

**Minutes of April Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the  
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow  
on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 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
- Councillor T. Kinsella
- Councillor K. Murnane
- Councillor C. Murphy
- Councillor B. O'Donoghue
- 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
- Mr. P. J. Leonard, Director of Finance
- Mr. T. Madden, Acting Senior Executive Officer
- Ms. F. Byrne, Senior Executive Officer
- Ms. M. Griffin, Administrative Officer
- Ms. S. Corrigan, Staff Officer
- Ms. L. Kelly, Community Development Officer
- Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Officer
- Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Economic Development & Enterprise
- Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer *Remotely*
- Mr. L. Carroll, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
- Mr. N. Carroll, Acting Senior Engineer *Remotely*
- Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
- Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
- Mr. C. Madden, A/Senior Executive Engineer *Remotely*
- Mr. C. Brennan, Executive Technician *Remotely*

Apologies: Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Services

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

- Reddy Family on the death of their son Brendan, Myshall, Carlow
- Deacon family on the death of Georgina, Garryhundon, Milford, Co. Carlow.
- Kelly family on the death of Matt, 4 Radharc, Castlecomer Road, Graiguecullen, Co. Laois.
- Bailey family on the death of Una, Ballymurphy, Tullow, Co. Carlow.
- Byrne family on the death Tom, 21 Hillbrook Estate, Tullow, Co. Carlow.
- Ms. Anita White on the death of her husband Paul, Oakpark Carlow.
- Mrs. Reenie Waddock and family on the death of Joe Waddock, Killamaster, Carlow.
- Mattie Curran on the death of his brother Pat Curran, Old Leighin, Carlow.
- The O'Brien family on the death of Martin O'Brien, 63, Cummins Park, Bagenalstown, Carlow.

### **Votes of Congratulations**

- Seamus O'Loughlin and the Active Travel team for completing the footpath from Ballyellen to Goresbridge.
- Lilly Slye and Council staff for their work on the car park in Ballyellen.
- Willie Mullins and team on the recent 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Aintree Grand National and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Scottish Grand National.
- Carlow County Fire & Rescue Service for delivering their first pilot Transition Year Course Programme at the Hacketstown Training & Development Centre.
- Maxime Arbez from Vétraz-Monthoux, France, who completed for Ireland and Carlow at the recent Telemark World Skiing Championships in the French Alps. He's the brother of Tess, twice Winter Olympian for Carlow.
- Rebecca Cole, Ballybar, Tinryland, Co. Carlow, ambassador for World Down Syndrome Day.
- Katie Ryan for becoming the Carlow Rose for the upcoming term of two years.
- Caoimhe Deering, outgoing Carlow Rose for her contribution for the past two years.
- Gary Sofer and Brian O'Donovan on their proactiveness and communication regarding Barrow Lands Estate.
- Paul Doogue on the recent marriage of his daughter Lorraine.

- John Kelly as the new President of the Irish Radio Transmitter Society.

## **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí Approval of Minutes of monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran**

**Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That the Minutes of the March monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 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 Approval of Draft Annual Report 2024 in accordance with Section 221 (a) Local Government Act 2001**

**Proposed by Councillor W. Quinn**

**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 221 (a) Local Government Act 2001 – the Draft Annual Report 2024”.

### **2.2 Approval of Appointment of Sectoral Interests to Strategic Policy Committee**

F. Byrne briefed on the appointment of sectoral interest to the Strategic Policy Committee.

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Doogue**

**Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the appointment of Niall Ryan to the Housing & Integration Strategic Policy Committee.”

**Proposed by Cllr. M Doran**

**Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve the appointment of Sue Philips to the Planning, Economic Development, Regeneration, Finance and ICT Strategic Policy Committee.”

### **2.3 Approval of Festival & Events Fund 2025**

**Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan**

**Seconded by Councillor K. P. Doogue**

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

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the Festival & Events Fund 2025.”

### **2.4 Agree date for holding the Annual Meeting**

**Proposed by Councillor P. Doogue**

**Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane**

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

“That the Annual General Meeting will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 after the ordinary June meeting.”

### **2.5 Planning & Development Act 2000 Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) – Grants of 30 year lease on lands contained within Folio CW8470F at Castlemore Tullow.**

**Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton**

**Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender**

And following a show of hands agreed:-

“To approve in accordance with Planning & Development Act 2000 – Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1) – Grant of a 30 year lease on lands contained within Folio CW8470F (3.833 Acres) Castlemore, Tullow to CK United Limited (formerly Carlow Kilkenny Fc Ltd.) for a period of thirty years in the sum of €100.00 per annum 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.”

## 2.6 Annual Financial Statement 2024 (as circulated) Section 104 Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

SERV	SERVICE	BUDGET 2024	OUTTURN 2024	BUDGET V OUTTURN 2024	DETAILS
A04	HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT	326,719	348,165	21,446	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A05	ADMINISTRATION OF HOMELESS SERVICE	1,239,844	1,407,422	167,577	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A06	SUPPORT TO HOUSING CAPITAL PROG.	1,854,005	1,900,460	46,455	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A12	HAP PROGRAMME	417,975	451,623	33,648	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B04	LOCAL ROAD - MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT	9,181,156	10,173,903	992,747	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B06	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT	191,542	194,723	3,181	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B09	CAR PARKING	278,296	285,082	6,786	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B10	SUPPORT TO ROADS CAPITAL PROG	332,842	366,967	34,126	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
C04	PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	95,404	103,899	8,495	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D02	DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	1,765,016	1,829,352	64,336	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D04	INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL FACILITIES	116,815	137,817	21,002	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D07	UNFINISHED HOUSING ESTATES	218,206	220,903	2,697	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D09	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION	3,221,273	9,591,357	6,370,084	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D10	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	53,819	78,267	24,448	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E05	LITTER MANAGEMENT	342,514	374,246	31,732	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E06	STREET CLEANING	1,218,866	1,276,253	57,387	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E08	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING	173,408	183,195	9,787	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E09	MAINTENANCE OF BURIAL GROUNDS	433,843	526,358	92,515	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E10	SAFETY OF STRUCTURES AND PLACES	569,529	651,334	81,805	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E11	OPERATION OF FIRE SERVICE	4,120,602	5,063,290	942,687	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E12	FIRE PREVENTION	103,184	118,328	15,144	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E13	WATER QUALITY, AIR AND NOISE POLLUTION	306,173	336,965	30,791	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E15	CLIMATE CHANGE AND FLOODING	412,000	452,144	40,144	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
F01	LEISURE FACILITIES OPERATIONS	126,000	127,616	1,616	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F04	COMMUNITY SPORT AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	169,925	192,099	22,174	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
G01	LAND DRAINAGE COSTS	29,635	44,023	14,389	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H04	FRANCHISE COSTS	156,721	221,828	65,106	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H11	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	369,900	717,648	347,748	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
		<b>27,825,214</b>	<b>37,375,268</b>	<b>9,550,054</b>	

**Proposed by Councillor K. Murnane**

**Seconded by Councillor W. Paton**

**AND**

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 the Annual Financial Statement 2024 (as amended).”

## **2.7 Commercial Rates Collection 2024 (as circulated) Section 26 (2) Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014**

**Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender**

**Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane**

**And following a show of hands agreed:-**

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the Commercial Rates Collection 2024 Section 26 (2) Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014.”

## **2.8 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; Carrigbrook, Tullow Road, Co. Carlow. Phase 1, Units 5-87.**

**Proposed by Councillor F. Browne**

**Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin**

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

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council 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 - commencement of the public consultation process for taking-in-charge of roads and services at; Carrigbrook, Tullow Road, Co. Carlow. Phase 1, Units 5-87.”

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

### **3.1 Carlow Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2024**

Mr. B. Knowles presented the Annual Report to the members and answered questions raised.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Knowles and the members noted the Community Development Committee Annual Report 2024.

### **3.2 Presentation from St. Leo's Transition Year Students.**

Three students gave a presentation on "Phoneless Phobia", phone overuse among young people. The Cathaoirleach and the Elected Members all thanked the students for their time and complemented them on researching the extremely relevant topic.

### **3.3 TII 2025 Grant Allocations Carlow County Council**

Mr. P. O'Gorman informed the Members that a total of €1,455,653 has been allocated to Co. Carlow. Broken down into €1,236,000 Capital Investment – Protection & Renewal and Current Maintenance – Protection & Renewal €219,653.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. O'Gorman and the members noted the TII 2025 Grant Allocations Carlow County Council.

### **3.4 Approval for Travel – Maria de Huevra, Spain.**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Pender**

**Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane**

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

"That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve travel for Councillor B O'Donoghue and Councillor B. Ward to Maria de Huevra, Spain."

### **3.5 Approval for Travel – Echternach, Luxembourg.**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Pender**

**Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane**

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

"That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve travel for Councillor A. Dalton and Councillor F. Phelan to Echternach, Luxembourg."

#### **4.0 Chief Executives Report**

Questions raised by the members included Irish Water connections delaying housing developments; entrance into Ballyknockan Estate; pyrite; staff working on EU funding; disruption of areas surrounding solar farms; delivery of housing buildings; lifeguards in Milford; waste water treatment plant Ballinabrannagh; pot hole in Bilboa; Irish Water public ownership; emergency accommodation; CPO Land Banks; inspections of private houses; cost of subcontractors for environment litter management; private developers; Tullow Local Area Plan; planning enforcement; Southern Relief Road; Irish Water report on town by town capacity and questions for Executive to be submitted as notices of motion.

Questions raised by members were answered by the Management Team.

#### **5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras**

Members noted resolution passed by Clare County Council calling Minister for Children and Disability, Norman Foley to provide funding for all valid applications made by Early Years Educators across the country through the Building Blocks Capital Programme 2025.

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

##### **6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. Ben Ward**

"That Carlow County Council recognises a whole of society approach is needed to tackle the rise of toxic masculinity and that we write to the Department of Education urging them to provide guidance and supports for schools to deal with this issue"

**Proposed by Cllr. B. Ward**

**Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue**

And agreed following a show of hands.

#### **Any Other Business**

- The Cathaoirleach presented thirty-five students with a certificate of achievement in recognition of their participation in the Community Roots Programme.



- Cllr. K. Murnane queried why Carlow County Council was paying €7 million in HAP and RAS per year and not building 400 homes.
- Cllr. D. Pender queried the Bagenalstown Local Area Plan.
- Cllr. A. Gladney requested an update on the Fair Oak Foods Ltd site in Bagenalstown, Bagenalstown Fire Station and thanks P. O’Gorman on the development of Bagenalstown square.
- Cllr. W. Quinn requested inviting the Credit Union to the June meeting regarding finance for housing and private developers contrasting waste water plants.
- Cllr. A. Wallace queried the update on the Traveller Liaison Officer and Choice Based Lettings.
- Cllr. C. Murphy requested more zoning of lands.
- Cllr. T. Kinsella requested an inspection on Manor House, Bagenalstown.
- Cllr. P. Doogue suggested the possibility of development and Irish Water connections be finished at the same time.
- Cllr. A. Dalton queried the National Development Plan review date and what are Carlow County Council going to do to ensure optimum use of land. Of the recent allocation of €436 Million for social housing needs nationally what allocation will Carlow County Council receive.
- Cllr. F. Browne stated that Heritage Boats were getting stuck on the river requesting the river to be dredged.
- Cllr. J. Cassin queried update on flags at Croppy Graves and building on Dublin Street.

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Cathaoirleach