

**Minutes of Meeting of the Carlow Municipal District
Held in Town Hall, Carlow, held on
Thursday 27th February 2020, at 4.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor A. Dalton, Mayor
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor T. O’Neill
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor A. Wallace

In Attendance: Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Margaret Moore, Acting Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Ger O’Brien, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Marian Hand, Assistant Staff Officer

HSE Staff: Ms. Patricia McEvoy, General Manager for Disability Services, South East Community Healthcare
Ms. Aoife Fitzgerald, Disability Manager for Carlow/Kilkenny Services

The Mayor A. Dalton opened the meeting by welcoming students and principals from St. Leo’s and St. Mary’s CBS and foreign exchange students with their teacher from Dole, France. The Mayor spoke in both French and English thanking the host families, principals and students and welcomed the integration between Carlow Town and Dole, France. A presentation was made by the Mayor to the students with mementos of Carlow Town, reminding them of their stay in Carlow.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 30th January 2020 were

Proposed by Cllr. T. O’Neill

Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan

And agreed following a show of hands.

2.0 Business Prescribed by Statue, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for Transaction at such meeting

2.1 2020 Road Works Programme including Discretionary Improvement Works

G. O'Brien, Senior Executive Engineer presented a comprehensive report of the 2020 Road Works Programme Improvement/Maintenance Works for the Carlow Municipal District, with a budget allocation of €150,250. All members welcomed the report. Cllr F. Phelan enquired about a specific funding for footpaths. G. O'Brien responded to all questions raised and will follow up on the specific funding for footpaths.

The adoption of the 2020 Road Works Programme including Discretionary Improvement Works was; -

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne

And

Following a show of it was resolved; -

‘That we the Members of Carlow Municipal District agree to the adoption of the 2020 Road Works Programme including Discretionary Improvement Works.’

3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

3.1 Update by Ms. Patricia McEvoy, General Manager for Disability Services, South East Community Healthcare and Ms. Aoife Fitzgerald, Disability Manager for Carlow/Kilkenny Services on proposals for Kelvin Grove at 4.30pm – report noted

This report was presented by Patricia McEvoy, General Manager for Disability Services, South East Community Healthcare and Ms. Aoife Fitzgerald, Disability Manager for Carlow/Kilkenny Services. The report outlined the following; -

- Services provided for Adults and Children
- Organisation Chart
- Disability Services (HSE or Section 39 funded or Private Providers)
- Framework Policy underpinning Service delivery
- Challenges
- New Developments
- Contact details for a Liaison officer for Disability Service User
- Listing of Kelvin Grove on HSE Capital Funding List

Both Patricia and Aoife responded to questions raised. They asked members and council officials present, to use the Liaison Officer contact details if contacting the HSE.

3.2 Housing Report

M. Brennan, Director of Service presented this report. The report outlined current local authority build projects in Carlow Municipal District. Current Approved Housing Bodies – build projects. Developments at Proposal Stage and Properties allocated December 2019/January 2020.

The following questions and requests were made by Members; -

- A cost comparison report for Approved Housing Body build v Carlow County Council build – requested by Cllr. J. Cassin
- Clarity on the figure in the Housing Report for builds at St. Mary’s Park – requested by Cllr. K. Murnane
- A report on Carlow County Council’s housing loans to be included at the next meeting – requested by Cllr. F. Phelan
- A report on public land banks across the county including Nama owned sites – requested by Cllr. A. Wallace.
- Housing list – Cllr. F. Browne queried procedures for those who refuse housing. M. Brennan explained the procedure.
- Windows & Doors Refurbishment – Cllr. Cassin enquired if funding was available.
- Structural repair houses – M. Brennan explained that a planned maintenance programme would be required.
- Lands owned by Religious Orders – Cllr. T. O’Neill enquired if the Religious Orders had been approached re lands for development.
- Carrigbrook Housing Development – M. Brennan responded to query raised.
- Antisocial behaviour – M. Brennan confirmed that a Tenant Liaison Officer is in place, and the Local Authority is very proactive.
- Cost of development of houses in Tullow – Cllr. K. Murnane requested the cost per unit of Social Housing built in Tullow by Carlow County Council. M. Brennan to follow up and report back to Cllr. K. Murnane.

3.3 Development of Water/Riverside Activity Hub in Carlow Town Park

Report presented by M. Rainey, Director of Service. Members all welcomed the proposed development of Water/Riverside Activity Hub in Carlow Town Park. Funding of €580,000 was secured following an application by Carlow County Council under Ireland 2040 – Urban Regeneration & Development Fund, to develop a Masterplan for Carlow Town, and to advance several strategic projects through a detailed design process to planning stage. The report also outlined the breakdown of the project process. M. Rainey responded to all question raised.

M. Rainey will bring proposed drawings to the Carlow Municipal District Meeting in quarter four 2020. M. Brennan to contact the Water Safety Officer to re-examine the request for a lifeguard at Carlow Town Park during the summer months.

3.4 Community Draft Annual Service Plan

M. Moore, A/Senior Executive Officer presented the report. An allocation of €37,000 has been provided for the Municipal District of Carlow for 2020 for the following grants: Environmental, Tidy Town, Community Grant and St. Patrick's Day Parades. Community and Voluntary groups throughout the county with the assistance of Carlow County Council through the Environmental Grant Scheme and Community Grant Scheme. These schemes continue to play a major role in transforming the appearance of our towns, villages, estates and enhancing community development. M. Moore responded to all questions raised.

The adoption of the Community Draft Annual Service Plan was; -

Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace

Seconded by Cllr. T. O'Neill

And

Following a show of it was resolved; -

‘That we the Members of Carlow Municipal District agree to the adoption of the Community Draft Annual Service Plan’

4.0 Any Other Business

Staff answered queries from members including the following issues; -

- Coronavirus – M. Rainey advised that the Council is currently updating a business continuity plan.
- A Motion that Dolmen Celtic Football Club be given a Care Takers Agreement for a soccer pitch on the land returned to Carlow County Council from Eire Og GAA Club was proposed without prior notice by; -

Proposed by Cllr. K. Murnane

Seconded by Cllr. J. Cassin

The Mayor quoted standing order 20 in relation to urgent business. Six members are required to vote in favour of the motion to allow it to be considered. The Mayor called for a show of hands in relation to the Motion being urgent business or not. This resulted in five members indicating a preference for the motion to be considered. M. Rainey, Director of Service advised that consultants with proposals for this site are to attend the March Municipal District Meeting. M. Rainey proposed an In-Committee meeting before the March Municipal District Meeting. The matter was not further proceeded, and the Mayor called the meeting to a close.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Note: In the days following the meeting when this issue was reviewed, it was discovered that the meetings administrator had in error, referred to Standing Orders of 2017 which required six in favour as opposed to Standing Orders of 2019 which required four in favour.