

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022 at 10.00 a.m. remotely via Microsoft Teams

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

Apologies: Councillor J. Murphy (*unable to connect remotely*)

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, Building Control & Emergency
Services
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service, Housing, Community,
Recreation & Amenity
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. L. O'Callaghan, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
Ms. T. Hickson, Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services

Mr. F. Phelan (Cathaoirleach) welcomed everyone and opened the meeting as follows;

"I convened this special meeting, as Cathaoirleach of this council, so that we can express solidarity with the people of Ukraine and Ukrainian community here in Carlow and the wider region.

I have also convened this meeting so we can send a strong signal that the presence of Russian intelligence and defence personnel up to and including their ambassador

should no longer be entertained in this country. It is outrageous to hear of reports of Dublin being used as a base for Russian intelligence operatives.

The events of the past week have shocked us all. It is horrific to see what is happening in Ukraine. War again inflicted in Europe.

Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine is unprovoked, illegal and is a blatant disregard of international law.

It is the act of a despot.

Ireland and the International community should stand firm in action against Putin's actions.

The images we are seeing from Ukraine are truly horrifying. We must be clear nobody is responsible for this war but Vladimir Putin.

I salute the Ukrainian President Zelensky and the Ukrainian people for their resilience in the face of such adversity.

The people of Carlow stand with you. It is heartening to see communities across this county organising efforts to send supplies and resources to Ukraine.

I want to extend thoughts to Carlow student Racheal Diyaloe – stranded in Ukraine. I have been in touch with Ministers and the Department of Foreign Affairs on her situation. A very brave young student studying medicine, a student who led Carlow as a delegate to the National Comhairle Na Nóg last year. She has now been cast into the middle of a war zone due to the aggressive actions of Putin.

Council members – we must be clear – we must stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and condemn Russia for their aggression – not just with words but by calling for continued concrete action against Russia and Putin from our government.

There are three motions before us today. We will discuss all three together and I am requesting that a roll call vote is taken on each motion also”.

3.0 Notice of Motion

- 1.0** *“This Council stands in solidarity with the Ukrainian Community in Carlow, Ireland and across the world. The Council utterly condemns Vladimir Putin and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a sovereign nation”.*

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan (Cathaoirleach)

Seconded by Councillor C. Murphy

Councillor W. Paton then requested an amendment be made to the wording of this Motion as follows;

“This Council stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, as well as the Ukrainian Community in Carlow, Ireland and across the world. Carlow County Council utterly condemns President Vladimir Putin and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a sovereign nation”.

The amendment was agreed, and a Roll Call was then called for as follows on the motion as amended;

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

Absent: John Murphy

Decision/Resolution: Passed

2.0 *“This Council calls on the Government to expel the Russian Ambassador to Ireland and all Russian intelligence and defence personnel in the state. We further urge the government to lobby European Union member states to take similar action”.*

Proposed by Councillor F. Phelan (Cathaoirleach)

Seconded by Councillor C. Murphy

Councillor W. Paton then requested an amendment be made to the wording of this Motion as follows;

“This Council calls on the Government to expel the Russian Ambassador to Ireland along with all Russian intelligence, communication and defence personnel in the state. We further urge the government to lobby European Union member states to take similar action”.

The amendment was agreed, and a Roll Call was then called for as follows on

the motion as amended;

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

Absent: John Murphy

Decision/Resolution: Passed

3.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. Charlie Murphy & Cllr. Tommy Kinsella

"We the members of Carlow County Council demand the immediate expulsion of the Russian Ambassador to Ireland and all diplomatic ties severed. This motion is tabled in the light of the illegal invasion and occupation of the sovereign state of the Ukraine".

Proposed by Councillors C. Murphy & T. Kinsella

Seconded by Councillor W. Paton

A Roll Call was then called for as follows;

Member of Carlow County Council	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Fergal Browne		√		
John Cassin		√		
Andrea Dalton		√		
Michael Doran		√		
Andy Gladney	√			
Thomas Kinsella	√			
Arthur McDonald	√			
John McDonald	√			
Ken Murnane	√			

Charlie Murphy	√			
John Murphy				√
Brian O'Donoghue	√			
Tom O'Neill	√			
William Paton		√		
John Pender	√			
Fintan Phelan	√			
William Quinn	√			
Adrienne Wallace	√			

Absent: John Murphy

Decision/Resolution: Passed

A copy of the above three resolutions, if passed, shall be sent to An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin and Minister for Foreign Affairs Simon Coveney.

This concluded the meeting.