

Extract from minutes:

Councillor M. D'Alton proposed, seconded by Councillor D. Canty the following notice of motion:-

"That Cork County Council would encourage all roadside traders to observe the requirements of SI 191 of 2004 with regard to the selling of strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, gooseberries, blackberries, loganberries, tayberries, currants and new potatoes during May to September inclusive. Equally, that Cork County Council would encourage the selling of a greater range of fruit and vegetable produce than those specified in the Regulations in designated market areas and in accordance with a Casual Trading Licence. All opportunities for genuine growers to maximise the sale of their produce are welcome insofar as they do not place rate-paying shopkeepers at unfair disadvantage."

During a discussion, Members made the following points:-

- There are health and safety issues with roadside selling of fruit and vegetables;
- There are products being sold by roadside traders which they are not permitted to sell;
- There needs to be a balance struck with retail outlets and casual traders;
- Casual trading issues affect all Municipal Districts;
- Changes have to be made at national level;
- Farmers markets bring people into towns;
- How can roadside traders be policed;
- The byelaws are taking a long time to come into force, need to be progressed;
- There are issues with health and safety, signage and food safety that need to be addressed;
- Byelaws do not cover locally produced products;

The Chief Executive advised that Casual Trading will be an item on each Municipal District Agenda during September/October and there will be different issues in different areas. He said that Members should engage in detail in the process and produce a composite set of byelaws for the whole County.