

**Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Carlow
Held in the Town Hall, Carlow
on Thursday, 27th October, 2016 at 4.30pm**

Present: Councillor F. Phelan, Mayor
Councillor A. Ahern
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor W. Lacey

Apologies: Councillor J. Deane
Councillor B. O'Donoghue

In Attendance: Ms. B. O'Brien, Director of Services
Mr. L. Fitzgerald, A/Director of Service
Mr. P. Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. M. Brennan, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Joanne Donohue (CCDP)

Confirmation of Minutes

Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th September, 2016 and Minutes of Special In Committee meeting held on 22nd September 2016

Proposed by Cllr. F. Browne

Seconded by Cllr. A. Ahern and

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved

“That the Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th September, 2016 and Minutes of Special In Committee meeting held on 22nd September 2016 are hereby approved.”

It was Proposed by Cllr. Browne

Seconded by J. Cassin and

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved

“That In Committee Minutes only be circulated to Municipal District members.”

Cllr. Ahern raised the issue of the Courthouse railings and the train station. Cllr. Ahern raised the issue of the importance of the Courthouse from an architectural perspective and a recent article by a noted historian Mr. Patrick Comerford of Trinity College Dublin.

She welcomed the letter from Irish Rail in relation to universal access.

Members concurred with these views.

Transportation

Lands at Tullow Road Carlow

The Mayor invited Michael Brennan and Joanne Donohue (CCDP) to discuss the Tullow Road Renewal Programme. They gave a presentation on the Tullow Road area outlining the background to the area, previous work carried out in this area, a feasibility study in 2011, Open Door community centre, services and supports in the area of the Tullow Road Community Development Group, they addressed the issue of forward planning including a new TÚS Scheme, a physical hub to develop a Strategic Renewal Plan developed by a cross functional team, and then to secure funding. Joanne Donohue and M. Brennan answered questions from members.

Members requested they be provided with regular updates on progress on the project and this was agreed.

Speed Limit Review

L. Fitzgerald briefed the meeting on the speed limit review in 2012 and advised that the Department of Transport (DTAS) had requested each Council to carry out a review of speed limits. He advised that no submissions were received following a public advertisement. L. Fitzgerald outlined recommendations made on national roads by consultants engaged by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). L. Fitzgerald answered questions from members on various issues.

L. Fitzgerald advised of the process to be followed i.e. bring proposals to each Municipal District, advise TII and Gardaí of change, if no changes, prepare draft of revised bye-laws and have a public consultation and proceed from there.

Concern was expressed about increasing the speed limit at O'Brien Road from Braun to Hacketstown Road. It was also proposed that the Tullow Road from Sion Cross to Walls Forge Roundabout be reduced to 50 kmph.

L. Fitzgerald answered questions from members on various issues including confirming he would consider a reduction from 80 to 60 on Brownhill Road.

It was proposed by W. Lacey,

Seconded by Fergal Browne and

Following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved

“That Brownhill Road be changed from 80 kmph to 60 kmph and that a speed count be done on the Tullow Road from Walls Forge to Sion Cross and if the 85% percentage is 50 k or 60k, this limit will also be altered.”

Transportation Report

P. Harrington circulated the Transportation Report Progress Update and requested members to advise on their discretionary project as soon as possible. P. Harrington answered questions from members on the report.

HOUSING

Deferred to next meeting.

Update on Fruithill Allocation. Members raised concern in relation to delays in the allocation of houses at Fruithill.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Public Carparking Arrangements for the Christmas 2016 period in Carlow Town:

The elected members unanimously approved the same parking arrangements for Christmas 2016 as those that applied in previous years i.e.

- Free car parking from 8.30am to 11.00am and 3pm to 6.30pm in all Pay and Display Parking Zones for the Month of December
- Free car parking for the period Saturday 3rd December to Saturday, 24th December, 2016 (inclusive) in the following public car parks only:
 - Town Hall
 - Bus Park
 - Green Bank Road
 - VISUAL

In addition to above, the current arrangement relating to the first 30 minute free on-street parking, introduced 1st October 2016 on a trial basis, continues to apply throughout the month of December, i.e. First 30 minute free parking, for on-street parking only, on Tullow Street Upper; Tullow Street Lower; Dublin Street; Kennedy Avenue; Potato Market and Castle Street

Twinning Trip to Tempe

The Mayor advised of the successful twinning trip to Tempe and that a memorandum of understanding was signed between Carlow College, Carlow IT and the Arizona State University.

He advised of the potential use of the fire service training unit in Hacketstown by the Tempe fire service.

He also advised of meetings with the business community.

Skateboard Park

May 2014 Wicklow Town Council Park is the favoured model.

E. Brophy advised the meeting of the provision of a budget of €170,000 for the provision of a skateboard park. Cllr A. Ahern advised the favoured option was modelled on the version in modular concrete provided by Wicklow Town Council. P. Harrington advised that this was a matter for Recreation and Amenity and he

would advise the Director of Service of Recreation of the project and request it now be provided. Cllr. Ahern advised that the Part 8 had been carried out.

E. Brophy advised he could find no record of a playground project for the Plots. Cllr Ahern advised that St. Catherines was the lead agency for that project. Cllr. Ahern advised of the need for works to be carried out on the car parks at the Plots. P. Harrington advised he had no budget for repair works at their car park.

Cllr. Cassin advised the Municipal District write to the Minister and the HSE Management about the ambulance service being provided from a prefab building and ambulances being located in Kilkenny. This was agreed. It was agreed to write demanding proper accommodation.

Cllr. Browne enquired on the signage at Grange and P. Harrington advised the Council is waiting on the ESB connection which was applied for three weeks ago.

B. O'Brien advised that it was proposed to hold a meeting on Thursday, 1st December at 4.30 p.m. This was agreed. P. Harrington agreed to meet the members on that date at 3.00 p.m. This single meeting would become the Municipal District Meeting for both November and December.

This concluded the business of the meeting.