

**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, 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025**

**Present:** Councillor Pat English, Mayor  
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose  
Councillor John Fitzgerald  
Councillor Richie Molloy  
Councillor Tom Acheson

**In Attendance:** Mr. Jonathan Cooney, A/ Director of Services  
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer  
Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer  
Mr. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer  
Ms. Georgina O’Loughlin, A/Staff Officer

**Also in Attendance:** Ms. Fiona Crotty, Administrative Officer, C&E Section  
Ms. Ita Horan, Head of Unit, LEO  
Ms. Grainne O’Malley, Integration Support  
Ms. Valerie Connolly, Sports Partnership Co-ordinator  
Ms. Marie McMahon, Museum Curator  
Ms. Ann-Marie Fleming, Biodiversity Officer  
Mr. Martin Collier, Member of the Public  
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public

**Apologies:** Councillor Niall P. Dennehy  
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator

**1.1 Zoom Protocol**

The Mayor confirmed that there were no persons in attendance by Zoom. The Mayor welcomed Ms. Myriam Madigan and Mr. Martin Collier, Members of the Public.

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

The Mayor confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

**3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2025**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Tom Acheson, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

**4.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Economic, Community and Rural Development.**

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

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

- Councillor Molloy welcomed the upcoming substance misuse meeting which is being held in the Talbot Hotel on 5<sup>th</sup> March.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the Tipperary Gift Card will be made available for purchase through more retail outlets.
- Councillor Ambrose asked how much of the €100,000 that has been spent on the Tipperary Gift Card has been recouped by the shops.

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- Councillor Ambrose asked was there any feedback from the Health & Wellbeing Roadshow that was held in Hillview.
- Councillor Ambrose asked where the Tourism Activator clinics will be held and is there a point of contact.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there were plans to rollout a cycle initiative for adults. She also asked about accommodating those in the special needs/disability sector.
- Councillor English welcomed the 149 jobs that were created through grant support from the Local Enterprise office in 2024.
- Councillor English asked if Kathleen Prendergast could do a presentation on the Christmas Retail Supports Grants outlining the economic gain in Clonmel.
- Councillor Acheson asked will there be ongoing promotion of the Tipperary Gift Card.

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

- In relation to the availability for purchase of the Tipperary Gift Card, Fiona Crotty advised that it was also available now for purchase in O’Gorman’s Pharmacy, Gladstone Street and they are continuing to try to get other shops to sell it.
- Ita Horan said she will ask Kathleen Prendergast, Economic Development Officer to give a presentation showing how much of the €100,000 that has been spent on the Tipperary Gift Card has been recouped by the shops.
- Fiona Crotty advised that the attendance at the Health & Wellbeing Roadshow was small and that she would try seek a town centre location going forward. Those that did attend valued the information given.
- Valerie Connolly advised that registration is currently open for “Women on Wheels cycling Programme” which will start in Clonmel on 8<sup>th</sup> March. A sports wheelchair and a handcycle are available from the caretaker in the Sports Hub.

The Mayor thanked Fiona, Ita, Grainne & Valerie for their attendance at the meeting.

**4.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Cultural Services/Libraries & Biodiversity.**

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

Marie McMahon, Museum Curator outlined the following which were not in the circulated report:-

- They have applied for the Heritage Stewardship Scheme funding where it is envisaged that they will revive traditional skills and crafts. They have been working with local schools and will be linking with the TY students woodwork and engineering classes. The ethos is that it is hoped to create a new module to introduces Traditional Skills apprenticeship in Clonmel.
- This year’s pedigree farm will show children behind the scenes and will show how wool gets to the shops.
- Working with Clonmel Junction Festival on an exhibition on Vincent Hanley, a Clonmel native who was an MTV presenter.

AnnMarie Fleming, Biodiversity Officer outlined the following which were not in the circulated report:-

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- The Mission Statement for the Tipperary Biodiversity Action Plan has been agreed. She has applied for funding of €20,000 to complete the screening and graphic design. Plan will go to public consultation at the end of May/start of June and should be launched by September.
- A joint Tipperary Biodiversity and Heritage Forum has been established and they will have their first meeting in September.

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

- Councillor English asked for an update on Clonmel Graveyards Website which were to be taken over by Tipperary Studies.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the new Library.
- Councillor Ambrose asked where we are with grants from the Irish Walled Towns Network for ongoing works.
- Councillor Molloy asked about a grass cutting plan.

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

- Marie advised that Irish Walled Towns Network are meeting in Cashel next week. The Heritage Council have funding available and she is liaising with Gillian Flynn with a hope to availing of the funding.
- AnnMarie Fleming confirmed that she is currently working with Eric Ryan to establish a grass cutting plan for the summer.

The Mayor thanked Marie and AnnMarie for their attendance at the meeting.

**5.1 Update on Marlfield Flood Relief Scheme**

Michael Scully, A/SEE advised that there are 2 distinct schemes involved, 1<sup>st</sup> is the flood relief scheme for the village and 2<sup>nd</sup> is the dam rehabilitation protection scheme. A lot of work is being done in background. The dam rehabilitation protection scheme is a unique scheme and there are environmental and expertise constraints.

Flood relief scheme update:-

Currently procuring ground investigation geotechnical companies. It is hoped to have contractors in place in the next month or two and they will carry out the ground investigations during the summer. When the report is received the final option for the scheme will be decided.

There are numerous interim measures being carried out to provide an element of mitigation against potential flooding and to provide an element of protection to the dam. The lake is monitored on an ongoing basis. Contractor will be on site in the next 2 weeks to carry out some works. A new sluice gate is being fabricated and will be fitted when the levels drop. An Ecologist is undertaking an AA screening and new pipe work is planned.

Quarterly inspection by UK Reservoirs Panel was carried out last week.

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

- Councillor English asked whether retaining waters near St. Patrick's Well was looked at as a part of a solution.
- Councillor Ambrose requested that a visual presentation be brought going forward.

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- Councillor Ambrose asked how many options are available and what timeframe are we looking at for the completion of works.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if the UK inspector has offered any expertise.

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

- Michael advised that consultants looked into upstream storage near St. Patrick's Well. When designing for a flood the standard design is for a 100 year flood. There is no dam standard design in Ireland but the UK standard is the 200 year flood and the land upstream are not big enough.
- Michael agreed to provide a visual presentation going forward.
- There are 2 options available and the ground investigation report will decide the preferred one.
- The UK inspector looks at construction issues and a lot of the interim measures that are carried out are based on his report.

The Mayor thanked Michael for his attendance at the meeting.

**5.2 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 Fitzgerald asked for an update on the progress of the Plebiscite.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on CCTV given that the final information was sent to the Commissioner.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on when Abbey Street carpark will be fully open.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the installation of signage at the Sports Hub.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on Sir Island Gardens.
- Councillor Acheson asked for an update on the URDF call 4 application.
- Councillor Acheson asked for an update on the derelict sites in Clonmel and requested that the new team provide a workshop or attend the next meeting.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the CPO for Parkes Chemist is still on target.
- Councillor Molloy asked for an update on the planning application for Market Place. He also asked if the owners could be contacted in relation to the hoarding which has come away and is very dangerous.
- Councillor Molloy asked for an update on the Clonmel Arms site.
- Councillor English asked if a letter issued to Br. Aidan McGrath, Franciscan Provincial Minister.
- Councillor English asked if a letter issued the Minister for Transport in relation to the N24.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the Suir Island Bridge project.

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

- Mary advised that the Plebiscite was commenced and that it is a lengthy process and agreed to revert to Councillor Fitzgerald with an update.
- There has been no response from the Commissioners Office on CCTV and it will be followed up.

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- The newly appointed dereliction & vacant homes team are engaging with the office in relation to the derelict sites that are on the URDF application and also on the derelict sites register. Planning will be attending the April meeting and they may have a further update.
- The CPO of Parkes Chemist is being pursued by newly appointed dereliction & vacant homes team.
- Mary will follow up with the planning section to ascertain if there is any progress on Market Place and will contact the owners in relation to the hoarding.
- Mary confirmed that a letter issued to the Friary.
- The District Administrator has drafted a letter to the Minister for Transport in relation to the N24 which will be sent next week.
- There is no update on URDF call 4.
- Mary will follow up with the planning section in relation to the Clonmel Arms site.
- Gillian advised that the ESB are on site in Abbey Street carpark this morning and Suirside Construction are back on site on Monday. Works are expected to be fully completed early May 2025.
- Suirplant are on site at Suir Island Gardens and the completion date is June 2025.
- The Sports Hub have procured a contractor to install external signage across all their campuses including Clonmel.
- Suir Island Bridge Project is still with An Board Pleanála and a decision is awaited.

**5.3 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 Fitzgerald asked for an update on the lights at National School Killurney School as they are out of order.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if a pedestrian crossing can be installed in Clerihan going across to Harney's.
- Councillor Fitzgerald requested that the flashing sign at Springmount Hill be moved closer to the junction in Poulmucka.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if the grass margin outside Whelan's house on the Cashel Road is going to be re-instated as a lawn when the Active Travel Project is complete.
- Councillor Fitzgerald requested that Old Toberaheena be included in the 2025 Roadworks Programme.
- Councillor Fitzgerald requested that the speed limit at Redmondstown Junction at the Kilsheelan side be reduced.
- Councillor Fitzgerald requested that the trees along the by-pass be given urgent attention.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the application for ORIS funding for a drinking water station on the Blueway was submitted and also requested that the provision of a toilet facility be revisited.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the maintenance works being done on the Blueway. She also queried who pays for these works.
- Councillor Ambrose requested that additional taps be provided in the cemetery, particularly in the older section.
- Councillor Ambrose asked when the next phase of the cemetery extension will commence.

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- Councillor Ambrose asked if there is funding available to resurface the cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose queried if a Stop & Go system could be used instead of traffic lights on the Cashel Road while the Active Travel Project is underway.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there will be a two lane system when you approach the roundabout at the end of the Cashel Road when the Active Travel Project is complete.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was any plan to expand the town bus route.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if a review of the Disabled Parking spaces in Clonmel could be undertaken.
- Councillor Molloy asked about the lights on the Fethard Road roundabout, some of them have been out of commission for a while.
- Councillor Molloy asked the Disabled Parking spaces in Thomas Street could be painted blue.
- Councillor Molloy asked if Gillian could liaise with the residents of Barr an Aird estate across from the Rugby Club as there is an ongoing issue of horses in the Council owned field across the road.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the works to be carried out by the OPW on the streams and river in the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the patching works from Carrick to Kilsheelan.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the installation of a raised crossing in Ard Fatima.
- Councillor Acheson requested that the grass be cut more frequently.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the two lane system at the roundabout at the end of the Cashel Road could be re-assessed with a view to having the left lane for turning left only and the right lane for going straight and turning right, similar to the new layout that was done on the Fethard Road in Clonmel.

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

- In relation to the lights at Killurney National School, the District Engineer advised that she will liaise with Michael Tierney, Executive Engineer and will also call her contact in Al Read.
- The District Engineer advised that she will look at traffic calming measures as a whole in Clerihan village with a view to applying for Low Cost Safety Funding in 2026.
- Having liaised with the Tipp/Cahir/Cashel area it has been agreed to provide feedback signs at the Clonmel side of Poulmucka.
- The District Engineer advised that she will check the design drawings regarding the grass margin area on the Cashel Road.
- The 2025 Roadworks Programme is to be agreed today and Old Toberaheena will be included in 2026.
- The Local Link will be undertaking a review of the existing service in Q3.
- A speed limit review is currently underway in the County and Redmondstown is part of this.
- In relation to the trees on the by-pass, the District Engineer confirmed that she has applied for further funding through the TII to carry out this work.
- The application for ORIS funding for a drinking water station on the Blueway has been submitted and an application for a water connection has been submitted to Uisce Eireann. The provision of toilet facilities is not feasible at present.

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- Hedge cutting is currently underway on the Blueway and the verges will be mowed afterwards. Clonmel Borough District pays for maintenance from Clonmel to Carrick.
- The taps in the cemetery have been assessed and the District Engineer will liaise with Environment on this.
- The District Engineer advised that the traffic management on the Cashel Road is limited to an absolute minimum but traffic lights were required on a number of occasions. She will query if Stop & Go paddles can be used.
- A two lane system will be in place as you approach the roundabout at the end of the Cashel Road when the Active Travel Project is complete.
- The District Engineer confirmed that the 2 disabled spots in Thomas Street will be painted blue and that a review of the existing spaces will be undertaken.
- In relation to the lights on the Fethard Road, the District Engineer advised that she will liaise with Michael Tierney, Executive Engineer and will also call her contact in Al-Read.
- The District Engineer will liaise with Environment in relation to the horses on the lands opposite the Rugby Club.
- An AA Screening is still ongoing by the OPW in relation to the clearing of the streams in the Old Bridge.
- Patching works in Kilsheelan were completed in the last week.
- The installation of a raised crossing in Ard Fatima is due to commence before the end of February.

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

The Report was noted by the Members.

**5.5 Consideration of Schedule of Proposed District Works 2025**

The Schedule of Proposed District Works 2025 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson and agreed.

**6.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.**

These were noted by the Members.

**7.1 to 7.6– Notice of Motion**

**Motion 2924 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District resurface the section of road from the traffic lights at Abbey Road to the Marlfield Junction under the 2025 road works programme.

**REPLY:**

This section of road has been added to the list of roads to be considered for resurfacing in 2025 under Clonmel Town Works.

**Seconded by John Fitzgerald.**

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

**Motion 2925 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District request the National Road Authority to provide a roundabout at the Junction of the Heywood road and the Frank Drohan Inner Relief Road, as the existing junction is very dangerous for all road users.

**REPLY:**

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The most recent safety intervention at Heywood Road - N24 Junction was implemented during the Clonmel Inner Relief Road Pavement Scheme which was completed in 2020. We have requested collision data from TII to establish if the additional bollards have resulted in improved safety based on collision data since 2020. The Heywood Road junction forms part of the N24 Waterford to Cahir Project, the intervention for this section of the N24 is an existing N24 corridor improvement or upgrade, therefore any further interventions at this location are unlikely. The preferred solution for this junction will be established during the development of the N24 Waterford to Cahir Project.

The Members requested that a letter issue to the TII requesting a roundabout on this junction.

**Seconded by Siobhán Ambrose**

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

**Motion 2926 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District request the Plenary Council to harmonise the Pay Parking charges throughout the County in the interest of fairness, as the Pay Parking for Clonmel is the highest in the County and has been since the amalgamation 11 years ago.

**REPLY:**

This work is under way through the Roads SPC and will be brought back to the Plenary Council with a proposal once that process is completed.

**Seconded by Richie Molloy.**

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

**Motion 2927 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

Given the success of the Council's 12 camper van sites on Suir Island I am asking that consideration is given for the rollout of additional camper van spaces within this site.

**REPLY:**

We currently have 18 Camper van spaces within Suir Island Car Park, three of the spaces are taken over by the Suir Island Gardens contractors site compound.

The Suir Island Infrastructure Links Project is currently with An Bord Pleanála for consideration. This project proposes to remove the existing 33 spaces on the Quay and it is anticipated that the users will be accommodated in the Suir island Car Park.

Typically, the 15 available spaces are sufficient to accommodate our weekly camper van demand it is only on festival weekends such as St. Patricks Day that the site reaches capacity. On the occasions that there aren't enough designated camper van spaces, the additional camper vans use the car parking spaces.

Based on the above we wish to retain the existing number of spaces and continue to allow any additional camper vans use the car parking spaces. The three bays within Suir Plants compound will be brought back to use in June 2025.

**Seconded by Pat English.**

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

**Motion 2928 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

What is the latest update on my previous motion requesting that in the interest of safety that the pedestrian crossing in Lisronagh Village be upgraded to include where possible a raised platform, new lighting and if possible speed ramps either side of the platform.

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**REPLY:**

A speed survey was carried out at this location in April 2024. The survey recorded the 85th percentile speed in excess of the 50 kph speed limit. A design will be completed in line with the Councils Traffic Calming Policy. A funding application for the Low Cost Safety Improvement Works Programme was submitted in 2025, we did not receive funding in the recently published allocations. We will reapply for funding under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Works Programme in 2026.

**Seconded by John Fitzgerald.**

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

**Motion 2929 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

Following on from my previous notice of motion on this issue what is the latest update from the National Transport Authority regarding the upgrading of the bus stop opposite Ormonde Stores in Kilsheelan.

**REPLY:**

We have contacted the National Transport Authority to see if there is funding available to develop a design and implement improved bus stop facilities at Ormonde Stores on the N76.

Development of bus stop improvements at this location will require consultation and approvals from the NTA and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

**Seconded by Pat English.**

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

**Item 8.1 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to be noted.

**Item 9.1 Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy**

Votes of sympathy were extended to:-

Georgina O'Loughlin on the passing of her grandmother Peg Hennessy.

Marie McMahon on the passing of her father in law Andrew McMahon.

Fergal Condon on the passing of his father Liam Condon.

Adam Coffey on the passing of his aunt Mary Scully

The Fuller Family on the passing of Barry Fuller

**10.1 Any other Business**

Councillor Tom Acheson asked if the existing Ukrainian families in Clonmel are going to be accommodated in the new modular homes that are being erected.

Signed: 

**Mayor of Clonmel Borough District**

Dated: 19/03/2025

Signed: 

**District Administrator**

Dated: 19/3/2025