

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the September Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in The Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 9th September 2019 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor J. Pender (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 T. O'Neill
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor A. Wallace

Apologies: Councillor B. O'Donoghue
Councillor W. Quinn

In attendance: Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive
Mr D. McInerney, Director of Services, Transportation, Environment & Water Services
P. Delaney, Head of Finance
Mr. M. Brennan, Acting Director of Services, Housing
Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Service – Corporate, Planning, Economic Development, Health and Safety
Ms A. Sweeney, Senior Planner
Mr. R. Wickham, Acting Senior Engineer, Transportation
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of LEO
Mr. J. Shorthall, County Librarian
Ms. J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer, Housing
Mr B. O'Donovan, Acting Senior Engineer.
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services.

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- Neil Cashin, IT Department on the death of his mother Sharon Dowling, 84, The Laurels, Tullow Road, Carlow.
- Ms Edwina Murray, Housing Department of the death of her father Trevor Dagge, Carnew, Co. Wicklow.
- The Family of the late Maureen T. O'Doherty widow of the late Vincent O'Doherty, former Engineer with Carlow County Council.
- The Family of the late Seamus Kennedy, Pollerton Big, Carlow, former pensioner with Carlow County Council.
- The Family of the late Thomas Agars, Coolnacuppogue, Corries, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow former pensioner with Carlow County Council.
- The Family of the late Breda Woods, 157 Duggan Ave., Graiguecullen, Carlow, former pensioner with Carlow County Council.
- The Malone Family on the death of Mary Malone, 92 Riverview Close, Tullow Road, Carlow.
- Sheila Nolan & Family, Newtown, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow on the death of her husband Liam.
- Eileen Cranny & Family, Boggan, Kilbride, Ballon, Co. Carlow on the death of her husband John.
- The Burgess Family on the death of their mother Dorothy Burgess, The Lodge, Tullow, Co. Carlow.
- The Murphy Family on the death of their mother Mary Murphy, Shillelagh Grove, Tullow, Co. Carlow.
- The Joyce Family on the death of their mother Helen Joyce, Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Enda Dunne, Carlow on competing with the Irish Squad in the 2019 Men's European Soccer Championship for Deaf and Hearing Impaired.
- The Organising Committee of Carlow's first Pride Parade on the success of the festival.

- Rathanna community on the Blackstairs Farming Group showcase event.
- Old Leighlin Ladies on winning the Ladies Senior A Football Final for the second year in a row.
- David Walsh co-founder of Netwatch on stepping down as Chief Executive of the company.
- The Tullow Road Development Group, with support from County Carlow Development Partnership, Carlow County Council, Carlow Regional Youth Services, Community Policing Unit Carlow Gardai on the success of Tullow Road Community Street Feast and Bake Off.
- To all involved with the formation of new GAA Club Bagenalstown Gaels bringing a stronger GAA presence to Bagenalstown.
- To all Carlow athletes involved in National Community Games finals.
- Carlow's Clíodhna Nolan and her team mate Aoife Casey, on securing 4th place at the World Rowing U23 Light Weight Double Skull A Final in Florida.
- Eileen Brophy on her recent retirement as Director of Delta Centre, Carlow

1(a) CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

'That the Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 8th July 2019 at 2.00 p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed.

Amendment to July Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on 8th July, 2019 under item 6 (d).

Councillor Wallace suggested that the old Bank of Ireland building be considered as a suitable location for a Women's Refuge.

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

(a) Approve of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

D. McInerney advised of Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, of submissions received and proposed amendments as outlined in the Chief Executive's Report.

Issues raised by the Members included the following:-

- Lack of submissions from the Members and timescale for receipt of submissions.
- Requirement for a dedicated Officer for Climate Change
- The impact of Climate Change on agriculture
- The impact of Climate Change on housing grant schemes.
- The Paris Climate Accord
- The Kyoto Protocol Agreement.

Issues raised by the Members were addressed by D. McInerney and B. O'Donovan.

Members approval was sought to adopt the strategy as amended in accordance with the Chief Executive Report.

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan

Seconded by Councillor M. Doran

AND

Following a show of hands it was resolved:-

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council

'Pursuant to the provisions of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and the National Adaptation Framework (NAF), 2018, Carlow County Council resolves to approve the Carlow Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024, having considered the draft strategy, the contents of the CE report on submissions received during the period of consultation and the SEA an AA Screening Reports carried out in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive (DIR 2001/42/EC) and Article 6 (3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC.'

The members thanked the team involved from the Environment Section in the preparation of the Plan.

(b) To fix dates for 2020 Annual Budget Meetings

P. Delaney sought Members' approval to the fixing of dates for 2020 Annual Budget Meetings.

**Proposed by Councillor J. Murphy
Seconded by Councillor F. Browne
AND**

Following a show of hands it was resolved:-

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the holding of Budget Meetings 2020 as follows:-

Local Property Tax (LPT) on Monday 23rd September at 11.30 a.m with in-committee Budget briefing/Workshop including Carlow MD, Muinebheag MD and Tullow MD at 10.30 a.m.

Statutory Budget Meeting on Friday 22nd November at 2.00pm with in committee meeting at 11.30pm.

P. Delaney advised that the Budget must be adopted within 14 days beginning on the date of the Statutory Budget Meeting.

(c) Proposed Variation of the Joint Spatial Plan for the greater Carlow Graiguecullen Urban Area 2012-2018.

Members were advised by F. O’Neill and A. Sweeney that the Planning Authority had received a formal request to consider a proposed variation of the Joint Spatial Plan for the Carlow Graiguecullen Greater Urban Area 2012-2018 seeking to amend the land-use zoning on the Braun site from Industrial to Enterprise and Employment. The reasons for the variation would be to facilitate a broader range of employment uses on the site.

Members queried if the landowner requested the amendment to the land-use zoning and whether there were other considerations. F .O’Neill advised that the landowner requested the amendment. Members also queried the time frame involved and whether councillors could initiate a variation.

Issues raised by the Members were answered by F. O’Neill and A. Sweeney.

Members’ approval was sought to initiate the Variation process.

Following a show of hands it was agreed
‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve that Carlow County Council initiate the Variation process of the Joint Spatial Plan for the Greater Carlow Graiguecullen Urban Area 2012-2018 (comprising of the Carlow Town Development Plan 2012-2018) for the reasons outlined

from (a-e) in Chief Executive report of 3rd September, 2019, pursuant to Section 13 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended).’

(d) Approval of Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024.

M. Brennan presented the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024. M. Brennan set out key dates and summary of implementation of Traveller Accommodation Programme. The latest date for the adoption of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 is 30th September, 2019.

Members raised issues in relation to ‘one in ten policy’, media reports of failure to draw down funding for traveller accommodation last year, timelines, lack of suitable locations for traveller accommodation, designation of land for traveller accommodation, pressures to eliminate bias against travellers, percentage of housing applicants that are travellers and area-based allocations.

Issues raised by the Members were addressed by M. Brennan.

It was proposed by Councillor Murnane and seconded by Councillor Browne that the Traveller Accommodation Programme be adopted with a proviso to remove ‘*Carlow County Council will endeavor to maintain a minimum policy of ‘one in ten’ as per previous Accommodation Programmes*’.

Following a roll call vote on the amendment

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin		√		
Andrea Dalton		√		
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney		√		
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Arthur McDonald		√		
John McDonald	√			
Ken Murnane	√			

Charlie Murphy	√			
John Murphy	√			
Brian O'Donoghue				√
Tom O'Neill	√			
William Paton		√		
John Pender		√		
Fintan Phelan		√		
William Quinn				√
Adrienne Wallace		√		

8 for, 8 against, 2 absent

As there was an equality of votes the Cathaoirleach had a casting vote.

The casting vote was against the proposal.

The proposal was defeated.

Members approval was sought to adopt the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 as presented.

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin

Seconded by Councillor W. Paton

AND

Following a roll call vote

<i>Member of Carlow County Council</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Fergal Browne	√			
John Cassin	√			
Andrea Dalton	√			
Michael Doran	√			
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Arthur McDonald	√			
John McDonald		√		
Ken Murnane		√		

Charlie Murphy		√		
John Murphy			√	
Brian O'Donoghue				√
Tom O'Neill	√			
William Paton	√			
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn				√
Adrienne Wallace	√			

12 for, 3 against, 1 abstention 2 absent

The Motion was carried

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council hereby adopt the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2014 as presented in accordance with the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998.

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

(a) Health

Councillor Paton queried progress on Health Centre for Tullow and requested that the members of the Regional Health Forum South raise the issue at the next meeting.

Councillor Browne requested that the Chief Executive contact the Health Service Executive in relation to Kelvin Grove.

Councillor Gladney raised issue of provision of long- awaited MRI scanner for Carlow/Kilkenny.

Councillor Cassin requested that representatives from the Health Service Executive be asked to attend a meeting of Carlow County Council to address Members' concerns in relation to health matters.

(b) Conference Attendance Approvals

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald

And

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the following Conference Attendance.

AILG 2019 Autumn Conference
11th & 12th September 2019
Hillgrove Hotel Monaghan

Fee 140.00

4th October 2019
Irish Planning Institute
Autumn Planning Conference
Plan Making – Best Practices and Emerging Trends
The Grand Hotel
Malahide
Dublin

Fee 250.00

9th October 2019
Creating Economic and Business Opportunities from Climate Change
Tullamore Court Hotel
Tullamore
Co Offaly

Fee €150.00

25th, 26th & 27th October 2019
Celtic Conferences
Ireland and Plastic Water
O Donovan’s Hotel, Clonakilty, Co Cork

Fee €100.00

Tempe Visit

**Proposed by Councillor F. Browne
Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald
And**

Following a show of hands it was resolved:-

‘That Councillor M. Doran and Councillor F. Phelan accept an invite to visit Tempe, Arizona following receipt of an invitation.’

4. TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT & WATER SERVICES, BUILDING CONTROL & EMERGENCY SERVICES

(a) Report on policy and related provisions regarding National and Regional Roads.

D. McInerney presented report to the Members on policy and related provisions regarding National and Regional Roads.

D. McInerney advised that the primary policy objective is to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the National and Regional Roads network. The relevant policy provisions applicable to regional roads within the county are contained in Section 5.2.3 of the County

Development Plan. D. McInerney advised that any review of the policy would require a major engineering review. There will be an opportunity to review these policies when the County Development Plan is being reviewed.

D. McInerney and A. Sweeney answered question from Members on the report.

5. COMMUNITY, HOUSING, RECREATION & AMENITY

(a) Sustainable, Inclusive & Empowered Community Strategy 2019-2024.

Members had for consideration Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities Strategy. M. Brennan advised that the strategy is a five year strategy to support the community and voluntary sector in Ireland for the period 2019-2024.

M. Brennan set out the Strategy's eleven key objectives to be implemented on a collaborative basis over the next five year.

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor A. McDonald

And

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the Sustainable, Inclusive & Empowered Community Strategy 2019-2024.

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Members noted Chief Executive Monthly Management Report for the period to 31st August, 2019

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Member noted resolution from Kerry County Council asking the Taoiseach to award the long overdue medals for gallantry and distinguished service for the Irish soldiers of A Company who served at Jadotville in 1961.

Member noted resolutions from Kerry County Council calling on the Irish Government to bring the Equal Status Act in line with legislation in the 6 County state.

Members noted correspondence from the Office of the Minister of Agriculture in response to Members correspondence on the Irish Beef Industry.

Members noted correspondence from the Office of the Minister of Education in response to members' correspondence in relation to lack of ASD classes in Carlow Town.

Members noted correspondence from the Office of the Minister of Health in response to Members correspondence concerning the Meningitis B vaccination.

Members noted thank you letter from Paddy Byrne on vote of congratulations on the launch of his book Kyle Hill to Pennsylvania.

Members noted acknowledgement from Waterways Ireland in response to Members correspondence of 12th August.

Councillor Cassin requested that Waterways Ireland be invited to meet with the Elected Members to discuss their proposals in relation to the River Barrow.

8. Fógraí Rúin/Notices of Motion.

Standing in the name of Councillor John Cassin

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin

Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane

And

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

“Calls on National Transport Authority to come to a meeting of Carlow County Council and give a very clear date for the commencement of the town bus service.”

A reply was circulated to the Members by D. McInerney in relation to the Notice of Motion. D. McInerney advised that the NTA have advised that once substantive progress has been made, they intend presenting to the Members of Carlow Municipal District an update on funding and timelines for the introduction of the service. It is envisaged that the presentation will take place at the October meeting.

Standing in the name of Councillor Fintan Phelan

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan

Seconded by Councillor C. Murphy

And

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

‘This Council will write to the Minister for Defence and An Taoiseach asking that the long over due medals for gallantry and distinguished service specifically for the Irish soldiers of “A” Company who served at Jadotville in 1961 be awarded. These

medals were promised by former Taoiseach Enda Kenny in his final days in Office and still they have not been received.'

Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace

Seconded by Councillor W. Paton

And

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

Climate Strike –

That this council supports the global climate strike set for September 20th.

Following this council's declaration of a climate emergency and considering the support shown to the Carlow school students strike from council officials last May this council moves to support the calls from activist groups, like Extinction Rebellion and NGOs alike for the global climate strike on September 20th.

Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace

Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved:-

Disability -

That Carlow County Council:

- *Supports the establishment of an annual national "Make Way Day" taking place on 26th Sept. in 2019.*
- *Will write to an Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, TD, and to each individual Minister and Minister of State, calling on them to support, establish, fund and resource an annual national "Make Way Day" which would be localised in each region.*
- *Will annually support and promote a local #MakeWay(your)County campaign as part of the wider "Make Way Day."*

Standing in the name of Councillor Adrienne Wallace

Litter in public ownership

This Council agrees that waste management in Carlow should be remunicipalised and that a working group comprising group representatives and management meet in September and October to consider how this might be advanced, said working group to report to the November Carlow Council Meeting.

Carlow council has a public health responsibility to the people who live work and recreate in our county as well as a responsibility to

the environment and our climate crisis to look to the municipalization of this critical service.

The motion was proposed by Councillor A. Wallace and seconded by Councillor W. Paton.

A reply was circulated to the Members by D. McInerney in relation to the Notice of Motion. D. McInerney advised that Carlow County Council has made adequate arrangements for the provision of a waste collection service in County Carlow in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act. For Carlow County Council to provide a collection service it would not be economically justified. It is considered that there are more pressing investment priorities for County Carlow where services need to be improved or where additional critical infrastructure is required.

On a show of hands the Motion was defeated 11 against - 4 for.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CATHAOIRLEACH

Councillor Cassin queried update on ring road at Eire Óg. D. McInerney advised of legal proceedings.

Councillor Paton queried why Notice of Motions were not on the Agenda. E. Brophy to check the issue.

Councillor Paton raised issue of number of firefighters in Tullow having been reduced to 11 where the policy document states 13. D. McInerney advised he will check the position with the Acting Chief Fire Officer.

Councillor O'Neill queried the position with the Bank of Ireland site. The Chief Executive advised of recruiting an architect who will consider the most beneficial use of the premises. Councillor Paton requested that the car park be opened for Council staff parking.

There was no further business to be transacted.

This concluded the business of the meeting.