

Minutes of April Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Tipperary Town and hosted remotely on Monday 24th April 2023 at 11am

Members Present: Councillor Micheál Anglim, Cathaoirleach
Councillor Tony Black
Councillor Declan Burgess
Councillor John Crosse
Councillor Michael FitzGerald
Councillor Mary Hanna-Hourigan
Councillor Roger Kennedy
Councillor Máirín McGrath
Councillor Andy Moloney
Councillor Marie Murphy
Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner)

Officials Present: Mr. Anthony Coleman, District Director
Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator
Mr. James Swords, District Engineer
Mr. James Murray, Senior Roads Engineer
Mr. Tim Kilmartin, Executive Engineer
Mr. Richard Power, Executive Engineer
Mr. Frank Cussen, Executive Engineer
Ms. Adeline Walsh, Staff Officer
Environment & Climate Change Directorate
Mr. Michael Moroney, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Ruairi Boland, Senior Executive Engineer

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Micheál Anglim, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the April meeting. Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator, commenced the meeting with the meeting prayer. He called the roll and confirmed the attendance of the Municipal District members.

1.1 Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest

There were no matters notified to the meetings administrator.

2.1 Minutes of March Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held on 27th March, 2023

The minutes of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District March meeting held on 27th March, 2023 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor Roger Kennedy seconded by Councillor Michael Fitzgerald.

Matters arising from the minutes

Councillor Michael Fitzgerald referred to the Galtee Water Supply and acknowledged the significant improvement. However, nothing would have prepared him for the level of phone calls from the Dundrum/Knockavilla area at the weekend. The residents were advised that the water would be back by Saturday afternoon, however it still wasn't back by that night. Councillor Fitzgerald asked how long does it take for pressure to build back up. He noted that Uisce Eireann are giving false information and the public should be better informed and kept up to date. Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) requested that a copy of the correspondence sent to the Court Service following the March meeting be circulated to the Members.

3.1 Environment & Climate Action Directorate

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Michael Moroney, S.E.O., and Mr. Ruairi Boland, S.E.E., Environment & Climate Change Section to the meeting. Mr. Moroney referred to the report circulated with the agenda and was open to any questions.

Councillor Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Boland in relation to the progress made in relation to the Monard/Solohead burial ground and notes that the project is heading in the right direction. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) requested an update on the Climate Action Officer and appreciates that a more proactive approach is being taking in relation to derelict sites given that 10, Section 8(2) notices were served on derelict sites. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) requested a breakdown of the figures to indicate the area. Councillor Burgess thanked the Environment Team for the report and referred to the increased volume of litter on rural roads. He acknowledged the work by volunteers on litter picking, however some roads are dangerous and not suitable for volunteers. He asked would it be possible for the Council to place bollards to make it safer. Councillor Burgess also requested more detail in relation to the household waste surveys. He also referred to the recent Plenary meeting where he requested a new campaign in relation to dog fouling and he requested an update. Councillor Murphy referred to the Climate Action Plan which has to be completed by all local authorities before February, 2024. She asked if workshops will be carried out with the Members before public consultation and would it be similar to the preparation of the Development Plan. Councillor Kennedy requested an update on the recent visit by the OPW to Ballininch Castle where a major assessment is being undertaken on what work would be required to protect the Síle na Gig located on site. Councillor Kennedy also wanted to support Councillor Burgess in relation to litter picking which is a problem for Tidy Towns groups. If signs and safety statements are required an assessment has to be carried out by someone who has completed the safety course. Councillor Kennedy suggested that the Council run a training course for volunteers. Councillor McGrath referred to the household waste surveys and noted out of 8 carried out 2 were non-compliant. She referred to the increase in dumping and roadside litter and it is a shame that volunteers have to pick up the waste. She requested details on where the surveys where completed.

In response Mr. Moroney confirmed that the household waste surveys were carried out in the Cashel area. He confirmed that the procedure would be that a Waste Enforcement Officer would call to the house to request evidence and the household is given an opportunity to provide evidence. Mr. Moroney confirmed that Clare Lee has been appointed Climate Action Co-Ordinator, Eddie Meegan has been appointed Climate Action Officer and Maria O'Donnell has been appointed Community Climate Action Officer. The preparation of the Climate Action Plan will follow the same format as a Development Plan and it is hoped that a Draft will be available to the public in September. There will be engagement with the Members and the public with a view to having the plan adopted by the 23rd February, 2024 which is a significant body of work. Mr. Moroney agreed to revert to Councillor Ryan (Shiner) in relation to her query on Derelict Sites and advised that the Council is taking co-ordinated approach across the council and all sections are working together. In relation to a dog fouling campaign he confirmed that this will be part of a wider dog responsibility campaign looking at ownership, control of dogs and fouling. Mr. Moroney advised that the Environment Section supports communities and recognises the work of volunteers, particularly in relation to the National Spring Clean campaign which took place in April. Mr. Boland confirmed that in relation to Ballinahinch Castle that the Heritage Officer had been liaising with the OPW. Councillor Burgess noted that the number of household waste surveys were low and it is a worthy exercise and a good deterrent. He also acknowledged the Bulky Items Collection in Tipperary Town and asked if there were plans to roll it out to other towns. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) asked if the environment section can enforce on rental properties if rubbish has built up in the rear of the property. Councillor Murphy also had a similar query in relation to skip bags and advised that some of the public who purchase the skip bag for €9.99 didn't appreciate that there was an additional cost to have to the bag collected. In response Mr. Moroney advised that the section has limited resources and the team would like to carry out more inspections and at present they are targeting areas where they receive litter enforcement complaints. However, given that Covid restrictions have lifted, it means that the Litter Enforcement Officers are now visible in an area carrying out inspections. Mr. Moroney also confirmed that the Enforcement Officers can only enforce if litter is visible from the public road. However, he did recommend reporting any issues and some may be referred to housing for follow up. Mr. Moroney suggested that the Bulky Items Collection for Cahir and Cashel could be an anti-dumping initiative for next year. Councillor Murphy referred to the mattress amnesty and asked if they have to be brought to a particular point and requested that these initiatives should be rolled out in all the larger towns. Councillor Kennedy wanted to thank Ruairi Boland and Anthony Coleman for the works carried out at Cormac's Cemetery and it is visibly way better and no complains have been received since. Councillor Moloney referred to property owned by the banks and asked if any progress had been made to get works carried out to repossessed properties. Mr. Moroney advised that the Environment Section are proactively following up with the owners of derelict sites with new powers to CPO properties which may provide a solution. Mr. Boland noted that

some cases may be more complicated because the property is still registered in the name of the property owner with land registry, however controlled by the bank and again confirmed that the new CPO powers can move things faster.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Moroney and Mr. Boland and their team.

3.2 District Engineer's Report

James Swords, District Engineer advised the Members that the base course contractor is nearly finished and they are waiting for the temperatures to increase before any further work on the RI projects can be carried out. It is expected that it should be completed by mid-June.

Councillor McGrath acknowledge the great work and asked if the applicants under the CIS and LIS Scheme have been notified. She also requested an update regarding the bridge works at Knockane bridge in Ballylooby and referred to a call she received from a lady in Ballylooby advising that the unexpected closure has affected 5 families because the Bus Eireann school bus detour. The bus driver advised that he has been advised to change the route. Councillor Fitzgerald referred to the work at Grantstown Castle under the drainage works grant and advised that the road is in a poor state. Councillor Murphy thanked the team for the report and referred to a survey Paul Farrell was doing on the bridges and she asked if the inspections were completed. Councillor Murphy also referred to a family living between Clogheen and Ardfinnan who is unable to insure their house because her Eircode indicates on a map that it is within a flood plain. Councillor Murphy advised that she is ½ mile from the river and there is no risk of flooding. She confirmed that this issue never arose before. Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) referred to the Bansha Road and requested an update on the feasibility report which is required for funding for the TII. She also advised that she has contacted the Garda Division to request a speed van. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) referred to the work completed on the toilets in Ballyporeen and noted that the application for funding submitted to upgrade the toilets in the Market Yard last year was unsuccessful. The District Director advised that another application for funding has been made. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) also requested an update in relation to Barronstown Cross. Councillor Crosse wanted to support Councillor Ryan (Shiner) in relation to Bansha Road. Councillor Burgess thanked the team for including EV charging points at Friar Street Car Park Cashel and wanted to compliment them on the extensive road programme. He also welcomed the new proposals for Knockavilla which will be discussed at the workshop. He had an query in relation to public lighting and in particular the poles that were replaced by the ESB in Cashel, however the public lights attached weren't replaced. Councillor Kennedy also wanted to support Councillor Ryan (Shiner) on her request for an update in relation to Barronstown Junction. Councillor Anglim asked Mr. Swords if funding has been secured to repair the bridge in Ballylooby. Councillor Black also wanted to support Councillor Ryan (Shiner) in relation to Bansha Road and an update on Barronstown.

In response the District Engineer confirmed that the CIS and LIS Scheme applicants had been notified. Councillor Murphy requested a copy of the list. The District Engineer advised that it is unknown how long the bridge will be closed for and that an application has been submitted to the Department for funding. He confirmed that the diversions are small, however in relation to the bus drivers that is a decision for them. He agreed to make contact to inform them that the length of the closure is unknown. He confirmed that 60% of the RI – surface dressing has been completed and the lining remains outstanding on some projects. The drainage works and a small bit of surfacing will be completed in the coming months. The District Engineer agreed to surveying all bridges including the metal ones. Regarding the insurance on areas at risk of flooding, he noted that insurance companies are risk adverse and CFRAM maps is a high-level assessment and the boundaries may not be exact. The District Engineer agreed to discuss the matter with Michael Scully. In relation to Bansha Road, the District Engineer advised that an application was made to Active Travel, however there is no funding available. The District are currently working with the TII with a view to applying for funding, however this is only for the design stage. Regarding Councillor Burgess comments, Mr. Swords agreed to follow up in relation to the EV charging points and he will also contact Michael Tierney in relation to the public lighting. Regarding Barronstown Cross, the matter has been referred to John Nolan and he will follow up with him. Councillor Murphy referred to poles knocked in Burncourt that effected 3 public lights and the District Engineer agreed to refer this to Michael Tierney. Councillor Kennedy referred to a traffic count which is ongoing in Cashel and asked if this was being carried out by the TII or the District and Mr. Swords confirmed that it wasn't the District. Councillor Fitzgerald stated that the Bansha Road requires emergency works and whilst waiting for a design solution the issue is getting worse. Traffic is too close to the houses and he requested works similar to the works carried out in Boherlahan. The District Engineer confirmed that he proposed to carry out lining as an interim solution and he hoped the TII will permit this once a design is completed. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) asked if a speed ramp would be considered. Councillor Kennedy referred to the Plenary meeting and the disappointment that only €1 million was allocated to the N24 project. Councillor Kennedy requested that the members write to the Department to fund the TII works. This was seconded by Councillor Declan Burgess and it was agreed to write to Deputy Jack Chambers. The District Director advised that a letter already issued from the Plenary meeting and Councillor Kennedy requested that a letter also issue from the Municipal District.

3.3 District Administrator's Report

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to the Members with the agenda. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) thanked the District Administrator for the report and acknowledged the funding received for the Canon Hayes Playground and she asked what type of equipment will be provided. She noted that the River Ara Walkway was a great success and requested that a bin be provided beside the seating area. She expressed her disappointed in relation the swimming pool

and that no applications for the lifeguard positions were received. Councillor Kennedy requested a timescale on the Courthouse project and noted that the group proposing to lease the property may look elsewhere. Councillor Burgess thanked the team for the report and requested a workshop to update the members on the Cashel Visitors Centre. He also requested that works be carried out to upgrade the public toilets in Cashel and asked if the Plaza could be cleaned. Councillor McGrath advised that the ORIS funded project to provide a carpark at the Knockballniry Trailhead has been completed. She wanted to thank Conor Hennessy and Colm Marron, Coillte and Anthony Coleman and Adeline Walsh for assisting with the application. She asked if there were any details on when the next round of ORIS and CLAR funding will be open. Councillor Murphy wanted to pass on the compliments of Ballyporeen Community Council and Tidy Towns for the upgrade works carried out in the village. She noted that works are continuing on the toilet upgrade in Clogheen. She wanted to thank Pat O'Neill for meeting with the committee in relation to the ORIS funded Kilballyboy Project. She also requested an update in relation to how many EV charging points will be provided in this Municipal District.

In response the District Director confirmed that in relation to the successful grant for Canon Hayes Playground that the area is being examined to establish what playground equipment will fit and it is proposed to liaise with local disability groups before any tender issues. In relation to the Courthouse Mr. Coleman advised that discussions are ongoing with an organisation in town and this will be brought to planning and design stage. The refurbishment is another piece of work and may be subject to an RRDF application in the next 12 months. Mr. Coleman confirmed that discussions are ongoing in relation to the interpretive centre in Cashel and noted that one of the possible sites is in private ownership. He confirmed that no application has been made in relation to the public toilets at Main Street, Cashel, however it is hoped to bring them to the similar standard as the toilets at the Rock, Cashel. He confirmed that the District has received no update on the schedule for funding call for ORIS. He confirmed that the works on the toilets in Clogheen are nearing completion and the area engineer will meet with the Playground Committee to go through the tender. He confirmed that EV charging points were confirmed in the initial stages and Easygo require the correct power connection. Castle Street, Cahir and Friar Street, Cashel have been identified as priority areas because Tipperary Town has a number already. The proposal is one for charger unit with a double charging points and are being provided by a private company. Mr. Coleman also confirmed that an application under the Town and Village Renewal has been submitted to upgrade the public toilets at the Market Yard.

4.1 Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders

The orders were noted.

5.1 Councillor Tony Black (Ref. ID 2579)

That this council would install "Slow Zone" signs in Avondale Crescent, Tipperary Town. Not only is this a residential area but it has a nursing home in the estate. This leads to a high level of non-residential traffic. To prioritise the safety of elderly residents and local children I would urge that "Slow Zone" signs be placed in the estate.

Reply

A CRM has been generated for this item and will be actioned in due course.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner).

5.2 Councillor Michael Fitzgerald (Ref ID 2588)

That measures be carried out to improve safety at the entrance of Cluain Arra Housing Estate, Bansha onto the N24.

Reply

The Area Engineer will carry out an assessment of the urban junction in line with DMURS. Any alterations at this junction would need to be carried out in conjunction with TII.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy.

5.3 Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) (Ref. ID 2589)

That this District install speed ramps along Station Road Tipperary Town, between Bridge Street and the Roundabout, in an effort to reduce speed that is occurring along this stretch of road.

Reply

Speeding and the enforcement of the speed limits is a matter for An Garda Siochana. A speed survey will be carried out at this location. The survey will be analysed and a design completed in line with the Councils Traffic Calming Policy if speeding is identified. Following this the location will be submitted for funding under the Low Cost Safety Scheme if traffic calming measures are required.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Declan Burgess.

5.4 Councillor Roger Kennedy (Ref ID 2593)

That this Municipal District approve the movement of the Tipperary Town bus Stop for the Waterford to Limerick commuters to the Link road and a bus shelter be provided on the existing school bus stop site.

Reply

The NTA have recently carried out an assessment of the bus stops at Link Road and Abbey St with a view to upgrading the stop locations. As a result of these assessments TCC have requested the NTA consider funding the relocation of the Abbey St stop to the location suggested. We are awaiting a reply on the matter from the NTA. If the members are in agreement the relocation of the stop can be progressed subject to NTA funding.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner)

5.5 Councillor Michael Fitzgerald (Ref ID 2594)

That this Council would improve safety and access at Nos 1, 2 and 3 Hillview Estate, Kilross, Co Tipperary. These houses have been subject to robberies in the past, trailers, fire wood and other material have been taken.

Reply

This issue should be reported to An Garda Siochana. Any issues with doors etc should be logged via CRM.

This motion was seconded by Councillor John Crosse

5.6 Councillor Tony Black (Ref. ID 2579)

That this council will consider replacing the existing footpaths in James Connolly Park, Tipperary Town. They footpaths are in a state of disrepair in certain parts of the estate.

Reply

Footpath replacement works are ongoing in James Connolly Park at present.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy

6.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

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

- Paddy McMahon, Bridge Street Tipperary Town

6.2 Votes of Congratulations

A vote of congratulations was extended to the following:

- Micheál Anglim, Chairperson of LAMA for hosting the LAMA Community & Council Awards in Tipperary, being the first time outside Dublin.

- Ms Jean Nelson, Chairperson of Tipperary Residents Network for being nominated in the Community Volunteer Category at the LAMA Community Volunteer Awards
- Joe MacGrath on being awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the LAMA Community & Council Awards
- Best of luck to St Michaels hoping to win the FAI Junior Cup Final against Newmarket on Saturday
- Cashel RFC on winning the Manseragh Cup Final last weekend against Galbally/Mitchelstown RFC and the Munster Junior Plate against St Senans
- Best of luck to Kilfeacle RFC in the Munster Junior Cup Final against Garryowen FC on Sunday

7.1 Any other Business

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the Municipal District meeting.

Signed/ Michael Anglin Dated/ 22-5-23
Cathaoirleach

Signed/ Chasem Mc Govern Dated/ 22nd of May 2023
District Administrator

