

**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 JANUARY, 2026**

Present: Councillor Siobhán Ambrose (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor John Fitzgerald
Councillor Richie Molloy
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy
Councillor Tom Acheson

In Attendance: Mr. Damien Ginty, Director of Services
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator
Mr. Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Assistant Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Ms. Ruth Hennessy, Executive Scientific Officer, LAWPRO
Mr. Darragh Kelly, Community Water Officer, LAWPRO
Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer, Env. & Climate Action
Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer, Env. & Climate Action

Apologies: Councillor Pat English (Mayor)
Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services
Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer.
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer, Roads

1.1 Zoom Protocol

The Deputy Mayor confirmed with Katie O'Donovan, member of the Media who was joining the meeting by Zoom that she could see and hear all other speakers.

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 10th December, 2025.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 10th December, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy, seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

4.1 Taking in Charge Westgate Court and Cnoc Aiobheann

The Director of Services Report as circulated with the Agenda in relation to Westgate Court was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

The Director of Services Report as circulated with the Agenda in relation to Cnoc Aiobheann, Ballyclerihan was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald, seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson and agreed by all.

5.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Environment & Climate Action

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

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Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- In relation to the control of horses, Councillor Acheson asked for the costs involved for seizing and detaining horses.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if funding will be available this year to extend the wall at the entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose highlighted the high volume of dogs that were surrendered or seized by the dog wardens suggesting a promotional campaign be launched to encourage rescue adoptions. She expressed disappointment over the absence of a dog pound in South Tipperary and requested that this be reviewed. Members concurred with Councillor Ambrose on this issue.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the reusable cups being introduced to eliminate single use cups at small scale events and festivals and the rollout of the reusable cloth nappy incentive scheme. She welcomed these initiatives which are supporting the circular economy and asked what role Tipperary County Council will have in respect of these 2 initiatives.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- In relation to the extension of the wall at the entrance to St. Patrick's Cemetery, Denis Holland informed the members that there is a 3-year rolling capital budget to develop burial ground sites and enhance existing infrastructure. He will liaise with Gillian Flynn, District Engineer in relation to availability of funding for these works.
- Mr. Holland informed the members that the circular cups for community events and the reusable cloth nappy scheme are part of the Waste Management Plan being introduced by the Southern Regional Waste Management Office to promote the circular economy. Tipperary and Limerick are the lead authorities in the roll-out of these 2 initiatives.
- Fergal Condon advised the members that the removal fee is €750 per horse excluding veterinary and detention fees. Mr. Condon said that a small grant towards this cost is reclaimed from the Department.
- In relation to re-establishing a Dog Pound in South Tipperary, Mr. Holland informed the members that there are significant budgetary constraints that impact its feasibility which need to be addressed during the budget process. It was highlighted that there has been no issue with the current system of operation.
- Regarding rescue adoptions, Mr. Condon said that they will take the suggestion of advertising on board. However, he clarified that the vast majority of dogs rescued or seized are rehomed.

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

5.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate LAWPRO

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

Ruth Hennessy gave a presentation in addition to the report circulated. She spoke about the following:-

- Funding Streams available i.e.
 - Small Grants and Events Scheme up to €5,000
 - Community Water Development Fund - €5,000 to €40,000
 - Catchment Support Fund – up to €50,000
- Nature Based Solutions
- Water Quality in Tipperary and changes since 2021

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Ms. Hennessy also spoke about the improvements in phosphate concentrations in some rivers in Tipperary which is positive news, as once these improvements continue, status improvements will follow.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- In relation to rivers with declining water quality, Councillor Acheson asked if LAWPRO have identified the specific reason for this and the actions that can be taken to address this issue.
- Councillor Acheson spoke about slurry spreading and asked if the farming calendar is taken into consideration when the rivers are being monitored.
- In relation to the high rate of decline in water quality in Tipperary, Councillor Ambrose asked if this is due to a lack of funding or lack of community engagement.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the nature-based solutions funding of €100,000 which is a new fund for local authorities to develop projects which incorporate NBS elements to deliver water quality benefits. However, she expressed her disappointment that the same level of funding is being apportioned to all local authorities without taking the geographical area or the levels of pollution of each county into consideration.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work of Gillian Flynn and Adam Coffey developing the nature-based solutions on the Cashel Road and Kickham Street Car Park.

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

- Ruth Hennessy informed the members that water quality inspections are targeted to areas where there has been a decline in status.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to slurry spreading, Ms. Hennessy replied that there is significant water management on farms. However, she stated that slurry needs to be applied when there is growth and not in inclement weather conditions.
- Ms. Hennessy spoke about the better Farming for Water European Innovation Partnership (EIP) led by Teagasc which will provide guidance and funding to the farming community to identify water quality issues. She said that a collaborative approach by all stakeholders will be needed to improve water quality to support healthy communities
- In reply to the query raised regarding the funding allocated for nature-based solutions, Ms. Hennessy informed the members that this is the first round of funding announced which will continue to be developed over the next number of years. This funding is aimed to build on local initiatives currently being delivered.

The Deputy Mayor thanked Ruth and Darragh for their attendance at the meeting and wished Darragh every success in his new role with LAWPRO.

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 Dennehy spoke about Charles Bianconi's contribution to life in Clonmel serving as Mayor of Clonmel twice. He expressed his opinion that the 40th Anniversary of Clonmel's twinning with his birth place Costa Masnaga should be commemorated. Members spoke in support of same: They remembered Monica Del Bigio who passed away recently and who was instrumental in the twinning process with Costa Masnaga suggesting that her son and daughter be invited to any celebrations being organised.

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- In relation to the TUS Campus, Councillor Dennehy noted that their website predominately features the campus in Thurles and asked what is the status of the campus in Clonmel.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the location of the hoarding on Kickham Plaza can be reviewed as currently the positioning of the hoarding is removing the canopy from use for the duration of the construction of the Garda Station.
- Councillor Acheson highlighted that the glass is broken in one of the windows in the Munitions Building.
- Councillor Acheson referenced an article in the Sunday Business Post about large companies leaving premises dormant nationwide without utilising them and expressed his disappointment at a number of these similar sites which are not being progressed in Clonmel making specific reference to Dunnes Stores.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the funding for the enhancement and painting scheme will be increased this year to reflect the increasing costs of materials and labour.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for the timeframe involved for the rollout of the CCTV in the town.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the construction of the Garda Station which is a multi-million-euro development for the town.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the funding designated for the renovation and enhancement of the Kickham Barracks Chapel. She thanked Gillian and Carol for their work in obtaining this grant funding.
- Councillor Ambrose expressed her support for the over-the-shop grants which will allow business owners to convert vacant over-head commercial spaces into residential housing. Members concurred with Councillor Ambrose on this.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the new Towns & Cities Infrastructure Investment Fund due to be announced shortly which will enhance the public realm of the town and thanked all the staff involved in ensuring that this project is shelf ready if funding for same is received.

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- The District Administrator informed the members that the St. Patrick's Day Parade will celebrate the life of Charles Bianconi and mark the 40th anniversary of the twinning with Costa Masnaga. An invitation has been issued to the twinning groups to attend the St. Patrick's Weekend festivities.
- In relation to the hoarding erected on Kickham Plaza, the District Administrator said that the location of this hoarding was agreed between the Contractor, Office of Public Works and the Council. After much discussion on the matter, it was agreed to write a letter to the OPW to see if the hoarding can be repositioned and to circulate the reply received to the members.
- The District Administrator advised the members that she will follow up on the repair of the window in the Munitions Building.
- Regarding the query in relation to the enhancement and painting scheme, the District Administrator informed the members that the grant allocation is restricted under the rules of the Scheme. However, the additional funding provided by the members under the General Municipal Allocation in 2025 was very beneficial in supporting businesses to enhance their properties.
- In relation to vacant properties in town that are owned by large companies, Damien Ginty informed the members that these companies will be pursued under Derelict Sites

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Legislation. He also said that, going forward, the derelict sites levy will be collected by the Revenue Commissioners. Significant incentives are available for property owners to engage with the Vacancy and Dereliction Team.

6.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads & Capital Programme

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

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Fitzgerald expressed concerns regarding the number of accidents occurring at Castlelake, Rosegreen and asked that safety at this location be reviewed.
- Councillor Fitzgerald referred to his Notice of Motion in December concerning speed on the Coleville Road and asked if a speed survey has been carried out.
- Councillor Fitzgerald highlighted a litter issue at Willow Park as you go up the Fethard Road and asked that this be addressed.
- Councillor Fitzgerald requested that the bricks at Cahills Lane, off Parnell Street be repaired/replaced.
- In relation to public lighting outages, Councillor Fitzgerald asked if there is a standardised procedure for reporting same.
- Councillor Dennehy asked for an update on the Clonmel Arms Hotel and noted that he had previously asked that the local authority enter into a public private partnership on this development. Members expressed their support for the developer believing that the project will be completed.
- Councillor Dennehy spoke about the N24 upgrade and expressed concerns in relation to the route through Kilsheelan. Members concurred with Councillor Dennehy stating that if the project is funded to design stage that there may be an opportunity to review the design.
- Councillor Molloy highlighted the issue of dumping on the laneway serving house no.'s 37 – 47 Elm Park and asked that this be addressed.
- Councillor Molloy asked if the lights can be repaired between the Cashel Road and Poppyfields roundabout as it is dangerous for cyclists using the cycle lane
- Councillor Acheson expressed his thanks to the District Engineer and Staff for the recent works carried out at the Model School.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the potholes in the town area can be repaired.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the works being carried out by Uisce Eireann and asked for the timeframe involved for the resurfacing works to be carried out at Prior Park Road and Fethard Road.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- Councillor Ambrose expressed her thanks to the District Engineer and Staff in relation to the ongoing gulley maintenance being carried out.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the works being carried out at Suir Island Gardens and asked that a visit be arranged for the members when works complete.
- Councillor Ambrose requested an update on the drainage works to be carried out at Glenconnor highlighting that the road cannot be reinstated until the drainage works are complete.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the appointment of a contractor to reinstate the damaged wall at Toberaheena Well and thanked Gillian Flynn and Adam Coffey for their work on this.

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- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the traffic calming measures at the Loretto School and asked if the issue with speed on the Coleville Road can be addressed under this scheme.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- In reply to the query raised regarding potholes, Adam Coffey informed the members that they are being continuously monitored and repaired. However, he explained that the inclement weather conditions hinder these works at times.
- Mr. Coffey advised the members that permanent reinstatement works will be carried out at the Fethard Road in the middle of February subject to weather permitting, as these works cannot be carried out in cold weather. A date still has to be confirmed for these works to be carried out at Prior Park and notification of a commencement date will be forwarded to the members once available.
- Mr. Coffey informed the members that there is a public website for reporting street lighting faults on the “DeadSure” app.
- In relation to the repair of the wall at Toberaheena Well, Mr. Coffey stated that these works will commence in mid-February and take approximately 4 weeks to complete.
- Mr. Coffey said that he will follow up on the traffic calming measures at the Loretto School with the District Engineer and notify the members.
- Regarding the progression of works at Suir Island Gardens, Mr. Coffey informed the members that he will follow up with the District Engineer and revert to the members.
- In relation to the works at Glenconnor, Mr. Coffey informed the members that a contractor has been appointed to carry out the works and we are reviewing drainage options under the Local Authority Water Programme.
- In relation to the safety works at Castleblake, Mr. Coffey informed the members that he will see if funding for these works can be provided under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme.
- Mr. Coffey informed the members that the issue with speed on the Coleville will be reviewed.
- In relation to the issue of litter on the laneway serving house no.’s 37 -47 Elm Park, Mr. Coffey said that he will make arrangements with Eric Ryan, GSS to have it removed.
- Mr. Coffey addressed the issue of litter being dumped at Willow Park and informed the members that a litter pick is being organised at Willow Park and other approach roads in the coming weeks.
- In relation to the query raised regarding Cahills Lane, Mr. Coffey said that this will be reviewed and repairs carried out, if needed.

6.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The Report was noted by the Members.

Item 7.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 16th January, 2026.

These were noted by the Members.

Items 8.1 to 8.8– Notice of Motion

As Councillor Pat English was not in attendance at the Meeting, it was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy, Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose and agreed by all to defer Councillor English’s Motions to the February Borough District Monthly Meeting.

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Motion 3083 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District trim back an overgrown tree outside the residence of 5 Toberaheena (Ileigh) as it's in danger of falling on the property, see below photo

REPLY:

In 2024 Clonmel Borough District adopted the Clonmel Tree Strategy. The aim of this tree strategy is to ensure that the trees of Clonmel are preserved. Clonmel Borough District have inspected the tree and will arrange tree pruning in advance of the Bird Nesting season. Removal of the tree is not required.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3084 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District trim back overgrowth on the path at the Wilderness Gorge Duck Pond as it's making access difficult at present.

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District will trim back vegetation at Wilderness Gorge Duck Pond

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3088 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

What is the latest update regarding my previous notices of motion requesting that the Council carry out a survey in conjunction with members of the arts community around Clonmel with the purpose of identifying all of the existing public and private arts facilities and spaces around Clonmel? The findings of this survey will support the council in addressing the current gaps that exist in this area. Following my previous notices of motion on this issue I am aware that the council was successful in applying for funding to carry out this survey. What is the projected starting date for this survey and when it is likely that we will have a report back on this survey.

REPLY:

Work to activate this project started in Q4 2025 and tender documents are almost complete. It is anticipated the tender process will be completed during Q1 2026 and we will then be in a position to update further on the project timeframe.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3089 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

What is the latest update regarding my previous notice of motion that in the interest of safety that the pedestrian crossing in Lisronagh is upgraded to include a raised platform new upgraded lights and other safety works that may be deemed necessary in order to reduce the level of speed through the village

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District have applied for funding through the Safety Improvement Works on regional and local roads fund for 2026

Seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3090 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

Following my previous representations and notice of motions regarding the need to upgrade both the junction and the bus stop at the Ormonde Stores in Kilsheelan contractors were

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appointed to examine both of these issues. What is the latest response from the appointed contractors to the council regarding both of these surveys including the proposed future works for both the junction and the bus stop.

REPLY:

Sweco Ltd. were appointed in 2025 to review all available options to improve safety and enhance the bus stop provision at Ormond Stores junction. The Options report is substantially complete and once this document is finalised it will be sent to the NTA and TII for review.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 9.1 Correspondence

There was no correspondence to be noted.

Item 10.1 Votes of Sympathy

A vote of sympathy was extended to Cllr. Pat English and his wife Carol on the passing of Carol's brother, Alex Logue, RIP.

11.1 Any other Business

There was no other business discussed.

Signed: 

Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 18/02/2026

Signed: 

P.P. District Administrator.

Dated: 18/2/2026