

**Minutes of October Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District  
hosted in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Tipperary Town and held  
remotely on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 at 11am**

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**Members Present:** Councillor John Crosse, Cathaoirleach  
Councillor Micheál Anglim  
Councillor Declan Burgess  
Councillor Liam Browne  
Councillor Mary Hanna-Hourigan  
Councillor Roger Kennedy  
Councillor Máirín McGrath  
Councillor Andy Moloney  
Councillor Marie Murphy  
Councillor John O’Heney  
Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner)

**Officials Present:** Ms. Sharon Kennedy, District Director  
Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator  
Mr. James Swords, District Engineer  
Mr. Richard Power, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Tim Kilmartin, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Frank Cussen, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Adeline Walsh, Staff Officer

**Finance Directorate**

Ms. Sarah O’Callaghan, Financial Management Accountant

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The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John Crosse, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the October meeting. Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator, commenced the meeting with the meeting prayer.

**1.1 Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest**

There were no matters notified to the meetings administrator.

**2.1 Minutes of September Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024.**

The minutes of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District September meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor Marie Murphy, seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy.

**Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **3.1 Consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2025**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Sarah O'Callaghan, Financial Management Accountant, to the meeting.

Ms O'Callaghan referred to the District's Draft Budgetary Plan circulated with the agenda. She highlighting the GMA for 2025 which is the Districts discretionary budget and noted the increase arising from the decision of the Elected Members to increase the LPT at the September, 2024 meeting. The 2025 GMA allocation to the district of €361,063 is based on population and the 2022 census figures. She confirmed that the Directorate Gross Revenue Expenditure are indicative figures for 2025 and the Members will be advised of the 2025 Council Budget at the budget meeting.

Councillor Moloney referred to the distribution of small amounts of GMA monies and proposed that it should be at the discretion of the District Administrator. Councillor Burgess thanked Ms O'Callaghan and acknowledged that the decision of the Members to increase the LPT put us in a better position. Councillor Crosse expressed his disappointment at maintaining the same figure as last year particularly having regard to inflation. Councillor Browne confirmed that it is a budget cut because of the extra services provided by the District to maintain newly developed walkways and amenity spaces etc. He asked if there was any consideration given to inflation and the price index. Councillor McGrath and O'Heney agreed. Councillor Murphy welcomed the increase in the GMA amount and noted that the Revenue Expenditure are indicative figures and any concerns should be raised at the Budget meeting.

On the proposition of Councillor Marie Murphy, seconded by Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, the GMA Allocation for 2025 was noted.

The District Director acknowledged the concerns of the Members and confirmed that she will bring them to the attention of Mark Connolly, Director of Finance. She confirmed that there are a number of steps to getting Statutory Budget approval and a series of workshops will be held with the Elected Members prior to the Budget meeting. The manner in which the GMA is distributed is a decision for the Members and this can be agreed in the new year and she also acknowledged the flexibility recommend by the Members.

Ms O'Callaghan thanked the Members and highlighted again that the Revenue Expenditure is just an indicative figure because items like the Roads Grants aren't known yet.

### **3.2 District Engineer's Report**

The District Engineer's Report was circulated to the Members with the agenda and Mr. Swords advised the Members that the drainage works is currently being completed.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the District Engineer and his team for all their help during the year. Councillor McGrath requested advice for landowners in relation to ragwort growing on the verge on the old N8, particularly now that this is hedge cutting season. Councillor Hanna Hourigan thanked the staff for the great service and requested that the issue with the traffic lights on the brow of the hill on the Dundrum to Cashel road be looked at because there were significant problems at the weekend. Councillor Moloney referred to the works at Mountain View Drive which on the report states that they are 100% completed, however there appears to be work outstanding. Councillor Kennedy also wanted to compliment the team and referred to the review of the storm water system in Cashel and to increased flooding. He asked if there was funding available for drainage works. Councillor Burgess referred to the amount of money being spent on resurfacing and that it was important that Uisce Eireann's reinstatement work is of good quality. He also wanted to thank Danny Croke for his work and wish Jack O'Sullivan all the best in his new role. He also wanted to wish John Ryan, GSS a very happy retirement. Councillor McGrath referred to taking in change and asked if the issue with the public lights in Dun Uisce could be resolved prior to Halloween in the interest of public safety given that children will be trick or treating. Councillor O'Heney referred to the works at Cullen and notes that it is 100% complete, however the Tidy Towns have requested that the verge could be filled in. Councillor Browne asked if drainage works at Thomastown were scheduled due to ongoing problem with flooding at the cross. He also asked what is the process to having the lights in the housing estate turned on. Councillor Kennedy thanked the team for removing the growth at Ardmayle Bridge.

In response the District Engineer advised the Members that Kieran Ladden may be able to prioritise street lighting in Cahir. Regarding hedge cutting the TII is responsible for maintaining the motorway, however landowners are responsible for maintaining the verges on the old N8 and the Council has marked areas not to be cut because of invasions species like Japanese knotweed etc. In relation to Councillor Hanna's query in relation to traffic lights for road maintenance, this needs to be referred to Michael Woulfe. He also confirmed that the Housing Section will complete the works at Mountain View Drive as part of the housing development. Drainage works commenced in Cashel this week and the monitoring at Wallors Lot is continuing. He also thanked the Members for their comments in relation to Danny, Jack and John and he will pass them on. The District Engineer agreed to get the drains at Thomastown surveyed and the matter in relation to the lights in the estate will need to be referred to Kieran Ladden. The District Director advised the Members that in some estates there is a bond, however, some are insufficient and the Council is very mindful of the residents in the estate for their safety and wellbeing. She agreed to ask Kieran Ladden to contact Councillor Browne.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the District Engineer and his team.

### **3.3 District Administrator's Report**

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to the Members with the agenda and he was open to questions. Councillor Browne requested details in relation to the business case for Sean Treacy Swimming Pool and the potential users for 7/8 Main Street, Tipperary town. He also requested details of who attends the Cashel Town Forum Meetings and could he see a copy of the minutes. He also requested an update on the Plaza project in Cashel and if the new signage will be installed by the end of 2024. He asked how the reinstatement carried out by Broadband companies is monitored. Councillor O'Heney asked who was running the community bus and how can it be booked. Councillor Hanna Hourigan referred to previous Swimming Pool Committee meetings where Councillors received an update from the pool manager. She requested a financial update and a reason why some groups are not being facilitated. Councillor Burgess requested an update in relation to the Interpretive Centre/Visitors Centre in Cashel.

In response the District Administrator advised that he has presented a briefer report to make it more impactful, however he failed to update the figures of the RRDF project in Cahir. He confirmed that the business case for the Canon Hayes Centre and the Swimming Pool was at an early stage and all funding options are being explored. He confirmed that in time he will come back to the meeting with more detail and also agreed to hold an in committee meeting with a fuller briefing. Regarding the BAM funded building he confirmed that funding under Built Heritage Grant was received to upgrade the street front and that this was a Tipperary Revitalisation Taskforce project and they will invite proposals. He confirmed that the Cashel Town Forum meets quarterly and there are representatives from the OPW, Chamber of Commerce, South Tipperary Development Company, Cashel Tidy Towns, Cashel Heritage Centre, An Garda Siochana and Tipperary County Council. The minutes can be made available. Mr Frank Cussen confirmed that Cashel received funding to develop a signage plan and this was delivered. Further funding would be required to deliver this plan. The District Engineer confirmed that any excavation like installing broadband requires a road opening licence which will have conditions. He acknowledged that some reinstatements are temporary, however all excavations are mapped and any complaints should be made through CRM. The District Administrator confirmed that the Garda Driver has to be appointed to the community bus. Regarding the Interpretive centre, Mr McGowan confirmed that a full review is being carried out in relation to the Interpretive Centre at present. Councillor Burgess requested that the Elected Members be kept up to date.

Councillor McGrath asked how often BAM funding becomes available and the District Administrator confirmed that the purpose is to repurpose and reuse vacant or derelict buildings. He confirmed that Shane Grogan is leading the Town Regeneration Team and there is increased activity and focus. Councillor Moloney proposed that the District Administrator be given the authority to approve small amounts of GMA spending without the Members approval and this was seconded

by Councillor John O’Heney. Councillor Burgess recommended that any changes regarding the GMA would be discussed at the GMA workshop in the new year. The District Director advised that the GMA is the Elected Members discretionary fund and any allocation of monies would have to be in keeping with the Scheme, however she would prefer sign off by the Members.

#### **4.1 Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders**

The orders were noted.

#### **5.1 Councillor Andy Moloney (Ref. ID 2878)**

That this Council assess the footpaths on Main Street Ballyporeen and upgrade where necessary.

##### **Reply**

Logged as a CRM for follow up. The relevant Area Engineer will be in contact regarding particular areas of concern.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Máirín McGrath.

#### **5.2 Councillor Andy Moloney (Ref. ID 2879)**

That this Council put a 3 year plan in place to repair broken footpaths in the town of Cahir as 11 estates have been taken in charge in the past 5 years and no funding has been allocated towards maintenance on top of the existing paths in older estates.

##### **Reply**

The condition of footpaths in the District is constantly being assessed and proposed works identified. Repairs are planned and carried out under current funding levels. Without a dedicated funding source, a 3 year plan is not required.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Máirín McGrath.

#### **5.3 Councillor Liam Browne (Ref. ID 2888)**

That until such time as a new Cemetery location in Cashel has been agreed, the council consider existing family ties and proximity of the deceased to Cashel (within 20 miles), when allocating burial plots in the Cemetery, save in exceptional circumstances (deceased unknown for example).

##### **Reply**

Further to ongoing discussions regarding Cashel Cemetery it has been agreed to defer this Notice of Motion to a future date being not later than January 2025.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Declan Burgess.

#### **5.4 Councillor Declan Burgess (Ref. ID 2889)**

That this Municipal District Council provide an update on the traffic calming and village regeneration in Kilfeacle.

#### **Reply**

The District has flagged the need for works at the location to the TII. Roads Capital are currently liaising with TII in regard to Feasibility and Options reporting.

This motion was seconded by Councillor John Crosse.

#### **5.5 Councillor John O’Heney (Ref. ID 2890)**

That this Council will install waste bins at all picnic area in Rossadrehid and that these bins will be added to the Council's waste collection rota.

#### **Reply**

It is not planned to install waste bins at this location, which would be consistent with other such rural recreational facilities, where users are encouraged to bring their waste home.

This motion was seconded by Councillor John Crosse.

#### **6.1 Votes of Sympathy**

A vote of sympathy was extended on the death of the following:

- Lizzie Browne, Main Street, Clogheen, Co Tipperary in her 103<sup>rd</sup> year

#### **6.2 Votes of Congratulations**

A vote of congratulations was extended to the following:

- Aherlow GAA on winning the FBD County Intermediate Football Championship
- Cappawhite Ladies Football on winning the Tipperary ILFC County Championship

#### **7.1 855 Bus Route from Tipperary Town to Cashel Via Cahir**

Councillor Máirín McGrath appreciated the response from Anthony Moroney, TFI Local Link Tipperary and suggested Kilmoyler Church as a bus stop location because a stop on the N24 is not a suitable location.

### 8.1 Any other Business

There was no other business.

**This concluded the business of the Municipal District meeting.**

Signed/  Dated/ 25-11-24  
Cathaoirleach

Signed/  Dated/ 25/11/24  
District Administrator

