, G. McLoughlin, J. Houlihan, L. Wallace, M. Byrne, J. Leddin 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. J. Field, Head of Finance
Mr. D. Tobin, Senior Planner
Mr. D. Keane, Senior Engineer
Mr. M. Connolly, Accountant
Mr. P. Murnane, Accountant
Mr. J. Delaney, Senior Executive Officer

Prior to the business proper of the Meeting, His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Fahy, proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to Michael McNamara on the death of his mother Phyllis and to Joan McKiernan on the death of her father Michael. This was unanimously agreed.

On the proposition of the Cllr. Byrne, it was unanimously agreed to extend a vote of sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Martin Lynch on the death of their daughter Martina

The Manager on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff also extended his sympathy to those involved.

1. MINUTES

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

“That the Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 17th December 2007, copies of which were circulated, be and the same are hereby confirmed”.

It was agreed to invite Dr. Walsh to make a presentation to a future Council meeting regarding the Boundary/Docklands.

2. MINUTES

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

“That the Minutes of Annual Budget Meeting of Limerick City Council held on 18th December 2007, copies of which were circulated, be and the same are hereby confirmed”.

In response to a query from Cllr. Gilligan, the Head of Finance advised that the Council was prevented from allocating the proceeds of land sales to the revenue account. Cllr. Gilligan wished it to be recorded that he did not accept the response.

3. RECOMMENDATION, HOUSING SOCIAL POLICY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7TH JANUARY, 2008

In reply to the members' queries the Director of Service (Social Policy and Housing) stated that

- He will listen to residents in Clarina Park in relation to transfers
- He will circulate the reply from Bord Gais
- The Council is the Housing Authority and that the residents should discuss issues relating to their houses directly with the Council
- He will arrange a meeting regarding the Rhebogue Group Housing Scheme
- He will advise members regarding the housing allocation for 2008 once it is to hand
- The New Road development will be an affordable housing scheme
- Councillors should bring any concerns they have regarding forms to the direct attention of the staff and these will be taken on board
- He understands Vizes Court should be ready in March

It was agreed that no further improvement works would be carried out to the Rhebogue scheme until the meeting with councillors from the area was held.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The members were advised of correspondence from the Ethics Registrar with regard to the issue of notices as required under the Local Government Act.

Submitted list of Tenders opened in respect of the following :

- (a) Refurbishment works to the Rhebogue Group Housing Scheme
- (b) Appointment of facilitator for development of scoping document for Mid West Area Strategic Plan

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. Kiely, seconded by Cllr. O'Hanlon :

- (a) Disposal of land consisting of an area comprising 0.0386 hectares situate off Michael Street in the City of Limerick and outlined in red on Drawing No. MIS 311 to Eamon Daly or his nominees.

(b) 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.

6. PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS AT CONFERENCES

It was unanimously agreed to approve participation by members at the following conferences :

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	APPROX. MILEAGE	ESTIMATED EXPENSES PER MEMBER	CONF. FEE
Friday 1 st Feb. to Sunday, 3 rd February, 2008	Hotel Westport, Westport, Co. Mayo.	Merriman Winter School 2008	230	€579.60	€50.00
Thursday, 7 th February to Friday, 8 th February, 2008	Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, Co. Limerick.	Mid West Regional Authority: 14 th Annual Conference. <i>“Planning for Renewable Energy”</i>	22	€70.12	€170.00
Thursday, 21 st February, to Sat. 23 rd February, 2008	The Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.	Third Sector Forum. <i>“Ireland's Newest Immigrants, Ensuring their participation in 2009 European and Local Elections”.</i>	416	€821.18	€245.00
Thursday, 6 th March to Saturday, 8 th March, 2008	Roganstown Country Club, Swords, Fingal, Co. Dublin.	<i>Annual Conference: Association of County and City Councils</i> <i>“Climate Change and Local Government: Ireland's first ever VEC national school. Press freedom and press responsibility; Planning and development – a new town in the</i>	250	€605.58	€200.00

		<i>making. Councils and culture – the Scandinavian approach”.</i>			
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7. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE DRAFT CITY CENTRE STRATEGY

It was agreed to defer consideration of the above document to a special meeting of Council and that this meeting should also discuss the proposed Green Routes

8. (a) TO CONSIDER REPORT ON CAPITAL PROJECTS 2008-2010

A general discussion took place on the report. The members were advised in reply to their queries that

- The estimate for Sarsfield Gardens/Hartigan Villas was provisional
- The Council was looking at alternatives to Childers Road for a recycling site but that the Childers Road site had not yet been excluded.
- The council will talk to CIE regarding the IBAL Report
- The tenders for skateboard Park were not yet in
- The effect of windblown rubbish from Long Pavement will be examined
- The report on Westfields will be circulated to the councillors
- The consultation on the Orbital Route was at an advanced stage but not yet concluded.
- The Council have not appointed a consultant to prepare plans on the walkway to Barrington’s Pier but were attempting to secure funds from alternative sources.

The members agreed to adopt the report.

(b) TO APPROVE NOMINATIONS TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

On the proposition of Cllr.Kiely seconded by Cllr.O’Hanlon the members approved the nomination of

- His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Ger Fahy
- Mr. John Quinn, former Mayor and retired councillor
- Mr. Tom Kirby, former Director Mid West Regional Authority
- Ms. Deirdre Frawley, CEO, Limerick City VEC

to acts as members of the Audit Committee.

9. PLANNING PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS

The Meeting noted the list of Planning Proposals under consideration at 18th January, 2008 and Decisions taken from 10th December, 2007 to 18th January, 2008.

The Senior Planner advised in reply to the members that

- 08/1 was an interesting and significant development at the corner of Catherine street
- 07/473 was a difficult site upon which to carry out development
- that the information received on 07/261 was unsolicited
- he had no knowledge in relation to Jackman Park outside of the current planning proposal
- 07/1 has been determined
- The external structure adjacent to the Bank public house has been removed but that other work need to be completed
- 07/465 was to retain an aviary

10. 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 carry out the resurfacing of roads in Ballinacurra Gardens as the current surface has deteriorated to an unsafe standard”

Signed : Cllr. Jim Long

11. NOTICE OF MOTION

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

“That Limerick City Council make provision for one extra refuse collection for waiver customers over the 2008 Christmas period”.

Signed : Cllr. Jim Long

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

On the proposition of Cllr. Long, seconded by Cllr. Kiely, it was unanimously agreed to approve the following Notice of Motion :

“That Limerick City Council write to the Minister for Environment and the Taxi Regulator asking to suspend and review the issue of Taxi plates for Limerick City, as the industry is over saturated and is not sustainable in providing a quality living standard for the majority of full time Taxi plate holders. A copy to be forwarded to our five Dail Deputies seeking their support”.

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

“Currently Limerick City Council Bye Laws state that once parking is removed from a street the residents have no entitlement to a residents permit for any alternative street to park. I wish to propose ‘that Limerick City Council change this bye law to enable the residents of the pedestrianised areas to have a residents permit to park on an alternative nearby street. We are trying to encourage people to live in the City Centre so we should provide them with a residents disc in order to accommodate them. Thomas Street and Catherine Street are examples of streets where parking is being removed yet families reside in those streets.

We should do all in our power to accommodate these centre city residents”.

Signed : Cllr. Maria Byrne

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In reply to Cllr. Wallace regarding Glasgow Park, the Director of Service (Social Policy and Housing) stated that it was necessary to have the permission in place before funding could be applied for.

THE MEETING THEN ADJOURNED

A TRUE RECORD

**T. MACKEY
CITY MANAGER**

CONFIRMED THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 2008

MAYOR OF LIMERICK.