

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, 20TH MAY, 2026

Present: Councillor Pat English, Mayor
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose
Councillor John Fitzgerald
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy
Councillor Tom Acheson
Councillor Richie Molloy

In Attendance: Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services
Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Asst. Staff Officer
Ms. Sophia Doheny, Asst. Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Ms. Sharon Scully, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer, Environment
Ms. Margaret Morrissey, Senior Community Water Officer, LAWPRO
Mr. Darragh Kelly, Community Water Officer, LAWPRO
Mr. Ger Ryan, Administrative Officer, ZEVI Programme
Mr. Mike Richardson, Senior Executive Engineer, ZEVI Programme
Mr. Joe Hawkins, Member of the public

Apologies: Ms. Marie O'Donnell, District Administrator
Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer

1.1 Zoom Protocol

The Mayor confirmed with Katie O'Donovan member of the Media who was joining the meeting by Zoom that she could hear all speakers.

2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer, confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 15th April, 2026.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 15th April, 2026, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy, seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

4.1 Part 8 – EV Charging Hub Suirside Carpark

The Chief Executive's Report as circulated with the Agenda was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose and seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald. The Mayor thanked Mike and Ger for their attendance at the meeting.

4.2 Fix date for AGM

The date for the AGM was fixed for Thursday 18th June, 2026 at 11am. This was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

5.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Environment & Climate Action

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

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Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose asked what will the EPA be considering when assessing the Certificate of Authorisation for Kilsheelan Landfill.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an overview of the biomethane production facility was.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on additional grave spaces and a second columbarium for St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose requested an update on the extension of the wall at entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if consideration could be given to a crematorium.
- Councillor English asked when was the application for Kilsheelan Landfill submitted to the EPA.
- Councillor English welcomed the pilot CCTV programme in Suir Island and noted the drop in litter fines. He requested that the provision of more CCTV throughout the District be explored.
- Councillor Molloy asked if additional dog fouling bins and

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

Sharon Scully, Senior Executive Officer, Environment introduced herself and advised that she shares duties of the Directorate with Denis Holland, Senior Engineer.

- Responding to the query raised in relation to the Kilsheelan Landfill, Sharon advised that the application was submitted in 2013. Nicola Keating, Senior Executive Engineer is corresponding with the EPA and a further update will be sought. any update will be circulated.
- Sharon advised that the biomethane facility is in Lisheen not Clonmel.
- Sharon advised that she will liaise with Denis in relation to the crematorium query and the entrance to the cemetery.
- Sharon confirmed that there are plans to roll out further CCTV and if any Member has a site in mind to advise Denis.
- A financial exercise is currently underway to establish if there is funding available for additional mutt mitt dispensers around Clonmel.

The Mayor thanked Sharon and Fergal for their attendance at the meeting.

5.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate LAWPRO

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

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose asked what specialist contractors are required to remove hogweed and can individuals be trained.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the ongoing engagement with the Tidy Towns.
- Councillor Ambrose highted the 2% decline nationally in Tipperary in water quality and asked is there a known reason.
- Councillor Acheson asked when the 2025 Water Quality figures will be available.
- Councillor English highlighted the slight improvement in water quality in Clonmel District and asked was it known where the improvement came from, was it the high uptake by the farming community for the grant available.

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Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- Margaret advised that the contractors for hogweed are normally qualified environmental consultants or ecologists and that it is possible for individuals to be trained to carry out small works.
- Darragh welcomed the engagement with Marlfield & Kilsheelan Tidy Towns and he is meeting with Lisronagh next week. He advised that if any other Tidy Towns groups in the area want to get involved he is open to meet with them.
- In relation to the national decline in water quality, Margaret advised that there is a decline in the water quality in general in the South East.
- In relation to the water quality in Clonmel, LAWPRO are not focused on Clonmel at present. There was some improvement in the nitrogen levels in Tipperary and further work needs to be done to see if this is a once off or will it be consistent.
- Margaret will check when the 2025 Water Quality figures will be available and revert.

6.1 Clonmel Junction Festival – presentation by Rebecca Lenane

Rebecca gave a presentation on the Clonmel Junction Arts Festival 2026. The Festival is running from 3rd July to 12th July and she outlined the planned events. The projected attendance figures are 12,000.

The Mayor thanked Rebecca for her presentation.

7.1 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 English queried when were the 2 URDF applications submitted and when is a decision expected.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the vacant Heaton's & Dunnes buildings.
- Councillor English asked for a timeframe on the CCTV installation.
- Councillor English expressed thanks to all staff involved in the organisation of Ruaile Buaille who are playing at Clonmel Live and Loud on Saturday 23rd May.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if applications will be considered after the closing date for the Painting & Enhancement Scheme.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- Mary Irwin advised that the 2 URDF applications were submitted on 1st May and no decision has been received to date.
- In relation to the Dunnes & Heaton's building Mary advised that the Borough are working closely with the Town Regeneration Team and a working group has been established to review rates on vacant properties.
- Civil works for the CCTV installation will commence mid June.
- The closing date for the Painting & Enhancement Scheme is Friday 22nd May 2026. A lot of applications have been received and consideration may be given to ones received after the closing date.

7.2 Placemaking

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The Placemaking Report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

- Councillor English thanked everyone for the work being done.

7.3 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 Ambrose thanked Gillian Flynn, District Engineer for progressing the 2 drinking water stations on the Blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose asked how the allocation of €50,000 from the TII for Suir Island will be spent.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the drainage works at Glenconnor.
- In relation to the repairs to the glass bridge in the Old Bridge, Councillor Ambrose asked for a timeframe.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the pedestrian crossing in Lisronagh.
- Councillor Molly advised that hedges are hanging over the footpath heading down from the Sports Complex on the Cashel road and asked if they could be cut back.
- Councillor Molly requested that the slip road by Toberaheena Well and Kevin O'Leary's Garage be assessed to see if a one-way system is feasible.
- Councillor English queried if any funding was received from the Department for storm damage.
- Councillor English thanked Gillian Flynn, District Engineer for installing litter bins in Irishtown.
- Councillor English requested that Active Travel be contacted in relation to the poor road surface on the Cashel Road and also the severity of the pedestrian ramp at the end of the hill.
- Councillor English asked for a timeframe for the completion of works in Knockeevan.
- Councillor English requested an update on the expected completion date of Suir Island Gardens.
- Councillor English advised that no update was given at the Plenary meeting on the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- The District Engineer advised that there was a 10 week lead time on the play equipment for Suir Island Gardens and delivery is due middle of June. Works will recommence and be fully complete by the end of August.
- In relation to the query about the €50,000 received from the TII for Suir Island Bridge this was for maintenance issues such as knotweed treatment. TII has not given approval for progressing to the next stage.
- Funding request for Lisronagh pedestrian crossing was unsuccessful, an application will be made under the Safety Improvement Grants for 2027.
- OPW has approved the replacement of the panels on the glass bridge. Next step is to obtain a consultant to prepare a tender. The District Engineer will revert with a timeframe.
- Contractor appointed to Glenconnor road drainage project, start date to be confirmed.
- The District Engineer advised that she would review the hedges on the Cashel Road.
- In relation to the query of a one-way system at Toberaheena Well the District Engineer agreed to meet Councillor Molloy on site to review same.

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- No additional funding has been received from the Department for storm damage it is still under consideration.
- The District Engineer will request an update on the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- In relation to the Active Travel works on the Cashel Road the District Engineer advised that she would liaise with them regarding the issues and try source funding for some patching works. It will be included in the 2027 roadworks programme for additional works.
- In reply to the query on Knockeevan, the District engineer emailed Uisce Éireann to establish if they are finished their works. No reply has been received, further contact will be made.

7.4 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The Report was noted by the Members. Councillor Pat English asked for a timeframe on the 10 vacant properties. The District Engineer advised that all properties are in different state of repair and they are being worked on as quickly as possible.

Item 8.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 15th May, 2026.

These were noted.

Items 9.1 to 9.7 – Notice of Motion

Motion 3138 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District would install more public toilets similar to ones in Cahir as there is a chronic shortage of facilities in Clonmel.

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District has two automated public conveniences in Clonmel. One is located at Mulcahy Park and the other is located on the Quays. These toilets cleanse themselves and are attended to daily by the company that manages them on behalf of Clonmel Borough District. There is a significant cost associated with the provision of these toilets and there is no provision in the budget for additional units.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3145 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That the Freedom of the Borough of Clonmel be conferred on President of Ireland, Catherine Connolly in recognition of her elevation to the office of President of Ireland and in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the academic, cultural, artistic and political life in our country and as a token of the high esteem in which she is held by the people of Clonmel.

For all this and much more, the Mayor and the Members of Clonmel Borough District consider her worthy to be enrolled in the role of its Honorary Citizens.

A Special Meeting of Clonmel Borough District shall be convened on 22nd May, 2026 at 2pm for the purpose of formally conferring the Freedom and that all necessary arrangements be made in this regard.

REPLY:

The Members will be aware that the conferral of the Freedom of the Borough of Clonmel is the highest honour which may be bestowed by the Clonmel Borough District.

The proposal to confer the Freedom of the Borough of Clonmel on the President of Ireland is now a matter for the Members to consider and decide upon. The matter has been considered and recommended by the Standing Orders Committee of the Borough District and the Councils Corporate Policy Group.

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If approved, a Special Meeting of Clonmel Borough District will be convened on 22nd May 2026 at 2.00pm to formally confer the honour, and the Executive will make the necessary administrative and ceremonial arrangements.

A vote was taken in accordance with the Standing Orders.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3147 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District request the Minister for Mental Health Mary Butler T.D. to reopen a dedicated inpatient psychiatric unit at Tipperary University Hospital, Clonmel.

REPLY:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the Notice of Motion requesting that Clonmel Borough District write to the Minister for Mental Health, Mary Butler T.D., seeking the reopening of a dedicated inpatient psychiatric unit at Tipperary University Hospital, Clonmel. On the agreement and approval of all members of Clonmel Borough District, a formal letter will issue to the Minister outlining the District's request.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3148 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District provide a disabled drivers parking space outside Anglesea House, Anglesea Street, Clonmel.

REPLY:-

It is proposed to install a disabled driver parking bay at Anglesea House.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3149 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

I am requesting that we write to both the Minister for Justice Jim O'Callaghan T.D., Garda Commissioner Justin Kelly and Chief Superintendent Aileen Magner to again reinforce the need for additional Gardai to be deployed to Clonmel.

REPLY:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the Notice of Motion requesting that Clonmel Borough District write to the Minister for Justice, Jim O'Callaghan T.D. Garda Commissioner Justin Kelly and Chief Superintendent Aileen Magner to again reinforce the need for additional Gardai to be deployed to Clonmel. On the agreement and approval of all members of Clonmel Borough District, a formal letter will issue to the Minister and the Chief Superintendent outlining the District's request.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3150 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

In order to encourage and support future investment into Clonmel I am asking that a promotional video specific to Clonmel is produced.

REPLY:

The concept of developing a promotional video to support and encourage further investment in Clonmel is acknowledged as a positive initiative.

If the Motion is approved by the Members, it will be forwarded to the Community & Enterprise Section of the Council to consider further.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

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Motion 3151 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

That consideration is given to the rollout of an interactive tourism app for Clonmel which would cover tourist attractions but also directions as to where to eat out, shops and arts and culture venues in the area.

REPLY:

Information was sought from the Tourism Officer, Tipperary County Council.

Tipperary Tourism are currently developing AI itineraries which will provide 2-to-7-day itineraries and showcase our members, where to eat, sleep, shop, visit and what events are on during their time in Clonmel, for example. Tipperary Museum of Hidden History, working with tourism and heritage have put an Expression of Interest seeking a qualified tour guide to showcase Clonmel, the stories, history and areas of special interest. This will be on a pilot basis to start with and will be interactive, more than a historical tour. The tours are hoping to start this summer season, and the tourism department will work with the cultural department in the promotion of these tours.

There is potential to generate a QR code on town maps across the town, as some of those business listings are out of date; it can lead back to www.Tipperary.com, for example, showing what visitor services are available in the area. It takes the necessity out of updating business listings on apps, as it would be updated in the background on a site of choice.

If the Members of Clonmel Borough District agree, the District can proceed with the generation of QR codes on town maps in collaboration with the Tourism Officer.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 10.1 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for noting.

Item 11.1 Votes of Congratulations

Vote of congratulations was extended to:-

Sean Tobin, c/o Circles, Market Street, Clonmel on winning the Dublin City Marathon.

Item 12.1 Any other Business

There was no further business discussed.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 17/06/2026.

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 17/06/2026.