

**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, 21st MAY, 2025**

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

**In Attendance:** Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services  
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator  
Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer  
Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer  
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Asst. Staff Officer

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer, Environment & Climate Action  
Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer, Env & Climate Action  
Mr. Noel Dundon, LAWPRO  
Ms. Mairéad Whitty, LAWPRO  
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public

**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 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2025.**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

**3.2 Minutes of Special Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**

The minutes of the special meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald, seconded by Councillor Pat English and agreed by all.

**4.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Environment & Climate Action.**

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

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor Dennehy asked why the Government had reduced subsidies for solar panel installation and if the Council will be installing solar panels in local authority houses.
- Councillor English acknowledged the voluntary work being carried out by the Burial Ground Committees and asked if the burial ground maintenance grant can be increased.
- Councillor English noted that only 19 properties were compliant out of the 53 properties surveyed under the Household Waste Survey and asked what actions are taken to ensure the other properties become compliant.

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- Councillor English noted that only 1 septic tank grant had been allocated for Q1 of 2025 and asked that a letter issue to the Minister to seek additional funding for installation of septic tanks.
- Councillor Ambrose stated that dog fouling continues to be a huge problem and asked if there was a proposal to run out another awareness initiative similar to what was carried out in Cashel last year. Members spoke in support of same.
- Councillor Ambrose stated that bags of clothes being deposited at clothes banks when they are full continues to be a problem and asked what the proposal is for the end use of clothes left in the clothes banks. Members concurred with Councillor Ambrose on this.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the use of drones and cctv cameras to prevent illegal dumping. She asked if cameras can be installed at litter black spots e.g. clothes banks.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if consideration can be given to providing a larger machine for businesses to dispose of refundable plastic goods as the supermarket machines are not suitable for same. Councillor Ambrose asked if the civic amenity site could be used by businesses in this regard.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if the amenity grant can be increased and highlighted the great work carried out by residents associations in their estates.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- Denis Holland informed the members that the installation of solar panels in local authority houses is a matter for the Housing Section.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the burial ground maintenance grant, Mr. Holland stated that this is a budgetary matter to be considered by the members.
- Regarding the non-compliance under the household waste surveys, Mr. Holland informed the members that the Environment Section work with householders to help them become compliant and if they do not engage and continue to be non-compliant, fixed payment notices will be issued.
- In relation to the query raised regarding septic tank grants, Mr. Holland informed the members that this grant is not means tested. However, to qualify people must be living in a designated area and their property inspected by the local authority. The designated areas are devised by the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Mr. Holland said that textile disposal and re-use is causing issues nationally and may need to be limited to civic amenity sites. This issue is being looked at nationally.
- Mr. Holland informed the members that there are significant GDPR issues which need to be looked at regarding the use of drones and cctv in litter black spots.
- In relation to the recycling of plastic bottles by the business community, Mr. Holland said that he will bring this issue up for discussion at regional level. He said that money being returned would pose a challenge at the civic amenity sites.
- Regarding the issue of dog fouling, Fergal Condon said that funding has been received from the Department to employ an extra dog warden and they are currently going through the recruitment process. He also stated that the "green dog walking awareness programme" will run through the summer months.

The Mayor thanked Denis and Fergal for their attendance at the meeting.

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**4.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate LAWPRO**

Noel Dundon gave a presentation on "Farming for Water EIP" (European Innovation Partnership) which is a project led by LAWPRO in partnership with Teagasc and Dairy Industry Ireland. The project will see €50 million invested, through grant funding, for up to 15,000 farmers across the country. It focuses on areas where water quality is at risk. There has been significant engagement from the farming community with 99 applications received in Tipperary Q1 2025.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor Acheson acknowledged the great work being carried out by LAWPRO and referred to the upcoming meeting being organised by Ruth Hennessey and Fran Igoe with the Minister for Agriculture and the farming community in Moyle Rovers and the Nitrates Derogation Awareness Meeting to be held in June.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if people need to be actively farming to apply for the Scheme as there are a lot of people with farm holdings who are retired but would participate in the Scheme. He asked if tree planting will be carried out in the Buffer Zones.
- Councillor Dennehy noted that LAWPRO monitor water quality and asked the reason that a boil water notice was issued in relation to the Glenary Water Supply recently.
- Councillor Ambrose asked about the position of the Borough District on the National League Table for water quality and if there has been an improvement since the last meeting.
- In relation to the issue of hogweed, Councillor Ambrose stated that it was important to have engagement from all sectors of the community and asked where people can be directed if not part of the farming community.
- Councillor Molloy noted the benefits of rain gardens and said that it is great to see rain gardens being introduced as part of projects such as cycle-lanes.
- Councillor English asked if the giant hogweed programme will be rolled out countywide as there are a lot of areas affected.
- Regarding water retention for the county, Councillor English asked if existing ponds can be secured and hedgerows preserved as a natural way of preserving water.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- In relation to the issue of hogweed, Mr. Dundon stated that a collaborative approach is needed and they are looking at ways through the Community Water Development Fund and Leader for residents and community groups to get involved. The focus is on running a pilot scheme in West Tipperary at the moment, as it is particularly bad there, and if successful, they will look at rolling out in other areas.
- Mr. Dundon informed the members that farmers need a herd number to apply for the Scheme. Mairead Whitty stated that it is a very focussed scheme and if there are anomalies, these will be looked at.
- Noel stated that he will forward details to the members on the position of Clonmel Borough District on the National League Table for water quality.

The Mayor thanked Noel and Mairead for their attendance at the Meeting.

**COUNTY FLEADH**

Councillor English said that the recent County Fleadh Cheol held in Clonmel was a tremendous success and congratulated the Powerstown/Lisronagh Branch of Comhaltas for hosting it. He highlighted the fact that the Borough District supports festivals and events in the town and thanked the District Administrator and the staff of Clonmel Borough District for organising the gig rig at

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the Main Guard on the Saturday night where Ceolan and Ruaille Buaile entertained large crowds for the evening. All members spoke in support of same.

Councillor Dennehy suggested that the 3 towns of Clonmel, Cahir and Cashel come together to host the All-Ireland Fleadh. He said that it would be a mammoth task and involve a lot of planning and buy-in from all sectors. This was supported by all the members.

**5.1 Report of District Administrator**

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to Members with the agenda. The District Administrator updated the members with the following information which was received after the agenda had been circulated:-

**Clonmel Garda Station**

The OPW are completing the tendering process which will be assessed by the Department of Justice. A letter of intent will then issue to the preferred contractor. Works are expected to commence on site Q3 2025.

**ETB/TUS – Integrated College**

Clodagh Kelly has been appointed as the new CEO of Tipperary ETB. The ETB are waiting a response from the Department regarding the business case submitted to them. Then they will proceed to the next phase.

**URDF Call 3**

A further 22 sites have been identified by Clonmel Borough District and Shane Grogan, Town Regeneration Officer. This list has been sent to the Department for approval to be included should we need to CPO any of them at a later stage.

**URDF Call 4.**

A meeting will be held with the Department in the next week to provide an update on the Projects being put forward by Clonmel Borough District under URDF Call 4.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor Fitzgerald asked for the up-to-date position on the progress of the plebiscite to be held to change the name of Ballyclerihan to Clerihan.
- Councillor English queried the timeframe for completion of Suir Island Gardens.
- In relation to the URDF Call 4, Councillor English suggested that a meeting be held with the 5 Oireachtas Members to see if they can assist in progressing same.
- Councillor English congratulated all involved in the triathlon event which was held recently at Suir Island stating that it was great to see so many participating and the large numbers attending the event.
- Councillor English welcomed the recent grant of permission by An Bord Pleanála for the Suir Island Bridge Project.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the timeframe involved for the CPO process at Parkes Chemist and welcomed the end use for the building.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the erection of the signage at the TUS Campus.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the enhancement and painting scheme and asked if the maximum grant of €500 can be reviewed to accommodate the enhancement of larger properties.
- Councillor Ambrose complimented the Tidy Towns Committee on their work and wished them every success in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

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- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the news on the progression of the Garda Station.
- Members asked for an update on the installation of the CCTV in the town and Councillor English asked if the Minister for Justice needs to be contacted to progress same.
- Councillor Molloy asked if signage can be erected to identify the names of the car parks which will be beneficial to tourists visiting the town.
- Members asked if there was an update on the review of the parking bye laws and the harmonisation of parking charges within the County. Councillor Molloy asked that the parking charges be reviewed to allow 2 hours free parking in the town to encourage people into the town centre.
- Members thanked and complimented the Borough District Outdoor Team for their work in enhancing the town with the beautiful flowers and grass cutting.

**Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:**

- The District Administrator informed the members that the process to proceed with the Plebiscite is being reviewed.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the harmonisation of parking charges, the District Administrator stated that the parking byelaws countywide are being reviewed and will be presented to the Districts for approval before being presented to the SPC.
- Regarding the installation of the CCTV, the District Administrator informed the members that all queries raised have been replied to and approval is awaited from the Garda Commissioners Office to progress with the scheme for Clonmel.
- Due to the success of the triathlon event, the District Administrator stated that a request has been received from the organisers to hold the national event in Clonmel next year.
- In relation to the query raised on Parkes Chemist, the District Administrator informed the members that she will follow up with Shane Grogan, Town Regeneration Officer and update the members accordingly.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to the enhancement and painting scheme, the District Administrator informed the members that depending on the size of the building and the enhancement works undertaken extra funding may be provided. This additional funding was approved by the Members under the General Municipal Allocation in March.
- The District Administrator complimented the Scouts Group who participated in a litter pick recently with the Tidy Towns Committee.
- In relation to the signage at the Sports Hub, the District Administrator informed the members that she is meeting with Patrick Davoren, Sports Coordinator at the Sports Hub in the next week and will request they follow up on the signage.
- The District Administrator stated that she and the URDF team have a meeting with the Department next week to discuss the Projects to be carried out under URDF Call 4.
- The District Administrator stated that she will look at funding sources to provide the signage at the car parks.
- The District Administrator complimented all the staff in the Borough District on the success of the recent Ruaile Buaile Concert.

**5.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme**

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

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**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the completion of the works at Abbey Street Car Park scheduled for completion at the end of June and complimented the District Engineer and all associated with the Project.
- Councillor Ambrose asked that the gullies continue to be checked and cleaned.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the installation of the drinking water station on the Blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose requested that the signage on the islands on the N24 be cleaned.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update on the works to be carried out by the OPW on the streams and river in the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English asked that the damaged bollards on the N24 at the Heywood Road Junction be repaired/replaced.
- Councillor English asked that the damaged light at the Fethard Road Pedestrian Crossing be repaired/replaced.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the paving at Mitchel Street.
- Councillor English and the members complimented the District Engineer on the appearance of the N24 and congratulated and thanked the Roads Staff for the works undertaken to date under the road works programme.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked that the flashing lights at Killurney National School be repaired.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- The District Engineer informed the members that the gullies will continue to be monitored and cleaned under the annual maintenance plan.
- The District Engineer stated that an application has been submitted for funding to install a drinking water station on the Blueway and a response is awaited from Dept. funders on same.
- In relation to the works to be carried out by the OPW on the streams and river in the Old Bridge, the District Engineer informed the members that the environmental screenings which have been carried out are being reviewed by the OPW.
- The District Engineer stated that the pedestrian lights at the Fethard Road will be repaired within the next week or two.
- The District Engineer informed the members that a Contractor has been engaged to carry out works on the bollards, signage and islands on the N24.
- In relation to the paving at Mitchel Street, the District Engineer stated that these works will form part of the works to be undertaken under URDF Call 4 but that she will look at options to repair the loose paving in the interim.
- Regarding the repair of the flashing lights at Killurney National School, the District Engineer informed the members that this issue will be resolved.

**5.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme**

The Report was noted by the Members.

**Item 6.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2025.**

There were none for noting.

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**Items 7.1 to 7.4– Notice of Motion**

**Motion 2976 was proposed by Councillors Tom Acheson and John Fitzgerald**

That the Council would install speed ramps and examine other measures to reduce speed within the Dromard Estate to prevent the occurrence of a serious accident.

**REPLY:**

This issue was raised as a Notice of Motion in September 2024. Two speed surveys have been undertaken at Dromard in March 2023 and November 2024. No speed issue has been identified at this location.

**Seconded by Councillor Pat English**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2980 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose**

In the interest of safety I am asking that the Council survey the junction at the Ormonde Stores in Kilsheelan. This follows numerous representations to me from residents in the area following a series of recent accidents at this junction.

**REPLY:**

The Active Travel team have submitted an application to the NTA for funding to review the bus stop location as part of this project proposal we will review safety at the junction with a view to progressing the project with the support of the NTA and TII.

**Seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2981 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose**

I am asking that this Council again attempts to contact the owner of the wall around St. Patrick's Well with a view to both carrying out immediate structural works to this wall and in tandem ascertaining if some of the adjoining land could be acquired around the lake to facilitate a new access which would enable persons with a disability the opportunity of visiting St. Patrick's Well (Ref my previous motions on this issue).

**REPLY:**

The Council will attempt to contact the owner of the wall around St Patrick's Well.

**Seconded by Councillor Pat English**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Motion 2982 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose**

I am asking that this Council seeks alternative funding under either the Climate Action Fund or a similar type of fund to carry out essential re-surfacing and other remedial works on the mountain road leading up to the Holy Year Cross in Killusty (Ref my previous motions on this issue).

**REPLY:**

Clonmel Borough District will apply for Climate Action Funding for this road in 2026. We will also discuss the possibility of applying for a CIS with the residents, if and when this grant scheme is re-advertised.

**Seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald.**

**The reply to the motion was noted.**

**Item 8.1 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence for noting.

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**Item 9.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

Votes of sympathy were extended to:-

The O'Faolain Family on the passing of Aodán who was a former public affairs correspondent with the Nationalist Office.

Jim Keating on the passing of his wife, Patricia D'Arcy.

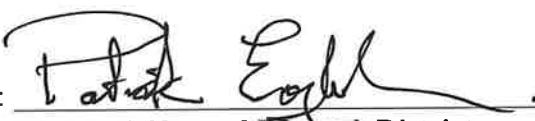
Votes of congratulations were extended to:-

Clodagh Kelly on her appointment as CEO of Tipperary ETB

Finn O'Keeffe on his achievement in obtaining 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the All Ireland Young Writers Competition.

**10.1 Any other Business**

There was no other business to be discussed.

Signed:   
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 18/6/25.

Signed:   
District Administrator

Dated: 18/6/25.