



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí

Cork County Council

Minutes of Proceedings at Meeting of Cork County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Cork and by Microsoft Teams on 28th March 2022 at 11am.

I LATHAIR

Comhairleoir Gillian Uí Chochláin, Méara Chontae

Comhairleoiri: Uí Chochláin G, Ó Colmáin, Ó Murchú C, Ó Suilleabháin S, Uí Shuilleabháin M, Ó Donnabháin, Ó Coileáin, Ó Murchú PG, Ní Chroinín, Ó Conaill, Mac Craith, Uí Daltún, Ó Muircheartaigh, Uí Bhuachalla, De Faoite S, 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, Ó Muineacháin B, Ó Dubhghaill, Ó Sé SP, Ó Murchú G, Críod, Ó Muineacháin G, Ó Luanaigh, Ó, 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

PRESENT

Councillor Gillian Coughlan, County Mayor, presided.

Councillor: Coughlan, Coleman, Murphy K, O'Sullivan J, O'Sullivan M, O' Donovan, Collins, Murphy PG, Cronin, O' Connell, McGrath, D'Alton, Murtagh, Buckley A, White J, Dalton – O' Sullivan, O' Callaghan, Barry, Sheppard, Rasmussen, O' Connor S, O'Connor A, McCarthy N, O'Flynn, O'Brien, O'Leary, Dawson, Roche, Moynihan B, Doyle, O'Shea JP, Murphy G, Creed, Moynihan G, Looney, Lynch, Lucey, Hayes Pat, Murphy Gearóid, Kennedy, Madden, O'Shea T, Linehan – Foley, Hegarty M, Ahern, Twomey, McCarthy S, Quaide, Kelly, Carroll, Hurley, Coakley, Hayes Paul

Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Michael Lynch, Director of Services, Planning and Development, Padraig Barrett, Director of Services, Roads and Transportation, Ms. Patricia Liddy, Director of Services, Corporate Services, S/Senior Executive Officer.

[a] CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1/3-2

Proposed by Cllr. Seamus McGrath

Seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 14th March, 2022 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

[b] VOTES OF SYMPATHY

2/3-2(a)

TO: Ms. Emer O'Brien on the death of her mother Eileen Fitzgerald.

TO: The Murphy family on the death of their son Shane Murphy.

CLOSURE OF DURSEY CABLE CAR:

2/3-2(b)

Councillor Gillian Coughlan proposed, seconded by Councillor Patrick Gerard Murphy

The Mayor raised the issue of the Dursey Island Cable Car. She outlined that she received a response from Minister Humphreys dated the 16th March but only received it on the 21st March. She referred to the Chief Executive's letter of 25th March 2022 in response to the Minister's letter.

For the benefit of the Members, she read from the letter issued by the Chief Executive on the 25th March as follows: "The Council maintains pier and slipway infrastructure which will support access by boat to Dursey Island and this is the likely mode of travel when the Cable Car is taken from service. As you know, this Council does not have the remit for the licensing of ferry operators. The Council is however available to engage as necessary with ferry operators, in conjunction and with the support of the Department of Rural and Community Development, who may decide to apply for a licence to said Department to operate a ferry service from Council managed facilities on the mainland and on Dursey Island. The Department of Rural and Community Development currently subsidises a limited ferry service to Dursey Island through the transport services and airstrip management scheme for offshore Islands. In the absence of Cable Car transport it may be possible for your department to extend the subsidised ferry service to facilitate the Islanders in accordance with the scheme. The Council has not previously had a role in this scheme which operates across the inhabited West Cork Islands however the Council is available to engage with your department as necessary and, if this would be helpful, to support an appropriate application for the expansion of the scheme for Dursey Island".

The Mayor proposed writing back to the Minister seeking a meeting to discuss same. The Members agreed.

During this discussion, the Members made the following points:

- Members stated it is 6 weeks since the first letter was sent. It is important to put this on record.
- They stated it is very important to get this on the road and that the Council is seen to be doing everything it can to do so.
- Members welcomed a meeting.
- Members noted that local people are very worried.
- Worldwide attention if being drawn to the area. Sky News is coming to interview the residents.
- Members asked if costings to provide a ferry are known.

The Mayor stated that a temporary service has been provided in the past, but this has only been for short periods.

- Said there appears to be a breakdown in communication between the Council and the Department.
- It is important for the Mayor to get full support of the Members.
- It is clear that the Council can only do so much.
- The support of the Oireachtas is needed.
- It is necessary to support the farmers on the Island.
- The Minister needs to visit the landowners.
- Members requested that the dates the Mayor wrote to the Minister be recorded in the minutes

Ms. Valerie O’Sullivan, Deputy Chief Executive stated the cost of providing a ferry for approximately 240 days is estimated at €240,000. The Council does not have the remit for the licensing of ferry operators.

Ms. Patricia Liddy, Director of Services, confirmed the dates of the Mayor’s letter to the Minister (25th and 28th February). A letter was also issued by Corporate Services on the 14th February to the Minister.

[c] STATUTORY BUSINESS

3/3-2

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY:

SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001:

Members noted the following disposals: _

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KANTURK/MALLOW:

Disposal of land at Grenagh North, Co Cork

3(a)/3-2

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 16th March, 2022.

Situation: Disposal of land at Grenagh North, Co. Cork.

Area: c. 0.89 acres

Consideration: €10,000.00

Consideration: €1

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF WEST CORK:

Grant of Wayleave at Spa Road, Dunmanway, Co Cork

3(b)/3-2

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 16th March, 2022.

Situation: Grant of Wayleave at Spa Road, Dunmanway, Co Cork.

Consideration: €1

Disposal of land at Berehaven Lodge, Castletownbere, Co Cork

3(c)/3-2

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 16th March, 2022.

Situation: Disposal of land at Berehaven Lodge, Castletownbere, Co. Cork.

Area: c.0.115 hectares

Consideration: €2,000.00

4/3-2

THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED) & PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT (STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE) ACT 2006:

Consideration of the Planning Authority's report to Elected Members in accordance with the requirements of Section 37E (4) and 37E (5) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Strategic Infrastructure Development Application – Ballinagree Wind DAC for the construction of up to 20 Wind Turbines.

Michael Lynch, Director of Services told the meeting that the Planning Authority's report to An Bord Pleanála had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 37E (4) and 37E (5) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) on the Strategic Infrastructure Development application to An Bord Pleanála from Ballinagree Wind Farm DAC for the construction of up to 20 No. Wind Turbines. Mr. Lynch brought attention to an error in wording on page 1 of the report that said "Planning Authority report to An Bord Pleanála in accordance with Section 182A of the Planning and Development Acts (as amended)." He said this should have been worded "Planning Authority report

to An Bord in accordance with the requirements of Section 37E (4) and 37E (5) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)” and that this will be amended before the report is submitted to An Bord Pleanála.

Mr. Lynch outlined the Chief Executive’s Report. He stated the proposed windfarm is located in a number of townlands around Ballinagree. He said the project involved the construction of 20 turbines and all related site works and ancillary development. Mr. Lynch said it is required under the planning guidelines to identify the strategic issues. He outlined the effects of the proposed development on the environment of the area. He stated Cork County Council recommended that 4 turbines be omitted from the development.

He said the report was presented to Members for their consideration and that he was seeking the views of the Members on the proposed development.

The Deputy Chief Executive said that this application was discussed at a recent Development Committee meeting. The Planning Authority must submit a report to An Bord Pleanála and Members can, by resolution, append recommendations to the report to An Bord Pleanála. The Meetings Administrator record of the meeting will also be attached to the report.

During a discussion, Members made the following points:

- Members stated that there were some community opposition. Therefore, it was necessary that they be kept updated.
- Members sought clarity on the numbers (4 or 6) of wind turbines being removed from the development due to ecology impacts.
- Members asked if it was still possible for the public to submit objections.
- Members noted that Macroom MD has many windfarms in the area. They stated that as the public consultation was done during Covid, it was not ideal.
- Members stated that it is important that An Bord Pleanála takes the Council’s conditions into account if it grants permission.
- Members recommended that the Bond be raised from €300,000 to €1m to reinstate the road. They stated the whole width of the road should be resurfaced as cabling will be laid underneath.
- Said that no one is against Green Energy but proper consultation is needed with the community.

Mr. Lynch stated that if the Planning Department was the decision maker, it would address these conditions but this is the decision of An Bord Pleanála. He said that currently one of the conditions is to remove 4 of the turbines. He stated that the Area Engineers have calculated a Bond of €300,000 that they consider appropriate.

- Some Members recommended an amendment to the Chief Executive’s report recommending the Bond be increased to €1m.
- Other Members stated the Bond should remain at €300,000 as the Area Engineers recommended this.
- Members suggested there was no need to raise the Bond, as it was noted that roads were always reinstated after works.
- Asked if it was appropriate for Members to raise the Bond and if advice was needed to decide.
- The Mayor stated it was important to note that it is only a recommendation that is being put forward, but that Members were flagging a concern about road conditions.
- Main goal is to make sure there was enough money to resurface the road afterwards.

Proposed by Councillor Kay Dawson

Seconded by Councillor Michael Looney

RESOLVED:

Noting construction price inflation in relation to the significant roadworks that will be required when the wind turbines are erected, this Council recommends that sufficient funds are made available by the developer to the Council for the re-instatement of roads by way of Bond or other means, and that this recommendation is attached to the Planning Authority's report to An Bord Pleanála together with the Meetings Administrator's record of the meeting.

[e] REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES TÚAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ Ó CHOISTÍ

5/3-2

TOURISM SPC

“That Cork County Council would ensure that road signs throughout the County of Cork are adequately cleaned on a regular basis. Cllr. Coakley noted that signage, particularly on approach roads, are often unclean to the extent that visibility is affected and there is no consistency with the approach to cleaning of signage in the Municipal Districts throughout the county.”

Councillor Karen Coakley proposed, seconded by Councillor Danny Collins

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members thanked the Tourism SPC for the work it did during Covid pandemic.
- Stated that some signs are in worse condition than others.
- Requested that road signs are cleaned regularly for safety.
- Suggested there be an Annual Programme for cleaning of signs and that this should be discussed at the Roads SPC.
- Said that some signs cannot be seen because of overgrown hedge rows. Suggested that landowners should be made to cut them back.
- Stated that there is a staffing issue and that the Council needs to go back to when there was a man that went around cleaning signs.
- Some bus signs cannot be seen as they are faded.
- Recommended that a percentage of an outdoor staff members time should be used to clean the signs.
- Stated that the National Roads have a Highway Maintenance Section. There is structure around this. An audit of the signs are carried out every now and again.
- Said that graffiti is an issue on signs.
- Stated the Tourism SPC should find the money to pay for the cleaning of the sign.
- Members said there are too many poles so recommended that a few signs be placed on one pole rather than one sign being placed on numerous poles.
- This Motion is brought up annually. Roads SPC is not the solution. Staffing and financing are the real issues.

Mr. Pdraig Barrett, Director of Services stated that it is a finance issue. He said there is not enough money to maintain our roads. He stated that Members should report specific signs to the Area Engineers and they will be looked at.

- Members stated it should be debated at the SPC and a policy should be put in place for the whole county to deal with the signs.

The Mayor asked the Deputy Chief Executive to have a look at this during Budget time.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated a policy is needed and then funding for policy must be looked at. The policy should be around auditing, cleaning and replacing signage.

- Given that tourism is getting back up on it's feet after the pandemic, special focus should be given to signage this year.
- Members agreed that this topic should be discussed at the Roads and Transport SPC.

[f] REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF OFFICERS TUAIRISCÍ AGUS MOLTAÍ Ó OIFIGH

6/3-2

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL:

6/3(a)-2

Quarterly report of the Corporate Services Directorate for the 3-month period 31st December 2021

Members noted the Corporate Services Directorate Quarterly Report.

6/3(b)-2

Quarterly report of the Library Services for the 3-month period up to 31st December 2021

Members noted the Library Services Directorate Quarterly Report.

[g] CORRESPONDENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS COMHFHREAGRAS Ó RANNA RIALTAS

7/3-2

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HERITAGE

Correspondence received 22nd March 2022 in response to the Council's letter dated 28th September 2021 requesting additional grant funding for (a) Group Waste Water Schemes, (b) private septic tank upgrades and (c) private Treatment Plants not taken in charge.

Councillor Kevin Murphy proposed, seconded by Councillor Seamus McGrath

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members referred to the second paragraph of the response which stated that the Council did not submit any applications under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 -2021.
- Members requested a report from the Water Services Department to explain this as they were disappointed to hear this.
- Said there was no reference to a current Programme so requested that the Council write back to the Department to request if there is one in place.
- Stated that the Council need to protect the water.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated the County Engineer will provide a report explaining the reason no submission was made.

The Mayor there was a report made available recently on the deterioration of ground water.

- Stated that the Rural Water Committee did not meet for a number of years. There use to be 3 meetings, one for each division, now there is only 1.

Members agreed to write back to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and request that the Department confirm if there is a current Programme in place and if so to forward the criteria?

[h] NOTICES OF MOTION FOGRAÍ RÚN

VACANT LEVY NOTICES

“That Cork County Council provide a report on the number of Vacant Levy notices issued since the introduction of a Vacant Levy Officer”

Councillor Deirdre O’Brien proposed, seconded by Councillor Gearóid Murphy

RESPONSE:

Context:

1. Initially 26 Folios on Register, c. €31m total valuation
2. Additional 12no. entries added to Register in 2020
3. Currently 16no. entries confirmed on the Register, c.€20m total valuation.
Note: The Register is dynamic as the status of lands change (ownership, infrastructure appeals) - entries are added, removed and paused as appropriate and in accordance with the governing legislation.
4. Updated valuations of all current Vacant Sites Register entries has been completed and Vacant Sites Register will be amended to reflect same (in most instances land values have increased).
5. Council’s Vacant Sites Register entries are under review – to remove activated sites, to remove sites where zoning status has changed during County Development Plan review process and to add new additional serviced zoned residential / regeneration lands identified in current CDP review process. These VSR changes can be fully activated on adoption of new CDP 2022-2028.

Levies Issued:

1. Since 2019, 25 no. Vacant Site Levy invoices have been issued.
2. The total of the Levies issued is €660,250.
3. Levies totalling €338,550 (51% of Levies issued) were transferred to Cork City Council as part of the local authority boundary re-alignment.
4. Levies totalling €128,250 were cancelled due to appeals to ABP.
5. Levies totalling €9,750 have been paid.
6. 2no. Levies issued are currently under appeal.
7. Outstanding Levies to be paid total €183,700 – Note: Council’s ALM Team are in advanced discussions with a number of landowners regarding payment of Levies totalling €78,500

Additional Comment:

1. Where Vacant Site Levy remains unpaid, the amount remains a charge on the land concerned. It is noted that in a majority of cases, payment of the outstanding Levy occurs on sale of the subject lands.
2. It is noted that a number of VSR sites, as well as VSR candidate sites for entry (sites under assessment), have been sold or activated for housing use in advance of a Levy being issued.

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members are concerned about the low number of levies which has been paid (€9,750).
- Members asked what areas of the county are being dealt with and where are these levies being paid.
- Stated the Vacant Site Register is very important as the country is in the middle of a housing crisis.
- The Cork Regeneration Unit is a great idea.
- Members thought a more detailed report would be in place at this stage.
- More enforcement is needed.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated that the Property Activation Unit is well established and is looking at every vacant property, starting at the town centre and working out. All areas are being looked at. She said a more detailed report on the Property Activation Unit will be presented to the Development Committee before the Summer.

BOIL WATER NOTICES

9/3-2

Councillor Susan McCarthy proposed, seconded by Councillor Michael Hegarty

“That Council write to Irish Water to request support to be put in place for those who are subjected to repeated outages, and also some accommodation for those who are subjected to protracted and repeated Boil Water Notices. While it is accepted that on BWNs, water can be used once boiled, it is causing undue stress and strain on families and people with disabilities. Also in areas that frequent outages occur, that they would supply an alternative water source.”

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members referenced an issue arising from the Dower Reservoir. There has been an on / off boil notice there for the last 7 years as a result of a flood in 2015. Consultants recommended in 2018 that the 10,000 residents south of Middleton, Whitegate and Aghada be connected to the Inniscarra water supply. Currently there is no funding in place for this to happen.
- There are also weekly outages in the Ballycotton area due to a serious leak in the area.
- Members stated there are parts of East Cork on a Boil Water Notice since Christmas Day. The last update given was the 15th February. Irish Water is refusing to supply water tankers. Irish Water does not engage with Public Representatives.
- Noted that simple things like ice cubes for pubs in East Cork have to be bought.
- Lack of communication is a big problem. A weekly update should be given for those on a Boil Water Notice.
- Members should get regular updates from Irish Water.
- There should be a programme of compensation measures for individuals affected.
- Irish Water should be asked to update Members at a Development Committee meeting and at an East Cork MD meeting.
- Members noted that Killavullen is also on a Boil Water Notice for the last few weeks.

- Stated that if the Council was in charge of the water supply, there would be a person that could be contacted.
- Irish Water can be difficult to deal with.
- Members stated that the designated phone number Irish Water provides to give an update is useless.

Ms. Valerie O’Sullivan, Deputy Chief Executive stated that the Council is not a Water Authority. She said the Council is well within their rights to write to Irish Water with these issues.

Members agreed to write to Irish Water to request that they put supports in place for those who are subjected to repeated outages, and also some accommodation for those who are subjected to protracted and repeated Boil Water Notices. While it is accepted that on BWNs, water can be used once boiled, it is causing undue stress and strain on families and people with disabilities. Also in areas that frequent outages occur, that they would supply an alternative water source.

The Members also request a meeting with a representative from Irish Water to discuss these matters”

EXTENSION OF TIME:

As the time was now 1.15pm an extension of time was agreed.

Proposed by Councillor Seamus McGrath

Seconded by Councillor Kay Dawson

BANNING OF CHEMICAL-BASED WEEDKILLER

10/3-2

Councillor Liam Quaide proposed, seconded by Councillor

“That Cork Co. Council would follow the lead taken by Cork. City Council in banning the use of chemical-based weedkiller in public parks, open space areas, greenways, woodland planting and roadside verges, and that it would reserve the right to use chemical-based weedkiller to control the Japanese knotwood invasive species. In so doing, Cork Co. Council would recognise the significant, unnecessary harm caused to biodiversity by these products, their increasingly evidenced impact on human health, the outdated scorched aesthetic they leave behind, the availability of alternative means of achieving the same purpose, and the growing demand from the public to make this policy move.”

RESPONSE:

The spraying of weeds and the eradication of invasive species is carried out as part of the general maintenance and grass cutting programmes. Up until recently glyphosate products have been used throughout the county and the product is very effective in the eradication of weeds. Glyphosate also continues to be used in this country as a very effective method for the treatment and eradication of Japanese Knotweed and other invasive species. Other, more environmentally friendly methods are not proving as effective and cost significantly more to adequately deal with the matter.

Nonetheless, Cork County Council will use physical methods and non-chemical tools but the effectiveness of the treatment may be reduced in comparison with previous treatments. Cork County Council will also follow the guidance on best practice measures and on responsible pesticide use in public areas which is now available on the DAFM website under the following link:

<http://www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie/media/pesticides/content/sud/ResponsiblePesticideUsePublicAmenityGardenAreas200217.pdf>

This requires a detailed risk assessment to be carried out in advance before the use of a pesticide can be considered. All Cork County Council area engineers are now familiar with these requirements.

In this regard the Council proposes to significantly reduce the use of Glyphosate in 2022 and to potentially eliminate it totally in future years (with the exception of using it to treat Invasive Species)

It should be noted that Cork City is urban in nature while Cork County has many rural areas where agriculture is most prevalent. In that regard, Cork County Council is cognisant of it's responsibilities under the Noxious Weeds Act 1936, which states that it is an offence not to control and prevent the spread of certain weeds. Cork County Council takes it's obligations under the Act seriously while at the same time complying fully with the implementation of the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD).

During this discussion the Members made the following points:

- Members stated that there is no real alternative to glyphosate for perennial weeds. There is a knock on effect of not spraying the road edges. Ragwort is gone out of control in public areas.
- Public attitude is changing on the use of weed killers. Minimum usage is needed.
- Welcomed the response and commitment to limit the use of spraying.
- Glyphosate is approved in Europe until the end of this year. The Noxious Weeds Act 1936 will be revised.
- Members acknowledged how far the Council has come.
- In 2018 Passage West asked Carrigaline Area Office to stop spraying altogether.
- Members acknowledged that in the UK 41 Councils have signed up to use an alternative.
- Stated that an alternative is needed as the Council cannot abandon the maintenance of our town centres.
- Noted that there is an issue with verges as they can grow up to 3 meters on the outskirts of our villages.
- Glyphosate when used properly can be good. It is noted that it destroys the structure of ditches and hedgerows.
- The County Council cannot be compared with the City Council.
- Control are not always put in place when private contractors are spraying in urban areas. Asked who controlled this usage?
- Sheep were used last year to clear the overgrowth in Cemeteries in South Cork. People are spraying in the Cemeteries and this must stop so the sheep can be used again this year.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated that US EPA have issued a report stating there are no risks to humans if glyphosate is used as directed. It is an approved product.

Mr. Pdraig Barrett, Director of Services stated that there is a briefing on pesticides organised for the Members from the Department of Agriculture. He confirmed the Council will continue to use glyphosate. Hedgerows will be trimmed when necessary. He also stated that it is the Department of Agriculture that is responsible for private contractors spraying in public places.

Mr. Louis Duffy, Director of Services also stated that glyphosate is necessary for invasive species.

[K] VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

11/3-2

TO: Cork Senior Footballers on their success to date.

TO: Cork Senior Hurlers on their success to date.

TO: John Twomey on his appointment as President of the Irish Sailing Association.

TO: Cork Minor Camogie Team on their victory over Galway in the Tesco All-Ireland Minor A Camogie Title.

TO: Mournabbey Under 21 Ladies Footballers on winning the County A Final.

[I] ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12/3-2

1. Tenders for the 'Printing of the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028' were opened during the meeting. The closing date for receipt of the tenders was 21st March 2022 and one tender was received.
3. Members asked if there was any update on the Motion on Bye-Laws.
4. Members enquired if any date had been arranged for the meeting with the Minister of Transport regarding grants for conversion to alternative fuel. The Mayor stated she had not heard back from the Minister's office.

~ THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING ~