

**Minutes of February Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow
on Monday 10th February 2025 at 2.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin *Remotely*
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor J. Deane
Councillor P. Doogue
Councillor M. Doran
Councillor A. Gladney *Remotely*
Councillor T. Kinsella
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor C. Murphy
Councillor B. O'Donoghue *Remotely*
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor D. Pender
Councillor J. Pender
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor W. Quinn
Councillor A. Wallace
Councillor B. Ward

In attendance: Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services
Mr. K. Cullinane, A/Director of Services
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services
Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Services
Mr. P. J. Leonard, A/Director of Finance
Mr. E. Sullivan, Heritage Officer,
Ms. P. Nolan, Executive Librarian
Mr. J. O'Gorman, Executive Librarian
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Economic Development & Enterprise
Ms. L. Culleton, Economic Development Officer
Ms. S. Kearney, Chair of the Audit Committee
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer
Ms. F. Byrne, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. M. Griffin, Administrative Officer
Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. L. Carroll, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
Ms. A. Sweeney, Senior Planner *Remotely*
Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
Mr. T. Madden, Acting Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
Mr. N. Carroll, Acting Senior Executive Engineer *Remotely*
Mr. C. Madden, A/Senior Executive Engineer *Remotely*
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. F. Byrne, Senior Executive Officer/Meetings Administrator and Ms. Michelle Griffin, Administrative Officer to the meeting.

Votes of Sympathy

Councillor John Pender and family on the death of his brother Michael, Artane. O'Keeffe family on the death of John O'Keeffe, Oak Park, Carlow

Votes of Congratulations

Mary Wogan and family for their input and support with the recently launched video "Heritage of the Ambulance Service in County Carlow".

Duffy's Shop, Tullow, on recently celebrating 100 years in business.

The Carlow Hurling Team on their recent fine display of hurling in their first ever senior hurling competitive win over Waterford in the National Hurling League 1B second round victory.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí

Approval of Minutes of monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday, 13th January 2025

Proposed by Cllr. B. Ward

Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That the Minutes of the January monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 13th January 2025 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 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:-

- Station Place, Pound Lane, Borris;
- Phelim Crescent, Tullow, Co. Carlow (Phase 1) and
- Phelim Crescent, Tullow, Co. Carlow (Phase 2)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Quinn

Seconded by Cllr. T. Kinsella

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 Station Place, Pound Lane, Borris.”

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. B. Ward

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 Phelim Crescent, Tullow, Co. Carlow (Phase 1).”

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. J. Deane

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 Phelim Crescent, Tullow, Co. Carlow (Phase 2).”

2.2 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 Milford Park (Phase 1 and Phase 2) Ballinabranna, Co. Carlow.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. D. Pender

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 taking in charge of roads and services at Milford Park (Phase 1 and Phase 2) Ballinabranna, 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 - Taking in charge of roads and services at Brownshill Wood, Brownshill Road, Carlow (Phase 2) (Dwellings 129 - 182)

Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace

Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton

And following a show of hands 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 taking in charge of roads and services at Brownshill Wood, Brownshill Road, Carlow (Phase 2) (Dwellings 129 – 182), Carlow.”

2.4 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 of lands at Potato Market Carlow.

Proposed by Cllr. K. Murnane

Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton

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 taking in charge of roads and services on lands at Potato Market, Carlow.”

2.5 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 Slaney Bank, Rathvilly.

Proposed by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

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 taking in charge of roads and services at Slaney Bank, Rathvilly.”

2.6 Approval of travel to Dole

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve of the attendance of Cllrs. F. Browne, F. Phelan and A. Dalton or their substitutes to travel to Dole.”

2.7 Planning & Development Act 2000 Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) - Disposal of land contained in Folio CW32778F (0.0060 Hectares) at 52A Burrin Street, Carlow, R93Y725.

Cllr. F. Phelan advised that as he lives in close proximity of the property, he was leaving the meeting until the matter had been dealt with.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender,

Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve in accordance with Planning & Development Act 2000 Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) Disposal of site and premises situated at 52A Burrin Street Carlow R93Y725 (0.0060 Hectares) registered under Folio CW32778F to Bernard & Joan Heary in consideration of the sum of €107,000 in accordance with the statutory notice as circulated. The consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary in this disposal.”

Cllr. F. Phelan returned to the meeting.

2.8 Approval of Draft Library Plan 2025 – 2029

Patricia Nolan and John O’Gorman gave a detailed presentation on the Draft Library Plan 2025 – 2029 and answered questions raised by the members.

Proposed by Cllr. B. Ward

Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Draft Library Plan 2025 - 2029 .”

2.9 Approval of Draft Heritage Led Regeneration Plan for Carlow Town 2024

Eoin Sullivan gave a comprehensive presentation on the Draft Heritage Led Regeneration Plan for Carlow Town 2024 and answered questions raised.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Deane

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Draft Heritage Led Regeneration Plan for Carlow Town 2024”.

2.14 Approval of Audit Committee Charter 2025

P. J. Leonard advised that the Audit Committee has an independent role in advising the Council on financial report processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters, as part of the governance arrangements that operate within a local authority. The Audit Committee was established by resolution of the Council upon nomination by the Corporate Policy Group who will consult with the Chief Executive. The Audit Committee Charter 2023 outlines the purpose, function, policies and role of the Audit Committee. Questions raised were answered by P. J. Leonard.

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. B. Ward

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Audit Committee Charter 2025.”

2.15 Approval of Audit Committee Work Programme 2025

P. J. Leonard presented the Audit Committee Work Programme 2025 which was prepared in accordance with Carlow County Council’s Audit Committee Charter and answered questions raised by the members.

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. J. Deane

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Audit Committee Work Programme 2025.”

2.16 Approval of Audit Committee Annual Report 2024

P. J. Leonard introduced Ms. Susan Kearney, Chairperson of the Audit Committee who presented the Audit Committee Annual Report 2024. Questions raised by the members were answered by Susan Kearney.

Proposed by Cllr. B. Ward

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Audit Committee Annual Report 2024.”

2.10 Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) – Proposed Renovation and Refurbishment of Former Bank of Ireland Premises, Court Place, Carlow.

K. Cullinane briefed the members and answered questions.

Proposed by Cllr. P. Doogue

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) – the proposed renovation and refurbishment of former Bank of Ireland Premises, Court Place, Carlow, be proceeded with 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 as set out.”

2.11 Approval of Festival and Events Fund 2025

K. Comerford briefed the members and answered questions raised.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Festival and Events Fund 2025.”

2.17 Approval of appointment of Sectoral Interest to Strategic Policy Committee

Ms. F. Byrne briefed on appointment of sectoral interest to Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum, Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.

Proposed by Cllr. A. Dalton

Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the appointment of Trish Doyle PPN Social Inclusion representative, to the Community Development, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts & Culture, Libraries, Museum, Heritage Strategic Policy Committee.”

2.12 Approval of Annual Service Delivery 2025

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approve the Annual Service Delivery Plan 2025”

2.13 Approval of the Corporate Plan 2024 – 2029

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. P. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“To approval of the Corporate Plan 2024 - 2029.”

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

3.1 Speed Limits Review – Presentation by Ms. Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer

Orla Barrett gave a detailed presentation and answered questions raised.

3.2 Training & Conference Approvals

Noted.

No.	Organised By	Venue	Theme	Dates	Fee
1.	AILG	Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny	Module 1 “An Overview of Wind Energy: Contribution to Economy, Climate Action and Future Potential”	Saturday 22 nd February 2025 9.30am – 1.00pm	€90
2.	AILG	Falls Hotel (Ennistymon) Clayton Hotel (Galway)	Module 2 “Embracing Equality – Cultivating Inclusion Local Communities” (Out of Region Option)	Thursday 20 th March 2025 Saturday 22 nd March 2025	TBC
	AILG	Limerick Strand Hotel	Annual Training Conference	Wednesday 2 nd & Thursday 3 rd April 2025	€175
3.	AILG	Rose Hotel (Tralee)	Module 3 Theme (TBC)	Saturday 24 th May 2025	TBC
4.	AILG	Radisson Blu (Cork)	Module 4 Theme (TBC)	Thursday 19 th June 2025	TBC
5.	AILG	Horse and Jockey (Tipperary)	Module 5 Theme (TBC)	Saturday 18 th October 2025	TBC
6.	AILG	Ravenport Resort Hotel (Wexford)	Module 6 Theme (TBC)	Thursday 13 th November 2025	TBC
13.	Celtic Conferences	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	“Health Services Entitlements”	7 th – 9 th March 2025	€130

4.0 Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Questions raised by the members included Pyrite, provision of Brown Bin service, Tanner Hall, social housing, support for existing businesses, RZLT and request for inclusion of Public Lighting on future Chief Executive reports. Questions raised were answered by the Chief Executive and Management Team.

5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras

Members noted resolution passed by Leitrim County Council regarding holding referendum to allow our diaspora to vote in the Presidential election to be held in November this year.

Members noted resolution passed by Clare County Council calling for reverse of recent decision by the GAA whereby children under the age of sixteen be charged fee to gain admittance to GAA matches.

Members noted resolution passed by Clare County Council regarding housing aid for Older People's Grant in connection with exclusion of new fossil fuel boilers, oil or gas.

Members noted acknowledgment by ESB of correspondence received from Carlow County Council regarding making a presentation at council meeting.

Members noted response regarding Count Centre from Deirdre Burke, Returning Officer for Carlow/Kilkenny and it was agreed to issue a further letter to Deirdre Burke in this regard.

6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin

Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Wallace

"In the wake of the devastation from Storm Éowyn, this Council recognises the hard work by council and emergency workers across the county in clearing debris, returning electricity and ultimately keeping people safe. Due to the increasing prevalence of extreme weather events Carlow County Council should also expand on its emergency weather response by identifying and locating potential community hubs to support people in the event of continued power outages, by sourcing back up generators to assist local Irish Water pumping stations or other essential services and consider any other necessary measures to ensure people have access to basic amenities."

Proposed by Cllr. W. Quinn

Seconded by Cllr. J. Deane

And agreed following a show of hands.

Any Other Business

Vote of congratulations was extended to Jennifer Murnane O'Connor on her appointment as Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Public Health, Well Being and the National Drugs Strategy.

Vote of congratulations was extended to Malcolm Noonan, Patricia Stephenson and Evanne Ní Chuilinn on their election to Seanad Éireann.