

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the November Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in The Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 11th November 2019 at 2.00 p.m.

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

In attendance: Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive
Mr K. Cullinane, Acting Director of Services,
Transportation, Environment & Water Services
P. Delaney, Head of Finance
Ms J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer, Housing
Mr B. O'Donovan, Acting Senior Engineer, Environment.
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate
Services.
Ms. Fiona O'Neill, Acting Director of Service, Human
Resources and Corporate Services.
Mr. Ray Wickham, Acting Senior Engineer, Transport,
Environment & Water Services
Ms. B. Whelan, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate
Services.
Ms. Marian Hand, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate
Services.

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The Canavan Family, Kilconnor, Fenagh, Co. Carlow, on the death of their brother Matt Canavan.
- Paddy Begley & Family, 139 Sleaty Street, Graiguecullen, Co. Carlow, on the death of his wife Peggy Begley.
- The Gorman Family, 31 Dublin Road, Tullow, Co. Carlow, on the death of their mother Mary Gorman.
- The Clarke Family, Seskin Road, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, on the death of their son Aaron Clarke.
- Meliosa FitzGibbon & Family, Castlemore, Carlow Road, Tullow, Co. Carlow, on the death of her husband Paudie FitzGibbon.
- Mary King & Family, Factory Cross, Borris, Co. Carlow, on the death of her husband John Joseph King.
- The O'Higgins Family, Rathanna, Borris, Co. Carlow, on the death of their mother Margaret O'Higgins.
- Martin Lennon & Family, Cournellan House, Borris, Co. Carlow, on the death of his wife Maureen Lennon.
- George Quinlan & Family, Knockullard, Corries, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, on the death of his wife Helen Quinlan.
- Mary O'Leary & Family, Quinnagh, Blackbog Road, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow, on the death of her husband William (Willie) O'Leary.
- Moyra Dolan & Family, Monacurragh, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow on the death of her husband Martin Dolan.
- Anna Keogh & Family, Chaplestown, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow, on the death of her husband Noel Keogh.
- The Hennessey Family, 5 Roncalli Place, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow on the death of their mother Margaret Hennessey.
- James Cullen & Family, Ballyknock, St. Mullins, Co. Carlow on the death of his father John Cullen (Gowran).
- Cynthia Deane & Family, 17 Glendine Court, Kilkenny, on the death of her son John Fogarty and her mother Bríd Deane.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Bagenalstown Gaels Intermediate Hurling Team, on their Intermediate A Championship win.
- St. Mullins Hurling Team on their 27th County Title winning the County Senior Hurling Championship.
- To the Doctors, Nurses, Staff and Parents who responded so quickly to an emergency at the St. Mullins match.
- The Three Carlow Ladies who were part of the Wexford Youths Senior Ladies Soccer Team, on winning the FAI Cup Final. Kylie Murphy (scored the winning goal), Lauren Dwyer and Blessing Kingsley.
- All Groups and Winners in the Pride of Place Awards 2019.
- Clonmore GAA U20 Football Team on winning the “B” Knockout Stages Final.
- O’Hanrahan’s Intermediate Football Team on winning the Intermediate County Championship.
- Eire Óg Senior Football Team on winning their Leinster Championship match against Sarsfields on Sunday 10th November 2019.
- Social Inaugural Garda Youth Awards winners Shantelle Tynan, Alisha Premkumor, Sophie Denieffe, Ismail Mohammed and St. Leo’s Young Social Innovators.
- Breda Whelan, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services on her forthcoming retirement.
- Cllr. Andrea Dalton on her nomination to receive an award as Chairperson of the Carlow Text Alert Group at the Carlow/Kilkenny Community & Text Alert Awards.
- Deirdre Tomlinson Bennekerry National School Teacher and the boys and girls of Bennekerry National School on winning Cumann Na MBunscoil football title two years in a row.
- Carlow Little Theatre on staging “Sive” in the George Bernard Shaw Theatre (Visual).

1.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor W. Quinn

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

'That the Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 14th October 2019 at 2.00 p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed.

2.0 BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUE, STANDING ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL.

(2.1) Approval of Attendance of Elected Members at St. Patrick's Day Parades 2020

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan

Seconded by Councillor M. Doran

AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the attendance of the Cathaoirleach, and one member of the Carlow, Tullow and Muinebheag Municipal Districts at the St. Patrick's Day Parades 2020.

(2.2) Nomination of second person to the Board of 3CEA

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the nomination of Councillor Ken Murnane to the Board of 3CEA.

(2.3) Approval of Draft Strategic Policy Committee and Corporate Policy Scheme 2019-2024

E. Brophy outlined the Draft Strategic Policy Committee and Corporate Policy Scheme 2019-2024. It was noted that nominations for each Strategic Policy Committee is required.

Proposed by Councillor **F. Browne**
Seconded by Councillor **F. Phelan**

Following a show of hands, it was resolved:

That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Strategic Policy Committee and Corporate Policy Scheme 2019-2024.

Later in the meeting the numbers of nominations to each Strategic Policy Committee was discussed.

Proposed by Councillor **W. Paton**
Seconded by Councillor **T. O'Neill**

Following a show of hands, it was resolved:

That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve amendments the current quota of 6 local representative members to 7 local representative members on the Planning, Environment, Climate & Biodiversity Action, Energy and Agriculture SPC and the Housing, Community and Well Being SPC.

The following nominations to each Strategic Policy Committee were agreed as follows

Members of the Planning, Environment, Climate & Biodiversity Action, Energy and Agriculture SPC

Chair: Cllr. T. Kinsella
Cllr. F. Browne
Cllr. C. Murphy
Cllr. F. Phelan
Cllr. A. Wallace
Cllr. W. Paton
Cllr. B. O' Donoghue

Members of Transportation and Infrastructure SPC

Chair: Cllr. J. Cassin
Cllr. W. Quinn
Cllr. K. Murnane
Cllr. B. O' Donoghue

Cllr. J. McDonald
Cllr. M. Doran

Members of Housing, Community & Well Being

Chair: Cllr. A. McDonald
Cllr. W. Quinn
Cllr. A. Gladney
Cllr. T. O'Neill
Cllr. J. Cassin
Cllr. K. Murnane
Cllr. A. Dalton

Members of Culture, Libraries & Digital Development, Tourism, Enterprise & Economic Development SPC

Chair: Cllr. J. Murphy
Cllr. M. Doran
Cllr. J. Pender
Cllr. T. O'Neill
Cllr. J. McDonald
Cllr. A. Dalton

Proposed by Councillor W. Paton
Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane
AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -
'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Strategic Policy Committee and Corporate Policy Scheme 2019-2024 with amendments.

(2.4) Disposal of Freehold on Site No. 4 Muinebheag Industrial Estate

Members approval was sought to approve the Disposal of Freehold on Site No. 4 Muinebheag Industrial Estate, Moneybeg, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow

Proposed by Councillor A. Gladney
Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald
AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the disposal of freehold on Site No. 4 Muinebheag Industrial Estate, Moneybeg, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow to Carlow Brewing Company, in consideration of the sum of €2,950 in accordance with Local Government Act 2001, Section 183 (1), Planning & Development Act 2000, Section 211 and in accordance with the terms of the statutory notice already circulated. The consent of the Minister of the Environment is not necessary for the said disposal.”

(2.5) Re-arrange date of Budget 2020 Meeting

Proposed by Councillor J. Murphy
Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald
AND

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the holding of the Statutory Budget Meeting on Friday 29th November at 2.00pm with in committee meeting at 11.30pm.

(2.6) Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2018; Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2018; Proposed Development of Rural House at Spahill, Borris, Co. Carlow

Proposed by Councillor W. Quinn
Seconded by Councillor T. Kinsella
AND

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the commencement of the Part 8 process for Rural House, Spahill, Borris, Co. Carlow in accordance with Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2018; Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2018”.

(2.7) Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2018; Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2018; Proposed Development of Rural House at Brown Bog, Hacketstown, Co. Carlow

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

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the commencement of the Part 8 process for Rural House, at Brown Bog, Hacketstown, Co. Carlow in accordance with Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2018; Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2018”.

3. CORPORATE, PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

(3.1) Conference Attendance Approvals

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor T. O’ Neill

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the following Conference Attendance.”

Title: - Irish Social Welfare

Dates: - 6th to 9th December 2019

Venue: - O'Donovan's Hotel, Main Street, Clonakilty, Co. Cork

Conference System

No meals provided

Fee: €100.00

Title: - First-Time Home Buyers

Dates: - 13th to 15th December 2019

Venue: - Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth Conference

Incentives

No meals provided

Fee: €100.00

4.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT

Members discussed Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report for the period to 31st October 2019.

Issues raised by the Members included: -

- 2020 Centenary of John Tyndall.
- **Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan, Seconded by Councillor B. O’Donoghue** that the members request the Cathaoirleach, to write to Greta Thunberg, inviting her to attend the John Tyndall centenary celebrations, to address “Climate Change”.
- Air Pollution – Monitoring Station in Carlow. B. O’Donovan advised that results are available on the EPA Website.

- Traffic Congestion/ Free School Buses/Cycle Lanes
- Waste Checkpoints for Unauthorised Waste Collectors – B. O’Donovan advised that a checkpoint took place and 2 Fixed Penalty Notices issued to two permit holders.
- Homeless Figures – are women in domestic refuge included in these figures. J. Kavanagh confirmed that they are not included in the Homeless figures.
- Wifi update for the town.
- Powerstown Community Fund – clarity sought. K. Cullinane confirmed that this fund still exists.
- Climate Change
- Register of Electors
- PPN – it was suggested that the elected members receive a briefing from the PPN, at a Council Meeting.
- Paint Scheme for businesses
- 20th Anniversary Pride of Place – numbers of community groups who are actively tidying the villages and towns did not get an invitation. Chief Executive K. Holohan asked Councillor T. Kinsella to forward on the details to her directly of those who did not get an invite and she will investigate.
- Towns & Villages Renewal Scheme – B. O’Donovan confirmed that the Local Enterprise Office are assisting people with applications.
- LED Replacement Scheme – 678 lights replaced in 2019.
- Sugar Factory Site – 14th anniversary of the closure of the Sugar Factory Site. Chief Executive K. Holohan advised there are issues with the EPA and no current proposals for the site.
- LEADER – Chief Executive K. Holohan advised that the LCDC is the national partnership and is happy with the progress on projects and will bring report to next meeting.
- Roads – Ballyvergal Junction – part of the road markings at this junction are missing and need to be extended right up to the junction.
- Roads – Tinryland Junction at the four cross roads.
- Roads – Bagenal Arms Junction, requires a review. R. Wickham confirmed that a Road Safety Audit has been complete, and it is in the plans for 2020.

- County Council’s website – Chief Executive K. Holohan confirmed that the website is being reviewed.
- Waste Collection – bins being left by waste collectors in dangerous positions on our roads. B. O’Donovan explained this is the responsibility of the Waste Collectors.
- Scarefest – K. Cullinane confirmed it had been moved for Health & Safety reasons.
- Staff List – can an updated list of staff including their Department, Telephone Numbers and Email addresses be circulated to all members.
- Support Local Clean Ups – two patrol officers working closely with community groups.
- Falling leaves on the street in Bagenalstown –Members queried if CE Scheme members can carry out works? K. Cullinane confirmed that this was raised at Muinebheag Municipal District Meeting and actions are being taken.

5.0 Correspondence

Members noted resolution from Sligo County Council – requesting signage to be placed at local woodland in consultation with Coillte.

Member noted resolution from Donegal County Council – supporting a vote of no confidence in the Mercosur Trade Deal.

Members noted correspondence from the Department of Education and Skills - regarding provision for children with autism in Carlow and at a national level.

Members noted resolution from Monaghan County Council – calling for legislation for the banning of all non-recyclable materials used in food/drinks packaging

Members noted resolution from Westmeath County Council – for the establishment without delay a Commission on the Future of the Defence Forces in Ireland and establishment of a “Permanent & Independent Defence Forces Pay Body”.

Members noted correspondence from Office of the Minister with Responsibility for Defence – regarding the “A” Company, 35th Infantry Battalion and the request for medals of bravery.

Members noted correspondence from the Health Service Executive – in response to members correspondence in relation to “Health Care Services” for the people of Carlow.

Members noted resolution from Fingal County Council – to congratulate the Community Development Office for their presentation on “Developing and Implementing Local Migrant Integration Strategies.” Councillor. A. Wallace questioned if Carlow County Council had received the presentation on “Developing and Implementing Local Migrant Integration Strategies” from Fingal County Council.

Members noted correspondence from TUSLA – in response to members correspondence regarding women’s refuge centre “Carlow”. Councillor. A. Wallace referred to briefing that was circulated to E. Brophy on Friday 8th November 2019. Councillor A. Wallace requested this report be circulated to members. Councillor. A. Wallace urged members to support a rally which is planned to take place on 14th December 2019 in Carlow Town with Mr. Peter McVerry in support of the Carlow Women’s Refuge appeal.

Members noted correspondence from Department of Health – in relation to Notice of Motion passed by the members concerning ‘Rehabilitative Training Allowance’.

6.0 Notices of Motion

(6.1) Standing in the name of Councillor Fintan Phelan

Proposed by Councillor F. Fintan

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

'We, the members of Carlow County Council, support the introduction of public drinking water fountains in Carlow Town and County. Ireland is amongst Europe's top producers of plastic waste and many plastic bottles are not recycled and end up in landfill. The ability to refill your bottle in public spaces will help combat plastic waste, will be cost effective for individuals and will enhance our public spaces.'

Issues raised by the members in relation to Water Pumps were addressed by K. Cullinane.

(6.2) Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace

Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council hereby approve

“That Carlow County Council launch an extensive report, detailing how a license was issued by the council to the Puppy Farm at Raheenleigh, Myshall, six months before it was closed down as a result of the extreme neglect and abuse of the animals there. The report should list any future recommendations needed to ensure a more thorough process for granting licenses is in place.”

E. Brophy outlined in his report actions and recommendations that have being put in place since the closure of the Puppy Farm at Myshall.

Members expressed satisfaction with the report and that the necessary controls are in place. Members requested that the report be circulated as presented.

(6.3) Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council hereby agree to the introduction of on-line streaming of Carlow County Council meetings, to make the system more transparent, accountable and accessible to the wider public.” Progress report to be given at the December “County Council Meeting”.

A detailed discussion took place on this motion. The Chief Executive advised of costs that would be incurred for the project. Councillor F. Phelan proposed an amendment to the Notice of Motion. Following a show of hands, the vote resulted 8 for and 8 against the amendment. This resulted in the Cathaoirleach exercising his casting vote, to which he supported the amendment as follows;

“That the Chief Executive prepare a comprehensive cost analysis report and discuss the project with relevant interest, the benefits to the public and ensure the media would still attend the “Council Meetings”.

(6.4) Standing in the name of Councillor John Cassin

Proposed by Councillor **J. Cassin**
Seconded by Councillor **A. Gladney**
And

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

‘Carlow County Council calls on the minister for health Simon Harris to provide St Luke’s Hospital Kilkenny (serving the people of Carlow and Kilkenny) with the necessary funding for the Life Saving MRI scanner as a matter of urgency this needs to be addressed immediately.’

(6.5) Standing in the name of Councillor John Cassin

Proposed by Councillor **J. Cassin**
Seconded by Councillor **A. Gladney**
And

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

‘Carlow County Council calls on the Minister for Health, Simon Harris, to immediately respond and provide the necessary funding to the Ambulance crisis in Carlow. The waiting time for an ambulance to arrive after an emergency call, is completely unacceptable and Carlow people’s lives are at risk.’

(6.6) Standing in the name of Councillor Brian O’Donoghue

Proposed by Councillor **B. O’Donoghue**
Seconded by Councillor **W. Paton**
And

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

‘That it is the policy of Carlow County Council from the 1st of January 2020 onwards, that the gates to St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Tullow, will be open to the public at least one day per week to allow families tend to the graves of their loved ones and that a second water point be installed at a central location in the cemetery to be in operation by January 1st 2020.’

After this Motion was proposed and seconded it was then agreed that this Motion would be more relevant to the “Tullow Municipal District” meeting and agreed it would be deferred.

(6.7) Standing in the name of Councillor Fergal Browne

Proposed by Councillor **F. Browne**
Seconded by Councillor **T. O’Neill**
And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That Carlow County Council initiate legal proceedings against the Court Services for their abject failure to maintain and restore the Courthouse railings at Carlow Courthouse”.

The Chief Executive K. Holohan advised of previous meeting with the Court Service. The Office of Public Works are going to Tender by the end of 2019, and it is envisaged these works will commence in 2020.

(6.8) Standing in the name of Councillor Brian O’Donoghue

Proposed by Councillor **B. O’Donoghue**
Seconded by Councillor **W. Paton**
And

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

“That Carlow County Council, in the interest of safety for road users, residents and visitors to Tobinstown Cross (R727) and in conjunction with the purchase of a premises located at the cross, by Carlow County Council Housing and Community Section, (formally Tobinstown National School), hereby commits to removing the boundary wall on the Haroldstown side (R727) of the purchased premises to improve sight lines and visibility and furthermore commits to these works before the end of 2019 with funding previously attributed to this area by Transport Infrastructure Ireland for low cost safety measures, or any available funding stream”.

K. Cullinane advised that a submission has been made to secure funding and that the design is done.

7.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CATHAOIRLEACH

- St. Andrews Church, Bagenalstown – source funding for railings.
- Public access to defibrillators.
- Oak Park – Remedial works for walk way.

- Barrow Track – the Chief Executive to request a structural engineering report from Waterways Ireland and circulate to members.

This concluded the business of the meeting.