

**Minutes of April Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow
on Monday 13th April 2026 at 2.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor K. Murnane, Cathaoirleach
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor J. Deane
Councillor P. Doogue
Councillor M. Doran
Councillor A. Gladney
Councillor T. Kinsella
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 Service
Ms. P. O'Brien, Director of Service
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service
Mr. P. J. Leonard, Director of Finance
Ms. C. Hartley, Director of Service
Ms. F. Byrne, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. M. Griffin, Administrative Officer
Ms. A. Connolly, Assistant Staff Officer
Ms. A. Sweeney, Senior Planner
Mr. W. Keogh, Senior Executive Planner
Ms. S. O'Neill, A/Senior Executive Officer
Ms. S. Power, Assistant Planner
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Economic Development & Enterprise
Mr. L. Carroll, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. J. Shortall, County Librarian
Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. N. Dillon, Executive Engineer
Mr. N. Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer *Remote*
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Officer *Remote*
Mr. T. Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer *Remote*
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer *Remote*
Ms. F. O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer *Remote*
Ms. L. Culleton, Economic Development Officer *Remote*

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Emergency Motion

Motion for purpose of dealing with urgent business (Standing Order No 20)

Under the terms of Standing Order No. 20, the consent of at least nine Members was required to allow the motion to be discussed, which was agreed.

The Cathaoirleach read out the Emergency Notice of Motion.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan,

Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne

“That Carlow County Council welcomes and supports the measures announced by Government to assist households, farmers, and businesses with the rising cost of fuel and energy.

In particular, the Council supports:

- The further reduction in excise duty on diesel by 10 cent per litre (VAT inclusive), bringing the total reduction to 32 cent per litre;
- The further reduction in excise duty on petrol by 10 cent per litre (VAT inclusive), bringing the total reduction to 27 cent per litre;
- The inclusion of NORA levy adjustments within these overall reductions;
- The deferral of the planned Carbon Tax increase, due on 1 May, until the time of the Budget, particularly in respect of Green Diesel and non-propellant fuels such as home heating oil, natural gas, and solid fuels.

The Council further notes that these excise reductions will take effect from midnight on Wednesday, 15 April 2026, and will remain in place until 31 July 2026.

Carlow County Council recognises the importance of these measures in easing cost-of-living pressures, particularly for rural communities, commuters, the agricultural and haulage sector.”

A roll call was taken as follows:

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin		√		
Andrea Dalton	√			

Jim Deane		√		
Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney		√		
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy		√		
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton		√		
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn		√		
Adrienne Wallace		√		
Ben Ward	√			

Result 11 For 7 Against

Decision/Resolution: Motion Carried

Votes of Sympathy

Mr. John Nolan, Susan Barry and family on the death of their mother, Christine (Kitty) Kelly, Reid, Nolan, Bennekerry, Carlow.

Ms. Anita Sweeney and family on the death of her mother, Bridget Sweeney, Geesala, Ballina, Co. Mayo.

Mr. Paddy Kiely, former Councillor, on the death of his wife, Carmel Kiely, 14 Fair Green, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow.

The Mullins family on the death of their mother, Josephine Mullins, 19 Conway Park, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow.

Mr. Christy McGrath on the death of his wife, Bridget McGrath, Park, Tinryland, Co. Carlow.

The Murphy family on the death of their mother Anne Murphy, 2 Borris Meadows, Portlaoise and formerly of Kernanstown, Carlow.

Mrs. Shirley Condron on the death of her husband, Michael Condron, 3 Kingswood, Pollerton, Carlow.

Votes of Congratulations

Votes of congratulations be extended to the Carlow Senior Football Team on winning the National Football League Division 4 Final.

The Carlow Senior Ladies Football Team on winning the Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 4 Final

The Pan Celtic Team on the tremendous success of the Pan Celtic Festival this year.

Willie Mullins on his recent success at the Grand National in Aintree.
Hanover Harps Green overall winners in the Under 15 Group B at the Football Cup Barcelona in Salou at the weekend.
Alexandra and Alison Holland who become the first mother and daughter team to hold the Registered Piano Technician designation.
Catherine Burke, 5 Rivercrest, Sleaty Street Graiguecullen, Carlow on celebrating her 100th birthday
Chief Executive, Coilín O'Reilly on his speech as gaeilge at the opening of the Pan Celtic Festival.
The farmer/builders/hauliers who came out and protested during the week.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí

Approval of Minutes of monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday, 9th March 2026

**Proposed by Cllr. B. Ward,
Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That the Minutes of the monthly meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 9th March 2026 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 To consider Proposed Variation No. 4 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) and the Chief Executive's Report on submissions received pursuant to Section 13(5) Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Fiona Byrne brought to the attention of the Elected Members, the requirement under Part 15 of the Local Government Act 2001, in relation to the Disclosure of Interests. She advised that any Member or any connected person who has a pecuniary or other beneficial interest on any item in the subject matter before the meeting must disclose the nature of that interest.

Wesley Keogh, Senior Executive Planner, summarised the content of the Chief Executives Report as follows:-

- Proposed Variation No. 4 of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 went on public display during the period 5th January 2026 to 3rd February 2026. The Variation has been prepared to support the NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines for Planning Authorities, to account for the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) mapping and submission process in 2025, and to incorporate land use zonings into the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied).
- The Chief Executive’s (NPF) Report presented to the Elected Members at Full Council Meeting on 13th October 2025 set out the manner which the Council intended to implement the objectives of the said Guidelines, and was submitted to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Office of the Planning Regulator.
- The Chief Executive’s Report on the submissions received (27 no.) during the public consultation period for Proposed Variation No. 4 was circulated to the Elected Members for their consideration on 2nd March 2026:

8 no. Submission no Change Recommended.

4 no. Submissions with Changes Recommended.

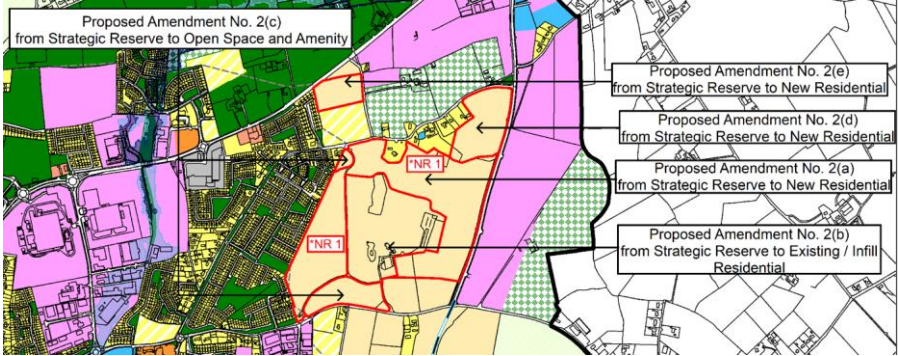
2 no. Rezoning Request Submissions with No Changes Recommended.

13 no. Submissions not coming within the scope of the Recommendations included in Section 7.0 of the Chief Executive’s (NPF) Report.

The 8 No. submissions with no change recommended were summarised as outlined hereunder, for full response see relevant page of CE Report:

Submission Ref. No.	Name	Summary Key Issues
CLW-C181-1	Health and Safety Authority	Relates to consultation distance around the Royal Oak Distillery. The submission is not relevant to the Proposed Variation. . (pg. 8 of the CE Report)

CLW-C181-2	Environmental Protected Agency (EPA)	<p>(Pg. 8 – 10 of CE Report)</p> <p>Advises on the role of the EPA as an SEA Environmental Authority, refers to criteria in SEA Regulations, EPA Good Practice Guidance for SEA, the need to ensure the plan is consistent with proper planning and sustainable development, along with relevant resources and tools on the EPA website, and the requirement to make SEA Determination available for public inspection.</p> <p>The submission is accounted for by the Screening for SEA process being undertaken for the Proposed Variation.</p>
CLW-C181-3	Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)	<p>(Pg. 10 – 11 of CE Report)</p> <p>TII notes that the Proposed Variation does not propose to alter Plan policies and objectives specific to the maintenance of the safe and efficient operation of the national roads network.</p>
CLW-C181-5	Housing Infrastructure Services Co (HISCo)	<p>(Pg. 13 – 14 of CE Report)</p> <p>Encourages close coordination between the local authority and HISCo during the review process and considers it critical that HISCo is identified as a potential solution provider when encountering infrastructure and servicing challenges. Does not raise any specific observations regarding the content of the documents forming part of Proposed Variation.</p>
CLW-C181-8	Department of Education and Youth	<p>(Pg. 14 – 15 of CE Report)</p> <p>Indicates a potential increase in the requirement for school places could be met by the expansion of existing facilities.</p>
CLW-C181-10	ESB	<p>(Pg. 17 – 19 of CE Report)</p> <p>Identifies the importance of electricity network capacity for current and future development needs in the County, the associated requirement to identify and secure suitable sites for the development of key electricity infrastructure, and for collaboration between the planning authority and the ESB in this regard.</p> <p>Points raised in the submission already adequately addressed in Chapter 6 of the CDP, including Policy EI. P1.</p>

<p>CLW-C181-13</p>	<p>Seamus Murphy</p>	<p>(Pg. 19 – 20 of CE Report)</p> <p>The submission considers that Proposed Amendment 2, in particular 2(a), 2(d) and 2(e) at Pollerton Big, will have a significant impact on existing farm and will present issues for anyone who purchases a home on the lands. Submission cites concerns in this regard regarding capacity of local road network, farm being surrounded by housing and impacts from farming activities as regards moving livestock, traffic management, light and noise pollution.</p>  <p>No change recommended. Proposed amendments relate to suitably located ‘Strategic Reserve’ and serviced land, sequentially appropriate for residential development. Also, any future planning application on the lands would be assessed having regard to proper planning considerations including potential impacts on adjoining properties, and will be accompanied by statutory notices and public consultation processes.</p>
<p>CLW-C181-27</p>	<p>Art Mooney</p>	<p>(Pg. 27 of CE Report)</p> <p>The submission relates to the River Barrow and Barrow Way and refers (inter alia) to the planning history relating to Waterways Ireland Blueway project, and the policy in the CDP to promote the river as a greenway/blueway.</p> <p>Not relevant to the Proposed Variation</p>

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,
Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue**

And agreed following a show of hands

“To approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive relating to the Submissions (CLW-C181-1, CLW-C181-2, CLW-C181-3, CLW-C181-5, CLW-C181-8, CLW-C181-10, CLW-C181-13, CLW-C181-27) with no changes recommended.”

The 4 No. submissions with changes recommended were summarised as outlined hereunder, for full response see relevant pages of CE Report:

Submission Ref. No.	Name	Summary Key Issues
CLW-C181-4	Uisce Éireann	<p>(Pg. 11-13 and 30 of CE Report)</p> <p>The submission recommends minor update to the SEA Environmental Report to replace the reference to Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 with Water Services Strategic Plan 2050.</p> <p>Change recommended. Replace all references to “Water Services Strategic Plan 2015” in the SEA Environmental Report with references to the “Water Services Strategic Plan 2050”.</p>
CLW-C181-7	Office of Public Works	<p>(Pg. 14 and 30-31 of CE Report)</p> <p>References minor changes to the SFRA to account for flood event data in Pollerton Big area in line with www.floodinfo.ie database, and to amend wording regarding the management of flood risk at the planning application stage.</p> <p>Change recommended. The SFRA Addendum will be updated to reflect the recurring flood event at Pollerton Big, as identified on www.floodinfo.ie. and the wording in Section 2.1.3 will be corrected to clarify that the application of the Sequential Approach will occur at the development management stage, rather than at the development plan stage.</p>
CLW-C181-9	Office of the Planning Regulator	<p>(Pg. 16 and 31-32 of CE Report)</p>

		<p>As per the submission from the OPW (CLW-C181-7), references minor changes to the SFRA to account for flood event data in the Pollerton Big Area in line with www.floodinfo.ie database.</p> <p>Change recommended. All relevant SFRA and zoning maps will be updated to include the recorded flood event at Pollerton Big, in line with the OPW www.floodinfo.ie database. This update will ensure that the mapping of historic flood risk is accurate and fully reflects available OPW data.</p>
CLW-C181-25	National Transport Authority	<p><i>(Pg. 25-27 of CE Report)</i></p> <p>The NTA recommends that Policies CW. H1 and CW. H2 should be amended to require the preparation of transport assessments to inform the masterplans required for the residential zoned lands at Pollerton Big, Pollerton Little and Chapelstown, and to require engagement with the NTA to address how public transport and active travel would serve the lands.</p> <p>Change recommended, minor amendments proposed to Policies CW. H1 and CW. H2 to include additional text in green:</p> <p>It is the policy of the Council to:</p> <p>CW. H1: Require that a masterplan accompanies any proposed development on land zoned ‘New Residential’ located in the townland of Pollerton Big and totalling c. 25.18 hectares. The masterplan shall be subject to detailed consultation with the Planning Authority and shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include a vision and framework to guide the future layout, design, and phased development of the entirety of the land during and beyond the period of this Plan, to ensure development does not take place in a piecemeal manner and suitably

integrates with the pattern of existing development and land uses in the area.

- Be accompanied by a social infrastructure assessment to inform opportunities and requirements for the development of supporting community facilities, open space and amenity, infrastructure and services which will be delivered either prior to, or in tandem with residential development as required.
- Be accompanied by a transport assessment, the preparation of which shall be informed by consultation with the National Transport Authority to address public transport and active travel requirements to serve the land at Pollerton Big, and in a co-ordinated and integrated manner with adjoining 'New Residential' land at Pollerton Little.

CW. H2: Require that a masterplan accompanies any proposed development on land zoned 'New Residential' located in the townlands of Carlow and Chapelstown and totalling c. 14.05hectares. The masterplan shall be subject to detailed consultation with the Planning Authority and shall:

- Include a vision and framework to guide the future layout, design, and phased development of the entirety of the land during and beyond the period of this Plan, to ensure development does not take place in a piecemeal manner and suitably integrates with the pattern of existing development and land uses in the area.
- Be accompanied by a social infrastructure assessment to inform opportunities and requirements for the development of supporting community facilities, open space and amenity, infrastructure and services which will be delivered either prior to, or in tandem with residential development as required.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detail how transport infrastructure, including improved permeability, accessibility and additional vehicular access, will be delivered to serve the land and existing surrounding residential areas, either prior to, or in tandem with residential development as required. Optimum solutions shall be informed by required engineering and environmental studies and by engagement with key stakeholders including Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). ▪ Be accompanied by a transport assessment, the preparation of which shall be informed by consultation with the National Transport Authority to address public transport and active travel requirements to serve the land, and to address how the land would be connected to the external road network. ▪ Incorporate a development free buffer including sufficient open space provision, to account for any flood risk land to the south associated with the Burren River.
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**Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,
Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue,**

And agreed following a show of hands

“To approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive relating to 4 no. submissions (CLW-C181-4, CLW-C181-7, CLW-C181-9 and CLW-C181-25) with changes recommended.”

The 2 No. submissions with rezoning requests not recommended were summarised as outlined hereunder, for full response see relevant pages of CE Report:

Submission Ref. No.	Name	Summary Key Issues
CLW-C181-18	Quinn Family	(Pg. 21 of CE Report) Requests rezoning of 1.15ha of land from ‘Strategic Reserve’ to ‘New Residential’ at Chapelstown, Carlow.

		<p>Not recommended. The land falls within the Study Area and overlaps Route Corridor Options identified in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 stages for the Carlow Southern Relief Road (CSSR) Project, a long-term strategic transport project designed to support the future growth and sustainability of Carlow Town and the wider region, the delivery of which has been identified as a strategic project in the National Development Plan 2021-2030. Carlow County Council, , in partnership with Laois County Council and Department of Transport (DoT), are progressing the Carlow Southern Relief Road (CSRR) project. Per the map extract included below part of the ‘Open Space and Amenity’ zoning is within the Study Area for the CSSR Project.</p>  <p>Taking account of the foregoing, including the strategic requirement to safeguard the Study Area and Route Corridor Options for the CSSR Project, it is considered that the rezoning of the land as requested from ‘Strategic Reserve’ to ‘New Residential’ would not be appropriate</p>
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**Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,
Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran**

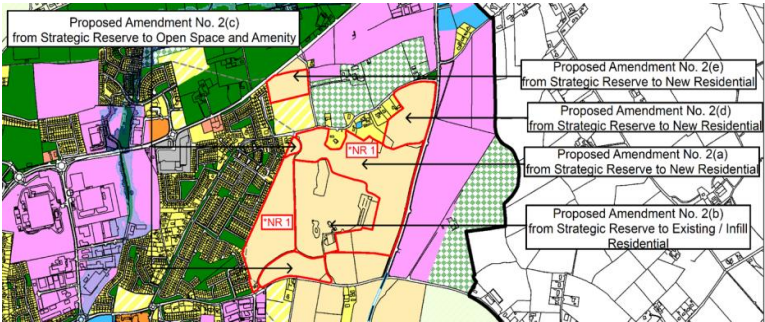
“To approve the non-recommendation of the Chief Executive regarding 2 submission (No’s CLW-C181-18 rezoning 1.15 ha from Strategic Reserve to New Residential.”

A roll call vote was taken as follows:-

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane	√			

Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			
Ben Ward	√			

Result 18 For
Decision/Resolution: Motion Carried

<p>CLW- C181-22</p>	<p>Nesselside Builders UC</p>	<p>(Pg. 22-25 of CE Report)</p> <p>Alteration to Proposed Amendment no. 2(a) Requests the rezoning of 4ha of land from 'Strategic Reserve' to 'New Residential' with an equivalent rezoning of 'New Residential' to 'Strategic Reserve' at the northern end of the landholding.</p> <p>Alteration to Proposed Amendment no. 2(c) Requests rezoning of 3.4ha on the landholding at Pollerton Big from 'Open Space and Amenity' to 'New Residential'.</p> <p>Also seeks corresponding change to Policy CW. H1 to include requirement for 3.4ha of public open space to inform future layout, design, and phased development of the landholding.</p> 
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Alteration to Proposed Amendment no. 2(a)

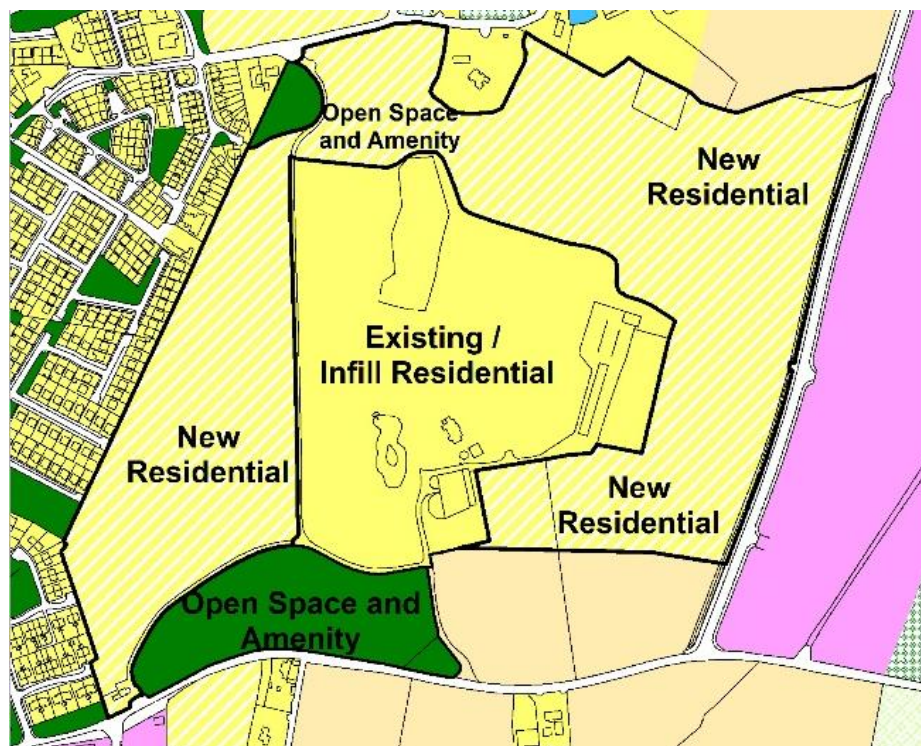
Not recommended. The land use zonings at this location the subject of Proposed Amendment no. 2(a), have been informed by the Study Area and Route Corridor Options identified in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 stages for the Carlow Southern Relief Road (CSSR) Project, a long-term strategic transport project designed to support the future growth and sustainability of Carlow Town and the wider region, the delivery of which has been identified as a strategic project in the National Development Plan 2021-2030. Carlow County Council, in partnership with Laois County Council and Department of Transport (DoT), are progressing the Carlow Southern Relief Road (CSRR) project. Taking account of the foregoing, including the strategic requirement to safeguard the Study Area and Route Corridor Options for the CSSR Project, it is considered that the alteration sought to Proposed Amendment no. 2(a) would not be appropriate.

Alteration to Proposed Amendment no. 2(c)

Not recommended. This area of dedicated zoned public open space has been identified for a number of reasons:

- To ensure strategic designated open space and amenity zoned land is specifically provided for as part of the statutory plan making process.
- To ensure the preservation of built and natural features at this location, including protected structures (RPS Ref.CW442 and CW443), the layout of the historic demesne landscape, the location of historic access routes to the landholding, boundary features, etc.
- To protect, provide for and enhance open space, amenity and recreational facilities within Carlow Environs, which are accessible beyond the immediate environs of the proposed 'New Residential' zoned lands.
- To provide an important visual break in the urban built environment at this location within Carlow Environs,–will support the retention and maintenance of existing built and natural heritage features, and will support the provision of an area of strategic green space / green infrastructure.
- The provision of this public open space in conjunction with open space requirements as detailed in the development

management standards (section 16.8.7) as contained in the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 will seek to ensure a high-quality residential environment with the dedicated allocation of lands to accommodate open space and amenity uses.



**Proposed by Cllr. P. Doogue,
Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne**

“To approve the non-recommendation of the Chief Executive regarding submissions (No CLW-C181-22) rezoning 4.0 ha from Strategic Reserve to New Residential with an equivalent rezoning of New residential To Strategic Reserve at the northern end of the landholding .”


A roll call vote was taken as follows:-

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane	√			

Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			
Ben Ward	√			

Result 18 For
Decision/Resolution: Motion Carried

The 13 No. rezoning requests not coming within the scope of the recommendations included in Section 7.0 of the Chief Executive's Report were summarised as outlined hereunder, for full response see relevant pages of CE Report:

Submission Ref. No.	Name	Summary Key Issues
CLW-C181-6	David & Jonathan Brennan	<p data-bbox="657 284 946 322">(pg. 33 of CE Report)</p> <p data-bbox="657 376 1461 456">Requests rezoning of 2.776 ha at Mortarstown Upper from 'Community/Education' to 'New Residential'.</p>  <p data-bbox="660 508 1497 1272">An aerial photograph showing a residential and commercial area. A large, irregularly shaped field is outlined in red, indicating the subject of the rezoning request. The field is situated between a commercial area with large buildings and parking lots to the west and a residential area with houses and streets to the east. The street 'Maple Court' is visible at the bottom of the field. The surrounding area includes green spaces, trees, and other residential structures.</p>

CLW-C181-11

The Land Development Agency

(pg. 34 of CE Report)

Submits potential of 0.9ha zoned 'Business and Innovation' at ESB Depot for social and affordable home.

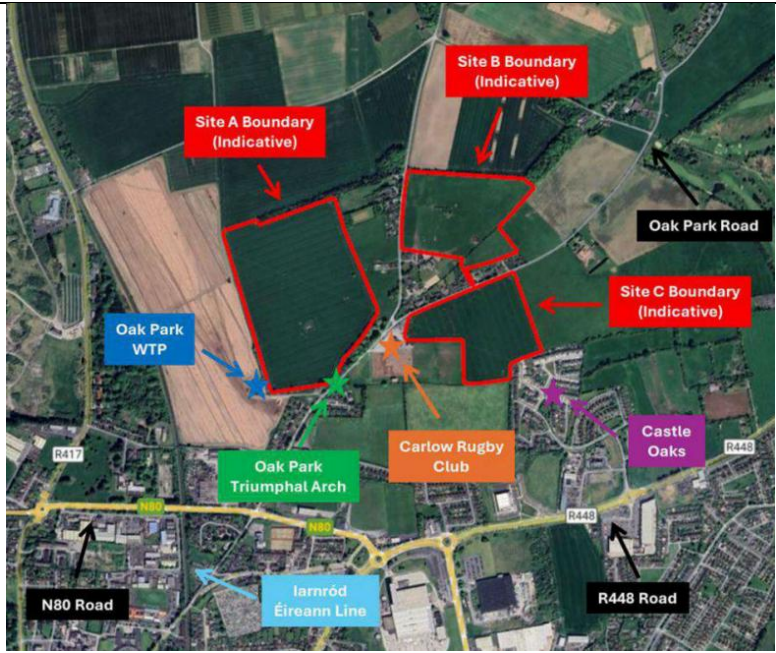


CLW-C181-12

Nolan Homes

(pg. 35 of CE Report)

Requests rezoning of 18ha (3 land parcels) at Oakpark (or Painestown) and Strawhall, from 'Open Space and Amenity' to 'New Residential'.



CLW-C181-14

Woodlawn Developments

(pg. 35-36 of CE Report)

Requests zoning of 10.20ha at Grange, Slaneyquarter, Tullow, to 'New Residential'.



CLW-C181-15

Ann Hughes

(pg. 36 of CE Report)

Requests rezoning of 1.2ha at Tinnahinch from 'Agriculture' to 'New Residential'.

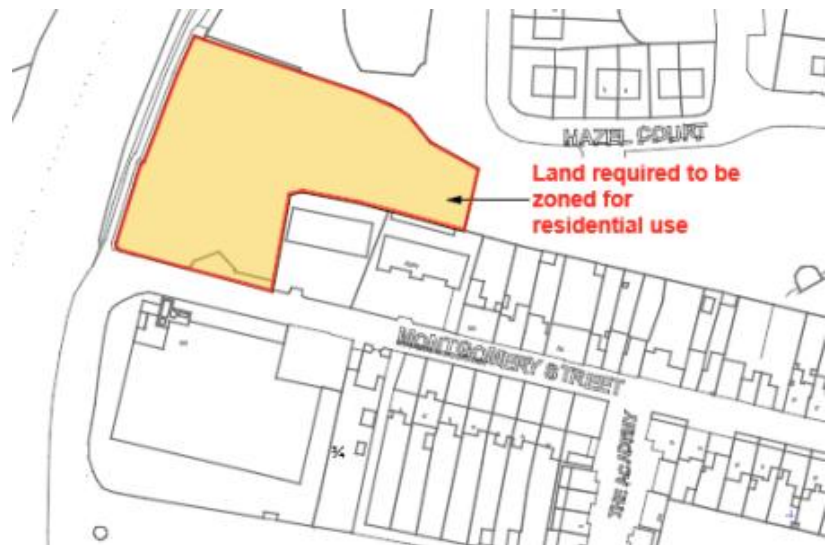



CLW-C181-16

Woodlawn Developments

(pg. 37 of CE Report)

Requests the rezoning of 0.47ha at Montgomery Street from 'Open Space and Amenity' to 'New Residential'



<p>CLW-C181-17</p>	<p>Ormonde Construction</p>	<p>(pg. 37 of CE Report)</p> <p>Requests rezoning of 2.2ha of land at Mill Stream, Ballincarrig Rd from 'Enterprise and Employment' to 'New Residential'.</p> 
<p>CLW-C181-19</p>	<p>Melcorpo Commercial Properties Unlimited Company (MCP)</p>	<p>pg. 38 of CE Report)</p> <p>Requests rezoning of 2.1ha (Area C) beside Carlow Retail Park from 'Retail Warehousing' to 'Existing/Infill Residential'.</p>



CLW-C181-20

Ballykealy House Hotel

(pg. 39 of CE Report)

Request zoning of 7ha at Ballykealy House to 'New Residential'.



CLW-C181-21

Austin Maher

(pg. 40 of CE Report)

Requests zoning/rezoning of 22ha to west of Rathtoe Village to 'New Residential'. Part of the land currently zoning 'Community/Education'.



CLW-C181-23

James Doyle

(pg. 40 of CE Report)

Requests rezoning of 0.40ha at St. Mullins Rd, Tinnahinch from 'Enterprise and Employment' to 'New Residential'.

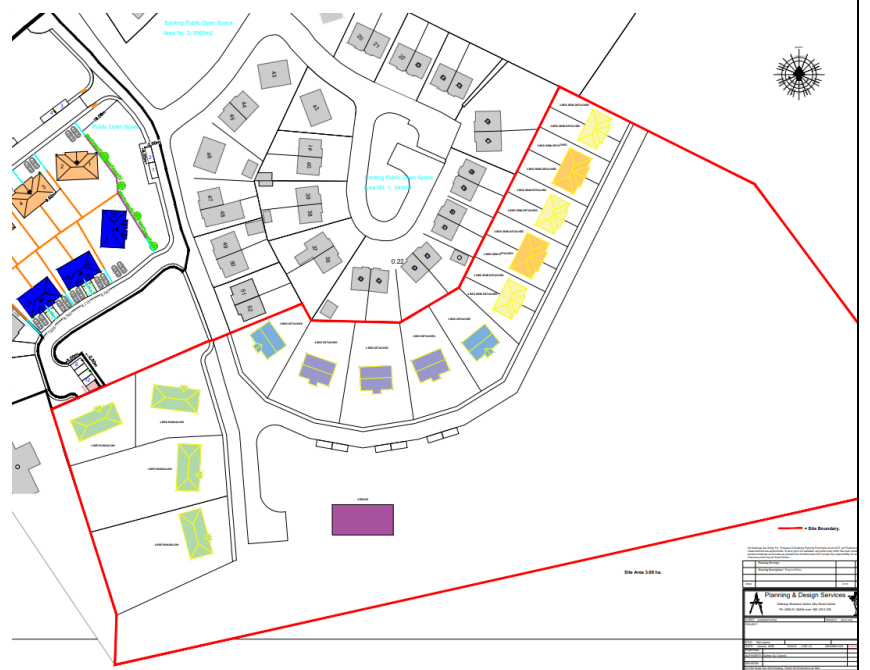


CLW-C181-24

Dunneace Construction

(pg. 41 of CE Report)

Requests zoning of 3.69ha at Limegrove, Palatine to 'New Residential'.

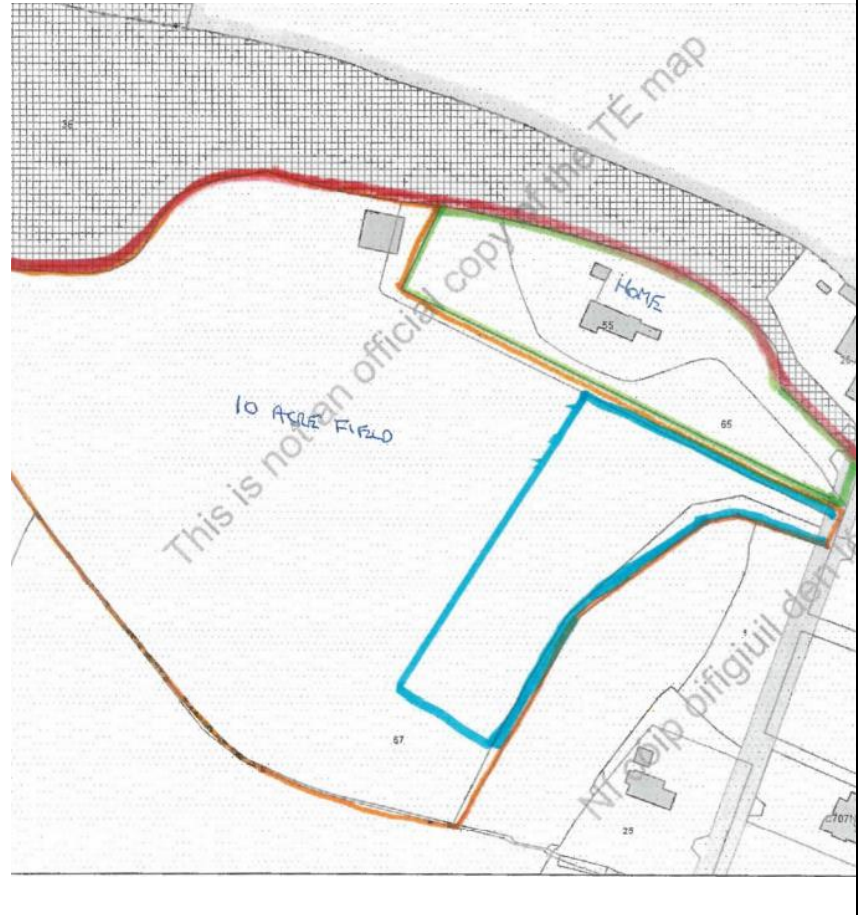


CLW-C181-26

Catherine Fleming

(pg. 42 of CE Report)

Requests rezoning of 1.2ha at Oak Park from 'Demesne Landscape' to 'New Residential'.



Resolution

We the Members of Carlow County Council having considered Proposed Variation No. 4 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied), the Chief Executive Reports on Consultations; and

- The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report
- The Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report
- Screening for SEA and AA determinations
- Written submissions relating to SEA, AA made during the variation process

- Ongoing advice on SEA and AA from the Council's agents

in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the members agree, by resolution, to make Variation No. 4, as recommended by the Chief Executive at the Council Meeting on 13th April 2026 on the proposal of Councillor Fergal Browne, seconded by Councillor Willie Quinn, with 18 members voting in favour, 0 members voting against and 0 members abstaining, and to proceed in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to publish notice of the making of Variation No. 4 of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied).

Proposer: Councillor F. Browne

Seconder: Councillor W. Quinn

A roll call vote was taken as follows:-

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Jim Deane	√			
Paul Doogue	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
William Paton	√			
Daniel Pender	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			
Ben Ward	√			

Result 18 For

Decision/Resolution: Motion Carried

The Cathaoirleach thanked staff in the Planning Department for their work on the variation No. 4 to the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and offered a warm welcome to Ms. Claire Hartley, who will be joining Carlow County Council.

2.2 Planning & Development Act 2000 – Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 – Section 183 (1) Disposal of site and premises at 9 Brown Street, Carlow.

Proposed by Cllr. A. Gladney,

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 the Planning and Development Act 2000, Section 211, Local Government Act 2001, Section 183 the disposal of site and premises at 9 Brown Street, Carlow, a plot of ground situate in the townland of Carlow, measuring 0.0085 Hectares, registered under Folio CW33125F to Barry Doyle, William Leonard & Liam Leonard, Ballyloughan, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow in consideration of the sum of €122,000 in accordance with the statutory notice as circulated. The disposal is in accordance with Section 183(1) of the Local Government Act 2001, and the consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary.”

2.3 Planning & Development Act 2000 – Section 11, Local Government Act 2001 – Section 183 (1) Disposal of site and premises at 52A Burrin Street, Carlow R93 Y725.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,

Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney,

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, Section 211, Local Government Act 2001, Section 183 the disposal of site and premises at 52A Burrin Street, Carlow, R93 Y725 a plot of ground being part of the Townland of Carlow, measuring 0.0060 Hectares, registered under Folio CW32778F to Eugene Heary, Milford House, Milford, Co. Carlow, in consideration of the sum of €107,000 in accordance with the statutory notice as circulated. The disposal is in accordance with Section 183(1) of the Local Government Act 2001, and the consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary.”

2.4 Planning & Development Act 2000 – Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 – Section 183 (1) Disposal of site and premises at Cappawater, Myshall, Co. Carlow.

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton,

Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender,

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council hereby approve in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000, Section 211, Local Government

Act 2001, Section 183 the disposal of site and premises at Cappawater, Myshall, Co. Carlow a plot of ground being part of the Townland of Cappawater, measuring 0.31 Hectares, registered under Folio CW32830F to Daniel Broderick, Kilnock, Ballon, Co. Carlow, R93 Y9C2 in consideration of the sum of €210,000 in accordance with the statutory notice as circulated. The disposal is in accordance with Section 183(1) of the Local Government Act 2001, and the consent of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is not necessary.”

2.5 Planning & Development Act 2000 – Section 211, Local Government Act 2001 – Section 183 (1) Disposal of freehold on land, house no’s 4 and 24 Staplestown Road, Carlow Town.

Proposed by Cllr. A. Gladney,

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 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Section 183 (1) of the Local Government Act 2001, the disposal of House No’s 4 and 24 Staplestown Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow to Ms. Elizabeth Redmond of 24 Staplestown Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow in consideration of a nominal sum of €1.00 as part of the Terms of a Settlement Agreement of Carlow Circuit Court Case Record No. 2020/00105 dated 5th March 2025 made between Carlow County Council of the One Part and Elizabeth Redmond of the Other Part, and in accordance with the statutory notice as circulated. The Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage has confirmed its consent is not necessary for this disposal”.

2.6 Approval of Draft Annual Report 2025 in accordance with Section 221 (a) Local Government Act 2001.

The Annual Report was presented to the members. Cllr. Paton proposed a number of amendments and following discussion it was agreed and

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve in accordance with Local Government Act 2001, Section 221, the Annual Report 2025.”

2.7 Approval by Carlow County Council to submit application to join the WHO European Healthy Cities Network for Phase VIII as a Designated Member.

Members raised a number of queries relating to the benefits of joining the WHO European Healthy Cities Network which were answered by the Chief Executive.

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 approve the submission of an application to join the WHO European Healthy Cities Network for Phase VIII as a Designated Member”.

2.8 Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as Amended), Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) Proposed Carlow Town Mobility Hubs Pilot.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,

Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton,

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve in accordance with Local Government Act 2001 the proposed Carlow Town Mobility Hubs Pilot”.

2.9 Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as Amended), Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) Proposed redevelopment of the former Bank of Ireland premises, Court Place, Carlow .

Several questions were raised by members and answered by the Chief Executive and Director of Service, P. O’Brien.

Proposed by Cllr. A. Dalton,

Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne,

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve in accordance with Local Government Act 2001 the proposed redevelopment of the former Bank of Ireland premises, Court Place, Carlow”.

2.10 Approval to change status of Carlow Arts Centre Ltd (CAC Ltd from Company to limited by Shares to a DAC Designated Activity Company)

Several questions were raised by members and answered by the Chief Executive.

Proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue,

Seconded by Cllr. J. Deane,

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve to change the status of Carlow Arts Centre Ltd (CAC Ltd from Company Limited by shares to a DAC Designated Activity Company)”.

2.11 Approval of Festival and Event Allocation 2026

**Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne,
Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve the Festival and Event Allocation 2026”.

2.12 Annual Financial Statement 2025 (as circulated) Section 104 Local Government Act 2001 (as amended)

**Proposed by Cllr. W. Quinn,
Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001(as amended) the Annual Financial Statement 2025 (as circulated).”

2.13 Commercial Rates Collection 2025 (as circulated) Section 26 (2) Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014

**Proposed by Cllr. W. Quinn,
Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

SERV	SERVICE	BUDGET 2025	OUTTURN 2025	BUDGET V OUTTURN 2025	DETAILS
A02	HOUSING ASSESSMENT, ALLOCATION AND TRANSFER	371,989	400,062	28,073	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
A03	HOUSING RENT AND TENANT PURCHASE ADMINISTRATION	367,882	432,838	64,956	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
A05	ADMINISTRATION OF HOMELESS SERVICE	1,406,081	1,588,670	182,589	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A08	HOUSING LOANS	965,064	1,080,066	115,002	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A12	HAP PROGRAMME	473,058	527,781	54,723	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
B04	LOCAL ROAD - MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT	9,193,775	10,082,325	888,550	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
C04	PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	110,421	112,348	1,927	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
C07	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	45,000	48,035	3,035	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D02	DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	1,977,199	2,003,273	26,074	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D09	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION	3,567,760	4,550,009	982,249	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D10	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	115,911	116,588	677	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E05	LITTER MANAGEMENT	375,065	394,239	19,175	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E06	STREET CLEANING	1,309,985	1,363,425	53,440	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E08	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING	192,233	217,438	25,205	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E09	MAINTENANCE OF BURIAL GROUNDS	451,860	472,616	20,757	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E10	SAFETY OF STRUCTURES AND PLACES	592,348	752,560	160,212	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E11	OPERATION OF FIRE SERVICE	4,453,622	5,699,563	1,245,942	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E12	FIRE PREVENTION	108,170	124,153	15,983	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E15	CLIMATE CHANGE AND FLOODING	534,990	585,471	50,480	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
F01	LEISURE FACILITIES OPERATIONS	126,000	127,616	1,616	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F03	OUTDOOR LEISURE AREAS OPERATIONS	1,559,507	1,684,325	124,818	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
G01	LAND DRAINAGE COSTS	35,349	35,667	318	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
G04	VETERINARY SERVICE	263,763	291,467	27,704	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
H04	FRANCHISE COSTS	218,678	238,367	19,689	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
H07	OPERATION OF MARKETS AND CASUAL TRADING	38,571	41,766	3,194	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H11	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	451,700	480,094	28,394	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
		29,305,981	33,450,763	4,144,781	

“That we the members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the Commercial Rates Collection 2025 Section 26 (2) Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014”.

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

3.1 Carlow Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2025

Noted

3.2 Presentation from Alzheimer’s Society of Ireland at 4.00 p.m.

Tara Rice, Community Engagement Officer, Alzheimer’s Society of Ireland, gave a detailed presentation and answered questions raised by the elected members.

The members thanked Tara for the presentation, who then left the meeting.

3.3 Presentation from Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) at 4.30 p.m.

Cllr. Paddy O’Rourke, Vice President AILG, introduced Elain Lynch gave a detailed presentation and answered all queries raised.

Members thanked both Elaine and Paddy for their presentation.

3.4 Training and Conference Approvals

Training and Conferences were approved as circulated

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. D. Pender

And agreed following a show of hands

No	Organised By	Venue	Theme	Dates	Fee
1	AILG	Radisson Blu Hotel (Out of Region) Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo	"Overview of New Housing for All Action Plan and Tenancy Rights Implications for Local Authorities and Councillors".	19 th March 2026 21 st March 2026	€100

2	AILG	Hotel Minella, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary	Annual Training Conference	22 nd & 23 rd April 2026	€190
3	AILG & Maynooth University	Blended Format	“Micro-Credentialial course in Spatial Planning”	14 week course start date 12 th September 2026	€1,270

Extension of Time

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Dalton,
Seconded by Cllr. D. Pender,**

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:

“We the members of Carlow County Council in accordance with Standing Orders, approve the continuation of the meeting until 5.50 p.m.

4.0 Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Questions raised by the members included concerns that the recent damage caused by Storm Chandra could delay the Roads Programme by 4/5 years, update on the appointment of an Access Officer, Emergency accommodation, number of tenants in situ to be included in CE Report, the number of housing inspections carried out, the number of enforcement notices issued, location of the static speed camera on the N80, update on the park and ride facility, condition of Dublin Road following a recent road opening licence, update on Barrack Street housing allocations, update on the Inner Relief Road, Report on St. Patrick’s Day visit to New York and impact on meeting with IDA, communication from Council staff.

Questions raised were answered by the Chief Executive and the Management Team.

5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras

Members noted resolution passed by Galway County Council calling on the Government to enact legislation to systematically, sustainably and steadily increase the provision of Irish-medium education.

Members noted resolution passed by Sligo County Council calling on the Government to recognise the serious harm suffered by women and children in Mother and Baby Homes, investigate and excavate burial sites where children are believed to be buried, unseal institutional records and provide survivors and families access and to extend redress to all survivors.

Members noted resolution passed by Leitrim County Council calling on TII to set up a separate funding stream to support County Councils to carry out maintenance and repairs on greenways, separate from the Roads funding allocated to each County Council.

Members noted resolution passed by Leitrim County Council calling for the Minister for Justice, Jim O’Callaghan TD, to fully implement the revised EU Anti-Trafficking Directive and to establish a special National Garda /unit to deal with human trafficking.

Members noted resolution passed by Clare County Council calling on the Government to formally request that Government introduce an immediate emergency cost of disability payment.

Extension of Time

Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace,
Seconded by Cllr. J. Deane,

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:

“We the members of Carlow County Council in accordance with Standing Orders, approve the continuation of the meeting until 6.10 p.m.

6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin

6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. Daniel Pender

Carlow County Council notes that the State’s gambling laws were written before the rise of modern betting prediction markets such as Polymarket. These platforms allow people to place wagers on a wide range of speculative events, from whether the Iranian Ayatollah will remain in power by the end of the month to whether Jef Bezos will attend the Super Bowl. Such markets are dynamic, constantly shifting, and fundamentally different from the types of bets traditionally offered by bookmakers.

In light of this, Carlow County Council is calling for urgent reform of gambling legislation to outlaw these grotesque and immoral markets, which risk serving as a gateway addition.

Carlow County Council will write to the Department of Justice to request that these reforms be brought forward.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Pender,
Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender,
And agreed following a show of hands

6.2 Standing in the name of Cllrs. J. Cassin, W. Paton, A. Wallace, J. Deane, W. Quinn, F. Phelan and M. Doran

Carlow County Council calls on Bus Éireann to retain Expressway Route 4 (Dublin Airport-Waterford) and not proceed with the planned withdrawal from 24 May 2026, recognising the significant importance of this service to passengers in Carlow and surrounding areas

- Carlow County Council notes the announcement that Expressway Route 4, along with parts of Routes 40 and 52, is due to be withdrawn from 24 May 2026;
- Recognises that Route 4 provides a vital connection between Carlow, Dublin Heuston, Busáras and Dublin Airport;
- Further notes that the service currently operates 12 times daily and is used by commuters, students, hospital users, workers and airport passengers;
- Carlow County Council believes the withdrawal will have a serious negative impact on regional connectivity and accessibility;
- Calls on Bus Éireann and the National Transport Authority to urgently engage with affected communities and representatives to keep the service in operation;
- Requests that alternative measures, supports or service adjustments be explored before any final decision is implemented;
- Examine, as a matter of urgency, the introduction of a Public Service Obligation (PSO) on this route to ensure the continued provision of a reliable and accessible service between Waterford and Dublin via Carlow.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Cassin,
Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan,
And agreed following a show of hands

6.3 Standing in the name of Cllr. M. Doran

That we the members of Carlow County Council request from the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, that annual local representative clinics and a local representative dedicated reporting service be provided from ESB Networks. This would be similar service provided by Uisce Éireann.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran,

Seconded by Cllr. F. Brown,

And agreed following a show of hands

6.4 Standing in the name of Cllr. F. Browne

That Carlow County Council undertake legal action against the Courts Services for failure to maintain and repair the railings at Carlow Court House.

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne

Seconded by Cllr. J. Deane

And agreed following a show of hands

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.