

**Minutes of Meeting of the Carlow Municipal District
held in the Town Hall Chamber, Carlow, on
Thursday 9th March, at 4.30 p.m.**

- Present:** Councillor F. Phelan (Mayor)
Councillor T. O'Neill
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor F. Browne (Remote)
Councillor A. Wallace
- Guests:** Eimhim de Piorraí, Carlow College Students Union
Jacky Casserly, Carlow College Students Union
- In Attendance:** Mr. K. Cullinane, A/Director of Services, Planning, Economic
Development & Corporate Services
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. S. O'Neill, A/Administrative Officer, Community Department
Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. B. Deenihan, Senior Staff Officer
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Affairs
Ms. L. O'Callaghan, Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs
Ms. A. Connolly, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs

Mayor F. Phelan welcomed all including members of Carlow College Students Union to the March meeting of Carlow Municipal District.

Members expressed their sympathies to Cllr. Browne on the recent passing of his mother, Nancy, and a minutes silence was observed in her honour.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2023 at 4.00 p.m.

The Minutes of Carlow Municipal District meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2023 at 4.00 p.m. were

Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill
Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And agreed following a show of hands

2.0 Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members

2.1 Draft Annual Service Plan 2023

Ms. S. O'Neill, A/Administrative Officer, Community Department, briefed members on grant funding for Carlow Municipal District for their consideration. These included Environmental, Tidy Towns and Community Development Grants with a total amount of €37,000 being provided. She advised that members discretionary funds have increased by €1,000 this year to a total budget of €49,000. Ms. O'Neill answered all questions raised.

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

And agreed following a show of hands

3.0 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

3.1 Planning Update

Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer, presented the members with a comprehensive planning report. Members complimented both Ms. Lawler and Ms. Deenihan on their detailed report and raised a number of issues. These included:

- Croí Cónaith (Towns) Fund Scheme
- Repair and Lease Scheme
- Derelict properties at Shamrock Square, Staplestown Road, Tullow Street, Dublin Street and Crotty's site
- Commercial properties use as residential
- CPO timeframe – long process
- Paint scheme for residential properties

Ms. Lawler answered all questions raised.

3.2 Carlow Municipal District Engineers Report

Mr. B. Knowles briefed members on ongoing works and projects within the district and answered all queries raised by the members including:

- Footpath works from Bennekerry Cross to Brownhill Dolmen
- Installation of CCTV at Carlow Town Bus Park
- Roadmarkings need re-instating
- Entrance at Hanover
- Carlow Town Park enhancement
- Urban garden – Oak trees

- Bins on Kilkenny Road
- Maple Court - Footpaths
- HSE Athy Road – wall

3.3 Carlow Municipal District Roadworks Programme

Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Engineer, presented members with the Carlow Municipal District Roadworks Programme for 2023 which included Specific Footpath Improvement projects, Safety improvement works, bridge repairs and drainage improvement works. The programme was:-

Proposed by Councillor T. O’Neill

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And agreed following a show of hands

3.4 Carlow College Student Survey on Housing & Commuting, presentation by Eimhin de Piorraí and Jacky Casserly

Mr. E. de Piorraí and Ms. J. Casserly from Carlow College Students Union presented the members with results from a survey carried out within Carlow College. These results highlighted the accommodation and commuting challenges facing students in Carlow and surrounding areas. Members thanked both students for their presentation and agreed that more needs to be done at National Government level to tackle the issues raised.

4.0 Notices of Motion

4.1 Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

“That the Carlow Municipal District acknowledges the ongoing crisis in relation to housing and the cost-of-living, along with concerns raised by third-level students in Carlow and nationally, in particular during the student-led walkouts held in October 2022. As such, the Municipal District shall write to the leaders of the three coalition parties, as well as the Minister for Further Education and Higher Education and the Minister for Housing, raising the following points:

- *That students continue to face an ever worsening crisis in relation to housing and the cost-of-living, with this having an impact on the education and livelihoods of students at present and into the foreseeable future;*
- *That the reduction in public transport costs as part of the Government's cost-of-living measures be maintained on a permanent basis, with the provision of free public transport for students being considered;*

- *That public owned vacant land and buildings be considered for secure, affordable, publicly owned Purpose Built Student Accommodation.”*

Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace
Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And agreed following a show of hands

4.2 Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

“This Municipal District write to the NTA to demand it reverse its decision to cease the use of the Bus Stop at Green Lane on the Expressway Route 4 with immediate effect”.

Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace
Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

The motion was passed following a show of hands

5.0 Correspondence

None

6.0 Any Other Business

Mr. E. Brophy advised members that the drawings for the Part VIII at Court Place, Carlow had only been received after the agenda had been issued and outlined the pre part 8 planning process of Court Place, Carlow. The recommendation to proceed to Part 8 was

Proposed by Councillor K. Murnane
Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

Members raised a number of issues which included the following:

- IDA Building tenants
- Update on the Relief Road
- Site investigations on Tullow Road
- Old Mill in Graiguecullen

Mr. K. Cullinane, A/Director of Services, answered all queries raised

This concluded the business of the meeting.

