

**Minutes of the  
Municipal District of Muinebheag  
Meeting held on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 4.00 p.m.  
in the Meeting Room, McGrath Hall, Muinebheag, Co. Carlow**

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**Members Present:** Cllr. Michael Doran - Cathaoirleach  
Cllr. Daniel Pender – Leas Cathaoirleach  
Cllr. Tommy Kinsella  
Cllr. Willie Quinn  
Cllr. Andy Gladney

**In Attendance:** Mr. Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Services  
Ms. Lilly Slye, Senior Executive Engineer, Muinebheag MD  
Niall Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing  
Eilish Langton, Creative Places Bagenalstown Coordinator  
Tommie Hickson, Meeting Administrator

**Apologies:** Tadhg Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer, Housing  
Orla Barrett, Senior Engineer

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Cllr. Michael Doran, Cathaoirleach, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1. Confirmation of Draft Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag AGM  
10<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Resolved** on the proposal of Cllr. D. Pender and seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney, following a show of hands that the draft minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag AGM held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026 be confirmed as accurate and taken as read.

**All agreed**

**Confirmation of Minutes of Municipal District of Muinebheag 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Resolved** on the proposal of Cllr. D. Pender and seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney, following a show of hands that the draft minutes of the Municipal District of Muinebheag Monthly Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 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**

**3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

**3.1 Housing Report**

Niall Barrett, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing, gave this update and advised of the following:-

- Keys received today for 2 units on Upper Main Street in Borris.  
Ready for allocation in approximately 2/3 weeks
- Uplift to 17 Tinteán units in Borris approved and submitted  
Expected completion by end of this month
- Tinnahinch property at Pre -Part VIII stage
- Refurbishment of existing HSE building to residential  
Ready for planning Q3 2026 - Commencement on site Q1 2027  
Approximate completion Q2 2027

All queries were answered.

**3.2 Creative Places Bagenalstown**

Eilish Langton, Creative Places Bagenalstown Coordinator, introduced herself and provided an overview of the Creative Places programme and its current development with a comprehensive presentation.

Eilish explained that Creative Places Bagenalstown is working to cultivate a creative ecology in Muinebheag by supporting socially engaged arts practice, strengthening community connections, and creating opportunities for people to actively shape the town's cultural life. Managed by Carlow Arts Service and funded through the Arts Council's Creative Places programme, with support from Carlow County Council and local partners, the initiative is aligned with the ambitions of *Arts for a Flourishing Carlow – Carlow Strategic Arts Plan 2025 - 2035*, alongside wider local development goals and national cultural policies.

She outlined where the programme is at in the emerging framework, *Cultivating a Creative Ecology 2025–2027*, which is centred on five interconnected roles or pillars: Activator, Associate, Ambassador, Architect, and Advocate. Together, these pillars have provided a structure for building relationships, encouraging collaboration, and supporting creative participation across the community. The framework focuses on creating lasting connections between artists, residents, organisations, and local leaders, laying the groundwork for sustainable cultural development.

Eilish noted that the Coordinator role has evolved into that of Activator, helping to spark and sustain networks, initiatives, and opportunities that strengthen the creative ecosystem in Muinebheag. Key areas of focus include:

- Supporting socially engaged artists and creative practitioners
- Encouraging inclusive community participation
- Connecting communities of interest and place
- Developing leadership and collaborative capacity
- Building sustainable models for long-term cultural growth

She emphasised that the programme is shaped by the experiences, aspirations, and knowledge of people living and working in Muinebheag, with a strong commitment to co-creation, shared decision-making, and collective action.

Eilish also informed members about a series of visioning workshops taking place from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July, facilitated by New York based artist Abraham Burickson. These sessions will contribute to the development of an *Experience Insights Blueprint*, a participatory process designed to gather local perspectives, identify opportunities for growth and mentoring, and help shape future creative and cultural pathways for Muinebheag. The resulting blueprint will inform a shared vision and practical actions to support the continued development of the town's creative ecology.

The Cathaoirleach congratulated Eilish and acknowledged the wonderful work that can be seen throughout the town. An example is the great success of supporting the Bloom Festival and Carlow Arts Festival on the Road, which is so important in this age of social media, bringing people together which.

All the Members complimented Eilish and acknowledged that these projects were great for the area. A lot of work has also been done behind the scenes and building links with New York is fantastic for Bagenalstown.

### **3.3 Roads Report**

Lilly Slye, Senior Executive Engineer gave this report. She confirmed that surface dressing started last Monday. However, due to the very high temperatures, it was too hot to continue and it is hoped to resume next week. This work will take approximately 5-6 weeks to complete.

Lilly advised that €2.8m funding has been approved from the Department, with €2.4m approved for Muinebheag Municipal District.

Pádraig O'Gorman acknowledged that this extra funding was a great welcome

Lilly advised of the following works:-

- Contractor appointed – LIS and CIS  
These works to commence the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August
- Footpath at Leigh Bends – Complete
- Ballyellen carpark – Complete
- St. Mullins – waiting for Ministerial consent from Department
- Final planting to be completed by end of August

The following queries were raised:-

- Parking spaces in Bagenalstown
- Possibility of ramps in certain areas
- Update on Royal Oak
- Entrance to Borris House
- Signage in Borris
- Eastwood Lane
- Graiguenamanagh bridge
- Roadside verges/hedge cutting – guidelines
- Wheelchair & Disabled parking
- Clashganny – ramp on road to river
- Wastewater treatment system - Borris

All queries were answered by Pádraig O’Gorman and Lilly Slye. Members were advised that the Roads Act supersedes the Wildlife Act.

### **3.4 Bagenalstown Cemetery Update**

Pádraig O’Gorman, Director of Service gave an update on Bagenalstown Cemetery and circulated a map showing the new layout. He advised that GH Groundworks Ltd. have been appointed as contractor and works have now commenced. Expected completion date is end of August. Pádraig advised the members that this new extension will provide an additional 12,010 burial plots and also includes 41 car park spaces for Bagenalstown cemetery. He also confirmed that mature trees will be retained and trimmed, while the dividing ditch will be removed.

### **4. Notices of Motion**

None.

### **5. Correspondence**

None.

**6. Any Other Business**

Pádraig O'Gorman advised the meeting that Iarnród Éireann provides a very good train service in Bagenalstown, with 8 stops per day Monday to Friday, and 5 stops on a Sunday. He also acknowledged that the train station car park is working very well.

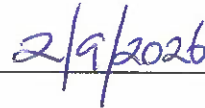
The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026

*This concluded the business of the meeting*

Signed:



Date:



**Cllr. Michael Doran**  
**Cathaoirleach**