

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Tullow
held in Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow, Co. Carlow,
on Thursday 18th June, 2026 at 4.30pm.**

Present: Cllr. John Pender, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Charlie Murphy
Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue
Cllr. Ben Ward
Cllr. William Paton

In Attendance: Michael Brennan, Director of Services
Fiona O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer
Tadhg Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer
Niall Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer
Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer
Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer
Hilda Minchin, Staff Officer

Apologies: John Daly, Senior Executive Engineer
Cllr. Jim Deane

The Chairperson welcomed all present to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Municipal District of Tullow meeting held on 9th April, 2026

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

Proposed by: Cllr. William Paton

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 Roads – Local Improvement Scheme

As Mr. Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer, informed the members that works to three lanes had been completed under the primary list of Local Improvement Scheme at the locations below:

- Kilbrannish

- Huntsman's Cross
- Ballyredmond

Ms. Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer informed the meeting that approval by the Members was no longer a requirement of the Local Improvement Scheme. A discussion followed and the Members expressed concern that this was a further loss of power for Councillors. Ms. Barrett advised that Members can still bring information for consideration. Ms. Barrett further advised that some lanes on a secondary list would also have works carried out to them based on the criteria for scoring which applies.

The Members requested a full list of works to be carried out under the Local Improvement Scheme be circulated to them. Ms. Barrett informed the Members that she would check under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) if the list can be circulated and revert.

2.2 Proposal for the Naming of a Plaque in the Tullow Biodiversity Garden

Cllr. Ben Ward proposed that a plaque be placed in the Tullow Biodiversity Garden stating that the garden was dementia inclusive. A decision on this item was deferred from the meeting held on 9th April, 2026. He informed the Members that following the discussion at the previous meeting he had purchased a bench himself and placed it in another location in Tullow with the dementia inclusive plaque on it. Cllr. William Paton re-iterated his preference would be that the focus of the Biodiversity Garden remain on biodiversity.

The naming of a plaque in the Tullow Biodiversity Garden "Celebrating Our Commitment to a Dementia Inclusive Community" was

Proposed by: Cllr. Ben Ward

Seconded by: Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue

AND following a show of hands RESOLVED that the naming of a plaque in the Tullow Biodiversity Garden "Celebrating Our Commitment to a Dementia Inclusive Community" 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 and advised on the following:

- Cycling lanes
- Storm damage which had caused drainage issues in some areas were now complete including at Bealalaw and Red Bog.
- Telecom wires had been located in drainage pipes at Ballinrush and works had been carried out to remove them as well as drainage works. The Members commended Mr. Harrington and staff on the works carried out.

- Mcadam had been carried out at Hacketstown, Grangeford and Friarstown Bends. Mcadam on Phelan Street, Rathvilly will be completed by the end of July 2026.
- The Recycling Programme will be commencing on 23rd June, 2026.
- The Surface Dressing Programme will commence on 29th June, 2026.

The following was also discussed:

- Japanese Knotweed – The Members queried the prevalence of Japanese Knotweed in the Municipal District of Tullow. Mr. Harrington advised that a register of locations is maintained and Japanese Knotweed is treated annually. Ms. Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer informed the Members that booklets are available from the Environment Section on treatment and she will request that these be circulated to the Members.
- The Members welcomed the installation of lights at Old Chapel Lane and queried when will they be activated. Mr. Harrington informed the Members that the required certification had been submitted to ESB Networks requesting the activation.
- The Members queried when the lights on Tullow Hill will be connected and Mr. Harrington advised that he would revert on this.
- The Members requested an update on the funding for repairs to roads damaged by storms in January 2026 which was announced by Central Government. Ms. Orla Berret informed the Members that 31 roads in County Carlow had been damaged by storms in January and 4 of these roads were in the Municipal District of Tullow. She further informed the Members that although requests had been made to the Department of Transport and to local Teachta Dála no update on this funding had been received.
- Cllr. William Paton informed the Members that Tullow would be representing County Carlow in the Co-Operation Ireland IPB Pride of Place 32 counties competition. He further informed the Members that correspondence issued to Members and Officials inviting them to attend for the judging and walking the route on Friday, 24th July, 2026.
- The Members thanked Mr. Harrington and his staff for the works they were carrying out in Tullow in preparation for the judging of the Co-Operation Ireland IPB Pride of Place competition.

The Members thanked Mr. Pat Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer for his report.

3.2 Urban Speed Limits

Ms. Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer began by thanking the Members for attending a recent workshop organised to discuss Urban Speed Limits and in particular the reduction in the speed limit from 50km/hour to 30km/hour. Ms. Barrett informed the Members that she was seeking agreement from them for a Pre-Draft Consultation with the public on the following:

- 30km/hour speed limit at schools. This would be periodic at specific times e.g. 30 minutes prior to the school start and finish.
- 30km/hour speed limit for business district of towns e.g. Main Street, Tullow and on streets where there is terraced housing and only on-street parking.

Ms. Barrett informed the Members that although consultation with the public is not a statutory requirement, Carlow County Council wishes to engage with the public on these matters.

Commencing a Pre-Draft Consultation with the public on Urban Speed Limits was

Proposed by: Cllr. Ben Ward

Seconded by: Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue

AND following a show of hands RESOLVED that 'a Pre-Draft Consultation with the public on Urban Speed Limits be commenced'.

A discussion followed on the following:

- The need for enforcement of the 50km/hour speed limits was noted by the Members.
- Whether there was a benefit to changing speed limits at particular times of the day.
- The responsibility of all those travelling on roads to ensure that they travelled within the speed limits was noted.
- The installation of ramps to curb speed was discussed and whether they were effective.
- The location of pedestrian crossings was discussed and Ms. Barrett informed the Members that a review of all pedestrian crossings in Tullow was currently underway with Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

3.3 Housing Report

Mr. Tadhg Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer presented a Housing Report to the Members.

The Members thanked him for his report and a discussion followed on:

- Foran's Way and the lack of availability of four-bedroom units there.
- Mr. Madden acknowledged the position and informed the Members that there was a strong pipeline of units in reserve, and it was hoped to be bring these onstream in the near future.
- The Members queried the process for applying for affordable units and Mr. Madden informed them that an on-line system would be set-up to facilitate the application process.
- The Members noted that there were difficulties with seeing the entrance to the new estate on Thomas Traynor Road and Mr. Naill Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that a fence had been installed and a sign with the name of the estate will be erected.

The Members thanked Mr. Tadhg Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer and Mr. Niall Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer for their report.

4.0 Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

5.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

6.0 Any Other Business

The Members requested an update on the availability of fibre broadband connections in Tullow as many areas were still relying on copper wires for connections. Mr. Michael Brennan, Director of Services advised that he would seek an update on the matter.

The Members requested that a larger budget of not less than €10,000.00 be made available for works in advance of Co-operation Ireland IPB Pride of Place awards going forward. Mr. Michael Brennan, Director of Services informed the Members that this would be considered. The Members also requested that the communities being put forward for the competition be notified at an earlier date.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Date