

**Minutes of May Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 2.00 p.m.**

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

**In attendance:** Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive  
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service  
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service  
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service  
Mr. P. J. Leonard, A/Director of Finance  
Ms. F. O'Neill, A/Director of Service  
Mr. R. Wickham, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. J. Shorthall, County Librarian  
Mr. K. Cullinane, Senior Engineer (*Remotely*)  
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer (*Remotely*)  
Mr. K. Comerford, Local Enterprise Office (*Remotely*)  
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer (*Remotely*)  
Ms. Anita Sweeney, Senior Planner (*Remotely*)  
Mr. T. Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer (*Remotely*)  
Ms. Nicola Lawler, Senior Executive Officer (*Remotely*)  
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. J. Woods, Administrative Officer  
Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. A. Dalton welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that this was Cllr. John Murphy's last meeting as he would not be running in the upcoming local elections. She welcomed John's wife Eileen and daughter Therese to the meeting. Cllr. Dalton thanked Cllr. Murphy for his commitment and hard work in the Council over the last 15 years.

Cllr. Murphy thanked Cllr. Dalton and said she was a great Cathaoirleach who was very pleasant, fair, a wonderful ambassador for Carlow.

John said he was elected to the council three times to three different areas, 2009 to Borris LEA, 2014 to Muinebheag and 2019 to Tullow LEA. He thanked the people who voted for him and hoped he served the people of Carlow well. During his fifteen year term he served on various boards and committees. He was elected as Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council in 2016 and spoke of it being a great honour to represent the people of Carlow in the county and abroad. He said he had worked with many community groups and amazing individuals. He thanked the entire council staff for their help, friendliness and hard work, the Press for updating on the council's work, the Fine Gael Team, his fellow Councillors and remembered deceased members of the Council, Cllr Michael Abbey and Cllr Jim Townsend. He thanked his wife Eileen, daughter Therese and son Paul, for their support.

Cllr. Murphy wished all the Councillors well in the upcoming local elections.

John received a round of applause and a standing ovation.

Cllr. Dalton thanked the Councillors and staff for their support to her as Cathaoirleach. She spoke about positivity and productivity being key in her work, which she carried out in an unbiased way with dignity and pride. She felt the whole council worked together for the people of Carlow. She spoke on the many projects delivered and achievements over the past year and said it was a great honour to serve and represent the people of Carlow at home and abroad. She thanked each elected member for their phenomenal work and commitment. She thanked the Chief Executive, Management Team and staff for their work for the betterment of Carlow. She thanked her family for their support during her busy term as Cathaoirleach.

## **Votes of Sympathy**

Foley Family on the death of Mai Foley, Bough, Rathvilly.

Catherine Sinnott & Family on the death of her husband, Ted Sinnott Broomville, Ardattin.

Johanna Mernagh & Family on the death of her husband, George Mernagh, Knocklow, Tullow.

Ann Byrne and Family on the death of her husband Seamus Byrne, Ballytarsna, Nurney.

John Pender and Family on the death of his wife, Brenda Pender, Killerig, Carlow.

## **Votes of Congratulations**

Tullow RFC on the ladies winning the League moving up to AIL, Mens on winning the Towns Cup and the Seconds on winning the Seconds Plate.

Carlow GAA on the hosting the Feile competition in the Centre of Excellence in Fenagh and the winners and participants in same.

Carlow Hurlers on their draw with Kilkenny at weekend.

Carlow Footballers on their draw with Laois at weekend.

Zoe Ryan on winning Gold Medal in Carlow Community Games U16 solo singing and best wishes in the national finals.

Ollie Hennessy on staging the musical drama '*Letters from The Front*' recently in Visual Carlow.

## **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí**

### **1.1 Approval of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 2.00 p.m.**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Pender**

**Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald**

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously agreed:-

“That the Minutes of the April Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 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 Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 at 2.00 p.m.**

**Proposed by Councillor A. McDonald**

**Seconded by Councillor J. Pender**

“That the Minutes of Special Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 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 Planning & Development Act 2000 - Section 211, Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) - Disposal of 22.42 Acres Killeshin Reservoir Site, Keelogue in the Barony of Slievemargy, County Laois.**

**Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill  
Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin**

And following a show of hands

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with Planning & Development Act 2000 Section 211, Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) the disposal of 22.42 Acres Killeshin Reservoir Site, Keelogue in the Barony of Slievemargy, County Laois to Laois County Council for the nominal consideration of €100 in accordance with the terms of the statutory notice already circulated. The consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary in this disposal.”

It was agreed to hold Joint meetings with Carlow and Laois Municipal Districts regarding Graiguecullen area.

**2.2 Approval 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 Friars Green, Carlow.**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin  
Seconded by Councillor T. O'Neill**

And following a show of hands it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with Section 11 of Roads Act 1993, Section 180 of Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended, Section 59 of Planning & Development Act 2010 – the taking in charge of roads and services at Friars Green, Carlow.”

**2.3 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 - commencement of the public consultation process for taking-in-charge of roads and services at Browneshill Rise, Brownshill Road, Carlow (Phase 1) (Houses 1 – 59)**

**Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace**  
**Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane**

And following a show of hands it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council hereby 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 – the commencement of the public consultation process for taking-in-charge of roads and services at Browneshill Rise, Browneshill Road, Carlow (Phase 1) (Units 1 - 59).”

**2.4 Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) – Proposed development of new equipment and storage buildings at Powerstown, County Carlow.**

Discussed and queries raised regarding lay-by and access to agricultural land were answered by R. Wickham.

**Proposed by Councillor A. McDonald**  
**Seconded by Councillor M. Doran**

And following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve in accordance with Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) the proposed development of new equipment and storage buildings at Powerstown, County Carlow, in accordance with the plans and particulars placed on public display and to any such minor and immaterial alterations to these plans and particulars, and subject to the conditions set out .”

**2.5 Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) – Proposed development of 3 housing units at Townsend Avenue, Bilboa, County Carlow.**

Discussed and questions raised were answered by F. O'Neill.

**Proposed by Councillor J. McDonald**

**Seconded by Councillor M. Doran**

And following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve in accordance with Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) the proposed development of 3 housing units at Townsend Avenue, Bilboa, County Carlow in accordance with the plans and particulars placed on public display and to any such minor and immaterial alterations to these plans and particulars, and subject to the conditions set out .”

**2.6 Section 85 Agreement – LA EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy**

Discussed and questions raised were answered by P. O’Gorman.

**Proposed by Councillor M. Doran**

**Seconded by Councillor W. Quinn**

And following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve that Carlow County Council enter into a Section 85 agreement with Tipperary County Council as lead authority for the regional group (Tipperary, Kilkenny, Wexford, Waterford and Carlow) for procurement of a Consultant to assist in the development of Local EV Infrastructure Strategies.”

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

**3.1 Local Improvement Schemes 2024/2025**

Local Improvement Schemes 2024/2025 noted and questions raised by the members were answered by P. O’Gorman and R. Wickham.

**3.2 Speed Limit Review 2023 – Circular 1 RS 01/2024**

P. O’Gorman advised on Speed Limit Review and questions raised were answered by P. O’Gorman and C. O’Reilly.

#### **4.0 Chief Executives Report /Tuarascáil an Phríomheidhmeannaigh**

The Chief Executives Report was noted. Queries raised by the members included road crossing in towns for visually impaired, house inspections and compliance with housing standards by landlords, sewage leakage at Royal Oak, unfinished estates, farm inspections, assurance for IFA regarding issues raised at recent meeting, Bye Laws at Clashganny, property marking machine, register of electors, update on IDA premises at Dublin Road, fires at Mount Leinster, issue getting work done on grants awarded by Council due to shortage of contractors, southern relief road, Bagenalstown cemetery capacity, vacant site levy, wall at swimming pool Bagenalstown, River Barrow and Waterways Ireland.

Questions raised by the members were answered by the Management Team.

#### **5.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin**

##### **5.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Wallace**

"Noting that the Apartheid Free Zones (AFZ) campaign promotes the creation of spaces of proactive solidarity with the Palestinian people. Inspired by the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, the AFZ campaign seeks to cut links to Israeli products and institutions and international companies that profit from Israeli human rights abuses.

Also noting, that local councils across Ireland and the world, college campuses and businesses have already committed to declaring their organisations as AFZs, this council pledges to support the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) Movement and become an AFZ."

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace**

**Seconded by Cllr. J. Cassin**

Following a roll call

<b>Member of Carlow County Council</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fergal Browne				√
John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney				√
Thomas Kinsella				√
Arthur McDonald			√	
John McDonald	√			

Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
John Murphy			√	
Brian O'Donoghue			√	
Tom O'Neill	√			
William Paton	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			

The result was 12 For, 3 Abstain and 3 Absent.

The motion was carried.

## **5.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Wallace.**

"Noting the current shortage of housing in Carlow and that no developer was willing to sell land to Carlow council in response to ads placed throughout 2023, this council will commit to Compulsory Purchasing suitable Land to bring it into Public Ownership to build social and affordable housing."

**Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace**

**Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin**

And agreed following a show of hands.

## **Cllr. J. Cassin raised the following Notice of Motion**

"That Carlow County Council write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment seeking increased support for all Councillors, specifically legislation for automatic unpaid leave for statutory meetings"

**Proposed by Councillor**

**Seconded by Councillor**

And agreed following a show of hands.

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

The members requested an update on land at Dublin Street.

The elected members thanked and paid tribute to Cllr. Andrea Dalton for an excellent job in her role as Cathaoirleach.



C. O'Reilly also paid tribute to Cllr. Andrea Dalton for her great work as Cathaoirleach and for representing Carlow so well.

C. O'Reilly wished the elected well in the upcoming local elections.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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Cathaoirleach.