

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

Present: Councillor Pat English, Mayor
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose
Councillor John Fitzgerald
Councillor Richie Molloy (Zoom)
Councillor Tom Acheson

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

Also in Attendance: Mr. Kieran McKenna, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel
Mr. Paddy Crowley, Senior Engineer, Planning
Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner
Mr. Damien Dullaghan, Co. Librarian, Libraries & Cultural Services
Ms. Marie McMahon, Museum Curator, Libraries & Cultural Services
Ms. Sheevaun Thompson, A.O., Economic, Community & Rural Dev.
Ms. Martina Ryan, Social Inclusion Manager, Sth Tipp Dev Co.
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public

Apologies: Cllr. Niall Dennehy

1.1 Zoom Protocol

The Mayor confirmed with Katie O'Donovan member of the press and Councillor Richie Molloy who were both in attendance by Zoom that they could see and hear those in attendance at the meeting.

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 15th October, 2025.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 15th October 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson and agreed by all.

4.1 Part 8 Active Travel Old Bridge to Suir Blueway Link

The Chief Executive's Report as circulated with the Agenda was proposed by Councillor Pat English and seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

5.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Economic, Community & Rural Development.

Sheevaun Thompson gave a presentation on SICAP 2024 – 2028 (Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme). The aim of the programme is to provide funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion at a local level through engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. Local priority target groups include:-

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

- People impacted by educational disadvantage
- People living in jobless households or households where the primary income is low-paid and/or precarious
- Refugees

Queries raised by the members were as follows:

- Councillor English noted that the budget is €894,403 and asked what portion of this budget is allocated to the individuals/community groups being aided.
- Councillor Acheson asked for the number of clients the programme has engaged with.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if there has been good feedback in relation to the assistance given.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if there is a link between the other sources of funding being granted to ensure no duplicity of funding.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the programme engages with the Community Liaison Officers.

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- Martina Ryan stated that a large portion of the budget is allocated to staffing costs. However, funding is apportioned to community groups and individuals as is necessary. The committee meet and evaluate all applications. Unfortunately, it is not possible to support all groups. Approximately 490 clients have been engaged with across South Tipperary. Martina said that the feedback has been very positive especially in the areas of education and training.
- Sheevaun Thompson informed the members that 2024 expenditure is being reviewed at the moment and going forward there will be a cross check to ensure no duplication of funding.
- Sheevaun stated that there is communication and engagement with the Community Liaison Officers.

Councillor Acheson noted that it is understandable the majority of the budget is spent on wages as support is the main assistance being provided.

Love Tipperary Card

Sheevaun Thompson spoke about the success of the Love Tipperary Gift Card with 300 retailers already signed up to accept the card. The benefit of this card is that all monies spent are retained in Tipperary thus strengthening the local economy.

5.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Cultural Services/Libraries & Biodiversity

Marie McMahon spoke about the Lilla Bagwell Perry exhibition which is commencing in the Museum on Thursday, 20th November. Marie explained that Lilla was born in Clonmel and was an amateur landscape artist some of whose paintings were included in exhibitions in London. Paintings donated by her family will be on display along with Lilla's diaries.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor English complimented Marie McMahon and the team on the 1980's exhibition which was held recently in the Museum.

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

- Councillor English asked for an update on the progression of the new library and if the funding for same has been ringfenced. He also asked if there is a timeframe for the funding to be spent.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the wonderful asset that the library is with all age groups using it. She noted that building costs have increased and asked Damian for an update on the timeframe for construction and a breakdown of the costings.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- In reply to the queries raised, Damien Dullaghan informed the members that €3m grant funding has been received from the Department of Rural and Community Development which is the joint highest funding allocation in the country. This funding is committed to Clonmel but cannot be claimed until construction stage. However, there is still a significant gap in funding and all elements of funding to bridge this gap are being explored. Funding has been provided by Tipperary County Council to bring the project to planning stage. The library is currently at stage 2 of a 4-stage capital process and approval for this stage is expected in the next few weeks from the Department. Once approval is received, the application will progress to Part 8. Damien said that the Design Team is ready to go to Tender once funding has been received.
- Councillor Acheson said that Deputy Michael Murphy has been engaging with Jerry Buttimer, Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development to look at methods to bridge this funding gap and he expects that there may be positive news on this.

The Mayor thanked Damian and Marie for their attendance at the meeting.

6.1 Report of District Administrator

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

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor English asked for the timeframe involved for the installation of the CCTV in the town. Councillor Ambrose asked for the locations of the cameras to be forwarded to the Members.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the development of the Clonmel Arms Hotel.
- In relation to the construction of the new garda station, Councillor English asked if the OPW had been contacted to review the design for the entrance to the building to ensure that it would not interfere with the performance space.
- Councillor English noted that the workshop to be held with the Oireachtas Members in relation to funding for the N24 and URDF Call 4 had to be cancelled and asked that this be rescheduled to a suitable date in the next few weeks.
- Councillor English acknowledged the progress on the Derelict Sites and the positive engagement with property owners. Members welcomed the recent announcement from the Department allocating €140,000 for overhead shop conversions and asked for details on this Scheme.
- Councillor Acheson welcomed the collection of the Derelict Sites Levy by the Revenue Commissioners as announced recently in the Budget.

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

- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the positive news on the recent appointment of local contractors to construct the new Garda Station at Kickham Barracks with works anticipated to commence in the next few weeks.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the continued roll-out of new shops in the Town Centre and wished them every success.
- In relation to the enhancement and painting scheme, Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work of the staff in the Borough District in engaging with property owners to promote the scheme.
- Members extended their congratulations to the Tidy Towns Groups in the District on the very positive results achieved in the Tidy Towns Competition. They also congratulated Marlfield Tidy Villages Group on being the overall winners of the Water and Communities Special Award for 2025. They also acknowledged and thanked the outdoor staff for all their work in assisting the Tidy Towns Groups.
- The appointment of the Contractor for the installation of toilet facilities at the STAC Chapel on Kickham Plaza was welcomed by the members.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- In relation to the query raised regarding the CCTV extension, the District Administrator informed the members that these works are currently out to tender and she will update the members accordingly on the progress of same.
- In reply to the query raised on the Clonmel Arms Hotel, Jonathan Cooney stated that this is a private site and Tipperary County Council is not authorised to make statements on behalf of the owner.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to the performance space at Kickham Plaza, the District Administrator informed the members that the construction of the new garda station will not affect the performance space. The canopy areas may need protection during these works.
- The District Administrator confirmed that the workshop on the N24 and URDF Call 4 Funding will be rearranged as requested.
- In response to the query raised regarding the funding allocated for overhead shop conversions, Jonathan Cooney stated that this initiative was announced by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the last week and clarity on same is still awaited. An update will issue to the members once received.
- The District Administrator informed the members that the Christmas lights will be turned on in Town on the 29th November to coincide with Santa's visit to town on the same day.

6.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme

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

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the collapse of the wall at Toberaheena Well during Storm Claudia and thanked Gillian Flynn, Adam Coffey, Robbie Hogan, Eric Ryan and the outdoor staff for their quick response to same. She asked for an update on the road closure currently in place at this location. Members concurred with Councillor Ambrose in expressing their thanks to all the staff involved.
- Councillor Ambrose expressed her thanks to Gillian Flynn and the outdoor staff for their continual cleaning of the gullies.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.

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

- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update on the funding for the extension to St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the resurfacing works at Glenconnor.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the harmonisation of parking charges countywide.
- Councillor English asked for a commencement date for the works at Marystone Mall.
- Councillor English asked for a completion date for the works at Suir Island Gardens.
- Councillor English raised the issue regarding the removal of the batteries from the flashing warning signs and asked if a solution can be found to same.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the drainage works at Glenconnor.
- Councillor English asked if the reinstatement works to be carried out by Uisce Eireann in the town centre will be fully completed before Christmas.
- Councillor Acheson asked if there is an agreement in place with Uisce Eireann regarding the quality of road reinstatements to be carried out following works.
- Councillor Molloy complimented the District Engineer and Staff on the installation of the rain garden in Kickham Street Car Park to replace the disused trolley bays. He has received very positive feedback from members of the public in relation to same.
- Councillor Molloy thanked the District Engineer for deploying the Sweeper to the various Estates in town to clear the leaves.
- Councillor Molloy asked if there was any progress in relation to the naming of the car parks in the Town Centre.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- In response to the query raised regarding the wall at Toberaheena Well, the District Engineer informed the members that an estimate for the cost of repair will be prepared and an application for funding will be forwarded to the Department.
- The District Engineer stated that gulley cleaning will continue throughout the winter months.
- In relation to the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme, the District Engineer informed the members that site investigation works are currently being carried out. Updates on this Project will be provided at the Plenary Meeting.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the resurfacing works at Glenconnor will be carried out once the funding has been received from the Department.
- In reply to the query raised in relation to Marystone Mall, the District Engineer stated that these works have commenced. All the broken paving has been replaced and a new skid resistant surface will also be provided.
- The District Engineer will talk to the Contractor in relation to Suir Island Gardens and agree a programme of works for the rest of the winter months. An update will be provided at the December monthly meeting.
- In relation to the issue raised regarding the flashing lights, the District Engineer stated that she will review and see if a solution can be found. However, she noted that this continues to be a problem nationwide.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the naming of the car parks in the town centre will progress in the next few months. A design for the signage has to be agreed.
- In relation to the harmonisation of the parking charges, James Murray stated that the issues raised at the 5 workshops held with the Municipal District Members have been addressed and these amendments will be presented to a workshop of the plenary council on the 25th November.

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

- Regarding the road reinstatements to be carried out by Uisce Éireann, the District Engineer informed the members that these works will be carried out in accordance with the licences issued.

6.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The Report was noted by the Members. Councillor English complimented the District Engineer and staff on the quick turnaround on the repairs to vacant properties.

Item 7.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 14th November, 2025.

These were noted.

Items 8.1 to 8.4– Notice of Motion

Motion 3056 was proposed by Councillors Richie Molloy and Tom Acheson

That Clonmel Borough District would install a pedestrian crossing just before the mini roundabout at the poppyfields due to speed of traffic in that area and difficulty for pedestrians crossing from housing estates to poppyfields shopping centre.

REPLY:

The bus stops at this location was upgraded in 2025 by the NTA, we will request funding from the NTA to upgrade the pedestrian crossing under the Bus Enhancement project in 2026.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3057 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

Whilst acknowledging the significant ongoing investment by Uisce Éireann in upgrading the drinking water supplies around Clonmel there has however been ongoing and serious disruption to drinking water supplies which is having a serious adverse impact on both the commercial/retail and residential communities in recent times which is not acceptable. Any planned works must contain contingency plans to ensure a continuous water supply for the Clonmel area and unfortunately this has not been demonstrated in recent times. Furthermore, if these contingency plans require additional resources during this time then they must be put in place 7 days a week to ensure continuity in supply as the current situation is just not acceptable. I am asking that the council to write to Uisce Éireann seeking a response to this urgent request

REPLY:

Uisce Éireann have a Local and Elected Representative Support Desk which provides a dedicated service for representatives across the country.

They have also put in place a dedicated email address councilmeetings@water.ie to which all Notices of Motion should be sent, acknowledged and responded to, prior to the next meeting. Tipperary County Council have forwarded this Notice of Motion to Uisce Éireann.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Councillor Ambrose asked that a letter issue to Uisce Éireann requesting them to attend a Borough District Meeting. She said that the following issues need to be addressed:-

Lack of an adequate service – regular outages and frequent boil water notices

Lack of communication in relation to outages and 24-hour maintenance crews.

All the members concurred with Councillor Ambrose in relation to the issues raised and supported the request for Senior Management from Uisce Éireann to attend at a meeting to address these issues.

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

Motion 3058 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

That under future roads programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of sections of the road network in Marlfield from Marlfield G.A.A. Club down as far as the Abbey Road. (Ref my previous motion on this issue).

REPLY:

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

Seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3059 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

That under future roads programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of sections of the Glenview Estate.

REPLY:-

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

Seconded by Councillor Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 9.1 Correspondence


There was no correspondence for noting.

Item 10.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

A vote of sympathy was extended to the family of Monica Del Bigio nee Cullen who passed away in Italy. Tributes were paid by the members to Monica who was originally from Albert Street, Clonmel. Monica was a trained opera singer who performed in all the major opera houses in Europe but always maintained her links with Clonmel. Members spoke of her involvement in the twinning of Clonmel with Costa Masnaga and how she welcomed visitors from Clonmel as part of the twinning exchanges.

11.1 Any other Business

Councillor Acheson welcomed the recent sale of residential zoned land in Clonmel stating that it was great to see National Builders coming to Clonmel to build houses. All the members concurred with Councillor Acheson on this.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 10/12/2025.

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 10/12/2025.