

**Minutes of Meeting of Carlow Municipal District
held in Graiguecullen Community Centre on Thursday, 26th
September, 2018 at conclusion of Carlow/Laois Joint Meeting.**

Present: Councillor K Murnane, Mayor
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor J. Deane
Councillor W. Lacey
Councillor B. O'Donoghue
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor J. Pender
Councillor F. Phelan

In Attendance: Ms. B. O'Brien, Director of Service
Mr. D. McInerney, Director of Service
Mr. E Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. M Brennan, A/Director of Service
Ms. J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Anita Sweeney, Senior Planner
Mr. R. Wickham, A/Senior Engineer
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise
Mr. B. O'Donovan, A/Senior Engineer

Mayor Ken Murnane welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on the 26th July were

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne

Seconded by Cllr. W. Lacey

and Resolved following a show of hands

“That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 26th July 2018 are hereby approved.”

Housing

M. Brennan circulated a housing update report and spoke on same. He advised the traveller accommodation plan will come back to members for approval. Members welcomed the progress report and noted the works done to date. Members welcomed the acquisition of houses by CPO under derelict sites legislation. M. Brennan and J. Kavanagh answered questions on various issues in relation to matters such as empty sites at Barrack Street; Staplestown Road and Montgomery Street; the refugee resettlement programme; vacant houses owned by the local authority; Council lands at Tinryland and plans for same; horses roaming in estates and Maryborough Street.

M. Brennan advised of an additional grant of €550,000 for DPGs which was welcomed by members.

My Carlow

B. O'Brien advised of Chief Executive's Report and recommendation and advised the project team was in attendance (The Chief Executive is away and sent apologies). B. O'Brien spoke on the Chief Executives Report advising of the opportunity for revitalisation of the town, the consultations held to date with 295 submissions, which is positive and shows interest of the people of Carlow. Anita Sweeney spoke on the submissions received and summarised the main issues raised. To move the project forward it is proposed to prepare a more consolidated masterplan which will be informed by the submissions received. K. Cmerford spoke on the economic funds (urban regeneration fund). This scheme requires more detail and there is a two stage process which the Council can apply for funding which should be ready by next June. This will require tender in October with a masterplan to be completed by June 2019 with a view to getting funding in 2019. This is a tight timeframe which will require an early Part 8 process. The application to be submitted on Friday next is for technical expertise and consultants.

Barrack Street

B. O'Brien advised of proposals for this site. A. Sweeney advised a high quality design brief is required to provide the access. An initial call for expressions of interest will follow.

Upper Tullow Street

D. McInerney advised of intentions not to introduce the one way system. He advised of Irish Water works at Upper Tullow Street which should be finished soon. The Council's own works at Lower Tullow Street will be finished next week.

He advised of the Council's proposed works for Upper Tullow Street which will involve shaping the road and putting an interim surface on it.

He advised of public realm improvement for Upper Tullow Street and noted concerns members had raised previously. The formal Part 8 is expected to be commenced in early 2019.

Town Centre Rejuvenation

K. Comerford advised that a person has now been appointed the post of Economic Development Officer and the Carlow Town Development Forum. He advised that the person to be appointed will meet the Municipal District members bi-monthly.

B. O'Brien advised of the need for consultation with, and the co-operation of the business community to advance the project.

A discussion took place with contributions from members on various issues. It was suggested that plans and drawings should be brought to the M.D. in the first instance prior to full Council. B. O'Brien and D. McInerney replied on issues raised by members.

A discussion took place on Part 8 procedures and A. Sweeney clarified that on the completion of the process the Council can approve, modify or reject the scheme. Significant alterations which could materially affect a different party cannot be allowed at that stage and a further process would be required in that instance – this would involve a further period of public consultation.

A. Sweeney advised that Part 8 process is a twenty week process. It was agreed the drawings would be brought to a Municipal District meeting for noting (in accordance with the legislation) prior to the advertisement of same.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,

Seconded by Cllr. B. O'Donovan

That the recommendations of the Chief Executives Report was approved following a show of hands.

Transportation

Extinguishment of Right of Way at Willow Park, Tullow Road, Carlow.

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne

“That the process be for the extinguishment of the Right of Way at Willow Park, Tullow Road, Carlow, be commenced.”

Any Other Business

Cllr. W. Paton raised the issue of the WWTP in Tullow, the lack of capacity of which was hindering development in Tullow. D. McInerney advised that staff had met with senior Irish Water Staff on this issue.

Cllr. W. Paton raised an issue in relation to amenity levies and the issue of whether or not there was plans to provide a fund for the new Tullow Municipal District and was of the view that levies raised in Tullow be reserved for Tullow and requested a report. B. O’Brien undertook to provide a report.

B. O’Donovan raised an issue on relation to the erection of a small memorial to be erected by Lá Nua and advised they were seeking a location.

Cllr. A. Dalton raised an issue in relation to the need for a caretaker for Tinryland. D. McInerney replied.

The Mayor thanked all for their attendance and contributions.

Next Meeting: Friday, 19th October, 2018