

**Minutes of the
Municipal District of Muinebheag Meeting
held on Wednesday, 1st April 2026 at 4.00 p.m.
in the Meeting Room, McGrath Hall, Muinebheag, Co. Carlow**

Present: Cllr. Daniel Pender – *Cathaoirleach*
Cllr. Michael Doran – *Leas Cathaoirleach*
Cllr. Tommy Kinsella
Cllr. Willie Quinn (remote)
Cllr. Andy Gladney

In Attendance: Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services, Transport & Infrastructure
Liam Carroll, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Lilly Slye, Senior Executive Engineer
Michael Brennan, Director of Services
Barry Knowles, Senior Executive Officer, Community
Margaret Moore, Administrative Officer, Community
Tadhg Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer, Housing (*Remote*)
Deborah Foley, Sports Partnership Coordinator, Community
Tommie Hickson, Meeting Administrator

Cllr. Daniel Pender, Cathaoirleach, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag 28th January 2026

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr. T. Kinsella and seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney, following a show of hands that the minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag held on the 28th January 2026 be confirmed as accurate and taken as read.

All agreed

2. Business Prescribed by Statue, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for Transaction at such meeting

None.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

3.1 Carlow's Pride of Place Grant Scheme 2026 - Approval

Margaret Moore gave a presentation. She acknowledged the valuable work being done throughout the county by community and voluntary groups, with the assistance of Carlow County Council's new Pride of Place Grant scheme. She advised that a total of 35 applications were received in the Municipal District of Muinebheag, and the grant amounts being awarded are as follows:-

Carlow's Pride of Place Grant Scheme 2026 – Estates - €15,500
 Carlow's Pride of Place Grant Scheme 2026 – Tidy Towns - €12,000

Residents' Association / Community Group	Recommended Grant €
Newtown Residents	700.00
Harrow Cross Oldtown Residents	600.00
Ballyellen/St. Enda's Terrace	600.00
Oaktree Court	900.00
Pound Lane	500.00
Bushfield Estate Resident's Committee	340.00
Maple Drive	500.00
Glynn, Bahana & Turra of St. Mullins	900.00
Milford Park, Ballinabranna	450.00
Railway Avenue	900.00
Lodge Court Estate	700.00
St. Mullins GAA	0.00
Bagenalstown Community Garden	500.00
Newtown Dunleckney N.S.	450.00
Ballaghaderneen Residents' Assoc.	850.00
Kilcumney Residents	900.00
Queen of the Universe N.S.	450.00
St. Brigid's N.S.	450.00
Ashgrove Residents Assoc., Fenagh	900.00
Ballinabranna N.S.	450.00
Station Road Development Association	900.00
Inchaphooka, Ballymurphy	500.00
Gort Na Greine	250.00
Kilcoltrim/Ballycoppigan Tidy Towns	600.00
Barrowlough Residents	1,210.00
Total	15,500.00
Tidy Towns Groups	
Ballinabranna/Milford/Raheendoran	1,080.00
Rathanna Village Group	600.00
Leighlinbridge Improvement Group	2,200.00
Ballinkillen Village Group	1,500.00
Ballymurphy Village	1,200.00
St. Mullins Village (SMART)	702.00
Borris Tidy Towns	1,500.00
Bagenalstown Improvement Group	1,018.00
Fennagh Improvement Group	1,000.00
Drummond Village	1,200.00
Total	12,000.00

Resolved On the proposal of Cllr. W. Quinn, seconded by Cllr. M. Doran, following a show of hands that the Carlow's Pride of Place Grant Scheme 2026 as circulated above proceed.

All Agreed

3.2 CLÁR Funding Programme 2026

Barry Knowles gave a comprehensive presentation. He advised that following a review of CLÁR designated areas in 2026 by the All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO) Maynooth University on behalf of the Department, an additional 4 areas were added to County Carlow, bringing the total number to 14. Two of these areas include Borris ED1017 and Leighlinbridge ED1032.

Funding will be available under three measures as follows:

- Measure 1 - Community Facilities and Amenities
- Measure 2 - Community Transport
- Measure 3 - Our Living Islands

The Local Authority can submit up to 14 project applications and the closing date for submission of applications to the Department is 3rd July 2026.

The minimum grant is €5,000 and the maximum grant is €65,000

Each local authority can submit 2 No. applications up to €100,000 which is included in the total number of applications that can be submitted i.e. 14

Grant funding of 90% is available with 10% match funding between the Local Authority and Community.

The Members agreed that this news was very welcome and all queries were answered.

3.3 Active Carlow Update

Deborah Foley, Sports Partnership Coordinator gave a full presentation, recapping on the 2025 highlights for Active Carlow.

- Local Sports Plan & active Carlow Strategic Plan
- Participation
- Mass Participation Events
- Outdoor Swimming Infrastructure

Deborah gave examples of some of the activities which included the following:-

- Youthreach Programme
- Buggy Buddies & Her Moves Weightlifting
- Women's Hike
- Bike Week
- Learn to Cycle

- BEAM Centre – Tag Rugby & Inclusive Camps
- Bagenalstown in Bloom
- Outdoor Swim Access improvements at Bagenalstown & Clashganny

Deborah concluded her presentation by looking forward. She said that her team are excited about future projects, and gave some examples as follows:-

- Small Clubs Grants
- Her Outdoors
- Summer Camps
- County Outdoor Recreation Plan launch
- Active Impact TY Programme
This programme was advertised countywide
No schools in the Bagenalstown MD applied to take part
Ger Bonner, Programme manager, will oversee this project

Cllr. D. Pender and Cllr. T. Kinsella congratulated the Active Carlow Team on the excellent work being carried out throughout the county, with special focus on young men and women.

3.4 Making Spaces for and with Teenagers Initiatives – Fairgreen, Muinebheag

Barry Knowles gave a comprehensive presentation. He was delighted to inform the meeting that Carlow County Council has secured funding of €50,000 to develop a dedicated teen space within a section of the Fairgreen, Muinebheag. Only six local authorities were awarded funding and Carlow County Council is one of the successful applicants. This is a fantastic opportunity and very positive for the whole community.

He advised that a National Pilot Programme was introduced in 2025, the Making Spaces for and with Teenagers Initiative, funded through the Dormant Accounts Fund. This initiative was established to address a clear gap identified across the country – the need for safe, inclusive and youth-friendly public spaces specifically designed for teenagers. A key feature of the programme is that these spaces must be co-designed with young people, ensuring their voices, ideas and lived experiences directly influence how the space looks, feels and functions. The overall aim is to support social connection, wellbeing and a stronger sense of belonging among teenagers by giving them a meaningful role in shaping their communities.

Young people from the area played a central role in shaping the design, identifying the features they value most and ensuring the space reflects their needs and aspirations. The features include sheltered seating, accessible seating, outdoor gaming tables, smart bench with WiFi capability and in-ground trampoline. Their involvement was instrumental in securing the funding.

The new teen space at the Fairgreen will provide a modern, attractive and safe environment where young people can meet, relax and spend time together. This represents a very positive investment in youth wellbeing and in the continued enhancement of community amenities within the Muinebheag Municipal District.

Barry confirmed that all planning and preparatory work for the Muinebheag project is now fully complete, and the project is ready to move into it's delivery phase, with a Contractor appointed, commencing early May. Expected completion is 7 – 8 weeks.

Cllr. D. Pender thanked Barry and his team. He commented that this was Different, and very welcome for the town.

Cllr. A. Gladney was delighted with this news.

3.5 Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026 – Housing

Tadhg Madden gave a combined presentation on the Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026, and, the Housing Progress Report as circulated to the Members.

3.6 Housing Progress Report

The following areas were discussed:-

- Tinnahinch Health Centre
- Old Forge, Ballymurphy
- Self Help Grant Funding
- Green Drake, Borris
- Housing Aid for Older People Grant

All queries were answered.

3.7 MD Roads Report

Lilly Slye advised that works are approximately 8 weeks behind due to the damage caused by Storm Chandra. However, it's estimated that the work required for this damage will be completed this week.

Lilly circulated the roads report, which covered the following areas;

Remedial Works Projects (Carlow Revenue) €14,390		
	Special Projects - M.Doran	
	Special Projects - A.Gladney	Footpath at Regent Street
	Special Projects - T.Kinsella	
	Special Projects - D.Pender	
	Special Projects - W.Quinn	
Non-National Restoration Improvement (DTTAS)		
	R729 Ballyblake - Newtown	
	R705 Kilree Street, Muinebheag	
	L71233 Knockagarry - Seskin Upper	
	L7027 Skahanrane - Dunroe	Complete
	L70243 Rathnageeragh - Coolnasneachta	
	L7021 Kilcruit - Kilgraney	
	L7001 Ballycormick - Seskinryan	
	L3052 Ballyloo X - Nurney	
	L3044 Ratheden - Rathwade	
	L3039 Milford - Raheendoran	Complete
	L30373 The Ridge - Knockbaun	
	L3024 Regent St. Muinebheag	
	L3007 Ballyglisheen - Gowlin	
	L3003 Garyhill - Knockclongard	
	L3001 Killoughternane - Tomduff	Complete
	L3001 Ballycormick - Corries Cross	
Non-National Restoration Maintenance (DTTAS)		
	L3001 Tomduff - Killoughterane	
	L3001 Dunore- Ballycormack	
	L70601 Mullanaskeagh- Newtown	
	R703 Coolnamara X - Ballyhegan	
	L3052 Ballyloo-Nurney	
	L7002 Donore - Seskinryan	
Non-National Supplementry Restoration Maintenance (DTTAS)		
	L7026 Ballinasillogue - Ballynattin	
	L3044 Oldtown - Rathwade	
	L70241 Drumphea - Knockdrumagh	
	L7063 Ballybeg - Slievedurada	
	L3048 Newtown - Nurney	
	L3037 Old Leighlin- Ballynolan	
Low Cost Safety Improvement Projects (DTTAS)		
	R705 Kilree Br to Slyguff Br	
	R448 Rathvindon	
	R702 Borris Village	

Bridge Repair Projects (DTTAS)		
	L30089 Turra Br, Glynn	
	L3036 Closutton Br, Bagenalstown	
	R729 Ballyling Br, Glynn (Bahana Br)	
	L3048 Agha Br, Leighlinbridge	
Drainage Improvement Grant (DTTAS)		
	L-70501 Walshestown	
	L-30016 Tomduff	Complete
	L-3008 Knockeen	
	L-71302 Craanluskey	
	L-3031 Wells	
	L-7143 Rathellen	
Community Involvement Schemes (DTTAS)		
	L-70291 Killedmond (B. Warren)	
	L-30001 Kilgreaney (L. Buggy)	
	L-30018 Donore (P. Purcell)	
	L-71012-9 Fr. Cummins Park	
	L-70511 Woodlawn Park	
Climate Change & Adaptation Grant (DTTAS)		
	R702 Coonogue (Drainage)	
	L3001 Ballinree (Drainage)	

The following queries were raised:-

- Supplementary Funding
- Royal Oak
- Sign for hospital
- Post Office
- Bus Eireann
- Iarnrod Eireann
- Borris/ballyellen update
- Recycling bank in Borris

All queries were answered.

Cllr. A. Gladney acknowledged the fantastic work being carried out in Bagenalstown. He commented that it will be a state-of-the-art town once all these projects are completed.

Pádraig O’Gorman highlighted finishing touches such as planting, and more great projects going forward into the next decade, will further enhance the town in the future.

Cllr. W. Quinn queried if Tinnahinch bridge was Carlow’s responsibility? Lilly Slye advised that Kilkenny Co. Council is responsible for this bridge. However, she will speak to the area engineer in Kilkenny as she believed that maintenance work will be carried out as part of the Flood Relief Scheme.

3.8 Approval of Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) 2026

Townland / Location	Length of Road	Area of Road M ²	Total Cost €
Priority List 2026			
Inchapucha, Ballymurphy	350	2100	84,000
Goresbridge	170	765	21,420
Nurney	190	846	23,688
Goresbridge	340	1360	38,080
Upper Seskin	350	1400	42,000
Secondary List 2026			
Currenree	325	1463	40,964
Knockeen	450	1800	50,400
Ballymurphy	500	1750	49,000

- *Subject to funding*

Resolved on the proposal of Cllr. M. Doran, seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn following a show of hands that the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) 2026 as circulated proceed.

All Agreed

3.9 Anti-littering Update – Environment

Liam Carroll, Senior Executive Officer, Environment, gave an update on the use of CCTV which was introduced in October 2025.

New legislation under GDPR now permits CCTV to be used to identify persons committing offences under Litter Pollution and Waste Management legislation. He emphasised that it was a complicated process to roll out, and before cameras can be installed at any site, approval is required from an oversight board and the Chief Executive.

He also advised that the use of CCTV, which is managed by a third party is expensive and wouldn’t be possible without the assistance of WERLA funding. 6 locations, with rotating cameras, have been installed since last October. 58 fines have been issued to date, and 6 are before the court for non-payment.

Any proposed location must have tangible, consistent evidence of dumping, and the Environment department must be very clear on why cameras are required. Further sites will be brought to this oversight board in May/June for approval, and Liam encouraged the Members to contact him with feedback and welcomed any suggested locations that they may have.

Liam explained to the Members how rogue dumping and fly tipping in remote rural locations such as field entrance gates as well as the Mount Leinster area are a huge problem. He also highlighted how the Environment department liaise with active groups in the area, and work closely with Coillte in the battle against littering and fly tipping. Incidents of large scale illegal dumping has also been recently discovered in the Leighlin and Ballinabranna areas.

Liam also covered the following areas:-

- Unlicensed collection vans
- Multi-Agency Checkpoints on public roads
- Liaison with neighbouring counties / Trans boundary
- Dog Wardens
- Reduction of dog fouling complaints
- Dog Licences have doubled
- New policy updated on Council website to enable reporting
- Addition of new online payment system to pay fines
- Waste Collectors
- Household Foodwaste Inspections
- Leighlinbridge cemetery

All queries were answered.

Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services requested an update on the extension of Bagenalstown cemetery.

Liam Carroll gave this update. He confirmed that this project has taken a lot of work to get to this but we are now in the final stages, with contracts signed and a topographical report prepared. An archaeological survey was required as part of the Part VIII conditions, and submissions are due back next week. It is intended that tenders for construction will be published in April with construction to hopefully commence in June.

4. Notices of Motion

None.

5. Correspondence

Pádraig O’Gorman gave an update on recent correspondence received from Iarnród Éireann in relation to parking at Muinebheag Train.

6. Any Other Business

Muinebheag Municipal District Cathaoirleach Awards 2026

It was agreed to hold this year's Muinebheag Municipal District Cathaoirleach Awards on Wednesday, 13th May 2026 in McGrath Hall, Bagenalstown commencing at 7.00 p.m. 13 nominations were approved.

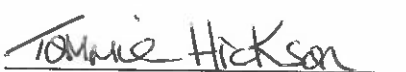
Ben Woodhouse, A/Chief Fire Officer requested to hold a Special Meeting in relation to a pre-Part 8 Submission for Bagenalstown Fire Station refurbishment. This meeting would be held online on Monday, 27th April 2026 at 4.00 p.m. All agreed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 10th June 2026
(date tbc to align with AGM 2026)

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed:  Date: 11/4/26

Cllr. Daniel Pender
Cathaoirleach

Signed:  Date: 11/4/26

Meetings Administrator