



# 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 Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

### I LATHAIR

#### Comhairleoir, Seosamh Ó Cearbhaill, Mhéara Chontae

**Comhairleoiri:** Uí Bhambaire, Ó Colmáin, Ó Coileáin S, Uí Chochláin G, Ó Foghlú, Uí Shúilleabháin M, Ó Coileáin, D, Ní Chróinín, Ó hArrahtáin, Ó Murchú OG, Uí Bhuachalla A, Daltún Ó Súilleabháin, Ní Charthaigh U, Mac Craith, De Faoite, Barra, Ó Finn, Ní Cheallacháin, Rasmussen, Sheppard, Mac Coitir, Mac Carthaigh N, Uí Bhriain, Ó Donnchú, Ó Floinn, Ó Dubhghaill, Ó Muineacháin B, Ní Mhurchú T, Ó Sé SP, Críod, Ó Luanaigh, Ó Luasa, Uí Loinsigh, Ní Mhuineacháin G, Ó Haodha, Ó Madaoin, Ó Murchú G, Ó Sé T, Ní Heachthigheirn, Ó Buachalla S, Cocking R, Ó Héighheartaigh, Léineacháin Uí Foghlú, Ó Maolchathaigh, Mac Uaid, Ní Cheallaigh, Ó Donnabháin, Ó Seasnáin, Towse.

### PRESENT

#### Councillor Joe Carroll, County Mayor, presided.

**Councillor:** Bambury, Coleman, Collins J, Coughlan G, Foley, O'Sullivan M, Collins D, Cronin, Harrington, Murphy PG, Buckley A, Dalton O'Sullivan, McCarthy U, McGrath, White, Barry, Finn, O'Callaghan, Rasmussen, Sheppard, Cotter, McCarthy N, O'Brien, O'Donoghue, O'Flynn, Doyle, Moynihan B, Murphy T, O'Shea JP, Creed, Looney, Lucey, Lynch, Moynihan G, Hayes, Madden, Murphy G, O'Shea T, Ahern, Buckley J, Cocking, Hegarty, Linehan Foley, Mulcahy, Quaide, Kelly, O'Donovan, Sexton, Towse.

Chief Executive, Divisional Managers, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services.

#### [a] CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1/9-2

*Proposed by Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen  
Seconded by Cllr. Finbarr Harrington*

### RESOLVED:

“That the minutes of the Meeting held on 09<sup>th</sup> September 2024 be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.”

#### [b] VOTES OF SYMPATHY

2/9-2

**TO:** The family of Councillor Tadgh O'Donovan, Trá

**TO:** The family of former Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Brian Bermingham

**TO:** To Father Brian Morrissey, Castletownbere

## SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

To discuss the ongoing water supply issues in Ballyhooly Village.

*Proposed by Councillor William O' Leary*

*Seconded by Councillor Jack White*

Members agreed to discuss this matter at 1 pm.

## [c] STATUTORY BUSINESS

### 3. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

3/9-2

#### STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

*Strategic Policy Committees - Elected Members:*

Members agreed the following membership of Strategic Policy Committees.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPC 1</b> <i>Planning &amp; Strategic Development</i> Total Number of Members – 13  <b>Chair – Councillor Micheal Hegarty</b></p>	<p>Councillors Patrick Gerard Murphy, Seamus McGrath, Eoghan Kenny, Anthony Barry, Bernard Moynihan, Gearóid Murphy, Ann Marie Ahern, Liam Madden, Eileen Lynch, Ann Bambury, Finbarr Harrington, Nelius Cotter</p>
---	---

**Councillor Alan Coleman proposed, Councillor John Paul O' Shea seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 1 – Planning and Strategic Development filled.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPC 2</b> <i>Environment, Climate Action &amp; Biodiversity</i>  Total Number of Members – 13  <b>Chair – Councillor Gillian Coughlan</b></p>	<p>Councillors Patrick Gerard Murphy, Martin Coughlan, Jack White, Audrey Buckley, Michael Looney, William O' Leary, Liam Quaide, John Michael Foley, Peter O' Donoghue, John Buckley, Daniel Sexton, Isobel Towse</p>
---	--

**Councillor John Paul O' Shea proposed, Councillor Finbarr Harrington seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 2 – Environment, Climate Action & Biodiversity  
filled.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPC 3</b> <i>Economic Development and Enterprise</i> Total Number of Members – 12  <b>Chair – Councillor Gearoid Murphy</b></p>	<p>Councillors Alan Coleman, Frank O' Flynn, Ian Doyle, Bernard Moynihan, Gobnait Moynihan, Sheila O' Callaghan, Marie O' Sullivan, Pat Hayes, John Collins, John Michael Foley, Nelius Cotter</p>
---	--

**Councillor Micheal Hegarty proposed, Councillor Gearoid Murphy seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 3 - Economic Development and Enterprise filled.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPC 4</b> <i>Tourism</i> Total Number of Members – 12  <b>Chair – Councillor Ben Dalton O' Sullivan</b></p>	<p>Councillors Alan Coleman, Mary Linehan Foley, Jack White, Joe Carroll, Deirdre O'Brien, Marie O'Sullivan, Deirdre Kelly, Pat Hayes, Caroline Cronin, Dominic Finn, Noel O' Donovan</p>
---	---

**Councillor Pat Hayes proposed, Councillor Michael Hegarty seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 4 – Tourism filled.**

<p><b>SPC 5</b> <i>Housing</i> Total Number of Members – 12</p> <p><b>Chair – Councillor Seamus McGrath</b></p>	<p>Councillors Noel McCarthy, Sinead Sheppard, Frank O’ Flynn, Cathal Rasmussen, Ted Lucey, Mary Linehan Foley, Ann Marie Ahern, Ben Dalton O’ Sullivan, Una McCarthy, Eoghan Fahy, Ger Curley.</p>
---	---

**Councillor Deirdre Kelly proposed, Councillor Cathal Rasmussen seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 5 – Housing filled.**

<p><b>SPC 6</b> <i>Roads and Transportation</i> Total Number of Members – 12</p> <p><b>Chair – Councillor Cathal Rasmussen</b></p>	<p>Councillors Michael Creed, Ted Lucey, Una McCarthy, Eoghan Kenny, Gobnait Moynihan, Tony O’ Shea, Michael Looney, John Collins, Finbarr Harrington, Eoghan Fahy, Patrick Mulcahy</p>
--	---

**Councillor Finbarr Harrington proposed, Councillor Eoghan Fahy seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 6 – Roads and Transportation filled.**

<p><b>SPC 7</b> <i>Social Inclusion Community and Rural Development</i> Total Number of Members – 12</p> <p><b>Chair – Councillor John Paul O’ Shea</b></p>	<p>Councillors Michael Creed, Noel McCarthy, Danny Collins, Deirdre O’ Brien, Gillian Coughlan, Tony O’ Shea, Deirdre Kelly, Eileen Lynch, Ann Bambury, Peter O’ Donoghue, Trish Murphy</p>
---	---

**Councillor Seamus McGrath proposed, Councillor Michael Hegarty seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 7 – Social Inclusion Community and Rural Development filled.**

<p><b>SPC 8</b> <i>Arts Culture and Languages</i> Total Number of Members – 12</p> <p><b>Chair – Councillor Sinead Sheppard</b></p>	<p>Councillors John Paul O’ Shea, Martin Coughlan, Ian Doyle, Sheila O’ Callaghan, Liam Quaide, Liam Madden, Ger Curley, Dominic Finn, Trish Murphy, Rory Cocking, Isobel Towse.</p>
---	--

**Councillor John Paul O’ Shea proposed, Councillor Alan Coleman seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 8 – Arts Culture and Languages filled.**

<p><b>SPC 9</b> <i>Coastal Marine and Flood Policy</i> Total Number of Members – 12</p> <p><b>Chair – Councillor Audrey Buckley</b></p>	<p>Councillors Michael Hegarty, Anthony Barry, Joe Carroll, Danny Collins, William O’ Leary, Caroline Cronin, John Buckley, Rory Cocking, Patrick Mulcahy, Noel O’ Donovan, Daniel Sexton</p>
---	---

**Councillor John Paul O’ Shea proposed, Councillor Michael Hegarty seconded.  
The Senior Executive Officer confirmed SPC 9 – Coastal Marine and Flood Policy filled.**

**4. DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY**

**SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001:**

4/9-2

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF FERMOY:**

4(a)/9-2

*Disposal of Old Fire Station, Fermoy, Co. Cork.*

**Situation:** Disposal of Old Fire Station, Fermoy, Co. Cork.

**Area:** As outlined on Folio CK1256891F

**Consideration:** €61,000

*Cllr. Noel McCarthy proposed, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien.*

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF EAST CORK:**

4(b)/9-2

*Grant of Wayleave at Beechwood Court, Middleton, Co. Cork*

**Situation:** Grant of Wayleave at Beechwood Court, Middleton, Co. Cork coloured to Gas Networks Ireland measuring 17.7m as per the attached map.

**Area:** 17.7m

**Consideration:** €177

4(c)/9-2

*Grant of Wayleave at Dromadda Beg, Ladysbridge, Co. Cork*

**Situation:** Grant of Wayleave at Dromadda Beg, Ladysbridge, Co. Cork

**Consideration:** €1

**5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 179A OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 AS AMENDED.**

5/9-2

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BANDON KINSALE**

5(a)/9-2

Lorraine Lynch, A/Divisional Manager said the following:

- Informed members there is no material change to the Part 8.
- Following public consultation, the number of toilets has been increased to three public toilets and one disabled access toilet.

Members resolved to approve the Part 8 Chief Executives Report on the proposed Kinsale Public Toilet development which includes the following:

- The installation of two number unisex public toilets and one number disabled access public toilet and storeroom within the existing building footprint at Town-Plots.
- Conservation works to existing stone walls.
- Roofing works to extent of existing building and any ancillary works necessary for the provision of public toilets.

*Proposed by Cllr. Gillian Coughlan  
Secoded by Cllr. Marie O’ Sullivan.*

**During the discussion members made the following points:**

- Members wished for the following to be addressed:
  - Baby Changing Unit
  - A separate men and women’s toilet
  - A shelter for queuing erected.
  - Harbour Master toilets to be upgraded.
  - That the toilets be in situ for the 2025 summer season.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KANTURK MALLOW**

5(b)/9-2

Members resolved to approve the Part 8 Chief Executives Report on the proposed Carhookeal development which consists of an indoor basketball court and clubhouse and will include the following:

- A full-size indoor basketball court
- Changing facilities including 2 number dressing rooms.
- Toilet & shower facilities.
- An activity hall.
- Reception/lobby area.
- Machinery/Sports Equipment Storage.
- Access road to clubhouse through site.
- Associated groundworks including drainage, watermain connect and electrical ducting.

*Proposed by Cllr. Gearóid Murphy  
Secoded by Cllr. Pat Hayes.*

**During the discussion members made the following points:**

- Has funding for the development has been secured.
- Has the Council applied for a Sports Capital Grant
- Members welcomed the project for Mallow and reminded Management, Carrigaline also has a very active basketball team who require a training ground and asked for this to be prioritised.

Chief Executive, Moira Murrell said it is a substantial project and confirmed Cork County Council has applied under the Sports Capital Grant for funding.

**[d] FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

6. **“Consideration of report on the financial impact of the LPT variation in order to set a local adjustment factor in accordance with the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act (Section 20) 2012, as amended”.**

6/9-2

Jeremy Canty presented a report on LPT to members and the following points were raised:

**During the discussion members made the following points:**

- The rise from 7.5% to 15% is not acceptable.
- Considering the increase in the cost of living it is not fair on the public to increase the rate to 15%
- They asked for an update on the Atlantic Shellfish.
- As average house prices are increasing there will be a natural rise in LPT, and the Council should not increase it further.

*Cllr. Joe Carroll proposed a 10% increase in the rate for a one-year period, seconded by Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy.*

*Cllr. Ger Curley proposed that there would be no change to the current 7.5% rate, seconded by Cllr. Daniel Sexton*

Chief Executive, Moira Murrell responded by saying her role as Chief Executive is to look after Cork County Councils Finances and ensure service delivery across all of Cork County's towns and villages and is asking for an increase in the LPT rate to 15%.

**A vote was taken to increase the rate of LPT from 7.5% to 10% for a one-year period.**

**For Increasing LPT from 7.5% to 10% for a one-year period.**

**Councillors:** Bambury, Coleman, Coughlan G, Foley, O'Sullivan, Cronin, Harrington, Murphy PG, Buckley A, Dalton O'Sullivan, McCarthy U, McGrath, White, Barry, Finn, O'Callaghan, Rasmussen, Sheppard, Cotter, McCarthy N, O'Brien, O'Flynn, Doyle, Murphy T, Creed, Looney, Lucey, Lynch, Moynihan G, Hayes, Kenny, Murphy G, O'Shea T, Ahern, Cocking, Hegarty, Mulcahy, Quaide, Carroll, Kelly, O'Donovan, Towse.

[42]

**Against Increasing LPT from 7.5% to 10% for a one-year period.**

**Councillors:** Collins J, Collins D, Fahy, Curley, O'Donoghue, O'Leary, Buckley J, Sexton.

[8]

*It was agreed Cork County Council will increase the level of LPT from 7.5% to 10% for a one-year period.*

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

7/9-2

7. **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF WEST CORK:**

7(a)/9-2

“That the members of Full Council would call for a countywide survey of speed in villages that have regional and national roads running through them”.

*Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy proposed, seconded by Cllr. Noel O' Donovan*

**During this discussion, the members made the following points:**

- Members called for a complete review and said there is a need to adopt one road safety plan for the County.
- Members said raised tables are a great solution in the reduction of speed and asked why they are not in place in more of our towns and villages.
- Cork County Council must join with An Garda Síochána to tackle road safety across the County.
- We need to look at the safe route to schools' scheme and consider other funding options available.
- Members highlighted a back log with Section 38's and Part 8's and said low staffing levels in our regional and local offices must be addressed.
- Innishannon town was highlighted as an area of concern due to large volumes of traffic daily and the lack of road safety measures in place.
- Members said while canvassing for the local elections speed was a huge public concern.
- Members highlighted the N72 and said it is crucial to address the road safety concerns on the road.
- The Killeagh road leading onto the national road is dangerous and road safety measures are urgently required.
- Members asked if Caroline Casey, Road Safety Officer could be invited to brief members on road safety.

Divisional Manager, Kevin Morey responded as follows:

- He is aware that a survey of our road network is current underway to identify areas that can be prioritised for funding.
- Cork County Council will continue to collaborate and work with members and suggested this could be done through SPC.

7(b)/9-2

“Following the recent announcement of Transport Infrastructure Ireland to request that Local Authorities across the country should not proceed to award contracts for certain projects, which includes the N71 Ballylickey to Dromkeal Pavement Scheme and the N71 Newmills /Owenahincha Scheme and other road projects around the county, the members of the West Cork Municipal District have requested that the funding for these projects be reinstated”.

***Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy proposed, seconded by Cllr. Deirdre O' Brien***

**During this discussion, the members made the following points:**

- Members expressed frustration with the TII decision and said planned projects are worthwhile and need to proceed.
- Members said there is damage to the public's perception of Cork County Council due to the change.
- Asked if a road lining truck can be purchased and suggested it could be outsourced while not in use.
- Members said safety on our road network should always be a top priority.
- Members said it shouldn't be the case that funding is provided for greenways but not for much needed road improvements.
- Members said Cork County Council is the largest County and is not getting an adequate share of funding.
- Asked for an investigation into the reasons why the roads budget is not being fully exhausted by year end.

Chief Executive, Moira Murrell responded as follows:

- She assured members Cork County Council will continue to engage with TII on the matter.
- There was a value for money study carried out for the purchase of a road liner and the study found that the purchase was not warranted, however, due to the comments made this will now be reviewed.

*Members agreed to write to Minister Ryan to request that funding is reinstated immediately.*

## **8. WESTERN DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE**

**8/9-2**

“Following the recent announcement by the National Ambulance Service to cut back on cover in Cork and Kerry with the new rosters due to commence on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September which will result in a loss in cover in Cork and Kerry, the members highlighted their concerns that this will have a detrimental effect on their rural communities. The members of the Western Divisional Committee are calling on the National Ambulance Service and the Minister for Health to reverse this decision.”

*At the agreement of the Members, it was agreed that this motion would be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council on 14/10/2024.*

## **[g] CORRESPONDENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS**

**9/9-2**

9. Correspondence received 10/09/2024 from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in response to the Council’s letter dated 03/07/2024 in relation to Housing Adaptation Grants.

*At the agreement of the Members, it was agreed that this motion would be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council on 14/10/2024.*

## **[h] NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **CIS & LIS SCHEMES**

**10/9-2**

“That the roads directorate would outline the individual spend and specific roads approved for the CIS & LIS Schemes in Cork County for 2024. The report should also outline the list of roads where applications have been made for future years”.

*At the agreement of the Members, it was agreed that this motion would be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council on 14/10/2024.*

### **ROADS FUNDING**

**11/9-2**

“That Cork County Council would urgently write to Minister Ryan’s office requesting the reinstatement of the funding recently pulled from different national roads projects in County Cork.”

*This item was discussed under item 7(b).*

### **SUBTERRANEAN INFRASTRUCTURE**

**12/9-2**



“That Cork County Council, would write to Eir, requesting a review of all subterranean infrastructure in the entire county, particularly in relation to Utility cover aprons on footpaths and roads.”

*At the agreement of the Members, it was agreed that this motion would be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council on 14/10/2024.*

### **BATHING WATER TESTING**

13/9-2

“That this council will test bathing waters weekly following a “do not swim” notice, and fortnightly all year round in areas that had a red flag raised at least twice during the bathing season.”

*At the agreement of the Members, it was agreed that this motion would be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council on 14/10/2024.*

### **FÁS & TÚS SCHEMES**

14/9-2

“That Cork County Council would write to Minister Heather Humphreys TD to look at criteria for eligibility to sign up to FAS and Tus schemes given the present high employment in Ireland.”

*At the agreement of the Members, it was agreed that this motion would be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council on 14/10/2024.*

### **ENACTMENT OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES BILL**

15/9-2

*Cllr. Jack White and Cllr. Liam Quaide proposed, seconded by Cllr. Sinead Sheppard*

"That Cork County Council, in light of the recent ruling by the International Court of Justice on the illegality of Israeli settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories, calls on the Irish Government to enact the Occupied Territories Bill, to cut Irish trade ties with Israeli goods and services produced in these illegal settlements."

Mayor Cllr Joe Carroll welcomed Senator Francis Black to the Chamber.

#### **During this discussion, the members made the following points:**

- Members fully supported the motion and
- The current situation is unacceptable and said any small step to protect the lives of innocent civilians is welcomed.
- Members said there is a clear and urgent need to enact the bill and said it is imperative Cork County Council support this.

*Members agreed to write to An Taoiseach to enact The Occupied Territories Bill.*

### **[j] VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

16/9-2

**TO:** Minister Michael McGrath on his recent appointment as EU Commissioner-designate for Democracy, Justice, and Rule of Law. He is responsible for the Digital Fairness Act.

### **[k] SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

17/7-2

### **BALLYHOOLY VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY**

To discuss the recent issues with water supply in Ballyhooly village.

**During this discussion members made the following points:**

- The current situation is unacceptable and residents of Ballyhooly are suffering for months, and something must be done.
- Residents are experiencing ongoing issues with their household appliances as a result of the issue.
- There is a consistent lack of pressure, and the pipe network urgently needs to be replaced.
- Acknowledged the work required will take some time but said there must be progress and a plan in place to address the issues.
- Called for Uisce Éireann to be made accountable for this as basic standards are not being met.

*Members agreed to write to Uisce Éireann on the matter.*

**[1] ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**~ THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING ~**