

**Minutes of March Meeting of Carlow County Council, held in the  
Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow,  
on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 2.00 p.m.**

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- Present:** Councillor A. Dalton (Cathaoirleach)  
Councillor F. Browne  
Councillor J. Cassin  
Councillor M. Doran  
Councillor A. Gladney  
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 W. Paton *Remotely*  
Councillor J. Pender  
Councillor F. Phelan  
Councillor W. Quinn  
Councillor A. Wallace
- In attendance:** Mr. C. O'Reilly, Chief Executive  
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Director of Service  
Mr. M. Rainey, Director of Service  
Mr. M. Brennan, Director of Service  
Ms. F. O'Neill, A/Director of Service  
Mr. K. Cullinane, Senior Engineer *Remotely*  
Ms. O. Barrett, Senior Engineer  
Mr. R. Wickham, A/Senior Engineer  
Mr. E. Brophy, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. J. Woods, Administrative Officer  
Ms. C. Healy, Staff Officer

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. A. Dalton welcome everyone to the meeting.

**Votes of Sympathy**

Katherine Earl & Family on the death of her mother, Kathleen Earl, Clogrennane.  
Nicola Lawler & Family on the death of her father, Jackie Lawler, Burton Hall.  
Anne Purcell & Family on the death of her husband, Willie Purcell, Ballinacarrig.  
Anne Sheehan & Family on the death of her husband, Jack Sheehan, Hanover.  
Townsend Family, Ballypierce, Kildavin on the death of their father, Seamus.  
Butler Family, Kilbranish, on the death of their father William.

Fleming Family, Dublin Road, Tullow, on the death of their mother Bridget.  
Carroll Family, Braganza, on the death of their mother Clare.  
Ann King & Family on the death of her brother, John Mahon, Borris.  
Coady Family on the death of their son, James Coady, Borris.  
Christy Shannon & Family on the death of his wife, Geraldine, Killamaster.  
John Kennedy & Family on the death of his wife, Mary, Coppengagh.

### **Votes of Congratulations**

Rev. Tom Gordon, The Deanery, Old Leighlin on his retirement.  
Kevin McDonald on receiving the Overall Carlow Sportsman of the Year Award.  
Victor Bogdan, on winning The Ursula Mahon Memorial Cup and The McCulloch Cup for Emerging Talent at the Carlow College of Music Awards.  
Franek Dobronski on winning the Carlow College of Music Student of the Year Award.  
Tullow Rugby Club on Tullow RFC Women's Team winning the Leinster League Division 1.  
IFA on their campaign to highlight current problems facing farming.

Following a request from Carlow IFA to present at the March Council Meeting it was:-

**Proposed by Cllr. M. Doran**

**Seconded by Cllr. A. McDonald**

And agreed following a show of hands

"It was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow a presentation from Carlow IFA to take place."

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Michael Purcell, Chair Carlow IFA, Jamie Kealy, Vice Chair Carlow IFA, Daniel McNally, Regional Executive, Paul O'Brien Regional Chair for South Leinster and Farmers to the meeting.

The Cathaoirleach invited Michael Purcell, Chair and Jamie Kealy. Vice Chair to address the meeting.

Michael Purcell thanked the members for the opportunity to address the Council Meeting.

Michael and Jamie spoke on the issues facing the farmers which included Common Agricultural Policy CAP Reform, Farm Inspections and need to have protocol in place, Planning Application Requirements/Objections and Charges, Water Pollution, Dog Attacks/lack of Dog Wardens, Nitrates, Dairy Farming, Milk Production reduction and consequences. They highlighted the contribution of farming to the local economy and to the country.

The members confirmed their support to the farmers at local level.

## **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes/Dearbhú Miontuairiscí**

### **1.1 Approval of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 2.00 p.m.**

**Proposed by Councillor K. Murnane**

**Seconded by Councillor J. McDonald**

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

“That the Minutes of the February Monthly Meeting of Carlow County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow, on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 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 Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of Council/Gnó forordaithe do réir reachtaíochta, orduithe seasta, nó rúin an Chomhairle**

### **2.1 Approval of Draft Carlow County Council Litter Management Plan 2024 - 2026**

Cllr. F. Browne, Chair of Planning Environment SPC updated the meeting on the Litter Management Plan as agreed by Strategic Policy Committee. Mr. Shane Casey presented the Draft Carlow County Council Litter Management Plan. Queries raised by members included litter from take aways and litter on country roads which has now extended to dumping on private lands. Queries raised regarding use of cameras, the need for waste collection operators to cater for the rural areas not included in collection routes at present was also highlighted. The members advised they want more litter/dog fouling bins on O'Brien Road and Pollerton Road and asked for enforcement and prosecutions.

The members expressed their thanks to the Tidy Towns Committee, SETU and Askea Girls School for their help in recent clean ups.

Questions raised were answered by S. Casey and the Management Team.

**Proposed by Councillor F. Browne**

**Seconded by Councillor A. Wallace**

And following a show of hands it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Draft Carlow County Council Litter Management Plan 2024 - 2026”

## **2.2 Approval of Festival and Event Fund 2024**

K. Comerford briefed on the proposed Festival and Event Fund 2024 and answered questions from the members.

**Proposed by Councillor T. O’Neill**

**Seconded by Councillor F. Browne**

And following a show of hands it was agreed:-

“That we the Members of Carlow County Council approve the Festival and Event Fund 2024”

## **2.3 Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) – Proposed Development of Volunteer Hub, Sleaty, Graiguecullen.**

**Proposed by Councillor J. Cassin**

**Seconded by Councillor F. Phelan**

And following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“In accordance with Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), the proposed development of Volunteer Hub, Sleaty, Graiguecullen, be proceeded with in accordance with the plans and particulars placed on public display and to any such minor and immaterial alterations to these plans and particulars, and subject to the conditions as set out”

## **2.4 Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) – Proposed Development of Bagenalstown Public Realm**

**Proposed by Councillor A. McDonald**

**Seconded by Councillor A. Gladney**

And following a show of hands, it was agreed:-

“In accordance with Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), the proposed development of Bagenalstown Public Realm, be proceeded with in accordance with the plans and particulars placed on public display and to any such minor and immaterial alterations to these plans and particulars, and subject to the conditions as set out”

## **3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations/Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Mholtaí**

### **3.1 Circular RW 02 of 2024 Carlow Regional and Local Roads Grant Allocations**

P. O’Gorman and R. Wickham briefed on Carlow Regional and Local Roads Grant Allocations. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Management Team.

### **3.2 TII 2024 Grant Allocations Carlow Count Council**

P. O’Gorman and R. Wickham briefed on Grant Allocations. Questions raised by the members were answered by Management Team.

### **3.3 Active Travel**

P. O’Gorman updated on Active Travel. Questions raised by the members included lack of funding to Tullow area, footpath Brownshill Link Road, ORIS Scheme linking Wicklow Way with South Leinster Way, need for Active Travel to be addressed at Municipal District meetings, need for more bus stops/bus shelters and issue with cancellation of buses.

P. O’Gorman answered queries raised.

**3.4 Training & Conference**  
**Proposed by J. Pender**  
**Seconded by B. O'Donoghue**

And agreed following a show of hands

“That we the members approve the following Training / Conference.”

No.	Organised By	Venue	Theme	Dates	Fee
1.	AILG Training Module 1	Dundalk	“Elected Members Briefing: Annual Declaration, Donations, Code of Conduct and LRA Update”	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	€85
2.	AILG Training Webinar 1	Webinar	“Introduction to Advertising on Facebook and Instagram”	26 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	
3.	AILG Training Module 1	Limerick	“Elected Members Briefing: Annual Declaration, Donations, Code of Conduct and LRA Update”	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	€85
4.	AILG Training Webinar 2	Webinar	“Planning Budgets, Tracking Results and Getting Authorised to run political ads on Meta”	2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024	
5.	AIR Training Seminar	Adare, Limerick	“ Building Capacity to Address The Challenges of a Changing Ireland”	6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	€160
6.	AILG	Arklow Bay Hotel	Annual Training Conference	14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	€170
7.	Celtic Conferences	Carlingford, Co. Louth	“The First Home Scheme – Helping Homeowners get on the Property Ladder”	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	€130
8.	Celtic Conferences	Clonakilty, Co.Cork.	“A Practical Guide to Personal Taxation in Ireland”	1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2024	€130
9.	The Suck Valley Way Conference	Hannons Hotel, Roscommon	“The Rise of Loneliness on the Emerald Isle – How community development and planning may be the remedy”	13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	€130
10.	AILG Module 2	Hotel Kilkenny – Southern Region	“Local Election 2024 Preparation – A Briefing from the Electoral Commission”	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	€85
11.	AILG Module 2	Hotel Kilkenny – Eastern & Midlands/Northern & Western	“Local Election 2024 Preparation – A Briefing from the Electoral Commission”	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	€85
12.	AILG Training Webinar 3	Online	How to Use Canva to Create Marketing Images – Beginner Level	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	
13.	AILG Training Webinar 3	Online	AILG-CMG Security Training – Protecting yourself when canvassing for Local Elections	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	
14.	AILG Training Webinar 3	Online	AILG Defensive Social Media Training – Protecting yourself online	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	

#### **4.0 Chief Executives Report /Tuarascáil an Phríomheidhmeannaigh**

The Chief Executives Report was noted. Queries raised by the members included garden restoration of Covid Testing Centre at St. Dymphna's hospital, staffing levels, Carlow Women's Aid, Issues with Register of Electors, Waterways Ireland Draft Bye Laws Waterways and issue with wall at the River Barrow in Bagenalstown.

Questions raised by the members were answered by the Management Team.

#### **5.0 Correspondence/Comhfhreagras**

Members noted correspondence from Cork County Council requesting the hospitality VAT rate be reverted to 9%.

Members noted correspondence from Cork County Council requesting the VAT rate for pubs be reduced down from 23% to 17%.

#### **6.0 Notices of Motion/Fógraí Rúin**

##### **6.1 Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Wallace**

"That the Chief Executive initiates Compulsory Purchase Orders on all properties on the Derelict Sites Register."

**Proposed by Cllr. A. Wallace,**

**Seconded by Cllr. J. Cassin**

Following a discussion, Cllr. F. Browne proposed deletion of all words in the Notice of Motion to be replaced with the following: That we the members of Carlow County Council compliment the planning staff on the great work done to date and wish them continued success in the activation of vacant and derelict properties.

The proposal to amend the motion as above was

**Proposed by Councillor F. Browne,**

**Seconded by Councillor K. Murnane**

And agreed following a show of hands.

The amended motion was

**Proposed by Councillor K. Murnane**

**Seconded by Councillor F. Phelan**

And agreed following a show of hands.

"That we the members of Carlow County Council compliment the planning staff on the great work done to date and wish them continued success in the activation of vacant and derelict properties."

## **6.2 Standing in the name of Cllr. A. Wallace**

"That this Council writes to the board of Coillte to strongly encourage them to refuse access to Blackstairs Lithium to the Blackstairs Mountains and surrounding areas."

**Proposed by Councillor A. Wallace,**

**Seconded by Councillor J. Cassin**

And agreed following a show of hands.

## **6.3 Standing in the name of Cllr. T. Kinsella & Cllr. C. Murphy**

"We, the elected representatives of Carlow Co Council wish to protect our local democracy by ensuring the statutory rights of the County Development Plan are not interfered or undermined by external state agencies."

**Proposed by Councillor C. Murphy**

**Seconded by Councillor T. Kinsella**

And agreed following a show of hands.

This concluded the business of the meeting.