

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

Present: Councillor Pat English, Mayor
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose
Councillor Richie Molloy
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy
Councillor Tom Acheson

In Attendance: Mr. Jonathan Cooney, A/ Director of Services
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator
Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer.
Mr. Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Ms. Helen Butler, Administrative Officer, Housing
Ms. Deirdre Flannery, A/Administrative Officer, Housing
Mr. Shaun Lonergan, Executive Engineer. Housing.

Apologies: Councillor John Fitzgerald.

1.1 Zoom Protocol

There was nobody in attendance at the Meeting by Zoom.

2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 19th February, 2025.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 19th February, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

4.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Housing.

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose raised concerns regarding the homeless community who are availing of the 9.00 pm to 9.00 am hostel accommodation. She asked for an update on the day time resources which are to be put in place for the users of this accommodation as they currently have nowhere to go during the day. Members spoke in support of same.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the Turnkey Units at Kilsheelan.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there have been many expressions of interest received in relation to the repair to lease scheme, the purpose of which is to bring vacant properties in need of repair back into use for social housing.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed that the CPO process is progressing with Parkes Chemist stating that it is a building of great significance and heritage in the town.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the huge amount of work being undertaken by the Housing Section and thanked all the staff for same.
- Councillor Molloy raised concerns regarding the erection of a tent in the park opposite the Loretto Convent.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

- Councillor Acheson asked if there is a contract price agreed with the Contractor regarding the site at Thomas Street.
- Councillor Acheson noted that there are a lot of vacant properties in the town. He asked if it was possible to acquire these properties through the CPO process if they have been vacant long-term.
- In relation to housing construction, Councillor English asked if the 4 stages of approval required under current Department Legislation can be expedited as the process is too long in the current housing crisis. He asked that a letter be sent to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to request that the process be reviewed.
- Members asked for an update on the 41 housing units at Prior Park Grove and the reason this Project is currently on hold.
- Members asked for an update on the housing units at Thomas Street.
- Members welcomed both the private and local authority housing grant allocations received.
- Members noted that there are 10 vacant houses in the Borough District needing minor repairs and asked for the turnaround time for same.
- Councillor English raised concerns about the boundary wall onto Cúirt an Rí stating that it is too high, blocking natural light and asked if this can be addressed.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- In relation to the query raised regarding daytime supports for the users of the 9 to 9 hostel service, Helen Butler informed the members that an application has been forwarded to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for funding to provide a Day Centre. The Housing Section are also working with the Substance Misuse Service and other Agencies to provide supports.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to the tent opposite the Loretto Convent, Ms. Butler stated that this situation has been resolved. She also pointed out that sometimes people do not want accommodation but that the Homeless Service continue to engage with the individuals concerned to provide support.
- Sean Lonergan informed the members that contracts are awaited in relation to the 61 units at Thomas Street. He stated that turnkey expressions of interest had been sought and accepted but may be subject to change until contracts are signed. Jonathan Cooney stated that the local authority has no direct control or management of a turnkey development and monitor only from a quality perspective.
- In relation to the boundary wall at Cúirt an Rí, Mr. Lonergan informed the members that this is a planning issue and the developer has been contacted regarding same.
- Mr. Lonergan stated that there is a compliance issue with Planning & Building Control but that the Housing Section is continuing to liaise with the Developer to progress the 41 units at Prior Park. At the moment, there is no exact timeline for completion of the development.
- In relation to the 23 turnkey housing units at Kilsheelan, Mr. Lonergan stated that these are being delivered on a phased basis and the 1st phase will be advertised on CBL (Choice Based Letting) in the next couple of weeks.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the 4 stages of approval for Housing Construction, Shaun Lonergan explained that this is the normal process to be followed. However, Jonathan Cooney informed the members that the Department have issued templates which may streamline the process if they are followed fully.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

- Deirdre Flannery informed the members that the newly appointed dereliction and vacant homes team, led by Shane Grogan will provide an update to the members in relation to the vacant properties in the town. Jonathan Cooney stated that the planning section will be in attendance at the April meeting to provide an update.
- Regarding the query on repairs to vacant houses, Gillian Flynn informed the members that these houses are all at various phases of repair and it is difficult to give a timeline for repair as they all require different upgrade works.

The Mayor thanked Helen, Deirdre and Shaun for their attendance at the meeting.

5.1 Report of District Administrator

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose wished the Nationalist Newspaper continued success on their recent relocation to their new offices in Gladstone Street stating that it is great to see a derelict building being returned to full capacity.
- Councillor Ambrose raised concerns about the surface on the walkway at the Sports Hub and asked if this will be upgraded, requested updates on the signage and on the roll out of the funding at the facility that was announced by outgoing Minister Thomas Byrne.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on Suir Island Gardens Project.
- Councillor Ambrose requested an update in relation to the THRIVE Design Funding which is being utilised to upgrade the Chapel and the other protected structures on Kickham Plaza.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update on URDF Call 4.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the Suir Island Bridge Project.
- Councillor English welcomed the acquisition of Parkes Chemist through the CPO process and asked about the type of accommodation to be provided as part of the renovation.
- Councillor English welcomed the works commencing in Wilderness which involve cleaning up the paved public space and green areas surrounding it.
- In relation to the Sports Hub, Councillor Molloy asked if the gates are locked at a specific time each evening.
- Councillor Molloy asked if there was any progress on the development of the Clonmel Arms Hotel.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the lease is restrictive in relation to the use of the Chapel on Kickham Plaza or if it is available for all groups to use. He asked who is the point of contact for same.
- Councillor Acheson expressed his disappointment at the recent negative portrayal of Clonmel by a local politician. Councillor Acheson stated that this was an unfair reflection of the town. He agreed that there are vacant units within the town, however, he highlighted that the Council has recently appointed a dereliction and vacant homes team who are working with Clonmel Borough District to identify and contact owners of vacant properties to tackle dereliction and to determine the best course of action needed to bring these properties back into use. He stated that the politicians and members should be supporting the Council in this endeavour. He also highlighted the redevelopment of the former Clonmel Arms Hotel which, when renovated, will be a huge asset bringing more footfall to the town centre. Members agreed with Councillor

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

Acheson stating that there are a lot of positives in the town which need to be promoted. Members suggested that a 2-hour free parking period be introduced to incentivise people into the town centre. Councillor Molloy raised the issue of parking charges in Clonmel and there was a general discussion on this item.

- Councillor Acheson asked about the advertisement of Festivals and Events being held in the town and how the public are made aware of same.
- In relation to the installation of the CCTV in the town, Members asked for an update and the reason for the delay in progressing with this.
- Members asked if there was an update in relation to the development of Market Place.
- Members asked for an update on the development of the Garda Station on Kickham Plaza.
- Members asked for an update on the N24 and if a reply has been received from the Minister for Transport in relation to same.
- In relation to St. Patrick's Day the Mayor and Members expressed their thanks to the Borough District Staff both indoor and outdoor, in particular to Anita O'Brien, Catherine McCormack, Carol Creighton and Robbie Hogan. He also thanked An Garda Síochána, Chamber of Commerce, Twinning Committee, Civil Defence and the St. Patrick's Well Committee for all their work in organising the St. Patrick's Day Parade which was a tremendous success. They also thanked all the community groups for participating in the Parade and congratulated the winning groups i.e. M.I.S.T. (Malayalees in South Tipperary), DR2 Dance Group and Clonmel Rowing Club.

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- The District Administrator informed the members that she is meeting with TUS in the next week and will raise the issue regarding the upgrade of the walkway surface. The signage is being encompassed as part of the overall signage for the TUS Campuses. List of sponsors to be provided. The District Administrator to talk to the Athletics Club regarding the rollout of the funding.
- In relation to the development of Market Place, the District Administrator stated that the owners have been in contact with the Planning Section and that the Borough District will provide any assistance needed to progress the development.
- The District Administrator informed the members that the planning application for Suir Island Bridge remains with An Bord Pleanála for determination.
- In relation to the installation of CCTV, the District Administrator informed the members that the Garda Inspector in Thurles is liaising with the Commissioners Office for updates. Currently, the Commissioners Office is finalising camera location names with the Consultants.
- The District Administrator informed the members that she had issued a letter to Minister Darragh O'Brien asking him to attend a meeting with the Members to discuss the N24.
- The District Administrator informed the members that there was no further update in relation to URDF Call 4. She confirmed that the project is shelf ready once confirmation of the funding is received.
- The District Administrator is meeting with the developer of the Clonmel Arms Site in the next week and agreed that the development of the hotel will have a positive influence on the Town Centre.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the new Garda Station, the District Administrator stated that she has been in contact with the OPW who advised that the

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

tender design stage is still in progress. Once a further update is received, the District Administrator will circulate to the members.

- The District Administrator stated that Thrive Funding Stream 1 has been received to progress with design enhancements to the Chapel and 2 additional protected structures on the Kickham Site. She is also working with the Climate Action Team to see if funding can be secured for construction of same. The funding secured already through the Arts Grant to install toilet facilities in the Chapel will open more opportunities for events.
- Jonathan Cooney informed the members that the review of parking charges countywide is in progress.
- The District Administrator informed the members that Festivals and Events are advertised by the Festival Committees on their own Social Media Pages and through Tipperary County Council's Website.

5.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme

The District Engineer's report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the issue surrounding the Clothes Banks stating that when these are full, bags of clothes are being left around the area and asked if a solution can be found to this.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the provision of the water refill station on the Blueway.
- In relation to St. Patrick's Cemetery, Councillor Ambrose asked for the timeframe for commencement of the works on the extension to the Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if completion of the works at Abbey Street Car Park is still on target for May.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the success of the town bus service with the numbers using it continuing to increase.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the Suir Island works.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update from the NTA in relation to the improvement of the bus stop at the Ormonde Stores in Kilsheelan.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the flood alleviation works at Mountcahill, Kilcash.
- Councillor Ambrose asked about the signage at Rathronan and Clerihan and if there was an update on same.
- In relation to works under the Low Cost Safety Scheme, Councillor Ambrose asked that works be carried out on the Pedestrian Crossing in Lisronagh if surplus funding is available at the end of the year.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the works to be carried out by the OPW on the streams and river in the Old Bridge and expressed his concerns regarding the delay in same.
- Councillor English thanked the District Engineer and Staff for the provision of the raised crossing at Ard Fatima.
- Councillor English requested that the damaged bollards on the N24 Junction be removed and replaced.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the speed survey at Dromard Crescent.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

- Members asked that the public lights on the Fethard Road Pedestrian Crossing and Fethard Road Roundabout be repaired.
- Councillor Molloy asked that the public lighting at Cherrymount be repaired.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- The District Engineer stated that she will discuss the Clothes Banks with the Environment Section.
- The District Engineer informed the members that an application for funding has been submitted for the installation of a drinking water station on the Blueway and a response is awaited on same.
- Adam Coffey informed the members that works on the entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery will be completed in early May.
- Regarding the works on the Abbey Street Car Park, the District Engineer confirmed that the Project completion date of May is still on target.
- In relation to the town bus service, the District Engineer stated that the local link review will take place in Q3 of 2025 and we await the outcome of same.
- The District Engineer stated that the groundworks at Suir Island Gardens are still on target for completion in June.
- The District Engineer confirmed that an application for funding has been made for the improvement works at the bus stop in Kilsheelan.
- In relation to the flood alleviation works at Mount Cahill, Kilsheelan, the District Engineer stated that tender documents have been prepared.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to the signage at Rathronan and Clerihan, the District Engineer confirmed that this will be progressed within the next month.
- The District Engineer stated that she will be mindful of the works on the pedestrian crossing in Lisronagh if surplus funding is available under the low-cost safety scheme at the end of the year.
- In relation to works on the streams/river in the Old Bridge, the District Engineer informed members that the OPW have indicated that the streams and channels will be cleared before next Winter. She will continue to liaise with the OPW in relation to this.
- The District Engineer stated that the Bollards on the N24 will be reviewed and replaced, if necessary.
- The District Engineer informed the members that a speed survey has been completed at Dromard and found to be within the speed limit.
- In relation to the public lights at the Fethard Road and Cherrymount, the District Engineer stated that she will follow up with the Contractor in relation to same.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the contract has been awarded for the works at Wilderness Grove with a start date to be confirmed.

5.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The Report was noted by the Members.

5.4. Consideration of Tipperary Festival and Events Grant Scheme 2025 and approval of "Community" category grant awards.

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was noted.

The Report was proposed by Councillor Ambrose and seconded by Councillor Molloy.

Members welcomed the amount of funding supplied stating that it is great for the town bringing footfall into the town centre.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

5.5 Consideration and Adoption of General Municipal Allocations (GMA) 2025.

The report as circulated with the Agenda was noted.

The Report was proposed by Councillor English and seconded by Councillor Ambrose.

Item 6.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 14th March, 2025.

These were noted by the Members.

Items 7.1 to 7.7– Notice of Motion

Motion 2942 was proposed by Councillors John Fitzgerald & Tom Acheson

That this Council include the laneway to the rear of 1 to 44 Clarke Villas for resurfacing under the 2025 programme. There are a lot of elderly residents in the area.

REPLY:

The 2025 Road Works Programme has been adopted. This laneway has been added to the list of roads to be considered for resurfacing in 2026 under Clonmel Town Works.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2943 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District would install traffic calming measures such as ramps in Connolly Park/Western Park as residents are concerned about the speed of motorists using this road and traffic has increased since the one-way system was introduced in Cantwell Street.

REPLY:

The district are in consultation with the Active Travel team to secure funding for a raised pedestrian crossing on Connolly Park/Western Park.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2944 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District carry out repairs on the EV chargers in Suir Island as three of the four EV chargers are no longer working.

REPLY:

The four chargers on Suir Island were checked on 6th March and all were operational. We have requested that the chargers are considered for replacement through the ZEVI Programme.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2945 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District consider installing a disabled parking bay outside 259 Elm Park as the resident is an amputee and has difficulty sometimes exiting his house in emergency situations.

REPLY:

In accordance with Tipperary County Councils policy on the provision of disabled parking bays in residential areas, a disabled parking bay will not be provided where there is existing off-street parking within the curtilage of the property or there is sufficient space within the curtilage to provide off-street parking. 259 Elm Park has off street parking therefore a disabled parking bay will not be provided.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

Motion 2947 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District look at the provision of additional car parking spaces at St. Olivers Square, Elm Park, Clonmel adjacent to houses no 219 to 228.

REPLY:

Parking within St. Olivers Square, Elm Park will be assessed and if a need for additional parking is identified, these works will be considered for inclusion in Clonmel town works for 2025 subject to funding availability.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2948 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District include in the Road Works Programme the Section of Road from The Talbot Hotel Roundabout to the Ballingarrane Roundabout on the Cahir Road, the existing road surface condition is very poor.

REPLY:

This road will be assessed by the district engineers and depending on its condition and funding availability, may be considered for the 2026 Road Works Programme.

Seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2949 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

The Clonmel Borough District include in this year's Road Works Programme sections of the Fethard Road, Clonmel from the Fethard Road Roundabout to Crann Ard Housing estate, having regard to the poor condition of sections of the existing road surface.

REPLY:

A section of the Fethad Road has been included in the 2025 Roadworks programme. Extending the area to be resurfaced as far as Crann Ard will be considered for the next annual road works programme subject to the availability of a budget for the works and prioritisation based on its condition rating.

Seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 8.1 Correspondence

There was no correspondence to be noted.

Item 9.1 Votes of Sympathy

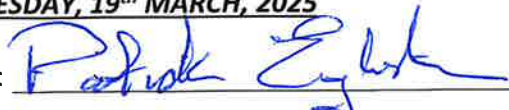
A vote of sympathy was extended to Mrs. Cornelia Ahearne and the Ahearne Family on the passing of Michael (Jackie) Ahearne.

10.1 Any other Business

James Murray acknowledged and spoke about Adam Coffey's attendance at the Interreg Europe Workshop in Murcia, Spain where he gave a presentation on the Clonmel Flood Defence Scheme to 19 of our European Partners.

Councillor Ambrose paid tribute to Martin Manseragh who secured the funding for the Clonmel Flood Defence Scheme.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,
HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON
WEDNESDAY, 19th MARCH, 2025**

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 16/04/2025.

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 16/4/2025