

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, NENAGH
AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM
AT 10.00 AM
ON MONDAY 10TH MARCH, 2025.**

Present

Cllr. D. Burgess, Cathaoirleach

Cllrs: Acheson, T; Ambrose, S; Anglim, M; Bonfield, F; Brennan, M; Bugler, P; Carroll, J; Crosse, J; Dennehy, N; FitzGerald J; Fitzgerald, M; Goldsboro, A; Hannigan J; Hourigan, Mary Hanna, Kennedy, R; Kennedy, W; Lee, S; Lowry, M; McGrath, M; Morgan Walsh, L; Morris, S; Murphy, Marie; O'Heney, J; O'Meara J.P.; O'Meara, M; Quirke O'Meara, P; Ryan (Shiner), AM; Ryan, J; Ryan, P; Ryan S; Smith, M;

Remote

Cllrs: Browne, L; Cahill Skehan, K; Dunne, D; English, P; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E.;

Apologies

Cllrs: Bourke K;

Also Present

Ms Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive, Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator, Mr. Mark Connolly, Head of Finance (remote), Mr. Liam Brett, Mr. Brian Beck, Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Mr. Anthony Coleman, Directors of Services (remote). Mr. Jonathan Cooney, A/Director of Services (remote).

Kieran Malone S.E., James Murray S.E., John Nolan S.E., Robert Johnston S.E.E., Mr. Michael Moroney, S.E.O., Anne Marie Devaney, A/ Senior Planner, Mr Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian, Mr. Dave Carroll C.F.O. Ms. Claire Lee Climate Action Co-ordinator

Senator Imelda Goldsboro

Item No. 1.1

The Meetings Administrator took a roll call and commenced the meeting with the opening prayer.

**Welcome &
Introduction/
Meetings
Protocol**

On the proposal of **The Cathaoirleach**, seconded by **Cllr. Marie Murphy**, it was agreed to stand adjourned for five minutes as a mark of respect to the late Joe Bourke, former councillor of Tipperary County Council 2014-2019 who passed away on Tuesday, February 2025.

On resumption of the meeting, it was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith**, seconded by **Cllr. Niall Dennehy** and agreed to Item No. 5.1, Casual Vacancy Co-option to fill vacancy in membership of Tipperary County Council, and Item No. 5.2, Election of Leas Cathaoirleach, first on the agenda.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. Mairín McGrath** and agreed to take Item No. 8.1, Briefing Update by Eibhlín Byrne, National Lead on Civic Engagement, Department of Children Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, after Item No. 5.1 Casual Vacancy Co-option to fill vacancy in membership of Tipperary County Council and Item No. 5.2 Election of Leas Cathaoirleach.

Item No. 5.1
Casual Vacancy
Co-option to fill
vacancy in
membership of
Tipperary
County Council

The Cathaoirleach referred to the agenda and relevant documentation as circulated to the members noting that Ms. Amy Goldsboro had been nominated by the Fianna Fáil party to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Imelda Goldsboro to Seanad Éireann.

He noted that Amy Goldsboro had duly accepted the nomination in accordance with the provisions of Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Standing Order No. 84, which provides that the vacancy be filled by a person nominated by the party that originally nominated Imelda Goldsboro.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Séan Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and resolved: -

"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Amy Goldsboro be appointed to the Casual Vacancy which exists on Tipperary County Council".

In proposing the motion, Cllr. Séan Ryan noted Amy Goldsboro's sense of community and desire to help people. He noted that she was the youngest councillor but said she had experience beyond her years. He said that she will be a huge asset to the Carrick Municipal District and the council. He acknowledged that it was a proud day for her parents, siblings and her grandparents and noted that her grandfather, Dick Goldsboro was involved in Fianna Fáil and the GAA for many years also.

Cllr. Michael Smith in seconding the co-option, agreed with the sentiments expressed by Cllr. Ryan. He welcomed the new Cllr. Goldsboro and said it was a unique moment and she would bring her own style. The Cathaoirleach wished Cllr. Goldsboro all the best and acknowledged the importance of young representation on the council. He requested Amy Goldsboro to take her seat in the Chamber.

Cllr. Amy Goldsboro thanked her proposer and seconder, acknowledging the Fianna Fáil members for their nomination. She said she looked forward to working with the members of Tipperary County Council.

Item No. 5.2
Election of Leas
Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Declan Burgess then invited nominations for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith**, seconded by **Cllr. Séan Ryan** and resolved; -

"That Cllr. Michéal Anglim be elected as Leas Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council".

As there were no further nominations, Cllr. Anglim was deemed elected Leas-Cathaoirleach of the Council.

Cllr. Anglim thanked his proposer and seconder and the Fianna Fáil party and congratulated the newly elected Senator. He noted that it was 28 years since his own father was chair of the county council. He said he looked forward to working with and supporting Cllr. Burgess.

Cllr. Burgess congratulated Cllr. Anglim and said he looked forward to working with him. The party whips and Independents congratulated Cllr. Anglim on his election to Leas Cathaoirleach. They congratulated Cllr. Amy Goldsboro on her co-option to Tipperary County Council and Imelda Goldsboro her elevation to Seanad Éireann and welcomed Cllr. Amy Goldsboro Carrick Municipal District and Tipperary County Council.

Item No. 8.1
Briefing Update
by
Representative
from
Department of
Children
Equality,
Disability,
Integration and
Youth

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Eibhlín Byrne, National Lead on Civic Engagement, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and invited her to make a presentation to the members. Ms. Byrne outlined the background to the Community Engagement Team. The team was established in the Department of Children, Equality Disability, Integration and Youth with the support of Department of An Taoiseach, to engage directly with elected representatives, Local Authorities and other entities and individuals. The purpose of the team is to assist the flow of information regarding arrivals into areas, to ensure local communities are provided with up to date information about the current situation regarding accommodation for those seeking international protection, particularly where it relates to their area. She noted that the team does not have a role in the procurement of premises or the allocation of new arrivals.

In her briefing she stated that there were three groups of people seeking protection in Ireland: -

1. A person fleeing the war in Ukraine seeking Temporary Protection
2. An asylum seeker who is seeking the right to remain in the Irish state
3. A refugee who has been granted international protection in Ireland.

She outlined the legal framework to the members and provided a current IPAS accommodation overview, noting that in Tipperary County there were 7 IPAs centres accommodating 818 people and 22 BOTP centres accommodating 733 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection who were fleeing the Ukrainian war. She outlined the process for procuring accommodation and briefed members on the aims of the Comprehensive Accommodation Strategy for International Protection. Members were provided with details of the various support and information services.

Ms. Byrne responded to members queries raised as follows:

The appraisal of Dundrum House is completed and contracts are ready for signing, noting that the Department would take cognisance of all legal issues. The property at Kilcoran lodge is currently under consideration. She noted that the provision of transport to a local town is provided for in the contracts with property owners.

She noted that current responsibility is with Minister Foley and involves a whole of government approach. She stated that the owner of any building can apply for a Section 5. This is a matter for the planning authority to decide on.

She stated her regret at any lack of trust elected members has with the department and in particular to difficulties in Borrisokane. She acknowledged the challenges regarding housing provision when a person's status is approved in Ireland and they then have to seek their own accommodation. She noted that International Protection Applicants are not permitted to work until they have been waiting for 6 months for the IPO to issue its first decision. Ukrainian citizens can work legally in Ireland once they have received their letter confirming they have been granted Temporary Protection under the EU Directive.

Ms. Byrne stated she would revert to Cllr. Bugler on IPAS figures for North Tipperary. She advised the members that the comments made in relation to Dundrum House would be brought back to the Department for consideration.

She said that she had engaged with the people in Borrisokane and noted the efforts made to resolve the accommodation issue. She advised Cllr. Hannigan that she would revert to him regarding his query on costs.

She stated that the persons assigned to the Heywood Rapid Build Programme would be persons currently residing in hotels or emergency accommodation around the vicinity of Heywood Road. Consultation has been had with schools. She acknowledged the pressure on GP services and stated that this was a whole of government approach and there were similar issues all around the country. The Heywood programme was designed for four persons and she noted the specific criteria to be considered for accommodation there. The houses can be lifted from the site and moved to another site or alternatives can be considered. However, she noted that the planning exemption only applies to Ukrainians and planning permission would be required for any other use of the units.

Ms. Byrne advised she would revert to Cllr. Roger Kennedy on the specifics regarding IPAS applicants in the country greater than 10 years. She informed the members that anyone has a right to arrive in the country and seek refugee status and the onus is on the government to provide accommodation. Discussions with property owners are confidential and are only shared when nearing contract signing.

To conclude Ms. Byrne summarised as follows:

Borrisokane Costs

She would revert to the members with specifics on the costs involved as queried.

Planning Permission

She stated that planning issues are a matter for the local authority.

Property Ownership

The department require a document confirming the ownership of a property as part of the process.

Heywood Road

Planning permission granted for units on Heywood Road, Clonmel was specific and by ministerial consent for Ukrainians up to 2026 following which discussions will take place and planning would be required to utilise the units for other uses. Education Welfare Service were aware of numbers for school places and were engaging with schools. First priority for the units was to those currently in emergency accommodation in the area. The anticipated date of delivery for the units was noted as June/July 2025.

Kilcoran Lodge

Assessment is ongoing and engagement only takes place once contracts are fully signed. Information can only be made available after the contract signing stage.

Population Base

Comments by elected members were noted but there were significant housing challenges nationally.

Dundrum House Hotel

A meeting will take place with Dundrum Community Group following a request from Oireachtas members.

Decision Making

IPAS team are the ultimate decision makers on accommodation proposals.

Information

The presentation and contact details for the community engagement team will be shared with elected members.

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

There were no disclosures or conflicts of interest advised to the Meetings Administrator in advance of the meeting.

Item 3.1 **Minutes of** **Council Meeting** **held on 10th** **February 2025**

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on 10th February 2025, were proposed by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy**, and seconded by **Cllr. Séan Ryan** and approved.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

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

It was proposed by **Cllr. John Crosse** and seconded by **Cllr. Fiona Bonfield** 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: -

Seminars/ Conferences/ Similar Events	Dates	Venue	Nominees
International Women's Day	7 th March, 2025	Cashel Palace Hotel, Cashel	Cllr. F. Bonfield Cllr. K. Cahill Skehan Cllr. P. Quirke O'Meara Cllr. M. Murphy Cllr. P. Bugler Cllr. P. Ryan
AILG – Embracing Equality	20 th March, 2025	Falls Hotel, Ennistymon Co. Clare	Cllr. P. Bugler Cllr. N. Dennehy Cllr. M. McGrath Cllr. Ml. Smith
AILG – Embracing Equality	22 nd March, 2025	Clayton Hotel, Galway	Cllr. J. Carroll Cllr. M. Hanna Hourigan Cllr. J. FitzGerald Cllr. A. Moloney Cllr. P. Quirke O'Meara Cllr. S. Ryan Cllr. Ml. O'Meara Cllr. M. Murphy Cllr. L. Browne
Celtic Conferences	7-9 th March, 2025	Four Seasons Hotel Carlingford	Cllr. L. Browne

Item 4.2
Reports on
Conferences

Noted

Item 5.3
Election of
Planning and
Emergency
Services SPC
Chair

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and seconded by **Cllr. Séan Ryan** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Roger Kennedy be and is hereby appointed as chair of Planning & Emergency Services SPC".

Item No. 5.4
Local Authority
own
development

In accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Tipperary County Council made available for public inspection the plans and particulars of the proposed development at Graystown, Killenaule, County Tipperary consisting of the construction of a

**pursuant to
Article 81 of
Part 8 of the
Planning
development
Regulations (as
amended) at
New dwelling
house at
Graystown,
Killenaule**

new single storey dwelling including Kitchen/Living/Dining area, 4 Bedrooms and a Sensory Room and new entrance and driveway, new septic tank and percolation area, new footpaths, underground services and all associated site works.

The Planning Authority is satisfied that the proposal, subject to the following considerations being implemented, is in accordance with the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022, will not impact on the visual amenity of this area, is acceptable in terms of access, is acceptable in terms of drainage, presents no significant impacts on the conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 site and presents no flood risk issues. The development as set out on the plans and particulars is considered acceptable and is consistent with the principle of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. Therefore, it is recommended that the proposed development should proceed subject to the following recommended requirements and conditions:

1. The Lead Section shall enter into water connection agreement with Irish Water prior to the commencement of this development.
2. a) Domestic effluent from the dwelling shall discharge to a septic tank and percolation area, which shall be designed, located and constructed in accordance with the requirements of 'EPA Code of Practice-Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems serving Single Houses 2021'.

b) Location, construction and commissioning of the proposed treatment system shall be supervised by a Civil Engineer or appropriately qualified individual, who upon completion of works/commissioning shall submit to the Planning Authority certification (to include photographs) that the system has been laid out and constructed in accordance with the 'EPA Code of Practice-Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems serving Single Houses 2021', within three months of installation.

c) The owners/occupiers of the subject site shall be responsible for the maintenance of their septic tank.
3. All surface water runoff from roofs, driveways and paved areas shall be collected and disposed of within the curtilage of the site by means of soak pits designed in accordance with BRE 365 standards or in the case of an alternative being proposed full details of same should be submitted to the Planning Section for written agreement prior to commencement of development. Surface water runoff shall not be allowed to discharge onto the public road or adjoining properties. Existing roadside drainage arrangements are to be maintained to the satisfaction of the District Engineer.
4. The vehicular access shall be recessed 5 metres from the existing roadside edge and shall have a minimum width of 3 metres at the inside piers increasing via splay walls. At the entrance, a drainage kerb/cattle grid or approved equivalent surface water cutoff drain shall be set back a minimum distance of 3 metres behind the roadside boundary and it shall discharge to a stone filled sump located within the site.

5. The western site boundary shall be planted with a double row mix of deciduous shrubs suitable for hedging and common to the locality (e.g. holly, hawthorn, blackthorn, ash). All landscaping shall take place in the first planting season following occupation of the dwelling. No leylandii cypress trees shall be permitted on this site or its boundaries. The proposed palisade fence shall be set inside this hedgerow.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mairín McGrath**, seconded by Cllr. **Michael Brennan** and agreed; -

“That the development, as proposed in the Chief Executives Report, be proceeded with subject to the recommended requirements and conditions”.

Item No. 5.5.
Application for
membership to
join Mayors for
Peace

The Cathaoirleach outlined the background to the establishment of the Mayors for Peace, noting that the organisation now includes 8,429 members in 166 countries, including around 100 in England, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, including cities like Manchester, London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Cardiff, Dublin, and Belfast. This makes it one of the largest representative organisations of local government in the world.

The organisation seeks to encourage closer cooperation and solidarity among towns and cities, strives to raise international public awareness regarding the need to abolish nuclear weapons, and seeks to contribute to the realisation of genuine and lasting world peace. It also supports the global initiative of the United Nations Millennium Sustainable Development Goals to eliminate starvation and poverty, assist refugees fleeing local conflict, support human rights, protect the environment, and tackle climate change, and other issues that threaten our peaceful coexistence.

In the UK & Ireland Chapter, and amongst European neighbours, key priorities have also included promoting community cohesion and the development of peaceful, more inclusive, tolerant, and resilient cities, especially during a period when some members, Manchester included, have faced the tragedy of terrorism and where political extremism and racial intolerance is on the rise.

The Mayors for Peace movement demonstrates that together, Councils can play an important role in promoting peace, justice, and tolerance at local, national, and international level and in encouraging national governments to negotiate away the grave threat that nuclear weapons present.

At a global level, with international leadership from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the organisation is seeking to raise public awareness on the need to abolish nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Brennan** and seconded by **Cllr. Jim Ryan** and resolved: -

“That Tipperary County Council apply for membership to join the Mayor’s for Peace”.

Item No. 6.1
Appointment of
Members (1) to
Social Inclusion,
Community &
Rural
Development
SPC

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and seconded by **Cllr. John Carroll** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Amy Goldsboro be and is hereby appointed as a member of Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development SPC".

Item No. 6.2
Appointment of
Member (1) to
Comhairle na
nÓg

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

"That Cllr. Amy Goldsboro be and is hereby appointed as a member of Comhairle na nÓg".

Item No. 6.3
Appointment of
Members to
Committees

Environment & Climate Action SPC

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and seconded by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Amy Goldsboro be and is hereby appointed as a member of Environment & Climate Action SPC".

Local Community Safety Partnership

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and seconded by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Amy Goldsboro be and is hereby appointed as a member of Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)".

South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force

It was proposed by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and seconded by **Cllr. Séan Ryan** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose be and is hereby appointed as a member of South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force".

Item No. 7.1
Consideration of
the Management
Report

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

- Roads, Transportation, Health and Safety
- Planning and Development (including Town Centre First and Just Transition)
- Emergency Services & Emergency Planning
- Library, Cultural Services & Biodiversity
- Finance & Information Technology

Roads, Transportation, Health and Safety

Mr Liam Brett, Director of Services gave an update to members on a number of major projects in the county. He noted that Phase 1 of Speed Limit Review is now complete and further phases are to follow. He stated that the allocation of €42 million for the Regional and Local Roads Programme was a welcome increase in previous funding levels. The programme had commenced across all municipal districts. He said that the stalling of work on the N24 Cahir to Waterford project was a concern and an announcement on a funding allocation was awaited.

Mr. Brett and Mr. John Nolan S.E. responded to queries raised as follows:

Ballina/Killaloe Shannon Crossing

There was no formal date of opening of the bridge. It was agreed to revert to Cllr. Bugler with an update on date on the official opening and also with an update on the particular of the planting Programme. There was no funding available for lighting of a section of road as queried.

Severe Weather Funding

A request for additional funding had been made. No response has been received to date.

R494

Update on the Snag List to be provided to Cllr. Bugler.

Tertiary Roads Funding

The need for an increase in funding was noted and will be sought from the department.

Irish Rail Bridge Network

Engagement with Irish rail is to take place to request that a Bridge Survey Audit be carried out in Tipperary. Follow up with Cllr. Jim Ryan regarding issues raised with specific bridges in his district.

N24 Waterford To Cahir

Follow up letter to be issued to the Department Transport requesting a response to previous correspondence issued.

N24 Cahir to Limerick Project

The timeframe being worked towards is detailed in the report. The target is ambitious to deliver the project in as quickly a time as possible. It is anticipated that the design will be submitted to An Bord Pleanala in the near future.

Thurles Inner Relief Road

A document is being prepared for the department and it is anticipated that the submission will be made by the end of March. The guidelines that the local authority is required to follow were noted.

Three Year Roadworks Programme

Access to additional funds would be required to enable extra roads to be added to the programme.

Public Lighting

A follow up with the contractor will take place to address issues raised. The rate of improvement was noted.

LIS/CIS

It was noted that applications for both schemes were oversubscribed but the criteria for both schemes will be reviewed through Roads SPC during 2025 in addition to Territory Roads.

Flood Relief Scheme at Ballina

Revert to Cllr. Bugler with an update on queries raised.

Greenways

Revert to Cllr. Bugler on individual queries raised. Presentations will be facilitated at District Meetings.

Ash die Back

Clearance of affected trees will take place in local authority own estates.

N75 Works Anner Hotel

Awaiting TII approval. The tender process is complete and a contractor in place. Budgetary pressures on the TII were noted.

Slievenamon Road Phase 2

Project is dependent on the completion of the works at the Anner Hotel. It is currently going through the design process. Uisce Eireann works are being undertaken on the Slievenamon Road and the council are tying in with these Flood Relief measures.

N74

Traffic Management plan has been reviewed and will change for the Bank Holiday weekend. The dynamics of the situation were noted. A follow up will be made with Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan regarding clarification on traffic calming measures in Tipperary Town.

Moangarriff Project

The project is in the TII Schedule of Works and will remain on the programme. Significant need to upgrade N24 pavements was noted.

Road Improvement Allocation

Allocation criteria clarified. 80% of funding split on kilometres in each district. 20% based on Red Roads percentage in each district. A review will take place at the end of the 2025-2027 programme.

Planning & Development (including Town Centre First & Just Transition)

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 7.1.1 Town Centre First Programme Presentation as part of the Management Report, Planning & Development (including Town Centre First & Just Transition).

The Cathaoirleach took the opportunity to wish Ms. Sharon Kennedy all the best on her upcoming retirement from Tipperary County Council. He noted

that this was to be her last plenary meeting. He thanked her for her engagement and acknowledged her for her efficient communication.

Item No. 7.1.1
Town Centre
First Programme
Presentation

Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services introduced the presentation, stating that the Chief Executive, Ms. Sinéad Carr recognised the need to pool the various parts together. Nine key towns had been identified, with a strong focus on vacancy and dereliction. There was a joined-up approach and links with other stakeholder groups was noted as being key for feedback, communication and delivery.

Mr. Shane Grogan A/S.E.O. and Mr. Paddy Crowley S.E. delivered the presentation. They outlined the objectives of the Town Centre First team as follows:

- To build on achievements to date, ensuring a renewed emphasis on the delivery of a positive and visual impact on our nine key towns and selected villages over the next three years
- To ensure a streamlined and co-ordinated development and implementation of plans and projects across the full range of funding opportunities
- To ensure a strong focus on vacancy and dereliction activity to tie in with Capital Projects

They outlined the team make up and the enhanced team structure, noting the team are based in Nenagh, Thurles and Clonmel. Details of the additional staff allocated to the Project Ireland 2040 were provided. The planned actions for 2025 were detailed and with an outline of funding sources provided.

The success of Croí Conaithe was noted. Updates on the Repair and Lease programme highlighted the various towns where properties have been either completed or are in progress. The focus on tackling dereliction was outlined to the members. A review of projects completed to date concluded the presentation.

It was agreed that the Town Centre First Programme Presentation and contact details for Town Regeneration Team would be circulated to elected members.

Item No. 7.1
Consideration of
the Management
Report contd.

Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services and Mr. Shane Grogan A/S.E.O., Mr. Paddy Crowley S.E. and Ms. Ann Marie Devaney, Senior Planner responded to members queries as follows:

Town Centre Team

There is a number of moving parts and some have been in place already. The process is transitional but progressing well. It was noted that the CPO process can be used to clean title notwithstanding that this can be a complex and difficult process. CPO process would be utilised when necessary. Available schemes would be used to encourage property owners to redevelop. Building Control information briefings will be organised for owner occupiers during the year. It was noted that every project must be scoped out properly and the need for patience with the process was acknowledged. Determining a long-term use/need for a

property takes time and investment. The success of this approach was evident throughout the county.

Vacancy/Dereliction

It was agreed to contact the CSO and revert to Cllr. Wm. Kennedy with Vacant Property figures for Tipperary

Croí Conaithe

No building is out of scope but the importance of determining an end use for the building was noted. Multiple use of Croí Conaithe is limited to two applications and the applicant must reside in one of the two properties where the Croí Conaithe grant is approved. It was noted that department was open to feedback from local authorities regarding the expansion of the scheme.

Repair & Lease

The difference between Repair and Lease and Long-Term Lease was clarified.

Tipperary Town Active Travel Projects

The progress on various projects within the municipal district was noted. Representations will be made to the NTA to get more projects on the list

Town Bus Service

Contact details for the National Transport Authority NTA (Bus Related queries) will be circulated to elected members. Expansion of the service is a decision for the NTA.

ZEVI Team

Zevi are responsible for the provision of Infrastructure. It is a decision for every organisation to decide whether to install EV charging.

Quarry Lane

Focus on funding envelope. The project is on the funding programme for 2025. The project is being considered for inclusion in Phase 3 URDF Call for Funding. The focus in Tipperary is to get projects shovel ready.

Taking in Charge

Vacant post re taking in charge is being managed. The importance of the post was noted.

Tipperary Town Local Area Plan

Engagement with Uisce Eireann on infrastructural issues is ongoing. The matter of zoning land is contingent on capability of infrastructural capacity. The Planning & Development Act 2024 will change the scope of how plans are prepared. It will also change the timeline from a 6-year plan to a ten-year plan. Ann Marie Devaney will review the planning paper and circulate update/commentary to the elected members regarding the transition. Members will be briefed on the impact of the new Planning Regulations on the Local Area Plan process.

Ms. Sinéad Carr acknowledged the work and commitment of Ms. Sharon Kennedy. She stated that Ms. Kennedy worked with everybody and made a significant contribution to the broader public service ethos. The Chief

Executive thanked Ms. Kennedy on behalf of herself and the staff of Tipperary County Council and wished her well on her retirement.

Emergency Services & Emergency Planning

There were no matters arising

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach, it was agreed to adjourn the meeting until 2.30pm.

Library, Cultural Services & Biodiversity

Ms. Brian Beck, Director of Services responded to members queries as follows:

Clonmel Library

Significant progress has been made and the aim is to advertise Part 8 by end of Qtr. 2 2025. A briefing of Borough District members will be arranged through District Administrators in Q2 2025.

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 10.1, Notice of Motion Ref. 2941 in relation to Coiste na Gaeilge as part of the Management Report on Library, Cultural Services & Biodiversity.

The Motion Reference No. 2941 was proposed by **Cllr. M. McGrath.**

Item No. 10.1
Cllr. Mairín
McGrath (NOM
Ref: 2941

"That this council would establish An Coiste Gaeilge, an Irish Language sub-committee in order to improve the Irish language service offered by the Council and to develop a strategy to ensure targeted growth of the language in the wider community through pro-active initiatives".

This motion was seconded by **Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan.**

The reply to the Motion was noted as follows:

"The promotion of the Irish Language is a specific policy remit of the Library Services/Culture/Biodiversity SPC and is referenced in the Council's SPC scheme adopted in September 2024, requiring each SPC to promote the use of the Irish Language in their work programmes.

The Council has an Irish Language Scheme (Scéim Gaeilge), which contains our commitments to the promotion of the Irish Language. These include a page on our website, bilingual forms, and a query email asgaeilge@tipperarycoco.ie. This Scheme will be replaced during 2025 with Language Standards. These standards will set out the services to be provided through the Irish language and the levels of competence in the Irish Language required of staff. A consultation process will be held shortly, to include public bodies' views.

Tipperary County Council is fully compliant concerning the implementation of the requirements of the Official Languages Act 2003-2021 and it also encourages staff to avail of courses through Gaelchultúr. The Council also supports and promotes activities during Seachtain na Gaeilge, to include

events/advertisements in our libraries and some of our Municipal Districts. Irish phrases will also form part of our Plenary and Municipal Council meetings during the month of March.

In moving the motion Cllr. McGrath said that while the response provided was appreciated, the aim of the motion is to promote the language across the county in the council and beyond. She acknowledged compliance with the Irish Languages Act. She suggested ground up events to support language in the community. She noted Government 365 funding was recently announced.

Following further consideration by the members it was agreed that that the motion be referred to the Library Services, Culture and Biodiversity SPC for their consideration, with the councils Irish Language Officer to attend meeting.

The Motion was approved.

Finance & Information Technology

Item No. 7.1 **Consideration of** **the Management** **Report contd.**

Mr. Mark Connolly, Head of Finance responded to members queries as follows:

Commercial Rates

Collection rate for 2024 are 94%. It was noted that this was higher than 2023.

Power Up Grant

It was agreed to write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment outlining members feedback on the Power Up Grant & other grant schemes. Impact of online sales on the retail trade to be noted in correspondence.

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 7.1.2 Local Government Management Letter as part of the Management Report on Finance & Information Technology.

Item No. 7.1.2 **Local** **Government** **Auditor 2023** **Financial** **Management** **Letter**

Mr. Connolly advised the members the item was for noting.

Item No. 9.1 **Consideration of** **Orders for the** **period to the** **28th February** **2025**

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 28th Feb 2025 were noted.

Item No. 11.1

Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan (Shiner) & Cllr. David Dunne (NOM Ref: 2940)

The Motion Reference No. 2940 was proposed by **Cllr. D. Dunne.**

"That Tipperary County Council write to Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne, requesting a referendum on providing a constitutional protection for the public ownership of water services. Public ownership of water services ensures safe and sustainable access to water for everyone".

In moving the motion Cllr. Dunne said this was in the previous programme for government. He said that the need to have water services in public ownership needs to be reaffirmed.

The Motion was seconded by **Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan.**

Cllr. Marie Murphy stated she could not support the motion as it was not in the current programme for government.

Cllr. Michael Smith also stated it was not contained in the current programme for government. He said the wording takes no account of the legal obligation of Uisce Eireann to be responsible for the provision of water services.

Cllr. William Kennedy stated he was not supporting the motion. These motions are for publicity purposes. He referenced Group Water Schemes operating effectively.

As there was opposition to the Motion, the Cathaoirleach called on the Meetings Administrator to take a vote on the motion. The Meetings Administrator called a vote on the following Motion as presented:

"That Tipperary County Council write to Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne, requesting a referendum on providing a constitutional protection for the public ownership of water services. Public ownership of water services ensures safe and sustainable access to water for everyone".

COMHAIRLEOIR	For	Against	Absent	Abstain
Acheson, Tom		✓		
Ambrose, Siobhán		✓		
Anglim, Micheál		✓		
Bonfield, Fiona	✓			
Bourke, Kieran			✓	
Brennan, Michael	✓			
Browne, Liam	✓			
Bugler, Phyll		✓		
Cahill Skehan, Kay		✓		
Carroll, John		✓		
Crosse, John		✓		
Dennehy, Niall			✓	
Dunne, David	✓			

English, Pat			✓	
FitzGerald, John			✓	
Fitzgerald, Mark		✓		
Goldsboro, Amy			✓	
Hannigan, Joe			✓	
Hourigan, Mary Hanna		✓		
Kennedy, Roger		✓		
Kennedy, William		✓		
Lee, Shane		✓		
Lowry, Michael			✓	
McGrath, Máirín	✓			
Molloy, Richie			✓	
Moloney, Andy			✓	
Moran, Eddie			✓	
Morgan Walsh, Louise			✓	
Morris, Seamus			✓	
Murphy, Marie		✓		
O'Heney, John			✓	
O'Meara, J.P.		✓		
O'Meara, Michael			✓	
Quirke O'Meara, Pamela		✓		
Ryan, Anne Marie	✓			
Ryan, Jim		✓		
Ryan, Peggy			✓	
Ryan Séan			✓	
Smith, Michael		✓		
Declan Burgess		✓		
	6	18	16	

There were 6 votes in favour and 18 against.

The Meetings Administrator deemed the motion defeated.

Item No. 13.1
Motions from
Other Councils

The following Resolutions from other Local Authorities were considered and noted: -

Sligo County Council

"That this Local Authority calls on the government to desist from increasing the V.A.T. of 9% to 13.5% on electricity costs that is planned to come into effect from May 2025. A copy of this motion to be forwarded to all local authorities within the state".

"That this local authority calls on the government to abolish any plans of introducing further Carbon Taxes for the foreseeable future. A copy of this motion to be forwarded to all local authorities within the state".

"That this local authority calls on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to reinstate the Tenant in Situ scheme and increase the financial threshold limit in line with the current housing market

prices in County Sligo. A Copy of this motion to be forwarded to all local authorities within the state”.

“It is evident now that this government is incapable of delivering its own yearly housing targets, and the number of families living in emergency accommodation is increasing by at least 16% per year with an estimated 4,000 children homeless in Ireland. I am once again calling on the Government to implement an eviction ban, only in cases where the Tenant are abiding with the letting contract, this would protect both Tenant and the landlord. A copy of this motion to be sent to all Council’s within the state”.

“This local authority calls on the Government to initiate a fixed penalty fine of €10,000 on any retailer or person who sells or provides children under the age of 18 with e-liquids, vape kits, or nicotine-containing products. To also ask that the H.S.E. create an awareness campaign to highlight the dangers of vaping. A copy of this motion to be sent to all Councils within the state”.

Roscommon County Council

“Agreed to write to the Department of Agriculture, Department of Transport and Department of Environment, for an incentive to be put in place for landowners to move trees off the roadside”.

“Agreed to write to the Minister for Communications that all emergency frontline services have access to the GOV NE system to use any network available in the major emergency events to ensure communication channels remain open. It was also agreed to circulate this to all Local Authorities”.

“Agreed to write to the next Minister for Education requesting the introduction of extra time for students with Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and other learning difficulties sitting second level examinations. The lack of extra time is a severe disadvantage to such students at this crucial time in their lives. It was also agreed to circulate this to all Local Authorities”.

“In light of over 40 trees falling during Storm Darragh, damaging power lines and leaving homes and businesses without power for days, I propose this Council writes to Nicholas Tarrant, MD of ESB Networks, and Keith Leonard, Head of the National Emergency Coordination Group. They should ensure compliance with wayleaves and exclusion zones near overhead powerlines, requiring forestry owners to meet clearance standards. ESB Networks should take pre-emptive measures ahead of storms to prevent similar outages. Additionally, compliance with the DAFM Standards for Felling & Restoration near public roads must be enforced to prevent road safety hazards during extreme weather. Subsequent to the submission of this motion the events of Storm Éowyn have further highlighted the need for action on this matter.”

Limerick City and County Council

“That, this Local Authority would call on the Government to put in place a financial support scheme within the grant aid for older people form to

include people in medical need that they would be able to apply for financial aid to help them purchase a generator to allow them to power electric medical devices where loss of power occurs”.

“That, Limerick City and County Council expresses its fullest appreciation for all of the work done by the Council staff and other agencies and volunteers who worked 24/7 to alleviate the hardships caused by the recent severe weather event. The Council now calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to (a) immediately release funds to replenish Local Authority financial resources used to manage the emergency and (b) provide additional adequate funds (or otherwise provide financial arrangements) for Local Authorities impacted to arrange a local scheme to compensate homeowners and businesses for property damage, lost stock or foods or other reasonable uninsured damages caused by snowfall or electricity cuts, and that this Notice of Motion be circulated to all Local Authorities”.

“That, given the recent weather events, Limerick City and County Council (a) calls on Uisce Éireann to install generators at every pumping station in the country (b) calls on the ESB to cut back/cut down all trees and/or branches that are in danger of damaging the infrastructure and (c) calls on the Government to set up a special emergency phone number which is activated prior to and manned during all orange and red weather alerts”.

Donegal County Council

Item No. 14.1 **Expressions of** **Votes of** **Sympathy /** **Congratulations**

“That this Council takes action on dog owners who are not controlling their dogs properly in our communities i.e. chasing sheep etc or are a danger to the public, children etc, and that a rule is brought in that all dogs must be on a lead while in public spaces such as towns, beaches, walks, trails etc.”

Votes of Sympathy were passed for the following: -

- Joe Bourke, Former Councillor, Tipperary County Council and Thurles/Templemore MD
- Breda Ryan, Housing Section, Clonmel and Christopher Ryan, Roads Section on the death of Breda’s mother Doreen Maher
- Josie Lyons, Environment Section and Cllr. Andy Moloney on the death of her brother and his brother in law John Joseph (JJ) Lyons
- Dolores Fahey, Civil Defence Officer, on the death of her brother Frankie Fahey

Item No. 16.1 **A.O.B.**

There being no other business, the Meeting concluded at 3.10 pm.

Signed/  Signed by:
91E8E030AA5144C
Cathaoirleach.

Date/ 14th April, 2025

Signed/  DocuSigned by:
40043D91C39D486
Meetings Administrator

Date/ 14th April, 2025