

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the September Meeting of Carlow County Council, held on Monday, 13th September 2021 at 2.00 p.m. in Room L117, Haughton Building, Carlow Institute of Technology, Kilkenny Road, Carlow.

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

Remote: Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor T. Kinsella
Councillor W. Quinn
Councillor C. Murphy

Present: Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service, Corporate, HR, Planning,
Economic Development, Health & Safety
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service, Transportation,
Environment, Water Services, Building Control & Emergency
Services
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service, Housing, Community,
Recreation & Amenity
Mr. P.J. Leonard, Financial Accountant
Mr. Kieran Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office
Mr. Seamus Doran, Assistant Head of Local Enterprise Office
Mr. John Shortall, County Librarian (remote)
Mr. Brian O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing (remote)
Ms. Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer, Environment
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate & HR
Ms. L. O'Callaghan, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
(remote)
Ms. T. Hickson, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- Death of Elizabeth (Buddy) Smithers (née Thompson), Rathrush, Rathoe Carlow, mother of Tom Smithers, Caretaker, Water Services.
- Death of Sheila Sofer (née Robertson), Cape Town, South Africa, mother of Gary Sofer, Executive Engineer, Planning Department.
- Death of pensioner, Denis (Dinny) McGrath, Ballon Hill, Ballon, Carlow, former staff member of Carlow County Council
- Death of Ger Murnane, Portlaoise Road, Carlow, brother of Councillor Ken Murnane and Jennifer Murnane-O'Connor TD
- Death of Amanda Kinsella, Bennekerry, Carlow, daughter of Michael and Patricia Kinsella.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí

1.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 12th July 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

Proposed by Councillor: A. Dalton

Seconded by Councillor: J. Murphy

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved:-

‘That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 12th July 2021 at 2.00 p.m., having been circulated to each Member, be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy, and accordingly signed’.

1.2 Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 30th August 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

Proposed by Councillor: T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor: J. Doran

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved:-

‘That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 30th August 2021 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 Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó ruin an Chomhairle

2.1 Taking in Charge – Chapelstown Road (Cul-De-Sac Roadway located off Brownhill Link Road L-1026-0) at Chapelstown, Carlow

Following the conclusion of the Council's Notice of its intention to take-in-charge the above mentioned road, and having received no submissions on this notice, the Council formally resolves to take-in-charge Chapelstown Road (Cul-De-Sac Roadway located off Brownhill Link Road L-1026-0) at Chapelstown, Carlow

Proposed by Councillor: T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor: A. Dalton

Agreed following a show of hands

2.2 Part 8 – Proposed to Proceed with the In-Carlow Enterprise Campus

Following the conclusion of a Part 8 public consultation, it is recommended that the proposed development be proceeded with in accordance with the plans and particulars as placed on public display on 1st June 2021, and to any such minor and immaterial alterations to these plans and particulars.

Proposed by Councillor: A. Dalton

Seconded by Councillor: T. O'Neill

Agreed following a show of hands

3.0 Considerations of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Mholtaí

3.1 Circular RW 12 of 2021 – Speed Limits Appeals Procedure

Pádraig O'Gorman, Director of Services, gave this report and answered all queries.

3.2 Consent to the commencement of the process of taking in Charge – Sleaty Park View, Sleaty Street, Graiguecullen, Carlow

Proposed by Councillor: K. Murnane

Seconded by Councillor: A. Dalton

Agreed following a show of hands

3.3 Consent to the commencement of the process of taking in Charge – Rivercourt Phase 2, O'Brien Road, Carlow

Proposed by Councillor: T. O'Neill
Seconded by Councillor: J. Cassin
Agreed following a show of hands

3.4 Carlow Southern Relief Road – Strategic Assessment Report (August 2021)

Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services, gave this report and answered all queries. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the November meeting.

3.5 Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project Update

Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services, gave this report and answered all queries.

3.6 Rathvilly Water Treatment Plant – EPA Audit Report

Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer, Environment, gave this report and answered all queries.

3.7 Housing for All – A new Housing Plan for Ireland

Michael Brennan, Director of Service, gave this report and answered all queries. It was proposed to hold a workshop in November for all members.

3.8 Conference Attendance Approvals

Proposed by Councillor: T. O'Neill
Seconded by Councillor: M. Doran
Agreed following a show of hands

CONFERENCES /TRAINING – SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER 2021

CELTIC CONFERENCES

Health & Safety in the Workplace

Dates: 24th, 25th, & 26th September 2021

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

Bookings to: info@celticconferences.com Fee: €100.00

The Fair Deal Scheme – What's the deal with Nursing Home Care

Dates: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd October 2021

Venue: The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth

Bookings to: info@celticconferences.com Fee: €100.00

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Dates: 8th, 9th, & 10th October 2021

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

Bookings to: info@celticconferences.com Fee: €100.00

A Practical Guide to Budget 2022

Dates: 15th, 16th & 17 October 2021

Venue: The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth

Bookings to: info@celticconferences.com Fee: €100.00

AILG Module 1 - S&E Region

AILG Module 1 – “Government Decision on the Reform on Remuneration & Allowances Payable to Elected Members & Update on Planning and Development Bill 2021”

Date: 16th September 2021 (10.30am – 12.30pm)

Venue: The Rose Hotel, Dan Spring Road, Cloonbeg, Tralee, Co. Kerry,

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/september-2021-ailg-training-programme-module-1-tickets-170330799005>

Date: 18th September 2021 (10.30am – 12.30pm)

Venue: The Tower Hotel & Leisure Centre, Waterford, X91 VXEO

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/september-2021-ailg-training-programme-module-1-tickets-170335264361>

Saturday Out of Region Option for Councillors

Date: 2nd October 2021 (10.30am – 12.30pm)

Venue: Sligo Park Hotel, Pearse Road, Coorenageeha, Sligo

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/october-2021-ailg-training-programme-module-1-tickets-170341885164>

Date: 5th October 2021 (10.30am - 12.30pm)

Venue: Horse & Jockey Hotel, Horse & Jockey, Thurles, Co. Tipperary

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/october-2021-ailg-training-programme-module-1-tickets-170343315442>

4.0 Chief Executive's Report / Tuarascáil an Phíomhfheidhmeannaigh

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

Issues raised by members included:-

- Take-over of St. Vincent de Paul Hostel, Dublin Road, Carlow
- Update on houses on Barrack Street, Carlow
- Update on derelict building at Shamrock Square, Carlow
- Town bus
- Cutting of hedgerows

Michael Brennan, Director of Service, Pádraig O'Gorman, Director of Service, and Michael Rainey, Director of Service, answered all queries.

Correspondence / Comhfhreagras

It was agreed by members to invite NBI to attend Council meeting to discuss broadband in the county.

6.0 Notices of Motion / Fógraí Rúin

6.1 Standing in the Name of Cllr. Fintan Phelan

“Carlow County Council expresses huge concern regarding the long waiting lists for both driving theory tests and driving practical exams. This delay is having a huge impact on those waiting, who are predominantly young people. This council therefore calls on the appropriate Minister to put in place provisions to reduce the waiting lists of both the driving theory test and driving practical examinations as a matter of urgency. This council also calls for a reduced fee to be put in place for learner drivers who are sitting the driving test after a failed first attempt. A copy of this motion is to be sent to the Minister for Transport and Minister of State with special responsibility for international and road transport and logistics.”

Proposed by Councillor: F. Phelan

Seconded by Councillor: A. McDonald

Agreed following a show of hands

6.2 Standing in the Name of Cllr. Adrienne Wallace

“Following the release of the Government's Housing For All Plan this council Commits to writing to the Taoiseach to demand real and immediate action on housing; including addressing the gap in HAP support available compared to the average rent in Carlow. To call for an introduction of genuine rent caps, a ban on evictions into homelessness and to streamline CPOs of more vacant homes than outlined in the Government's plan. It should also call for an end to the over-reliance on the private market to provide social housing and instead call for a state construction company to build social and affordable houses.”

Proposed by Councillor: A. Wallace

Seconded by Councillor: J. Cassin

Motion defeated following a show of hands

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

Councillor Fintan Phelan, Cathaoirleach, thanked Carlow I.T. for facilitating today's meeting, and in particular Mr. Matt Given for all his assistance.

This concluded the business of the meeting.