

**Minutes of April Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in the
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow,
on Monday 17th April 2023 at 2.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor B. O'Donoghue (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin (Remote)
Councillor A. Dalton (Remote)
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 (Remote)
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor J. Pender
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor W. Quinn
Councillor A. Wallace (Remote)

In attendance: Mr. M. Rainey, Interim Chief Executive
Mr. P. Delaney, Head of Finance
Mr. K. Cullinane, Acting Director of Service
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services
Ms. F. O'Neill, Acting Director of Services
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer
Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. S. Casey, Environmental Awareness Officer
Ms. J. O'Brien, Environmental Awareness Officer
Mr. P.J. Leonard, Financial Accountant
Mr. E. Lyng, Head of Information Systems
Mr. J. McKenna, Assistant Technical Support Officer
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. S. Byrne, A/Assistant Staff Officer
Ms. A. Connolly, Assistant Staff Officer
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office (Remote)
Mr. J. Shorthall, County Librarian (Remote)
Mr. R. Wickham, Senior Executive Engineer (Remote)
Ms. A. Sweeney, Senior Planner (Remote)
Ms. N. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer (Remote)

Votes of Sympathy

Gerry O'Neill and family on the death of his brother Pat O'Neill, London and formerly of 21 St. Patrick's Ave, Carlow.

Carol Glynn and family on the death of her father Patrick Loughnane, Killoran, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Comerford family on the death of Frank Comerford, Pairc Mhuire, Bagenalstown, Carlow.

Cronin Family on the death of Mary Cronin, 19 Fair Green, Carlow.

Breen Family on the death of Craig Breen, Slieverue, Waterford.

The Cathaoirleach noted the death of a child in the Tullow area during the previous night and advised that the thoughts and sympathies of all at the meeting were with the family at this time.

A minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect.

Votes of Congratulations

Hacketstown Easter Parade Committee and Community on a successful Easter Parade

Pan Celtic Organisers on a very successful weekend

Management and Parents of U15 Hanover Harps teams for finishing in the top four of group in Barcelona and the U16 team on winning the B Final, also in Barcelona, special mention to Aaron Cunningham Blake, top goalscorer

Tullow Rugby Club on winning the Mens Leinster League Division 1B and the Womens The Paul Flood Cup Round 1

Dannah O'Brien on her debut for Ireland Womens Six Nations Team

Peter "Chap" Cleere, trainer of Carlow Camogie team for their recent win in the Very Camogie League Division 3A.

Willie Mullins, trainer, on his recent Grand National win

Methodist Church, Carlow on celebrating 125 years in Carlow

Tullow Road Community Group on the premiere of their film “Rubbish” in the Visual, Carlow

Columban Way Walk organisers on their recent walk in which fifty walkers participated

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor W. Quinn

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously resolved:-

‘That the Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 13th March 2023 at 2.00 p.m. having been circulated to each Member be taken as read, confirmed as to accuracy and accordingly signed”

2.0 Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó rúin an Chomhairle

2.1 Invitation to Cathaoirleach to participate in the Official Signing of Columban Charter of Partnership and Celebration of XXIV Columbanus Day 2023 in Gallen Switzerland

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran and

Agreed following a show of hands, it was unanimously agreed.

2.2 Section 11 of Roads Act 1993; Section 180 of Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended and Section 59 of Planning & Development Act 2010 – Commencement of public consultation process for taking in charge of roads at:

1. River Court, Beech Road, Carlow (Phase 1)

Proposed by Cllr. T. O’Neill

Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne

2. Tanner Hall, Athy Road, Carlow

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne
Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan

3. St. Mullins Close, Tinnahinch, Co. Carlow

Proposed by Cllr. A. McDonald

Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn

And following a show of hands, it was resolved:-

That we, the Members of Carlow County Council formally resolve the commencement of Taking-in-Charge of roads and services at:

1. River Court, Beech Road, Carlow (Phase 1)
2. Tanner Hall, Athy Road
3. St. Mullins Close, Tinnahinch

Cllr. W. Paton requested a list of all estates not taken in charge be available for the next Tullow Municipal District meeting.

2.3 Part VIII in accordance with the Local Government Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) Proposed development of 8 units at Barrack Street, Carlow

Following consideration of the CE report, it was

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan
Seconded by Cllr. F. Browne

And agreed following a show of hands, it was resolved that the members of Carlow County Council approve the proposed development of 8 units at Barrack St, Carlow.

2.4 Approval of Annual Financial Statement 2022 - *to approve expenditure pursuant to Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 and the Local Government (Reform) Act 2014.*

SERV	SERVICE	BUDGET 2022	OUTTURN 2022	BUDGET V OUTTURN 2022	DETAILS
A01	MAINTENANCE OF LA HOUSING UNITS	3,232,994.24	3,278,887.14	45,892.90	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A03	HOUSING RENT ADMINISTRATION	245,684.15	452,691.51	207,007.36	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A04	HOUSING COMMUNITY SUPPORT	289,013.11	303,561.95	14,548.84	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
A05	ADMIN OF HOMELESS SERVICE	957,891.18	972,838.10	14,946.92	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A07	RAS AND LEASING	9,877,897.75	10,514,693.52	636,795.77	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
A08	HOUSING LOANS	549,183.92	583,421.67	34,237.75	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B04	LOCAL ROAD - MAINTENANCE AND IMP	7,331,237.27	8,675,340.03	1,344,102.76	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
B07	ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENT	244,651.50	265,860.59	21,209.09	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
C04	PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	91,098.89	97,886.24	6,787.35	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
C07	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	50,000.00	400,000.00	350,000.00	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
D02	DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	1,423,231.51	1,648,406.17	225,174.66	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D09	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	2,492,103.41	2,786,638.50	294,535.09	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
D10	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	93,762.06	107,341.74	13,579.68	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E06	STREET CLEANING	859,730.12	878,098.22	18,368.10	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E10	SAFETY OF STRUCTURES AND PLACES	466,017.32	480,105.31	14,087.99	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
E11	OPERATION OF FIRE SERVICE	3,030,443.45	3,507,091.15	476,647.70	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E12	FIRE PREVENTION	60,226.02	103,506.97	43,280.95	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
E15	CLIMATE CHANGE AND FLOODING	120,300.00	236,025.24	115,725.24	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
F01	LEISURE FACILITIES OPERATIONS	88,000.00	88,057.68	57.68	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F04	COMMUNITY SPORT AND RECREATION	113,935.92	123,781.02	9,845.10	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
F05	OPERATION OF ARTS PROGRAMME	1,353,714.11	1,440,359.40	86,645.29	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
G01	LAND DRAINAGE COSTS	34,732.05	37,399.53	2,667.48	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H04	FRANCHISE COSTS	160,083.28	165,252.57	5,169.29	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H07	OPERATION OF MARKETS	5,243.30	26,652.81	21,409.51	OFFSET - SAVINGS IN OTHER SERVS
H11	AGENCY & RECOUPABLE SERVICES	524,900.00	1,496,802.01	971,902.01	ADDITIONAL FUNDING / OFFSET
		33,696,074.56	38,670,699.07	4,974,624.51	

Proposed by Councillor M. Doran
Seconded by Councillor W. Paton

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

“That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Local Government (Reform) Act 2014 expenditure in excess of the 2022 Budget per the schedule and note that the expenditure was funded by additional receipts, grants/recoupments or savings in other services.

3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Mholtaí

3.1 Presentation by SEAI

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. R. Buggie, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland who presented the members with a comprehensive and informative presentation on the various grant schemes and options available through SEAI. She answered all members queries.

3.2 County Carlow Green Infrastructure Strategy – Mapping and Management Manual

Mr. S. Casey, Environmental Awareness Officer, presented the members with the Green Infrastructure Strategy for County Carlow and answered all queries.

This Strategy was recommended and;

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran

And agreed following a show of hands

3.3 Local Authority Climate Action Plan Update

Ms. J. O'Brien, Environmental Awareness Officer presented the members with an update on the Local Authority Climate Action Plan and the measures to be adopted by Carlow County Council. A number of queries were raised by the members including the power supply to EV chargers in the County and the procurement process. These were answered by Ms. J. O'Brien, Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Services, and Mr. M. Rainey, Interim Chief Executive.

3.4 Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Annual Report 2022

Noted

3.5 Circular Letter Housing 09/2023 & Planning PL 01/2023 – Amendments to Planning Legislation in relation to local authority Housing Developments – Planning and Development, and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 2022

Both Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services, and Mr. B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, outlined the amendments to Planning Legislation in relation local authority Housing Developments - Planning and Development, and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 2022 and answered questions from the members.

3.6 Training & Conference Approvals

Proposed by Cllr. J. Pender

Seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald

Following a show of hands, it was unanimously agreed:-

“That we the members of Carlow County Council approve the attached training/conferences”.

TRAINING / CONFERENCES LISTING

WEBINARS

Webinar No.	Date	Topic	Training Provider
2	Friday 28 th April	“Connection Ireland and Rural Public Transport Investment: Opportunities for Rural Regeneration?”	NTA / TII
3	Friday 26 th May	“Local Authority Climate Action Plans”	CARO
4	Friday 30 th June	Irish Language Training	
5	Friday 14 th July	Councillor Security	
6	Friday 24 th September	Integrating Energy Supply and Planning	CRU and OPR
7	Friday 24 th November	Housing Agency	Housing Division, DHLGH

IN-PERSON TRAINING

AILG Elected Members MARCH 2023 (In-Person) Module 2 Training

“CARO- CLIMATE ACTION PLANS”

Date: Thursday, 23rd March 2023

Venue: Clayton Hotel Wexford.

Time: 9.30am – 1.00pm

Parent Region: Southern Region

Date: Saturday 25th March 2023

Venue: Fairways Hotel, Dundalk

Time: 9.30am – 1.00pm

Regions: Northern & Western, Eastern & Midland.

AILG ELECTED MEMBERS JUNE 2023 (In Person) Module 3 Training

OPR – Climate Action Plan 2023 – Implications for City and County Development Plans

Date: Thursday 15th June 2023
Venue: Mullingar Park Hotel, Westmeath.
Time: 9.30am – 1.00pm
Regions Eastern & Midland / Northern & Western

Date: Saturday 17th June 2023
Venue: Avalon Hotel, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.
Time: 9.30 – 1.00pm
Regions: Southern Region

AILG ELECTED MEMBERS JUNE 2023 (In Person) Module 4 Training UISCE Eireann (Irish Water)

Date: Thursday 20th July 2023
Venue: Radisson Hotel, Cork
Time: 9.30am – 1.00pm
Region: Southern Region

Date: Saturday 22nd July 2023
Venue: Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo
Time: 9.30pm – 1.00pm
Regions: Eastern & Midland/Northern & Western

AILG ELECTED MEMBERS JUNE 2023 (In Person) Module 5 Training Elected member Security

Date: Thursday 19th October 2023
Venue: Hotel Kilmore, Cavan.
Time: 9.30pm – 1.00pm
Regions: Eastern & Midland/Northern & Western

Date: Saturday 21st October 2023
Venue: The Rose Hotel, Co. Kerry
Time: 9.30am – 1.00pm
Region: Southern Region

AILG ELECTED MEMBERS JUNE 2023 (In Person) Module 6 Training Government Legislation Policy Programme 2023 – A Briefing for Elected Members, The Tower Hotel, Waterford.

Date: Thursday 16th November 2023
Venue: The Tower Hotel, Waterford
Time: 9.30am – 1.00pm
Region: Southern Region

Date: Saturday 18th November 2023
Venue: The Clayton Hotel, Galway
Time: 9.30pm – 1.00pm
Regions: **Eastern & Midland/Northern & Western**

IPB Insurance AGM – 97th Insurance AGM

Cork County Council Headquarters, County Hall, Carrigohane Road, Cork, T12, R2NC,
5 May 2023 at 12 Noon.

CONFERENCES:

The Suck Valley Way Conference 2023 with the support of AILG

“Inspiring Rural Creativity”

- **Registration:** svwconference2022@gmail.com
- Wednesday, 5th April, from 2pm. – 6pm, at Gleeson’s Townhouse, Market Square, Co. Roscommon. F42WA22
- Thursday, 6th April, from 9am, at the Abbey Hotel, Galway Road, Co. Roscommon. F42F992

Regional Assemblies Conference about EU funding in Ireland - EU funding opportunities in Interreg European Territorial Cooperation programmes, the Horizon Europe missions and LIFE in 2021-2027.

Date: 19th April 2023

Date: 19 April 2023

Time: 9.15am – 16.00 CET

3.7 Approval of Draft Annual Report 2022 – In Accordance with Section 221 (a) Local Government Act 2001

The Annual Report was presented to the members. Cllr. Doran proposed amendment of Civic Offices address and following discussion it was agreed and

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

Following a show of hands

3.8 Invitation to the Visual to present to the May Council meeting on 8th May 2023

It was proposed that the Visual would present at the May and September Council meeting. This motion was

Proposed by Cllr. A. Gladney

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

And agreed following a show of hands

4.0 Chief Executives Report/Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Noted

5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras

Noted

6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin

6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. J. McDonald (Carried forward from March Council Meeting Agenda)

“Irish Water is not fit for purpose. We know they are causing obstruction to the construction of housing due to lack of water and waste water infrastructure. In Carlow two projects are delayed because of Irish Water (Ardattin and Ballinabranna). Carlow County Council will write to the Minister of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, requesting Irish Water is returned to the Local Authorities control and that Irish Water is not to be privatised.”

The following amendment was **proposed by Cllr. M. Doran, seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald** and agreed following a show of hands

“We know Irish Water are causing obstruction to the construction of housing due to lack of water and waste water infrastructure. In Carlow two projects are delayed because of Irish Water (Ardattin and Ballinabranna). Carlow County Council will write to the Minister of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, requesting Irish Water is returned to the Local Authorities control and that Irish Water is not to be privatised.”

The motion as amended was

Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran

Seconded by Cllr A. McDonald

And agreed following a show of hands

6.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. Adrienne Wallace

“This Council write to The Taoiseach and Minister Roderic O’Gorman to call for match funding for the Tullow Road Community Centre.”

The following amendment was **proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan, seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane** and agreed following a show of hands

“This Council will continue to pursue funding under CCIF for the Tullow Road Community Centre.”

The motion as amended was

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

And agreed following a show of hands

6.3 Standing in the name of Cllr. Will Paton

“That this Council supports the National Association of Regional Game Councils (NARGC) and its 25,000 members and asks the Minister for Justice to appoint a members nominated by NARGC to the Firearms Expert Committee.”

Proposed by Cllr. W. Paton

Seconded by Cllr. W. Quinn

And agreed following a show of hands

6.4 Standing in the name of Cllr. John Murphy, Cllr. Tommy Kinsella, Cllr. Michael Doran, Cllr. Fergal Browne, Cllr. Tom O’Neill and Cllr. Brian O’Donoghue

“That Carlow County Council write to the minister of Housing and Local Government requesting the minister and the department increase the scope of the Croí Cónaithe scheme. The increased scope should, at a minimum, allow renovated properties that have availed of the scheme to be let by the owner which will bring more housing supply into the market. The grant amounts per unit should also increase from €30,000 (vacant) and €50,000 (derelict) to €50,000 and €75,000 respectively.”

Proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue

Seconded by Cllr. J. Murphy

And agreed following a show of hands

6.5 Standing in the name of Cllr. Brian O’Donoghue

“That Carlow County Council welcomes the announcement of the visit to Ireland of President Joe Biden, a proud Irish American. This council will extend an open ended invitation to the president during, or after his term in office, to County Carlow in the future.”

Proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue

Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

A roll call was then requested

Proposed: F. Phelan

Seconded: K. Murnane

Date: 17.04.23

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Brian O'Donoghue	✓			
John Cassin	✓			
Andrea Dalton	✓			
Michael Doran	✓			
Andy Gladney	✓			
Thomas Kinsella	✓			
Arthur McDonald	✓			
John McDonald	✓			
Ken Murnane	✓			
Charlie Murphy	✓			
John Murphy	✓			
F. Browne			✓	
Tom O'Neill	✓			
William Paton	✓			
John Pender	✓			
Fintan Phelan	✓			
William Quinn	✓			
Adrienne Wallace		✓		

--	--	--	--	--

Decision/Resolution: Motion passed

6.6 Standing in the name of Cllr. Brian O’Donoghue

“As the Local Authority Members Association representative in Carlow, that this Council write to the minister for Higher and Further Education requesting him to amend the Higher Education Bill 2022, so that local authorities are represented on higher education boards by elected members, automatically.”

Proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

And agreed following a show of hands

6.7 Standing in the name of Cllr. Adrienne Wallace

“Noting that this Council passed a motion declaring a climate emergency, and that we are in the midst of a biodiversity crisis, and that it is in the public interest to protect and preserve areas of environmental importance, Carlow County Council will write to Greencore Ltd to ask them to allow an independent environmental survey take place on the Strawhall Woodlands, on the Strawhall Industrial Complex to ascertain what protected species live in the woods.”

The following amendment was **proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue, seconded by Cllr. Cllr. W. Paton** and agreed following a show of hands

“Noting that this Council passed a motion declaring a climate emergency, and that we are in the midst of a biodiversity crisis, and that it is in the public interest to protect and preserve areas of environmental importance at Strawhall Woodlands, on the Strawhall Industrial Complex, Carlow County Council will write to Greencore Ltd to ask them to gift these lands to Carlow County Council.”

The motion as amended was

Proposed by Cllr. B. O’Donoghue

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

And agreed following a show of hands

6.8 Standing in the names of Cllr. Tommy Kinsella and Cllr. Charlie Murphy

“That Carlow County Council facilitates an immediate meeting with farmers from Raheenleigh, Raheenkyle and Coolnasneachta to discuss the enforcement and strengthening of present rules/regulations regards control of dogs on Mt. Leinster. Reason for this motion is due to continued attacks and sheep worrying by dogs owned by a small number of visitors to the Mt. Leinster area.”

Proposed by Cllr. T. Kinsella

Seconded by Cllr. C. Murphy

And agreed following a show of hands

6.9 Standing in the names of Cllr. Willie Quinn, Cllr. Arthur McDonald and Cllr. John McDonald

“That Carlow County Council write to the HSE and Minister Stephen Donnelly to support the urgent build for a primary care facility in Tullow and the surrounding areas.

I am also asking that a primary care centre will be built in Borris (Southeast of Carlow) which would also be for surrounding areas Tinnahinch, St. Mullins etc.

There is an urgent need for a primary care centre in both areas.”

Proposed by Cllr. J. McDonald

Seconded by Cllr. W. Paton

And agreed following a show of hands

7.0 Any other business with the consent of the Cathaoirleach/Aon gnó eile le haontú an Chathaoirligh

Members raised questions regarding availability of seats on school transport and on the location of an oil/diesel leak on the Tullow area.

Questions raised were answered.

This concluded the business of the meeting.