

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, CLONMEL
AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM
AT 10.00 AM
ON MONDAY 14TH APRIL, 2025.**

Present

Cllr. D. Burgess, Cathaoirleach

Cllrs: Acheson, T; Ambrose, S; Anglim, M; Brennan, M; Browne, L; Bugler, P; Crosse, J; Dennehy, N; Dunne, D; English, P; FitzGerald J; Fitzgerald, M; Goldsboro, A; Hourigan, Mary Hanna, Kennedy, R; Lee, S; McGrath, M; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E; Murphy, Marie; O'Heney, J; Quirke O'Meara, P; Ryan S;

Remote

Cllrs: Bonfield, F; Bourke K; Cahill Skehan, K; Carroll, J; Hannigan J; Lowry, M; Morgan Walsh, L; Morris, S; O'Meara J.P.; O'Meara, M; Ryan (Shiner), AM; Ryan, J; Ryan, P;

Apologies

Cllrs: Kennedy, W;

Also Present

Ms Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive, Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator, Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Mr. Brian Beck, Mr. Anthony Coleman, Mr. Jonathan Cooney Directors of Services.

Mr. Michael Moroney, Mr. Shane O'Dwyer, Ms. Cora Morrissey, S.E.O.s, Mr. Denis Holland S.E., Mr. Robert Johnston S.E.E. Ms. Melanie Scott, Arts Officer, Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Community Climate Action Officer, Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Declan Burgess welcomed members to the April meeting of Tipperary County Council. He advised members present in the Chamber of General Housekeeping rules and that their microphones had to be turned on when they spoke and referred to members attending remotely of the protocol for remote meetings circulated with the Agenda.

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 Brennan, former councillor with South Tipperary County Council from 2009-2014 who passed away on Saturday, 12th April, 2025

All councillors were associated with the vote of sympathy and sympathies were extended to Joe's wife Aideen and his two children.

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
March 2025

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on 10th March 2025, were proposed by **Cllr. Séan Ryan**, and seconded by **Cllr. John Crosse** and approved.

Matters Arising

A query from Cllr. David Dunne regarding the requirement for cameras to be used when members were attending meetings remotely was clarified by the Meetings Administrator noting that the Council's Standing Orders required members to have their cameras on when speaking.

Item 4.1
Approval to
Attendance

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan** and seconded by **Cllr. Marie Murphy** 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 |
|--|--|---------------------------|--|
| AILG Training Conference | 2 nd – 3 rd April, 2025 | Strand Hotel, Limerick | Cllr. Sean Ryan Cllr. Michael Smith Cllr. Richie Molloy Cllr. Niall Dennehy Cllr. John FitzGerald Cllr. Micheal Anglim Cllr. Phyll Bugler Cllr. John Carroll Cllr. Roger Kennedy |
| IPI – Annual Planning Conference 2025 | 10 th – 11 th April, 2025 | Salthill Hotel, Galway | Cllr. Ml. Smith Cllr. Declan Burgess Cllr. Mark FitzGerald |

Item 4.2
Reports on
Conferences

Reports on Conferences attended were noted.

Item No. 5.1

Section 183
Notice –
Disposal of land
at Ballinderry,
Carrick on Suir
to Michael
O'Driscoll

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

It was proposed by **Cllr. Tom Acheson**, seconded by **Cllr. John Crosse**

"that in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of 0.069ha situated at Ballinderry, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary to Michael O'Driscoll for a consideration of land to be transferred in lieu of 0.0022ha as identified on Plot B on Map 1, Schedule 3 as provided in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Monday, March 31st 2025".

The disposal of property was required to facilitate the regularisation of property title

Item No. 5.2

Disposal of
serviced site at
Boherlahan, Co.
Tipperary to Ms.
Orla Maher

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

It was proposed by **Cllr. Declan Burgess**, seconded by **Cllr. John Crosse**

"that in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of a serviced site of 0.043 ha at the Crescent Housing Estate, Boherlahan, Co. Tipperary to Orla Maher for a consideration of €25,000 in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Tuesday March 11th, 2025".

The disposal of property was required to facilitate the disposal of serviced site to utilise funding under Croí Conaithe (Towns) Fund to provide serviced sites for the construction of new homes through self-build process in rural areas.

Item No. 5.3

Section 183
Notice -
Disposal of land
at Roscrea
Business and
Technology Park
to Lua Ryan

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

It was proposed by **Cllr. Shane Lee**, seconded by **Cllr. Eddie Moran**

"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 0.516 ha at Roscrea Business and Technology Park, Benamore, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary to Lua Ryan for a consideration of €100,000 in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Friday 28th February, 2025".

The disposal relates to a .2-acre site within the Roscrea Business Park and is consistent with Tipperary County Council's Strategy to activate and develop infrastructure to support existing and nascent businesses.

Item No. 5.4

Section 183

Notice –

Disposal of land

at Poulmucka,

Clonmel to John

O’Flynn

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

It was proposed by **Cllr. Andy Moloney**, seconded by **Cllr. John FitzGerald**

"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 0.0416 ha at Poulmucka, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary to John O’Flynn for a consideration of a land swap of circa 0.0475ha of land at Poulmucka, Clonmel, C. Tipperary in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025".

The disposal of property was required to facilitate the regularisation of property title from a historic land swap agreement that was never formalised.

Item No. 5.5

Section 183

Notice –

Disposal of Cahir

Tourist Office to

National

Tourism

Development

Authority (Failte

Ireland)

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

It was proposed by **Cllr. Andy Moloney**, seconded by **Cllr. Marie Murphy**

"that in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of Cahir Tourist Office to National Tourism Development Authority (Failte Ireland) for a consideration of €317.00 per annum in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Wednesday March 5th, 2025".

The disposal of property was to facilitate the renewal of lease agreement for a 24-month term under the same terms and conditions as previous lease agreement. Property has been leased to Failte Ireland since 1991.

Item No. 5.6

Section 183

Notice –

Disposal of land

at Maryville,

Mondreen,

Clongower,

Thurles Co.

Tipperary to

Patrick Hayes

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

It was proposed by **Cllr. Séan Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. Peggy Ryan**

"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 0.0067ha situated at Maryville, Mondreen, Clongower, Thurles Co. Tipperary to Patrick Hayes for a consideration of €500 plus the council’s legal fees in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Wednesday, March 19th, 2025".

Item No. 5.7

Section 183

Notice –

The Section 183 Notice and report as circulated was noted and the Council assented to the proposal as set out therein as follows

Disposal of circa 0.2ha of land at Clonmel Business Development Park, Carrigeen, Clonmel to Mr. Philip Martin

The disposal of property was required to facilitate the regularisation of a mapping error.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**, seconded by **Cllr. John FitzGerald**

"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 0.2 ha of land at Clonmel Business Development Park, Carrigeen, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary to Mr. Philip Martin for a consideration of €85,000 in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday, March 13th, 2025".

The disposal of property was required to facilitate the disposal approved by council in September 2024. The disposal was initially approved under a long-term lease. Subsequent legal advice determined that a Deed of Transfer was required.

Item No. 5.8 Corporate Plan 2024-2029

The Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services to give a presentation to the members. Mr. Lonergan provided an overview of the process, noting that the day marked the official launch of the plan. He noted the strategic importance of the document which was the Council's strategic framework for future action over the next 5 years, linking policy, legislation, organisation, governance, accountability and performance management. The Plan is presented in a clear structured format based around 5 Strategic Themes, namely;

1. Communities & Culture
2. Rural & Urban Places
3. Organisation & People
4. Environment & Climate
5. Economic & Enterprise

He stated that these Strategic Themes inform and support twenty-five Strategic Objectives of the Council for the next five years and will be the primary influence for the development of Annual Service Delivery Plans and Annual Budgets.

He referenced the amendments in the document pertaining to the Statements of Strategy having regard to Councils Public Sector Duty, outlining the process involved in the first and next phase of the strategy and plan implementation.

He referred members to the user-friendly graphic design and the introduction of a podcast which could be accessed from the website.

Following consideration, it was proposed by **Cllr. Pat English** seconded by **Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose** and resolved that; -

"In accordance with Section 134 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby adopts the Corporate Plan with amended strategic statements as presented"

Item No. 5.8.1
Review of
Corporate Plan
2019-2024

Mr. Lonergan gave an overview of the Corporate Plan 2019-2024 to the members, outlining the key achievements during the term of the plan. He noted the challenges faced during that time. He stated that the document outlined that the council had delivered, and deliverance builds trust. The report as presented was noted by the Council

The Meetings Administrator advised members 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 2025 and had been prepared based on the provisions of the adopted budget of Tipperary County Council for 2025.

Item No. 5.9
Draft Service
Delivery Plan
2025

It was proposed by **Cllr. Sean Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. Shane Lee** and resolved:

"That the Draft Service Delivery Plan 2025 as presented be and is hereby adopted by Tipperary County Council".

The Cathaoirleach invited Mr. Denis Holland, S.E. to brief the members on the policy, reminding members that any questions should only be on the policy before the council. It was agreed to circulate the presentation to the members.

Item No. 5.10
Burial Ground
Development
Policy 2024

Mr. Holland noted that Environment would attend the May District meetings to discuss queries relating to specific graveyards.

Mr. Holland responded to queries raised as follows:

Crematorium

Tipperary County Council have no plans to provide one and he noted that it would generally be provided by the private sector.

Columbarium Wall

Tipperary County Council do integrate walls to facilitate urns in existing graveyards. The significant cost of same was noted.

Notice of Motion (Cllr. Liam Browne) passed 27/01/2025

This related to the operational matter of graveyards and will be dealt with as part of Burial Ground Bye Laws. The matter will come before the SPC in May.

Pre-Booking of Graves

This is a Bye Law matter

Historic Graveyards

Clarification was provided to Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan (Shiner) on specific query raised.

Graveyard Committee Assistance

This is outside the scope of the policy and is a budgetary issue. It can be considered in the context of Budget 2026.

Interments

There are a number of factors to be considered regarding the number of interments permitted in any one grave.

Cremations

There is no national legislation regarding the use of ashes. It is at the discretion of individuals. The local authority can engage if people wish to have ashes interred in a conventional graveyard.

Carrick on Suir

Mr. Holland will contact Cllr. David Dunne in response to specific queries raised.

In response to a proposal from Cllr. Liam Browne to defer the policy pending a review of his notice of motion regarding persons residing within 20km of graveyard, seconded by Cllr. John O'Heney, Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services said that the policy before the members was a development policy and he did not recommend it be deferred. Cllr. Browne's motion would be before the SPC in June but it may not be decided in June. He said the policy before them had gone through the SPC and was recommended for adoption by the full Council.

Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive stated it was a matter for the members to decide. The policy before them was about the future development of land for burial grounds. The policy would not affect Cllr. Browne's motion for the Cashel Municipal District. The Bye Laws can make provision concerning the operational matter of graveyards.

Following consideration, Cllr. Browne agreed to withdraw his proposal having regard to the advice provided.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Séan Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. John FitzGerald** and resolved: -

"That we, the members of the Tipperary County Council, hereby unanimously adopt the Burial Ground Development Policy 2024 (Draft) as presented at the Plenary Meeting of Tipperary County Council held on Monday 14th April 2025, and the Policy will have an effective implementation date of 12th May 2025.

Item No. 5.11 **Arts Act Grants** **2025**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Melanie Scott, Arts Officer to the meeting. Ms Scott referred to the report as circulated with the Agenda and noted that there had been 43 applications, 8 of which were new applications. She recommended the adoption of the report as proposed.

Members paid tribute to Melanie Scott, Arts Officer for her dedication and hard work and also acknowledged the work of the volunteers around the county. Grants were a lifeline to local economies and the support was acknowledged notwithstanding that more funding was needed to deal with the increasing costs of holding events.

In response to members queries, Ms. Scott acknowledged the support of the Arts across the county and noted the considerable work being done at a voluntary and community level. She noted the separate fund available for festivals and events and this scheme is for promotion of the arts. Assistance can be provided to groups via training and festival groups are asked to provide feedback on their top three training needs. Festivals are required to acknowledge council support.

Ms. Scott will revert to Cllr. Phyll Bugler to arrange a meeting on specific queries raised. She will also revert to Cllr. Shane Lee on specific queries raised on the Roscrea Halloween festival. She noted that there are ongoing discussions with the IPB and two insurance companies are providing cover. She agreed to revert to Cllr. David Dunne with details of insurance companies who underwrite for festivals/events etc.

Mr. Brian Beck, Director of Services acknowledged the work of volunteers and encouraged community groups to contact the Community and Enterprise office for any information.

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

“That that allocation of grants to the sum of €65,000 as per the attached schedule under the Arts Act 2003 are approved”.

| No | Group | Recommended Allocation 2025 € |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Fionn Mac Cumhaill Players, Mullinahone | 500 |
| 2 | Avista/St Anne's, Roscrea | 1,250 |
| 3 | Voices of the Derg Choir, Ballina | 500 |
| 4 | Creative Minds Productions, Clonmel | 1,800 |
| 5 | Down Syndrome Tipperary | 600 |
| 6 | Cahir Comhaltas | 2,000 |
| 7 | Cloughjordan Circus Club CLG | 5,500 |
| 8 | Newport Musical Society | 1,000 |
| 9 | Tipperary Musical Society (TMS) | 3,500 |
| 10 | Belle Voci Choir, Clonmel | 1,000 |
| 11 | Roscrea Musical Society | 3,500 |
| 13 | Áras Mhuire Day Care Centre, Nenagh | 1,150 |
| 15 | New Inn & District Women's Group | 600 |
| 16 | St Mary's Choral Society, Clonmel | 3,500 |
| 17 | Clontempo Choir, Clonmel | 1,200 |
| 18 | Nenagh Players | 1,000 |
| 19 | Nenagh Community Training Centre | 1,000 |
| 20 | Cloughjordan Cine Club | 1,100 |
| 21 | Homeland, Roscrea | 4,500 |
| 22 | Live Art Ireland, Borrisokane | 2,500 |
| 23 | CRK Active Retirement Association, Carrig | 300 |
| 24 | Red n Blue Theatre Company, Clonmel | 2,000 |
| 25 | Ballingeary ICA | 500 |

| | | |
|----|--|-------|
| 26 | Uproar Rock Chorus, Clonmel | 1,000 |
| 27 | Lorrha Dorrha Ladies Club | 500 |
| 28 | Ballymackey Women's Shed | 800 |
| 29 | Limelight Theatricals, Thurles | 1,800 |
| 30 | St Cronan's Association, Roscrea | 1,000 |
| 31 | Thurles Community Panto Society | 1,500 |
| 32 | Suircan Environmental, Clonmel | 1,000 |
| 33 | Templemore Active Retirement | 500 |
| 34 | Glengarra Mountain Lodge Conservation Restoration Group/Burncourt Community Council | 1,000 |
| 35 | Carrick on Suir Musical Society | 3,500 |
| 36 | South Tipperary Art Group, STAG, Juniors, Clonmel | 800 |
| 37 | Clonmel Theatre Guild | 500 |
| 38 | Stage Craft Youth Theatre, Clonmel | 1,800 |
| 39 | Nenagh Choral Society | 3,500 |
| 40 | Thurles Musical Society | 3,500 |
| 41 | Lissenhall Community & Social Club | 500 |
| 42 | Cashel Choral & Dramatic Society | 500 |
| 43 | Irish Wheelchair Assoc - North Tipperary | 800 |

Item No. 6.1**Appointment of
Members to
Strategic Policy
Committees**

It was proposed by **Cllr. M. McGrath**, seconded by **Cllr. D. Dunne** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Richie Molloy be ratified as Nominee to the Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development SPC" to fill the outstanding vacancy on that Committee.

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

"That Cllr. Shane Lee be ratified as Nominee to the Library Services, Culture & Biodiversity SPC" to replace Cllr. Richie Molloy.

Item No. 8.1**National
Broadband
Ireland
Presentation**

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach, seconded by Cllr. Roger Kennedy and in line with Standing Orders, it was agreed to take the presentation from National Broadband Ireland at 12 noon.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Joe Lavin, Chief Commercial Officer with NBI to the meeting also acknowledging the work of Mr. Simon Howe, Broadband Officer. Mr. Lavin referred to the presentation titled 'NBI-Delivering the National Broadband plan on Time and On Budget' as circulated to the members. He noted programme progress to date as follows:

- 99.9% of premises have been designed
- 62% of premises have been passed
- 100% of BCP Installations are now complete
- 95% of Premises are either constructed or under construction
- 35% of premises are connected.

He stated that the investment from the government in county Tipperary is 118 million euro. There are 31,000 premises covered by the national broadband plan with 83% of these premises available to pre-order. 16% of premises have network build in progress and 30% of premises are now active connections.

In response to members queries, Mr. Lavin stated that the Connected Hubs Programme is run by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DCRD) which was very effective. It was agreed that Simon Howe, Broadband Officer would communicate with the DCRD with regard to extending the connected Hub Programme.

It was noted that the goal of W.B.I. is to have 100% access to high speed broadband by 2028. SIRO, Virgin and Eir have submitted their plans to the department which sets out their programme to 2028.

The copper network is owned by Eircom and at present there is no published plan for its replacement at present. The goal is for Europe to eliminate copper by 2030. He outlined the capacity levels offered and available.

In response to a query on Littleton, Mr. Lavin said that regional nodes like Clonmel, Roscrea are connected first and they build out from this across the county. He acknowledged that progress on the Build Programme target was delayed in the first year but is on track for 2026. Full completion in Tipperary is expected in the first half of 2026. He said remote premises connections are connected when an order is placed. He noted that there can be difficulties identifying access to some locations and there can be way leave issues. An SLA is in place with the department and NBI are required to connect 80% of premises within 10 working days. It was agreed that NBI would revert to the following elected members on specific queries raised:

- Cllr. Phyll Bugler re rollout in Ballina
- Cllr. Mairín McGrath re specific building query
- Cllr. Pamela Quirke O'Meara re Silvermines

The Cathaoirleach thanked the team from NBI for their attendance and briefing to the council.

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 Clonmel and any queries/clarifications would be dealt with by the relevant Director of Services.

- Economic, Community and Rural Development
- Environment & Climate Action
- Corporate Services
- Housing, Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation Response

Item No. 7.4 Economic, Community and Rural Development

Outdoor Recreation Plan for County Tipperary 2025-2030

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 7.4, Outdoor Recreation Plan for County Tipperary, as part of the Management Report on Economic, Community & Rural Development.

Tipperary County Council commissioned the development of a County Outdoor Recreation Plan in 2024. The project team was asked to review the current provision and delivery of outdoor recreation across the county, and to make strategic recommendations for action, linked to six thematic objectives as set out in Embracing Ireland's Outdoors, the National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-27.

The item was noted and agreed.

Item No. 7.1 Consideration of the Management Report contd.

Brian Beck, Director of Services reported to the members on the following;

Student Enterprise Awards

A significant number of students attended. The importance of supporting this event was noted. The Cathaoirleach also paid tribute to the event.

Clár 2025 Programme

The CLÁR Programme allocation has increased from €8.7 million to €11 million in 2025. The 2025 programme will be delivered through three separate Measures. Measure 1 – Developing Community Facilities and Amenities are delivered via local authorities. Expressions of interest will be sought up to the 15th May 2025 and 15 applications will be identified. Announcements are expected to be made in November 2025.

Clár Funding

It was agreed to follow up with the Department re Clár Designation for Clonmel Borough District

Loch Derg Signage

It was agreed that the District Engineer would revert to Cllr. Phyll Bugler re Loch Derg Signage

Love Tipperary Gift Cards

It was agreed to revert to Cllr. Ambrose with details of spend to date and allocation per MD area on Tipperary Gift Card Scheme.

Tariffs

The dynamics of the situation were noted and the county is currently in a 90-day deferral. Engagements will continue with the department, chamber of commerce, Local Enterprise Offices and Enterprise Boards. The difficulties in planning without notice was acknowledged. Tipperary County Council are ready to engage and support when required from the department.

Lisheen Masterplan

Part 8 will be brought to Thurles MD members in relation to the councils 10-acre site. Job creation is the objective noting that there is a similar plan for Templemore.

Ryder Cup

Activity Packages to promote Tipperary will be examined. Tipperary are engaging with Directors in Limerick City and County Council to determine what role they can play in the event. Bed shortages for tourists was noted.

Environment and Climate Action

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services, responded to general queries raised on the Management Report as follows: -

Textile Banks

The need to rationalise the number of banks owing to market circumstances was noted. The banks are a significant expense to the local authority which is a national issue. Regional meetings have taken place. A tendering process will commence over the coming weeks.

Irish Public Bodies

Guidelines have issued to Tidy Towns Groups. It was noted that the Tidy Towns Insurance Scheme will be managed at district level. Typically, Local Authorities require each group to provide evidence of insurance before grants are awarded. To eliminate this administrative burden and to ensure that Tidy Towns Group share a consistent and comprehensive level of cover, the local authority have worked with IPB Insurance to purchase a comprehensive insurance policy that will provide insurance for each Voluntary Group carrying out 'Tidy Town' activities.

CCTV

Government structure and Oversight Board is in place. A new code of practice is to be adopted. A pilot roll-out is being examined in the coming weeks.

Community Climate Action Fund

Criteria established at national level. No notification of Round 2 yet. Community event scheduled for TÚS Campus, Thurles on the 16th April. Members were encouraged to attend. This event is first of its kind in the country.

Deposit Return Scheme

Criteria will be examined to determine if the local authority can get involved. Queries raised at the meeting will be directed to the Regional Office. The benefits of the scheme were noted.

Lyme Disease

The role of the Environment Section will be determined and clarity sought with regard to liability implications of the local authority erecting signage at public amenities.

CCTV Graveyards

No plan at present. An Garda Síochána will be engaged for specific thefts.

River Suir

It was agreed to revert to Cllr. Jim Ryan with progress on plan to improve water quality for the River Suir in Thurles.

**Meeting
Adjourned**

Drones /CCTV re Illegal Dumping
Authorisation from the Irish Aviation Authority is at an advanced stage

Meeting adjourned at 1.30pm for lunch and resumed at 2pm

Item No. 7.1

**Consideration of
the Management
Report contd.**

Corporate Services

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 7.2 Tipperary Local Authority Performance Indicator Report and Item 7.3 Draft Annual Report 2024, as part of the Management Report on Corporate Services.

Item No. 7.2

**Tipperary Local
Authority
Performance
Indicator Report
2023**

Mr Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator briefed members on the report.

In September 2024, NOAC published its Local Authority Performance Indicator Report for 2023, the tenth (10th) in this annual series, to provide objective performance information. These indicators record local authority activity concerning certain aspects of their wide-ranging functions. The PIs are chosen and categorised to reflect local government core functions: housing, roads, water, waste/environment, planning, fire services, library/recreation, youth/community, corporate, finance, and economic development. It was acknowledged that these categories do not reflect the full and wide range of services delivered by city and county councils throughout the State.

The 2023 report examined 45 indicators across 11 performance areas. There was a total of 125 indicators, including sub-indicators measured in 2023. Tipperary improved its ranking (out of 31 authorities) across 48 indicators, dis-improved its ranking across 51 indicators with no change across 26 indicators. The average ranking for Tipperary out of 31 authorities across the 125 indicators was 13th in 2023, a similar ranking to 2022. Tipperary recorded a top 5 performance across 22 indicators in 2023 compared to 12 in 2022, 14 in 2021, 9 in 2020, and 6 in 2019. The areas included:

- Litter Pollution;
- Households with a 3-bin collection;
- Road Works - Number of km's and amount spent on Strengthening & Resealing;
- Climate Action;
- Housing Loan collection levels;
- Housing Maintenance costs;
- Trading Online vouchers approved and drawn down;
- Road Pavement Surface Condition Index ratings across Regional & Local Primary;
- Tourism

While the report is historic, it is useful for analysis of what is working and what is not. The analysis of the data over the past 10 years shows the resilience and ability of Local Authorities to embrace and adapt to new demands and priorities such as their response to the Ukrainian crisis. Recruitment retention of staff together with an ongoing workforce continues to be a challenge.

He noted that housing vacancy rates demonstrated the focus of the council on this area. Social Media usage was also noted. Each local authority is different and this, along with the historic nature of the data, must be considered when looking at the indicators. The contribution of external organisations such as LGMA and CSO was noted. The report is also presented to the audit committee.

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services and Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator, responded to Corporate related queries raised as follows: -

Recruitment & Retention

The competition within the private sector was noted. One hundred recruitment competitions were held in the local authority last year. The Student Summer Job Scheme and Apprenticeship schemes have been reengaged. In ten years, half of Tipperary County Councils workforce are new recruits.

Severe Weather Event Dedicated Line

The use of the dedicated line will depend on the severity of the event but the option is available if required.

Register of Electors

A data quality assessment is in progress. Clarification was provided on the procedure for removing persons from the electoral register.

Local Area Constituency Review

Clarification was provided on the process concerning Local Electoral Area constituency reviews which is the responsibility of the new Electoral Commission "An Coimisiún Toghcháin". The Commission presents a report to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage not later than 3 months after the final result of the population census.

Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator outlined that in accordance with Section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001, which states that:

Item No. 7.3 Draft Annual Report 2024

A draft of the annual report shall be submitted to the members of the county council or city council concerned not later than the 30th day of April in each year.

The draft Annual Report for year ended 31st December 2024 as circulated was noted.

The Final report will be presented to the Council at the June Meeting.

Housing

The Cathaoirleach and members of the council congratulated Mr. Jonathan Cooney on his appointment to Director of Services.

Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of responded to queries raised as follows: -

Homeless Services

Application for funding made to Regional Homeless Services regarding extending 9 to 9 services. Additional locations are being examined.

Item No. 7.1

**Consideration of
the Management
Report contd.**

Kickham Barracks

It is a matter for TÚS to consider student accommodation options across all of their campuses.

Choice Based Letting

Tipperary County Council manage specific cases outside of CBL.

Housing Grants

No allocation given for 2025. Can spend 60% of 2024 pending allocation announcement.

Cullen Village

A meeting has been requested with Voluntary Housing Body

HAP/RAS

High failure rate and issues with prescribed inspection report noted. Only discretion is around timelines to rectify issues. Inspectors are fair with timelines given. Local Authority stock is not subject to private rented standards. There is a target of 25% inspections on private rented stock.

Affordability issue being examined by the Department. Ms. Sinead Carr, Chief Executive noted the inequality around HAP and stated it is a national issue. The local authority have a duty of care to accommodate persons made homeless.

Coolnamuck Rd. Site

Currently being examined.

Carrick Beg Estate

This is under the responsibility of the developer. Not taken in charge at present.

Downsizing

SPC to examine a policy in Q.3 2025

Grove Street, Roscrea

Disappointment with the decision for approval, with derogation not to carry out any works during bat season, was noted. The council have no discretion on the decision made. The concerns expressed by members in the district were noted.

Private Rented Tenancy Inspections

In relation to Local Authority stock, it was noted standard is applied consistently across all tenures. Approval has been received to appoint inspectors to carry out inspections on local authority owned stock which is not subject to the private rented Housing standards.

Proposed Housing Sites Ballina

The council is happy to investigate sites. It was agreed to liaise with Cllr. Phyll Bugler on specific queries raised.

Thomas Street

Awaiting contracts. Local Authority is carrying out quality inspections.

Prior Park

Ongoing engagement with Receivers. Local Authority is carrying out quality inspections.

Acquisitions of Private Dwellings

Policy has changed from 2024. Local Authority will be given an allocation for purchases and this will include provision for 2024 commitments plus, any upgrade costs. Financial analysis being undertaken re commitment and allocation to ascertain the number of units that can be purchased in 2025.

Modular Homes

It was agreed to revert to Cllr. Richie Molloy on queries raised on possible future uses for Modular Homes in Heywood Road.

12 Ború Court

This project is gone out to tender.

Over the Shop Living

Town Centre First Team are carrying out workshops. It was agreed to revert to Cllr. Phyll Bugler with details of workshops

Notice to Quit

Tenants should notify the local authority immediately on receipt of the notice to quit.

**Item No. 9.1
Consideration of
Orders for the
period to the
31st March 2025**

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 31st March 2025 were noted.

**Item No. 10.1
Cllr. Richie
Molloy (NOM
Ref: 2953)**

The Motion Reference No. 2953 was proposed by **Cllr. Richie Molloy**

"That Tipperary County Council calls on the Minister for Health to address the unjust disparity in the registration process for Dentists in Ireland , Under the current system , refugees with dental qualifications are granted full exemption from the overseas exemption while legally residing emigrants are subjected to a highly restrictive process" .

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

In moving the motion Cllr. Molloy acknowledged medical staff shortages.

It was agreed to forward the Motion to Minister for Health, Ms. Jennifer Carroll MacNeill for consideration and reply. It was also agreed to forward the Motion to all Local Authorities

**Item No. 10.2
Cllr. Fiona
Bonfield, Cllr.
Louise Morgan**

The Motion Reference No. 2958 was proposed by **Cllr. Phyll Bugler**

"We call on Tipperary County Council to write to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications asking for the

Walsh, Cllr.
Phyll Bugler,
Cllr. Séamus
Morris, Cllr. J P
O' Meara, Cllr.
Joe Hannigan,
Cllr. John
Carroll, Cllr.
Michael O'
Meara, Cllr.
Pamela Quirke
O' Meara (NOM
Ref: 2958)

introduction of a ban on the sale of or regulation of the use in public places of 'silly string' (generically known as aerosol string) which is a flexible, coloured plastic string propelled as a stream of liquid from an aerosol can. This product is used extensively around festivals and outdoor events such as St. Patrick's Day and Halloween celebrations and is sprayed in an uncontrolled manner around buildings, public realm and people.

There are a number of concerns about the use of this product including the cost and difficulty of clean-up as it adheres to buildings and public realm. It is noted that fines were issued by the US Environmental Protection Agency as the product marketed under various names potentially damaged the stratospheric ozone layer. Globally the use of aerosol string products has been banned in a number of places and at some public gatherings and events for various reasons, including clean up and removal costs and fears of potential damage to house or vehicle paint.

There are also health and safety concerns as the uncontrolled use of the product on festive occasions causes risk particularly of eye injuries."

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pamela Quirke O'Meara.

In moving the motion Cllr. Bugler said that the substance is causing mayhem as it sticks to footpaths.

It was agreed to forward Motion to Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications, Darragh O'Brien, for consideration and reply

Item No. 11.1 & 11.2 Reply

- Reply dated 6th March, 2025 from Mr. James Browne, re. Election Posters re. NOM 2922
- Reply dated 7th March from the Office of the Minister for Housing re. Special Housing Meeting Recommendations

Item No. 12.1 Motions from other Councils

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

Clare County Council

"I call on the Minister for Children and Disability, Norma Foley to provide funding for all of the valid applications made by Early Years Educators across the country through the Building Blocks Capital Investment Program 2025. A pillar service with major waiting lists and need across the country requires sufficient focus and funding now to ensure those who have taken the time and invested money in developing projects that prove a need in their area should be funded as a matter of urgency to see delivery of much needed additional spaces in the next 12/18 months."

Item No. 13.1

**Expressions of
votes of
Sympathy/Cong
ratulations**

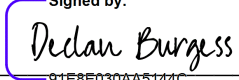
Votes of sympathy were passed for the following: -

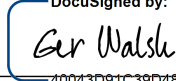
- The family of Joe Brennan, Former Councillor, South Tipperary County Council and Carrick on Suir Town Council
- Michael Pollard, IT, on the death of his father in law, Michael (Jack) Ahearne (Fire Service)
- The family of Eileen Brunnock, former staff member, Clonmel Corporation
- The family of Noel Gaynor (Thurles Swimming Pool)
- The family of Kitty Shoer, mother of the late Billy Shoer, Former Mayor of Clonmel
- Joe Kenny, Fethard on the death of his son, Lory Kenny.
- The family of Matt Hassett, Nenagh (Tipperary 1961 All Ireland Senior Hurling winning Captain)
- The family of Niamh Heffernan, Clonoulty (former teacher Bohar N.S.)
- The family of Paddy Broderick, Fethard (former teacher)

Item No. 14.1

A.O.B.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 3.15pm

Signed/  Signed by:
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Cathaoirleach. Date/ 14th April, 2025

Signed/  DocuSigned by:
40043D91C39D486...
Meetings Administrator Date/ 14th April, 2025