

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 a.m. IN TOWN HALL, PARNELL STREET ON WEDNESDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER,
2022**

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

In Attendance: Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services
Mr. Carol Creighton, District Administrator
Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer
Mr. Roger Noonan, Executive Engineer
Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. Liz McGrath, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Assist. Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Mr. Michael Moroney, Project Regeneration & Development Officer
Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Paul Killeen, Executive Planner
Mr. John Fogarty, Executive Engineer

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 Cllr. Niall Dennehy on the recent death of his sister-in-law Mrs. Margaret Dennehy, RIP. He also wished to express a thank you to the Franciscan Friary Order for their service to the people of Clonmel for the last 753 years after the recent announcement that the final Mass will be celebrated in the friary on January 6 next year.

Item 1.1 Zoom Protocol

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

Item 2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

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

Item 3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 13th July, 2022

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 13th July, 2022, as presented, were proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

Matters Arising:

- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose requested that the Chief Executive Officer liaise with the Roads Directorate in relation to the provision of a bank card facility for parking meters in Clonmel?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if there was an update on Market Place?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked for an update on the provision of additional E-charging points?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked for an update on the Library upgrading works?

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- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose acknowledged the painting of the railings outside the Town Hall and requested that the flag poles be painted.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if there was an update on the provision of signage on the Rathronan bend.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose welcomed that the submission of a design options report from the Consultants on Marlfield Lake flood alleviation scheme is expected in the coming weeks.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose requested an update on the road design at Ballybeg Junction in Clerihan.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose requested an update on the new entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose requested an update on the traffic survey at St. Patrick's road and Silversprings road.
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy requested an update on the Town Bus Service.
- Cllr. Pat English asked if a letter was issued to the IDA requesting an update on Ballingarrane.

Response made as follows;

- The District Administrator confirmed that it was a policy decision and it should be taken up at the Plenary.
- There is no update on Market Place since the last District meeting.
- An update will be sought from Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer, Environment Section on the provision of additional E-charging points.
- An update will be sought from Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian on the Library upgrade works.
- The internal works to the Town Hall will commence next year and it will be checked if the painting of the flag poles can be included with these.
- The District Administrator spoke to the NTA project group for Clonmel who will look at putting a temporary measure be put in place for the Town Bus Service until they go to procurement.
- The District Administrator will follow up with the IDA in relation to the Members request for a meeting.

Item 4.1 To agree 3 priority National Roads items for inclusion on the Agenda for Annual Meeting with Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer advised Members that the 3 National Roads Items he wanted included were:-

1. Resurfacing of the N24 in Kilsheelan Village
2. Resurfacing of the N24 at Traas Apple Farm.
3. Complete the remaining road resurfacing works on the N76 from Kilcash Cross to the boundary with the Carrick District

These were proposed by Cllr. Pat English and seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

Item 5.1 Town Centre First; Clonmel ~ Update on URDF call 3 application

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Michael Moroney, Project Regeneration & Development Officer who proceeded to make a Presentation.

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The call for the application is expected in the latter part of the year and will essentially revolve around 2030 vision and the 3 elements of the Kickham Barracks, Flights of Discovery and the Urban Realm. There is a significant amount of preparatory work required. The next call will align closely with Town Centre First and an Action Plan needs to be prepared to feed into the URDF application. It is expected to bring the Draft Action Plan to Members at the November meeting.

Sinéad Carr, Director of Services acknowledged the work that Michael is putting into the URDF and Town Centre First. She cited that Clonmel 2030 is effectively our Town Centre First. All our actions, projects and programmes need to be in one central document in order to align it with Government funding spend. All content has already gone through some element of consultation/planning. The economic business case for the URDF is currently been worked on by Michael and specialised consultants.

Members thanked Michael for his presentation and welcomed that Town Centre First and URDF are a priority.

Item 6.1 The proposed taking in charge of Rathronan Close, Clonmel

It was proposed by Cllr. Pat English and seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose and agreed by all.

Item 7.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Planning

Mr. Paul Killeen, District Planner and Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members with the agenda detailing key issues relating to the Planning Directorate.

Key issues in the briefing note included:

- County Development Plan adopted on 22nd August 2022.
- Clonmel Local Area Plan – workshops Q4 2022
- Residential Zoned Land Tax – Public Consultation November 2022
- Urban Regeneration and Development Fund
- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund
- Clonmel 2030
- Kilsheelan Cluster Housing
- Conservation Grant Schemes 2022
- Historic Structure Fund 2022
- Taking in Charge
- Planning Applications

The following queries were raised to the briefing note by members:

- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the Kilsheelan Cluster Housing?

Members' queries were addressed as follows:

- Roger Noonan, Executive Engineer advised that the detailed designs for Kilsheelan Cluster Housing were complete and indicative figures exceed the budget and will need to be re-costed.

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The Mayor thanked Mr. Paul Killeen, District Planner and Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer for their attendance and report.

Item 7.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Water Services

Mr. John Fogarty, Executive Engineer referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members with the agenda detailing key issues relating to the Water Services Directorate.

Key issues in the briefing note included:

- Irish Water Investment Plan 2020-2024
- Irish Water Infrastructure Projects for County Tipperary
- Clonmel Town and Rural water supply scheme
- Investment Plan Portfolios
- Networks Portfolio Delivery (Water & Wastewater)
- Irish Water National Water Resources Plan
- Irish Water Small Towns and Villages Programme
- Non-Domestic Water Charges
- Council Workshops with Irish Water
- Water Sector Transformation

The following queries were raised to the briefing note by members:

- Cllr. Pat English cited the significant lack of investment in the Poulavanogue and Glenary supplies.
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was a date in sight for the lifting of the recent boil water notice put in place on the Glenary supply?
- Cllr. Michael Murphy cited that the lack of investment is the biggest challenge and asked what is the plan for the next 6-12 months?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose cited that the communication from Irish Water is extremely ineffective and proposed that Irish Water are requested to attend a special meeting of Clonmel Borough District. This was seconded by Cllr. Pat English and Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services agreed to issue a letter.

Members' queries were addressed as follows:

- John Fogarty advised that samples are still been taken from the Glenary supply and the boil water notice will be lifted once the HSE are satisfied with results. Minor upgrade works will be required.
- The Capital Scheme for Glenary has moved onto the Capital Delivery Stage. Irish Water are still committed to the Main Clonmel Scheme.
- The Monroe well exploration team are in place.
- The interim scheme is currently 4 years away and the main scheme is 10 years away.

The Mayor thanked Mr. John Fogarty, Executive Engineer for his attendance and report.

Item 8.1 Report of District Administrator

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

Queries raised by the members were as follows:

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- Cllr. Pat English for an update on the new Tree Strategy?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was any response from the Minister for Mental Health?
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the provision of a lift to access the Chamber in the Town Hall?
- Cllr. Pat English asked was there any response from Irish Rail in relation to the upgrading the Limerick Junction to Waterford Line?
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the Loop Walk in the Powerstown area?
- Cllr. Pat English queried about the movement of the Dog Pound to Nenagh and asked why there is no local service?
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald asked what the overall strategy for the provision and funding of the Christmas Lights this year given the mounting costs involved?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked if the new equipment for Mulcahy Park will include Sensory items?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked for an update on the provision of a Digital Hub?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose welcomed the ORIS funding for parking at the base of Slievenamon.

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

- In relation to the Tree Strategy the District Administrator advised that an email was sent this morning to Members looking for their comments and will also be forwarded to the Town Traders.
- There has been no response from the Minister for Health in relation to mental health and a further letter will issue.
- The District Administrator will follow up with Mr. Jonathan Cooney, SE in relation to lift access in the Town Hall.
- There has been no response from Irish Rail and a further letter will issue.
- Ms. Gillian Flynn, A/Senior Executive Engineer, will assess the loop walk in the Wilderness and check if it can be linked back into the cycle path projects on the N24.
- Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services will talk to the Environment Directorate in relation to the dog Pound.
- In terms of Christmas Lighting Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services advised every January the Traders are asked to come together and bring a strategy to the Council. They traders need to come together with new proposals and encourage all traders to engage and to come up with ways to create additional funding. The Council will certainly assist funding but it needs to be a partnership. The District Administrator advised that she has always worked with the Town Traders and will continue to do so. She will continue to support any initiatives brought forward. She currently links in with the Museum Craft Fair, Shop Window Display Competition, Win Wednesday Competition and the Santa Parade.
- Locations are currently being identified for the Digital Hub.
- The equipment for Mulcahy Park will be Sensory friendly.
- Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer will oversee the Slievenamon Parking project.

Item 8.2 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. Pat English asked for an update on safety works being carried out at Mocklerstown?
- Cllr. Pat English asked about an update on when works will be carried out at Rathronan crossroads?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was any update in relation to the Marlfield flood alleviation project?
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on the Pedestrian Crossing in the Old Bridge?
- Cllr. Pat English asked for an update on Dowds Lane Bulmers Visitor Centre?
- Cllr. Pat English asked when the resurfacing on the Dungarvan Road will take place?
- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose asked about the signage for the bend in Rathronan?

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

- The signs will be erected at the bend in Rathronan in the next 2-3 weeks.
- Works on the bend at Mocklerstown will be starting in the next 2-3 weeks. These will not include resurfacing works as the funds were not available however this will be included in next year's programme.
- Caherclough will be carrying out the works at Rathronan crossroads.
- An update on Marlfield flood alleviation was already circulated to Members.
- The resurfacing on the Dungarvan Road will be carried out during the October Mid-Term School break.
- No update on the Pedestrian Crossing in the Old Bridge.

Item 8.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

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

- No issues were raised.

The Mayor advised that this was the last meeting for Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer and wished him well on his impending retirement. Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services, Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator together with all Members expressed their thanks for the service and dedication given by Eoin.

Item 9.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 16th September, 2022

The item was noted.

Items 10.1 to 10.10 – Notice of Motion

Motion 2456 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

I refer to that section of the Blueway from the Presentation Convent to the Old Bridge, that the Council would provide one additional bin directly across from

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Clonmel Rowing Club having regard to the large amount of rubbish accumulating at this location. I've received numerous representations in this regard.

Reply:

The District Engineer has inspected this on the ground on three occasions since the NOM was submitted, however, on each occasion no evidence of rubbish and/or illegal dumping was found along this section of the Blueway. The DE spoke with the Town Gardener and he too has not noticed any rubbish here. In addition, it has been a number of weeks since a clean-up was carried out at this location, and even then, the amount of rubbish was insignificant. However, the DE will monitor this location over the coming weeks and months to see if situation changes, and at that stage a new solution may have to be considered.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2461 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

That Clonmel Borough District erect plaques on locations of note within the town similar to plaques erected in other towns to highlight the various people who lived in the buildings.

Reply:

The policy with regards to the erecting of plaques is covered in the Tipperary County Council Civic Memorial Policy which was adopted in May 2019. The Cultural Team (comprising the Director of Cultural Services, County Librarian, Heritage Officer, Arts Officer and Museum Curator) will consider any applications and will make a recommendation to the relevant Municipal District Council who will consider the applications and the report from the Cultural Team and then decide on the matter.

The motion was seconded by Cllr Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2462 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District provide fencing and locked gates to the rear lane of house 1 to 13, Brook Crescent, Old Bridge, Clonmel, to curtail the large amount of anti-social behaviour in the area.

Reply:

This issue is essentially a matter for the Guards as there is anti-social behaviour and drug dealing occurring along this laneway.

However, the District Engineer has inspected this site and has noticed that, with the exception of House No.1, that there is already a concrete panel fence to the rear of these houses that varies in height from 1.85m to 2.20m, which in his opinion is of adequate height. The double gates that are already in place at the end of the cul-de-sac are only 800mm high, and it might be possible to replace them with higher gates, however, this would also involve replacing the existing metal fencing on the east side of the access road into the estate with a 2m high palisade fencing all the way back up as far as the Dungarvan Road.

Currently the existing locked and chained gates are accessed by the Council to maintain the lane and the deep open drain to the north, by Irish Water who have

a wayleave over the entire length and width of the lane in order to maintain the foul sewer, and the adjoining landowner to the north who has access across the lane to his lands. Before any works can be carried out here the Council will have to meet with Irish Water and the adjoining landowner to agree whatever works may need to be carried out, and one or other may not agree to have any works carried out.

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

Motion 2463 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.

That Clonmel Borough District give some serious thought into the current traffic problems at the Junction of Queen Street and Bolton Street, Clonmel, given the additional concerns with traffic that will be created when the new Lidl Store in Queen Street is open.

Reply:

The District Engineer is aware of the issues at this particular junction. The application submitted by Lidl included substantial works to Queen Street, in that, they are to recess their entire front boundary wall into their site such that a separate right-turning lane from Queen Street into Bolton Street can be accommodated, (i.e., there will now be three separate lanes of traffic at this junction). A traffic management plan was submitted as part of this development and this was the agreed layout between Lidl, the DE and the Planners.

The DE suggests that we wait until these works have been completed and monitor the outcome to verify that the proposals at this junction are adequate, in which case no further action will be required.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr John FitzGerald.
The reply to the motion was noted.**

Motion 2464 was proposed by Cllr. Niall Dennehy

That the €145 Million in Capital Assets and the €30 Million+ cash-in-hand Assets of Clonmel Borough Corporation/Council transferred to the control of Nenagh in 2014 be used as collateral to purchase derelict, unused sites in Clonmel such as the Clonmel Arms Hotel to expedite re-development of same in the interests of Clonmel and the broader community. Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) are Not an unknown phenomenon.

Reply:

There are currently a number of new Department Funding Schemes available for vacant properties and derelict sites such as Croi Conaithe Vacant Properties Refurbishment Grant, Top Up Grant for Derelict Properties and Repair and Lease Scheme. Clonmel Borough District is working very closely with the Environment Section and the Vacant Homes Officer in the Housing Section to ensure property owners, the public and businesses have maximum take up on all of these available grants. The District will seek own funds and assistance for projects/properties that are deemed beneficial for the wider community.

The motion was seconded by Cllr Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2474 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy.

Having regard to its poor condition, that the L-32731 close to Lisronagh Village is considered for resurfacing under the 2023 Area Roadworks Programme.

Reply:

The District Engineer has surveyed this rural road which is about 433m long and has 5 No. dwellings on it, and is considered to be a category Red Road. However, as this is a tertiary road/boreen it is not eligible to be submitted as part of the Roadworks Plan for 2023. The locals could however get together and make a submission under the Community Involvement Scheme, (CIS), for 2023 and this would in my opinion be considered very favourable under that scheme.

The motion was seconded by Cllr . Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2479 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy.

That the Maple Lane estate in Silversprings is considered for resurfacing in 2023 under the Area Roadworks Programme having regard to its poor condition.

Reply:

The District Engineer has inspected this access road into Maple Court and has noted that the road is in reasonable condition. However, there are few locations where the roadway is in need of repairs.

The District Engineer will include this for consideration as part of the 2023 Development Contributions Works for Clonmel Town

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2480 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

In view of the almost weekly water outages in Clonmel can Irish Water give the Clonmel Borough District an up to date report on both the short and long term plans that they are proposing to eliminate these constant water outages. These outages are impacting heavily on homes and businesses in the Clonmel areas. Furthermore, Irish Water's communications policy needs to be reviewed as it is not providing up to date information for residents impacted by the water outages.

Reply:

If the members of Clonmel Borough District agree to this Notice of Motion, Clonmel Borough District will refer the contents of same to Irish Water for a response.

The motion was seconded by Cllr Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2481 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

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That the Clonmel Borough District is given a full report by Irish Water on both the short and long term plans that they are proposing to take in order to ensure that the current water disturbances in Kilcash, Ballypatrick, Kilsheelan, Killusty and the surrounding areas are being re-solved. These outages are impacting heavily on homes, farms and other businesses in these areas. Furthermore, I would also ask that Irish Water's communication policy be reviewed as it is not providing up to date information for residents impacted by water outages.

Reply:

If the members of Clonmel Borough District agree to this Notice of Motion, Clonmel Borough District will refer the contents of same to Irish Water for a response.

The motion was seconded by Cllr John FitzGerald.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2482 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

In acknowledging the recent sad announcement that the Friary in Clonmel is to close its doors after over 753 years of dedicated service to the people of Clonmel can I ask what communication have management within the Council had with the Franciscan Order in terms of exploring the possibility of taking ownership of this wonderful church building and its history with the town for over 753 years. In the event that the Council were fortunate enough to be in a position to take ownership of the Friary we could include this wonderful building as part of the Council's upcoming application to the next round of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) which will shortly be announced by the Department.

Reply:

The District Management has made contact with the Franciscan Order to thank them for their enormous contribution and service to the town of Clonmel and its environs over the past 700 years. It was also noted that they have left a very real and lasting legacy for which the town will be forever grateful. As an addition, the District offered any support or assistance that they might need in the coming months and once they have had time to consider their future decisions, our direct contact details were also provided should they require same.

The motion was not seconded.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 11.1 Correspondence

No correspondence was noted.


Item 12.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

- A vote of sympathy was issued to the family of the late Tara Callery (nee Purcell, Ard Caoin, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary).
- A vote of sympathy was issued to the family of the late Mary Darmody (nee McGill), Cherrymount, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

Item 12.2 Any Other Business

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The Mayor welcomed Mr. Roger Noonan who will be taking up the post of District Engineer and also Ms. Liz McGrath who recently took up the post of Senior Staff Officer.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 19/10/22,

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 19/10/22.

