

**Minutes of Annual Meeting of Carlow County Council
held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Athy Road, Carlow,
on Monday 8th June 2026 at 4.00 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 B. Ward

In attendance: Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service
Mr. P. J. Leonard, Director of Finance
Ms. C. Hartley, Director of Service
Ms. P. O'Brien, Director of Service
Ms. F. Byrne, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. M. Griffin, Administrative Officer
Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer
Mr. B. Woodhouse, A/Chief Fire Officer
Ms. M. Finnerty, Financial Accountant
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Economic Development & Enterprise *Remotely*
Ms. A. Sweeney, Senior Planner *Remotely*
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
Mr. N. Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer *Remotely*
Mr. T. Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer *Remotely*
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer *Remotely*
Mr. N. Dillon, Executive Engineer *Remotely*

Cathaoirleach K. Murnane welcomed Joan Kinsella to the Annual Meeting of Carlow County Council.

The elected members thanked Ken for his exceptional service as Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council. They said he represented Carlow with distinction at local, national, and international levels. They noted his fairness, integrity, and unbiased approach. They expressed their gratitude for his honesty, support, and dedication throughout his term. Members commended on his commitment and presence at events during the year and said he represented himself, his family, and his party colleagues with pride. They described him as his own man, someone who stood by his word and said he had a remarkable year as Cathaoirleach. They concluded by wishing Ken, his wife Bridget, and their family every success and happiness in the future.

C. O'Reilly, speaking on behalf of himself, the Management Team, and all staff, said that Ken had been a pleasure to work with throughout the year. He noted that over the course of the last year, he had come to know Ken well and found him to be consistently in good form, positive and engaged well with everyone.

He then presented the Cathaoirleach with a photo album to mark his year in office.

Cllr. Murnane thanked all the Elected Members, the Chief Executive and staff for their support over the last year. He said it has been a great honour to serve as Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council. He concluded by extending best wishes to the incoming Cathaoirleach for the year ahead.

1.0 Election of Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach called for proposals for Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Thomas Kinsella was:

Proposed by Councillor M. Doran,

Seconded by Councillor B. O'Donoghue

A roll call was taken:

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	√			

The result was 16 For, 1 Abstained, 1 Absent.
Cllr. Ken Murnane was elected Cathaoirleach.

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. K. Murnane presented Councillor T. Kinsella with the Chain of Office.

Cllr. T. Kinsella took the Chair.

The Cathaoirleach said it was an honour for him to be elected Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council. He thanked his proposer and seconder. He said he will work with everyone as Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council.

He thanked his wife and family for their support.

The elected members and executive congratulated and extended best wishes to Cllr. T. Kinsella for the year ahead.

2.0 Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach called for proposals for Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Paul Doogue was:

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor B. Ward

A roll call was taken:

<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	√			

The result was 16 For, 1 Abstained, 1 Absent.

Cllr. P. Doogue was elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

The outgoing Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Pender presented Councillor P. Doogue with the Chain of Office.

The elected members and executive congratulated and extended best wishes to Cllr. Doogue for the year ahead.

3.0 Dates of Council Meetings

Members had for consideration suggested dates for Meetings for the ensuing months.

Proposed by Councillor J. Pender

Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved: -

That the proposed dates for Council Meetings for the ensuing months to the next Annual Meeting are agreed as follows.

2026	July	-	13th
	September	-	14th
	October	-	12th
	November	-	9th
	December	-	14th
2027	January	-	11th
	February	-	8th
	March	-	8th
	April	-	12th
	May	-	10th
	June & Annual	-	14th

This concluded the business of the meeting.