Minutes of Meeting of Cavan County Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 13th July 2026 at 2.00p.m.

Councillor C. Brady, Cathaoirleach, presiding

PRESENT:	Councillors W. Bennett, D. Brady, N. Brady, P. Brady, N. Connell, B. Fay (online), J.P. Feeley, C. Kelly, S.P. O'Reilly, T.P. O'Reilly, A. Rogers, Á. Smith, N. Smith, T. Smith, V. Smith.
IN ATTENDANCE:	E. Doyle, Chief Executive P. Connaughton, Director of Services L. McGavigan, Director of Services M. McNally, Head of Finance B. Jennings, Director of Services D. Gilchrist, Meetings Administrator, E. McGinn, Senior Staff Officer.

Councillor C. Brady welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillors P. Walsh and S. Conaty.

Confirmation of Minutes

1. **To confirm Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 8th June 2026. Miontuairiscí cruinnithe 8th Mí Meitheamh 2026 a dhearbhú.**

   It was

   Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

   Seconded by Councillor Á. Smith

   And

   Resolved;

   "that minutes of monthly meeting of Cavan County Council held on 8th June 2026 be hereby approved"

2. **Disclosure of Interests** (Section 177 Local Government Act 2001)**.**

   Noted.

Note Minutes of Committee Meetings

3. **To note Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 8th May 2026.**

   Noted.

Note Members' Reports from Conferences/Training events

4. **To note members' reports from conferences and training events** ***(Section 142 and Section 143 of the Local Government Act 2001; Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations 2014 Part V Section 5 (1)).***

   Noted.

Correspondence:

5.(a) To note reply from An Garda Siochána regarding Garda Vetting.

Noted.

(b) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Transport and Transportation Infrastructure Ireland (TII) regarding tolling.

Noted.

(c) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Health regarding sepsis awareness.

Noted. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly thanked the Chief Executive and members of Cavan County Council for their kind donation towards promotional and copying costs for Sepsis awareness.

(d) To note reply from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding Bovine TB in Ireland.

Noted.

(e) To note replies from Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and Niall Collins, T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Forestry, Farm Safety and Horticulture concerning ash dieback in roadside trees.

Noted.

(f) To note reply from Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment regarding the SEAI Solar PV Scheme.

Noted.

(g) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Health regarding the introduction of charging for blister packs.

Noted.

(h) To note reply from Dr. Colm Henry, Chief Clinical Officer, Dr. Steevens Hospital regarding PMDD.

Noted. Councillor Á. Smith asked that a further letter be sent asking if there is going to be a specialised hub for PMDD like there is for endometriosis.

(i) To note reply from Ms. Laura Waters, General Manager, Cavan & Monaghan Hospital regarding the request for a meeting to discuss public issues of Care and Operational Procedures at Cavan General Hospital.

Noted. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly thanked Ms. Waters for her response. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly noted that only three Councillors sit on the North-East Health Forum from Cavan County Council and proposed that a further letter be sent to Ms. Waters stating that all members of Cavan County Council require a meeting with hospital management which can be held in private if they so wish. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly stated that the eighteen members of Cavan County Council have a right to be heard. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly stated that he wants the meeting to be constructive and not critical.

6. **To approve attendance of members at MacGill Summer School to be held in the Highlands Hotel, Glenties from 23-25 July 2026**

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor Á. Smith

And Resolved

"that the attendance of Councillors C. Kelly, P. Walsh, Á. Smith, N. Smith, J.P. Feeley, P. Brady, W. Bennett and C. Brady at MacGill Summer School to be held in the Highlands Hotel, Glenties, from 23-25 July 2026 be hereby approved".

To approve attendance of members at AILG Autumn Training Seminar to be held in the Clanree Hotel. Letterkenny from 30 September to 1 October

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor Á. Smith

And Resolved

"that the attendance of Councillors C. Kelly, P. Walsh, Á. Smith, N. Smith, J.P. Feeley, P. Brady, W. Bennett, T. Smith, V. Smith, T.P. O'Reilly, N. Brady, C. Brady, S.P. O'Reilly, A. Rogers and S.P. O'Reilly at AILG Autumn Training Seminar, which is being held in Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny from 30 September to 1 October be hereby approved".

To approve attendance of members at Parnell Summer School to be held in Avondale, Co. Wicklow from 30 September to 1 October

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor Á. Smith

And Resolved

"that the attendance of Councillors C. Kelly, P. Walsh, Á. Smith, N. Smith, J.P. Feeley and P. Brady at Parnell Summer School which is being held in Avondale, Co. Wicklow from 30 September to 1 October be hereby approved".

To approve attendance of members at Daniel O'Connell Summer School to be held in Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry on 28th & 29th August.

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor Á. Smith

And Resolved

"that the attendance of Councillors C. Kelly, P. Walsh, Á. Smith, N. Smith, J.P. Feeley and P. Brady at Daniel O'Connell Summer School to be held in Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry on 28th & 29th August be hereby approved".

Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council

7. **To note Chief Executive's monthly report *(Section 51 Local Government Reform Act 2014)***

   Noted. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly queried if Cavan County Council had been re-imbursed by the Department for damages caused by Storm Eowyn.

   Councillor C. Brady stated that the matter would be dealt with at the end of members' items.

8. **To approve disposal of 0.0582 hectares or 0.1438 acres of land at Swellan Upper, Cavan to Mr. John Prior (Roslings Limited) in exchange for the transfer of a plot of land containing 0.2000 hectares or 0.4942 acres to Cavan County Council including a right of way in favour of Cavan County Council extending from Lower Swellan Road (L1519) to the shore of Swellan Lough, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000, and notices circulated.**

   It was

   Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

   Seconded by Councillor N. Brady

   And Resolved

   "that the disposal of 0.0582 hectares or 0.1438 acres of land at Swellan Upper, Cavan to Mr. John Prior (Roslings Limited) in exchange for the transfer of a plot of land containing 0.2000 hectares or 0.4942 acres to Cavan County Council including a right of way in favour of Cavan County Council extending from Lower Swellan Road (L1519) to the shore of Swellan Lough, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000, be hereby approved".

9. **To approve Variation No. 1 of the Cavan County Council Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028**

   (i) Consideration of the Chief Executive's Report on the public consultation of Variation No. 1 of Cavan County Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028

   (ii) Make by Resolution Variation No. 1 Cavan County Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028 in accordance with Section 58(12) of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, and to proceed in accordance with Section 58(18) of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, to publish notice of the making of Variation No. 1.

It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O'Reilly

Seconded by Councillor C. Kelly

And Resolved

"that Variation No. 1 of the Cavan County Council Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028

(i) Consideration of the Chief Executive's Report on the public consultation of Variation No. 1 of Cavan County Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028

(ii) Make by Resolution Variation No. 1 Cavan County Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028 in accordance with Section 58(12) of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, and to proceed in accordance with Section 58(18) of the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, to publish notice of the making of Variation No. 1 be hereby approved".

Mr. Eoin Doyle, Chief Executive outlined that the Chief Executive's Report, Strategic Environment Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and final screening determination had been issued to the elected members following the public consultation period of variation No.1. The members by resolution may propose to make variation No. 1.

Mr. Eoin Doyle, Chief Executive acknowledged the members of Cavan County Council and the staff of the Planning Department for their intense work over a short period of time.

Councillor J.P. Feeley acknowledged the work done on Variation No. 1 by Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service, Mr. Nicholas O'Kane, Senior Planner, Ms. Marice Galligan Graham, Senior Executive Planner and the staff of the Planning Department.

10. To approve the Cavan Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2025 under Section 128 (b)(i) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor W. Bennett

And Resolved

"that the Cavan Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2025 under Section 128 (b)(i) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 be hereby approved".

Votes of Sympathy

Sympathy was offered to the families of the following:

- The McGovern Family, Dowra on the death of Mr. Seamus McGovern, former firefighter with Cavan County Council.
- The Family of the late Mr. David Andrews, former Fianna Fáil T.D., and Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Andrews was married to Annette (nee Cusack) from Ballyjamesduff. Mr. Andrews was the son of the late Mr. Tod Andrews and father to MEP Mr. Barry Andrews. Mr. Andrews was instrumental in peace negotiations in the North and was a signatory of the Good Friday Agreement.
- The Family of the late Mr. Connie Briody, Kilnaleck proprietor of Briody Hardware and Briody Funeral Home, Kilnaleck.
- The Family of the late Mr. Patsy Comiskey, Butlersbridge.

Votes of Congratulations:

- Mr. Séamus Clarke SC a native of Bailieborough on being elected as the forthcoming Chair of the Council of the Bar of Ireland.
- The Bishop of Wurzburg, Franz Jung for hosting the annual delegation from Mullagh and Cavan Count Council to Germany recently.
- The Slieve Russell Hotel, Ballyconnell on hosting the prestigious 43rd European Ladies' Team Championship which brought together over twenty national teams from across Europe for five days of elite amateur competition.
- County Cavan on hosting the 30th FIPSed European Coarse Angling Championship where fifteen of Europe's top national teams competed in the Cavan Lakelands.
- Cootehill athlete, Ms. Sinéad Greenan on being chosen for the Irish Development team for the upcoming World Cup para cycling championship in September. Ms. Greenan, who is visually impaired won a silver medal at the 2026 UEC Para Cycling European Road Championships in Italy, last month.
- Mr. Breifne O'Brien, Cavan, cousin of Councillor N. Brady on being the only Irish Ag-writer to be selected for the 2026 International Federation of Agricultural Journalists Alltech Young Leaders awards programme.
- The Breffni Blues Special Olympics team from Cavan on their recent success at the Special Olympics Ireland Summer Games in Dublin. Councillor W. Bennett proposed that a Civic Reception be held during the year for the Breffni Blues Special Olympics team from Cavan. This proposal was seconded by Councillor T. Smith.
- The Sam Bennett Vintage run on so far raising €10,400 from its bucket collection with further monies to be counted.

MEMBERS' ITEMS – JULY MEETING

11.1 That Cavan County Council provide an update on the North South Interconnector.

Cllr C. Kelly asked the Executive if there were any meetings, correspondence or site visits with Eirgrid since the last Council meeting.

Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service stated that last month, the Council received a detailed submission from the ESB complying with Condition 3 and it will take significant time to go through the submission.

11.2 That Cavan County Council promote walking tourism in County Cavan.

Councillor N. Brady stated that she had been approached by a few people who would like to see walking tourism promoted more widely throughout County Cavan. Councillor N. Brady stated that walking tourism is one of the fastest-growing sectors of the tourism industry and offers a sustainable way to attract visitors while supporting local businesses, rural communities and healthy lifestyles. Councillor N. Brady stated that we are privileged to live in one of Ireland's most beautiful counties, with an abundance of lakes, forests, rolling drumlins, mountains and scenic walking routes that are the envy of many other counties. Councillor N. Brady stated that the success of the Killeshandra Camino Walk has clearly demonstrated the growing popularity of walking tourism and the positive impact it can have on local communities, businesses and the wider economy. Councillor N. Brady stated that we are home to the magnificent Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, with its internationally recognised landscapes and trails, the Shannon Pot, the source of Ireland's longest river. Councillor N. Brady noted that our county also boasts ancient ringforts, megalithic tombs, historic churches, castles, heritage centres and countless places of historical and cultural significance that tell the story of our rich past. Councillor N. Brady acknowledged and commended Cavan County Council for the tremendous work it has already undertaken in developing tourism facilities, walking trails, recreational amenities and visitor attraction centres across the county. Councillor N. Brady stated that now is the time to build on success by increasing the promotion of walking tourism through enhanced marketing and the development of additional linked walking routes where appropriate. Councillor N. Brady stated that a coordinated promotional campaign, working alongside Fáilte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, local communities and tourism providers would help position County Cavan as one of Ireland's leading destinations for walking tourism and outdoor recreation.

Councillor D. Brady supported the motion noting that it was an excellent idea that we promote the walks in County Cavan citing existing walks like the Killeshandra and Swanlinbar Camino, safe walks at Killykeen and further development of walks on Slieve Rushen.

Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that he supports the intention of the motion but not the notion that Councillors have not been promoting walking tourism consistently. Councillor J.P. Feeley acknowledged the good work being done by Tourism Officer, Ms. Joanne Hayes

and noted all the work done in the Cavan Belturbet Municipal District area since the 1980s.
Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that there is a very strong working relationship between Cavan County Council and its counterpart over the border with Fermanagh and Omagh District Councils. Councillor Feeley stated that the issue that needs to be focussed on is accommodation for the many visitors coming to Cavan.
Councillor C. Kelly supported the motion and noted that local greenways are a great success. Councillor C. Kelly stated that the Kingscourt Greenway would benefit from a coffee shop at the end of it.
Councillor C. Brady supported the motion and noted that the new coffee shop at Ballyhaise is really promoting the greenway there.
Councillors T.P. O'Reilly, B. Fay and T. Smith supported the motion.
Councillor N. Brady stated that she was not saying that Cavan is not promoting our walking routes, it was just that people had come to her asking that more walking routes be added to make it more beneficial for tourism and health and wellbeing.
Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service stated that County Cavan had updated its county trails guide earlier this year. Mr. Jennings stated that the maintenance of the county's walkways and trails are a challenge but noted that outdoor lifestyle is good for everyone's health and mental wellbeing.

Funding in relation to Storm damage

Councillor A. Rogers noted that Monaghan County Council received an allocation of €900,000 to repair local and regional roads damaged by Storm Chandra and Cavan County Council received none and wondered why this was the case. Councillor A. Rogers stated that Cavan had more roads needing repair than Monaghan and listed roads that needed repair in the Bailieborough Cootehill Municipal district which were closed for two weeks.
Councillor S.P. O'Reilly asked if central government had repaid Cavan County Council for the money it spent in emergency works during Storm Éowyn in January 2025.
Mr. Paddy Connaughton, Director of Service stated that the money for Storm Éowyn had been paid. Ms. Margaret McNally, Head of Finance stated that the money was received before the end of 2025. Mr. Paddy Connaughton, Director of Service stated that following assessments carried out in March, around one hundred and thirty roads nationwide were found to require complete reconstruction, while more than four hundred and forty sustained significant damage. He stated that several bridges were also damaged and rendered impassible. Mr. Connaughton stated that Cavan did not quality for funding as none of its damaged roads met the scheme's eligibility criteria. Mr. Connaughton stated that regarding funding for damage caused during Storm Chandra, it was a very identifiable scheme and simply was not the correct funding mechanism for Cavan. Mr. Connaughton

stated that when Storm Chandra hit on January 27th, Cavan County Council activated its emergency response, as required, uploaded information on roads damage, impassable routes and road closures to an online government system. Mr. Connaughton stated that it is a matter of public record that Monaghan had forty-three flooded, damaged and closed roads, which is significantly more than Cavan which had fifteen. Mr. Connaughton stated the Bailieboro Cootehill MD was most affected, but the damage was not necessarily from the storm but from the overflow of the Annaghlee and Dromore rivers. Mr. Connaughton stated that once the floodwaters receded there was very little structural damage caused by Storm Chandra. Mr. Connaughton stated that the Government allocated the €400m emergency road repair funding by essentially following the path of Chandra, which mostly affected the south-east of the country. Mr. Connaughton stated that applications for funding ended in February and the sinkhole in Canningstown opened in May.

Councillor T.P. O'Reilly stated that it was a sad situation when we must wait for a storm to show how bad the roads are. Councillor T.P. O'Reilly stated that Councillors have told Ministers and TDs time and time again about the state of the roads and extra money is required for our roads.

Councillor C. Kelly agreed with Councillor T.P. O'Reilly and noted that most of the TDs are from rural Ireland and yet they cannot get money for rural roads.

Councillor S.P. O'Reilly stated that this was the nineth time in three months that the state of roads was discussed and it was becoming monotonous. Councillor S.P. O'Reilly stated that this is the eighth Dublin centred Minister for Transport, and they just do not know what it is like to live down a laneway waiting on LIS.

Councillor B. Fay supported his fellow colleagues,

September Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley and seconded by Councillor W. Bennett that the September meeting of Cavan County Council be held in the Kilmore Hotel, Cavan.

Councillor C. Brady thanked all and wished everyone a lovely break over the month of August.

The meeting concluded at 3.15pm**.**