Minutes of Meeting of the Carlow Municipal District held in the Town Hall Chamber, Carlow, on Thursday 25th April 2024, at 4.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor T. O'Neill (Mayor)

Councillor F. Browne Councillor A. Dalton

Councillor J. Cassin (Remote)

Councillor K. Murnane Councillor F. Phelan

Councillor A. Wallace (Remote)

In Attendance: Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Services, Planning, Economic

Development & Corporate Services

Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services, Roads, Transportation Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Affairs

Mr. B. Knowles, Senior Executive Engineer Mr. S. Loughlin, Senior Engineer, Transportation

Ms. C. Cahill, Local Coordinator, Carlow, Healthy Age Friendly

Homes Programme

Ms. T. Hickson, A/Staff Officer, Planning

Mr. J. Woods, Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs Ms. A. Connolly, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs

Mayor T. O'Neill opened the April meeting and welcomed all present. Congratulations were extended to Reverend Alec Purser on his recent appointment as the new archdeacon of Cashel, Ferns, Waterford and Lismore.

The Mayor also congratulated all involved in the Tullow Road Community Centre Project following the recent announcement of funding of €4.1 million from the Department of Rural and Community Development.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 28th March 2024 at 4.00 p.m.

The Minutes of Carlow Municipal District meeting held on Thursday 28th March at 4.00 p.m. were

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And agreed following a show of hands

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

3.0 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

3.1 Croi Cónaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Update Ms. T. Hickson, Planning gave a comprehensive update on the Croi Cónaith Property Refurbishment Grants and answered all queries raised. Members welcomed this scheme and the improvements being made to the town.

3.2 Healthy Age Friendly Home Programme

Ms. C. Cahill, Local Co-ordinator for Carlow, gave a presentation on the Healthy Age Friendly Homes service designed to enable older people to remain living in their own home for longer. This programme is delivered in collaboration with the Department of Health, Department of Housing and Local Government. Ms. Cahill answered all queries raised. The Mayor, Cllr. T. O'Neill thanked Ms. Cahill for her informative presentation.

3.3 Active Travel Update

Mr. S. Loughlin, Senior Engineer, Transportation, presented members with an update on the Active Travel Investment Programme and the Carlow Municipal District Allocations for 2024. He briefed members on the Dublin Road Pedestrian and Cycle scheme and the Pathfinder Carlow to SETU Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme, both of which are due to go to public consultation in the coming weeks. The following issues were raised by members:

- Pedestrian crossing at Netwatch Cullen Park
- Airport Bus from Waterford not accessible for wheelchairs
- Replacement of trees at John Sweeney Park
- Concerns over loss of carparking spaces at St. Mary's Cemetery
- Street lights at Burrin Manor
- Delayed works at St. Leo's
- LED lighting not sufficient
- Steep footpath at Graigue Bridge
- LIS funding

3.4 Carlow MD Engineers Report

Mr. B. Knowles, gave a brief report on the progress of public enhancement works within the district and answered all queries from the members.

4.0 Correspondence

None

5.0 Notices of Motion

5.1 Standing in the name of Councillor Fergal Browne

"That Carlow County Council put in traffic calming measures on the Blackbog Road and at Ballycarney, to take account of the delays with the southern relief road and the additional traffic using these roads as a result travelling to and from education facilities on the Kilkenny Road."

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne Seconded by Councillor F. Phelan

And agreed following a show of hands

5.2 Standing in the name of Councillor Fergal Browne

"That Carlow County Council acknowledge the huge historical importance of our Town Hall building and commit to upgrading the heating in the main hall to enable greater use."

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And agreed following a show of hands

6.0 Any Other Business

Members raised concerns over the need for Carlow Fire Service to require back up from other areas at a recent call out and queried if resources are adequate. A request for a presentation from Carlow Fire Service at the next meeting was made.

Following the recent announcement of additional funding to address critical needs and emerging demands for domestic violence services a commitment was sought from Carlow County Council to review the number of safe houses available to victims of domestic abuse.

This concluded the business of the meeting.