

## CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the April Meeting of Carlow County Council, held Remotely on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 2.00 p.m.**

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**In Attendance:** Councillor F. Phelan (Cathaoirleach)  
Councillor F. Browne  
Councillor J. Cassin  
Councillor A. Dalton  
Councillor M. Doran  
Councillor A. Gladney  
Councillor T. Kinsella  
Councillor A. McDonald  
Councillor J. McDonald  
Councillor K. Murnane  
Councillor C. Murphy  
Councillor J. Murphy  
Councillor B. O'Donoghue  
Councillor T. O'Neill  
Councillor W. Paton  
Councillor J. Pender  
Councillor W. Quinn  
Councillor A. Wallace

**Present:** Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive  
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service, Corporate, HR, Planning,  
Economic Development, Health & Safety  
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services, Housing, Community,  
Recreation & Amenity  
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services, Transportation  
Mr. P. Delaney, Head of Finance  
Mr. P.J. Leonard, Financial Accountant  
Ms. A. Sweeney, Senior Planner  
Mr. L. Carroll, A/Chief Fire Officer  
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer  
Mr. J. Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. R. Wickham, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. P. Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. E. Lyng, Head of Information Systems  
Ms. F. O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Nicola Lawler, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. J. Shortall, County Librarian  
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office  
Ms. D. Foley, Community Sports Development Officer

Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate & HR  
Ms. S. Byrne, Clerical Officer, Corporate Services

The Cathoirleach, Fintan Phelan, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members

## **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- Mrs. Elizabeth (Betty) Townsend, Cloughna, Carlow

## **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

- Emmett Mullins, trainer of Noble Yeats winner of the Aintree Grand National
- Grainne & Deirdre Tomlinson, members of the Midland Warrior's team who won the over 40 Women's National Cup in basketball
- Sean O'Brien, on his retirement from rugby
- Adam Nolan, 1<sup>st</sup> In Junior National men's 60m hurdles
- Carlow Under 20<sup>s</sup> who won the Andrew Corden Cup
- Amy Dooley, 3 National Basketball championships
- Elizabeth Kavanagh, Broughillstown, Rathvilly, celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Ordination of Rev. Ger James
- President of Rotary Club, Sinead McAuliffe
- Carlow Museum celebrating 10 years since it officially opened
- Bishop Burroughs for his contribution to the Carlow Community
- Ella Pender and Ciara Byrne, TY students in Tullow Community School, who are through to the national finals of Junk Kouture (an international design competition)
- Annette Fox, Carlow Development Partnership
- Sharon Parker Byrne, New Oak Community Centre
- Ballon Hall Committee
- Carlow Mental Health
- Best Social Housing Initiative award for Borris housing project

## **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí**

### **1.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 2.00 p.m.**

'The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 2.00 p.m., having been circulated to each Member, be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy, and accordingly signed, were,

**Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill**  
**Seconded by Councillor J. Murphy**  
and agreed following a show of hands.

## **2.0 Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó ruin an Chomhairle**

### **2.1 Approval of Annual Financial Statement 2021 as circulated – (Section 104 Local Government Act 2001 as amended).**

**Annual Financial Statement 2021 – *to approve expenditure pursuant to Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 and the Local Government (Reform) Act 2014.***

SERV	SERVICE	BUDGET 2021	OUTTURN 2021	BUDGET V OUTTURN 2021	DETAILS
A01	MAINTENANCE OF LA HOUSING UNITS	2,400,500.00	3,027,114.14	626,614.14	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A03	HOUSING RENT ADMINISTRATION	282,027.00	324,070.82	42,043.82	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
A04	HOUSING COMMUNITY SUPPORT	236,183.00	315,577.36	79,394.36	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
A05	HOMELESS SERVICE	683,519.00	920,622.20	237,103.20	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A11	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	-	38,928.50	38,928.50	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
B03	REGIONAL ROAD - MTCE & IMP	3,004,810.00	3,043,572.83	38,762.83	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B04	LOCAL ROAD - MTCE & IMP	7,369,623.00	7,789,770.64	420,147.64	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B05	PUBLIC LIGHTING	892,663.00	914,178.24	21,515.24	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
B07	ROAD SAFETY ENGINEERING IMP	202,922.00	212,059.24	9,137.24	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B11	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	-	3,205.14	3,205.14	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
C01	WATER SUPPLY	2,487,856.00	2,541,475.83	53,619.83	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
C04	PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	90,239.00	90,788.43	549.43	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D04	INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL FACILITIES	75,851.00	80,942.17	5,091.17	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D09	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	2,186,254.00	3,738,619.81	1,552,365.81	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D10	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	91,908.00	97,650.07	5,742.07	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E05	LITTER MANAGEMENT	285,269.00	294,921.91	9,652.91	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E06	STREET CLEANING	836,714.00	846,383.01	9,669.01	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E09	MAINTENANCE OF BURIAL GROUNDS	321,972.00	334,587.64	12,615.64	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E10	SAFETY OF STRUCTURES AND PLACES	460,261.00	524,151.60	63,890.60	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E11	OPERATION OF FIRE SERVICE	2,986,603.00	3,292,016.37	305,413.37	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E12	FIRE PREVENTION	63,657.00	75,308.03	11,651.03	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E14	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	-	894.99	894.99	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F02	OPERATION OF LIBRARY SERVICE	1,725,073.00	1,725,953.57	880.57	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F03	OUTDOOR LEISURE AREAS OPERATIONS	1,114,905.00	1,138,717.86	23,812.86	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F04	COMMUNITY SPORT AND RECREATION	105,987.00	108,057.68	2,070.68	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F05	OPERATION OF ARTS PROGRAMME	1,246,318.00	1,480,986.06	234,668.06	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
G01	LAND DRAINAGE COSTS	38,153.00	39,010.75	857.75	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
G04	VETERINARY SERVICE	231,891.00	285,662.27	53,771.27	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H03	ADMINISTRATION OF RATES	7,822,561.00	7,904,011.75	81,450.75	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
		37,243,719.00	41,189,238.91	3,945,519.91	

**Proposed by Councillor T. Kinsella**

**Seconded by Councillor M. Doran**

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

*“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Local Government (Reform ) Act 2014, expenditure in excess of the 2021 Budget per the schedule and note that the expenditure was funded by additional receipts, grants/recoupments or savings in other services”.*

## **2.2 Approval of Draft Annual Report 2021 – in accordance with Section 221 (a) Local Government Act 2001**

Noted. Final approval at May meeting.

### **3.0 Considerations of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Mholtaí**

#### **3.1 Ukrainian Crisis Response**

Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive, briefed the meeting on the Council's active response involving the establishment of the Community Response Forum to co-ordinate interagency and voluntary response. The Crisis Management Team in the Council has also been activated. She thanked everyone involved for their commitment and hard work to support the Ukrainian people.

The elected members also wished to thank all the staff and volunteers in the county for their support and hard work in such a short space of time. In particular, the community of Ballon should be commended.

#### **3.2 Report from delegations attendance in the United States for St. Patrick's Day**

Councillor F. Phelan (Cathaoirleach) gave a full report of the recent visit of elected members to New York city for St. Patrick's Day. He highlighted the relationships that Carlow has built over the years, and the opportunities these visits provide to showcase Carlow and all that we have to offer, both in tourism and economic development.

The importance of these visits can not be underestimated, and members thanked the relevant delegates for their attendance.

#### **3.3 Sports Partnership Presentation**

Ms. Deborah Foley, Community Sports Development Officer, gave a comprehensive report and answered all queries.

### 3.4 Training & Conferences

#### TRAINING / CONFERENCES

**Irish Planning Annual Conference 2022 – Climate Change**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
Venue: Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny  
Fee: €360.00

**Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Rural Development**

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
Venue: Hotel Kilkenny, College Road, Kilkenny  
Fee: €180.00

**AILG – Annual Training Conference 2022**

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March  
Venue: Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana, Co. Donegal.  
Fee: €155.00

**AILG Elected Members Training Webinar 3- “Pathway 1 and 2 Housing for All”**

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022 10.00am – 11.30am (online)  
Venue: Online Webinar  
Fee: €00.00

**AILG Elected Members Training Module 2**

**"General Data Protection Regulation and the Elected Member"**

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May (Southern Region)  
14<sup>th</sup> May (Northern and Western/Eastern & Midlands Regional Assembly 2022)  
Venue:  
Fee: €65.00

**Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill**  
**Seconded by Councillor M. Doran**  
and agreed following a show of hands.

### 4.0 Chief Executive’s Report / Tuarascáil an Phíomhfheidhmeannaigh

Members discussed the Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

Issues raised by members included:

- The Chamber
- Penney’s site
- Planting at the Laurels
- Electoral Bill
- Closure of road off motorway & lighting
- Clean up Carlow
- Oakpark
- RAS

- HAP finder
- Tinryland footpaths
- County Development Plan
- Clonmelsh graveyard
- Enterprise hub in Bagenalstown

Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services, answered housing queries.

Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Services, answered queries in relation to the Chamber, planning and enterprise.

Mr. P. O’Gorman, Director of Services, answered queries in relation to the motorway, footpaths, lighting and the environment.

## **5.0 Correspondence / Comhfhreagras**

Noted.

## **6.0 Notices of Motion / Fógraí Rúin**

### **6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. William Paton**

"That Carlow County Council calls on the Ministers for Justice; Education; and Children, Disability, Equality & Integration to immediately implement an Operation Encompass-style programme between An Garda Síochána and schools. Operation Encompass is a police-led, school-based early intervention safeguarding scheme which supports children and young people who experience Domestic Abuse. Operation Encompass was created to ensure that by the start of the next school day, a child's school will be informed that there has been a police-attended incident of domestic abuse at the home of the child. The child is then supported immediately upon arrival at school.

In 2020, Women's Aid (Ireland) reported that there were 30,841 disclosures of Abuse including 5,948 were against children. We need to support these Children now. [www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org)"

**Proposed by Councillor W. Paton**  
**Seconded by Councillor A. Wallace**  
 Agreed following a show of hands.

### **6.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Gladney**

"I would ask my fellow Councillors for their support today in showing support to The national graves association campaign to have the five Invincibles who were executed and buried in a Kilmainham yard reinterred in Glasnevin Cemetery." Please find attached a leaflet with more information.

**Proposed by Councillor A. Gladney**  
**Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin**  
Agreed following a show of hands.

### **6.3 Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Wallace**

"Following the *RTÉ Investigates* report that referenced Carlow County council and noted a general "absence of accountability and transparency" in several councils, this council shall prepare and publish a detailed report on the Carlow Eastern Relief Road Project. The report should disclose the project's total costs to date and the details of any finalised court cases. The report shall be published within the term of the current council."

**RESPONSE:** "The Carlow Eastern Relief Road Project and related matters continue to be the subject of High Court proceedings . The proceedings are referenced annually in the Local Government Audit report. As is the established protocol, when the proceedings are fully concluded a report on the outcome will be furnished to Council , however as Carlow County Council is not the plaintiff in the proceedings , Carlow County Council cannot pre determine when the proceedings may be concluded and accordingly cannot give a commitment to furnishing a report within the term of the current Council. No further comment can be made at this time".

Eamonn Brophy, Meetings Administrator

**Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace**  
**Seconded by Councillor none**

### **6.4 Standing in the name of Cllr. Tommy Kinsella**

"We the members of Carlow County Council are asking the Government to reverse the ban on oil and gas exploration in Irish territorial waters as this will help to ensure our own energy security in the future."

**Proposed by Councillor T. Kinsella**  
**Seconded by Councillor M. Doran**

The following amendment was proposed by Councillor J. Cassin;

"We the members of Carlow County Council are asking the Government to reverse the ban on oil and gas exploration in Irish territorial waters as this will help to ensure our own energy security in the future. Also, that any oil or gas found, to be kept with the state's own resources".

**Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin**  
**Seconded by Councillor M. Doran**  
And agreed following a show of hands



## **6.5 Standing in the name of Cllr. Charlie Murphy**

"We the members of Carlow County Council ask the Government to take a pro-active approach in supporting the EU's investigating of war crimes perpetrated on the people of the Ukraine by the invasion forces of Russia."

**Proposed by Councillor C. Murphy**  
**Seconded by Councillor T. Kinsella**  
Agreed following a show of hands.

## **7.0 Any other business with the consent of the Cathaoirleach/Aon gnó eile le haontú an Chathaoirligh**

- Dublin Street unauthorized development
- St. Patrick's College
- Carlow IT (South East Technological University)

This concluded the business of the meeting.