

Minutes from the Climate & Biodiversity Action and Environment SPC Meeting & Roads on Monday 15th December 2025 at 11.00am held in the Cavan Crystal Hotel.

- **Present:** Cllr. John Paul Feeley (Cathaoirleach) Zoom call, Cllr. Philip Brady, (Chairperson) Cllr. Carmel Brady, Cllr. Winton Bennett, Cllr. Brendan Fay, Paddy Connaughton DOS, Colm O'Callaghan, SEES, Sean Guilder SEES, Susan Doherty Admin Officer, Bernadette Mulligan CO, Deirdre McGowan, ASO, Malachy Magee, Business & Commercial, Mark Howe SO. Tara Smith Community Climate Action Officer, Brona Keating, Climate Action Coordinator. Steven Clerkin E.E. Alan Lyons Road Safety, Mairtin O'Loingsigh Roads

Apologies:

Allison Treanor, Michelle Cass, Cllr Aine Smith, Cathal Flood

Cllr. Philip Brady introduced the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

1. Minutes

Minutes of the previous SPC meeting were- Proposed (Cllr. Winston Bennett) and seconded (Cllr Brendan Fay).

2. Matters arising:

No matters from the previous meeting were discussed.

Cllr Brady thanks Deirdre McGowan for her input into the Litter Management Plan.

Cllr Brady introduced Sean Guilder – Historical Lands 1977-1997

Sean gave a background to historical lands and the statutory requirements. He also explained the risk assessments and the EPA issuing Licences. He advised there is ongoing monitoring of these sites. Former dumps Mullagh, Kingscourt and Cootehill were cleaned up. Mullagh got 2.2 million, Kingscourt €8,000.00 and Cootehill got €4,000.00 for departmental funding. In 2025 we took over Shercock, Mountnugent and Dowra. There was a lot of plastic, glass and metal found. In 2026 we intend to look at three former dumps, Gowna, Swanlinbar and Ballyconnell.

Cllr Brady thanked Sean – Any Questions

No

Sean – Anti Dumping Initiative 2025

Regional Waste Enforcement annual funding helps make people aware of illegal dumping. Helps tackle problem sites. All Local authorities receive funding and got €112.708.22. In 2025 projects completed:

1. Bulky waste was very successful over 100 Tonne was gathered.
2. Castlesaunderson big clean-up was done there.
3. Corranure on the bins there the slots have been lowered for easy access.

Awareness and educational programmes were run throughout the year. The Picker pal programme was very popular with National Schools. Relove fashion was very popular in secondary schools. Fast fashion upcycled clothing was in collaboration with An Taise. There was also a campaign run in all the libraries regarding textile awareness.

Cllr Philip thanked Sean for his presentation.

Questions & Answers:

Cllr Fay, why is Diageo allowed to leave their bottles and not take them back for recycling? Is there anything in law to deter this. The big multinationals are gaining all the time. Oxigen or Cavan waste must collect the bins.

Sean-I will have to investigate Diageo and their policy. In the new year there will be GDPR training regarding the use of drome's. Litter fines name and shame, the government is reluctant to go down that road.

Cllr Carmel Brady commented that Wilton is a game changer.

Cllr Joe Brady- Bin collections, some customers have them and others don't. Is there any effort to see what people are doing with there rubbish. If the are going to a Civic amenity maybe they should be issued with a docket.

Sean- The community wardens do on the spot checks in housing estates, but we have to be careful under GDPR.

Malachy Magee commented that the Bulky Waste was a great idea.

Cllr Brady thanked Sean for his presentation.

Cllr Brady introduces **Tara Smith**-Climate Action.

Climate action funding for Commercial groups. It is 100% funded and the money goes to non-profit groups. It helps in the education of the climate and the need for change. If a group is successful in their application, they have a timeline of eighteen months to complete the proposed action. The most popular option is Biodiversity. A small group would get €20,000 whereas the largest group would get €100,000.

Phase 2 is near completion, and all applications must be in by 23/12/2025. The government will make their recommendations by 17/02/2026. The projects should commence around April 2026.

Questions & Answers:

No

Cllr Brady commented that it was a great scheme and it was highly wanted.

Cllr Brady introduced **Colm O'Callaghan**-Energy Management Targets.

We have improved our energy usage by 50%. The Solar panels at Corranure are a great success. The pathfinder project SEAI is funding 50% of a project. We are now looking at the swimming pool and putting Solar in especially with the funding that is available. The Public lighting around 80% has now been replaced with LEDs. There is a Dicarbon funding available and we are trying to sway people towards EVs.

Cllr Brady thanked **Colm**.

Cllr Brady asked **Colm** why streets lights look so dull.

Steven answered it is only the perception people have. They have the same wattage as previously but there is better light.

Cllr Brady introduces Alan Lyons – Roads/Safety

Cllr Brady asked if there was AOB, there was no new business.

Cllr Brady thanked everyone for coming.

Date of next meeting

The date of next SPC meeting will be circulated to all members at a later date.