

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the April Remote Meeting of Carlow County Council, held on Monday 12th April 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

Remote: Councillor T. O'Neill (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor M. Doran
Councillor T. Kinsella
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor C. Murphy
Councillor J. McDonald
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor J. Pender
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor W. Quinn
Councillor J. Murphy
Councillor A. Wallace
Councillor B. O'Donoghue
Councillor A. Gladney

In Attendance: Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service, Corporate, HR, Planning,
Health & Safety, Security & Economic Development
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service, Transportation, Environment
& Water Services, Building Control & Emergency Services
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services, Housing, Community,
Recreation & Amenity
Mr. P. Delaney, Head of Finance
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office
Mr. E. Lyng, Head of Information Systems
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, Community
Mr. K. Cullinane, Senior Engineer, Transportation
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer, Environment & Water Services
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services
Mr. P.J. Leonard, Financial Accountant
Ms. M. Loughnane, I.S. Project Leader
Ms. L. O'Callaghan, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. M. Hand, Staff Officer, Human Resources

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- Death of Pensioner Matt Murray, Ballyhide, Carlow

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Congratulations to Rachael Blackmore making history as the first ever female jockey to win the Aintree Grand National.
- Congratulations to Henry De Bromhead, trainer of Minella Times winner of the Aintree Grand National.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes /Dearbhú Miontuairiscí

1.1 Approval of Minutes of Remote Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 08th March 2021.

Proposed by Councillor **J. Pender**
Seconded by Councillor **A. McDonald**
And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held remotely on Monday 08th March 2021 at 2.00 p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed.’

Cllr. Cassin asked for an Amendment on page fourteen of the minutes as follows “That Carlow County Council write to all stakeholder and engage with Waterways Ireland to begin a process to develop a maintenance plan for the River Barrow through County Carlow.”

2.0 Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó rúin an Chomhairle

2.1 Approval of Draft Digital Strategy 2021-2024

P. Delaney, Head of Finance introduced this report and welcomed Eoin Lyng, Head of Information Systems and Martina Loughnane, Administrative Officer to present this report. E. Lyng gave a comprehensive report on the Draft Digital Strategy 2021-2024 and explained that it is a critical component to assist everyone in County Carlow to embrace the power and potential of all that digital has to offer. The Strategy prioritises four key pillars:

- Digital Infrastructure
- Digital Economy
- Digital Services
- Digital Communities & eCitizens

The draft Digital Strategy 2021-2024 was brought before the “Culture, Libraries and Digital Development, Tourism, Enterprise and Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee in February 2021 and was approved to go before full Council for adoption. P. Delaney and E. Lyng responded to questions raised by members.

The Draft Digital Strategy 2021-2024 was
Proposed by Councillor J. Murphy
Seconded by Councillor M. Doran
And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve Carlow County Council’s Draft Digital Strategy 2021-2024.’

3.0 Transportation, Environment, Water Services, Building Control & Emergency Services/lompar, Impeallacht agus Seirbhísí Uisce, Rialaithe Tógála agus Seirbhísí Éigeandála

3.1 Active Travel Allocations

P. O’Gorman, Director of Service presented this report. The total allocation received by Carlow County Council for fifteen projects throughout the County is €2,426,000. M. Rainey and P. O’Gorman responded to questions raised by members. Report noted.

3.2 Taking in Charge of Barrow Rise, Leighlin Road, Graiguecullen, Carlow

Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993; Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended; and Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act, 2010 – commencement of the public consultation process for taking-in-charge of roads and services at Barrow Rise, Leighlin Road, Graiguecullen, Carlow

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin
Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane
AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the commencement of the public consultation process for taking-in-charge of roads and services at Barrow Rise, Leighlin Road, Graiguecullen, Carlow.’

M. Rainey agreed to bring a report on the list of housing estates throughout the county to be taking-in-charge to the May meeting of Carlow County Council.

4.0 Community, Housing, Recreation & Amenity/Pobal, Títhíocht, Áineas agus Áiseanna

4.1 Derelict Council Housing Properties

M. Brennan, Director of Service, presented this report. The report listed the number of Council properties that have been refurbished and allocated. It also listed Council housing under refurbishment and properties to be developed. M. Brennan responded to questions raised by members. Report noted.

4.2 Part 8 – Ballypierce, Kildavin

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) – Part 8 Proposed Construction of Single Storey Dwelling at Ballypierce, Kildavin, Co. Carlow

In accordance with the above legislation and regulations, Carlow County Council proposes to commence the Part 8 process in respect of the proposed construction of single storey dwelling at Ballypierce, Kildavin, Co. Carlow

Proposed by Councillor **J. Murphy**
Seconded by Councillor **J. Pender**
AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the commencement of the Part 8 process in respect of the proposed construction of single storey dwelling at Ballypierce, Kildavin, Co. Carlow.’

4.3 Leader Programme 2014 – 2020

Brian O’Donovan, Senior Executive Officer presented this report. The LEADER programme has been operated across the EU since 1991 to benefit rural communities through active engagement and community-led local development. In Ireland under the LEADER programme for 2014-2020, a budget of €250 million in grant aid was being provided to support rural communities and local businesses. The Carlow Leader programme for 2014-2020 was awarded €6.4m (Project Support, Administration and Animation). The Transitional LEADER programme came into effect on 1st April 2021. It will bridge the gap between the wind-up of the current 2014-2020 LEADER programme and the start of the next EU programme. Other changes to the LEADER programme include an increase in the maximum rate of aid for enterprises and commercial projects from 50% to 75%. Members paid tribute to Mary Lawlor and to her contribution to the LEADER programme throughout the county. B. O’Donovan responded to questions raised by members. Report noted.

4.4 Presentation on County Carlow Community Response Forum – Keep Well Campaign/Communications/Community Supports

Brian O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer presented this report. The Community Response Forum consists of twenty-two Community/Government Organisations, hundreds of Volunteers/Community Supports and is chaired by the Chief Executive. To date twenty-six online meetings have taken place.

The report gave an overview of the following

- Community Call Line (02/04/2020 – 23/03/2021)
- Food Support
- Mental Health Supports
- Financial Support
- Healthy Carlow
- Communication
- Keep Well
- Keep Active
- Staying Connected
- Switching Off/Being Creative
- Eating Well
- Minding your mood
- Vaccination Programme
- Response Metrics
- Future

Brian O'Donovan responded to questions raised by members. Report noted.

5.0 Finance, Information Technology & Culture (Libraries, Arts & County Museum)/ Airgeadas, Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cultúir (Leabharlanna, Ealaíonna agus Músaem an Chontae)

5.1 Board of Carlow County Museum - Annual Report 2019 – Report Noted

6.0. Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Members discussed the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report for the period to 1st March to 31st March 2021.

Issues raised by members included

- Development Plan Process
- Housing – Ballickmoyler Road
- Safe Farming – Farm Inspections

- Decarbonisation Zones
- Free Public Transport
- Planning Applications
- Arts – Graffiti Artists
- Rural Transport – New Ross to Carlow
- IDA Ireland
- Social Housing – Threshold
- Water Pressure – Monitoring
- Bank of Ireland – premises Athy Road, Carlow
- Climate Action
- Browneshill Dolmen
- Evictions
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- St. Lazerians House - Bagenalstown

The Chief Executive and Directors answered questions raised by members.

7.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras

Members noted resolution from Leitrim County Council – regarding the pesticide cypermethrin.

Members noted resolution from Limerick City & County Council – regarding Iconic Newspapers Ltd.

Members noted resolution from Kerry County Council – opposing the Land Development Agency Bill.

Members noted resolution from Galway County Council – opposing the Land Development Agency Bill 2021.

Members noted correspondence from the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth – acknowledging receipt of correspondence from Carlow County Council regarding “the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes.”

8.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin

8.1 Standing in the names of Cllr. William Paton

“That Carlow County Council agrees that the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) providing additional rights to multinational corporations to sue the state outside of ordinary legal systems we currently have will undermine EU social, health and environmental standards. This Council acknowledges that many of the trade elements are already in place and does not need the addition

of corporations being able to sue the Irish government through the Investor Court System (ICS) when any new laws affect their profits. This council stands against the Investor Court System (ICS) and calls this constituency a CETA-Free Zone.

This Council resolves to write to the Minister for Trade, the Minister for Local government and the Taoiseach to outline this position. It further resolves to publicise the council's concerns about CETA and to circulate this motion with other Councils as correspondence for consideration."

A roll call vote was taken

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne		√		
John Cassin				√
Andrea Dalton		√		
Michael Doran		√		
Andy Gladney				√
Thomas Kinsella		√		
Arthur McDonald		√		
John McDonald		√		
Ken Murnane		√		
Charlie Murphy		√		
John Murphy		√		
Brian O' Donoghue		√		
Tom O'Neill		√		
William Paton	√			
John Pender		√		
Fintan Phelan		√		
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			

This resulted in three Councillors voting for, thirteen Councillors voting against and two Councillors absent. The motion was defeated.

A request to extend the meeting was
Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan
Seconded by Councillor F. Browne
AND
Agreed, following a show of hands.

8.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. John McDonald

Proposed by Councillor J. McDonald
Seconded by Councillor F. Browne
AND
Following a show of hands it was resolved.

"That Carlow County Council call on the Government to invest in our Post Offices network, especially now considering the announcement of Bank closures. An Post is in a position to play a leading role in sustaining rural Ireland. It is important that rural Carlow and communities are kept viable. "

9.0 Any other business with the consent of the Cathaoirleach/Aon gnó eile le haontú an Chathaoirligh

- Decarbonisation zones – webinar scheduled for 7th April 2021 at 2.00p.m. rescheduled to 20th April 2021 at 11.30a.m.
- Ambulance Services
- Cllr. J. McDonald was advised by the Chief Executive to bring a query he raised as a motion to the next meeting of Carlow County Council, that individual cases could not be discussed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.