

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the February Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in
The Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on
Monday 10th February 2020 at 2.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor J. Pender (Cathaoirleach)
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor A. Dalton
Councillor M. Doran
Councillor A. Gladney
Councillor W. Paton
Councillor T. Kinsella
Councillor A. McDonald
Councillor J. McDonald
Councillor K. Murnane
Councillor C. Murphy
Councillor J. Murphy
Councillor B. O'Donoghue
Councillor T. O'Neill
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor A. Wallace
Councillor W. Quinn

Apologies: Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services/Human Resources

In attendance: Ms. K. Holohan, Chief Executive.
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service, Corporate, HR, Planning, Health & Safety, Security & Economic Development.
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service, Transportation, Environment & Water Services.
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Services, Housing, Community, Recreation & Amenity, Building Control & Emergency Services.
Mr. John Shorthall, County Librarian.
Mr. Pat Delaney, Head of Finance.
Ms. Fiona O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer, Planning.
Mr. Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator.
Ms. Anita Sweeney, Senior Planner, Planning.
Ms. Avril Oakes, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services/Human Resources

Mr. Jim O'Dwyer, Regional Task Force.
Ms. Margaret Quinlan, IS Technical Support Officer.
Ms. Marian Hand, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate
Services/Human Resources

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was recited in Irish by the Members.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- Nellie Ward & Family, Coonogue, Ballymurphy, Borris, Carlow on the death of her husband Henry (Harry).
- The Nolan Family, Bendenstown, Rathoe, Carlow on the death of Hannah.
- Bridie Kelly, Bennekerry, Carlow on the death of her son John.
- Kathleen Kelly, Bennekerry, Carlow on the death of her brother John.
- Emma Galbally, 65 Dereen Heights, Tullow Road, Carlow Town, Carlow on the death of her mother Breda.
- Seamus Melia & Family, 32 Mount Leinster Park, Tullow Road, Carlow Town, Carlow on the death of his wife Joan.
- Kathleen Ryan & Family, "The Shire", Knockdorish, Kilbride, Carlow on the death of her husband Larry.
- James Kane, 19 St. Lazerian's Terrace, Leighlinbridge, Carlow on the death of his wife Frances.
- Ann Roche & Family, 21 Silverpines, Tullow Road, Carlow Town, Carlow on the death of her husband Michael.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Deputy Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, T.D. on her election as T.D. in the General Election 2020, in the Carlow/Kilkenny Constituency.
- Cllr. Adrienne Wallace, on her General Election Campaign 2020.
- Deputy Kathleen Funchion T.D. on her re- election as T.D. in the General Election 2020, in the Carlow/Kilkenny Constituency.
- Pat Deering, for his work and dedicated service to the Carlow constituency and Carlow County Council during his time as T.D.

over the past number of years. The Members also wished to express heartfelt commiserations to Pat on being unsuccessful in the General Election 2020 campaign.

- Marie Garahy, County Registrar and staff on the efficiency of the count for the General Election 2020 campaign
- Myshall Muintir na Tíre, Carlow County Museum, and the Myshall Community Centre for winning the ‘Le Cheile san Eorap Award’ at the Heritage Council’s Heritage Week 2019 Awards for the “St Columbanus and the making of Europe” event. The event, held in August 2019, was supported by Carlow County Council through Creative Ireland.

1.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

(1.1) ‘Approval of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 13th January 2020 at 2pm.

Proposed by Councillor **W. Quinn**

Seconded by Councillor **T. O’Neill**

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That the Minutes of the January Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 13th January 2020 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 STATUE, STANDING ORDERS OR RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL

(2.1) Approval of Appointment of Sectoral Interests to the Strategic Policy Committees

Proposed by Councillor **W. Paton**

Seconded by Councillor **A. McDonald**

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the appointments of Sectoral Interests to the Strategic Policy Committee.’

Report presented by M. Rainey Director of Service. Cathaoirleach J. Pender asked Directors to consult with the relevant sectors and get the Strategic Policy Committees up and running as soon as possible. Cllr. W. Paton will bring a motion on legislative reform for SPC's to the March Council Meeting.

(2.2) Draft Carlow County Museum Strategic Management Plan 2020 – 2025

Proposed by Councillor

F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor

J. Cassin

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Carlow County Museum Strategic Management Plan 2020 – 2025.’

Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator, advised of the Museum Standards Programme of Ireland (MSPI). On November 15th, 2019 the accessors for the MSPI programme spent the day in the Museum and storage facility. Helen Lanigan Wood, retired Curator of Fermanagh County Museum, and Dr Hugh Maguire, former Heritage Council's Museums & Archive Officer and former Director of the Hunt Museum, were the assigned accessors. An initial summary of follow up actions has been received, the Museum has until the end of this month to have these actions updated/ completed. In March 2020, the Heritage Council will meet to make the final decision to grant the Museum Interim Accreditation. The accessors were satisfied with the work practices in place and it is the policy documents that they are recommending changes. They wish to see a reworded Mission Statement; the Strategic Plan they said was too long; they want more reference to staffing and source of funding for the Annual Action Plan; for both the Collection and Disposal Policies they asked for a reordering of the documents with some other changes.

D. Mulligan sought Members approval of the updated Draft Plans and Policies

(2.3) Draft Carlow County Museum Strategic Management Action Plan 2020

Proposed by Councillor

T. O'Neill

Seconded by Councillor

A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Carlow County Museum Strategic Management Action Plan 2020.’

(2.4) Draft Carlow County Museum Mission Statement

Proposed by Councillor T. O’Neill

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Carlow County Museum Mission Statement.’

(2.5) Draft Carlow County Museum Collection Policy 2020 – 2025

Proposed by Councillor T. O’Neill

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Carlow County Museum Collection Policy 2020 – 2025.’

(2.6) Draft Carlow County Museum Disposal Policy 2020 – 2025

Proposed by Councillor T. O’Neill

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Carlow County Museum Disposal Policy 2020 – 2025.’

(2.7) Commencement of process to declare as a public road, road at Killyshane Palatine

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin

Seconded by Councillor F. Browne

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the commencement of process to declare as a public road, road at Killyshane Palatine.’

(2.8) Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2018, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2018 – Proposed Development of four housing units at St Mary’s Court, Carlow

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin

Seconded by Councillor T. O’Neill

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the proposed development of four housing units at St. Mary’s Court, Carlow.

(2.9) Proposed Variation (No.3) of the Joint Spatial Plan for the Greater Carlow Graiguecullen Urban Area 2012 – 2018 (JSP)

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Proposed Variation (No.3) of the Joint Spatial Plan for the Greater Carlow Graiguecullen Urban Area 2012 – 2018 (JSP).’

Report presented by M. Rainey Director of Service. M. Rainey and A. Sweeney responded to questions raised by members.

3.0 CORPORATE, PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & SAFETY

(3.1) Presentation by Lá Nua – report noted

Report presented by Jim O’Dwyer, Regional Task Force. Lá Nua is a Community Employment Drugs Rehabilitation Programme, based in Graiguecullen. It is a three-year programme with a co-ordinated care plan. It also provides an after-care service. The programme requires sustainable funding.

Cathaoirleach J. Pender advised that at present members could not commit to any financial contribution at present. Members suggested alternative funding streams which could possibly be accessed.

(3.2) Conference Attendance Approvals

Proposed by Councillor **T. O'Neill**
Seconded by Councillor **A. McDonald**
And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

'That we, the Members of Carlow County Council, hereby approve the following Conference Attendance.'

CONFERENCES

Association of Irish Local Government SPRING Conference 2020

Dates: 4TH & 5TH March 2020

Venue: Longford Arms Hotel, Longford

FEE: 140.00

CELTIC Conference Title: - Regional Development and EU Cohesion Policy beyond 2020

Dates: - 20th to 22nd March 2020

Venue: - Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth.

No meals provided

FEE: €100.00

CELTIC Conference Title: - Tourism Technology & Competitive Strategies

Dates: - 27th to 29th March 2020

Venue: - O'Donovan's Hotel, Main Street, Clonakilty, Co. Cork

No meals provided

FEE: €100.00

Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020 in association with Dundalk Chamber of Commerce

Title: Learn from the Best

Date: 22nd April 2020

Carlingford, Co Louth

Time: 8.30M – 2.00PM

FEE: €30.00

plus VAT Non-Members

4.0 FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CULTURE (LIBRARIES, ARTS & COUNTY MUSEUM

(4.1) Board of Carlow County Museum 12th Annual Report 2018 – report noted.

Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator, presented the ‘Board of Carlow County Museum 12th Annual Report 2018’. It covered the many activities undertaken by the Museum in 2018 including the commemorating of the seven Mercy Sisters from St. Leo’s Convent, Carlow Town, who established the first Mercy Order convent in the Americas in 1843, 175 years ago.

The position of Chairperson of the Board alternates on an annual basis between the Members of Carlow County Council and the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society representatives. At the December 2019 AGM Pdraig Dooley was elected the Chairperson of the Board succeeding Cllr. Fergal Browne.

Carlow County Museum and Tourist Office welcomed a total of 25,795 visitors during 2019.

Members acknowledged the tremendous work being carried out by the County Museum staff.

(4.2) Presentation Building – Library and Culture Hub Design Project 2020 – report noted

P. Delaney Head of Finance presented report and responded to all queries raised.

(4.3) Echternacht (St. Willibrord) Pilgrimage 2020

Proposed by Councillor W. Paton

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

‘That we, the members of Carlow County Council approve Cllr. John Pender, Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council, to lead a trip to Echternach, Luxembourg on Sunday 31st May 2020, with the Right Reverend Michael Burrows, Bishop of Cashel, Waterford, Lismore, Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin, and the Most Reverend Denis Nulty, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin. The annual UNESCO World Heritage Status ‘Hopping Procession’ in honour of St. Willibrord, Patron Saint of Luxembourg and First Apostle of the Netherlands, takes place on Tuesday June 2nd, in Echternach. St. Willibrord was trained and ordained in County Carlow in the 7th century.

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Members discussed Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report for the period to 31st January 2020.

Issues raised by the Members included: -

- Fairways – taking in charge. M. Rainey responded to questions raised.
- Carlow Castle – Ownership/responsibility for maintenance. M. Brennan advised that the OPW are responsible for Carlow Castle and an inspection had been carried out on castle on Monday 10th February 2020, following partial collapse of wall.
- Ballymoon Castle – M. Brennan confirmed that a meeting took place with Jerry Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer and the landowner and a plan has been drafted.
- Street Lights – no numbers on poles. P. O'Gorman asked Cllr A. McDonald to report the lights to him and this would be followed up.
- Regent Street Bagenalstown – No public street lights for four nights.
- Housing estates not in charge of local authority – request from members for a report on the housing estates not currently in charge of the local authority, and the estates where there is a bond in place. Request that report be included for March Council Meeting.
- Office Space – Carlow Tourism.
- Hacketstown Athletics Club – M. Brennan gave an update.
- Planning Application Process/Further Information Requests – Cllr. W. Paton queried if report would be available for March County Council Meeting and it was agreed that a Workshop/In Committee Meeting would be held. Cathaoirleach J. Pender advised that the In-Committee Meeting would be for members only and will take place on the morning of the next Council Meeting i.e. Monday 9th March 2020.
- Live Stream of Council Meetings.
- Puppy Farm Report – members awaiting report to be circulated.

6.0 Correspondence

Members noted correspondence from Office of the Taoiseach – acknowledging receipt of a letter from Carlow County Council dated 22nd January 2020, and referral of this letter to the Minister for Health, Simon Harris, for attention and direct reply.

Members noted resolution from Leitrim County Council – calling on the Government to change the current National Plan, Project Ireland 2040, and to devise a National Plan which promotes more balanced development and investment across all parts of Ireland.

Members noted correspondence from Roscommon County Council – a motion supporting the right to Personal Assistance Services (PAS) for disabled people to have freedom, choice and control over all aspects of their lives to enable them to fully participate in an inclusive society as equals.

Members noted resolution from Galway County Council – supporting the motion passed on November 19th in Dáil Eireann, that calls for the provision of Personal Assistance Services to be legislated for as a right for people living with disabilities.

7.0 Notices of Motion

(7.1) Standing in the name of Councillors K. Murnane, W. Paton, A. Dalton, F. Phelan, M. Doran, B O'Donoghue, J. Cassin, A. McDonald, A. Wallace, J. McDonald & J. Pender

Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin

Seconded by Councillor A. Dalton

And

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

“Noting:

(i) That Carlow Women’s Aid have offered an efficient and high standard of service to Carlow town and county both in the centre and through their outreach work for over 20 years and

(ii) That Carlow Women’s Aid lobbied Minister Zappone for funding for two domestic violence outreach workers to be based in Carlow Town

That this Council expresses its complete and utter disappointment at the decision of Tusla to base two domestic violence outreach workers to Amber, Kilkenny and call on Tusla to base at least one domestic violence outreach worker in Carlow Women's Aid in Carlow Town."

(7.2) Standing in the name of Councillor K. Murnane

Proposed by Councillor K. Murnane

Seconded by Councillor F. Browne

And

Following a show of hands, it was resolved: -

"That the members of Carlow County Council call the next Government for a commitment to allocate ten acres of land, from the land aggregation scheme in Carlow Town, to Carlow County Council. This will allow Carlow County Council to offer Carlow people access to an affordable housing scheme. This affordable housing option has been promised to the Irish people for many years now."

Cllr. J. Cassin asked that a report on public land in Carlow Urban be brought to the March Council Meeting. M. Brennan listed all the lands included in the land aggregation scheme.

(7.3) Standing in the name of Councillor W. Quinn

Proposed by Councillor W. Quinn

Seconded by Councillor A. Gladney

And

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

"That Carlow County Council invites Coillte and its consultants Fehily Timoney and Co. to the March meeting of Carlow County Council to discuss the upcoming planning application for Croaghaun wind farm on the Blackstairs Mountains. This planning application has not been lodged with Carlow County Council planning section. There are serious concerns regarding the Tourist Industry and also the local residents in the areas. The proposed seven Turbine wind farm will be the highest

ever erected in Ireland and will stand at 182 metres in height, this is 60 metres higher than the spire in Dublin. As the bases for such structures would be very big, there are major concerns with regards to land slides into the future and also the major damage to the road structure with all the heavy construction vehicles that will be needed to construct this wind farm. This is public land and it is the public who should decide not Government agencies.”

8.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CATHAOIRLEACH

- 5G – Cllr. F. Phelan asked that the Council prepare report on the health implications.
- Wind Energy – Guidelines – A. Sweeney answered questions raised.
- Max Height for Domestic Dwelling.
- Cllr. J. Cassin queried if lands at Eire Óg are signed back to Council. M. Brennan confirmed this had taken place and proposals for same would be drawn up.

This concluded the business of the meeting.