

**Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Carlow  
Held in Carlow College, College Street, Carlow,  
on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017, at 4.30pm**

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**Present:** Councillor F. Phelan, Mayor  
Councillor A. Ahern  
Councillor F. Browne  
Councillor J. Cassin  
Councillor J. Deane  
Councillor W. Lacey  
Councillor W. Paton  
Councillor J. Pender  
Councillor K. Murnane

**Apologies:** Councillor B. O'Donoghue

**In Attendance:** Ms. B. O'Brien, Director of Services  
Mr. P. Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. S. O'Connor, Director of Service  
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. M. Brennan, Senior Executive Officer

**Reception**

The Mayor welcomed members to the meeting and thanked Carlow College for hosting the meeting. Fr. Conn thanked the Municipal District on behalf of the College and wished the Municipal District well. The Mayor made a presentation to Fr. Conn of a framed photo of Carlow Dolmen.

**Prior to Meeting**

Cllr. Browne Proposed and Cllr. Paton Seconded the idea of holding a meeting in Rathvilly in March. This was agreed for 30<sup>th</sup> March in the Rathvilly GAA Club, if available, at 4.30 p.m. with Housing launch at 4.00 p.m.

**Confirmation of Minutes**

Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016

Proposed by Cllr. A. Ahern

Seconded by Cllr F. Browne

And resolved following a show of hands

“That the Minutes of Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2016, are hereby approved.”

## **Housing**

The Director of Services for Housing, S. O'Connor, circulated a progress report and updated members on progress, including 26 houses at Sleaty, 5 apartments at Sleaty, and purchase of apartments for special needs clients. He also advised of advertisement for the acquisition of properties.

S. O'Connor answered questions from members on various issues including the repair and lease scheme, houses at Tullow, housing eligibility, staffing levels required in the sections due to pressures, HAP Assistance by Carlow County Council in areas in Co. Laois, income limits for applicants and involvement of other agencies with the homeless clinic.

Proposed by Cllr. Lacey

Seconded by Councillor Pender.

And agreed following a show of hands

“That an apartment block at Maryborough Street, be called Brereton House”.

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender,

And agreed following a show of hands

“That new estate in Tullow adjacent to St. Patrick's Park be called “Árd na Gréine”.

Members thanked the Director and his staff for the progress made on the housing issues.

## **Transportation**

### ***Roads Programme***

P. Harrington circulated the proposed Improvement and Restoration maintenance.

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton,

Seconded by Cllr. J. Cassin

And following a show of hands was unanimously resolved

“That the programme be adopted as circulated.”

### ***TII Programme under HD28***

P. Harrington advised that there were works that Carlow County Council will carry out on national roads on behalf of TII and outlined work at Cuckoo Corner, Ardristan to Tesco Roundabout, Bishop's Cross and Kill Cross (all on N81).

On the N80, the works involve reconstruction of roundabouts, these works will take place during summer holidays.

P. Harrington answered questions from members on various issues including:- pedestrian crossings at roundabouts; broken lights at Pedestrian crossings; appoint a liaison person for Tullow Street; works carried out at night; incidences of crashes at Friarstown and possible works to counter same; rights of way at pedestrian crossings; exit at Lidl.

Members thanked P. Harrington and his team for the report.

The Mayor expressed his reservation on the lack of proposals for Brownhill Cross and P. Harrington advised he was in discussions with landowners. The Mayor expressed his dissatisfaction with this response. A discussion took place on this issue and P. Harrington advised €25,000 was allocated to this project but it must be considered as part of a programme. He advised the funding lasts for one year. Members suggested proposals be brought to the March Meeting. Brownhill Cross to be placed as an item on the March Agenda.

### ***Tullow Bridge Update***

P. Harrington advised on the issue and briefed on the proposed works on Tullow Bridge on behalf of TII. He advised there would have to be a Part 8 planning application with a view to having the project ready to go by Q4 2017.

P. Harrington answered questions from members on the proposal including previous proposals for a second river crossing and various safety issues.

### ***Tullow Road Project***

Mr. Brennan advised a Tullow Road Group has been established which will carry out a needs analysis and will also run a TUS scheme. He advised of an art scheme. He advised CCDP is engaged in a capacity building exercise. He advised that terms of reference had now been developed with A. Sweeney of the Planning sections. The community will now take ownership of the project through meeting needs, providing social infrastructure and needs analysis. Next stage to investigate site selection. Michael proposed to bring a progress report to Municipal District in April. A scoping report will then be carried out and funding must also be researched. Consultation is also required with all the agencies in the area and the community itself.

Mr. Brennan answered questions from members on the project. He advised he will circulate the terms of reference. He will revert to Cllr. Cassin on the issue of whether a member(s) of the Municipal District could be nominated to the project team.

### ***Skateboard Park***

Mr. Brennan circulated a map showing the location of a proposed skateboard park at the Burrin Road. He advised that Part 8 had been carried out but no report went to Council. He asked members if they were satisfied with the location and he could also take the members on a study trip to Wicklow where the former Town Council members had visited.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Cassin

Seconded by Cllr. Ann Ahern and

Following a show of hands was unanimously agreed

“That the location at the Burrin Road be used”.

The site visit to Wicklow was agreed.

### ***Carlow Town Park***

The Mayor read a letter he received from a constituent in relation to a handbag theft and the lack of CCTV in the Town Park.

Cllr. Murnane advised that the security of the park was a major issue. He also enquired when the maintenance of the town park was to be carried out by the Amenity Trust and that the contractor was to finish this month. Concern in respect of the required standard of maintenance of the park be maintained, was expressed.

E. Brophy advised on the Gardaí CCTV application.

P. Harrington answered questions in relation to the maintenance of the park. He advised the Council is required to tender the service and that the park will be maintained by the Amenity Trust and there will be two persons in the park at any time. The staff would work under the supervision of the Town Gardener. It was agreed to examine the funding implications for the next Municipal District meeting. It was advised that this was an executive decision. Cllr. Murnane requested his dissent to the proposal that a contractor not be used to maintain the park, be noted.

The Mayor requested that the Municipal District write to the relevant agencies advising them of the Carlow Laois Boundary Review Commission reports/recommendations in relation to the increased co-operation between agencies.

Cllr. Ahern expressed concern at the ESB networks letter re notice of outages.

Cllr. Cassin raised an issue in relation to library closures and B. O'Brien advised this was temporary due to the introduction of a new library system.

Cllr. Ahern raised an issue in relation to parking at Carlow Train station and requested the Council facilitate a meeting between the Parish and Irish Road. This was Proposed by Cllr. Ann Ahern and Seconded by Cllr. W. Lacey.

P. Harrington answered questions from members on various Municipal District concerning roads and footpath issues.

Cllr. Deane raised the issue of illegal dumping and requested it be discussed at Council level, particularly having regard to serious dumping at the site of St. Wilibrord and Clonmelsh Cemetery.

Cllr. Ann Ahern advised some of the railings at the Courthouse were due to be removed for repair. Cllr. Cassin enquired in relation to the removal of the cannon from the Courthouse. B. O'Brien/Eamonn Brophy to update.

Proposed by Mayor Fintan Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. Fergal Browne

And following a show of hands

It was agreed to go into committee to discuss item B of the Transportation reports. P. Harrington advised of the Discretionary Improvement for 2017. He advised of the budget and the various options and scheme proposed for members consideration.

P. Harrington answered questions from members on the proposed works.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

And Agreed following a show of hands

“The TII Programme under HD28 as circulated, be adopted”.

**Any Other Business**

It was agreed to include St. Mary’s Cemetery and wall for ashes (columbarium) on Environment issue for March Agenda as well as dog fouling.

**Next Meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2017, in Rathvilly GAA**