

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow
held in Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow, Co. Carlow,
on Thursday 19th February, 2026 at 4.30pm.**

- Present:** Cllr. John Pender, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue
Cllr. Jim Deane
Cllr. Charlie Murphy
- In Attendance:** John Shortall, A/Director of Services
Barry Knowles, Senior Executive Officer
Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer
Niall Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer
Sudhir Srinivasan, Executive Architect
Hilda Minchin, Staff Officer
- Apologies:** Cllr. Ben Ward
Cllr. William Paton
Michael Brennan, Director of Services
Tadhg Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer
John Daly, Senior Executive Engineer

The Chairperson welcomed all present to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Draft Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Municipal District of Tullow meeting held on 18th December, 2025

The Minutes were taken as read and as there were no matters arising, the minutes were:

Proposed by: Cllr. Jim Deane

Seconded by: Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue

AND following a show of hands RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

2. Business Prescribed by Statue, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Municipal District Members

2.1 Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

Mr. Sudhir Srinivasan, Executive Architect and Mr. Niall Barrett presented details of Cúirt Place, Hacketstown to the Members.

The Members welcomed the proposal and, following a discussion, Cúirt Place, Hacketstown was,

Proposed by: Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue
Seconded by: Cllr. Jim Deane
AND following a show of hands RESOLVED that the proposal be approved.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

3.1 Municipal District Engineer's Report

Mr. Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer presented his report to the Members:

- The Members were informed that part of the construction at Phelim Street, Rathvilly would be delayed until at least after Easter, 2026 as Uisce Éireann would be carrying out extra works and which would impact the timeframe for completion.
- The completion of lighting in Myshall and on Mill Street, Tullow will commence when the contractor is available.
- The Members were requested to submit requests for D.I. projects for the coming year so that a list could be collated.
- The Members were informed that following seventeen weeks of rain, that potholes and some road repairs could not be completed until roads had dried out.

The following was also discussed:

- The Members were informed there were five locations where roads had failed due to saturation. Climate change and drainage have had an impact on ground saturation.
- The repair of roads at Tinryland following the completion of works by Uisce Éireann was raised. The Members were advised that the cost of these repairs would fall to the Local Authority under the Road Opening Licence granted to Uisce Éireann. He informed the Members that the Road Patching Unit had been on site today as the weather was dry to carry out repairs.
- The Members complimented Mr. Harrington on the five-year turnaround programme which had been implemented and had led to a robust network.
- The Members were advised that a week would be set aside during the summer months to deal with signage.
- The Members welcomed the pedestrian crossing in Rathvilly.
- Mr. Harrington informed the Members that the footpath around the lighting posts on the Tullow Road in Rathvilly would be replaced.

The Members thanked Mr. Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer and team for their work particularly due to the recent bad weather.

3.2 Economic Development - Annual Service Plan 2026

Mr. Seamus Doran, Assistant Head of Economic Development, Local Enterprise Office presented the Economic Development Annual Service Plan 2026 to the Members for approval.

The Members welcomed the proposal and, following a discussion, the Economic Development Annual Service Plan 2026 was,

Proposed by: Cllr. Jim Deane

Seconded by: Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue

AND following a show of hands RESOLVED that the Economic Development Annual Service Plan 2026 be approved.

3.3 Housing Report

Mr. Niall Barrett Senior Executive Engineer presented his report to the Members. The following was also discussed:

- The Members were advised that the pedestrian crossing at Thomas Traynor Road had been completed and the line marking would be done in the coming days and then it would be energised.
- The Members welcomed the expected distribution of keys to new homes in the coming weeks.

The Members thanked Mr. Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer and the Housing team for their work.

3.4 Community Section - Annual Service Plan 2026

Mr. Barry Knowles, Senior Executive Officer, Community Section presented the Community Annual Service Plan 2026 to the Members for approval.

The Members welcomed the proposal and, following a discussion, the Community Annual Service Plan 2026 was,

Proposed by: Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue

Seconded by: Cllr. Jim Deane

AND following a show of hands RESOLVED that the Community Annual Service Plan 2026 be approved.

3.5 Community Section Update

Mr. Barry Knowles, Senior Executive Officer, provided an update to the Members on the work of the Community Section which included the following:

- Community Support Centres – The Members were informed that in response to recent severe weather events that designated centres were being activated throughout the county. In the event of a severe weather

event these centres would be activated and would provide, power, phone charging, hygiene facilities etc to the local community. Emergency generators will be provided at these community centre locations and electrical works carried out to ensure that the community centre can accept the generator. The procurement of emergency generators is due to be completed by the end of March 2026. The work of Mr. Ben Woodhouse, A/Chief Fire Officer was at the commencement of this project before it was handed over to the Community Section was noted. The Members were informed that the generators would be stored by the Fire Service until they were required for use.

A discussion followed on the selection of centres and the geographical spread. The Members were informed that there would be three centres in each Municipal District.

- Local Community Safety Partnership – The Members were informed that the Local Community Safety Partnership had been formed and had met. Ms. Laura Kelly was the Acting Co-ordinator and Ms. Donna Humphreys was the Assistant Staff Officer for the Partnership.
- The Local Enhancement Programme 2026 – The Members were informed that the closing date for receipt of completed applications is 27th February, 2026. A total of **€156,072.58 in capital funding is available** to support necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy-efficiency projects, the purchase of equipment, and similar works. This funding is divided with €46,821.77 (30%) ring-fenced for small-scale grants of €1,000 or less and €109,250.81 (70%) designated as targeted funding for disadvantaged areas as identified in the County Carlow Local Economic and Community Plan 2023–2029.
- The members were advised that Active Carlow and Healthy Carlow will make presentations on their work to the Members at meetings later this year.

The Members thanked Mr. Knowles for his update and staff in the Community Section for their work.

3.6 Twinning with María de Huevra, Spain

The Cathaoirleach informed the Members that the Community Section were pursuing this matter. It is expected that the twinning would be formally agreed at the next meeting of Carlow County Council.

3.7 Joint Meeting Between the Municipal District of Tullow and the Municipal District of Enniscorthy

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that a joint meeting will be arranged in the coming weeks and is likely to take place in Bunclody. Further details will be issued once available.

4.0 Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

5.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

6.0 Any Other Business

A discussion took place on local crime in particular, a recent burglary in the Myshall area.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow would be held on to 9th April, 2026 rather than 16th April, 2026 as this date clashed with a Planning conference which the Members would be attending.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Cllr. John Pender,
Cathaoirleach,
Municipal District of Tullow.

Date