

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

Present: Councillor F. Phelan (Mayor)
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor A. Dalton (Remotely)
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor T. O'Neill
Councillor A. Wallace

In Attendance: Councillor Brian O'Donoghue
Mr. K. Cullinane, A/Director of Services
Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise
Mr. R. Wickham, A/Senior Engineer
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer (Remotely)
Ms. Margaret Moore, A/Senior Executive Officer (Remotely)
Mr. John Nott, National Transport Authority NTA
Ms. Marian Wilson, NTA
Mr. Robert O'Mahoney, Bus Eireann
Mr. Eric O'Callaghan, NTA (Remotely)
Mr. William Creagh, NTA (Remotely)
Ms. Louise Culliney, NTA (Remotely)
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held on 9th March 2023

The Minutes of Carlow Municipal District meeting held on Thursday 9th March 2023 were:

Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor F. Browne

And agreed following a show of hands

3.4 Carlow Town Bus Service - update from the NTA

P. O’Gorman introduced and welcomed members from the National Transport Authority and Bus Eireann to the meeting. Mr. John Nott, Marian Wilson, Eric O’Callaghan from National Transport Authority and Robert O’Mahoney, Bus Eireann, gave a comprehensive presentation on the Carlow Town Bus Service which is hoped will be in operation mid July. He advised on the process, route selection, bus stops, frequency of service, operation hours, recruitment of drivers, bus service trial run, ticket/leap card and media campaign.

The elected members thanked staff from NTA and Bus Eireann for all their work and comprehensive presentation and are delighted to welcome the Town Bus Service to Carlow. Questions raised by the members included:

- Possibility of extension of routes to include further housing estates on Tullow Road and Graiguecullen
- Possibility of bus stop at Train Station and Green Lane
- Possibility of Electric Fleet
- Recruitment of Drivers
- Security on buses
- Fares/Leap Cards

The elected members thanked P. O’Gorman, R. Wickham, Barry Knowles and all staff involved for their hard work over the years on bringing the Carlow Town Bus Service to fruition.

2.0 Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members

2.1 Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2023

K. Comerford briefed the members on the Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2023 and he answered queries from the members.

The Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2023 were
Proposed by Councillor K. Murnane
Seconded by Councillor T. O’Neill
And agreed following a show of hands

3.0 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

3.1 Draft Environmental Grant Scheme 2023

Ms. Margaret Moore, A/Senior Executive Officer briefed the members on the Draft Environment Grant Scheme 2023 which recommended a total of 48 environment grants totalling €20,000 to Residents Association / Community Groups and 1 Tidy Towns Grant of €2,000.

M. Moore answered queries raised by the members.

The approval of the Draft Environmental Grant Scheme 2023 was

Proposed by Councillor T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And agreed following a show of hands

The elected members also thanked community groups for their work in enhancing the Carlow municipal district areas.

3.2 Housing Progress Report Carlow MD

Cllr. F. Phelan raised issue regarding staff not returning calls/emails to elected representatives. B. O'Donovan responded advising of the huge volume of customers, calls, emails and meetings and also current staff vacancies.

B. O'Donovan presented the Housing Progress Report and answered questions raised by the members.

Elected members thanked housing staff for their work.

The members extended their best wishes to Collette Nolan, Clerical Officer, Housing Department, on her retirement and thanked her for her work and assistance over the years.

3.3 MD Engineers Report

Mr. Barry Knowles, Senior Executive Engineer, presented the Engineering Report to the members.

Queries raised by members included:-

- Dog Fouling / Emptying of Dog Fouling Bins / Fines
- Pedestrian Crossings at Potato Market / Braganza
- Footpaths – Maple Court / Palatine Village

- Roundabout at Thompsons
- Possibility of weight bars being installed at Town Park / Oakpark
- Parking Issues – Pollerton Road / Staplestown Road / Bridge Street
- Issue with rubbish at N9
- Cleaning of Calvary Monument at St Marys Cemetery Carlow
- HGVs Tullow Street
- Streetscape Scheme at Carlow Castle
- URDF Update
- Courthouse Railings

B. Knowles and K. Cullinane answered questions raised.

Members congratulated Carlow Methodist Church on their 125th Anniversary.

Members requested that a letter issue to Glenveagh Properties congratulating them on their work at the former Braun Site which will be used as a timber production facility and thanking them for the recent site visit to the factory.

Members requested update on the Provision of Drinking Water Fountains in Carlow Town Centre.

5.0 Correspondence

Members noted response from HSE regarding A & E and the National Ambulance Service.