# Minutes of Annual Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Present: Councillor F. Browne

Councillor J. Cassin Councillor A. Dalton Councillor J. Deane Councillor P. Doogue, Councillor M. Doran Councillor A. Gladney Councillor T. Kinsella Councillor K. Murnane Councillor C. Murphy

Councillor B. O'Donoghue

Councillor W. Paton
Councillor D. Pender
Councillor J. Pender
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor W. Quinn
Councillor A. Wallace
Councillor B. Ward

In attendance: Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive

Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Transportation, Environment, Climate Action, Building Control & Emergency Services.
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Corporate, Planning, Economic Development, Information Technology and Health & Safety Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Community, Recreation, Amenity, Sports, Arts, Culture, Libraries, Museum & Heritage Services Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Service – Housing, Ukrainian Humanitarian Response and Refugee Resettlement Programme

Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer Mr. J. Woods, Administrative Officer

Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer

Mr. T. Madden, A/Senior Executive Officer Remotely

Ms. N Lawler, Senior Executive Officer Remotely

Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Economic Development Remotely

Mr. J. Shorthall, County Librarian Remotely

Also in attendance was Deputy Jennifer Murnane-O'Connor

Mr. M. Rainey with the agreement of the Council took the position of Cathaoirleach and welcomed all present to the first meeting of the new Council. He welcomed the four newly elected Members, Cllr. J. Deane, Cllr. Paul Doogue, Cllr. D. Pender and Cllr. B. Ward.

Mr. Eamonn Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, declared the result of elections held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024 as follows:

# 1. 2024 Local Election Result for membership of Carlow County Council

#### Return of Persons Elected

Name of Local Authority: Carlow County Council

Local Electoral Area	Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any
Carlow Electoral Area	Browne	Fergal	Rutland Carlow	School Principal	Fine Gael
	Cassin	John	2 Springdale Tullow Road Carlow	Social Care Worker	Independent Ireland
	Dalton	Andrea	Barr na Cassa Tinryland Carlow	Community Worker/Educa tor	Fianna Fáil
	Doogue	Paul	Springview Killeshin Road Carlow	Maintenance Fitter	Fine Gael
	Murnane	Ken	Slate Road Kellistown West Carlow	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil
	Phelan	Fintan	54 Burrin Street Carlow Town	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil
	Wallace	Adrienne	Castlegate Kennedy Street Carlow	Public Representative	People Before Profit - Solidarity

# Name of Local Authority: Carlow County Council

Local Electoral Area	Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any
Muinebheag Electoral Area	Doran	Michael	Main Street Leighlinbridge Co. Carlow	Electronic Technician	Fine Gael
	Gladney	Andy	23 St. Brigid's Terrace Muinebheag Co. Carlow R21 XE95	Public Representative	Sinn Féin
	Kinsella	Thomas	Kilcumney Goresbridge Co. Carlow	Farmer	Fine Gael
	Pender	Daniel	Craanluskey Bilboa Co. Carlow	Trainee Accountant	Fianna Fáil
	Quinn	Willie	Spahill Borris Co. Carlow	Public Representative	The Labour Party

#### Return of Persons Elected

Name of Local Authority: Carlow County Council

Local Electoral Area	Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any
Tullow Electoral Area	Deane	Jim	Tinryland Carlow R93V210	Farmer	Sinn Féin
	Murphy	Charlie	Knockbrack Myshall Co. Carlow	Farmer/Public Representative	Non-Party
	O'Donoghue	Brian	Williamstow n Rathvilly Co. Carlow	Health Insurance Advisor	Fine Gael
	Paton	Will	Mill Street Tullow Co. Carlow	Company Director	Non-Party
	Pender	John	Grangeview Friarstown Carlow	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil
	Ward	Ben	Ballintrane Fenagh Co. Carlow	Student	Fine Gael

#### 2. Election of Cathaoirleach

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton, Seconded by Cllr. A. Wallace

That Councillor A. Wallace be elected Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council.

Proposed by Cllr. T. Kinsella, Seconded by Cllr. B. Ward,

That Cllr. F. Browne be elected Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Member of Carlow County Council	For Cllr. Wallace	For Cllr. Browne	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne				
John Cassin			$\sqrt{}$	
Andrea Dalton				
Jim Deane	$\sqrt{}$			
Paul Doogue				
Michael Doran				
Andy Gladney				
Thomas Kinsella		$\sqrt{}$		
Ken Murnane				
Charlie Murphy			$\sqrt{}$	
Brian O'Donoghue				
William Paton	$\sqrt{}$			
Daniel Pender				
John Pender				
Fintan Phelan				
William Quinn				
Adrienne Wallace				
Ben Ward				

Vote Resulted in 11 for Cllr. Browne, 5 for Cllr. Wallace and 2 Abstained.

Cllr. F. Browne was elected Cathaoirleach.

Taking the chair, Councillor Browne thanked his proposer and seconder, fellow Councillors and said it was an honour to be elected Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council for the second time. He thanked all the people who voted and canvassed for him. He thanked his wife, Breeda, his daughter Maeve and son Fionn for their support. He welcomed the newly elected members Cllr. Jim Deane, Cllr. Paul Doogue, Cllr. Daniel Pender and Cllr Ben Ward and congratulated all councillors who took part in the elections. He said he is looking forward to working with the Chief Executive and all staff and he thanked the media for reporting on the meetings.

Coilín O'Reilly, Chief Executive, congratulated Cllr. Browne on his election as Cathaoirleach and all the members on their election to the Council. He thanked Councillor Andrea Dalton for her year in office and on being a great representative for the people of Carlow. He thanked the elected members' families for allowing them to represent the people of Carlow.

The Members congratulated Councillor Browne on his election as Cathaoirleach and paid tribute to outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr A. Dalton.

The elected members paid tribute to Arthur McDonald, John McDonald and T. O'Neill who were unsuccessful in the local election and to John Murphy following his resignation from the Council and thanked them for their great work over the years and wished them well.

The elected members congratulated Cynthia Ní Mhurchú on being the first Carlow person to be elected to the European Parliament and wished her well.

The elected members congratulated Kathleen Funchion on her election to the European Parliament and wished her well.

#### 3. Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton, Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn

That Cllr. Cassin be elected Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council.

Proposed by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

That Cllr. Kinsella be elected Leas Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Member of Carlow County Council	For Cllr. Kinsella	For Cllr. Cassin	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne	$\sqrt{}$			
John Cassin				
Andrea Dalton				
Jim Deane		V		
Paul Doogue	V			
Michael Doran	$\sqrt{}$			
Andy Gladney		V		
Thomas Kinsella	V			
Ken Murnane	V			
Charlie Murphy			V	
Brian O'Donoghue	$\sqrt{}$			
William Paton				
Daniel Pender	$\sqrt{}$			
John Pender	V			
Fintan Phelan				
William Quinn		√		
Adrienne Wallace			V	
Ben Ward				

Vote Resulted in 11 for Cllr. Kinsella, 5 for Cllr. Cassin and 2 Abstained.

Cllr. T. Kinsella was elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Andrea Dalton was presented with a Photographic Album of her year in office.

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. A. Dalton presented Councillor Browne with the Chain of Office.

The Cathaoirleach invited the newly elected members, Councillors J. Deane, P. Doogue, D. Pender and B. Ward, to address the meeting.

Cllr. Ward congratulated Cllr. Browne on his election as Cathaoirleach and Cllr. Kinsella on his election as Leas Cathaoirleach. He thanked the people of Tullow for voting for him and said he is looking forward to working for and representing the people of Carlow. He thanked his family for their support. He thanked the Count Staff for their work at the local election count.

Cllr. Pender congratulated Cllr. Browne on his election as Cathaoirleach and Cllr. Kinsella on his election as Leas Cathaoirleach. He thanked his family, friends, Count Team and the people who voted for him. He paid tribute to Arthur McDonald, John McDonald and Tom O'Neill and thanked them for their work over the years. He said he looked forward to working for the people of Carlow.

Cllr. Doogue congratulated Cllr. Browne on his election as Cathaoirleach and Cllr. Kinsella on his election as Leas Cathaoirleach. He said it was an honour to be elected by the people of Carlow and he looked forward to representing the people of Carlow.

Cllr. Deane wished Cllr. Browne all the best in his role of Cathaoirleach. He extended best wishes to all the elected members. He thanked E. Brophy and count team for the excellent work done on the local election count and extended best wishes to Catherine Callaghan and those unsuccessful in the local elections.

#### 4. Appointment of Members to Committees (Group Voting Applies)

E. Brophy briefed the members on Group Voting rules.

#### (a) Chairperson Designate of Strategic Policy Committees (4)

Group (Councillors J. Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A. Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

Cllr. A. Gladney be elected Chairperson Designate of a Strategic Policy Committee"

# Proposed by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue

Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed

"That Councillors M. Doran, A. Dalton, J. Pender be elected Chair Designates of the remaining three Strategic Policy Committees".

## (b) Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) (4)

Group (Councillors J. Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A. Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. A. Gladney be elected to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)"

# Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Councillors A. Dalton, F. Browne, T. Kinsella be appointed as members of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)"

#### (c) Kilkenny & Carlow Education & Training Board (4)

Cllr. Dalton was appointed to the Kilkenny & Carlow Education & Training Board in accordance with gender criteria as set out in the Education and Training Board Guidance.

# Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clirs. F. Browne, T. Kinsella and D. Pender be appointed as members of the Kilkenny & Carlow Education & Training Board".

## (d) Regional Health Forum South (3)

Group (Councillors J. Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A. Wallace) **Proposed by Clir. W. Paton**,

## Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

That Cllr. A. Wallace be appointed as a member of the Regional Health Forum South.

# Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. D. Pender and F. Browne be appointed as members of the Regional Health Forum South"

## (e) Southern Regional Assembly (2)

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. K. Murnane and B. Ward be appointed as members of the Southern Regional Assembly"

#### (f) Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) (3)

Group: (Councillors J Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Quinn

Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. W. Quinn and Cllr. W. Paton be appointed as members of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) doing a term of 2 ½ years each"

## Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. J. Pender and T. Kinsella be appointed as members of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)

## (g) Audit Committee (2)

Group (Councillors J. Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A. Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr J. Cassin

"That Cllr. W. Paton be appointed as a member of the Audit Committee"

#### Proposed by Cllr. Phelan,

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That John Murphy and Arthur McDonald be appointed as members of the Audit Committee"

## (h) Carlow Rural Water Monitoring Committee (3)

Proposed by Cllr. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. M. Doran, T. Kinsella and D. Pender be appointed to the Carlow Rural Water Monitoring Committee"

#### (i) Traveller Accommodation Committee (4)

Group (Councillors J Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A. Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. A. Wallace be appointed as a member of the Traveller Accommodation Committee"

# Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan Seconded by Cllr. B. Ward

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. F. Browne, A. Dalton and M. Doran be appointed as members of the Traveller Accommodation Committee"

#### (j) Public Art Working Group (3) 1 from each Municipal District

Group: (Councillors J Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Quinn

Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. A. Wallace be appointed as a member of the Public Art Working Group"

# Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clirs. D. Pender and B. Ward be appointed as members of the Public Art Working Group"

## (k) Carlow County Museum Board (3)

Group: (Councillors J Cassin, J. Deane, A. Gladney, W. Paton, W. Quinn & A Wallace)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. Q. Quinn

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. J. Cassin be appointed as a member of the Carlow County Museum Board"

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clirs. A. Dalton and C. Murphy be appointed as members of Carlow County Museum Board"

## (I) Carlow Comhairle Na Óg (2)

Proposed by Cllr. D. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. B. Ward

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clirs. D. Pender and B. Ward be appointed as members of the Carlow Comhairle Na nÓg"

#### 5. Appointment of Members to Committees (Group Voting does not apply)

#### (a) Carlow Tourism (3)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. W. Quinn be appointed as a member of Carlow Tourism"

## Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran,

Seconded by Cllr. J. Pender

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. B. O'Donoghue and K. Murnane be appointed as members of Carlow Tourism"

#### (b) Carlow Rural Transport Company (1)

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clir. M. Doran be appointed as a member of Carlow Rural Transport Company"

## (c) Carlow Arts Centre Limited (VISUAL) (2)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn

That Cllr. J. Cassin be appointed as a member of Carlow Arts Centre Limited (VISUAL)

# Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan, Seconded by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue

That Cllrs. F. Browne and K. Murnane be appointed as members of Carlow Arts Centre Limited (VISUAL)

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Member of Carlow County Council	For Cllr. Cassin	For Cllr. Browne/M urnane	Abstain
Fergal Browne		√	
John Cassin			
Andrea Dalton			
Jim Deane			
Paul Doogue		V	
Michael Doran		V	
Andy Gladney	V		
Thomas Kinsella			
Ken Murnane			
Charlie Murphy			$\sqrt{}$
Brian O'Donoghue			
William Paton			
Daniel Pender			
John Pender			
Fintan Phelan		V	
William Quinn			
Adrienne Wallace			
Ben Ward			

Vote Resulted in 11 for Cllrs. Browne/Murnane, 5 for Cllr. Cassin and 2 Abstained.

Cllr. F. Browne and Cllr. K Murnane appointed as members of Carlow Arts Centre Limited.

# (d) South East Energy Agency (1) Proposed by Clir. F. Phelan Seconded by Clir. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clir. P. Doogue be appointed as a member of the South East Energy Agency"

#### (e) Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. (1)

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. J. Pender be appointed as a member of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd."

## (f) Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) (1)

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. P. Doogue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. B. O'Donoghue be appointed as a member of the Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)"

#### (g) New Oak Community Centre Steering Group (3)

Proposed by Cllr M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. F. Browne, P. Doogue, K. Murnane be appointed as members of the New Oak Community Centre Steering Group."

#### (h) South East Regional Drug Task Force SERDATF (1)

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. A. Wallace

That Cllr. A. Gladney be appointed as a member of South East Regional Drug Task Force SERDATF."

# Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan, Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. J. Pender be appointed as a member of the South East Regional Drug Task Force SERDATF."

## (i) Centenary Committee

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. B. O'Donoghue

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllrs. C. Murphy, F. Browne, B. O'Donoghue, M. Doran, P. Doogue, A. Dalton, J. Pender, D. Pender and K. Murnane be appointed as members of the Centenary Committee"

# Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton Seconded by Cllr. A. Gladney

Following a show of hand, it was agreed:

"That Cllrs J. Cassin and A. Wallace be appointed as member of the Centenary Committee"

# (j) Board of Carlow Community Enterprise Centre (1) Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Cllr. M. Doran be appointed as a member of the Carlow Community Enterprise Centre"

# (k) Twinning and Diaspora Committee Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Clir. B. Ward

Following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

"That Clirs. J. Pender, A. Dalton, K. Murnane, F. Phelan, B. O'Donoghue, T. Kinsella, M. Doran, D. Pender, F. Browne and B. Ward be appointed as a member of the Twinning and Diaspora Committee"

## **Heritage Forum**

It was agreed to defer this item to the July meeting.

# 6. Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure) Act 1999, as amended

E. Brophy briefed the members on Local Elections (Disclosure and Expenditure) Act 1999, as amended.

## 7. Standing Orders Carlow County Council

E. Brophy briefed on Standing Orders and it was agreed that this matter be dealt by the Corporate Policy Group Committee.

#### 8. Code of Conduct for Councillors

Noted.

#### 9. Induction Training for Elected Members

E. Brophy advised that Induction Training will be arranged in due course.

#### 10. Affixing of the Council Seal

E. Brophy briefed on this matter and requested approval that all members be nominated members for the purpose of signing documents where the seal of the Council is required.

# Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender Seconded by Cllr. A Dalton

And following a show of hands it was agreed:-

"That all members be authorised to sign documents where the seal of the Council is required"

#### 11. Dates of Council Meetings

2024

July.

M. Rainey briefed on proposed date of 30<sup>th</sup> July for the next Joint Urban Local Area Plan and urged members to attend.

Members had for consideration suggested dates for Council Meetings for the ensuing months to the next Annual Meeting. Cllr. F. Browne requested that the date proposed for the July meeting be changed to 1<sup>st</sup> July.

# Proposed by Councillor T. Kinsella Seconded by Councillor B. O'Donoghue

And following a show of hands it was agreed:-

"That the proposed dates for Council Meetings for the ensuing months to the next Annual Meeting are as follows:-

1st

2027	July	_	
	September	-	9 <sup>th</sup>
	October	-	14 <sup>th</sup>
	November	-	11 <sup>th</sup>
	December	-	9 <sup>th</sup>
2025	January	-	13 <sup>th</sup>
	February	-	10 <sup>th</sup>
	March	-	10 <sup>th</sup>
	April	-	14 <sup>th</sup>
	May	-	12 <sup>th</sup>
	June	-	9 <sup>th</sup>

11. Fix dates for first meetings of Carlow Municipal District, Muinebheag Municipal District and Tullow Municipal District (to be held within 10 days of Annual Meeting – Section 57 Local Government Reform Act 2014)

Members agreed that the Carlow Municipal District first meeting be held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 3.00 p.m.

Members agreed that the Muinebheag Municipal District first meeting be held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 3.00 p.m.

Members agreed that the Tullow Municipal District first meeting be held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 4.00 p.m.

#### **Any Other Business**

Cllr. W. Paton requested a full telephone directory of all staff to include Section, Office Number and Job Title. He also requested staff names be listed on office doors and a meeting room for elected members. C. O'Reilly advised that the elected members can book the meeting rooms.

Members paid tribute to Eamonn Brophy on his retirement following over 39 years of service in Carlow County Council. They spoke of his knowledge of local government, thanked him for all his support, guidance, patience, voice of reason in a courteous and calm manner over the years. They said he was an excellent professional in his work. They wished Eamonn and his family all the best in the future.

C. O'Reilly spoke of Eamonn's vast experience and knowledge and said he would be a massive loss to Carlow County Council. He wished Eamonn and family every good wish in the future.

The elected members congratulated Eamonn as Returning Officer and the Count Staff on the professional manner in which the Local Election Count was carried out.