

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF
TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
Remotely Via Zoom
AT 10.00 AM ON Monday 13th December, 2021**

Present

Cllr. Marie Murphy, Cathaoirleach.

Cllrs: Ambrose, S. Anglim, M; Black, T; Bonfield, F; Bourke K; Bugler, P; Burgess, D; Carroll, J; Coonan, N.J; Crosse, J; Darcy, G; Dennehy, N; Dunne, D; English, P; Fitzgerald, J; FitzGerald, M; FitzGerald, MI; Goldsboro, I; Hanafin, S; Hannigan, J; Hanna-Hourigan, M; Kennedy, R; Lee, S; Lowry, MI; S; McGrath, H; McGrath, M; McGrath (Rocky), J; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E; Morris, S; Murphy, MI; O'Meara, K; O'Meara, MI; Ryan, J; Ryan AM; Ryan, S; Smith; MI.

Also Present

J. MacGrath, Chief Executive, M. O'Connor, K. Cashel, S. Carr, P. Slattery, Director of Services, E. Lonergan, B. Beck A/Director of Services, L. McCarthy, Head of Finance, G L. Brett, S.E., M. Scott, Arts Officer, G. Walsh, Meetings Administrator/A Director of Services.

Apologies

Cllr T. Black

**Welcome &
Introduction/Me
etings Protocol**

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. Marie Murphy referred members to the meetings protocol for virtual meetings circulated with the agenda and asked members to observe the rules contained therein with regard to remote meetings. She called on the Meetings Administrator to take a roll call and commence the meeting with the opening prayer.

**Item No. 2.1
Disclosures/or
Conflicts of
Interest**

Noted, no matters were notified to the Meetings Administrator

**Item 3.1
Minutes of
Council Meeting
held on 11th
October, 2021**

The Minutes of the October Meeting held on 13th October, 2021 remotely via Zoom were proposed by **Cllr S. Hanafin**, seconded by **Cllr S. Ambrose** and adopted.

Matters Arising

Jigsaw – Tipperary

In response to a query by Cllr P. English, it was noted that a reply had not been received from the Minister in relation to the provision of Jigsaw hubs in Clonmel and Nenagh. It was agreed to follow up the matter.

Biodiversity Officer for the County of Tipperary.

In response to an enquiry by Cllr P. English in relation to the recent announcement of increased Biodiversity funding for Local Authorities and

with particular reference to his Notice of Motion at the October Meeting seeking the appointment of a Biodiversity Officer for Tipperary, Mr. B. Beck, A/Director of Services, confirmed that Tipperary County Council would be making an application for funding together with other local authorities.

Item 3.2
Minutes of
Budget Meeting
held on 26th
November, 2021

The Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 26th November, 2021 remotely via Zoom were proposed by **Cllr. R. Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Hanafin** and adopted.

Item 4.1
Approval to
Attendance

It was proposed by **Cllr. S. Ryan** seconded by **Cllr. K. O'Meara** and resolved: -

"That pursuant to Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act 2001 and having regard to (i) the benefits likely to accrue, (ii) the general interest of this administrative area and of the local community (iii) the estimated cost of the proposed attendance and the provision made for such purposes in the annual budget, hereby nominate those listed hereunder to attend the following Conferences/Seminars/Trainings: -

Seminar/Conference/ Similar Event	Dates	Venue	Nominees
Celtic Conferences	3 rd – 5 th December	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford Co. Louth	Cllr. Shane Lee Cllr. Mark FitzGerald Cllr. Roger Kennedy Cllr. Niall Dennehy Cllr. Michael Murphy

Item 4.1
Reports on
Conferences

Proposed by **Cllr. Sean Ryan** and seconded by **Cllr. Kevin O'Meara** and noted.

Item 5.1 Casual
Vacancy Co-
option

In accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, members were advised that a casual vacancy had arisen in the membership of Tipperary County Council as a result of the resignation of Cllr. Peter Ryan with effect from 18th October 2021.

Provision was made in Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Standing Order No. 83 for the filling of a casual vacancy.

"The casual vacancy shall be filled by the co-option by the Council of a person to fill the vacancy subject to such person being nominated by the same registered Political Party who nominated Cllr. Peter Ryan for election to the Council i.e. Fine Gael".

The replacement nominee as submitted to the Meetings Administrator by the Fine Gael Party on 2nd December, 2021, was Ms. Peggy Ryan. It was proposed by Cllr N. Coonan, seconded by Cllr M. Hanna Hourigan and resolved: -

“That pursuant to the provisions of Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Peggy Ryan be appointed to the Casual Vacancy which exists on Tipperary County Council”.

Members welcomed Cllr Ryan to the membership of the Council. Reference was made to her many qualities that would compliment her role and assured her of their support.

Members also wished Peter well and thanked him for his immense contribution to the Council during his time as a Councillor.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, congratulated Cllr Ryan on her co-option and welcomed her to the membership of Tipperary County Council. The Management Team and staff would be there for support whenever required.

He conveyed his thanks and gratitude to Peter and wished his well for the future.

Cllr Peggy Ryan thanked her proposer and seconder and Fine Gael for her nomination. She said she was honoured to take up the position and looked forward to working with all the members across all parties.

Item 5.2

Section 183

Notice – Disposal of land Castlewaller

**(known as
Carrowkeale),
Newport, Co.
Tipperary**

It was proposed by **Cllr. Fiona Bonfield**, seconded by **Cllr. Hughie McGrath** and resolved:

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal land circa 0.049ha, situated at Castlewaller, (known as Carrowkeale), Newport, Co. Tipperary to Noel O’Gorman in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 2nd December, 2021”.

This disposal related to the provision of a well to augment the Newport Regional Water Supply scheme back in 2001, which incorporated a buy back option; To facilitate Irish Water engaging with the person concerned to enter into a new arrangement, it was necessary for legal reasons for the Council to transfer the land back to Mr. O’Gorman as agreed in the contract.

Item 5.3

Section 183

Notice – Disposal of land at Stereame Business Park, Nenagh to Jadeloft Ltd.

It was proposed by **Cllr. H. McGrath**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Morris** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 20021, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 151sqm of lands at Stereame Business Park to Jadeloft Ltd, in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 25th November, 2021”.

Matter was previously the subject of a section 183 resolution in February 2021 which was approved by the Council however as part of their subsequent planning permission (reference 20/6) Jadeloft Ltd was required

to provide a turning area to access their site within its own site boundary. In order to facilitate this planning condition they are seeking an additional 0.0151ha (151sqm) of land. The Council are of the view that this addition area falls within the original agreement and should be transferred without cost to Jadeloft Ltd.

Item 5.4
Section 183

Notice –
Disposal of
lands at
Lisbunny,
Nenagh, to
Splitstone Ltd.,
Nenagh

It was proposed by **Cllr. H. McGrath**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Morris** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 1.46ha of lands at Lisbunny Business Park, Nenagh to Splitstone Ltd, in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Monday 29th November, 2021”.

The proposed purchaser has an existing premises on the Lisbunny Business Park campus and required to extend their production facility to cater for growing demand. The subject lands adjoin the existing premises and would be used to extend their manufacturing capacity. The Council are satisfied to transfer the land in question to facilitate economic development and attract suitable businesses and employment providers.

Item 5.5
Section 183

Notice –
Disposal of
property at
Burgagery
Lands East,
Clonmel to
Clonmel
Business
Development
Park Ltd.

It was proposed by **Cllr. S. Ambrose**, seconded by **Cllr. P. English** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 0.813 ha of lands at Burgagery Lands East in the Barony of Iffa and Offa West as outlined in the red on the attached map and contained in folio TY22420 to Clonmel Development Business Park Ltd by way of a 20 year lease, in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Tuesday 30th November, 2021.”

The disposal related to the Clonmel Business Development Park Ltd and an amendment to the existing lease arrangement with Tipperary County Council regularising the situation by extending the lease by 20 years to 20th October 2038 and also amending the terms and conditions of the lease in relation to the area covered by the lease, removal of the restriction on subletting for a maximum of 4 years and 9 months and removing the requirement to provide a Right Of Way to the Council owned lands to the north of the site. The disposal was recommended having regard to the social and economic contribution to the county by the Park since its formation in 1998.

Item 5.6

Section 183
Notice –
Disposal of of
building
formerly known
as Old Motor Tax

It was proposed by **Cllr. H. McGrath**, seconded by **Cllr. G. Darcy** and resolved:

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal by way of lease agreement of property at the Old Motor Tax Offices, Banba Square, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary to Foróige

Offices, Banba Square, Nenagh to Foroige.

in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above Section, as circulated on Thursday 2nd December, 2021.

This disposal related to the leasing of the property to Foroige for a 5 year period for community purposes

Item 5.7

Section 183 Notice – Disposal of property at Fair Green, Main Street, Shesheraghore, Borrisokane to Marcel and Silvia Girlea.

It was proposed by **Cllr. G. Darcy**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Morris** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the Disposal of circa 0.0109ha situated at Fair Green, Main Street, Shesheraghmore, Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary to Marcel Girlea and Silvia Girlea for consideration of €100.00 plus legal fees, in accordance with the terms of Notice under the above Section, as circulated on Thursday 2nd December, 2021”.

This disposal related to a rectification of title in relation to a previous land transaction by the Fire Services in 2018. The strip of land in question was included in land registration to Property Registration Authority in error

Item 5.8

Arts Act Grant Reallocations

Ms. Melanie Scott, Arts Officer advised members that five grants approved under the Arts Act Grant Scheme 2021 last April would not now be taken up fully as the planned events did not take place in 2021 primarily due to COVID-19 restrictions. Therefore, an amount of €3,650 was now available for re-allocation under the 2021 scheme. The guidelines for the scheme allowed for re-allocation of grants.

It was proposed by **Cllr. A.M. Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. A. Moloney** and resolved: -

“That re-allocation of grants to the sum of €3,650 as per the attached schedule under the Arts 2003 are approved”.

Re-allocation of Arts Act Grants -Recommendation

Group	Artform	Report	Recommended Re- Allocation
Fionn McCumhaill Players, Mullinahone	Theatre	Recommend support towards theatre production	€500
Gaelscoil Charrig na Suire	Visual Arts	Recommend support towards artists fees for visual arts workshops	€300
St. Mary’s Secondary School, Newport	Music	Recommend support towards artists fees for string ensemble workshops	€950
Puckane & Carrig Drama Group	Theatre	Recommend support towards costs associated with radio play	€950

Conradh na Gaeilge	Music	Recommend support towards Irish Language Concert with Téada	€950
Total Re-allocation			€3,650

Item 5.9

Tipperary Festival and Events Strategy 2022-2024

The Tipperary Festivals and Events Strategy 2022-2024 – “A Way Forward” had been circulated to the members.

Ms. Melanie Scott, Arts Officer, gave a presentation to the members on the Strategy which was the Council’s second Strategy. It had been initially developed in response to the merger of North & South Tipperary County Council’s, Town & Borough Councils and was the first all-county approach as well as being the first Local Authority Festival Strategy in Ireland. There were high levels of satisfaction with the existing Festivals & Events Scheme in terms of ease of application, understanding its operation and funding levels.

The draft strategy identified 5 priority areas to be addressed over the period of the plan – Support/Development/Promote/Monitor/Sustain.

The draft Strategy had been considered and endorsed by the Strategic Policy Committee.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Ml. Lowry**, seconded by **Cllr. P. English** and resolved: -

“That Tipperary Festival and Events Strategy 2022-2024 is approved”

Members welcomed the Strategy. A number of members raised the problems facing Committees and the Adventure Tourism Sector in obtaining competitive Insurance Cover for their events.

Ms. M. Scott, Arts Officer, advised that the issue of Insurance was out of the control of the Council but that research would be carried out to assess the insurance requirements of groups/committees and this could be incorporated into future training events.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, acknowledged the impact that increasing insurance costs were having on festivals, tourism events and tourism facilities and undertook to contact the Councils Insurers to seek an overview of the insurance market and the reasons it was proving unviable for Insurance Companies to insure these types of events.

Item 5.10

Tipperary County Council Social Media Guidance Protocol for Councillors

The Meetings Administrator referred to the Draft Tipperary County Council Social Media Guidance Protocol for Councillors as circulated to the members with the Agenda and advised that this Guidance Protocol set out important advice and guidance for Councillors about using social media. A workshop for members was held on 4th October, 2021, to consider the contents of the document. Social media were very important communications platforms which offered great opportunities but also particular challenges to local Councillors. It was important for members to review and understand the guidance document as it would help to improve their understanding of how

social media can be used to communicate effectively with local people and also to mitigate risks on social media

The members welcomed the guidance protocol and it was proposed by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan**, seconded by **Cllr. P. English** and resolved: -

“That the Tipperary County Council Social Media Guidance Protocol for Councillors V1 as circulated be adopted and the seal of the Council be affixed thereon”.

Item 6.1

Overdraft facility not exceeding €10,000,000 (ten million euro) during the year ending 31st December 2022

Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance, informed the members that overdraft sanction in the amount of €10,000,000 (ten million euro) was required to meet the peak demands on cash-flow in 2022 and to avoid excessive interest and surcharges in the event of requiring overdraft facilities and not having adequate facilities in place.

The overdraft would enable funding for day to day operations to be carried out in an efficient manner and would also enable Tipperary to carry expenditure on Capital Projects pending the receipt of grant draw down for year ending 31/12/2022.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. J. Carroll** and resolved: -

“That pursuant to the Local Government Act 2001 and subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, this Council authorises the temporary borrowing by way of overdraft from the Council’s Treasurer of a sum not exceeding €10,000,000 (ten million euro) during the year ending 31st December, 2022.

Item 6.2 **Loan facility for the purposes of co-funding projects under the URDF and RRDF schemes**

Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance, informed members that Tipperary County Council had to date been successful in securing approval for thirteen URDF/RRDF projects from the Departments of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Rural and Community Development in the sum of €51.6m. There were currently three projects with the Department of Rural and Community development for approval and further applications were in progress. The approval of the Council was sought to raise loans, over twenty years, from lending institutions not exceeding the total sum of €6,000,000 to co-fund URDF and RRDF projects during 2022.

It was proposed by **Cllr. S. Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Morris** and resolved: -

“That pursuant to the Local Government Act 2001 (Section 106) and subject to the sanction of the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, this Council approves the raising of loans not exceeding the total sum of €6,000,000 (six million Euro) from financial institutions for the purpose of co-funding projects under the Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Schemes”.

Item 6.3
Loan facility for the purposes of purchasing land including land banks

Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance, informed members Tipperary County Council intended to purchase lands for the purposes of development of facilities and to create land banks for the provision of housing stock in various locations throughout the county. The approval of the Council was sought to raise loans, over ten years, from lending institutions not exceeding the total sum of €5,000,000 for the purposes of purchasing land including land banks. Provision would be made in the Revenue Account to cover the cost of repayments in respect of development land and the costs associated with land banks for housing purposes would be recouped through the Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP).

It was proposed by **Cllr. R. Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan** and resolved: -

“That pursuant to the Local Government Act 2001 (Section 106) and subject to the sanction of the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, this Council approves the raising of loans not exceeding the total sum of €5,000,000 (five million euro) from financial institutions for the purpose of purchasing land including land banks”.

Following queries raised, it was clarified that the term “land” could include buildings.

It was also agreed to revert to Cllr. Ambrose with details of land purchased during 2021 by the Council.

Item 6.4
Audited Financial Statements for 2020 and the Local Government Auditors Report thereon

The Audited Financial Statements for 2020 and the Local Government Auditors Report thereon had been circulated to the members and noted.

Item 7.1
Consideration of Management Report

Roads, Transportation, Health & Safety

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 10.2, Notice of Motion Ref 2314 as part of the Management Report on Roads, Transportation, Health & Safety.

Item 10.2
Notice of Motion SpaceFinder Service.

Motion Ref No. 2314 in the name of Cllr S. Ambrose.

“I am requesting that Tipperary County Council investigates the possibility of rolling out the Spacefinder Service in Tipperary. This is an app that identifies vacant disability car parking spaces thus making it easier for persons with a disability to locate them. The provision of this service would require Tipperary County Council to install small sensors at each disabled parking bay around the

County. This initiative is supported by the Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland.”

This motion was seconded by **Cllr. P English.**

The reply to the motion was noted as follows: -

Spacefinder is a pilot app which allows disabled drivers to find the nearest available disabled parking bay. A sensor is installed which informs the parking app whether the space is occupied or free.

The system was recently launched in Limerick and its effectiveness and usefulness is currently being monitored. Tipperary County Council will review the operation of the system and assess its suitability for use in Tipperary.

Management Report continued.

Roads, Transportation, Health & Safety

Mr. M O'Connor, Director of Services and Mr. L. Brett, Senior Engineer, responded to queries raised as follows: -

Storm Barra

Members thanked the emergency services and ESB for their response to incidents during Storm Barra. The co-ordinated response by all agencies to storm events was constantly improving and members were grateful for the up-to date information being provided to the public and members through the various channels.

Roadside Trees

Members were advised that landowners were responsible for the inspection of roadside trees on their property and to ensure they were safe and not a danger to the public. This was set out in the Roads Act 1993. In response to suggestions from members that the Council should provide assistance to landowners when removing trees, Mr. O'Connor advised that the Council would not have the manpower to provide traffic assistance and road diversions during tree felling and that it was also not feasible to carry out a survey of dangerous trees across the Council's 6,000km of roads. He did note that where the Council become aware of a dangerous tree, the Council have liaised with the owner concerned with a view to addressing the situation.

Smart Space Lighting Thurles

It was agreed to examine lights not working at Stradavoher and Kickham Street, Thurles.

Winter Maintenance

In response to queries raised, members were advised that Tipperary County Council had an extensive system in place, applying a scientific approach to the routes salted based on nightly road temperature forecasts and Met Eireann Forecasts. It was noted that the Council had 12 salt spreaders, salted approximately 1,000 km of the road network and was confident that there was adequate salt supply for the winter period with the capacity to deal with a 5/6 day severe weather event. Maps of the routes that were salted were available to view on the Council website and it was

noted that there was no current capacity for new routes to be added and it was not possible to react to every scenario and request for specific routes to be salted dependent on the weather conditions in that area.

Road Depots

Investment in the upgrade of road depots was being carried out and depots no longer required were being disposed of to facilitate this investment programme.

Active Travel Programme

It was noted that standards for the provision of cycleways was being reviewed and further development of cycleways under the Active Travel Programme was paused until the new standards guidance were finalised.

M7 Motorway North Tipperary.

Members expressed their concerns regarding a stretch of the M7 motorway which was particularly treacherous during inclement weather. They referred to the number of serious traffic incidents that occurred during wet weather and in particular flash hailstorms. Mr. Marcus O'Connor, DOS, informed members that there were a number of roads in the country which were prone to hailstones – the M7 west of Roscrea, the M18 on the western coast and the M6 west of Ballinasloe and confirmed that discussions had taken place with the TII about this issue. Hail was particularly problematic as it was not predictable where these storms would occur, they were localised and they could not be treated with salt as they happened very quickly and over a short period of time. Studies had been commissioned to investigate the preponderance for hail-strikes in this area of the M7 and they showed that section of Ireland is particularly prone to hail events which come in from the Atlantic.

It was essential that motorists would slow down in hail storms and heed the safety sign gantries on the motorway which provided up-to-date information about driving conditions and delays

Maintenance of Back lanes Housing Estates

It was confirmed that the resurfacing of access lanes in housing estates did not qualify under the terms of the CIS or LIS Scheme and would require funding from the Municipal District roads budget.

Planning

Mr. E. Lonergan, A/Director of Services responded to queries raised as follows: -

E-Planning

Members were informed that in association with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), and the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), Tipperary Planning Authority has been selected as one of the pilot Authorities for e-planning. Webinars had been held with agents. Eplan would go live (where planning applications can be lodged online and all subsequent correspondence to the applicant/agent would be electronic.) before the end of 2021.

County Development Plan

It was noted that the Draft Plan had been on public display for the period 30th July 2021 to 15th October 2021. 615 submissions were received. A Chief Executive's report on the submissions received was being prepared and would be circulated to the elected members in January 2022, with the view to holding a series of Workshops in February and March (the matter listed for agreement under Agenda Item 8.2). Material amendments to the Draft Plan would then be advertised for a further period of public consultation.

Town Centre First Plan

Town Centre First Plans was an initiative of the Department of Rural and Community Development to help support the revitalisation of Ireland's towns and villages, to ensure that they were vibrant and attractive places to live, work and socialise. Roscrea had been awarded funding under this initiative and as a pilot town but it would be open to all towns to make an application for funding once the plan was launched.

Knocklofty House

Members voiced their concerns over the appalling state of disrepair of Knocklofty House and its ongoing deterioration. They appealed to the Council to do all within its power to progress the legal dispute currently before the courts regarding its ownership. Mr. E. Lonergan, A/Director of Services advised members that interim works had been carried out to the house to protect it from weather elements and the matter would be followed up with the Courts Service concerning the ownership liability.

Conservation Architect

It was confirmed that the position of Conservation Architect was not contained in the Council's Workforce Plan and no provision had been made in the budget for such a position however, the matter would be kept under review should a funding stream materialise.

Timber Homes

Planning restrictions in relation to timber homes would be discussed at workshops as part of the review of the County Development Plan.

Fire & Emergency Services

Fire Hydrants

It was noted that the maintenance of Fire Hydrants was the responsibility of Irish Water.

Library & Cultural Services

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 10.1, Notice of Motion Ref 2265 as part of the Management Report on Libraries and Cultural Services.

Motion Ref No. 2265 in the name of Cllr P. English

Item 10.2

Notice of Motion

"That Tipperary County Council amend its Civic Memorial Policy No. 7 - Infrastructure from "Parks, Fire Stations, Libraries and Utility

Civic Memorial Policy.

Facilities will not be named after individuals or events, the names will reflect the locality or townland to "Parks, Fire Stations, Libraries and Utility Facilities may be named after individuals or reflect their locality or townland."

This motion was seconded by **Cllr. D. Dunne.**

The reply to the motion was noted as follows: -

At the time of the adoption of the Civic Memorial Policy, careful consideration was given to opportunities to honour celebrate, or remember a person, group of persons or events of significance. The policy allowed for the naming of major infrastructures such as roundabouts, buildings (non-residential), facilities and bridges. It was deemed to have worked well and was appropriate for the purpose it was being used for. The naming of civic spaces and civic buildings was considered to be more suited to reflect the locality or townland.

Cllr English expressed his dissatisfaction with the response. It was his opinion that calling infrastructures after individuals kept their memory in the public domain. He was supported by Cllr Ml. FitzGerald.

It was agreed to bring the Notice of Motion to the SPC for further review and consideration and bring their recommendation back to the Plenary Council.

Clonmel Library

It was confirmed that the tender brief for the design of the refurbishment of Clonmel Library would be issued before the end of 2021 and it was anticipated that a design team would be in place early 2022.

Item 7.2

Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement and Mobility Plan

The Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement and Mobility Plan was prepared on behalf of Clare County Council and Tipperary County Council and had been circulated to the members. Its aim was to provide a comprehensive coordinated guidance to improve transport and mobility management, to stimulate sustainable development and enhance public realm for both Killaloe and Ballina.

Following an extensive public consultation process the Plan was endorsed by the members of Nenagh MD and Killaloe MD in November and was being brought before the Plenary Councils of both Clare and Tipperary for information.

Members noted the content of the plan.

Item 7.3

Local Authority Performance Indicators Report 2020

The Local Authority Performance Indicators Report 2020 had been circulated to the members.

Mr. G. Walsh, Meetings Administrator informed members that the Performance Indicators was an important resource for management, elected members and the citizen to review aspects of the Council's activity in the interest of accountability and transparency. This report was the 7th annual report published by NOAC on 30th Sept 2021. The report covered

42 key indicators under 11 headings and measured 87 indicators in total. 3 new indicators had been added.

The majority of indicators showed trends over the last number of years and of those most were positive. A number of indicators however showed no particular trend or pattern.

Mr. Walsh advised that in comparing performance across authorities, we must also take into account that each Local Authority was different. While local authorities provide a similar range of services, we must take account of national policies, local needs and the democratic priorities of a particular area. In addition, the diversity between local authorities impacts on performance measurement.

In considering the findings, one must also factor in the impact of Covid-19 and how the Councils had to react to the restrictions and deliver in a completely new environment, noting the following in particular,

- Community Call initiatives - 793 calls dealt with between March and Dec;
- Range of economic and social supports provided through voucher and grant schemes, new street furniture, wider footpaths, dedicated cycle lanes, online training, seasonal supports for retail at Christmas. Libraries also provided additional services via click and collect;
- Council Meetings were held remotely via Zoom and the Council also had to re-invent how Civic Receptions were conferred with 3 Civic Receptions conferred virtually to the Tipperary Footballers, Rachel Blackmore and Sam Bennett during 2020;

Improvements noted for Tipperary over the 7-year period up to 2020 are as follows:

- Year-end housing stock figures have increased by 5.9%;
- No of registered tenancies has increased by 10.8%;
- Percentage of long-term homeless adults has significantly decreased 52% since 2016;
- Percentage of local primary, secondary and Tertiary roads with no defects has improved by 18.7%;
- Kms of Regional strengthened and resealed over the period has increased by 74.6% and 52% while Kms of Local Roads has increased by 38% and 64%;
- Percentage of Motor Tax transactions conducted online has increased by 23%;
- No of Library items borrowed increased by 16.8%;
- Staffing levels have increased with Tipperary reducing the % working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave by 1.4% and self-certified leave by 0.15%;
- The level and usage of local authority websites has increased significantly by 151% and social media followers by 122%;
- The Council's revenue account balance has continued to show a surplus over the period;
- Rents & Annuities and Housing Loan collection levels continue to improve.

Item 8.1

Agree date for January Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr P. English, seconded by Cllr J. Crosse and agreed that the January Meeting of Tipperary County Council would take place on Friday 14th January, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Item 8.2 **Councillor** **Workshops**

The following workshop dates were agreed: -

- Dignity in the Workplace – Thursday 13th January, 2022 in Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles (date/location dependent on Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time)
- Draft County Development Plan Review Workshop to be held remotely via zoom on following dates: -
 - 15th February, 2022
 - 18th February, 2022
 - 22nd February, 2022
 - 24th February, 2022
 - 1st March, 2022
- HSE Mid-West Briefing – 16th December, 2021 to be held remotely via Zoom.

Item 9.1 **Consideration of** **Orders for the** **period to the** **31st August,** **2021**

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 30th November, 2021 were noted.

Item 11.1 **Correspondence**

Correspondence as circulated was noted as follows: -

- Email dated 1st December, 2021 and attachment from Iarnród Éireann re. Iarnród Éireann Rail Freight 2040 Strategy

Cllr P. English referred to the need for improved rail structure between Limerick Junction and Rosslare particularly for freight.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, confirmed that Tipperary County Council would be preparing a submission to the All Island Rail Strategy Review Plan and this would be presented to the members at the January Monthly Meeting.

It was noted that a meeting had been sought but the Chief Executive of Iarnród Éireann and concerns raised by the members in relation to the following matters would be raised at that meeting: -

- Clonmel Railway Station Timetable
- Condition of Carrick-on-Suir Station
- Lack of connectivity for Rail Freight between Limerick Junction and Rosslare

Item 12.1 –
Resolutions
from other Local
Authorities

The following resolutions from other Local Authorities were noted by the members: -

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

“That this Council states it’s continued opposition to the illegal and inhumane blockade of Cuba by the USA. Notes that, prior to the pandemic, this blockade has prevented essential supplies such as fuel entering the country which has far-reaching consequences. Further notes, with increased concern, the impact that this blockade is having during the Covid-19 pandemic whereby essential medical supplies, needed to save lives, are being restricted;

That this Council sends its’ solidarity to all those in our district who have loved ones in the country. Further, that this Council sends our solidarity to Cuba through the Cuban Ambassador to Ireland, Hugo Ramos, and that we invite the Ambassador to meet with our council to express this directly and hear about how this blockade is affecting citizens in our district; That this council notes, despite the pressures caused by the imposition of unjust sanctions, the positive role that Cuba has played in providing practical solidarity and support to so may countries in the global struggle against Covid-19;

That this Council praises the efforts of the Cuban Solidarity Forum Ireland, supports their ‘Syringes for Cuba’ campaign, and highlights this campaign to the people of our district using any means available to us. Further, that this Council invites representatives from the Cuban Solidarity Forum Ireland to meet with council to update us on the campaign and ongoing situation.

That this Council writes to both Health Ministers on the island to request that they explore ways in which assistance could be provided to assist in medical supply provision to Cuba. Further, that this Council requests that, on behalf of the people of our district, both Health Ministers advocate for the inclusion of any successful medications and treatments, including those developed in Cuba, in the fight against Covid-19;

That this Council notes the most recent vote on 23rd June 2021 by the UN General Assembly, and every vote since 1992, to demand the end of the US blockade by the international community;

That this Council, on behalf of those in our district with loved ones in Cuba as well as everyone in our district who would benefit from Cuban Covid-19 medications, calls on the US government, via the US Ambassador to Ireland, to bring this blockade to an end, particularly due to the devastating effect it is having during the Covid-19 pandemic;

Finally, that this motion is circulated to all councils on the island of Ireland, and that they are requested to adopt a similar position.

Donegal County Council

Donegal County Council calls on An Taoiseach to establish a dedicated Government “Task Force” to initiate, coordinate, fund and promote a north west housing, health and family welfare response to tackle the many societal ills resulting from Mica, Pyrite and Pyrrhotite that is prevalent in

many family homes and adversely affecting many farming buildings, educational and community facilities in the region.

Galway County Council

"That following the correspondence from South Dublin County Council and this council's recent motion that this council also agrees to write to the Department of the Taoiseach, other local authorities and Retail Ireland calling on Irish and International supermarkets operating here to join the boycott on goods from occupied territories.

Sligo County Council

"That this Council in conjunction with Tusla, Department of Children and Equality and the Gardaí establish an appropriate and safe Refuge Centre for victims and survivors (mainly women) of domestic violence in Sligo and surrounding area".

Waterford City and County Council

"That Waterford City & County Council calls on the Government and the Minister for Health to establish a South East based Regional Integrated Care Organisation (RICO) under Sláintecare with appropriate levels of population-based funding and governance to function in its own right serving the 600,000 people of the South East Region and not under the control of Cork or Dublin groupings".

Waterford City and County Council

"I am calling on Waterford City and County Council to have visual communication boards for non-verbal children installed in all public playgrounds".

Item 13.1

Votes of Sympathy

- The Family of Ken Hogan, Sheehy Terrace, Clonmel (formerly of Clonmel Fire Brigade & South Tipperary County Council)
- Maura Barrett, Cashel Library on the death of her mother Maureen Wall (née Scanlon)
- Maureen Gleeson, Housing Section, Clonmel on the death of her father Con Gleeson
- Claire Grant, Clonmel Library on the death of her mother Nora Grant, retired Library Assistant with Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee
- The family of Paul Tulett, Cashel Recycling Centre
- Sarah O'Callaghan, Finance Section Nenagh on the death of her mother Mary O'Callaghan
- Paul Keane, Executive Engineer, Nenagh Municipal District on the death of his father Donal Keane, Annacarty, Co. Tipperary
- James Cahill, Roscrea Water Treatment Plant on the death of his mother Margaret (Peg) Cahill
- Helen Fahey, Housing Section on the death of her mother Anne Fahey (nee Kearney)
- The family of Patrick Maher, William Street, Nenagh, former refuse collector, Nenagh Town Council, Nenagh Municipal District and Machinery Yard, Nenagh.
- Former Councillor, David Doran on the death of his father Paddy Doran
- Hughes Family, Thurles on the death of solicitor Martin Hughes. Martin was involved in a number of council projects including the

**Votes of
Congratulations**

- Community & Sports Centre in Littleton & Derrynaflan Walkway in Horse and Jockey.
- Pat Malone, father of Cathal Malone, Accounts Payable, Nenagh
 - Mr. Richard Auler, Former Member of the Environment SPC.
 - St. Kevin's, Two Mile Borris FC on celebrating their 50th anniversary
 - ABP Cahir – Meat Processor ABP was awarded 18 gold medals at the Work Steak Challenge for products produced at its Cahir Plant
 - To the Daughters of Dún Iascaigh Historical Walking Tour – Cahir Women's History Group who have won a National Heritage Week Award.
 - The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) sponsors the Water Heritage Award which was won by Suircan Community Forum for their project Citizen Scientists Water Sampling on the River Suir, Co. Tipperary
 - Slieveardagh Mining Interest Group and Virtual Old School Mining Museum winners of the County Award for County Tipperary for their project Virtual Field Trip of the Slieveardagh Coalfield.
 - Seamus 'Mr Hillview' O Doherty who has been named Ireland's community hero for 2021

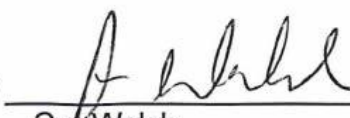
**Item 14.1
Any Other
Business**

The Cathaoirleach wished all present at the meeting a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year, noting that 2021 had seen a challenging year for everyone.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/ _____
Cathaoirleach.

Date: _____

Signed/  _____
Ger Walsh,
Meetings Administrator.

Date: