

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the April Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in The Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 10th April 2017 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor J. Murphy (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Deane
Councillor M. Doran
Councillor D. Foley
Councillor A. Gladney
Councillor T. Kinsella
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor C. Murphy
Councillor B. O'Donoghue
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor J. Pender
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor W. Quinn.

Apologies: Councillor A. Ahern (Nee Long)
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor W. Lacey

In attendance: Mr. D. McInerney, Deputy Chief Executive
Ms. B. O'Brien, Director of Service – Corporate, Planning, Economic Development, Health and Safety
Mr S. O'Connor, Director of Services, Housing, Community, Building Control & Emergency Services
Mr. Liam Fitzgerald, Acting Director of Services, Transportation, Environment & Water Services
Ms. J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer, Housing
Mr. M. O'Brien, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Ms. F. O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer, Planning
Ms Anita Sweeney, Senior Planner
Ms Arlene O'Connor, Executive Planner
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. B. Whelan, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services

In commemorating the 1916 Rising the National Anthem was played.

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The Doyle Family Raheendaw, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow on the death of their father Pdraig (Paudie) Doyle.
- The Burgess Family, Rahinbawn, Kildavin, Co. Carlow on the death of their mother Marjorie.
- Patrick and Margaret Byrne, Nurney Village, Co. Carlow on the death of their son Jimmy.
- The family of the late Martin McGuinness, Derry, former Deputy First Minister, Northern Ireland and Sinn Féin MP.
- John Fleming and Family, Hillside, Borris, Co. Carlow on the death of his wife Mary.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- All involved with the success of Carlow County Fleadh 2017 held in Borris the weekend of 7th to 9th April.
- Borris Vocational School on hosting the All Ireland Interschools Hunter Trials 2017.
- Carlow Community Games on hosting the Leinster Community Games 2017.
- Faith Amond, Ballygowan, Carlow on winning Best Dressed Lady at Aintree, 2017.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March Council Meeting held on 13th March 2017 were

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor M. Doran

AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

‘That the Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 13th March at 2.00p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed.’

Arising from the March Minutes Councillor Phelan advised that the penultimate meeting of the 1916 Commemorative Committee has not yet taken place.

2. CIRCULARS

(a) Circular Housing 14/2017 Repair and Leasing Scheme

This item was addressed with the Housing report.

3. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUE, STANDING ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

(a) Draft Annual Report 2016

Members had for consideration Draft Annual Report 2016 in relation to Carlow County Council for consideration.

E. Brophy advised that observations/comments must be received by 30th April 2017.

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor M. Doran

AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Annual Report 2016 in accordance with Section 222 (1) (a) of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Councillors Phelan and Doran raised issue of public sector pay increases and impact on Council's budget of the accelerated payment bringing forward payment of €1,000 increase due for payment September 2017 to earlier date of 1st April 2017 for annualised salaries up to €65,000.

Councillor Browne said he would like to see salaries and wages not forming part of Budget as presented by Local Authorities to allow for more discretion. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the accelerated payments issue has been raised at National Level. He has met with the Audit Committee and a report is to be prepared for the June meeting of Council.

(b) Fill vacancy on Community, Housing & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee

Members were advised that following the resignation of Councillor Arthur McDonald from the Community, Housing and Amenity Strategic Policy Committee with effect from 13th March, 2017, a casual vacancy has occurred.

It was

Proposed by Councillor J. Pender
Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald
AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the appointment of Councillor Ken Murnane to the Community, Housing and Amenity Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Councillor A. McDonald.'

(c) Fill vacancy on Cultural, Health and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee

Members were advised that a casual vacancy has occurred on the Cultural, Health and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee.

It was

Proposed by Councillor A. McDonald
Seconded by Councillor B. O'Donoghue
AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the appointment of Councillor Ken Murnane to the Cultural, Health and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee.'

(d) Sections 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. To consider report and recommendation of the Deputy Chief Executive on submissions received in relation to the proposed addition of the Lime Kiln, on the former Sugar Factory Site, Athy Road, Carlow, to the Record of Protected Structures in the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021

The Deputy Chief Executive referred to report and recommendation, dated 30th March, 2017, of the Senior Planner and Director of Services, Planning, as circulated to the elected members, in relation to submissions received in response to public notice on the proposed addition, by the Planning Authority, of the Lime Kiln on the Former Sugar Factory Site, Athy Road, Carlow, to the Record of Protected Structures in the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021, in accordance with Section 54(2) and Section 55 (3) and (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

The Deputy Chief Executive referred specifically to the following:

1. The legislative requirements and details of the public consultation process

2. List of Persons and/or Bodies who made submissions / observations
3. Summary of submissions
4. Requirement for Legal Advice
5. Recommendation on the proposed addition

The Deputy Chief Executive advised there has been no material change in circumstances since the deletion of the structure from the Record of Protected Structures, during the process which led to the adoption of the current Carlow County Development Plan 2015 – 2021 and there is no recent technical evidence to substantiate the case for the addition pursuant to Section 54(1)(a)(i) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. He referred to submission received from the Planning Consultants on behalf of the property owners of the site containing the Lime Kiln and to the report from the Council's Senior Conservation Consultant of Carrig Building Fabric Consultants, affirming that there is no change in the material circumstances and that whilst the Lime Kiln is a dominant feature in the landscape and a lasting testament of the former sugar factory, the site does not warrant protection.

The Deputy Chief Executive then referred to the report from the Conservation and Heritage Consultant accompanying the property owner's submission, which concluded that the Lime Kiln is of no historic value and that the structure is not noted or recorded in any treatise or review of Carlow County's Architectural Heritage and is not included on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). The Deputy Chief Executive again informed the members that legal opinion from the Planning Authority's Senior Counsel, states that reasoning for the decision to initiate the statutory process to add the Lime Kiln to the Record of Protected Structures is unclear and is not supported by a technical report or evidence. The Deputy Chief Executive stated the legal advice also refers to the fact that any decision to add the structure to the Record of Protected Structures at this juncture, in the absence of any change in material considerations, is open to legal challenge by the landowner and would be amenable to Judicial Review.

Councillor Murnane stated that whilst he appreciated the legal advice, the people of Carlow want this iconic structure, the only monument of the sugar industry in Ireland, protected for its historical and cultural history. He stated the construction of an interpretative centre on this site would be a welcome tourist attraction for Carlow.

Councillors Paton, Gladney and Deane concurred with Councillor Murnane and Councillor Paton cited examples of such structures that were developed

around the world. Councillor Paton described the Lime Kiln as an important part of the social and economic history of Carlow Town, County and Region.

Councillor Doran stated he favoured new industry, jobs, education centres and housing for this site and was not in favour of the proposal to add the Lime Kiln to the Record of Protected Structures. Councillor Kinsella expressed concern at the possible legal implications for the Planning Authority, stating the structure is not representative of the origins of the facility, dating to a much later period and it would be in the best interest of the Planning Authority not to add the structure to the Record of Protected Structures.

Councillors McDonald and Quinn stated the structure is a reminder of the sugar industry in Carlow and if protected will remind future generations of the history of the sugar industry in Ireland.

Councillor Phelan stated that in the interest of making an informed decision, he required clarity on three queries relating to:

- (i) Health and Safety aspects, in particular safety of the Lime Kiln
- (ii) If the Lime Kiln is added to the Record of Protected Structures, what is the prospect of a legal challenge and potential financial implications for the Planning Authority
- (iii) If listed, details of works that can be undertaken

Councillor Browne stated that as the structure represents a tiny fraction of the overall site, the safest option would be to have the Lime Kiln added to the Record of Protected Structures, to safeguard the structure as a potential tourist attraction. The structure can again be addressed as part of a masterplan and a planning application for the entire site.

Councillor Foley regretted the possible legal implications for the Planning Authority and queried if the structure could be moved to a more public amenable site.

B. O'Brien, Director of Services for Planning, informed members that the former Sugar Factory Site and the Lime Kiln were the subject of an EPA / IPC Licence and a Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan (CRAMP)/Remediation Plan as agreed by the EPA. In a recent update to the Planning Authority, the EPA advises that the most recent update to the CRAMP states that the plan for the Lime Kiln is that it is retained to comply with a Carlow County Council Protection Order. The relevant condition of the IPC Licence requires that the plan be reviewed annually and that any proposed amendment to it be notified to the EPA as part of the Annual Environment Report. In the

context of Health and Safety, Ms. O'Brien referred to the consultant's report submitted on behalf of the landowner, which outlined concerns on the safety of the structure.

Ms. O'Brien also referred to the statutory requirements set down in Sections 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, whereby technical evidence to substantiate the case for the proposed addition is a statutory requirement and in the absence of same, it would not be prudent for the elected members to proceed with the proposed addition. She stated the legal opinion from the Planning Authority's Senior Counsel is quite clear, in that in the absence of any material changes to the structure, the Council is open to legal challenge and as outlined in Section 112 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, the Local Government Auditor, in stating his or her opinion and preparing their annual report, shall take account of any decision whereby a deficiency or loss is likely to result in the Council's funds. The elected members are required to act judicially and to have regard to the legal opinion. In response to Councillor Phelan's query relating to potential financial implications, in the event of a legal challenge, she stated same could result in significant financial costs for the Council.

Councillor Paton stated the responsibility for safety of the structure rests with the owners and called for the Council to work with the landowner with imaginative and creative ideas to develop the site.

Councillor Phelan stated that the legal advice given to the Planning Authority is a major consideration, as any legal challenge would impose a major financial burden on the Council. He thanked everyone who had made submissions and said the clear majority of Carlow people want some form of public memorial to commemorate the sugar industry in Carlow and he requested that the Deputy Chief Executive engage with the landowner on the issue.

Councillor Pender stated he would be very disappointed if the landowner took legal action against the Planning Authority and said the structure was part of our heritage and needs to be protected for future generations.

Councillor C. Murphy queried if there could be repercussions for individual councillors in relation to the issue. B. O'Brien advised that in accordance with Section 112 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, the Local Government Auditor, in stating his or her opinion and preparing their annual report, shall take account of any decision whereby a deficiency or loss is likely to result in the Council's funds.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that he is obliged to object if the Planning Authority is put at financial risk and to formally advise the Elected Members accordingly. If a decision is taken on the proposed addition of the Lime Kiln to the Record of Protected Structures, the names of the members present and

voting for and against the decision and abstaining from voting on the decision shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Councillor Paton stated that the main reasons for the proposed addition of the Lime Kiln to the Record of Protected Structures is because the structure is an important part of the social and economic history of Carlow Town and County and he requested that this reason be included in the motion to add the Lime Kiln.

E. Brophy, Meetings Administrator, advised of requirement for a formal amendment to the motion as listed on the agenda and as per Public Notice that went on display for public consultation. The Deputy Chief Executive then read out the details outlined in the Public Notice that had been on display.

Councillor Paton again requested that the reason for the addition of the Lime Kiln to the Record of Protected Structures be recorded in the minutes (i.e. the Lime Kiln is an important part of the social and economic history of Carlow Town and County)

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that having considered the statutory requirements set down in Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, in particular Sections 54 and 55; the contents of the submissions received; the report of the Senior Planner and Director of Services, Planning; the legal advice obtained on behalf of the Planning Authority and the requirement to act judicially, he is obliged to advise and recommend, to the elected members, that the Lime Kiln on the former Sugar Factory Site on the Athy Road, Carlow, should not be added to the Record of Protected Structures in the Carlow County Development Plan 2015 – 2021.

Proposed by Councillor J. Pender
Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane

“That we, the members of Carlow County Council, the Planning Authority, pursuant to Sections 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, hereby decide to add the Lime Kiln on the former Sugar Factory Site on the Athy Road, Carlow, which is an important part of the social and economic history of Carlow Town and County, to the Record of Protected Structures in the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021.”

The Deputy Chief Executive again referred to the legal opinion obtained by the Planning Authority, as previously circulated to the elected members and in consequence of any possible financial implications / potential loss for the Planning Authority, in the event of a legal challenge and pursuant to Section

112 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, he advised he accordingly objects to the proposal.

And following a roll call vote on the motion

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Ann Ahern nee Long				√
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin				√
Jim Deane	√			
Michael Doran		√		
Denis Foley	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella		√		
Walter Lacey				√
Arthur McDonald	√			
Ken Murnane	√			
Charlie Murphy		√		
John Murphy		√		
Brian O'Donoghue		√		
William Paton	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan		√		
William Quinn	√			

The vote resulted in: 9 for, 6 against, 3 absent

The Motion in favour of the addition of the Lime Kiln, on the former Sugar Factory Site on the Athy Road, Carlow, which is an important part of the social and economic history of Carlow Town and County, to the Record of Protected Structures in the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021, was accordingly carried.

(e) Approval of Arts Act Grants – Group/Community Grants

Members had report dated 29th March from P. Delaney, Director of Services and Sinead Dowling/Aileen Nolan, Arts Officer on Arts Act Grants Group/Community Grants 2017. A total of 22 applications were received. P. Delaney advised that the Budget for the Scheme is €22,000.

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor M. Doran

AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Arts Act Grants Group/Community Grants 2017 as set out in schedule’.

Councillor Doran referred to the grant available being insufficient to meet the high demand for grant aid in County Carlow.

P. Delaney advised that the programme is subject to limited resources.

(f) Consideration of Sustainable Energy Action Plan

Members had from Michael O’Brien, Senior Executive Officer, Environment Sustainable Energy Action Plan for consideration and approval. The Carlow County Sustainable Energy Action Plan is a step by step plan on how we aim to reduce CO₂ emissions by more than the mandatory target of 20% by 2020, through increased energy efficiency.

The Draft Plan was endorsed by the Transportation, Environmental and Infrastructural Strategic Policy Committee on 23rd March, 2017.

Proposed by Councillor T. Kinsella

Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane

AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Carlow County Sustainable Energy Action Plan as presented.’

4. DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Housing Progress Report

Members had Circular: Housing 14/2017 in relation to the national rollout of the pilot Repair and Leasing Scheme. The principal objective of the Scheme is to deliver social housing quickly targeting the remediation of vacant units that require only limited works. The maximum costs of repairs under the scheme is €40,000.

S.O'Connor advised that 28 expression of interest applications, mainly in rural areas, have been received.

Councillor Browne expressed disappointment that no applicants have yet been approved under the scheme. He suggested that the Council write to the owners of derelict properties or do leaflet drops to advertise the scheme to owners of vacant properties. He said no housing development is happening in Carlow Town and this needs to be addressed.

Councillor Phelan spoke of the housing crisis in Carlow which stems from a lack of funding and foresight by the Department to address the issue nationally. He referred to criticism levelled by a Deputy from a neighbouring county on the staff and members of Carlow County Council while praising Kilkenny County Council. He said the comments were out of order as the issues raised need to be addressed by the Government at national level not local level.

S. O'Connor said there has been good investment into social housing in Carlow by the state.

Councillor Browne queried why road from Éire Óg to Ballinacarrig was not included as a project under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund.

Councillor Deane raised issue of St. Brigid's Hospital being pursued as a women's shelter/ homeless hostel.

All issues raised by the Members were addressed by S. O'Connor.

(b) Emergency Services Progress Report

Members had Fire Service Progress Report from January to March.

Issues raised by the Members included;-

- (i) No emergency 4X4 vehicles in Carlow Town Fire Station to deal with severe weather conditions.
- (ii) Parking issue at Carlow Fire Station during school hours and the prospect of future development of Hind's site as a parking facility to address this issue.
- (iii) Members complimented the Fire Service and the Civil Defence on their participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

All issues raised by the Members were addressed by S. O'Connor.

(c) Community, Recreation/Amenity & Sports Partnership Progress Report

Members welcomed Progress Report from October 2016 to March 2017 from Michael Brennan, Senior Executive Officer, Community.

Councillor Browne raised issue of Rural Development Programme (Leader) and if funding has been allocated to applicants under the Programme to date. M. Brennan advised of lengthy process in implementing the Programme with expressions of interest and the assessing of a large volume of applications. It is expected that some funding will be allocated in the next four weeks.

M. Brennan advised of Ducketts Grove Project with proposals to engage a Project Manager/Gardener to enhance the gardens and develop the site as a tourist attraction.

Councillor Pender advised of SPC meeting to be held in Ducketts Grove and any Member may attend this meeting, if they so wish.

Councillor Browne thanked the Deputy Chief Executive and Michael Brennan on initiating archaeological assessment at Browneshill Dolmen.

M. Brennan advised Members that any queries in relation to the Carlow Arts Festival Programme of Events 2017 be addressed to Jo Mangan, Festival Director.

8. COMMUNITY, HOUSING, RECREATION & AMENITY, BUILDING CONTROL & EMERGENCY SERVICES

(a) Carlow Tourism Statement of Strategy

The Deputy Chief Executive and Members welcomed Ms. Eileen O'Rourke, CEO of Carlow Tourism to the meeting to present the Tourism Statement Strategy and Work Programme 2017-2022.

Ms O'Rourke advised that the Minister for Tourism and Sport requested all County Councils to prepare a Tourism Statement of Strategy and Work Programme covering the period 2017-2022. She advised that Carlow County Council commissioned a Tourism Development Strategy in 2000, the first in the Country.

Councillor Paton complimented Ms. O'Rourke on her work with Carlow Tourism and referred to recent media statements by opponents of the Barrow Bluway criticising Ms O'Rourke personally. He said he had no problem with people criticising Carlow Tourism but was offended by personal attack on Ms O'Rourke who is a very hard working person.

Councillor Paton also raised issue of office accommodation for Carlow Tourism staff being inadequate and if more suitable accommodation can be sought.

Councillor Doran concurred with Councillor Paton and he also queried if a charge on the public to enter Oak Park Forest Park and Duckett's Grove would merit consideration. Ms O'Rourke agreed with this suggestion of the public paying to visit high quality public facilities. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the issue of charge on the public could be examined by the SPC and that the issue of accommodation would also need to be addressed. Councillor Doran suggested premises be sought to accommodate photographic displays and exhibitions by Carlow Tourism. Councillor Browne suggested that the showcasing of Michael O'Toole photographic exhibition would be beneficial.

Councillor Pender referred to lack of fish coming up river from the River Slaney and that the issue be raised with the relevant Bodies.

Ms O'Rourke thanked the Deputy Chief Executive for his contribution to the preparation of the Tourism Statement Strategy. The Deputy Chief Executive said he wished to be associated with Councillor Paton's remarks to Ms O'Rourke and thanked her for her presentation.

Councillor McDonald referred to submissions to the National Planning Framework and Carlow's participation in the South East central corridor in terms of future planning. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that such matters were addressed in submission made to the NPF with closing date 13th March. Submissions were also made by IBEC, South Regional Assembly and Carlow Institute of Technology. The final Draft on the National Planning Framework will be published in the Autumn.

5. CORPORATE, PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY

(a) Agriculture

There were no matters arising.

(b) Health

Councillor Phelan raised issue of family with additional needs waiting three years or more for vital services such as occupational therapists. He requested that the Council write to the Minister of Health on what actions he proposes to put in place to address the situation.

Councillor McDonald said the Health Service Executive administration is not working efficiently and the recruitment of sufficient medical personnel needs to be addressed.

(c) Conference Attendance Approvals

Proposed by Councillor B. O'Donoghue

Seconded by Councillor J. Pender

AND

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the forthcoming Conferences 2017.

2 Day Social Media Training for Councillors,

The Clonakilty Hotel,

Clonakilty,

Co. Cork.

15th to 16th April 2017

Fee: €150

MnanahÉireann 2017,

An Grianán, (I.C.A. H.Q.)

Termonfeekin,

Co. Louth.

19th to 20th May 2017

Fee: €150

Nuclear Free Local Authorities Forum Spring Seminar 2017,

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council Offices,

Monaghan Road,

Newry,

Co. Down.

24th March 2017

Fee: Nil

Your Development Plan & Climate Change,

Casey's Hotel,

Baltimore,

Co. Cork.

28th to 30th April 2017

Fee: €145

What's the Deal with Nursing Home Care,

The Clonakilty Hotel,

Clonakilty,

Co. Cork.

19th to 21st May 2017

Fee: €100

2 Day Social Media Training for Councillors,

The Clonakilty Hotel,

Clonakilty,

Co. Cork.
17th to 18th May 2017

Fee: €150

Extension of time.

Members unanimously resolved following a show of hands
'We, the Members of Carlow County Council, in accordance with Standing Orders, approve the continuation of the meeting to 6.00p.m'

6. TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SERVICES

(a) Grange Traffic Report

Members had for consideration Grange, Traffic Report from L. Fitzgerald, Acting Director of Services.

Councillor Pender expressed disappointment to proposal put forward in relation to traffic issue at Grange. Councillor Paton concurred with Councillor Pender and suggested fixed speed cameras at locations either side of the village as an acceptable solution. He also called for increased signage with ample warning.

Councillors Murnane and Doran suggested speed ramps or speed cameras. L. Fitzgerald advised of the rural setting of road and that speed is not an issue except at school times. He proposed the school authorities explore the option of providing an access to the school precincts from the Village Housing Development.

He advised that he will meet with the school authorities to discuss the issue and revert to the Members at the June meeting of Council.

Other issues raised by the Members included the following.

- Councillor McDonald raised issue of wall at Railway Bridge, Kilcarrig, Bagenalstown knocked down and wall at Housing Estate, Fenagh knocked down and in need of repair.
- Councillor Kinsella requested an investigation on number of accidents on Borris to Ballyellin Road.
- Councillor Deane requested an investigation of junction on the N80 between Rathcrogue and Tinryland causing problems for vehicles turning right off the N80.
- Councillor Pender requested that the issue of dangerous bends at Friarstown be addressed.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Members noted Chief Executive Report for the period 1st to 31st March 2017.

E. Brophy advised of Pan Celtic Festival 2017 taking place from 18th to 23rd April.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted Notice of Motion from Kilkenny County Council calling on the Minister for Health and HSE to change the review on the standard of cancer care in Ireland from 10 years to 5 years.

Members noted correspondence from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Marine in response to Members correspondence in relation to Single Farm Payment Scheme.

Members noted correspondence from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Marine in response to Members correspondence in relation to the Natural Constraints Scheme.

Members noted email from the office of the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment in response to Members correspondence regarding the potential closure of Post Offices.

Members noted Notice of Motion from Clare County Council calling on the Minister for Social Protection to re-instate the telephone allowance for the elderly.

9. Any other business with the consent of the Cathaoirleach.

Councillor McDonald requested information for Councillors The Public Standards Bill 2015 currently before the Dáil.

This concluded the business of the meeting.