

**Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Carlow
held in Teagasc, Oak Park, Carlow
on Friday, 27th March, 2015 at 4.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor J. Pender (Mayor)
Councillor A. Ahern (nee Long)
Councillor F. Browne
Councillor J. Cassin
Councillor J. Deane
Councillor W. Lacey
Councillor J. Murnane O'Connor
Councillor B. O'Donoghue
Councillor F. Phelan
Councillor W. Paton

In attendance: Ms. B. O'Brien, Director of Services
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. P. Harrington, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran Comerford, Head of Enterprise LEO Office

The Mayor welcomed all present to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

Minutes of Meeting held on 29th January, 2015

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor W. Lacey

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

"That the Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Carlow held on the 29th January, 2015 were agreed".

Minutes of In Committee Meeting held on 26th February

Proposed by Councillor F. Browne

Seconded by Councillor W. Lacey

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

"That the Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Carlow held on the 6th February, 2015 were agreed".

2. LEO / Economic Development

The Mayor introduced K. Comerford to the meeting. Kieran gave a summary of the enterprise plan and relationships with Enterprise Ireland, the Town Centre initiative and circulated a summary report of activities to be carried out under the various strands of economic development and promotion, working with other agencies. K. Comerford advised that the IDA has been working with Carlow on marketing of Carlow and the provision of an advance factory. Kieran answered questions from members of the Municipal District on issues such as Carlow Town Centre, LEO v Enterprise Board, rates reductions, The Braun Site; town regeneration fund; vacancy rates for commercial properties; provision of office based industry, future use of Tullow Street; pilot scheme on rates; issues with the surface of Upper Tullow Street, Derelict Sites.

The Mayor commented on the positive aspects of Carlow and that the local authority is working with business to promote Carlow.

B. O'Brien also responded to questions from members on these issues also.

P. Harrington addressed the meeting in relation to infrastructural works required on Tullow Street and advised he would prepare a report on various short term issues.

B. O'Brien advised that the urban regeneration fund is €10,000 for each Municipal District with €8,000 for Carlow and €2,000 for Tullow. Cllr. Phelan took issue with this view. B. O'Brien advised of the position with the railings at the Courthouse.

3. Community

Commemorative Plaque Unveiling 30/3/15 - Lucinda Sly

The unveiling of the plaque to Lucinda Sly was noted.

4. Housing

This item was deferred to the next meeting. B. O'Brien replied to Cllr. Ahern updating on position re Part 8 for Mount Leinster Park and responded to Cllr. Murnane on issues re houses at Fruithill. Issues were also raised on increasing levels of homelessness among families and the lack of emergency accommodation provided by the Council.

5. Transportation

P. Harrington gave a verbal report on footpath improvement at Eastern Relief Road, Laurel Park footpath, Tullow footpaths at Rathsillan and GAA Club works completed. Hacketstown works are also completed as is lighting at Rathvilly.

He presented a draft proposal for the roundabout a Green Road and advised the road programme would start at Easter.

P. Harrington answered questions from members on various issues including junction at Oak Park/O'Brien Road; road conditions/potholes at Coppengh.

He advised of preliminary works to be done at Browneshill Cross involving speed testing and addressed an issue to do with road surfacing at Moyle/Castletown.

He answered questions in relation to access to Hillbrook Estate to deal with a car fire; Rathglass to Ouragh; Coppengh; potholes either side of Mount Wolseley; road surface at Bridge Street Tullow; traffic lights at Graiguecullen; special funding for Church Street and Chapel Street; Askea pedestrian crossing, laneway at Linkardstown; Ashfield to Park resurfacing; Jake's Legacy; footpath at Hacketstown Cemetery; poles at Abrakebabra;

6. Set date for In Committee Meeting with members of County Carlow Chamber

B. O'Brien advised the Chamber of Commerce AGM is in April and it might be better to wait and contact the new executive. It was agreed to aim for the May Municipal District Meeting at 3.30 p.m. (last Thursday in May)

7. Any Other Business

Cllr. Cassin raised an issue with the façade on the post office and B. O'Brien undertook to investigate.

Cllr. Browne advised of issue with shaving foam at the otherwise successful St. Patrick's Day Parade. B. O'Brien advised of a review meeting held this morning and outcome of same and issues arising.

B. O'Brien advised of breakdown of St. Patrick's Day grants as follows: €850 Carlow; €650 Tullow; €400 Graiguecullen; Hacketstown.

Proposed by Councillor B. O'Donovan

Seconded by Councillor F. Browne

And following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved

Cllr. Deane advised he had been asked by Andy Murphy Group to request some funding towards the Carlow Hospice. A discussion took place on this issue.

B. O'Brien advised of the receipt of a submission from DTA in relation to a derelict site in Tullow for allocation of urban renewal monies of €2,000.

Proposed by Councillor B. O'Donovan

Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin

And following a show of hands it was unanimously resolved

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Addendum to Carlow Municipal District Meeting Minutes of 27th March, 2015.

Teagasc Welcome

Mr. Paddy Browne, Head of Crops, Teagasc welcomed members to Teagasc and introduced the work done by Teagasc and its history and development at Oakpark. John Hogan hosted a visit to the Teagasc Museum and outlined the history and artefacts related to this history. The Mayor thanked Paddy Browne, John Hogan and Siobhan Culleton for their work in welcoming the Municipal District members and noted the strong historical connections between the Council and Teagasc and its predecessors and hoped that such co-operation would continue long into the future.