

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 a.m. IN TOWN HALL, PARNELL STREET ON WEDNESDAY, 19th OCTOBER, 2022**

Present: Councillor Pat English, Mayor
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy
Councillor Michael Murphy (Zoom)
Councillor Richie Molloy (Zoom)
Councillor John FitzGerald

In Attendance: Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services
Mr. Carol Creighton, District Administrator
Mr. Roger Noonan, District Engineer
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Assist. Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance
Mr. Paddy Brennan, Accountant

From the outset the Mayor Cllr. Pat English offered a vote of sympathy on behalf of all the members of the Clonmel Borough District to the families of the victims of the Creeslough, Co. Donegal gas explosion. A minute's silence was observed.

Item 1.1a Zoom Protocol

The Mayor confirmed with those attending by Zoom that they could see and hear all other Members.

Item 1.1b Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

It was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose and seconded by Cllr. Pat English to move to item 3.1.

Item 3.1 Clonmel Borough District – Draft Budgetary Plan 2023

Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance and Mr. Paddy Brennan, Accountant referred to draft budgetary plan 2023 circulated to Members with the agenda.

General Municipal Allocation	€145,306
Gross Revenue Expenditure	€145,306
Housing	€795,000
Road Transport & Safety	€3,710,000
Environmental Services	€660,500
Recreational and Amenity	€705,000
Relevant Directorate Expenditure	€5,870,500

The following queries were raised by members:

- Cllr. Niall Dennehy asked what the total discretionary expenditure for Clonmel Borough District will be for 2023?
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy stated that the budget for the Clonmel Borough Council was miniscule in comparison to the Clonmel Borough Council budget prior to the 2014 merger.

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Members' queries were addressed as follows:

- As outlined in the report the discretionary expenditure is €145,000.
- Ms. Sinead Carr, Town Manager confirmed that the amount of spend now absolutely matches the spend prior to the merger. She stated; in fact in a number of areas it has significantly increased.

The draft budget was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose and seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald.

Item 2.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 21st September, 2022

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 21st September, 2022, as presented, were proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

Matters Arising:

- Cllr. Niall Dennehy referred to the closure of the Franciscan Friary in Clonmel. He appealed on his own behalf as a roman catholic to the Franciscans hierarchy not to contemplate any deconsecrating of the Franciscan Abbey in Clonmel.
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy referred to his notion in relation to the use of capital assets in regards to dereliction. He requested that the Mayor, Cllr. Pat English engage with the owners of the derelict sites in Clonmel such as Clonmel Arms Hotel and Market Place.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if design options had been finalised for Marlfield Flood Design.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if any correspondence had come back from Irish Water in relation to the notice of motion from the last meeting?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose enquired as to whether there was an update on St. Patrick's Cemetery, in relation to the new entrance?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked about an update on St. Patrick's Road and Silversprings traffic survey?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if the District Administrator has sent a letter to the IDA requesting a meeting with senior management in relation to the IDA facilities at Ballingarane.
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the town bus service?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if the Director of Services had issued a letter to Irish Water requesting that they attend a meeting in relation to the water supply to the town?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there is any update on the lift for people with disabilities and mobility issues for the Town Hall?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if a letter was issued to Irish Rail in relation to the lack of services in the town.
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald stated that we could not be seen as a council to be meddling in the affairs of the Franciscans as they are entitled to do whatever they want with their premises.

Response made as follows;

- The District Administrator stated that she did write to the Franciscan's and have told them that the Clonmel Borough District are available to meet and discuss the matter with them if they choose to accept that offer.
- In relation to capital assets and derelict sites, the District Administrator stated that the Clonmel Borough District are still working and engaging with the owner of the

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Clonmel Arms Hotel. They have adhered to measure that were requested of them to date and are engaging well with us. The Clonmel Borough District are also engaging currently with the architects involved with Market Place and that is currently ongoing.

- The District Administrator stated that she had wrote to Irish Water and asked for them to meet with the members and she is to await his advices on same.
- Follow up correspondence was sent to the IDA in relation to the issues raised by Cllr. Pat English and we have not heard back from them to date.
- The town bus service is still being discussed with the NTA and the District Administrator is waiting on a response from them in relation to re-installing the service in Clonmel. It is hoped that a response will be made in the next few days and an update will be given to members when received.
- The issue in relation to the Lift in the Town Hall is still proving to be difficult to resolve and the District Administrator is engaging with Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Senior Engineer in relation to same as works on the town hall building progress.
- The District Administrator confirmed that she wrote a letter to Irish Rail in relation to the services in the town of Clonmel and that a meeting was requested. No response has been made to date.
- The District Engineer is aware of funding for St. Patrick's Cemetery and will give members an update during the week in relation to same.
- An update on Marlfield Flood Alleviation Plan will be circulated to members over the next few days as an update will be requested from Mr. Michael Scully, Project Manager.

Item 4.1 Report of District Administrator

The District Administrators Report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

Queries raised by the members were as follows:

- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked for an update on the sensory items that were to be included in the new upgraded equipment of Mulcahy Park Playground?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if the enhancement and painting scheme was still open for applicants?
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald asked for an update on the process on the Christmas lights or any proposals from the Council in relation to same. Cllr. Fitzgerald fears that a lot of businesses have thrown in the towel this year due to escalating costs.
- Cllr. Richie Molloy said that members of the public have been asking him what is the position this year in relation to the lights?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if there would be an opportunity for some of the larger businesses around the town to be involved with the Christmas lights?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if the works in Kickham Barracks with a competition date of end of November would it include works to chapel and café?
- In relation to the LIT sports hub Cllr. Pat English asked what is the completion date and when will it be open for the members of the public to use?
- In relation to part 8 of Suir Island Gardens, Cllr. Pat English asked when will that go to public consultation?
- Cllr. Pat English asked when are the repairs to the Town Hall to be carried out next year?
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the CCTV system for Clonmel.

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- Cllr. Pat English welcomed the draft Tree Strategy attached to the agenda and thanked the District Administrator on her involvement and work to date.
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was any response from the Minister of Health in relation to requesting a meeting to discuss the reinstatement of bed in Clonmel for mental health patients.
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the proposed walk from the Wilderness Gorge, Clonmel.
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was any possibility of getting a dog pound for the south of the County in light of the recent closure of the facility in Clerihan.
- Members requested a meeting with the Chief Superintendent in relation to the anti-social behaviour being carried out in the town centre.

Queries raised by the Members which Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator responded to were as follows;

- In relation to the sensory equipment at Mulcahy Park, the District Administrator stated that she would find out the position in relation to this and revert.
- The District Administrator confirmed that the Enhancement and Painting scheme has now closed as the budget for the scheme has been fully utilised.
- In response to the concerns raised in relation to Christmas lights in Clonmel, the District Administrator confirmed that she works closely with the Town Traders and also the electrical contractor involved in erecting the lights. The traders had come up with a costing on same and have been asked to re-evaluate and come back to discuss. The town traders have been told that the Council will not be responsible for the full funding of Christmas lights but that we are here to support any ventures and new initiatives that we can work with. Turning lights off earlier will help with reducing the cost of electricity.
- In relation to the tree strategy, comments were received back from the town forum and tidy towns group, the District Administrator asked if the member could come back with any comments in relation to the heading of the tree strategy, it will then go out to public consultation.
- Gillian Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer has progressed on the Wilderness Gorge walk and intends to put it through next year for NTA funding.
- Ms. Sinead Carr spoke in relation to the dog pound in the south of the county, she appealed to all members of the council that if they knew of anybody that would be interested in running this service to contact the Environment Section.
- In relation to the CCTV proposal that has to be sent to the national advisory committee which is hoped to be sent on the 2nd December, 2022. Going forward the Council will be the data controller. New application is being drafted currently and will be submitted to An Garda Síochána. 86 Cameras that are proposed.
- In response to the members request for a meeting “in Camera” with the Chief Superintendent in relation to the concerns of anti-social behaviour in the town of Clonmel and in particular the lack of Garda presence this will be arranged by the District Administrator.
- The District Engineer responded to the query in relation to the opening of Kickham Barracks and stated that he was hopeful mid-November would be the due date. The works would include façade improvements to the Chapel and the Café, internal works will be another project and doesn't form part of this overall project.
- LIT sports hub is scheduled to be open by mid-November and all facilities will be open to the public.

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- In relation to Suir Island Gardens, part 8 was advertised up to the end of September the Chief Executive report was not available in time for this meeting but a special meeting will be held on Friday 29th October, 2022 at 10am to sign off on same.
- The Town Hall improvement works should be scheduled for Q1 of 2023.
- The District Administrator will follow up with the Minister for Health in relation to mental health beds in Clonmel.

Item 4.2 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:

- Cllr. John Fitzgerald asked if Mr. Roger Noonan can follow up on the works to be carried out on the footpaths outside Abbey Retail, Clerihan which was agreed.
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald asked Mr. Roger Noonan to revert back with a solution to the current issues in relation to speed ramps near Clerihan N.S.
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald stated that both Lisronagh and Clerihan National Schools had requested a need for some permanently install bollards to stop parking in certain areas near the school, could this be facilitated?
- Cllr. Richie Molloy asked what the reason for the closure of the gates in to O'Neill Street/Gordon Street Car Park as residents in the area had queried same with him?
- Cllr. Richie Molloy referred to his previous notice of motion in relation to signage in all Council car parks stating the name of the car park as confusion occurs when people refer to different car parks by different names.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked when footpath replacement works will be carried out in Ballypatrick and Kilcash?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose stated that the speed limit sign coming from Cashel into Rosegreen village is not working and if the District Engineer could get somebody to have a look at it.
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was any update in relation to Marlfield Allievation Scheme?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if works were to soon commence on the resurfacing of the road near the centra shop, Dungarvan Road at Old Bridge?
- An update on the Kilsheelan Cluster Housing Scheme was requested by Cllr. Pat English?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was any update on when works would take place at Rathronan crossroads?

Queries raised by the Members which Mr. Roger Noonan, District Engineer responded to were as follows:

- The District Engineer stated that he would look in to the previous notice of motion raised by Cllr. John Fitzgerald in relation to Clerihan N.S. and contact Cllr. John Fitzgerald in relation to same. He stated that he would also investigate the footpath issue at Abbey Retail and revert.
- In relation to the permanent bollards at Lisronagh and Clerihan N.S. this would be subject to available funding in which the District Engineer stated he would contact Cllr. John Fitzgerald in relation to same.
- In response to the issue raised in relation to the closed gates at the laneway at the entrance to Gordon Street Car Park was due to anti-social behaviour. The Mayor,

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Cllr. Pat English confirmed that he was dealing with Ms. Gillian Flynn on the matter and she confirmed that she was currently applying for funding and they will remain closed until funding is available to fix the gates that were vandalised.

- The District Engineer stated that he would progress the signage to be made visible at the entrance to the council car parks in Clonmel in response to Cllr. Molloy's previous notice of motion.
- The footpaths at Ballypatrick are been delayed due to issues with traffic Management. Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer is currently working on the project.
- In relation to the Kilcash footpath works, the District Engineer agreed to liaise with Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose in relation to same.
- The matter of the broken speed sign on the Cashel side of Rosegreen will be looked at and rectified.
- Mr. Michael Scully, Project Manager for the Marlfield Flood Alleviation scheme will be asked for an update on the scheme.
- The Dungarvan resurfacing is scheduled for the Halloween break.
- Rathronan crossroads will be check on to see where the position is currently on progressing works at that location and the District Engineer will revert to Cllr. Pat English on the matter in due course.
- In relation to the Kilsheelan Cluster Housing Scheme is now being dealt with by Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer in the planning section and update will be requested.

Item 4.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

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

- No issues were raised.

Item 5.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 14th October, 2022

The item was noted.

Items 6.1 to 6.6 – Notice of Motion

Motion 2488 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose

Following several representations, I am asking that Clonmel Borough District Council increases it's checks on the disability parking spaces around the town amid increasing reports that persons without disability stickers are parking in these clearly marked disabled parking spaces. There has also been an increase in the number of vehicles double parking beside a disabled car space which in turn prevents the disabled person from both accessing their car and leaving the disability space. I have no doubt that additional checks on these disability parking spaces would greatly reduce these two problems.

Reply:

TCC employ 2 full time Traffic Wardens. The traffic wardens have been informed of this representation and have confirmed that they will monitor the disabled spaces closely over the coming months to ensure that any illegal parking is minimised.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2489 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose

That the Clonmel Borough District Council in conjunction with the Environmental Section explores the possibility of providing toilet facilities along the Blueway and in addition if I can

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also have an update on my previous motion regarding the provision of drinking water (refill) machines along the Blueway

Reply:

The provision of toilets along the blueway would necessitate the provision of (a) water supply, (b) vehicular access to service the facility assuming that a direct foul connection is not available and (c) weekly inspections by a sub-contractor/cleaner to ensure adequate supply of provisions and cleaning. If Cllr Ambrose can provide further details with regard to number of toilets and suggested locations of same a more detailed assessment can be conducted.

With regard to drinking water (refill) machines the provision of these will require an available water supply and the implementation of an appropriate maintenance regime. If Cllr Ambrose can provide further detail with regard to number of water drinking points and suggested locations of same a more detailed assessment can be conducted.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2490 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

In light of the recent €6.4 million in additional funding to upgrade the Limerick to Ballybrophy train line I am asking that the Clonmel Borough District Council seeks a meeting with Senior Officials in Iarnród Éireann with a view to requesting an update regarding their future proposals to upgrade the Limerick to Waterford train line (includes Clonmel), the train service from Clonmel to Dublin and any other rail connectivity opportunities for both passengers and freight (goods). Clonmel is the capital town in the County and we need to ensure that it has good connectivity in addition to an upgraded train timetable that will give flexibility to people travelling to and from Clonmel for the purposes of work, business, hospital appointments, college, tourism and recreational travel.

Reply:

Correspondence from the District has issued to Iarnród Éireann following previous representations on this matter. Copy attached.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2491 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District Council replace the footpaths to the front of both the Gael Scoil and St Mary's CBS School in Irishtown as the existing footpaths are in a very dangerous condition.

Reply:

These footpaths will be assessed and a further update will be provided at the November meeting.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2492 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District Council consider surface dressing the road from Chalks House on the L-3279-O to Hacketts House on the R-688-6 to Cashel Road under the 2023 Road Works programme.

Reply:

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This road will be assessed in the coming months and condition depending may be considered for inclusion in the 2023 Roads Maintenance Programme. A further update on this motion will be provided when the Roads Maintenance Schedule is being prepared.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2493 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District Council remove Parking Charges in Clonmel on Saturdays to encourage footfall in Town and to support local Traders who are finding it very difficult to trade under the current economic downturn.

Reply:

Clonmel Borough District will be providing Free Car Parking in Council owned Car Parks every Saturday in the month of December as per previous years and this will be advertised in the coming weeks as part of everything that will be going on in the run up to the Christmas Season

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 7.1 Correspondence

No correspondence was noted.

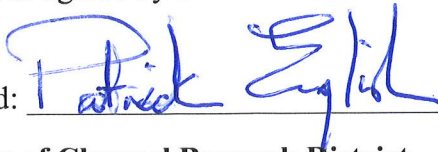
Item 8.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

- A vote of sympathy was issued to the family of the late Geraldine Scully, Morton Place, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.
- A vote of sympathy was issued to the family of the late Nora Molumby, Cloughaleigh, Golden, Co. Tipperary.
- A vote of congratulations was issued to Clonmel Commercials GAA Club on their recent Tipperary Senior Football Title.
- A vote of congratulations was issued to Clonmel Ladies Commercials GAA Club on their recent progression to the Munster LGFA Senior B Club Final.
- A vote of congratulations was issued to Dr. Paud O'Regan, on his recent retirement and his very successful career.

Item 9.1 Any Other Business

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat English and seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose that a special meeting would be convened in relation to the Part 8 for the Suir Island Gardens on Friday 28th October, 2022 at 10am in the Town Hall Chamber, Parnell Street, Clonmel.

This was agreed by all members.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 16/11/2022

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 16/11/2022