

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the June Meeting (hybrid) of Carlow County Council,
held in the G.B. Shaw Theatre, Visual, Old Dublin Road, Carlow
on Monday 13th of June 2022 at 2.00 p.m.**

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 (Remote)
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. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services, Transportation
Mr. P. Delaney, Head of Finance (*remote*)
Mr. P.J. Leonard, Financial Accountant (*remote*)
Mr. L. Carroll, A/Chief Fire Officer (*remote*)
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer (*remote*)
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Engineer (*remote*)
Mr. R. Wickham, Senior Engineer (*remote*)
Mr. M. Noonan, Oireachtas (*remote*)
Ms. F. O' Neill, Senior Executive Officer, Community
Mr. K. Cullinane, Senior Engineer (*remote*)
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer (*remote*)
Mr. J. Shortall, County Librarian
Ms. Patricia Nolan, Executive Librarian
Mr. D. Mulligan, Museum Curator (*remote*)
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate & HR

Ms. L. O'Callaghan, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. S. Byrne, Assistant Staff Officer (Acting), Corporate Services

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- Mr. Edward (Ned) Kelly, Pairc Mhuire, Bagenalstown, Co Carlow
- James (Jim) Conway, Coppengagh, Tullow, Carlow
- Bernadette Kelly, Fortbarrington, Athy, Co. Kildare, mother-in-law of Cllr. J. Pender.

A Minutes silence then took place to as a mark of respect to the deceased.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Ailbhe Smith, 26 Elmwood Ave, Upper Ranelagh for receiving the freedom of the City in recognition of Ms. Smyth's tireless work in advocating for Women's Rights and to note her support for the Repeal movement in Carlow.
- Carlow Dragon Boat Club for Winning Gold at the International Dragon Boat Festival in Barcelona in May.
- Christopher Power, Carlow County Library, author of the book, "A History of Ferns"

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí of meeting held on Monday 9th May 2022

'The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 9th May 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: A. Dalton

Seconded by Councillor: T. O' Neill

Agreed following a show of hands

It was agreed to make the following presentation before continuing with the meeting.

2.0 Presentation to Fire Services - Accreditation & Recognition of Achievement

Councillor Fintan Phelan (Cathaoirleach) welcomed the staff of Carlow, Tullow, Hacketstown and Muine Bheag fire stations to the meeting. Councillor Phelan acknowledged the importance of such an occasion.

The Cathaoirleach continued to welcome all in attendance and read the citation as follows;

ISO 45001 Standard: Occupational Health and Safety Management System

“Carlow County Fire and Rescue Service has been awarded the ‘ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System’ accreditation, which is the world’s first international standard for Occupational Health and Safety

ISO 45001 provides a framework to increase safety, reduce workplace risks and enhance health and wellbeing at work, enabling an organisation to continually improve its Occupational Health and Safety performance. It is applicable to all organisations, regardless of size, industry or nature of business. It replaces the previous standard of OHSAS 18001 that Carlow Fire Service had been accredited to since 2012.

The benefits of being accredited to ISO 45001 include increased confidence in all aspects of Occupational Health and Safety, with a specialist auditor validating policies, procedures, processes and continual improvements on an annual basis.

Carlow County Fire and Rescue Service works closely with staff and contractors to ensure health and safety management systems are in place to aid employee wellbeing in the organisation. The transformation to ISO 45001 means that the organisation is internationally recognised in an elite category of businesses and is one of only a small number of fire services that have attained this standard in Ireland.

Delivering high Occupational Health and Safety standards has enhanced the reputation of the service among businesses and organisations by meeting the needs and expectations of Carlow County Fire and Rescue Service’s workforce, our local communities and other agencies.

The ISO 45001 standard could not be implemented without the support of staff across all of Carlow County Council and Carlow County Fire and Rescue Service. Without their collaboration, Occupational Health and Safety would not have been embedded in the organisation to the degree it has been to make accreditation successful.

Carlow County Fire Service Extrication and Trauma Team - Rescue Organisation Ireland

“The mission statement of Rescue Organisation Ireland is to provide a platform for rescue personnel throughout Ireland to share and advance rescue science and technology and to develop proficiency levels in extrication, command and control as well as pre-hospital care. Rescue Organisation Ireland and the World Rescue Organisation promotes best practise, techniques and technology by facilitating vehicle extrication and pre-hospital care competitions between different Fire Services across Ireland as well as the rest of the world.

Carlow County Fire Service Road Traffic Collision Extrication and Trauma teams have competed at the highest level at both National and International competitions since 2006. Since 2006, Carlow County Road Traffic Collision Teams have competed at 14 Irish National Competitions and came in 1st overall place on seven separate occasions as well as placing in the top 3 at 13 different National events. On the international stage, at World Rescue Challenge events, Carlow’s team placed 1st in the Rapid Scenario in La Rochelle in 2019, 1st in the Complex Scenario in Lisbon in 2015 and 1st in the Rapid Challenge at the Excel Arena in London in 2012 beating off stiff competition from Fire Service teams from across the world.

It is very clear that we have a world class Fire Service here in Carlow and I want to thank all who work in our Fire Service for keeping our community safe”.

Councillor F. Phelan then invited Chief Fire Officer Liam Carroll to take the Chair to say a few words. Chief Fire Officer Liam Carroll thanked the elected members and colleagues of Carlow County Council for their valued support. He acknowledged the sacrifices made by his colleagues in carrying out their duties, and both he his colleagues, were honoured to accept this presentation on their behalf.

3.0 Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó rúin an Chomhairle

3.1 Filling of Vacancy on Transportation & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee

Cllr. W. Paton was proposed to fill this position

Proposed by Councillor: W. Quinn
Seconded by Councillor: A. Gladney
Agreed following a show of hands

3.2 Filling of Vacancy of Chair on Transportation & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee

Cllr. W. Paton was proposed to fill this position

Proposed by Councillor: W. Quinn
Seconded By Councillor: A. Gladney
Agreed following a show of hands

3.3 Filling of Vacancy of Chair of Planning, Environment, Climate & Bio- Diversity Action, Energy & Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee

Cllr. F. Browne was proposed to fill this position

Proposed by Councillor: T. O' Neill
Seconded by Councillor: A. Dalton
Agreed following a show of hands

3.4 Filling of Vacancy of Chair of Culture, Libraries & Digital Development, Tourism, Enterprise and Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee

Cllr. M. Doran was proposed to fill this position.

Proposed by Councillor: A. Dalton
Seconded by Councillor: F. Browne
Agreed following a show of hands

3.5 Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1), Planning & Development Act 2000 Section 211, The Disposal of 0.213 Hectares at Ballypierce, Kildavin (Registered under Folio No. CW31607F)

To approve in accordance with Local Government Act 2001 Section 183 (1), Planning & Development Act 2000 Section 211, the disposal of 0.213 hectares at Ballypierce, Kildavin (Registered under Folio No. CW31607F) in consideration of the sum of €1 plus legal fees in accordance with the terms of the statutory notice already circulated.

Proposed by Councillor: J. Murphy

Seconded by Councillor – T. Kinsella

Agreed following a show of hands

3.6 Community Fire Safety Plan

Padraig O' Gorman updated the members on the Community Fire Safety (CFS) Plan for County Carlow Fire & Rescue Service (CCFRS). He spoke about the benefits of the plan in terms of logically connecting fire service functions and a system that could be expected to deliver fire safety benefits to the Community of County Carlow. He advised that it had been brought before the Strategic Policy Committees and recommended to full Council for final approval.

Proposed By Councillor: F. Browne

Seconded By Councillor: A. Dalton

Agreed following a show of hands

3.7 Columbarium Wall Operational Procedures Policy

P. O' Gorman, Director of Services briefed Council on plans for columbarium wall.

Cllr Paton declared this of beneficial interest and withdrew from consideration of this agenda item.

Adoption of the Columbarium Wall operational procedures policy was:

Proposed By Councillor: F. Browne

Seconded By Councillor: T. O' Neill

Agreed following a show of hands.

3.8 Delegation to Tyndall – Switzerland.

Cathaoirleach Fintan Phelan briefed the meeting on a proposed trip recommended by the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) in principle in relation to the unveiling of John Tyndall statue in Switzerland and its historical significance to Carlow. It was agreed that the members as agreed by the Corporate Policy Group as follows Cllrs. Brian O’ Donoghue, Fintan Phelan, Michael Doran, Fergal Browne, Andrea Dalton and Ken Murnane or their alternatives could attend.

Proposed by Councillor: F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor: A. Dalton

Agreed following a show of hands.

3.9 Delegation to Tempe Sister Cities 50th Anniversary

Cathaoirleach F. Phelan briefed the meeting on a proposed trip recommended by CPG in principle to send a delegation to Tempe, Arizona to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. The delegation will include meetings, round table discussions and knowledge transfer on best practice. It was agreed that the members as agreed by the Corporate Policy Group as follows: Cllrs. Brian O’Donoghue, Fintan Phelan, Ken Murnane, Andrea Dalton and John Pender or their alternatives could attend.

Proposed by Councillor: F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor: A. Dalton

Agreed following a show of hands.

4.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Mholtaí

4.1 Youth Needs Analysis

Cathaoirleach Fintan Phelan advised that having consulted young persons across the three municipal districts, on the issues affecting their lives, the Youth Needs Analysis Report and Recommendations had been circulated to the members. He expressed his thanks to the following for their hard work in coordinating and completion of this report as follows; The staff of Carlow County Library Service, in particular John Shorthall and Patricia Nolan, Anne-Marie Doran of Amella Coaching and Consultancy, Comhaire na nÓg and Carlow Regional Youth Services.

Members welcomed the comprehensive report.

4.2 Training & Conference Approvals

AILG Webinar 3 “Housing for all Pathway 3 and 4

Date: Friday 10th June 2022
Time: 10.00am – 11.30am
Registration: info@ailg.ie
Fee: €0.00

AILG Module 3 In Person - Finalising our development plan – key steps and requirements from the Development Plan Guidelines

Date: 16th June (Northern and Western & Midlands Regional Assembly)
Venue: Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.
Date: 18th (Southern Region)
Venue: Avalon House Hotel Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny
Fee: €65.00

AILG Webinar 6 - “Video Campaign – how to create and connect with your audience”

Date: 15th July 2022
Time: 10.00am – 11.30am
Registration: info@ailg.ie
Fee: €0.00

AILG Module 4 (In Person) - Government Legislation Policy Programme 2022 – A Briefing for Elected Members”

Date: 21st July Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles.
(SE Region)
Venue: Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles.
Date: 23rd July (NEW & MRA Region)
Venue: Allingham Arms Hotel, Bundoran
Fee: €65.00

Irish Public Bodies Insurance’s

96th Annual General Meeting held on the 6th of May 2022 in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin 8,
Cllr Arthur McDonald Attendance as representative of IPB.

The council meeting was adjourned to facilitate the Annual General Meeting, scheduled for 2.30pm.

The meeting resumed with the new Cathaoirleach Councillor Brian O' Donoghue in the Chair.

4.0 Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeanaigh

Members discussed the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report for the period from 1st May – 31st May 2022.

Issues raised by members included:

- Rent Review
- Carlow Arts Festival
- IBAL Litter League
- Biodiversity Officers
- Energy Accreditation
- Women's Refuge
- N80 Clonmackshane / Ballykealy Improvement Works
- Green Energy Company
- Muinebheag Streetscape
- Muinebheag Graveyard

Cllr. A. Wallace proposed an emergency motion in relation to the delay of Rent Review increases. It was seconded by Cllr. W. Paton.

E. Brophy meetings administrator notified the members that an emergency "notice of motion could only be considered for the purpose of dealing with urgent business related to a function of the Local authority, or a matter of urgent public interest, subject to the requirement that not less than nine members vote in favour of the matter being considered. It is also a requirement that when the motion is put that not less than nine members vote in favour and the motion must be passed.

The proposer of a motion not listed in the agenda and not in common form, shall, upon moving same, deliver a copy to the Chair and to each elected member"

K. Holohan, Chief Executive briefed the meeting on the Rent Review process.

M. Rainey, DOS advised the members that it was a contract between the tenant and the council. He advised the members that as it was an executive function there was no rationale for a motion to take place. In this instance, the emergency motion was not permitted to be raised.

P O’Gorman answered the following – IBAL Little League, Biodiversity Officers, Energy Accreditation, Road Improvement Works, Green Energy, Infrastructural Capital Projects, Muinebheag Streetscapes and Graveyard along with Carlow Town Bus Service. He also advised that a proposal for a South Carlow Bus Service from New Ross to Carlow has been approved. It will be of benefit to the new status of Carlow as a University Town.

K. Holohan, Chief Executive answered questions on Tusla and advised Elected Members that they are awaiting a report from the Minister of Justice and that further consultation will be required to give clarity on government policy on Carlow.

B. O’ Donovan answered queries in relation to temporary accommodation and the challenge of housing provision for the homeless in the County.

6.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras

Noted.

7.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin

Standing in the name of Cllr. John Cassin

"This Council calls the Taoiseach, the Tánaiste and the Ministers for Finance and Transport to effect an immediate reduction in the cost of fuel in Ireland. The cost of fuel is out of control and a reduction of a minimum of 30% is required."

Proposed By Councillor: J. Cassin

Seconded By Councillor: W. Paton

Agreed following a show of hands.

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

None.

This concluded the business of the Meeting

