

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting (Public Meeting) held at 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 23rd October, 2017 in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Athy Road, Carlow

Present:

- Cllr. Michael Doran (Chairperson)
- Mr. Joe Butler, Graiguecullen Community Alert
- Cllr. Andrea Dalton
- Deputy Pat Deering
- Inspector Audrey Dormer, Acting District Officer
- Ms. Daiga Ezermale
- Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes, An Garda Síochána
- Ms. Kathleen Holohan, Chief Executive, Carlow County Council
- Cllr. Thomas Kinsella
- Mr. David McNamara
- Cllr. Ken Murnane
- Senator Jennifer Murnane O'Connor
- Cllr. Charlie Murphy
- Cllr. John Murphy
- Ms. Bernie O'Brien, Director of Services, Carlow County Council
- Cllr. William Paton
- Cllr. John Pender
- Cllr. Fintan Phelan

In Attendance:

- E. Brophy, Meetings Administrator
- Superintendent Ger Egan
- Inspector Anthony Farrell
- Sgt. Louise O'Neill
- Sgt. Peter McConnon
- Dave Pasley Policing Authority

Members of Public

- Tom Mooney
- Enid Delaney
- John Birmingham
- Phil Heenan
- William Burgess
- P. J. Walsh
- William Whelan
- Dolly Whelan
- Martin Nevin
- Ann Dunne

Apologies:

- Sinead Minchin, Ballinkillen Area Community Alert
- Cllr. Denis Foley

The Chairman welcomed members of the Joint Policing Committee, members of the public, Garda members and Council Officials to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of 22nd May, 2017

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. J. Murphy

And following a show of hands it was Resolved

“That the Minutes of Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on 22nd May, 2017, having been circulated to each member, be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed.”

Questions Submitted by Public

E. Brophy read out questions (which were received that day) and verbally replied indicating there are no proposal for roundabouts at the locations mentioned, on the Hanover Road junction and the R448 where it meets the Hanover Road.

Garda Report

Chief Inspector Dominic Hayes introduced the speakers:- Audrey Dormer; Louise O’Neill on CCTV Project and Sgt Peter McConnon to speak on crime issues. Ger Egan on crime statistics; Inspector Farrell on traffic. Each member of the Gardaí gave presentation to the meeting.

The Gardaí answered questions from members of the Joint Policing Committee on issues including timing of erection of CCTV Cameras in Town Park; CCTV in St. Mullins; funding for cameras in Town Park; progress for CCTV in Tullow Town.

Sgt. P. McConnon advised of a text alert development and showed a map indicating areas with 15,000 persons signed up for text alerts in the Carlow/Kilkenny Division and gave a demonstration of the arcgis mapping system. Sgt. McConnon answered questions from members of the Joint Policing Committee and the public in relation to community text alert.

Supt. Egan gave a presentation on crime statistics and operational changes and initiatives to respond to changing trends in crime. He answered question from members of the Joint Policing Committee.

The Chief introduced Inspector Anthony Farrell who gave a presentation on traffic statistics and he answered questions from members on traffic safety issues including traffic management at Netwatch Cullen Park at match days, signage at Fenagh Centre of Excellence, preventative road design, variable messaging signs speed limit at Hacketstown Road, Bennekerry Junction, traffic safety at Ballon, traffic management plan for Christmas, Athy Road traffic at Educate Together School and Royal Oak Junction at R448.

Chief Superintendent Hayes raised issue of parking close to schools which had arisen from a series of meeting with school Principals. The dropout rate from each school leavers was also raised at this meeting. He thanked members of the text alert groups for their efforts and attendance at the meeting.

He also mentioned the Garda Community Engagement Programme in which Old Leighlin will be the next participating town/village.

He also advised of the reopening of Leighlinbridge Garda Station which will take place following refurbishment.

Policing Partnerships – Chief Superintendent Hayes said he would overlay the MD maps on the text alerts map and assign persons to a forthcoming garda project which will liaise with communities and he will be asking the Chief Executives of both Carlow and Kilkenny County Councils to assign staff to support the initiative.

Inspector Audrey Dormer thanked the Chief Executive, Bernie O'Brien, Dan McInerney and E. Brophy for their efforts in relation to their efforts in dealing with Ex-Hurricane Ophelia. Members concurred with this sentiment.

Any Other Business

J. Butler advised of a new initiative of the older person's network where older persons confirm by text message that they are well and do not need assistance. If they do not message by a certain time, responders will be notified. RTE's Nationwide is going to do a piece on the initiative. The annual fee is fixed at €50. Forms to be ready by 7th November, 2017.

Inspector A. Dormer raised an issue of teachers in St. Leo's driving in and out through a narrow lane and consideration be given to a possible exit through Visual.

An issue was raised in relation to anti-social behaviour at house in Montgomery Street. The issue was raised about restoration of penalty points to persons who were wrongly convicted.

B. O'Brien replied to a question on dangerous tress and branches.

Agree Dates of Meetings

The following dates were agreed for 2018 meetings:-

26th February 2018 at 4.30 p.m.

28th May 2018 at 4.30 p.m.

22nd October 2018 (Public Meeting at 5.00 p.m.)

This concluded the business of the meeting.