



MINUTES OF THE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2023

1 **Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd December 2022 and matters arising**

Cllr. Heney requested that the Manager review the historical participation of the Lord Mayor and Councillors in the Pro Cathedral Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and report back to the Members.

Cllr. Flynn requested that an unredacted version of the report into the governance of the St. Patrick's Festival be provided to the Protocol Committee.

Order: The minutes as proposed by Cllr. Flynn and seconded by Cllr. Lacey were agreed.

2 **Planning Matters relating to 40 Herbert Park: Richard Shakespeare to attend.**

Cllr. MacDonncha expressed his concerns regarding the failure of the Executive to answer questions in relation to 40 Herbert Park, citing the principle of sub judice. He felt that the sub judice rule was not being used appropriately. He also had serious concerns regarding the procedures followed in relation to the instigation of the RPS process for the building, which he believes has serious repercussions for future RPS sites.

Richard Shakespeare outlined the procedure for adding a building to the record of protected structures and confirmed that in the instance of 40 Herbert Park the process had been followed correctly. The legal proceedings taken by the City Council in this matter were in relation to general planning breaches and not in relation to the RPS process.

The Law Agent, Yvonne Kelly briefed the Members on the legal basis for initiating the RPS process and confirmed that the City Council followed the appropriate procedures in relation to 40 Herbert Park. She also confirmed that the sub judice principle had been applied appropriately in this instance. As the case was under judicial consideration, Dublin City Council could not comment or provide opinion on the matter as it could potentially damage the Council's position.

On a separate matter Richard Shakespeare confirmed that he would be circulating a written report and legal briefing on the St. Anne's Park Development Plan Judicial Review.

Order: Noted.

3 **Board of St. Patrick's Festival**

The Manager reported that the request for the inclusion of a Councillor on the Board of St. Patrick's Festival would be considered by the company's AGM in February 2023.

Order: Noted

4 **Motion in the name of Councillor Daithí Doolan: "Organising a delegation from Dublin City Council to Ramallah, Palestine."**

The motion was proposed by Cllr. Doolan and seconded by Cllr. Flynn. Cllr. Doolan spoke to his motion and received the support of the Committee Members.

Order: Motion Agreed and recommended to Council

5 **City Hall Illumination Request in support of Global Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day on April 19th, 2023.**

Order: Lighting request agreed.

6 **Councillor Conference Reports:**

Cllr. Mary Callaghan. "Leading the Housing Sector Towards a Sustainable Financial Future – ICSH Finance and Development Conference". 19th – 20th October 2022, Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo.

Order: Report noted.

7 **Approval of Councillor Attendance at Conferences:**

- a) Policy Forum Ireland: "Next steps for Early Learning and Childcare: Funding and staffing, support for policy implementation, Updating Aistear and the ECCE review, and raising attainment, wellbeing and addressing inequalities for children". Online, 9th March 2023. <https://westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/conference/Early-Learning-PFFIThursday>

Order: Agreed and recommended to Council.

- b) Climate Action Economic Opportunities - Local Authorities Supporting Enterprise. 26th April 2023, Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Order: Agreed and recommended to Council.

8 **Manager's Report**

The Manager reported on the following matters:

- The vacancy on the Protocol Committee following the resignation of Cllr. James Geoghegan would be listed on the February Council agenda.
- A meeting of the City Hall Working Group has been scheduled for Monday 30th January at 9.30am
- The Lord Major is hosting an event on 31st January to mark the Twinning with the city of Kyiv.

- In response to recent concerns regarding the safety of Elected Members, Safety & Security Training sessions would be provided to all Councillors. A briefing session with An Garda Síochána will also be organised in the coming weeks. The Manager also informed Councillors that vouched expenses could be used for the installation of security measures in their homes.

Following recent protests outside the Lord Mayors residence a review of security and a risk assessment will be carried out at the Mansion House, Dawson Street.

The Members also wished to convey their support and solidarity with Cllr. Vincent Jackson following the threats and abuse he and his family recently suffered.

- The Manager noted that she had issued an update prior to the meeting on the new Councillor facilities in City Hall. She apologised for the significant delay which were due to a variety of factors including supply chain issues and an increase in the scope of the M&E works. The new party rooms on the ground floor would be completed and ready for use on 20th February.
- The Manager circulated an amended report on the discretionary role of the Lord Mayor following on from the comments from the Members at the last meeting. Cllr. Lacey requested that a meeting of former Lord Mayors be held to review the welcome / information pack for incoming Lord Mayor's. The Manager agreed to schedule such a meeting.

Order: Managers report noted.

9 **A.O.B.**

The Manager confirmed that fees and charges associated with appeals to An Bord Pleanála were not eligible to be claimed under the scheme of vouched expenses. She agreed to circulate the advice provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the matter.

Order: Noted.

10 **Proposed date of next meeting: 23rd February 2023 at 8am.**

Order: Agreed.

Councillor Deirdre Heney
Chairperson
Thursday 26 January 2023

Attendance:

Members:

Deirdre Heney (Chairperson)
Racheal Batten
Donna Cooney
Dermot Lacey
Naoise Ó Muirí

Members:

Anthony Connaghan
Joe Costello
Micheál MacDonncha
Cat O'Driscoll

Members:

Caroline Conroy
Mannix Flynn
Briega MacOscar
Michael Pidgeon

Officers

Ruth Dowling
Yvonne Kelly

Michael Gallagher
Richard Shakespeare

Fanchea Gibson

Non-Members:

Kevin Donoghue

Daithí Doolan

Alison Gilliland