

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT  
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 11.00 a.m. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON WEDNESDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2024**

**Present:** Councillor Richie Molloy, Mayor  
Councillor Michael Murphy by Zoom  
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose  
Councillor Pat English  
Councillor John Fitzgerald  
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy by Zoom

**In Attendance:** Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services  
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator  
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer  
Ms. Nicola Keating, District Engineer  
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer  
Ms. Anita O'Brien, A/Staff Officer  
Ms. Sophia Doheny, Assistant Staff Officer.

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. Fran Igoe, Regional Co-Ordinator, LAWPRO  
Ms. Margaret Morrissey, Senior Community Water Officer,  
LAWPRO  
Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer, Environment & Climate  
Action  
Ms. Deirdre Molamphy, Staff Officer, Environment & Climate  
Action  
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public

**1.1 Zoom Protocol**

The Mayor confirmed with all persons joining the meeting by Zoom that they could see and hear all other Speakers.

**2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest**

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator informed the meeting that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

**3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2024, as presented, were proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. Pat English and agreed by all.

**Arising from Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**4.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Environment and Climate Action.**

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read. Denis Holland highlighted the adoption of the Climate Action Plan which took place at the February Plenary Council Meeting. He also informed the members that there was huge interest in the Community Climate Action Fund with applications currently being assessed.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

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- Councillor English noted that €40,000 Capital Funding has been allocated for the upgrade of the car park at the entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery and asked for an update on the overall cost of the works.
- Councillor English acknowledged the fact that 32 groups consisting of approximately 700 volunteers have registered to take part in the National Spring Clean in the Borough District.
- Councillor English raised the issue regarding dog fouling stating that fines need to be issued to dog owners and enforcement followed up on in relation to same. He also raised the issue regarding stray dogs roaming in the Old Bridge area and asked that this be followed up, stating that in some instances people have been attacked needing stitches.
- Members concurred with Councillor English in relation to the issue with dog fouling Councillor Ambrose asked if early morning inspections can be carried out similar to what was trialled in Cashel which proved very effective.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the funding received for the provision of 80 additional burial spaces in St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the fact that the new entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery will be a replica of the entrance on the Waterford Road side.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update in relation to the number of household bin inspections carried out.
- Councillor Ambrose requested an update in relation to the number of septic tank inspections carried out and asked how often members of the public should be checking their own septic tanks.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work being carried out in the Carrigeen Amenity Site and asked that the cost for recycling of newspapers be revisited.
- Councillor Molloy asked if extra water connections can be installed in the old area of St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- In relation to the issue raised regarding dog fouling, Denis Holland informed the members that a more integrated approach is needed and that the infrastructure i.e. bins, mutt bags and raising more public awareness will be reviewed.
- Mr. Holland informed the members that the issues raised regarding stray dogs roaming in the Old Bridge area will be followed up.
- In relation to St. Patrick's Cemetery Mr. Holland stated that the Environment Section will liaise with Clonmel Borough District in respect of capital works.
- Mr. Holland informed the members that it is unlikely that the existing water connections in St. Patrick's Cemetery will be extended.
- In relation to the costs for recycling newspapers, Mr. Holland informed the members that this is under review.
- Mr. Holland informed the meeting that people should have their septic tanks checked yearly to ensure that they are operating correctly.
- In relation to household bin inspections, Mr. Holland informed the members that inspections are carried out on a regular basis throughout the County in accordance with household bye-laws for disposal of waste.

The Mayor congratulated Orla Kelly, Administrative Officer, Environment and Climate Action and wished her well in her new appointment with Waterford County Council. He thanked Denis and Deirdre for their attendance at the meeting.

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**4.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate LAWPRO**

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read. Fran Igoe also gave a presentation to the meeting. This highlighted the deterioration in the water quality in Tipperary which has seen a decline of almost 50% in the last 10 years with most rivers not making the required standard for clean water. Mr. Igoe also highlighted the different funding streams which are being made available to groups and organisations which include the Community Development Fund and the Catchment Support Fund 2024. Mr. Igoe stated that the rivers within the Clonmel Borough District have been proposed as a priority area for action in the next River Basin Management Plan in June.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:-**

- Councillor Fitzgerald stated that simpler and clearer guide-lines are needed for people who wish to comply and that a proactive approach is needed to consult with the agricultural community.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if more funding can be made available under the Community Water Development Fund.
- Councillor English stated that it is worrying to see a decline by 50% in the water quality over a 10-year period. He welcomed the treatment of the Moyne and Anner Rivers and asked what the Council can do to help with the problem.
- Councillor Ambrose congratulated Anthony Coleman, Director of Services, LAWPRO and Ruth Hennessy, Executive Scientific Officer, LAWPRO on their presentation before the Oireachtas Committee.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the future planning for the River Ara.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for examples of rivers which meet the blue-line criteria.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the funding grants for 2024 are now exhausted.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- Fran Igoe agreed that guidelines need to be clear and stated that LAWPRO is working with various community groups and the agricultural community. He stated that public awareness needs to be raised and nature-based solutions need to be encouraged e.g. rain gardens.
- Mr. Igoe stated that the Community Water Development Fund is easily accessed. He informed the members that the catchment support grant is new this year with funding ranging from €500 to €5,000 and up to €40,000 for groups operating at catchment scale.
- The members were also informed that LAWPRO support Biodiversity Week, National Heritage Week and Water Heritage Day which enables groups to run events for Biodiversity Week in May and National Heritage Week in August.
- Mr. Igoe informed the members that the Catchment Support Fund for 2024 is closed.
- Mr. Igoe informed the members that a new Farming for Water European Innovation Partnership (EIP) has been established which will see €50million invested through grant funding targeting up to 15,000 farmers nationally. This project provides funding to farmers to implement target actions to

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reduce losses of nutrients, sediment and pesticides from agricultural lands.  
Mr. Igoe stated that the office for Tipperary will be based in Tipperary Town.  
The Mayor thanked Fran and Margaret for their attendance at the meeting.

**5.1 Burial Ground Grants 2024.**

The grants were proposed by Councillor English, seconded by Councillor Ambrose and agreed by all.

**5.2 Tidy Towns Grants 2024.**

The grants were proposed by Councillor Ambrose, seconded by Councillor English and agreed by all.

The Mayor and members thanked all the Committees for their great work and commitment to both the maintenance and upkeep of the graveyards and the maintenance of the Towns and Villages.

**6.1 Report of District Administrator**

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor Ambrose stated that she was delighted to see that the Abbey Street Performance Space was progressing with Suirside Construction being identified as the successful contractor and expressed her thanks to Eamonn O'Connell, Executive Engineer for his work on this Project.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update in relation to the current position on the CCTV installation.
- Councillor Ambrose stated that it was positive news that Remcoll are engaging with the Planning Section and looked forward to the revised application being submitted for the Site at Market Place.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update in relation to the repair of the sensory equipment at Mulcahy Park.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update on the maintenance costs on the Blueway which she raised at the previous meeting.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the progress on phase 2 of Kickham Barracks Site with construction to commence on the new garda station Q4 2024/Q1 2025.
- Councillor Ambrose thanked the District Administrator for arranging the workshop with Iarnród Eireann to be held on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April stating that the current timetable is not fit for purpose.
- Councillor Molloy stated that there had been a great response from the public in relation to the issues at the Railway Station with these queries forwarded to Iarnród Eireann.
- Members asked for an update in relation to the Sports Hub signage and security issues.
- Members requested that Irish Water be contacted again to attend a meeting of the Borough District in relation to the ongoing problems in Clonmel and also highlighted problems being experienced in Rosegreen.

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- In relation to phase 2 works at the Kickham Barracks Site, Councillor English asked if there is full planning permission on the site and if a contractor has been appointed.
- Councillor English welcomed the imminent appointment of a contractor for the works at Suir Island Gardens.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the Jimmy Keating Site at Elm Park stating that this location is an ideal site for social or private housing.
- Councillor English welcomed the fact that quotations have been sought for the repair of the equipment at the Denis Burke Park and Elm Park playgrounds.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the Tree Strategy.
- Councillor English asked for an update regarding the timeframe for a meeting with Minister Eamonn Ryan in relation to the N24.
- Councillor Murphy asked for an update in relation to proposals for Parke's Chemist on Gladstone Street.

**Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:**

- The District Administrator informed the members that TUS are developing their own signage for their 3 National Campuses and will revert with the Clonmel designs. The District Administrator stated that she will follow up on the progress of same.
- In relation to the repair of the equipment at Mulcahy Park, Denis Burke Park and Elm Park Playgrounds, the District Administrator informed the members that quotations have been sought and are awaited for these works.
- In relation to the maintenance of the Blueway, the District Administrator informed the members that specific funding was allocated for these works and it was not funded from Clonmel resources.
- The District Administrator stated that she will contact Irish Water again asking them to attend a Meeting to discuss the ongoing issues and stated that she will also highlight the issues being experienced in Rosegreen.
- In relation to the workshop with Iarnród Eireann, the District Administrator highlighted the importance of a full attendance by the members to highlight the issues at the station.
- In relation to the Jimmy Keating Site, the District Administrator stated that she will ask Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer to follow up with the Environment Section.
- The District Administrator informed the members that the Tree Strategy has been received and is hopeful a draft will be presented to the members at the Borough District Meeting in May.
- In relation to the query raised regarding Parke's Chemist, the District Administrator informed the members that this matter is being progressed with the property section.
- In relation to the N24 the District Administrator informed the members that she will contact Mr. Minister Eamonn Ryan and agreed that the focus is on lobbying Government for the funding for the next phase of the N24.
- In relation to the Garda Station, the District Administrator informed the members that the detailed tender design document is currently being prepared to go to tender in Q3 of 2024 with construction commencing in Q1 2025.

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The District Administrator gave a presentation to the members to highlight the works and the projects that had been undertaken and progressed in the last 5 years during the term of the current council. The overall investment both on operations and projects from 2019 to 2024 was €52,337,865. The District Administrator expressed her thanks to the members for their support and, in particular, for making tough decisions when required, to allow the Executive to seek funding opportunities to deliver on making the District a better place for its citizens.

The members complimented and thanked the District Administrator for her presentation. The members thanked the Executive and the Staff for all their work in completing and progressing projects stating that the next 5 years will be an exciting time to see further projects come to fruition. They thanked previous Councillors who had helped bring some of these projects forward.

The Manager thanked the members present and past for their support around various developments that have progressed. She thanked the members for making difficult decisions for the long-term good of the Town of Clonmel and District.

**6.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme**

The District Engineer's report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor English asked for an update on the maintenance programme to be carried out by the OPW on the streams at the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the maintenance of the bypass grass margins.
- Councillor English requested clarity on the installation of the speed ramps and requested that the policy on same be issued to the members.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the works on the Active Travel Scheme at the Gaelscoil and Loretto.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on resurfacing works at Kilcash.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on funding for the additional signage at Lus na Greine in addition to the pruning of the trees to improve sightlines.
- Councillor Ambrose requested an update on the speed survey at Lisronagh and also on the footpath repairs.
- Councillor Ambrose thanked Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer for the lovely planting at the entrance to Honeyview Estate.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked for an update regarding grass cutting at Mulcahy Park to make the park more user friendly.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if the green area can be removed on the footpaths in Honeyview Estate and these areas concreted.
- Councillor Molloy welcomed the commencement of the grass cutting in the District.

**Queries raised by the Members which Ms. Nicola Keating, District Engineer responded to were as follows:**

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- In relation to the maintenance works on the streams, the District Engineer informed the meeting that consultants are to be appointed by the OPW to carry out these works.
- The District Engineer stated that she will arrange to circulate the Policy on speed ramps to the members.
- In relation to the grass margins on the by-pass, the District Engineer informed the members that she will follow up and progress.
- In relation to the resurfacing works at Kilcash, the District Engineer stated that we are awaiting the Contractor to progress with the works.
- The District Engineer informed the meeting that she will look at installing advanced warning signs at Lus na Greine and will see if the pruning of the trees can be progressed.
- In relation to the footpath repairs at Lisronagh, the District Engineer stated that she will follow up on same.
- The District Engineer stated that she will discuss the works at Mulcahy Park with the Gardening Section. The Manager informed the members that a Landscape Plan is being prepared and will be discussed with the Members.
- In relation to Honeyview Estate, the District Engineer stated that the green areas on the footpaths will not be removed.

**6.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme**

The Report was noted by the Members.

**6.4. Consideration of Updated Schedule of Proposed District Works 2024.**

The District Engineer went through additional changes to the Roads Schedule. These changes were proposed by Councillor Pat English, seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

**Item 7.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.**

These were noted by the Members.

**Items 8.1 to 8.7– Notice of Motion**

**Motion 2790 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy**

That the Council would complete the pruning of remaining small number of trees within the Maple Court Estate on the Silversprings road following some works in 2023, (reference my previous Notice of Motion).

**REPLY:**

The trees in Maple Court will be assessed for consideration for inclusion in the 2024 tree pruning programme in Clonmel.

**Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2799 was proposed by Cllr. Niall Dennehy**

That this Clonmel Borough District initiate / explore the option for Application to be Constituted as 'A City Council / Corporation' similar to Galway which is independent of its County Council, with full Autonomy over its own Affairs.

It is clear that Government Policy is NOT to re-instate Clonmel Borough Council / Corporation, illegally and unconstitutionally Abolished in 2014, to the detriment of Clonmel and its Environs.

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**REPLY:-**

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 saw the dissolution of 80 town councils and the establishment of municipal districts as the fundamental sub-county level of governance and democratic representation in the State. The motion as requested would require a change in legislation and is therefore a matter for the Government to consider further.

As previously advised in reply from the Minister for Planning and Local Government in March 2021, the aim is to achieve stronger, more effective, and more responsive local government. The municipal district arrangement is a key element of the aim to achieve stronger, more effective, and more responsive local government, through more effective local community-focussed decision-making and democratic accountability and representation.

Subject to the approval of the District, the motion can be forwarded to the relevant Minister for further consideration.

**This Motion was not moved in the absence of Councillor Dennehy.**

**Motion 2800 was proposed by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

That Clonmel Municipal District resurface the stretch of road between the roundabout at the Loreto Convent and Entrance at Hillview as a matter of urgency.

**REPLY:-**

The section of road from the roundabout at the Loreto and Hillview to the county boundary is on the roadworks programme for 2024 and will be completed by year end.

**Seconded by Cllr. Pat English**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2801 was proposed by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

That Clonmel Municipal District re install the signage at the Cashel Road Roundabout which was damaged recently.

**REPLY:**

Replacement signage will be installed at Cashel Road Roundabout on the N24.

**Seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2802 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District provide additional car parking space on the green area in Griffith Avenue between House No: 9 and House No: 13 to alleviate the large amount of cars parking on both sides of the existing narrow road.

**REPLY:**

The feasibility of a proposal to remove a section of green area to provide parking at Griffith Avenue is currently being assessed.

**Seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2803 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District look at the problem with traffic on the Coleville Road. Residents from Coleville Avenue find it very dangerous when exiting and entering their Estate from the new roundabout. Cars are not stopping at the roundabout and are driving straight through. Also cars are not stopping when they



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are entering the roundabout at the Loreto Convent from the Mountain Road direction. The residents are looking for improved signage at both locations and also the use of raised cushions to slow down the traffic.

**REPLY:**

With respect to the entrance to Coleville Avenue, we will carry out a speed survey at the location.

With regards to the roundabout at the Loreto, alterations to this junction at the roundabout will be carried out as part of the Safe Routes to Schools project at the Loreto.

**Seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald  
The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2804 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District re-surface the car track to the rear of houses No: 21 to House No: 40 at Bianconi Drive, Clonmel as the existing surface is in a very poor condition.

**REPLY:**

This laneway will be added to the list of roads to be considered for resurfacing in the 2025 roadworks programme.

**Seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose  
The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Item 9.1 Correspondence**

The correspondence as circulated with the Agenda was noted..

**Item 10.1 Votes of Sympathy**

A vote of sympathy was extended to Catherine Carey, Mountain Road, Clonmel on the passing of her mother, Bridget Carey.

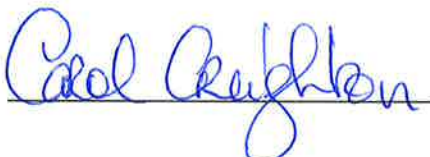
**Item 11.1 Any Other Business**

Councillor Richie Molloy proposed to accord a civic reception to Clonmel Óg on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. This was seconded by Councillor Pat English and agreed by all.

Signed: 

Dated: 21/5/24.

**Mayor of Clonmel Borough District**

Signed: 

Dated: 21/5/2024.

**District Administrator**