

**Minutes of the Meeting Environment Strategic Policy Committee,
held on 23rd September 2015.**

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2015.

- Minutes to be amended to reflect the discussion between Mr. McCarthy & Mr. Fitzpatrick in relation to PM10 & PM2.5 monitoring (Item 8)
- Topics of Urban Agricultural Support & Parks Use and Management to be included in City Development Plan minute. (Item 5)
- DCC website to be uploaded with SPC meeting Agenda, Minutes and associated documentation
- Cllr O'Moore disputed the assertion from Jerry Grant Irish Water that the metering program was not a factor in the lead problem in Raheny.

Order: Noted

2. Chairpersons Business

It was agreed to hold a workshop on 14th October to develop a submission from the SPC in relation to the City Development Plan

Order: Noted

3. Correspondence

Letter from DECLG regarding waste bye- laws

Order: Noted

4. Low Carbon Cement – Andrew McGrane

Order: Presentation Noted.

5. Climate Change Strategy

Members thanked Dr. Wardell for his presentation and raised the following points.

- The Strategy should be knitted into Local Area and City Development Plans.
- Can the revised strategy be completed by 2016.
- Carbon Exchanges / Carbon Credits
- Can targets be met, 3% reduction per year until 2020

Dr. Wardell pointed out that although carbon credits are the least preferred option they are legitimate and Ireland has legally binding commitments that if not met penalties will issue. In terms of the target of 3% reduction in energy use per annum most of the easy options have been exhausted and it will take a concerted effort to continue the progress made, but it can be achieved.

A plan will be put in place by the subcommittee which will indicate how long it will take to develop the plan.

Order: Presentation Noted. Climate Change Strategy Subcommittee to be established comprising Councillor Byrne, Councillor O'Brien & Sectoral Member Nicholas Cloake.

6. Waste Policy

Bulky Household Waste Collection Service

Members raised concerns regarding the introduction of the new service and discontinuation of the current bulky household waste collection service:

- There is some merit in a charge but a revised scheme could be run in tandem with an annual free collection service
- The current service is very popular and should not be discontinued
- There should be an onus on manufacturers / suppliers to take back bulky household items similar to WEEE
- Trucks not turning up as scheduled
- When a customer avails of this scheme what safeguards are in place to prevent additional items being presented for collection
- The profile of people who will use this service will generally be those without transport and the charge is therefore expensive
- Charging could in fact increase the incidents of illegal dumping.

The Executive Manager pointed out that it is not good environmental practice to have trucks driving around housing estates collecting bulky household waste. This is totally contrary to the polluter pays principle. Furthermore in the context of current budgetary constraints it is no longer justifiable to provide this service for free as those most in need (DCC tenants) will continue to be provided a service by Housing Maintenance.

Councillors can consider this matter further in the context of the budgetary discussions that will take place.

Order: Report Noted

Litter Management Plan 2015 – 2018 update

Order: Report Noted, Draft Litter Management Plan to be presented to the Committee at the November Meeting for consideration.

Household Waste Collection Regulations / Bag Collections

- Query raised about areas currently on bag collection where the refuse collection vehicles do not have access

The Executive Manager advised that guidelines are awaited from the DECLG on how such areas are dealt with.

Order: Report Noted

7. Response to Community Gain Fund (CGF) Report - Joe McCarthy

The Executive Manager in response to Mr. McCarthy's report made the following points.

- The central point at issue is the calculation of the community gain fund - is it 3% of the overall cost or 3% of the construction cost of the facility
- The CGF was introduced by the Council and is without precedent. DCC stated quite clearly in the EIS that the fund would be 3% of the construction cost of the facility which at that stage was €266m which equated to €8m
- The CGF was put forward by DCC and not An Bord Pleanala
- The CGF figure has been updated based on the current construction costs (€346m) and now stands at €10.38m
- An Bord Pleanala in their findings accepted the €8m but changed the calculation of the annual contribution.

Mr. Joe McCarthy, An Taisce summarised his report as set out below.

- The essence of the challenge to the Community Gain fund report is to distinguish between capital cost and construction cost.
- The entire set of references at the Bord Pleanala hearing was on the Capital Cost & the Inspector clarified that it was to be 3% of the capital cost and not €8m.
- An Bord Pleanala did not refer to the €8m except what was in referenced in Mr. Coll's evidence.
- The Bord decided that it would be 3% of the Capital Cost of the facility.
- It has been stated by the Chief Executive and Covanta that the capital cost is €500m
- DCC proposed 3% of the Capital Cost in 4 places in the EIS.
- If it had been intended to be 3% of the construction cost it would have been so stated.
- Interest should also be included in the Capital cost in accordance with the Department of Finance instructions.
- Mr. McCarthy queried who is responsible for meeting Condition 3 of the planning permission; who then raises the appropriate Section 160 to ensure that Condition 3 is complied with.
- The reference to capital/construction costs should be removed from DCC's report.
- Mr. McCarthy also queried the status of the 2 identified flagship projects associated with the CGF.

The Executive Manager quoted specifically from the EIS "DCC proposes that the fund should comprise of a once off capital contribution of 3% of the capital cost of the facility and an annual revenue contribution of 0.5% of the annual revenues generated by gate fees subject to a maximum of €500,000. Based on an estimated construction cost of €266m the capital contribution will be in the order of €8m"

The Executive Manger further explained that 2 flagship projects were in the initial need assessment and it is up to the Community Gain fund committee to decide what projects are funded.

Members thanked Mr. McCarthy for his report.

The Chairperson summed up that agreement could not be reached on how the value of the CGF is determined and it was agreed the he would write to An Bord Pleanala seeking advice on the interpretation of Condition 3 of the planning permission.

Order: Chair to write to An Bord Pleanala seeking guidance on the specific interpretation of Condition 3 of the planning permission.

8. Dublin Waste to Energy update report.

It was agreed that the item would be taken in detail at a Special Meeting on the 14th. Joe McCarthy tabled the following questions for consideration at that meeting:

- Location of the new local office
- Source of waste
- Dust and air quality including permanent monitoring campaign

Order: Item not completed and to be dealt with at a Special Meeting on 14th October 2015

9. SPC reporting to wider Council on DWtE project.

Order: Item not reached and to be dealt with at a Special Meeting on 14th October 2015

10. A.O.B.

Cllr Mannix Flynn requested a report on the dumping of silt in Dublin Bay.
Joe McCarthy requested a presentation on Air Quality as an agenda item for the next SPC meeting including proposals (if any) to update the Air Quality Management Plan.

None

Attendance

Members

Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí (Chairperson)
Councillor Catherine Ardagh
Councillor Claire Byrne
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Councillor Andrew Keegan
Councillor Ciaran O'Moore
Councillor Michael O'Brien
Nicholas Cloake - Dublin Docklands Business Forum
Joe McCarthy - An Taisce
Robert Moss - Dublin City Community Forum

Apologies

Lord Mayor Christy Burke
Councillor Denise Mitchell
Sinead O'Brien - Environmental Pillar

Absent

Councillor Declan Flanagan
Councillor Bríd Smith
Louise McCann - Disability Federation of Ireland

Officials

Declan Wallace, Director of Traffic
Brian Hanney, Senior Executive Officer
Helen McNamara, Senior Executive Officer
Hugh Coughlan, Administrative Officer
James Nolan, Executive Engineer
Ciarán McGoldrick, Staff Officer
Owen Sweeney, Staff Officer

City of Dublin Energy Management Agency
Dr. Gerry Wardell

Councillor Naoise Ó'Muirí

Chairperson

30th September 2015

