

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 11.00 a.m. IN TOWN HALL, PARNELL STREET ON WEDNESDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022**

**Present:** Councillor Michael Murphy, Mayor  
Councillor Pat English  
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy  
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose  
Councillor John Fitzgerald  
Councillor Richie Molloy

**In attendance:** Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services  
Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer  
Mr. Jim Dillon, District Administrator  
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer  
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Assist. Staff Officer

**Also in attendance:** Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner  
Mr. Jonathan Flood, District Planner  
Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Pat Holland, Administrative Officer  
Mr. John Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer

At the outset the Mayor of Clonmel, Cllr. Michael Murphy offered his condolences to the family of the late Mr. Sean Nyhan, former Mayor of Clonmel.

The Mayor of Clonmel noted some opening remarks before the agenda. He thanked the members of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for organising this year's Parade which will be very much welcomed in the community. Mr. Danny Carroll, known locally as "Mr Music Man" will be the grand marshal of the parade 2022.

The Mayor thanked the emergency services in relation to how they dealt with the recent fire at the former Clonmel Arms Hotel building. He noted that on Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 there will be a Mayoral Reception at 2pm for the National ICA association.

Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose thanked the Taoiseach, Mr. Micheál Martin who visited the South Tipperary University Hospital recently on her request. The additional funding for 33 beds recently announced is fantastic news for the Hospital. She also noted that the recent approval of an extension to the Waterford Airport was a game changer in the south east and asked that this should strengthen our case for the N24 bypass so desperately needed in the area.

Cllr. Richie Molloy also welcomed the additional funding for the hospital in Clonmel but said that we need to keep pushing for additional psychiatric services.

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**Item 1.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest**

Mr. Jim Dillon, District Administrator confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

**Item 2.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2022**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, as presented, were proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. Pat English, and agreed.

**Matters arising:**

- Cllr. Niall Dennehy asked if there was any update on the list of guidelines that he requested from the Department in relation to Covid at the last district meeting.
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy asked if there is any update from NAMA in relation to what funds benefited the Clonmel Borough District, their 2021 disclosures show that Dublin did very well from distribution of NAMA assets. Public private partnership could be set up to utilise these funds in our area.
- Cllr. Pat English asked was there any update on the next call for URDF funding and what are the timelines?
- Cllr. Pat English stated that Tipperary Studies have taken charge of the Clonmel Graveyard online service which is a great initiative set up by Mr. Eamon Crowley, what is the current situation?
- Cllr. Pat English ask if there was any update on the N24, can we write to the Minister on this?
- Cllr Siobhán Ambrose asked in relation to the digital hubs with various uses, any update now that we have received the funding when tenders will go out?

**Response made as follows;**

- Mr. Jim Dillon, District Administrator asked Cllr. Niall Dennehy to contact him after the meeting for clarity on what he is looking for in relation to Guidelines issued from Department during Covid.
- There is no response from NAMA in relation to Cllr. Niall Dennehy's query on Clonmel Borough District assets.
- No update since last district meeting in relation to information that call for next round of URDF should happen in Q2 of 2022. Ms. Sinead Carr confirmed that the Department has re-prioritised the criteria in the process and will be done in the context of town centre first.
- Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian is to update on the Tipperary Studies involvement with the online initiative for Burial Ground records.
- The District Administrator will draft a letter to the Minister in relation to the N24 and the announcement that we have been taken out of the plans.

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- In relation to the Digital Hub, Clonmel Business Park Limited are in the process of developing specifications for tenders and no other update. A feasibility study will be carried out with the first round of funding.

**Item 3.1 Part 8 in respect of Clonmel Regional Sports Hub**

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

**Item 4.1 Attendance of Representatives from Directorate Planning**

Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner, Mr. Jonathan Flood District Planner and Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Planner 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
- Urban Regeneration and Development Fund
- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund
- Clonmel 2030 – Transformational Regeneration
- Kilsheelan Cluster Housing Project
- Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2022
- Historic Structure Fund 2021
- Taking in Charge
- Application Status

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

- Cllr. Michael Murphy asked if there would be a return to physical planning meeting and that the system of slots available for Members be made available again?
- All members asked what the position in relation to the 6Km corridor of land that is currently a no-go zone for planning currently in relation to the N24 which was recently shelved by the Department?

**Members' queries were addressed as follows:**

- Ms. Caroline Conway confirmed that the return to physical meetings will happen towards the end of March and this will be part of a hybrid model to allow for both physical and zoom meetings whichever was preferable by the customer. The return to slots for Members will also continue as normal.
- The planning section understand the frustration of the customers in relation to the planning restrictions in the 6km area in relation to the N24. The planning section will continue to liaise with the TII, Roads Capital team and the Regional Design office.
- Members thanked the planning section for continued engagement and progress being carried out in relation to the taking in charge of estates in the Clonmel Borough District.

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The Mayor thanked Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner, Mr. Jonathan Flood, District Planner and Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer for their attendance and report.

**Item 4.2 Attendance of Representatives from Directorate Water Services**

Mr. John Crowley, Executive Engineer and Mr. Pat Holland, Administrative Officer 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 2002-2024
- Networks Portfolio Delivery (Water)
- Watermain Rehabilitation Works
- National Disinfection Programme
- Irish Water National Water Resources Plan
- Irish Water Small Towns and Villages Programme
- Non-Domestic Water Charges
- Council Workshop with Irish Water
- Water Sector Transformation

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

- Members stated their disappointment in the recent outages of water in Clonmel which has happened continuously over the last two weekends. Members are feeling the frustration and anger of the local businesses and residence in relation to the unreliability of the system. Members stated that this service was simply not good enough.
- Members also relayed their own frustration that the Irish Water customer line for outages is only operational Monday to Friday and no service at the weekend.
- Members outlined the seriousness of the situation, it was noted that this isn't a recent issue this serious issue has been going on for years and has been raised at Plenary level. Substantial investment will have to take place in water infrastructure in the town of Clonmel. The system currently providing water is not fit for purpose. Members agreed that a meeting with senior officials of Irish Water should be called.
- Cllr. Ambrose asked for an update on water outages in Kilcash village and what are the long-term plans for Kilcash?
- What is the current position in relation to Kilsheelan village upgrade works?
- Cllr. Ambrose and Cllr. Murphy raised the issue of poor water pressure in areas in Clonmel and asked if there was any solution to same?
- Cllr. Michael Murphy stated that both himself and Cllr. John Fitzgerald will be meeting the Tánaiste, Mr. Leo Varadka on a one to

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one basis, and that he will most definitely bring up the issue of the need for serious investment in the water infrastructure of the town.

**Members' queries were addressed as follows:**

- Mr. John Crowley address the members and stated that they were in continuous talks with Irish Water in relation the infrastructure in the town and the need for heavy investment in the town.
- The Mayor thanked Mr. John Crowley, Senior Executive Engineer and Mr. Pat Holland, Administrative Officer for their attendance and report.

**Item 5.1 Report of District Administrator**

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

**Queries raised by the members were as follows;**

- Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose ask in light of recent news relating to paying for parking in hospitals by credit card could this system be brought in to the town of Clonmel on the streets?
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy asked if the new parking charges that came into effect recently had affect our own process in the town of Clonmel?
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy enquired in to the issue of lack of community bus service and could the District Administrator look in to this?
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy asked if there could be a solemn not sombre service held after the St. Patrick's Day festivities to commemorate the closing of the Army Barracks on Kickham Street which closed on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2012. Cllr. Pat English supported this initiative.
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there was an update on the town centre first programme?
- Cllr. Pat English asked what the update was in relation to outdoor performance areas such as the plan for Abbey Street Car Park?
- Cllr. Pat English asked if there could be a briefing on the tree strategy for the district?
- All members acknowledged the great work being done in the town of Clonmel in relation to street cleaning and in particular cleaning chewing gum from the footpaths.
- Cllr. Michael Murphy asked for a standing orders meeting to be conveyed in relation to the erection of a plaque at Kickham Barracks.

**Queries raised by the Members which Mr. Jim Dillon, District Administrator responded to were as follows;**

- The issue of on street pay parking by credit card is a matter that was raised at a recent meeting with the Director of Roads and this something that they hope to progress in to the near future if feasible.
- The only update to the parking fines nationally which effect Clonmel are parking on bus lanes, cycleway or footpaths. It doesn't relate to any other fine. There isn't a huge issue in relation to this in Clonmel so hasn't affected our overall revenue at this stage.

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- The outdoor performance area is still under consideration as to what type of design will be put in place. Due regard has to be made in relation to the amount of spaces taken over by the design.
- The District Administrator and Mr. Tim Murphy, Executive Engineer will meet with Ms. Roisin O'Grady, Heritage Office shortly for setting up the parameters for the tree strategy and then will be going out to the wider community for their input on the plan.
- Ms. Sinead Carr, Town Manager stated that she will circulate the document in relation to the town centre first programme to all members. If you require a presentation on same this can be done by the District Administrator at the next District Meeting.
- The District Administrator will organise a Standing Orders Committee meeting as requested within the next week.
- The District Administrator will follow up on the local bus service.

**Item 5.2 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 up date on the pedestrian crossing on the Davis Road?
- Members welcomed the speed cushions now installed on the Marfield road.
- Cllr. Pat English ask if there was an update on the resurfacing works on the Dungarvan road?
- Cllr. Pat English ask if there was an update on Rathronan Cross?
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald asked if Darcy's Cross works will be carried out soon?
- Cllr. John Fitzgerald requested an update on the road issues raised previously in relation to Clerihan National School?
- Cllr. Michael Murphy welcomed the works carried out on the Coleville road, he asked if it was possible to take another speed survey on the road to show the difference the works have made to the area in relation to the survey that was taken prior to works.

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

- The pedestrian crossing on the Davis road has been looked at and there is a problem with it in terms of parking at that area it will be investigated further.
- The District Engineer agreed that a survey on the Coleville road would be a useful tool to determine the outcomes of the changes made.
- Rathronan cross is on the road works programme and will be carried out this year.
- District Engineer stated that Hopkins Lane lighting is being looked at.
- St. Patrick's Cemetery entrance works will begin in approx. 5 months.

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- The District Engineer confirmed that he had looked at the issue of speed ramps in Clerihan by the National School, there is a place that a ramp could go in but he explained that in order to do so the lighting in the area needs to be improved which will make the project more expensive and currently the district would not have a budget for same.

The District Engineer asked if all members were in agreement with the red roads programme. This was proposed by Cllr. Pat English and seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald.

**Item 5.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme**

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

- No issues were raised.

**Item 6.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

This item was noted.

**Items 7.1 to 7.9 – Notices of Motions**

**Motion 2350 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.**

That Clonmel Borough District look at providing additional safety measures on the Fethard Road at the dangerous bend between Rathronan Crossroads and the Half Way Bar. This section of Roadway has recorded a number of serious accidents over the last number of years and requires additional crash barriers signage and road markings.

**Reply:**

The District Engineer is familiar with this situation on the ground and recently met with the landowner on site to discuss same. Apart from a fatal accident quite a long time ago, (at a different bend closer to Fethard which had barrier rail installed, I am not aware of a 'number' of serious accidents in the last number of years. In my time in the district since February 2017 there has been two accidents at this location, both in the last 6 to 9 months. The first was a drunk driver, and the other more recent the driver admitted to the Guards on site that they were driving too fast to take the bend.

In late 2022 the Department will be seeking proposals for Low Cost Accident Schemes for 2023, and a proposal can be submitted at that time to see if monies can be made available for this location. In the short term the District Engineer will install additional signs and road markings in 2022 in order to remind drivers to drive more carefully and slowly at this location.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.**

**This was agreed by all members.**

**Motion 2351 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.**

That Clonmel Borough District Council write to the T.I.I. And the Minister to request they look at funding for a roundabout at the Junction of the

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Haywood Road and the Frank Drohan Inner Relief Road in the interest of Public Safety and the proper flow of traffic.

**Reply:**

If the Members agree, I will contact TII in relation to the provision of a roundabout at the junction of Heywood Road/Frank Drohan Inner Relief road.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.**

**This was agreed by all members.**

**Motion 2352 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District Council contact the owners of Jimmy Keating's old shop at Elm Park, Clonmel to see if the property could be used for housing as the property is at present been used for anti-social behaviour and is an eye sore because of its dereliction.

**Reply:**

This site has been included on the Derelict sites register and the Environment section have been liaising with the owner to render the site non-derelict. I have also asked housing section to examine the site to assess its suitability for housing.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.**

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

**Motion 2353 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy**

Following on from my previous Notice of Motion, that under the 2022 Area Roadworks Programme, consideration is given to the installation of a number of speed ramps in the Dromard Crescent Estate, Clonmel, due to on-going issues with speeding motorists. Residents are extremely concerned around the safety of young children living in the estate. Particular attention should be given to that stretch of road between house numbers 1 to 13.

**Reply:**

The District Engineer inspected this location and has noted that the road configuration is capable of installing a couple of speed cushions. I have received a signed submission from the local residents of twenty houses in this estate in the immediate vicinity of the proposed locations for the ramp. The next step in accordance with the Council's policy is to carry out a speed survey in this estate in order to establish the extent of the speed violations and by how much, and this will be carried out in the next month.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

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

**Motion 2354 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy**

That the Council work carry out works along the footpaths in the Glenconnor area. I refer in particular to that section between



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the Glenoaks estates and Glenconnor Garden Centre that are in urgent need of attention. Hedges are overgrown and large amounts of growth and clay covering the inside of the paths. Requesting that the hedgecutter, perhaps the sweeper as well, visits this location at the earliest opportunity, indeed any other machinery required as well. Such works crucial for pedestrian safety.

**Reply:**

The District Engineer has inspected this footpath on the west side of the Glenconnor Road and has noted that there are three sections of the footpath measuring about 270 metres that require to be cleared of vegetation, etc. This work will be carried out over the next few weeks.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.**

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

**Motion 2355 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy**

Whilst welcoming the new public lighting along the western section of the Clonmel By Pass that were switched on over 12 months ago, I'm calling on the Council to examine the standard of lighting. On the face of it the lighting is poor and many walkers and cyclists have contacted me about the need to improve such lighting, in particular having regard to recent events nationwide.

**Reply:**

As a first step, the District Engineer will carry out a survey of the existing lighting on Clonmel By Pass and if necessary will seek to improve same, dependant on a budget being available.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English.**

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

**Motion 2359 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

That under Clonmel Borough District Councils future roads programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of the last section of the Cherrymount estate (Ref my previous motions).

**Reply:**

The District Engineer will include this road for consideration as part of the Road Works Programme for 2022.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy.**

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

**Motion 2360 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

That under Clonmel Borough District Councils future road programmes, that consideration is given for providing additional car parking spaces around the green area opposite No. 4 in Fairfields (Ref my previous motion on this issue).

**Reply:**

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The District Engineer will include this road for consideration as part of the Road Works Programme for 2022

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy.**

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

**Motion 2361 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

That under future roads programmes that consideration is given for re-surfacing the final section of the Glenview Close Estate.

**Reply:**

The District Engineer will include this road for consideration as part of the Road Works Programme for 2022.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy.**

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

**Item 8.1 – Correspondence**

No correspondence was noted.

**Item 9.1 – Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

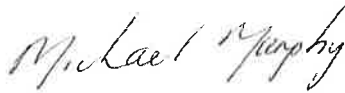
A vote of sympathy was passed for the family of the late Teresa Collins, c/o Councillor Hughie McGrath, 19 Brooklands Drive, Nenagh.

A special meeting was recently due to the passing of Mr. Sean Nyhan, former Mayor of Clonmel, members once again conveyed their sympathy to his family.

**Item 10.1 – Any other business**

No other business was discussed.

Signed:



**Mayor of Clonmel Borough District**

Date:

24/03/2022

Signed:



**District Administrator**

Date:

25/03/2022