CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the February Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in The Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 12th February 2018 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor W. Paton (Cathaoirleach)

Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor J. Deane
Councillor M. Doran
Councillor A. Gladney
Councillor T. Kinsella
Councillor W. Lacey
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor C. Murphy
Councillor J. Murphy

Councillor B. O'Donoghue

Councillor J. Pender Councillor F. Phelan Councillor W. Quinn

Apologies: Councillor D. Foley

In attendance: Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive

Mr D. McInerney, Director of Services, Transportation,

Environment & Water Services

Mr S. O'Connor, Director of Services, Housing, Community,

Building Control & Emergency Services,

Mr P Delaney, Head of Finance Ms A. Sweeney, Senior Planner

Ms F. O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer, Planning

Mr. Michael Brennan, Senior Executive Officer, Community

Mr. E. Brophy, Acting Director of Service – Corporate, Planning, Economic Development, Health and Safety, Ms. A. Oakes, Acting Senior Executive Officer, Corporate

Services.

Ms. B. Whelan, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate

Services

Also in attendance was Mr. Peter Scully, Audit Committee Chairperson.

In commemorating the 1916 Rising the National Anthem was played.

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The Chief Executive Ms. K. Holohan and the Holohan Family on the death of their mother Kathleen Holohan, Tullow Road, Carlow.
- The Hayes Family, Kilcoltrim, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death of Willie Hayes, former pensioner with Carlow County Council.
- The Kehoe Family, 39 Avondale Drive, Hanover, Carlow on the death of their father, Phil Kehoe.
- The McGarry Family, 27, Woodgrove, Tullow Road, Carlow on the death of their mother Kathleen.
- Mick O'Brien and Family on the death of his son Declan O'Brien, 17, Oakley Park, Tullow Road, Carlow.
- The Timmons Family, 2 Bestfield, Athy Road, Carlow on the death of their father Johnny.
- The Family of Seamus Pattison and the Labour Party on the death of Seamus Pattison, former Ceann Comhairle, Minister for State for Social Welfare, Labour TD for Carlow/Kilkenny, MEP and Mayor of Kilkenny.
- The Redmond Family, Coonogue, Ballymurphy, Co. Carlow on the death of their mother Mary.
- Mary Flood and Family, Knock, Ballymurphy, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death her husband Willie.
- The Walsh Family, Tinnahinch, Graiguenamanagh, Kilkenny on the death of their brother Fr. Donal Walsh.
- The Moore Family, Tomduff, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death of Ciss Rapple.
- The Mahon Family, Lower Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death of their mother Mary Mahon.
- Tom Dillon and Family, Killeshin Road, Graiguecullen, Carlow on the death of his wife Philomena.
- The Shannon Family, Beechwood Drive, Rathnapish, Carlow on the death of their mother Josie.

- Pamela Byrne and Family, 34, Woodlawn Park, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death of her husband Pat Byrne.
- The Joyce Family, Kilcoltrim, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death of their brother Sean Joyce.
- Teresa Redmond and Family, Knockindrane, Garryhill, Co. Carlow on the death of her aunt Annie Fitzgerald.
- Mary Ryan and Family, Harristown, Graiguenamanagh, Co.
 Kilkenny on the death of her husband Gary.
- Margaret Ford and Family, Coolmanagh, Hacketstown, Co. Carlow on the death of her husband Eddie.
- Pamela O'Connor and Family, Slate Quarries, Rathmore, Naas,
 Co. Kildare on the death of her husband Fergal O'Connor formerly of Browneshill, Carlow.
- The Carroll Family, Ardenhue, Bennekerry, Carlow on the death of their mother Mary Kate.
- The Dempsey Family, St. Anthony's, Browneshill Road, Carlow on the death of their mother Marjorie.
- The Hayden Family, Crowsgrove, Kildavin, Bunclody, Co. Wexford on the death of their mother Bridie.
- Joe Cummins and Family, Kilnock, Ballon, Co. Carlow on the death of his wife Babsie.

Members welcomed Councillor Gladney back to the chamber following his recent illness.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Carlow U/15 soccer team on reaching the SFAI Subway Championship National Semi-Final.
- Minister Shane Ross on increase in grant allocations for regional and local roads 2018.

On the proposition of Councillor Cassin, seconded by Councillor Gladney and following a show of hands it was agreed that good wishes be extended to Gerry Adams on his retirement as President of Sinn Féin and wished him well with his future endeavours.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January Council Meeting held on 8th January,2018 were

Proposed by Councillor W. Lacey Seconded by Councillor M. Doran AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That the Minutes of the January Monthly Meeting of Carlow County
Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road,
Carlow, on Monday 8th January, 2018 at 2.00 p.m. having been circulated
to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and
accordingly signed.'

2. CIRCULARS

(a) Circular FPS 01/2018 Water Services Guidelines 2018 – Public Consultation. Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities Draft.

Members had for consideration Draft Water Services Guidelines for Planning Authorities for public consultation. D. McInerney briefed the Members on the Guidelines and advised that the closing date for receipt of submissions is 28th February, 2018.

Councillor Phelan queried status of Carlow County Council's Service Level Agreement with Irish Water until 2025.

D. McInerney advised that multi-utility company Ervia has indicated their intention to absolve themselves from the service level agreement before 2025. The Minister has indicated that discussions will take place on Ervia's request but currently there is no change to the Service Level Agreement.

Issues raised by the Members included the following:-

- Irish Water charge of €2,000 for Carrigduff Swimming Pool and if there is an agreement in place indicating the Swimming Pool is funded by the Council and that the water charges are written off.
- Implications for staff if change made to Irish Water Service Level Agreement.
- If connection charges have increased and if there are plans for further services in County Carlow.

- If there are plans to upgrade the Waste Water Sewerage Treatment Plant in Tullow.
- Plans for Tullow Street, time- line for works and commencement date.
- Taking in charge of housing estates and Irish Water's responsibility in the process.
- Contract works for Irish Water at Royal Oak Road, Bagenalstown and what proposals are in place for traffic management system due to high volume of traffic in the area.
- Clarification needed on who is responsible for water leaks and sewerage problems in housing estates.
- Curtailment of future economic and residential developments if proper infrastructure is not in place and if Irish Water is obliged to provide the necessary infrastructure. Members suggested a submission be made on the implications for economic development throughout the County if proper infrastructure is not provided.

Issues raised by the Members were addressed by D. McInerney.

(b) Circular FPS 02/2017 Publication of Draft Apartment Guidelines 2018. Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments. Guidelines for Planning Authorities – Draft Update.

Members noted Circular FPS 02/2017.

- 3. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUE, STANDING ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL
 - (a) Disposal of 29.13 (metres²) section of laneway at the rear of No. 94, St. Mary's Park, Carlow

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin Seconded by Councillor W. Lacey AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve in accordance with Local Government Act 2001, Section 183 (1), Planning & Development Act 2000, Section 211, the disposal of 29.13 (metres²) -

section of laneway at the rear of No. 94, St. Mary's Park, Carlow, to Patrick McManamy and Anne McManamy, in accordance with the terms of the statutory notice already circulated. The consent of the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government is not necessary for the disposal of the said section of laneway.

(b) Audit Committee Charter 2018

Mr Peter Scully, Audit Committee Chairperson advised Members that there is no change to the Audit Committee Charter for 2018. Following a show of hands it was unanimously agreed by the Members to approve the Audit Committee Charter 2018.

(c) Audit Committee Work Programme 2018

Mr. P. Scully briefed Members on the Audit Committee Draft Work Programme 2018.

Councillor Murnane requested that the Audit Committee include in its 2018 Work Programme a report on Community, Recreation and Amenity Development Contributions collected in Carlow over the past four years and with particular mention of the Tullow Road area.

Following a show of hands Members unanimously approved Audit Committee Work Programme, 2018.

(d) Audit Committee Annual Report 2017

Mr. P. Scully presented the Audit Committee Annual Report 2017 to the Members. The report set out the number of meetings held during 2017 and the items considered.

Issues raised by the Members included the following:-

- Review of development contributions 53% to be spent on Recreation and Amenity in area collected.
- Local Property Tax –Carlow households on the Carlow/Wexford border charged Wexford rate and tax going to Wexford.
- High number of risks identified in Carlow Sports Partnership Audit.
- LEO accounts not included in Audit.

At the request of the Cathaoirleach Mr. Scully confirmed that the Audit committee is satisfied with processes in place, is satisfied risk

management is being addressed and that the committee has no major concerns in relation to audit matters.

Councillor Gladney raised issue of removal of the motor tax facility at McGrath Hall, Bagenalstown.

Issues raised by the Members were addressed by P. Delaney and P. Scully.

The Cathaoirleach requested that a report be brought forward on the distribution of Development Levy contributions.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Audit Committee for their report and following a show of hands it was unanimously agreed by the Members to approve the Audit Committee Annual Report 2017.

(e) Local Government Auditor's Report 2016

P. Delaney presented the Local Government Auditor's Report for the year ending 31st December, 2016. The report also included the Chief's Executive's response to issues raised in the Auditor's Report.

The following issues were raised by the Members:-

- Outstanding Loan -Eastern Relief Road
- Visual Arts Centre Accounts
- Development contribution credits.
- €1.5m transferred from a capital industrial development reserve to fund loan.
- Local Property Tax and the total assigned to the Council via the Equalisation Fund one of the lowest of all local authorities. The calculation of funding from the Equalisation Fund complicated.
- Loss of rates income from global utilities revaluation.
- Powerstown Landfill expiry of planning permission August 2018. If there are plans for a transfer station and if community fund will remain in place following closure.
- Loans Payable Lump sum payment of €5m made to reduce balance owed in respect of 2011 loans- funded from €2.7m general reserve fund, €1.5m transfer from capital industrial development reserve, and €0.8m from insurance reserve.

Issues raised by the Members were addressed by the Chief Executive and P. Delaney.

Members approval was sought to the Local Government Auditor's report 2016.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lacey Seconded by Councillor M. Doran AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve the Local Government Auditor's Report 2016.

(f) Audit Committee Report to Council on 2016 Annual Financial Statement & Local Government Auditor's Report 2016.

Members noted the Audit Committee Report to Council on the 2016 Audited Financial Statement and Local Government Auditors Report. The report set out the key issues the Committee recommended be brought to the attention of the Council.

Proposed by Councillor M. Doran Seconded by Councillor J. Murphy AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve the Audit
Committee report to Council on the 2016 Annual Financial Statement and
Local Government Auditors Report.

4. DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Planning Progress Report

Members welcomed Planning and Development Activity Report to 31st January, 2018.

The following issues were raised by the Members:-

- Councillor Browne raised issue of Courthouse railings legal action necessary as unsatisfactory response from the Court Service with no definitive time-line given, costings or consideration of health and safety risk.
- Councillor O'Donoghue raised issue of the Taking in Charge of 5 housing estates in Rathvilly to complete the whole village - Ard

Bhaile, Ashlawn, De Lacey Abbey, Slaney Bank and The Orchard. Councillor O'Donoghue requested that the Council write to the residents of these estates outlining the current status of the estates. Councillor O'Donoghue also advised of electricity pole no. 7 being out of order.

- Councillor Cassin raised issue of derelict properties and queried if the Council can C.P.O the properties. Councillor Cassin also queried amount collected on derelict sites levy, the number of estates that are not taken-in-charge, if bonds are in place and the estimated costs to take these estates in charge. He suggested that funding be sought from Central Government to complete housing developments not in the charge of the Council including unfinished estates.
- Councillor Doran queried current status of housing estate Gort na Greine, Ballinabranna.
- Councillor Lacey raised issue of Derelict Sites and referred to dereliction on Tullow Street and Dublin Street and at Shamrock Square/Pollerton Road corner.
- Councillor Quinn queried date for commencement of Development Plan for Borris. Councillor Quinn also queried status of derelict protected structure on Main Street, Borris and highlighted health and safety concerns of residents adjacent to Borris House in relation to trees in Borris House which may fall on to their properties.
- Councillor C. Murphy queried current status of housing estate Sliabh Baun Way, Myshall.
- Councillor Murnane raised issue of bungalow at Chapel Street,
 Graiguecullen and units 1,2,3 and 4 Granby Row sold to vulture funds and that the banks will not engage with prospective buyers.
- Councillor Phelan sought clarity and a guarantee that there will be no road through The Orchards Housing Estate for 600 housing development on the Tullow Road.

The business of the Planning Report was adjourned to facilitate a deputation from Comhairle na nÓg at 4.30pm.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Comhairle na nÓg Co-ordinator Ann Marie Doran and youth representatives Rhys Scully and Rachel Diyaolul to the meeting.

Rhys Scully gave an overview of the work of Comhairle na nóg that gives young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies. Rachel Diyaolu outlined initiatives that Comhairle na nÓg are involved in.

Following the presentation Councillor Phelan complimented the team on their presentation and said it was a pleasure to work with them during the 'youth need analysis' initiative. Councillor Phelan also said they represented their schools and work places outstandingly well and commended the team for bringing the topic of mental health to the fore. He congratulated Rhys on being elected to the National Executive. Councillor O'Donoghue said it was a pleasure for him to attend Comhairle na nÓg meetings.

The Members complimented Comhairle na nÓg on their presentation and wished them well with their endeavours.

The business of the Planning Progress Report resumed at 4.50p.m.

In response to Councillor Browne's issue in relation to the Courthouse railings the Chief Executive outlined the response from the Court Service and urged that a further period be given to the Court Service to progress works. E. Brophy also urged that a further period be given to progress works as the courthouse is a protected structure.

Following discussion it was Proposed by Councillor Phelan and seconded by Councillor Dalton to defer the matter to the May 2018 Meeting.

And following a roll call vote

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne		1		
John Cassin		√		
Andrea Dalton	V			
Jim Deane		√		
Michael Doran	V			
Denis Foley				V

Andy Gladney		V	
Thomas Kinsella		V	
Walter Lacey	V		
Arthur McDonald		√	
Ken Murnane		√	
Charlie Murphy	√		
John Murphy	√		
Brian O'Donoghue		V	
William Paton	√		
John Pender		1	
Fintan Phelan	√		
William Quinn	V		

The vote resulted in: 8 for, 9 against and 1 absent. The motion was defeated.

It was Proposed by Councillor Browne and seconded by Councillor Cassin to instigate legal action against the Court Service to carry out works on Courthouse railings.

And following a roll call vote

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne	V			
John Cassin	V			
Andrea Dalton		V		
Jim Deane	V			
Michael Doran		$\sqrt{}$		
Denis Foley				$\sqrt{}$
Andy Gladney	V			
Thomas Kinsella	V			
Walter Lacey		√		
Arthur McDonald	V			
Ken Murnane		V		

Charlie Murphy		V	
John Murphy		√	
Brian O'Donoghue	V		
William Paton		V	
John Pender	V		
Fintan Phelan		V	
William Quinn		V	

The vote resulted in: 8 for, 9 against and 1 absent. The motion was defeated.

Anita Sweeney, Senior Planner advised that Borris will be included on a Proposed Variation to the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021. This variation will include the settlements of Borris, Leighlinbridge, Ballon, Hacketstown, Rathvilly, Carrigduff and Tinnahinch. She confirmed that the preparation of the variation was on the forward planning work programme for this year and will require the engagement of environmental consultants to progress. She confirmed that a timeline will be prepared for the process. Regarding the addition / deletion of structures on to the RPS list she advised that this is a separate process which could be considered in tandem.

F. O'Neill advised in respect of current status of unfinished estates and estates not taken in charge.

It was proposed by Councillor Cassin and seconded by Councillor Deane that the Council write to central government seeking funding to complete unfinished estates to allow the taking in charge process proceed.

D. McInerney advised that there are no plans or proposals in place for a road through The Orchards Housing Estate, Tullow Road.

(b) Corporate Services Progress Report

Members expressed concerns that the motor taxation facility is no longer available at McGrath Hall, Muinebheag and the effect this decision will have on customers. P. Delaney advised that following a risk assessment the decision was made to discontinue this facility due to risks for staff transporting documents and cash.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Chief Executive and Head of Finance will re-examine the risk assessment and address the Members' concerns.

The issue is to be brought to the next meeting of Muinebheag Municipal District for discussion.

Extension of time.

Proposed by Councillor B. O'Donoghue Seconded by Councillor W. Paton AND

Following a show of hands it was resolved:-

'We, the Members of Carlow County Council, in accordance with Standing Orders, approve the continuation of the meeting to 6.15 p.m'.

5. CORPORATE, PLANNING, ECOMOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

(a) Agriculture

There were no matters arising

(b) Health

- Councillor Phelan raised issue of response from the Department of Health to Members' Notice of Motion to place Fibromyalgia on the long-term illness list. Councillor Phelan said the response from the Minister was unsatisfactory and that Ms Gemma Flood, who suffers with the condition and advocates for patients with Fibromyalgia, was disappointed with the response. Councillor Phelan requested that a further letter issue to the Minister expressing Members' views.
- Councillor McDonald raised issue of Primary Care Centre, Tullow not on priority list of the HSE. The Cathaoirleach requested that Councillor McDonald raise issue of site next to Primary Care Centre, Tullow at the next meeting of the HSE.
- Councillor Lacey requested that the issue of Versatis patches for pain relief being removed from patients be raised at the next meeting of the HSE.
- Councillor Quinn raised issue of Irish nurses leaving Ireland to take up positions abroad due to better pay and conditions.

 Councillor Pender raised issue of ambulance/transport service to Waterford being discontinued.

(c) Conference Attendance Approvals

Proposed by Councillor A. Gladney Seconded by Councillor B. O'Donoghue AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve the following forthcoming conferences February, 2018.

Entitlement to Health Services,

O'Donovan's Hotel,

Clonakilty,

Co. Cork.

19th to 21st January 2018

Fee: **€100**

EU Cohesion Policy 2014 – 2020,

The Four Seasons Hotel,

Carlingford,

Co. Louth.

2nd to 4th February 2018

Fee: €100

Health & Safety for Your Council,

The Workplace and your Constituents,

Lord Bagenal Hotel,

Leighlinbridge,

Co. Carlow.

9th to 11th February 2018

Fee: €145

Fee: €150

Nursing Homes Support Scheme,

The Clonakilty Hotel,

Clonakilty,

Co. Cork.

16th to 18th February 2018 **Fee: €100**

29th Colmcille Winter School,

Gartan.

Churchill Hill,

Letterkenny,

Co. Donegal.

23rd to 24th February 2017

European Energy Poverty Conference 2018,

Croke Park,

Dublin.

29th March 2018 Fee: €80 - €120

New Affordable Houses Schemes, The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth.

2nd, 3rd & 4th March 2018 Fee: €100

Citizens Assembly or an Assembly of Citizens??

Whitford House Hotel,

Wexford.

10th to 11th March 2018 **Fee: €145**

The Eight Amendment – a Constitutional Minefield,

The Clonakilty Hotel,

Clonakilty, Co. Cork.

23rd, 24th & 25th March 2018 Fee: €100

LAMA Spring Seminar, The Central Hotel, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal

6th to 7th April 2018 **Preliminary Notice**

- 6. COMMUNITY, HOUSING, RECREATION & AMENITY, BUILDING CONTROL & EMERGENCY SERVICES
- (a) Carlow Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2017.

Members noted Carlow Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2017.

- 7. FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CULTURE (LIBRARIES, ARTS & COUNTY MUSEUM)
- (a) Carlow County Council Centenaries Committee (recommendation from Culture, Agriculture and Health SPC)

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan Seconded by Councillor B. O'Donoghue AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve the establishment of Centenaries Committee as recommended by Culture, Agriculture and Health Strategic Policy Committee.

(b) County Carlow Culture & Creative Strategy 2018 -2022

Members noted County Carlow Culture and Creative Strategy 2018 - 2022.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lacey Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve the County
Carlow Culture and Creative Strategy 2018-2022.'

(c) Carlow County Museum – Election of Chairperson and Annual Report 2016.

Members noted Carlow County Museum- Election of Chairperson and Annual Report 2016.

Proposed by Councillor A. Dalton Seconded by Councillor J. Pender AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve the Election
of Chairperson and Annual Report 2016 of Carlow County Museum.'

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Members had Chief Executive Monthly Management Report for the period 1st to 31st January,2018.

Councillor McDonald raised issue of rates revaluation and the impact on a small business in Bagenalstown, resulting in substantial increase in 2018 rate demand, making the business unsustainable.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted correspondence from Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee on review of electoral areas-invitation for submissions.

Members noted Notice of Motion from Waterford City and County Council calling on the Minister for Justice to commence the Commission of Investigation into the alleged cover up of sex crimes by paedophile Bill Kenneally.

Members noted correspondence from the Courts Service regarding railings at Carlow Courthouse.

Members noted correspondence from Clonmore Community Hall in response to Members' letter of congratulations on the refurbishment of hall.

Members noted Notice of Motion from Galway County Council calling on the Minister for Transport and Minister for Justice and Equality to provide local authorities with efficient laws to deal with the illegal parking of caravans and camper vans on public and private roads, right of ways and non-designated camp sites.

10. Notices of Motion.

Standing in the name of Cllr. Walter Lacey, Cllr Arthur Mc Donald, Cllr Jim Deane, Cllr Andrea Dalton, Cllr Brian O Donohue (members of Culture, Health & Agriculture SPC)

Proposed by Councillor B. O'Donoghue Seconded by Councillor T. Kinsella AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, approve "That Carlow
County Council supports plans to revive the beet processing industry
and the creation of jobs in beet processing in the Carlow Kildare area."

Standing in the name of Cllrs. Brian O'Donoghue, Tommy Kinsella, William Paton,

Following a show of hands the following Notice of Motion was agreed by the Members.

"In recognition of the recent resumption of talks, this council, calls on the parties and individuals concerned, to restore a power sharing executive in Northern Ireland as soon as possible. This council calls on those who hold positions of leadership, both new and long term to move the process forward in the interest of the island of Ireland and the challenges faced by the people in relation to Brexit and with regard to the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement"

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CATHAOIRLEACH

Issues raised by the Members included the following:-

- Councillor Pender raised issue of Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin Family Day scheduled for 19th June 2018. The Chief Executive advised that correspondence has been received from the Diocese in relation to the event, that Carlow County Council will assist with traffic management plans and that the Civil Defence will also be available to assist. Councillor Murnane suggested that Ms Julie Kavanagh be invited to address the Members on their plans for the day. E. Brophy advised that Ms Kavanagh would attend a meeting of Council, if required, but plans for the day need to be addressed immediately.
- Councillor Deane raised issue of unsightly waste timber material at former main entrance to St. Dympna's Hospital and requested that a letter be sent to the HSE to have it removed and area cleaned up.
- Councillor McDonald raised issue of discretionary funding for Fleadh Ceoil in Bagenalstown in July. The Chief Executive advised that €5,000 was provided in Budget 2018 for the event.
- Councillor Phelan queried economic discretionary fund allocation 2018 with €40,000 to Carlow Municipal District and €100,000 to Muinebheag Municipal District. The Chief Executive advised that this allocation was agreed at Budget 2018.
- The Cathaoirleach advised that training for Carlow Town Community First Responder Group will commence on Tuesday, 20th February at St. Mary's Academy CBS School at 7.00 p.m and every Tuesday thereafter for five additional weeks.

This concluded the business of the meeting.