

In the Chair:	Cllr. D. Dunne
Members Present:	Cllr. M. Brennan, Cllr. K. Bourke, Cllr. M. FitzGerald, Cllr. A. Goldsboro.
Apologies:	Shirley Holloway
<u>Attending from</u>	
Carrick on Suir MD	Mr. B Beck, Director of Services; Ms. M. Cox, Meetings Administrator; Mr. M. Scully, District Engineer; Mr. K. Malone, Senior Engineer; Mr. PJ Henehan, Acting A/Staff Officer; Ms. S. Dunne, Clerical Officer.
Economic, Community & Rural Development Directorate	Eoin Kaar, Health & County Co-Ordinator; Máiréad Winters, EU Just Transition Fund. - Online
Cultural Services/Libraries & Biodiversity Directorate	Julia Walsh, Museum Curator; Roisin O' Grady, Heritage Officer
Other Attendees	Donal Doyle – Tipp FM Aileen Hahessy – The Nationalist Newspaper Katie O Donovan- Irish Independent - Online

1.0. Welcome and Introduction

Item 1.1. Summons and Prayer:	The summons was taken as read
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2.0. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Council

Item 2.1. Conflict of Interest Declaration	None to record
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3.0. Consideration of Minutes

Item 3.1. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 22 January 2026	Suspend Standing Orders – Proposal Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. M. FitzGerald. The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 22 nd January 2026 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. M. Brennan, and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
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4.0. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

**Item 4.2.
Attendance of Cultural
Services/Libraries &
Biodiversity Directorate
consideration of report**

Ms R. O Grady circulated a report and took it as read.
Explained the works of the Cultural Services.

Ms J. Walsh, gave brief overview of works completed. Gave update on the recent activities involving schools

Ms R. O'Grady discussed the four walled towns and Norman Year 2027.

Cllr. A. Goldsboro:

- thanked for report and commented that it is great to see works

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- thanked for report.
- Queried historic walls as he was previously on committee in Carrick-on-Suir but it is no longer active. Advised he remembers how grants and funding caused issues

Responding, Ms R. O Grady:

- advised the projects that are ongoing and how the grants and fees work.
- Advised there will be reestablishment of these walled town forums.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Commented that of the vast majority of grants 2/3 seems to go on consultants with only 1/3 going to actual conservation of the walls.
- Suggested a full breakdown of costs so the department can see where the money is spent.
- Voiced concern over how public would not be aware of how money is spent and would perceive that works were not worth the grant.

Responding, Ms R. O Grady:

- advised how grants have changed.

Cllr. M. FitzGerald:

- seconded Cllr. A. Goldsboro's comments.
- Agreed with Cllr. K. Bourke and discussed the Fethard Town Walls.
- Suggested how there is expertise in ETB and could people teaching masonry the courses bring students out to work on the walls.
- Explained how he is aware of the difficulties of de-vegetation of older walls and asked could a partnership be created with ETB.

Responding, Ms R. O Grady:

- advised that national monument's service have to be consulted as the walls are national monuments.
- This would mean that partnering with ETB could be difficult.
- Advised that there was significant investment into the 4 walled towns in recent years and now the group wants to get involved in maintenance and working with local groups, which happened in Fethard last year.
- From this came a request to train outdoor staff on how to maintain the walls as there is a desire to invest in training and maintenance.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- thanked for presentation.
- Reiterated how there are high fees being spent on consultants.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Queried if lime kilns in Carrick Beg are protected.
- Queried how some vegetation on a wall can be good, but that ordinary people think it is bad, mentioning the impact of ivy on structures.

Responding, Ms R.O Grady:

- explained that there is invasive vegetation such as the Ivy in Carrick-on-Suir and where it was discovered it was keeping the structure in place.
- Advised each town has its own plan and how some vegetation would be more attractive.
- Stated this is something that is always being reviewed and explained how some vegetation can be unique to an area, and reiterated the importance of keeping ivy trimmed.
- Commented that some of the lime kilns are protected but cannot say that the specific ones Cllr. D. Dunne asked about are.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Said that he can send on the specifics of these kilns for follow up.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Commented that the kilns are in one of the oldest parts of Carrick-on-Suir and near the oldest church so it would be benefit to town to restore them

Cllr. M. FitzGerald :

- Queried on Barrack St Fethard Town Wall, on road there are cobble stone paths which indicate where walls were.
- These paths have now fallen and are a potential safety risk. Query if this would be heritage or engineering issue.

**Item 4.1.
Attendance of
Economic Community &
Rural Development
Directorate and
consideration of report**

Ms. M. Winters – update on the presentation from January Meeting. Gave presentation on report and what has been happening in Tipperary. She then answered queries as follows:

Cllr. M. FitzGerald:

- Thanked Ms. M. Winters for her update commenting how engaging and content filled the report was.
- Thanked for answering his previous query regarding how the Lonely Planet was going to be integrated into Tipp Tourism.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- thanked Ms. M. Winters for her presentation.
- Acknowledged 2 of the 5 outdoor schemes are in Carrick MD and how the smallest district is punching above its weight.
- Queried the development of caravan and camping parks commenting that it is a great opportunity for Carrick-on-Suir but at the moment there is nowhere in the town for camping facilities.
- Noted that promoting Tipperary in USA will be top of agenda for CEO for St Patricks Day Visit.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- commented that apart from the development of the Littleton Labyrinth it seems that Slieveardagh has been forgotten.
- Noted the history of the area and importance of it being included in tourism going forward.

Responding, Ms. M. Winters:

- Confirmed that she will reach out to groups to identify the gaps for future inclusion.

Cllr. A. Goldsboro:

- queried on the possibility on a carpark being developed in the Laffinsbridge side of Littleton Labyrinth.

Responding, Ms Winters:

- Stated that this would be for the District Engineer to decide but Tourism will help where they can, depending of course on numbers and need.

Responding, Mr. M. Scully:

- Stated that he has not heard about this but is happy to look into it.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Thanked Ms. M. Winters for her presentation.

- Seconded Cllr. K. Bourke's comments re the need for Carrick-on-Suir to have a camper van facility in town, stating that the demand is there.
- Asked about sports tourism, mentioning L' etape and Maurice Davin, commenting when GAA is played on the Fairgreen, tourists often stop to watch.

Responding, Ms. M. Winters:

- Stated that she had a recent meeting with GAA regarding creating a visitor experience in Thurles as the place where the GAA was founded and that she would hope that could leverage a pilot plan to bring something to Carrick.
- Commented that visitors want to take part rather than just visiting a museum.

Item 4.2.2.

Mr. E. Kaar gave a presentation regarding Healthy Ireland (HI) activities and funds in Tipperary and answered queries as follows:

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Thanked Mr. E. Kaar for his presentation.
- Was going to ask about mental health and was happy to see that the information was included in the presentation.
- Commented how mental health issues are often not seen and some people can feel conscious about getting help, so he was very happy to see supports are there.
- Said that in past during the term of Carrick on Suir Town Council, he brought a motion for outdoor recreation equipment and at time it was knocked back.
- Asked if Carrick MD could install outdoor recreation equipment on the Blueway.

Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald:

- Thanked Mr. E. Kaar for his presentation.
- Supported Cllr. K. Bourke's idea of outdoor recreation equipment, commented that he often uses ones in Fethard Town Park.
- Commented on the benefits of visiting nursing homes and getting older people active.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- Thanked Mr. E. Kaar for his presentation.
- Commented that the work in Men's Sheds and Day Care Centres and the benefits to the older people in communities.
- commented that he noticed the mental health benefits that people gain from joining such groups.

Cllr. A. Goldsboro:

- Thanked Mr. E. Kaar for his presentation.

- Commented on the immense work ECRD is doing in Tipperary and it is great to see so much activity.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- asked if Mr. E. Kaar can advise on Cllr. K. Bourke's query.

Responding, Mr. E. Kaar:

- advised there will be a Mental Health Week being organised, with plenty of activities planned.
- Stated that HI has limited funding but they did help Cahir in getting outdoor recreation facilities and will be happy to see if he can help Carrick-on-Suir, mentioning how a local gym in Cahir got involved in promoting health and wellbeing.

**Item 4.3.
District Engineer's
Report**

The District Engineer circulated his report and gave brief outline of the schedule of works from the current budget allocations, noting that it is not finalised and further works will be allocated as the budgets are allocated. Mr. M. Scully then took queries as follows:

Cllr. A. Goldsboro:

- thanked Mr. M. Scully for always being available to discuss issues especially during the recent spell of bad weather.
- Looking for update on welcome signage for Killenaule, Ballinunty and Ballingarry and smart bins in Dualla, Glengoole and Ballinunty

Cllr. M. FitzGerald:

- paid tribute to Mr. M. Scully, the GSS's and outdoor staff for all their work during the bad weather.
- Emphasised that social media is not reflective of the work they do.
- Asked about a subsiding roadway in Barrack St. Fethard.
- Raised the issue of the surface outside Abbey Church, met with Deputy Murphy and member of public who had a fall, asking if there is funding to fix path.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Raised the issue of the deplorable condition of streets in Carrick-on-Suir following IW works, noting that weather has played a role but trying to drive up street is bad and cycling is worse.
- Commented that weather is a major factor but noticed contractors are not finishing works in satisfactory manner, asking if Mr. M. Scully will be following up with the contractors.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- Said that he understands weather is a factor in roads at moment but knows that many issues were already outstanding.
- Commented on Coolbawn to Fethard road as it is deplorable.
- Stated that Mr. M. Scully did go to see road with him in November but said it has gotten worse.
- Highlighted the health and safety risks in relation to the condition of the road, noting that even after the road has been repaired it is falling quickly into disrepair again, wondered if there is underlying issue.
- Advised that there have been cars damaged on the road and the grass margin is extremely poor.
- Noted that the houses on the road are now facing issues at their entrances and are experiencing flooding they never had in the past, stating that the road needs to be to be fully resurfaced.
- Asked about flashing speed / warning lights, noting how important these lights are and the particular locations they are found.
- Expressed that members of the public are frustrated by the speeding happening throughout the district.
- Commented that CE had promised a traffic calming workshop but has not happened.
- Expressed hope that new speed ramps can be installed.
- Queried if someone will be closing the Gate to the new graveyard entrance in Fethard every evening.
- Stated that Ballinure residents feel underrepresented and feel as though they are forgotten about, being so far from Carrick-on-Suir.
- Commented on potholes being filled and then reappearing that evening, which is causing damage to cars, and asked what can be done for roads, as many issues are caused by contractors rather and thinks road opening licences need to be reviewed to ensure the roads are fixed correctly.
- Stated that he hopes that that residents' concerns regarding flooding can be alleviated.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Said that he understands that there is a nationwide issue with the condition of roads, especially following the bad weather.
- Echoed the comments from Cllr. M. FitzGerald and Cllr. M. Brennan
- Thanked all staff of Carrick MD when it came to alleviating flooding and ensuring that houses were not damaged and the outdoor staff going out pumping water away.
- Agreed with Cllr. K. Bourke's comments regarding the Main Street and thinks patching would not be enough to fix the issues.

- Agreed that the reinstatement works are not good enough, noticing that the roads are deteriorating faster than before.
- Asked about Killonerry Bridge and people have been advised not to use.
- Raised the issue of Housing Estates in Fethard where the roads are covered in potholes, wants these reviewed
- Asked about Old Bridge and what money was spent on, looks good following the damage being fixed.
- Commented on how the graffiti has been removed in Park on ESB boxes.
- Thanked staff for the huge work done in Fairgreen Playground, noted the benefits for all.

Responding, Mr. M. Scully:

- Acknowledged outdoor staff for their work throughout the bad weather, noting how staff are trying to stop water and repair roads in one go and commended them on their work for the last few months.
- Advised Cllr. Goldsboro that the welcome signs and e-bins will be procured once the budgets were approved.
- Acknowledged the road in Fethard where the town walls are commemorated were on his radar to fix and that they may have to be replaced.
- Acknowledged that Abbey Church footpath needs repairing, but waiting on budget to undertake this work
- Regarding the streets in Carrick-on-Suir, said that the mixture of bad weather, works (both current and legacy) and traffic volumes have contributed to the issue.
- Confirmed that sections of the street will be resurfaced by TCC once works are completed.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- asked if Council will be paying for damage as believes it was caused by contractor.

Responding, Mr. M. Scully:

- advised that the issues are caused by more than contractor works and were underlying issues prior to works commencing, which does mean it will be repaired through Council budget.
- Commented that Killenaule – Coolbawn road is currently in a bad condition.
- Said that remedial works are necessary and that Irish Water are aware of these, but as they are on live road the job has to be finished fully before all the remedial works will be undertaken rather than in a piecemeal way.
- Confirmed that the contractors will have to do a permanent reinstatement on any areas that they have excavated, but that the whole road will not be resurfaced as it is not required by legislation.

- Stated that flashing speed lights are an on-going issue, saying that there has to be a more sustainable solution to problem, right now he cannot justify repairing them at this time as the batteries will be stolen again
- Said that speed ramps are a last resort and not a solution on all roads.
- Advised there is an enforcement issue by Gardaí however if there is ongoing issues the council can take a speed survey and assess if any engineering interventions are possible
- Stated that re the queries on Church Lane and Fethard Graveyard, he will revert.
- Stated that GSS for area do look after all areas, the Carrick West GSS is very diligent and he does look after area well bringing back any issues to him for investigation.
- Said that re the repair of some excavations in the road – there is a section of IW who deal with reactive maintenance and leaks, they have authority to dig and repair as they wish.
- Said that they do not require road opening licence and that the reinstatement of the road is not being undertaken to the appropriate standard which is costing the Council a lot of money. He noted that TCC have tried to engage with IW at highest level to no avail.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- Commented that he has seen inconsistency in IW works as some roads have been left in good state but others he cannot comprehend the kind of job they have completed.

Responding, Mr. M. Scully:

- advised that Council only engages once works are complete but he advised that there is a certain standard that he will hold IW to.
- Said that he has engaged a contractor to install gate and fence at Killonerry Bridge to make it safe and to try and prevent people using it, which should happen in the next week or so.
- Said he is waiting on Kilkenny CoCo to confirm that they are removing their half of the bridge.
- Commented that he understands that the bridge is under the ownership of KCC which has been confirmed in past meeting minutes, however, they are now intending to have joint ownership.
- Said that re Housing Estates, he agreed that there needs to be a new approach and the patching unit is scheduled to patch.
- Said that re the Old Bridge – the funding covers the works completed, there are no further works required,
- Commended the work of staff with regards to ESB box graffiti.

Responding, Mr. K. Malone:

- Confirmed that housing estates will be taken out of CIS programme and moved to the General Road Works Programme from 2028 from Local Roads Policy.

Cllr. M. FitzGerald:

- asked if legacy estates should be included in the three-year plan, commenting that this will affect rural roads but there are many estates that have not been resurfaced in decades.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Said that he is aware of legacy issues on Main Street but advised that the reinstatement works on the Street in some parts are in great condition but other patches are hazardous.
- Asked if there was accident who does someone claim against.
- Asked what budget would Main Street repairs come from for repairs that were not caused by TCC, stating that the road conditions after contractors are in an awful estate.
- Said that he is very concerned re Killonerry Bridge that KCC will remove half of the bridge, as it is a vital part of Carrick-on-Suir.
- Advised he was told in no uncertain terms that the bridge is under KCC ownership.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- Asked about repairs to bridge in Jesuits walk.
- Raised the issue of boil water notices in Fethard and confusion regarding where is affected.
- Also queried on works for IW and where and when they are happening.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Asked about using drones to see where water comes from.
- Asked about the Windows and Doors budget.
- Queried the temporary pedestrian crossing at ETB behind FairGreen, asking if it is not active can the lines be burned off as there are no lights.

Responding, Mr. M. Scully:

- Said that as regards Main Street the snag list is still active which means some of the patching is due to be fixed.
- Agreed that budget could be used elsewhere but the works are necessary, echoing the frustrations of the elected members.
- As regards claims, stated that he has spoken to corporate, no clear answer and it is possible it will fall between contractors and Council.

- Stated that re the Bridge in Jesuits walk, that funding for bridge works has already been allocated but he will see what budget is available for further bridge works this year
- Said that re IW Works – no road closure licence submitted yet, can only assume the flier is part of public engagement.
- Confirmed that he is happy to accommodate KCC with any works they undertake to repair Killonerry Bridge
- Said that there is scope in the housing maintenance budget for Windows and doors and some repairs and replacement of windows and doors has already commenced.
- Confirmed that he will have the lines removed at the temporary crossing as soon as possible

16.03 – Suspension of standing Orders Proposed Cllr. K. Bourke
Seconded Cllr. M. Fitzgerald

**Item 4.4.
District Administrator's
Report:**

The Meetings Administrator circulated a comprehensive report incorporating updates on the following issues in Carrick on Suir:

- RRDF Phase 1 – the final sculpture is almost completed and it is hoped that it will be installed by end Q1 2026.
- RRDF Phase 2 – Works progressing well on Chapel Street & William Street & works have commenced on North Quay.
- RRDF Phase 3 – works are going well completion due Q1 2026.
- EU JTF- Project A, The Arches has moved to planning design with part 8 documents being finalised
- Project B- Goldcrop feasibility & concept design- project progressing including any further reports/ assessments as needed.
- Fairgreen playground- works completed in February.
- Funding for Junior Side received under the Dept of Rural & Community Development Community Recognition Fund; added Wheelchair accessible Roundabout, Inclusive springer, 2 play panels and substantial wetpour replacement.
- Funding for Senior Side from Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth Capital Grant Scheme for Play & Recreation 2025 with additional match funds required. Funding for Wheelchair Accessible Seesaw, Rotating Maze Play Panel, further wetpour replacement under existing equipment. Further works including wetpour, removal of aging timber fence and replacement with brick paving, new fencing and gate installed under match funding provided from the GMA.
- Town clock: €10,000 granted under BHIS 2026 for repair of timber louvres of the lantern, works to take place in coming months.
- Tidy Towns and Burial Ground Grant schemes are open for applications, closing date is 13th March 2026
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Cllr. K. Bourke:

- thanked Ms. M. Cox for her report.
- Said that he is delighted to see funding for the Town Clock.
- Commented that he is looking forward to the opening of the new Hub.
- Thanked Ms. M. Cox for the redevelopment of the Fairgreen Playground and he wanted to acknowledge how Ms. M. Cox really cared, congratulating all who were involved.
- Asked if Ms. M. Cox could see if the outdoor recreation facilities could be funded.

Cllr. M. FitzGerald:

- thanked Ms. M. Cox for her report.
- Acknowledged the work on the Fairgreen Playground.

Responding, Mr. B. Beck:

- acknowledged the support of the Councillors and noted that without match funding the projects would not be possible and is very grateful for cooperation, and is looking forward to future projects throughout district.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- thanked Ms. M. Cox for her report.
- Said that he is looking forward to having Playground in Killenaule being redeveloped in a similar manner to Fairgreen.

Ms. M. Cox – responding:

- advised Town Clock project is long term goal and advised the works completed so far and how the hope is that eventually the ground floor can be accessible.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- noted the outside is more important at this time, but looking forward to the potential redevelopment of the Town Clock.

**Item 4.6.
General Municipal
Allocation**

A report and recommendation in relation to budgets for distribution of the General Municipal Allocation was considered by the Councillors for the 2026 fiscal year.

It was proposed by Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. A. Goldsboro and unanimously agreed to allocate budgets to support community initiatives and projects as follows-

	Project	Proposed	Balance	
Projects requiring support or match funding			<u>€211,811</u>	
	ORIS Measure 3 Projects	€50,000	€100,000	
	<u>Projects including Town & Village Development Fund</u>			
	District Development Projects	€60,000		
	CCTV Carrick-on-Suir	€20,000		
	Town Clock	€10,000		
	Carrick-on-Suir Playgrounds	<u>€10,000</u>		
		€100,000	€61,811	
Festivals, Events and Community Initiatives	Community Grants	€31,511		
	Community Festivals	€9,800		
	Municipal Festivals	€8,500		
	Christmas Lights	<u>€12,000</u>		
		€61,811	€0	

Item 4.5.
Assistance of Bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001 None

5.0. Chief Executive's / Delegated Employee's Orders

Item 5.1. DEO No. 32797-Appointment of KSN Project Management Ltd as PM Services for Tendering Design team

6.0. Correspondence

Item 6.1. None

7.0. Notices of Motion

Item 7.1. None

8.0. Any Other Business

Item 8.1.

Cllr. M. Brennan:

- noted disappointment regarding N24 funding and hopes that at next meeting with Kilkenny CoCo it can be discussed that Carrick MD is still on the agenda.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- noted that the N24 has always been on the agenda and this is third design stage for N24 bypass, stating that he is hopeful that eventually it will be passed.

Cllr. M. FitzGerald:

- Commented that all councillors continue to lobby for the N24 and is on forefront of minds.


Cllr. M. Brennan:

- wanted to send well wishes to Senator I. Goldsboro – unanimous support

Cllr. D. Dunne thanked all for attending, staff and media.
This concluded the business of the meeting. (16.17)



District Administrator



Cathaoirleach

26th March, 2026