

**Minutes of November Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in the
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow,
on Monday 13th November 2023 at 2.00 p.m.**

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

Apologies: Councillor C. Murphy

In attendance: Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive
Mr. P. Delaney, Head of Finance (*Remotely*)
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service
Mr. K. Cullinane, Senior Engineer (*Remotely*)
Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Services
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer (*Remotely*)
Mr. K. Comerford, Director of Service (*Remotely*)
Mr. R. Wickham, A/Senior Engineer
Ms. M. Moore, Acting Senior Executive Officer
Mr. B. O'Keeffe, People and Places (*Remotely*)
Mr. J. Gleeson, People and Places
Ms. P. Duff, PPN Co-Ordinator (*Remotely*)
Ms. F. Broadbery, PPN Support Worker (*Remotely*)
Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. J. Shorthall, County Librarian (*Remotely*)
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. J. Woods, Administrative Officer
Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer

Votes of Sympathy

Patricia Murphy & Family on the death of her brother, Barry (Daniel) Jordan, Myshall.

James Hickey & Family on the death of his wife, Betsy Hickey, Cushinstown, Foulksmills, Co. Wexford.

Kathryn Nolan & Family on the death of her brother, Christy Nolan, Kilkea, Co. Kildare.

Treacy Family on the death of Sylvia Treacy, Ballyhackett, Tullow.

Furey Family on the death of Peggy Furey, Green Road, Carlow.

Molloy Family on the death of Gordon Molloy, Lahardane, Mayo formerly Blackbog Road, Carlow

McHutcheon Family on the death of William (Willie) McHutcheon, St. Patrick's Park, Tullow.

Lucas Family on the death of Elizabeth (Beth), 41 Hillbrook Estate, Tullow.

Brennan Family on the death of Margaret (Peg) Brennan, 17 Springdale, Tullow Road, Carlow.

Rea Family on the death of John Rea, Cawley, Sussex 68 St. Mary's Park, Carlow.

Buggy Family on the death of Elaine Buggy, Tolerton, Ballickmoyler, Carlow.

Dowling Family on the death of Jim (James) Dowling, 41 Dereen Heights, Tullow Road, Carlow.

Brophy Family on the death of Patrick (Pat) Brophy, Athlone / Ardattin Carlow.

Conway Family on the death of LV (Liam Vincent) Conway, Straboe, Tullow.

Cawley Family on the death of Seán Cawley, The Rectory, Kilkenny Road, Carlow.

Lyons Family on the death of Christina Lyons, Kilmeany, Carlow.

SlYe Family on the death of Margaret SlYe, Croanruss, Myshall.

Lyons Family on the death of Alan Lyons, 3 Burrin Arcade Burrin Street, Carlow.

Cleere Family on the death of David Cleere, Killerig, Carlow.

A member of the Ukrainian Community who lost thirteen family members in an air strike in the Ukraine

Votes of Congratulations

Aoibheann, Fionn, Donagh & Ruairi Murphy, Borris, on their success in the Ireland's Fittest Family competition.

Brigid Fox, Shangarry, Myshall, on winning National Heritage Hero Award Craft Hub Team (Libraries / LEO & Finance) in respect of the closing conference for Craft Hub held in Oslo recently.

Local Enterprise Office staff on the successful running of Powerhouse Women in Business Awards held recently.

Ciara Stanley on winning the “*Best Newcomer/Start-Up of the Year*” and “*Female Entrepreneur of the Year*” in the Powerhouse Women in Business Awards held recently.

Ollie Hennessy on his upcoming new Irish musical drama “*Letters from the Front*” which will be staged in the O’Reilly Theatre, Belvedere.

Bennekerry /Tinryland ladies football team on winning the County Minor A Championship.

Carlow Rugby Club on the launch of book “*County Carlow Football Club – 150 years of Rugby*” commemorating its 150th birthday.

Justin Kelly and all involved in staging of live showcase *Symmetry of Sound* held recently in Visual, Carlow.

Barrow Valley Art Group on holding their 50th Anniversary Exhibition in Carlow College recently.

Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí

1.1 Approval of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 9th October 2023

Proposed by Councillor W. Paton

Seconded by Councillor T. Kinsella

Following a show of hands, it was 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 9th October 2023 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 rúin an Chomhairle

2.1 Approval of Draft Local Economic & Community Plan 2023 – 2029

M . Brennan gave a background to the Local Economic & Community Plan 2023 – 2029 and introduced Brendan Kelly and Justin Gleeson from People & Place Consultants who gave a comprehensive presentation on the Draft Local Economic & Community Plan 2023 – 2029. They advised on the preparation process, stages and timelines, goals, vision, objectives, implementation plan and monitoring of same. Questions raised by members were answered.

Proposed by Councillor M. Doran

Seconded by Councillor W. Quinn

Following a show of hands, it was agreed

“In accordance with the provisions of Section 66 C (4a) of the Local Government Act 2001 as inserted by Section 44 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, Carlow County Council hereby adopts Carlow Local Economic and Community Plan 2023 – 2024.”

The Cathaoirleach thanked Brendan and Justin for the presentation and all staff involved in the preparation of the plan.

2.2 Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993; Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended and Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act 2010 – Taking in charge of roads and services at:-

- (i) Bramble Court, Tullow.
- (ii) Abbey Close, Templeowen, Tullow.
- (iii) Kylemore Hill, Rathoe.

Proposed by Councillor J. Pender

Seconded by Councillor W. Paton

Following a show of hands, it was agreed

“To approve in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended; and Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 – Taking in charge of roads and services at Bramble Court Tullow.”

Proposed by Councillor J. Cahill

Seconded by Councillor J. McDonald

Following a show of hands, it was agreed

“To approve in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended; and Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 – Taking in charge of roads and services at Abbey Close, Templeowen, Tullow.”

Proposed by Councillor J. McDonald

Seconded by Councillor J. Murphy

Following a show of hands, it was agreed

“To approve in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended; and Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 – Taking in charge of roads and services at Kylemore Hill, Rathoe.”

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

3.1 Sections 4(fa) and 179A(2) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Article 81A of the Planning & Development (Section 179A) Regulations 2023 – Proposed housing development at 15/16 Old Dublin Road, Carlow, as an exemption from Part VIII approval process.

Members noted the Chief Executive's report on the proposed housing development at 15/16 Old Dublin Road, Carlow, as an exemption from Part VIII approval process.

3.2 Presentation from Carlow Public Participation Network

P. Duff and F. Broadbery gave a detailed presentation on the Carlow Public Participation Network. They briefed on the purpose of the PPN and how the PPN member groups can input into and have their voices heard within decision-making structures of the local authority, on the structure, events to date, principles and values, composition, representation on local authority boards and committees, currently 347 groups registered:- community 300; social inclusion 35; Environment 12, networking nationally and at county level, support for member groups and PPN representatives through information, induction, peer support and training and mentoring sessions. Questions raised by the members were answered by P. Duff and F. Broadbery.

3.3 Carlow County Council Winter Services Plan 2023 – 2024

Carlow County Council Winter Services Plan 2023 – 2024 was noted by the members.

3.4 Towns Centre First Update

N. Lawlor gave a comprehensive presentation on Town Centre First Update. She advised that the aims of the Town Centre First is to create towns that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit and to support towns to function as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community. She advised on the challenges facing our towns, vacancy and dereliction, efficient use of existing stock and updated on work programme and progress to date.

Questions raised by members were answered by N. Lawler, M. Rainey and C. O'Reilly.

3.5 Training & Conference Approvals

Proposed by Councillor J. Pender

Seconded by Councillor J. McDonald

And agreed following a show of hands it was agreed

“That we the members approve the following training/conferences.”

Celtic Conferences – Modular Housing in Ireland

24th, 25th and 26th November 2023

McKevitt’s Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth

Celtic Conferences – Irish Social Welfare System

1st, 2nd, and 3rd December 2023

O’Donovan’s Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork.

3.6 Report from delegation to Tempe and St. Gallen

Reports from delegation to Tempe and St. Gallen were noted.

4.0 Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

The members raised questions regarding Joint Urban Local Area Plan, Motor Tax Office opening hours, Active Travel, 8km rule for one off houses, Recycling Facilities in Borris, Irish Water improvement works on Hacketstown Road, Illegal Dumping, Anti-social Behaviour, Ballinakelly Wood, Car parking in Bagenalstown, Hedge Cutting, Courthouse Railings, Ballymoon Castle, Footpath at Ballon, Footpath at Browneshill link road, Septic Tanks, Lighting at Carlow exits from motorway, Park and Ride at Motorway Junction 5 and Altamont Gardens.

Matters raised by the members were answered by Coilín O’Reilly and the Management Team.

6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin

Standing in the name of Cllr. F. Browne

“That Carlow County Council acknowledge the great work done by sport organisations throughout the county and recognise the huge benefit to their local communities that these organisations contribute. Cognisant that these organisations are not eligible for any funding to improve carparking facilities, Carlow County Council agree to set up a grant scheme for sporting organisations to put in drainage, surface dressing, line marking including disabled parking bays thus ensuring enhanced safety and greater participation/inclusion by all those attending these sporting facilities.”

Cllr. Browne deferred this motion pending Budget meeting.

Standing in the name of Cllr. J. Cahill

“That Carlow County Council will write to the government to request the issuing of a national guidance document for County Councils in relation to the placement of land solar projects on agricultural land.”

Proposed by Councillor J. Cahill

Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And following a show of hands this motion was defeated.

7.0 Any Other Business with the consent of the Cathaoirleach/Aon gnó eile le haontú an Chathaoirligh

This concluded the business of the meeting.