

In the Chair:	Cllr. K. Bourke
Members Present:	Cllr. D. Dunne, Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, Cllr. I. Goldsboro Cllr. K. O'Meara
Apologies:	None
<u>Attending from Carrick on Suir MD:</u>	Mr. B Beck, Director of Services; Ms. M O'Gorman, Meetings Administrator; Mr. D. Power. A/District Engineer; Mr. P. Farrell, Executive Engineer; Ms. H. Cahill, Staff Officer.
ERCD Directorate:	Mr. Brian Beck, Director of Services
Cultural Services/ Libraries Biodiversity Directorate:	Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian
Roads Directorate:	Mr. Liam Brett, Senior Engineer.

1.0. Welcome and Introduction

Item 1.1. Summons and Prayer:	The summons was taken as read
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2.0. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Council

Item 2.1. Conflict of Interest Declaration	None to record
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3.0. Consideration of Minutes

Item 3.1. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 25 January 2024	The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 25 January 2024 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne, and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
Item 3.2. Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 6 February 2024	The minutes of the special (planning) meeting held on the 6 February 2024 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne, and signed by the Cathaoirleach

4.0. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Item 4.1. Report of Economic, Community & Rural Development Directorate:	The report of the Economic, Community & Rural Development Directorate as circulated, was noted and taken as read, with no matters arising. -----
Item 4.2. Attendance of Cultural Services/ Library & Biodiversity Directorate	With Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian in attendance, the report of the Cultural Services and Libraries and Biodiversity Directorate was noted and taken as read.

Mr. Dullaghan referred to the grant allocation of €79,809 from the Department of Rural and Community Development for purchase of IT equipment in libraries and the intention to upgrade all public internet PCs across all 12 branches which was welcomed.

Following discussion of the various services provided through his department, Mr. Dullaghan undertook to convey the members' positive feedback to his staff and stated that the new biodiversity officer, Anne Marie Fleming would contact active tidy towns groups throughout the district to link in with the service.

**Item 4.2.
District Engineer's
Report**

Mr. Denis Power, A/District Engineer circulated a draft Municipal District Schedule for 2024 taking account of various allocations received to date, while noting that budgets for own resources were awaited. He pointed out that funding for housing maintenance was the same as 2023 as were budgets for National Primary and National Secondary Ordinary Maintenance and that RRDF Project was ongoing with Phase 1 contract underway.

Similarly, the €627,807 budget for road restoration was at the same level as the previous year. In the Road Improvement category, it was noted that Derryvilla, Moyglass Community Centre, Ballyneale and Everardsgrange were added to the programme for 2024.

While broadly welcoming the programme, it was proposed by Cllr. I. Goldsboro, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and unanimously agreed to adopt the Schedule as circulated.

Further discussion took place in relation to the following matters;

Cllr. D Dunne:

- Welcomed the tree trimming contract carried out at Town Park, Carrick on Suir, along with the removal of some trees and their replacement with more appropriate trees.
- Expressed his thanks for provision of big belly bin at Carrickbeg and sought update on removal of bins provided on the N24 as part of the improvement contract.
- Sought update in relation to reinstatement of diversion route at St. Nicholas Park to Marian Avenue which was in a deplorable condition and suggested that some of the footpaths also required attention at this location.

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Requested a timeframe for proposed works at Carrick Street, Street, Mullinahone in order to communicate with residents in timely fashion.
- Sought start date for Community Improvement Scheme.

Item 4.2.
District Engineer's
Report Cont'd/

- Requested a plan to be put in place to address overgrown trees at Blackthorn Estate, Mullinahone.
- Noted that N76 contractor's defects liability period was due to expire in April and sought update in relation to snags and flooding issue at Grangemockler.
- Queried the duration of the closure of Cláirín Bridge.
- In view of expected depletion of Active Travel and IPB funding, queried whether there were any other funding sources that would plug the deficit.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Noted proposed works under climate action grant for Drangan and sought timeframe for roll-out.
- Expressed concern at the workmanship of contractors engaged by Uisce Éireann and urged that they be held accountable for proper reinstatement.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Referring to the recent adoption of policy on traffic calming, queried what funding streams would deliver those measures.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Welcomed the schedule and the workshop held prior to the meeting.
- Concurred that the condition of the road at St. Nicholas Park warranted immediate action and urged the Council to make the case forcefully to TII for funding.
- Stated that the road at Rack Hill needed attention for years and requested update on same.
- Reiterated that the L6603 at Ballinagrana was badly in need of a patching unit
- The R697 from Cregg Bridge towards town also required attention.
- Expressed concern that a green area was created at John Street directly outside the residence of a disabled person and requested that road markings were needed urgently at this location.

The District Engineer, Mr. Power responded that he would examine the best option for Mullinahone and revert with a start date for works, along with commencement for CIS allocated €81,000. He noted that trees at Blackthorn Walk were examined by a contractor and his report was awaited. He undertook to confer with colleagues at Roads Capital to obtain update on N76 snags, including measures to alleviate flooding prior to their signing off on retention period, and undertook to revert with information on the duration of Cláirín Bridge contract.

The District Engineer informed that he had met with Uisce Éireann contractors on-site at Ballinard and discussed his requirements for reinstatement at this location.

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Report Cont'd/

With regard to Rack Hill, he stated that broadband contractors were expected to commence work at this location in the next few weeks and confirmed that a patching unit would be deployed at Ballinagrana and Cregg Road.

Mr. Liam Brett, Senior Engineer had joined the meeting remotely and thanked the members for adopting the programme. Its early adoption – in February rather than March as in previous years – would give it 'headway' and allow the Council to revert to the Department to seek additional funding.

He clarified that IPB funding was effectively halved and that every district was similarly affected, but assured the members that he was engaging with IPB in this regard. In relation to Active Travel, he advised that NTA were allocating to larger projects nationally and in the case of Carrick on Suir Municipal District, Cláirín footbridge was the focus for this funding, with the current bridge at its 'end-of-life'. He noted that rather than 'depleted' the Active Travel budget was the same in 2024 as in 2023.

Addressing the question of delivery of traffic calming measures as provided in the newly adopted policy, Mr. Brett noted that the council would be relying on the likes of Active Travel, Low-Cost Safety Schemes, Town and Village Renewal Schemes and any other source that would become available. However, he pointed out that the policy obliged the council to provide a complete design when proposing to install such measures.

Item 4.4.
District Administrator's
Report:

The District Administrator circulated her report which contained updates and information on the following

CARRICK ON SUIR REGENERATION PLAN

Phase 1 at construction phase had GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd on site at Sean Healy Park and at Ormond Castle Park, Strand Walk and the Castle Street approach to Ormond Castle. With 50% completed, it was anticipated that works on phase 1 would finish in May.

Phases 2 and 3 were currently at design stage and expected to progress to tender in Quarter 2.

Mr. Brian Beck, Director, outlined that significant progress was achieved with Uisce Éireann fully engaged and signed off in relation to Phases 1 and 2. Over the past fortnight two meetings had taken place, and with a surveyor on site in the coming week, UE had committed to engage our design team, Malachy Walsh & Partners for complete repair of watermain and necessary repairs to foul water sewers. This was warmly welcomed by the members

Item 4.4.
District Administrator's
Report, cont'd/

along with publication in social media of drone footage of the project. Citizens were enabled to come on the journey with the council and the photos were eliciting very positive feedback.

TIDY TOWNS GRANTS 2024

Members were informed of the opening of Tidy Town Grants Scheme for 2024 with a closing date of 15 March 2024 duly advertised in the print media during week commencing 6 February and online at www.tipperarycoco.ie.

The District Administrator also advised of the impending April relaunch of Tidy Towns in Carrick on Suir town, with residents' associations, Men's Shed, Lions Club, business and sporting organisations to be invited to the launch with a view to establishing a new voluntary committee harnessing skills in the areas of horticulture, biodiversity, litter picking, sustainability projects, administration, social media and communications. The Council was hopeful of a positive response to this call and the initiative was welcomed by the members.

BURIALGROUND MAINTENANCE GRANT SCHEME 2024

The Meetings Administrator informed that application forms were despatched to all current burial ground committees for return by 15 March for Burial Ground Maintenance Grant Scheme duly advertised in print media on 6 February 2024 and online at www.tipperarycoco.ie. This was noted.

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME 2024

Members were informed by the Meetings Administrator of the opening of the 2024 Community Grants Scheme on the Council's website www.tipperarycoco.ie the previous Thursday 15 February, for applications from community committees, parish councils, sports, arts or heritage committees, chambers of commerce or similar bodies. She noted that the scheme was funded from the Local Property Tax [LPT] and was designed to assist community groups in the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District in meeting their running costs (current costs) and in funding new projects resulting in the creation of an asset for the community (capital costs). She stated that projects funded under the scheme must assist in the achievement of Tipperary County Council's objectives and goals, with grants not exceeding 50% of the cost of the work being assisted. This was noted.

Item 4.4.
District Administrator's
Report, cont'd/

CATHAOIRLEACH AWARDS 2024

Following on from the very successful inaugural Cathaoirleach Awards launched in 2023, the Meetings Administrator informed that the 2024 Awards would be held at Comeragh College, Carrick on Suir on the 8th May. She requested that members would forward their nomination not later than 15 March.

ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECT – CLÁIRÍN BRIDGE

The Meetings Administrator informed that a 'letter drop' took place during the previous week to residents at Cláirín, Cláirín Close, Deerpark Close, Gleann an Locha, Lissadell Park, St. John's Terrace, Tannersgate and Villa Terrace, announcing the imminent commencement of this project. The Active Travel Contract was awarded to Trúir Construction Ltd., and would involve the construction of a platform for a crane on the St. Johns Terrace side of the rail line to facilitate the removal of the existing bridge and installation of the new bridge components. This will result in a reduced green/play area for the duration of the works.

In addition, she advised that updates would be published on social media and inserted in The Three Counties local newspaper. She noted that normal rail services would continue during the course of the contract and that anyone with queries on the matter could contact the supervising engineer, Gillian Flynn, by telephone on 0818 06 5000 or via email at gillian.flynn@tipperarycoco.ie.

Item 4.5.
General Municipal
Allocation 2023

A report/recommendation was circulated by the Meetings Administrator in relation to the 2024 General Municipal Allocation in the sum of €114,689. Following consideration of the report, it was proposed by Cllr. I. Goldsboro, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne, AND RESOLVED

"That the General Municipal Allocation of 2024 in the sum of €114,689 be assigned to the projects and community initiatives as set out on the schedule hereunder;

<i>ORIS Measure 1_ Mullinahone Pocket Park</i>	<i>€3,000.00</i>
<i>ORIS M.2_ Lough Doire Bhille Enhancement Works</i>	<i>€12,000.00</i>
<i>ORIS Measure 3_ Blueway widening 2023</i>	<i>€50,000.00</i>
<i>Community Grants</i>	<i>€30,689.00</i>
<i>Community Festivals</i>	<i>€5,000.00</i>
<i>Municipal Festival</i>	<i>€4,000.00</i>
<i>Christmas Lights</i>	<i><u>€10,000.00</u></i>
	<i>€114,689.00</i>

Item 4.6.
Assistance of Bodies
under Section 66 of the
Local Government Act,
2001.

The Meetings Administrator indicated 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 36879

Delegated Officer's Order 36879 containing instruction that legal proceedings be instituted for offences under the Local Authority (Traffic Wardens) Act, 1975, was duly noted.

6.0. Correspondence

Item 6.1.

The Cathaoirleach noted that there was still no response received to the Council's letter to the Garda Commissioner, as delegated to the Assistant Commissioner, Southern Region.

7.0. Notices of Motion

Item 7.1.

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

8.0. Any Other Business

Item 8.1.

The Cathaoirleach noted that there were no items for consideration under this heading.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

[14:50]



District Administrator.



Cathaoirleach.

27 March 2024

