

**Minutes of Meeting of the Carlow Municipal District
held on line Thursday 25th February 2021, at 4.00 p.m.**

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

In Attendance: Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service, Corporate Services, HR, Planning, Health & Safety, Security & Economic Development
Mr. M Brennan, Director of Service, Housing, Community, Recreation & Amenity
Mr. P. Delaney, Director of Services, Head of Finance & ICT
Mr. K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services
Mr. B. O’Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, Community, Recreation & Amenity
Ms. J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department
Mr. P. Lewis, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation
Ms. L. O’Callaghan, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services

Mayor F. Browne opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the February Meeting of Carlow Municipal District.

Tributes were paid by the committee to former Councillors Jim Townsend and Michael Abbey for their contribution to the County. .

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 The Minutes of Carlow Municipal District Meeting held on Thursday 28th January 2021 at 4.00p.m. were;-

**Proposed by Cllr. T O’Neill
Seconded by Cllr. F. Phelan**

And agreed following a show of hands.

**2.0 Business Prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District
Members for Transaction at such meeting**

2.1 Draft Annual Service Plan 2021 Carlow Municipal District

B. O’Donovan, Senior Executive Officer presented the Draft Annual Service Plan for 2021 and informed the committee that discretionary funding totalling €79,000 has been made in the budget for

Environment Grants, Building Community Leadership Support Scheme, Discretionary Grant and Tidy Towns Grant. In addition a grant of €24,000 has been made available for the Swimming Pool in Graiguecullen.

It was advised that the proposed scheme has allocated €6,000 to each member of the Carlow Municipal District as a special fund for their own discretion totalling €42,000. This can be used individually or aggregated with the agreement of members.

B. O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer responded to questions raised by members and gave an undertaking that a report would issue at the end of the year stating where monies were allocated. This report will also include allocation of discretionary grants.

Approval sought for the proposed allocations of funds under the Draft Annual Service Plan 2021: -

Proposed by Cllr. F. Phelan
Seconded by Cllr. K. Murnane

And agreed following a show of hands.

2.2 Carlow Parking Control (Pay Parking) Bye Laws 2021

P. O'Gorman, Director of Service presented the report and sought approval from the committee to Updated the committee on works carried out since the report was presented at the December MD Meeting. Following public display, no formal submission were received. One submission was received prior to going out to public consultation and on review it was decided to allow this submission to be considered.

Following discussion with residents of Maryborough Street and Henry Street it was agreed by all parties that no amendments or changes would be made at this time and that the issue would be kept under consideration going forward.

It was noted that under the bylaws a reduction of business hours from 08:30-18.30 to 08:30-17:30 was proposed. Upon review and taking in consideration the loss of income, signage change and no submissions on the change; it is recommended that we retain the existing business hours 08:30-18.30 Monday to Saturday.

P. O'Gorman, Director of Service responded to questions raised by members.

Approval was sought from members to adopt the Bye Laws as advertised.

Proposed by Cllr. K. Murnane
Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton

And agreed following a show of hands.

3.0 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

3.1 EV Charging Infrastructure

P O’Gorman noted following circulated correspondence from ESB Ecars two charging points at the Town Hall Carpark will be upgraded to fast charging points.

P. O’Gorman, Director of Service responded to questions raised by members.

3.2 Housing Progress Report

J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer presented update report on housing progress. It was noted that due to Covid-19 delays have affected all scheduled timelines for hand over.

- Current Local Authority Build Projects in Carlow Municipal District – 80 units
- Current Approved Housing Bodies – Build Projects – 221 units
- Developments at Proposal Stage – 5 units
- Properties allocated June to October 2020 – 26 units

Questions raised by members included:-

- Barrack Street, urgency in finishing off these units to improve the street scape
- Granby Row, did the Council look to purchase these units rather than long term lease
- Housing on Staplestown Road
- Vacant Properties

J. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer, Housing responded to questions raised by members.

3.3 Climate Change Adaptations & Rehabilitation - Project Submissions

P. Lewis, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation updated the committee on the funding made available for Climate Change Adaptations & Rehabilitation for 2021. Funding for flooding on roads and raising the levels of roads, or damage caused by severe weather to road/bridges.

Email to issue to members to request submission of drainage issues that need to be considered for funding.

P. Lewis, A/Senior Executive Engineer responded to questions raised by members.

3.4 Urban Regeneration Update

K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office updated the committee on ongoing works.

- Works ongoing on the final updates for the water hub in order to submit to ABP.
- Enterprise Park, report will be presented at the May meeting for consideration for Part 8.
- Bank of Ireland tender due to close next month.

- Visual/Carlow College will be ready to bring to Council meeting in March or Aril
- Carlow Exchange Project, currently have 22 interested parties giving their input, this feedback/report will be brought to the members May/June for input.

URDF pre development funding to feed into future work within two priority areas land use and dereliction.

Tender currently out for 3D mapping of the dereliction challenge within Carlow town, in order to identify key projects with members.

Carlow Castle, pre development study tender advertised next month, condition study will be brought back to the committee.

K. Comerford, Head of Local Enterprise Office responded to questions raised by members.

4.0 Notices of Motion

4.1 Standing in the Name of Cllr. Fergal Browne

"That Carlow County Council call on local fast-food takeaway outlets to record vehicle registration numbers or other means to enable tracing of litter louts and that this motion if approved be sent to both the Ministers for Justice and Environment for enactment nationally."

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne

Seconded by Cllr. A. Dalton

AND Following a show of hands, motion was passed.

4.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. Adrienne Wallace

"Following the release of the Mother and Baby Homes Commissions' report this council calls on the government to initiate criminal investigations into these institutes. Any resources currently in the hands of religious orders involved in the systematic abuse of women and children should be seized and offered as compensation to victims. A copy of this motion should be sent to all councils on the Island of Ireland and all TDs for Carlow and Kilkenny."

Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace

Seconded by Cllr. J. Cassin

AND Following a role call the motion was passed 4 to 1 .

Councillor F. Browne (Mayor)	Abstain
Councillor A. Dalton	For
Councillor J. Cassin	For
Councillor K. Murnane	Against
Councillor T. O'Neill	Abstain
Councillor F. Phelan	For
Councillor A. Wallace	For

4.3 Standing in the name of Cllr. Adrienne Wallace

"This council calls on the Minister for Health to review the treatment of endometriosis in Ireland."

Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace

Seconded by Cllr. F. Brown

AND Following a show of hands, motion was passed.

4.4 Standing in the name of Cllr. John Cassin

“Carlow Municipal District calls on Iarnrod Eireann to install CCTV on the bridge above the road on Carpenter's way to help prevent stones been thrown from the railway on to traffic on the road below”.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Cassin

Seconded by Cllr. O’Neill

AND Following a show of hands, motion was passed.

5.0 Any Other Business

Cllr F. Brown requested that monumental works restrictions be reviewed as they are outdoor works. Cllr F. Brown requested updated information on securing access to restrict scrambler bikes and for the funding to complete works at O’Brien Road.

Cllr. J. Cassin, requested an update on the survey on the wall around Ashgrove/Woodgrove.

Cllr. O’Neill, requested, update on the works at Duggan Bridge. He also raised an issue with Sandhill round about the any safety measures that could be installed.

P O’Gorman updated the committee that *‘Monument workers and suppliers are private operators not contracted by the local authority and while we do have a duty of care and would recommend following the Public Health Guidelines it is a matter for the individual employers to ensure their compliance, that the risk is minimised and that they follow the public health guidelines with regard to essential construction works.’*

P. O’Gorman noted in relation to the issue with the scramblers use of private lands will be reviewed.

P. Lewis noted that funding has been sought for the Duggan Bridge, update will be given to Councillor of the decision.

This concluded the business of the meeting.