

<b>In the Chair:</b>	Cllr. D. Dunne
<b>Members Present:</b>	Cllr. K. Bourke, Cllr. M. Fitzgerald (Virtually), Cllr. I. Goldsboro, Cllr. K. O'Meara.
<b>Apologies:</b>	
<b>Attending from-Carrick on Suir MD</b>	Mr. B Beck, A/Director of Services; Ms. M O'Gorman, Meetings Administrator; Mr. W Corby, District Engineer; Ms. H. Cahill, Staff Officer; Ms. S. Holloway, Assistant Staff Officer.
<b>Roads Directorate</b>	Mr. Liam Brett, Senior Engineer.
<b>Environment &amp; Climate Action Directorate</b>	Mr. Michael Moroney, Senior Executive Officer; Ms. Orla Kelly, Administrative Officer; Mr. Rúairi Boland, Senior Executive Engineer;

### ***1.0. Welcome and Introduction***

<b><u>Item 1.1.</u></b> <b>Summons and Prayer:</b>	The summons was taken as read
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### ***2.0. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Council***

<b><u>Item 2.1.</u></b> <b>Conflict of Interest Declaration</b>	None to record
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### ***3.0. Consideration of Minutes***

<b><u>Item 3.1.</u></b> <b>Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 15 December 2022.</b>	The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 15 December 2022 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. I. Goldsboro, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara, and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
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<b><u>Item 3.2.</u></b> <b>Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 30 December 2022 –death of Former Councillor Liam O'Dwyer.</b>	The minutes of the special meeting held on the 30 December, 2022 convened on the death of former Town Councillor Liam O'Dwyer (RIP) were adopted on the proposal of Cllr K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
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<b><u>Item 3.3.</u></b> <b>Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 18 January 2023.</b>	The minutes of the special meeting convened on the 18 January 2023 for decision on Part 8 Procedure associated with Carrick on Suir Railway to Town Centre Active Travel Scheme 2022 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
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#### **4.0. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

##### **Item 4.1.**

##### **Report of Environment and Climate Action Directorate.**

A report outlining activities of the Environment and Climate Action Directorate was circulated and taken as read with Mr. Michael Moroney, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. Orla Kelly, Administrative Officer and Mr. Rúairí Boland, Senior Executive Engineer in attendance.

Mr. Moroney referred to commencement of the Community Climate Action Fund administered by Ms. Marie O'Donnell, recently appointed to the post of Community Climate Action Officer, which initiative would distribute approximately €700,000 in Tipperary, in grants ranging from €20,000 to €100,000. He indicated that prior to launch of the scheme, Ms. O'Donnell intended to hold a workshop with the Members in early March to inform them of details of the initiative.

Mr. Rúairí Boland, Senior Executive Engineer, presented a preliminary drawing of the proposed lawn cemetery at Fethard which would shortly proceed to Part 8 Planning. It was intended to commence the statutory process once the proposal was validated, in the coming week. On completion of same it was intended to bring the matter to the Carrick on Suir MD for decision in Quarter 2, 2023.

##### Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Welcomed the proposal and requested copy of drawing pertaining to Fethard Lawn Cemetery.

##### Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Requested a survey of St. Mary's Cemetery at Carrick on Suir, to determine need for footpaths both in the new section and the older section where none exist or require reinstatement.
- Requested update in relation to acquisition of additional land earmarked for the purpose, north of the cemetery.
- Indicated that a new approach was required to tackle the issue of dog fouling in Carrick on Suir as the issue appeared to have escalated recently.
- Queried whether there were any prosecutions taken recently in Carrick on Suir for dog fouling, noting that a pilot scheme was mooted some time ago.

##### Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Sought update in relation to action on derelict sites within the Carrick on Suir Municipal District.
- Suggested that upgrading of windows, doors, insulation in dwellings should be undertaken before introducing measures to decommission open fires.
- Commented in relation to the presence of invasive species on some derelict sites presenting enormous difficulties.

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Responding to matters raised by the councillors, Mr. Moroney stated that the area of derelict sites would be given priority. His report covered activity in relation to sites not entered on the Derelict Sites Register and clarified that of the 13 cases mentioned in his report, notices under Section 8(2) of the Act were issued in relation to 12 properties; 1 property had planning permission in progress, 2 were being examined for compulsory purchase and in 6 cases, discussions were ongoing with property owners. It was intended to progress those currently on hands and to carry out a medium to long-term strategic review of how derelict sites were dealt with in order to bring those sites into active use.

Addressing the issue of dog-fouling, Mr. Moroney accepted that this was a resource issue and he committed to continue with awareness campaigns and to confer with the dog warden in relation to this matter along with dog control and licensing. He noted however, that in order to achieve a successful prosecution under the current legislation, the offending owner/dog must be witnessed 'in the act' by the dog warden and identified satisfactorily, which presented an obvious obstacle at the outset.

He accepted that the application process associated with climate action grants was somewhat unwieldy and off-putting for private householders; however, he suggested that the Community Climate Action Fund as previously discussed would lead to improvement in that area.

Mr. Ruairi Boland indicated that surveying was carried out at St. Mary's Cemetery, Carrick on Suir with significant resurfacing completed. He undertook to examine the request for additional footpaths and confirmed that he was currently finalising negotiations with the landowner in relation to acquiring adjoining lands for the extension of the facility.

He provided a copy of the drawing of Fethard Lawn Cemetery for the Councillors' perusal, noting that it was not the validated version.

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**Item 4.2.**  
**Proposed**  
**extinguishment of**  
**Public Right of Way at**  
**L-21114-0 Clonoura,**  
**New Birmingham.**  
**Thurles County**  
**Tipperary.**

A report of the Director of Services for Road Transportation and Infrastructure pursuant to Section 73 of the Roads Act, 1993 was circulated and considered by the members. It contained a recommendation that the public right of way be extinguished on some 422.62 metres of the L-21114-0 at Clonoura, new Birmingham, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. Noting that there were no observations or submissions received during the course of the statutory public consultation which closed at 12 noon on the 23 December 2022, it was proposed by Cllr. I. Goldsboro, seconded by Councillor K. O'Meara AND RESOLVED,

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*"That having regard to the Director of Services Report to the Members dated 11 November 2022, and recommendation contained therein, the Members of Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District, in exercise of the powers conferred on us by Section 73(2) of the Roads Act 1993, hereby make an Order Extinguishing the Public Right of Way on the L-21114-0 at Clonoura, New Birmingham, Thurles, Co. Tipperary; the length of road to be extinguished being 422.62m delineated in red as shown on the map annexed thereto."*

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**Item 4.3.  
District Engineer's  
Report:**

Mr. Willie Corby, District Engineer, with Mr. Liam Brett, Senior Engineer in attendance, indicated that tenders for materials were currently awaited in order to finalise the draft Schedule of Municipal District Works which would be presented for adoption at the March monthly meeting. In the meantime, he provided updates on the Restoration Improvement Programme, Restoration and Maintenance Programme, Climate Adaptation works, bridge closure and the attendant disruption associated with same. He conveyed update from Roads Engineer in relation to the N24 Carrick on Suir Pavement Strengthening Scheme. Arising from same, Mr. Corby addressed matters raised by the members as follows-

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Sought report in relation to application for funding to remediate flood damaged roads.
- Requested information on footpath reinstatement, particularly in relation to Ballingarry where commitments were given previously.
- Queried whether signage audit was carried out in recent times
- Queried why traffic calming measures carried out in other districts were not provided in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District, clarifying that her request for was provision of platforms rather than ramps.
- Referred to CLÁR funding allocated to the Commons NS; despite completion of works, lights were still not in operation.
- Reiterated her call for salt/grit banks to be provided to communities during cold weather periods.
- Sought timeline for commencement of works at Máiréad's Cross
- Requested that attention be given to Rathkenny Road which is on a cycle route and is habitually impassable in three sections.
- Requested that a workshop be held in relation to Active Travel

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Expressed disappointment that works at O'Mahoney Avenue and Markievicz Terrace were scheduled at a later stage of the N24 project and requested that ample notice be provided to

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the householders at these locations, in relation to the schedule and traffic management plan.

- Queried when a review of speed limits would take place, given that he considered the location of 50kph limit on the Clonmel Road too close to the entrance to Lissadell/Cláirín.
- Indicated that the reduction of width of carriageway at Cláirín entrance was problematic; similar situation at entrance to Treacy Park.
- Requested reinstatement of seat at Miloko, removed by contractor during the course of widening the Blueway.
- Requested immediate attention to address serious problems with access to Strand Lane car park, hindering the collection of refuse from rear of business premises abutting Strand Lane.
- Called for review of parking places byelaws.
- Deplored the impact of 6-tonne dumpers being driven along Killonerry Boreen by Irish Water contractors using the water treatment plant premises as a works depot/compound; he further protested that householders in the area were expected to contribute to road upkeep via Local Improvement Scheme [L.I.S.] in order to have the road surfaced at this location and requested that the Council would write to Irish Water in strongest possible terms on this matter.
- Reported that the eye of bridge at Lisadobber was unable to take debris; the road was constantly flooded as a consequence and he requested that the matter be examined.

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Sought update in relation to remediation of drainage issues at Grangemockler.
- Requested the removal of one tree outside the bakery at Grangemockler blocking the view to/from the premises.
- Noted that wall at Cois na hAbhainn, Mullinahone was replaced by corrugated fence – sought assurance that this would be a temporary measure with wall constructed as per design at this location.
- Requested that voluntary groups in rural areas be supplied with salt/grit during winter periods.
- Queried whether there were any Active Travel projects in the pipeline for Mullinahone.
- Stated that footpath from Mullinahone to cemetery was urgently required.
- Requested publication on completion of speed survey planned for Mullinahone arising from recent notice of motion.
- Noted that complaints of speeding to An Garda Síochána by parents of playschool children tended to elicit a response to refer the matter to the Council.
- Commented that in UK villages, ramps or raised platforms were commonplace measures to deter speeding.
- Expressed concern in relation to vacant engineering post at Carrick on Suir MD and its impact on the works programme,

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and conveyed his appreciation to the District Engineer for having delayed his retirement as a consequence.

- Suggested that the Community Improvement Scheme was a good source of funding, but some people could not understand why they were being asked to pay, when those roads placed on 'red roads programme' require no such contribution from users.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Concerned in relation to staffing matters, he noted that staff were stretched to their limit.
- Suggested that drainage issues at Grangemockler required immediate attention by the contractor insitu, in order to avoid a knock-on-effect in two-three years' time.
- Queried location of proposed resurfacing works at Currasilla.
- Referring to climate resilience works, stated that some roads were impassable in bad weather to the extent that patching would not solve those issues.
- Requested interim works for roads washed away at Magoury and Gregaugh.
- Stated that road at Red City, Fethard was impassable in heavy rain conditions.
- Requested attention to road at Rathkenny, Drangan with 40-50 metres of roadway near its junction with Ballyvadlea gone beyond patching.
- Queried whether there was funding in place for Drangan playground.
- Requested that road from Barrettstown Cross to Colman Cross be given attention.
- Sought attention to collapsed manhole at Day Break shop/garage in Fethard.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Noted that contractors on N24 had adjusted road junctions at Treacy Park and Lidl, along with modifications to the bus shelter at Lidl on the Clonmel Road and he welcomed commitment from GLAS Engineering to keep the matter under review.
- Expressed the view that the quality of work carried out by Irish Water's Contractor was well below par, with no proper reinstatement, and levels of manholes dropping or rising; he complained that the Council was receiving blame for those shortcomings.
- Echoed his colleagues' call for distribution of salt/grit among community groups.
- Queried whether there was any liability attributed to a property owner gritting outside their premises in cold weather.

Responding to matters raised, the District Engineer noted the significant deterioration of some roads after bad weather. The

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programme involved 13-15km of road strengthening each year with the balance taken up in surface dressing and patching. Referring to the C.I.S. [Community Involvement Scheme] as a good source of funding with 90% of the cost available to participants, he asked that the members would bring proposals for the next round to be introduced in autumn. Mr. Corby confirmed that,

- He would examine Ballingarry footpaths on-site with Cllr. Goldsboro.
- Stated that he would again contact the Public Lighting engineer in relation to operation of lighting at Commons NS.
- Indicated that he would instruct General Services Supervisors to utilise available funding for cleaning signage.
- Traffic calming within Carrick on Suir Municipal District operated in the way as other districts complying with the same design parameters according as funding became available.
- The Active Travel programme was under review and he undertook to arrange workshop with Active Travel Team in due course.
- He would refer comments around the phasing of works at O'Mahoney Avenue to the Roads Capital Team and GLAS Engineering; however, he noted that the current programme had to take account of health and safety requirements while optimising holiday periods to carry out works in vicinity of schools and other issues with a view to wrapping up in 2023.
- He anticipated that the review of speed limits would take place in the next 12 months or so.
- A new seat was being procured via the budget managed by Clonmel Borough District for replacement of seat on the Blueway near Miloko.
- Undertook to follow up road reinstatement at Killonerry Boreen with the relevant contractor, agreeing that winter-time contract works tended to be problematic.
- Confirmed that he would raise issues relating to Grangemockler with contractor on site and to examine issue of removal of tree at the bakery.
- Undertook to examine wall at Cois na hAbhainn, Mullinahone
- Noted that footpath from Mullinahone to cemetery was being considered under Active Travel
- Confirmed that a speed survey would be undertaken at Mullinahone as requested.
- Confirmed that 1500m of road at Currasilla was included in the roads programme, in proximity to works carried out during the summer by Coillte creating new entrance.
- Verified that CLÁR funding was secured for works to proceed at Drangan Playground.
- Stated that works were underway to repair collapsed manhole at Day Break store in Fethard.
- Confirmed that consideration would be given to placing roads damaged by flooding on the 'red road' programme.

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- Stated that he would attend on site at Lisadobber Bridge, noting that the structure was already raised by 6-7 inches in recent times.
- Stated that he was unaware of recent problems of access to Strand Lane Car Park and undertook to examine the matter urgently.

Responding to the call for new parking byelaws, Ms. Marie O’Gorman, Meetings Administrator, indicated that the statutory procedure to review parking places byelaws was imminent but needed to incorporate the Active Travel scheme/works at Carrickbeg - the subject of recent a Part 8 consent - in order to regulate parking at that side of the town. She also suggested that a byelaw to permit clamping of vehicles in certain circumstances was possibly the only measure to deal with repeat offenders, apparently unconcerned with enforcement measures applied to date. This was noted.

Mr. Liam Brett, Senior Engineer, informed the councillors that over the following weeks, the council would be notified of road allocations and along with completion of roads/materials tenders this would allow for compilation of the 2023 Roads Programme.

Referring to concerns expressed in relation to staffing, he assured the Councillors that his Director was working to resolve that issue and thanked his colleague, Willie Corby for his professionalism and loyalty to the organisation in delaying his retirement on account of the prevailing situation with recruitment.

Expanding on the issue of speeding in rural areas, he clearly stated that this was a matter for enforcement by Gardaí as their statutory function; he indicated that design measures could not always deal with driver behaviour and that the provision of ramps presented significant difficulties for emergency services and persons with disability. Similarly, he noted that raised platforms were in the same category as ramps and not recommended in design documentation. He noted that unfortunately, all safety campaigns to-date failed to address the culture of speeding, in the way that changes were brought about in drink-driving over the past number of years.

Addressing councillors’ requests for supply of sale/gritting material to communities he indicated that Tipperary County Council spent over €1million annually in gritting over 1000km of roads - significantly more than other Councils - to the extent that there was no additional budget available to extend the supply to communities of a material costing €130 per tonne. When trialled in the past, it proved to be an unsustainable drain on resources and abused in some areas.



Responding to the question of liability, he stated that while he could not be definitive, he did not see any liability falling to property owners gritting public areas outside their properties.

He concluded that the review of speed limits was awaiting the issue of guidance from the Department and clarified that he was still engaging with the Department of Transport on additional funding to meet costs of recent storm damage. He stated that consideration would be given to incorporating that funding in the 2023 allocation to the Municipal District.

**Item 4.4.**

**District Administrator's Report:**

The Meetings Administrator informed the members that the Environment Section had published its call for applications on the 06 Feb 2023 on [www.tipperarycoco.ie](http://www.tipperarycoco.ie) for funding under the **Tidy Towns** and **Burial Grounds Grants Schemes**, closing on 10 March 2023 respectively. This was noted.

Referring to the impending Part 8 Planning process for **Fethard Lawn Cemetery**, she advised that a preliminary drawing (not yet validated) was available to view after the meeting.

The Meetings Administrator informed that an **1844 publication** of Report of the Building and Finance Committee chaired by the Earl of Bessborough in relation to the 'New' Town Hall at Carrick on Suir was recently acquired at auction and would be displayed in the public area of the District Office. This was noted.

**Item 4.5.**

**General Municipal Allocation 2023**

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that there were no items for consideration at this time, but that a programme would be brought before the members for adoption at the March monthly meeting. She requested that the Councillors would give suggestions for inclusion in advance of compiling this programme,

**Item 4.6.**

**Assistance of Bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that there were no items for consideration under this heading.

**5.0. Chief Executive's / Delegated Employee's Orders**

**Item 5.1.**

**D.E. Order 32363**

Delegated Employee's Order 32363 relating to the issue of Section 254 licence to the Junction Bar and Bistro at 1 New Street, Carrick on Suir was duly noted.

**Item 5.2.**  
**D.E. Order 32364**

Delegated Employee's Order 32364 relating to the issue of Section 254 licence to the Carraig Hotel, at Main Street, Carrick on Suir was duly noted.

**Item 5.3.**  
**D.E. Order 32512**

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Delegated Employee's Order 32512 relating to the appointment of Eugene Fallon Plant Hire Limited as Project Supervisor Construction stage for works at 11 and 12 Cois Falla, Fethard, was duly noted.

**6.0. Correspondence**

**Item 6.1.**

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that there were no items for consideration under this heading.

**7.0. Notices of Motion**

**Item 7.1.**

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that there were no items for consideration under this heading.

**8.0. Any Other Business**

**Item 8.1.**  
**G.P. Services at Ballingarry.**

With the permission of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. I. Goldsboro spoke of the Ballingarry Community's concerns in relation to GP services with the impending retirement of two doctors in March 2023. She noted that the HSE was actively seeking to fill these vacancies but with the prevailing recruitment difficulties, particularly in rural areas, she proposed that the Carrick on Suir Municipal District would write to the Chief Executive of Community Health seeking assurances that in the event that the posts could not be filled immediately, that locum services would be put in place in the interim, in order to avoid disruption to service delivery in her area. She concluded by conveying her best wishes to the retiring General Practitioners

This was seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara who referred to the ongoing battle to retain such services in rural communities and the necessity for people to travel to larger urban centres to see their family doctor. The motion was unanimously supported.

**Item 8.2.**  
**Impending closure of Corman Miloko.**

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The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Dunne, referred to the impending closure of Corman Miloko plant at Carrick on Suir recently announced by Glanbia. He commiserated with the 30+ employees due to lose their jobs in June 2023, many of them having given long years of committed service to the company, and expressed the hope that their dedication would be well rewarded in the redundancy package emerging in due course. He understood that the decision to close came about as a result of the loss of a major

contract when a customer of the company commenced its own packaging process.

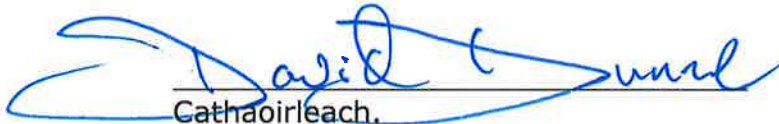
Cllr. Dunne noted that the plant was opened in 1951 initially processing chocolate crumb and thereafter moved to producing butter and cheese. He expressed the hope that a suitable replacement industry would be found to take advantage of the plant's very valuable discharge licence, which was a major asset in the sphere of manufacturing.

Cllr. K. Bourke wished to be associated with the Cathaoirleach's comments, suggesting that the loss of 31 jobs to Carrick on Suir was equivalent to a loss of 500 jobs in Dublin. He had been in touch with the Manager, Mr. Jim Bergin, who assured that the company was exploring all measures possible to redeploy staff or to provide an attractive severance package as required. He expressed the hope that the plant's jewel in the crown - its effluent plant - would provide stymulus for a replacement industry in the near future. He stated that Deputy Jackie Cahill had sought a meeting with Minister Simon Coveney in relation to this matter and a response was awaited.

This concluded the business of the meeting. [15:49]



District Administrator.



Cathaoirleach.

23 February 2023

