

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF  
TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN NENAGH GOLF CLUB CLONMEL  
AT 10 AM on Monday 13<sup>TH</sup> May, 2024.**

**Present**

Cllr. G. Darcy, Cathaoirleach.

Cllrs: Ambrose, S. Anglim, M; Bonfield, F; Burgess, D; Bugler, P; Carroll, J; Coonan, N; Crosse, J; Dennehy, N; English, P; FitzGerald, J; FitzGerald, M; FitzGerald, Ml; Hanafin, Hannigan, J; Kennedy, R; Lee, S; Lowry, Ml; McGrath, H; McGrath, J; McGrath, M; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E.; Morris, S; Murphy, M; Murphy, Ml; O'Meara, K; O'Meara, Ml; Ryan, J; Ryan, P; Ryan, S; Smith, Ml;

**Also Present**

Mr. J. MacGrath, Chief Executive, Ms S Carr, Mr. E. Lonergan, Ms. S. Kennedy, Mr. B. Beck Director of Services, Mr. A. Coleman, Director of Services, Mr. M. Connolly, Head of Finance, Mr. G. Walsh, Meetings Administrator.

**Apologies**

Cllrs. Black, T. Bourke, K; Dunne, D; Goldsboro, I; Hanna Hourigan, M; Ryan Shiner, A.M.

**Item 1.1**

Welcome &  
Introduction/Meetings  
Protocol

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the May Meeting of the Council and the last meeting of the current Council to Nenagh Golf Club. He thanked the Committee for making the Golf Club available and Mr. Tom Doheny for his assistance in this regard.

The Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Philip Quinlan, Captain of the Golf Club and Mr. Jack Hogan from the parish of Cloughjordan to address the meeting.

Mr. Quinlan welcomed the Cathaoirleach and members to Nenagh Golf Club who were delighted to offer their facilities for the May Monthly Meeting and conveyed good wishes to the Chief Executive and those members retiring. On behalf of the Club he thanked Cllr Darcy for the work he carried out for the parish of Cloughjordan.

Mr. Jack Hogan welcomed members and officials to the parish of Cloughjordan. He congratulated Cllr Darcy on his 33 years as an elected representative for their parish and to his father before him for a period of 18 years. They had both given in excess of 50 years' service to the parish. Mr. Hogan outlined the extraordinary heritage of the parish and it was the birthplace of Irish Patriot Thomas McDonagh, one of the leaders of the Easter Rising of 1916. Cloughjordan was the location for the first ecovillage in Ireland.

As this was the last meeting of Cllr Darcy as Cathairleach, he thanked everyone for their help and co-operation and thanked Leas Cathairleach Cllr S. Hanafin for his assistance. He thanked Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator and the staff of Corporate Services in Clonmel and Nenagh for their help throughout year. He also thanked the press.

Cllr Darcy said he had served 33 years as a Councillor over 6 successive terms and it had been his honour and privilege to be elected and subsequently to be elected Chairman of North Tipperary County Council and Tipperary County Council. He thanked his family, individuals, community groups, organisations, clubs and he said that working with the community was what being a Councillor was all about. He thanked the Fine Gael party, his supporters, and remembered past members and officials. This meeting was also the last meeting of Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive with whom he had enjoyed a good working relationship and Mr. MacGrath would be best remembered for his seamless management of the amalgamation of Tipperary. It was also the last meeting of a number of retiring Councillors, Cllr Michael FitzGerald who had 45 years' service and was the first Chairman of Tipperary County Council, Cllr Noel Coonan who was elected in 1991, served as Senator from 2002 to 2007 and T.D from 2007 to 2016, Cllr S. Hanafin had 21 years' service as a Councillor and was Cathairleach in 2015, Cllr Hughie McGrath, a proud Nenagh Man who worked tirelessly for Nenagh town and environs, Cllr John (Rocky) McGrath, a stalwart of his parish and well known in farming circles, a former Chairman of the North Tipperary GAA and current Cathairleach of Nenagh Municipal District.

In conclusion Cllr Darcy said that democracy was precious and fragile and should be protected.

The Meetings Administrator advised those present of the emergency exits and then took a roll call and commenced the meeting with the opening prayer.

**Item 2.1**  
**Disclosure/or**  
**Conflicts of**  
**Interest**

Cllr R. Kennedy had advised of a conflict of interest with Item 5.5 Section 183 Notice - Disposal of land at Boherlahan, Co. Tipperary to Boherlahan Community Association.

**Item 3.1**  
**Minutes of**  
**Council Meeting**  
**held on 8<sup>th</sup> April,**  
**2024**

The Minutes of the April Monthly Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 were proposed by **Cllr. Marie Murphy**, seconded by **Cllr. R. Kennedy** and adopted.

**Matters Arising**

**Rural Roads Maintenance.**

In response to an enquiry by Cllr Marie Murphy, it was confirmed that a letter had been sent to the Department of Transport seeking additional funding towards Rural Roads Maintenance, a reply had been received and this would be circulated to members. However, it was noted that the reply was not positive and the Council would have to continue their work programme with the existing allocation while continuing to seek additional funding.

### Business Grant

It was confirmed to Cllr Marie Murphy that late applications could not be accepted for the ICOB Grant Scheme, the closing date had been the 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024.

Cllr S. Ambrose welcomed the responses in relation to the review of Clar areas and School Transport

### **Item 4.1** **Approval to** **Attendance**

It was proposed by **Cllr. S. Lee** seconded by **Cllr S Hanafin** 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: -

#### Get June Conferences from Claire

Seminar/Conference/ Similar Event	Dates	Venue	Nominees

### **Item 4 .2** **Reports on** **Conferences**

Proposed by **Cllr. Shane Lee**, seconded by **Cllr. Seamus Hanafin** and noted.

There were no conferences in May so should this stay in?

### **Item 5.1** **Section 183** **Notice -** **Disposal of** **lands at** **Toberaheena,** **Heywood Road,** **Clonmel to** **Boston Scientific**

It was proposed by **Cllr P English** seconded by **Cllr S. Ambrose** 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 4.05ha (10a) of land at Toberaheena, Heywood Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary to Boston Scientific Ltd for a consideration of €698,971.00 plus the Council’s costs in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024”.

The Notice was required to facilitate the expansion of the Boston Scientific facility.

### **Item 5.2** **Section 183** **Notice -** **Disposal of land** **at Parnell** **Street, Thurles** **to Patrick Ryan**

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Hanafin** seconded by **Cllr M Lowry** 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 0.0124ha of land at Parnell Street, Thurles, Co. Tipperary to Partrick Ryan as part of a land swop agreement. The Council shall receive circa 0.037ha of land at Parnell Street,

**Thurles from Patrick Ryan in Lieu. Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2024."**

The Notice was required to facilitate a land swap arrangement.

**Item 5.3**

**Section 183**  
**Notice -Disposal**  
**of Unit 3**  
**Slieveardagh**  
**CITE Enterprise**  
**Centre,**  
**Ballingarry,**  
**Thurles, to**  
**Premier Sensory**  
**Solutions.**

It was proposed by **Cllr K O Meara** seconded by **Cllr S. Lee** 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 lease agreement for term 3 years to Premier Sensory Solution of Unit 3 Slieveardagh CITE Enterprise Centre, Ballingarry, Thurles, Co. Tipperary for consideration of €3,000 per annum in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2024"**

The Notice was required to facilitate the renewal of the existing lease for a further 3 years.

**Item 5.4**

**Section 183**  
**Notice -**  
**Disposal of land**  
**at Wallers Lot,**  
**Cashel to**  
**O'Riordan**  
**Monumental**  
**Works Ltd and**  
**Institute of**  
**Memorial**  
**Masons and**  
**Gravediggers**  
**Ltd.**

It was proposed by **Cllr R. Kennedy** seconded by **Cllr D. Burgess** 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 3 year letting agreement of the lands to the rear of St. Cormac's Cemetery at Waller's Lot, Cashel, Co. Tipperary contained in Folio TY29099 to O'Riordan Monumental Works Ltd and Institute of Memorial Masons and Gravediggers Limited in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2024."**

The Notice was required to facilitate a name change on a previous Section 183 Notice passed at the meeting of Tipperary County Council on the 11th March, 2024.

**Item 5.5**

**Section 183**  
**Notice -**  
**Disposal of land**  
**at Boherlahan,**  
**Co. Tipperary to**  
**Boherlahan**  
**Community**  
**Association.**

Cllr R. Kennedy stated his conflict of interest in this item.

It was proposed by **Cllr K O Meara** seconded by **Cllr S. Hanafin** 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 0.085ha of land at Boherlahan, Co. Tipperary to Boherlahan Community Association by way of a 10-year lease for a consideration of €100.00/yr. plus the council's fees in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2024."**

The Notice was required to facilitate the development of a community garden.

## **Item 5.6**

### **Section 183**

#### **Notice - Disposal of land at Ballina to Watford Ltd.**

It was proposed by **Cllr P Bugler** seconded by **Cllr G. Darcy** and resolved:

**“That in accordance with the provision of Section 182 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 0.0078ha of land at Ballina, Co. Tipperary to Watfore Ltd as part of a land swap agreement. The Council shall receive circa 0.00165ha of land at Ballina from Watfore Ltd in lieu, in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2024.”**

The Notice was required to facilitate a Land Swap Agreement to enable the delivery of the Ballina Access Promenade.

## **Item 5.7**

### **Local Authority own development – at Monaraheen, Twomileborris, Thurles**

The Chief Executive’s Report had been circulated in respect of the demolition of an existing defective 4-bedroom dwelling and shed and the construction of a new 5-bedroom, single storey dwelling in its place including new kitchen, living room, store, wet room, entrance hall, five bedrooms and new drainage treatment unit, new footpaths, yard area, underground services, landscaping and all associated site works at Monaraheen, Twomileborris, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. The development was the re-building of an existing sub-standard house for an existing family of eight. No third-party submissions had been received in respect of the proposed development.

The Planning Authority was satisfied that the proposal was in accordance with the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028, was acceptable in terms of design, access, drainage and wastewater disposal and presented no significant impacts on the conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 site. The development as set out on the plans and particulars was considered acceptable and was consistent with the principle of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. It was recommended that the proposed development should proceed subject to the recommended requirements and conditions contained in the report.

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Hanafin** seconded by **Cllr R. Kennedy** and resolved: -

**“That Tipperary County Council hereby adopts the report in respect of the proposed development at Monaraheen, Twomileborris, Thurles, Co. Tipperary pursuant to Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended”.**

## **Item 5.8**

### **Draft Service Delivery Plan 2024**

Members were advised that the Local Government Reform Act, 2014, established the requirement for each Local Authority to prepare an Annual Service Delivery Plan identifying the services that it proposed to deliver to the public in the year ahead. The draft Plan had been circulated to the members and highlighted the services that would be provided by Tipperary County Council across all directorates in 2024 and had been prepared based on the provisions of the adopted budget of Tipperary County Council for 2024.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Marie Murphy** seconded by **Cllr. Siobhan. Ambrose** and resolved: -

**“That the Draft Service Delivery Plan 2024 as presented be adopted by the Council in accordance with Section 134A of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended.”**

**Item 5.9**

**Issue of polling cards**

It was proposed by **Cllr. R. Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. P English** and resolved: -

**“That in accordance with Article 55 (3) of the Local Election Regulations 1995 Polling Cards for use at the Local Elections to be held on 24th May, 2019 be issued to all Electors who are registered to vote at Local Elections only. These Electors are denoted with the letter ‘L’ in the current Register of Electors. Polling Cards should also issue to all such Electors who are included in the Supplement to Register which will be prepared and published prior to the Elections”**

**Item 5.10**

**Annual Report 2023**

It was proposed by **Cllr R. Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr N. Coonan** and resolved:

**“That in accordance with Section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001, the Annual Report for year ended 31st December 2023 as presented be and is hereby adopted ”**

Mr. Joe MacGrath said that the Report was an important record of the Council activities in 2023 and contained statistical information. He thanked the staff in Corporate Services for its compilation.

**Item 6.1**

**Draft Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2023**

The Members considered the Draft Annual Financial Statement and Report for 2023 as circulated and noted same.

The report circulated set out the excess expenditure and a Resolution of the Council was required in relation to same in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001.

It was proposed by **Cllr Marie Murphy**, seconded by **Cllr Michael Smith** and resolved:

**'That in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, excess expenditure in respect of the Financial Year ended 31st December 2023 for Tipperary County Council be and is hereby approved as follows: -**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Service Description</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
A01	Maintenance/Improvement of LA Housing Units	1,190,301
A04	Housing Community Development Support	240,251
A06	Support to Housing Capital Prog.	327,755
A07	RAS and Leasing Programme	652,559
A08	Housing Loans	10,067
A09	Housing Grants	2,120,257
B03	Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement	2,853,993
B04	Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	2,388,537
B05	Public Lighting	163,523
B06	Traffic Management Improvement	66,214
B08	Road Safety Promotion & Education	7,272
B09	Car Parking	90,459
B10	Support to Roads Capital Programme	50,484
B11	Agency & Recoupable Services	506,565
C04	Public Conveniences	11,245
C08	Local Authority Water and Sanitary Services	35,485
D01	Forward Planning	30,917
D04	Industrial and Commercial Facilities	26,975
D06	Community and Enterprise Function	2,414,893
D09	Economic Development and Promotion	996,677
D11	Heritage and Conservation Services	313,101
E01	Landfill Operation and Aftercare	172,229
E02	Recovery & Recycling Facilities Operations	2,039
E05	Litter Management	18,415
E06	Street Cleaning	169,818
E09	Maintenance of Burial Grounds	132,475
E10	Safety of Structures and Places	39,464
E11	Operation of Fire Service	598,273
E13	Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution	38,096
F02	Operation of Library and Archival Service	209,751
F03	Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations	69,058
F04	Community Sport and Recreational Development	262,274
F05	Operation of Arts Programme	67,486
G04	Veterinary Service	122,449
G05	Educational Support Services	3,016

H01	Profit/Loss Stores Account	2,384
H03	Administration of Rates	226,949
H04	Franchise Costs	54,776
H05	Operation of Morgue and Coroner Expenses	82,826
H08	Malicious Damage	1,338
H09	Local Representation & Civic Leadership	85,059
H011	Agency & Recoupable Services	1,125,157

**Item 6.2**  
**Loan Facility**

The approval of the Council was sought to raise loans from the Housing Finance Agency not exceeding the total sum of €3,560,000 to fund mortgage advances under the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan and the Local Authority Home Loan Schemes

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Lee**, seconded by **Cllr R. Kennedy** 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 approves the raising of loans not exceeding the total sum of €3,560,000 (three million, five hundred and sixty thousand euro) from the Housing Finance Agency for the purpose of advancing mortgages under the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan and the Local Authority Home Loan Schemes”.**

**Item 6.3**  
**Financial Assistance to Roscrea Enterprise & Community Hub CLG**

Members were advised North Tipperary Development Company successfully secured funding on behalf of the Roscrea Enterprise & Community Hub (REACH) CLG from the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) for the repurposing and transformation of an 11,450 sq. Ft facility (old Tesco store within Roscrea Shopping Centre) located in Roscrea town centre into an enterprise, education, and community innovation hub with superior connectivity through 1 gigabit broadband.

The key stakeholders in this project included North Tipperary Development Company (Lead Applicant) Tipperary County Council, the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) and the Roscrea Enterprise & Community Hub (REACH) CLG.

The Department of Rural and Community Development approved funding of €2,585,851.00 (ex VAT) under the Rural Regeneration and Development fund (RRDF), being 75% of a total project costing €3,447,802. Project approvals under Rural Regeneration and Development fund (RRDF) were issued on a matched funding basis.

Approval was being sought under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, from the Elected Members of Tipperary County Council (as project partner) to provide 25% match funding of the approved project costs being €861,950.

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Lee** seconded by **Cllr N. Coonan** and resolved:

-



**“That pursuant to Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, match funding in the sum of €861,950 (25% of Department of Rural and Community Development approved project costs) be provided to Roscrea Enterprise & Community Hub (REACH) CLG in respect of the repurposing and transformation of an 11,450 sq.ft facility located in Roscrea Town Centre into an enterprise, education, and community innovation hub. Conditions to funding as follows: -**

- **Tipperary County Council to provide a repayable loan of €430,975 to REACH CLG representing 12.5% of project costs approved by the DRCD. This sum will be a repayable interest free loan by REACH CLG to Tipperary County Council over a period not exceeding 25 years with more specific terms and conditions to be agreed.**
- **Tipperary County Council to provide match funding by way of non-payable grant to the project based on 12.5% of project costs to meet the balance of the 25% match funding requirement approved by the DRCD in the sum of €430,975**
- **The provision of this funding and the terms therein to be set out in legal agreements between Tipperary County Council and REACH CLG.**

#### **Item 7.1**

#### **Ratification of Nominee - Tipperary LCDC**

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

**“That in accordance with Section 36 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 49A (1), Chapter 2 of Part 6 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and Article 4 (1) of the Local Community Development Committee (Section 128E) Regulations 2014, and STRATUTORY INSTRUMENTS No. 314 of 2014 THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (SECTION128E) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 1) REGULATIONS 2014 and that:**

**The following name be ratified a member (Public) of the Tipperary Local Community & Development Committee (TLCDC)**

- **Ms. Sinead Carr representing Tipperary County Council (Executive) replacing Mr. Joe MacGrath.”**

#### **Item 8.1**

#### **Consideration of Management Report**

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Management Report as circulated with the Agenda noting that the reports related to the Directorates based in Clonmel and any queries/clarifications would be dealt with by the relevant Director of Services.

#### **Economic, Community and Rural Development**

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 8.2 as part of the Management Report on Economic, Community and Rural Development.

## **Item 8.2**

### **Royal Sites of Ireland**

Ms. Roisin O'Grady, Heritage Officer, made a presentation to the members on the process that was being undertaken in relation to the bid for the Rock of Cashel to receive UNESCO status.

A Memorandum of Understanding was currently in the final stages of negotiation between the Royal Sites and the World Heritage Unit. The purpose of the MOU is to outline in broad terms the arrangements that will apply in respect of formally commencing the process in respect of the Royal Sites of Ireland.

A section 85 agreement would be required between Tipperary County Council and the following Local Authorities; Kildare County Council, Meath County Council, Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council, following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by all authorities which would allow Tipperary County Council to sign subsequent documentation on behalf of the Royal Sites and act on behalf of the Nomination Team As the Royal Sites bid was a transnational bid a separate agreement would be signed with Armagh City , Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council to facilitate their involvement in the Royal Sites of Ireland.

The post of Royal Sites Project Coordinator was advertised by Tipperary County Council in April 2024. The main objective will be to co-ordinate the activities of the six local authorities in the development of the World Heritage nomination bid. This will involve the delivery of specific Roadmap Actions with and on behalf of the Steering Group as well as developing and implementing an extensive public awareness strategy, communication, and promoting engagement and outreach activities with all stakeholders. The closing date for applications was May 10th. A number of projects and initiatives were being considered to raise awareness of the Royal Sites of Ireland which will be rolled out across the 6 counties once the Project Coordinator is in place.

Members welcomed the update and supported the proposals to develop the bid to receive UNESCO World Heritage Status.

In reply to queries raised Ms. O'Grady confirmed that stories, legends and folklore associated with the Rock of Cashel had been mapped as part of the process.

### **Management Report continued**

Mr. Brian Beck, Director of Services, responded to queries raised as follows: -

#### Community Recognition Fund

Tipperary had been awarded €1.4m for the 2025-2026 Community Recognition Fund and the closing date for applications was the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. A cross directorate evaluation team had been established and applications would be circulated to the respective municipal districts for comment. There were 3 application windows for the allocation and it was required that at least 20% of the allocation was ringfenced for submissions under the third application window. The application windows were Window 1 up

to the 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024, Window 2, 1<sup>st</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 and window 3, 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2025.

It was noted that the number of applications received far exceeded the grant allocation. The minimum level of funding for each individual project was €50,000.

#### Biomethane Development Office (BDO)

The receipt of funding under the Just Transition Fund to establish a Biomethane Development Office was welcomed and this office would be located initially within the TU Campus in Thurles and subsequently within the Lisheen Building. It would be an independent resource to support and enable communities, enterprises and the agriculture sectors to develop in the area of biomethane.

#### Advance Building Solution Ballingarrane Science and Technology Park Clonmel.

The planning application for the Advanced Building Solution at Ballingarrane Science and Technology Park, Clonmel, was to be submitted in Q3 of 2024. The IDA in partnership with Tipperary County Council continued to market the development.

#### CCTV

The approval by the Garda Commissioner to proceed with the installation of Community CCTV in Littleton and Borrisokane was welcomed. Members were informed that it was understood from the Commissioner's Office that it was their intention to have current CCTV applications decided upon before new CCTV legislation was enacted. It was noted that any application approved before the enactment of the new legislation would be required to gain further approval after a specified period. New applications would have to comply with the Tipperary County Council CCTV policy adopted by the members in January, 2024.

#### Tipperary Town Regeneration

Members welcomed grant funding received under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) from the Department of Rural and Community Development. This funding would transform Dan Breen House and the former Courthouse and Bridewell and facilitate a broad range of supports and services to the community.

#### Planet Youth Projects

This project was welcomed and it was hoped that the project would be rolled out to all schools.

### Day Care Centres and TUS College Partnership

The project exploring the barriers and participation number with Day Care Centres in Tipperary was welcomed and it was hoped that the final report would be made available to the members.

### Public Realm and amenity enhancement Martyr's Road, Nenagh

It was confirmed that a Design Team were to be appointed shortly to progress this scheme with a view to submitting a planning application in mid-2025.

### Just Transition Fund LECP

Members welcomed funding for the "Pre-apprenticeship training and language supports programme under the Just Transition Fund, a partnership between Tipperary ETB and Tipperary County Council.

## **Environment & Climate Action**

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Motions Ref. 2811 and 2813 as part of the Management Report on Environment & Climate Action.

### **Item 11.2**

#### **Notice of Motion Ref 2811 – Housing Waste Collection Subsidy Scheme**

Notice of Motion Ref 2811 was proposed by **Cllr P. English**

**"That Tipperary County Council introduce a Household Waste Collection Subsidy Scheme (bin waiver) similar to the scheme which is operational in both Limerick City and County Council."**

The motion was seconded by **Cllr H. McGrath**

The response to the motion was noted as follows:

**The elected members will recall that local authorities, in the past, provided a waste collection service in their functional areas. However, due to a variety of circumstances, the local authorities in South Tipperary withdrew from the provision of this service in 2011 and those in North Tipperary at an earlier date. Consequently, the waiver schemes operated in respect of refuse collection charges were discontinued once the local authorities withdrew from the provision of the refuse collection service and the service was privatised.**

**The issue of a bin waiver scheme has been the subject of consideration by the relevant Department (now the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications) in the context of the review of the regulation of the waste management sector. Tipperary County Council is unaware that there are any proposals to introduce a national waiver scheme.**

**The scheme, operated by Limerick City and County Council, which is referred to in the Notice of Motion, is resourced, both financially and by staff, full by that local authority.**

**Tipperary County Council has no proposals to introduce a similar scheme”.**

Cllr P. English, expressed his disappointment with the reply and requested that the motion be re-examined.

A number of members said that they could not support the motion as it was a budgetary matter.

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services said that there were two issues for consideration in relation to the introduction of a Subsidy Scheme, a budget requirement of approximately €0.5m and additional staff required. Such a scheme would require to be considered at national level and it could also be examined by the SPC.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, informed members that as the motion had significant budgetary implications Tipperary County Council would not be in a position to implement such a scheme.

### **Item 12.1**

#### **Notice of Motion Ref 2813 – Ash Dieback**

Notice of Motion Ref 2813 was proposed by **Cllr Marie Murphy**

**“That Tipperary County Council would write to the Minister for Landuse and Biodiversity, Pippa Hackett, asking that she implements in full, without further delay the recommendations of the report titled REVIEW OF SUPPORT FOR FARMERS IMPACTED BY ASH DIEBACK which was compiled by Dr. Matthew Crowe, Jerry Grant and Jo O’Hara.**

**In June 2023, Dr. Matthew Crowe, Jerry Grant and Jo O’Hara were asked to carry out a rapid review of the DAFM approach and supports for landowners affected by ash dieback since 2013 and to provide the Minister with advice and recommendations on a way forward in line with the draft Forest Strategy. The report was submitted to the Minister last September.**

**Furthermore, that the letter would be sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, the Taoiseach, Tánaiste and the Minister for the Environment and that this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities.”**

The motion was seconded by **Cllr M. Anglim.**

The response to the motion was noted as follows:

**On approval of the Council this motion will be referred to Pippa Hackett, Minister for Land Use and Biodiversity, to the Minister for Land Use and Biodiversity, to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue, the Taoiseach, Simon Harris, the Tánaiste Micheál Martin, and the Minister for the Environment,**

**Eamon Ryan and this motion will be circulated to all Local Authorities”.**

Members supported the motion. It was proposed by Cllr R. Kennedy that the motion would be amended to include, “In considering the motion, the members welcomed the report but felt that the proposals contained in the report were not adequate to address the problem. The members suggested that further action should require that all damaged trees be logged by hedge-cutting contractors”

This was agreed by Cllr Marie Murphy.

Mr Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services, responded to queries raised as follows: -

**Management Report continued.**

Funding for ‘Biomethane for Carbon and Community’ project application in the Tipperary Decarbonising Zone.

Members were informed that an application for funding to the sum of €993,011 by Tipperary County Council as lead authority (through the Environment and Climate Action Section) and partnered by the Technical University of the Shannon (TUS), the Irish Bio-economy Foundation and the Tipperary Energy Agency under the EU Just Transition Fund Local Authority-led LECP projects was successful and the full amount of funding sought had been received.

Community Climate Action Fund

It was noted that applications received under The Community Climate Action Fund were currently being assessed and it was anticipated that approved applications will be known in August 2024

Legal Proceedings

It was noted that a summary of recent successful legal proceedings for offences under the Waste Management Act was contained in the Management Report.

**Housing & Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation Response**

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Motion Ref. 2793 as part of the Management Report on Housing.

**Item 11.1**

**Notice of Motion Ref 2793 – Housing**

Notice of Motion Ref 2793 was proposed by **Cllr S. Morris**

**“That Tipperary County Council asks the Minister for Housing to declare housing to be an emergency so that the state can bring in emergency legislation similar to the legislation (Temporary protection directive) used to house displaced Ukrainian refugees in Ireland”. Despite the best efforts of the council housing staff the housing situation is desperate for both social housing and private housing and the stage 4 process being used is just too slow in**

**delivering housing at the pace that is needed, we also need to consider other ways of delivering housing including using modular housing like the scheme used by Laois County Council and housing used to house Ukranian refugees and easing the “local need” planning condition which is restricting people in rural Ireland housing themselves on family sites”.**

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

The response to the motion was noted as follows:

**Subject to Council approval this motion will be forwarded to the Minister for Housing for comment/response**

Cllr S. Morris complimented Tipperary County Council on its excellent performance in the provision of social housing, however the ability for people to provide their own housing was a major issue. He urged that there would be an easing on planning restrictions applicable to local need and modular housing. He referred to the number of Notice to Quits issued nationally, the need to ease the 4-stage process for local authority own developments, the need for local authority housing repair crews and the development of retirement villages.

A number of members supported Cllr Morris and spoke of the stress and frustration being experienced by those trying to acquire housing, the need to review legislation in relation to modular housing, to review local need in planning conditions and the lack of emergency accommodation for single men in the Clonmel area.

Ms. S. Carr, Director of Services, outlined that there was not a policy against modular housing, that those wishing to provide this type of housing were required to go through the planning process. In relation to the 4-stage process for local authority own developments, this did not pose any problems for the local authority in the timescale of scheme deliveries, the main issue was the capacity of the construction sector to deliver schemes. With regard to emergency accommodation for single men, there were facilities in Clonmel for rough sleepers but some of those in need had challenging lifestyle issues.

Ms. Carr acknowledged that there was a significant housing challenge, she was confident that Tipperary County Council would deliver in relation to social housing and highlighted the need for the provision of affordable housing to be addressed.

It was agreed that the motion would be forwarded to the Minister for Housing Mr. Darragh O’Brien

Ms. S. Carr, Director of Services, responded to queries raised as follows: -

Affordable Housing Clonmel Borough District.

Expressions of interest had been sought from home builders and private developers to provide affordable housing at locations in the Clonmel Area.



Turnkey Scheme, Thomas Street, Clonmel

The completion of contracts in respect of this scheme was imminent.

Serviced Sites – Boherlahan.

It was confirmed that there had been 13 qualified applicants for four fully serviced sites in the village of Boherlahan and a draw would take place to choose the successful applicants.

College Campus, Clonmel.

The provision of shared student campus accommodation between TUS and ETB was part of the Kickham Barracks site development. The current focus was on the development of education facilities at this site.

**Item 8.2**

**Royal Sites of Ireland**

Ms. Roisin O'Grady, Heritage Officer, made a presentation to the members

A Memorandum of Understanding was currently in the final stages of negotiation between the Royal Sites and the World Heritage Unit. The purpose of the MOU is to outline in broad terms the arrangements that will apply in respect of formally commencing the process in respect of the Royal Sites of Ireland.

A section 85 Agreement would be required between Tipperary County Council and the following Local Authorities; Kildare County Council, Meath County Council, Westmeath County Council and Roscommon County Council, following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by all authorities which would allow Tipperary County Council to sign subsequent documentation on behalf of the Royal Sites and act on behalf of the Nomination Team As the Royal Sites bid was a transnational bid a separate agreement would be signed with Armagh City , Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council to facilitate their involvement in the Royal Sites of Ireland.

The post of Royal Sites Project Coordinator was advertised by Tipperary County Council in April 2024. The main objective will be to co-ordinate the activities of the six local authorities in the development of the World Heritage nomination bid. This will involve the delivery of specific Roadmap Actions with and on behalf of the Steering Group as well as developing and implementing an extensive public awareness strategy, communication, and promoting engagement and outreach activities with all stakeholders. The closing date for applications was May 10th. A number of projects and initiatives were being considered to raise awareness of the Royal Sites of Ireland which will be rolled out across the 6 counties once the Project Coordinator is in place.

**Item 9.1**

**Date for Annual Meeting**

It was noted that the Annual Meeting was required to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day after Polling Day and in this regard the Annual Meeting would be held on Friday 21st June, 2024.

**Item 9.2**

**Date for Councillor**

It was noted that a Councillor Induction Workshop would be held on Friday 14th June, 2024



## **Induction Workshop.**

### **Item 10.1**

#### **Consideration of Orders for the period to the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2024**

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 were noted.

### **Item 12.2**

#### **Notice of Motion Ref: 2812 – Purchase of Farmland**

Notice of Motion Ref 2812 was proposed by **Cllr P. English**

**“That Tipperary County Council request Minister Charlie McConalogue and Pippa Hackett to put limits on the purchase of Irish farmland which is being bought up by Billionaire investors who can pay treble the current market value. Farmers who need to expand to remain viable or new entrant farmers are completely shut out of the purchase when these individuals or syndicates wish to add to their vast land portfolios”.**

The motion was seconded by **Cllr M. McGrath**

The response to the motion was noted as follows:

Subject to Members approval this Motion will be referred to Minister Charlie McConalogue and Minister Pippa Hackett for response/comment.

### **Items 13.1 – 13.7**

#### **Correspondence**

Correspondence as circulated was noted as follows: -

- Reply dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024 from the Office of the Minister of State re. Gambling Legislation – NOM Ref. 2691
- Reply received 8<sup>th</sup> April from the European Commission re. IFA “Enough is Enough” Campaign
- Reply dated 16<sup>th</sup> April from Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine re. IFA “Enough is Enough” Campaign
- Correspondence dated 25<sup>th</sup> April from Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Temporary Time-Limited Waiver in respect of Development Contributions
- Correspondence dated 30<sup>th</sup> April from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re. Circular PL 02-24 Extension of Temporary Development Contribution Waiver and Uisce Eireann Water Connection Charge refund arrangements

### **Outgoing Members.**

Members paid tributes to the outgoing members, Cllr N. Coonan, Cllr G. Darcy, Cllr S. Hanafin, Cllr Ml. FitzGerald, Cllr H. McGrath and Cllr J. McGrath and to Chief Executive Mr. Joe MacGrath and wished them and their families every happiness for the future.

Each of the outgoing members thanked the members for their good wishes.

Cllr S. Hanafin, reflected on his service since he was co-opted 21 years ago and hoped he had served his community well and honoured his family's tradition in politics and was appreciative of his family always having his best interests to the forefront.

Cllr N. Coonan said it was a day of mixed emotions, it had been his honour to serve the people of Tipperary as Councillor, Senator and T.D. and he was grateful for current term of Councillor as he could do more for his community at Council level.

Cllr H. McGrath thanked his family and friends for their support. He considered himself a Councillor for the town of Nenagh and was grateful to have worked for the betterment of the town.

Cllr J. McGrath said it was an honour to have worked as a Councillor, he was a man of the mountain and did what was best and fair for his constituents.

Cllr Michael FitzGerald reflected on those Councillors who were no longer members of the local authority but whom he had many happy memories of. He also remembered former staff and thanked current staff. He thanked his loyal and supportive family. It had been his pleasure and honour to work for his constituents and said that democracy was precious but fragile

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, said it was a historic and emotional day, with so many leaving with so much service.

He acknowledged the service of the Councillors retiring. He complimented Cllr G. Darcy, on his exceptional year as Cathaoirleach and referred to his proud political family, Cllr MI FitzGerald was an icon in terms of local government, he had extraordinary service and was fearless in taking on big issues, Cllr H. McGrath and Cllr. J. McGrath had given huge service to towns and rural areas, Cllr N. Coonan brought invaluable experience to the local authority and Cllr S. Hanafin with his family's political pedigree had a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Mr. MacGrath wished all Councillors the very best, he said to never take local democracy for granted and he had the utmost respect for each person who put their name forward for election and were driven by a wish to look after and take care of people.

Mr. MacGrath thanked all the members he had worked with over the years, he thanked all staff and his Management Team. He thanked Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator who had such experience and knowledge of Local Government. He thanked Ms. Evelyn Harty and Ms. Lucy Bourke for their assistance to him. He thanked his wife Ailish and his son Dáire for their care and support. He remembered his parents who had been so influential in his life. In conclusion he said he was leaving Tipperary County Council with a great sense of gratitude and honour.

Members passed a vote of sympathy to the following: -

#### **Item 14.1**

#### **Expressions of votes of sympathy**

- Mary Bourke, Accounts Payable, Finance Section, Nenagh on the death of her husband and Paddy Darcy, Nenagh on the death of his brother Ben Darcy

- Nigel Wall, Sub Station Officer, Clonmel on the death of his wife Cheryl
- The family of Mary O'Sullivan, Former colleague Tipperary, Cahir, Cashel MD
- Tess Fenlon, Motor Tax, Clonmel on the death of her father Tommy
- Cllr. Niall Dennehy on the death of his brother Michael Dennehy
- O 'Kennedy family on death of Breda, wife of former Minister Michael O 'Kennedy.


**Item 15.1**

**Any Other Business**

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed/  \_\_\_\_\_  
Ger Walsh,  
Meetings Administrator.

Date: