

**Minutes of February Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Tipperary Town and hosted remotely on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026 at 11.00am**

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**Members Present:** Councillor Roger Kennedy, Cathaoirleach  
Councillor Micheál Anglim  
Councillor Declan Burgess  
Councillor Liam Browne  
Councillor John Crosse  
Councillor Mary Hanna-Hourigan  
Councillor Máirín McGrath  
Councillor Andy Moloney  
Councillor Marie Murphy  
Councillor John O’Heney  
Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner)

**Officials Present:** Mr. Damien Ginty, District Director  
Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator  
Mr. James Murray, Senior Roads Engineer  
Mr. James Swords, District Engineer  
Mr. Tim Kilmartin, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Pdraig Franklin, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Pat O’Neill, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Frank Cussen, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Michael Begley, Administrative Officer  
Ms. Adeline Walsh, Staff Officer  
**ECRD Directorate**  
Ms. Maria O’Donnell, Tourism Development Officer  
Mr. Eoin Kaar, Healthy County Co-Ordinator  
**Libraries/Cultural Services/Biodiversity Directorate**  
Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian  
Ms. Roisin O’Grady, Heritage Officer

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Roger Kennedy, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the February meeting. Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator, commenced the meeting with the meeting prayer.

**1.1 Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest**

There were no matters notified to the meetings administrator.

**2.1 Minutes of January Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2026**

The minutes of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District January meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor Mary Hanna-Hourigan seconded by Councillor John O’Heney.

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

There was no matter arising from the minutes.

### **3.1 Economic, Community & Rural Development Directorate Report**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Maria O’Donnell, Tourism Officer and Mr. Eoin Kaar, Healthy County Co-Ordinator to the meeting.

Ms. O’Donnell made a presentation to the Elected Members in relation to the Munster Vales. Councillor Kennedy thanked Ms O’Donnell for the presentation, the brochure and complimented the team on the work of the Munster Vales. Councillor Máirín McGrath referred to the Motorcycle Feasibility Study and noted that it was an interesting and different target market. She asked what was the goal. She also referred to the promotional videos which will be produced on the walking trails in the Glen of Aherlow and highlighted the Knockmealdowns and Vee Valley also have fantastic walking trails and the area attracts 1000s of walkers each year. Councillor Hanna Hourigan complimented the great work and asked if the Limerick Junction to Clonmel walkway is completely shelved. Councillor O’Heney complimented the booklet produced and noted that the county is served with a good transport network, however was amazed to see that Limerick Junction train station is not highlighted on the map. He asked that more information about the upcoming workshop would be circulated. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) also asked for further information on the workshop. Councillor Crosse referred to the Tourism Plan and in particular to Station Road Coach Workhouse in Tipperary Town. He noted that huge money would be needed to bring it back to use and thanked to Mr Damien Ginty for listening to him. He welcomed the presentation and asked if there was a way to bring it back into use.

In response, Ms O’Donnell advised that they are making promotional videos across the Munster Vales but will consider the Vee Valley. She agreed to revert to Councillor Hanna Hourigan in relation to the Clonmel to Limerick Junction Walkway and thanked Councillor O’Heney for highlighting the importance of Limerick Junction train Station. Ms O’Donnell confirmed that there is no date agreed for the Tipperary presentation but it will be communicated to the Elected Members once agreed.

Mr Eoin Kaar, Healthy County Co-Ordinator presented to the Elected Members on the Healthy Ireland Programme which is a national, government led framework improving health and wellbeing. Councillor McGrath asked if there is capacity to extend into more towns and villages. Councillor O’Heney asked about expanding to do work with schools, both primary and secondary. Councillor Hanna Hourigan thanked Mr Kaar for the presentation and asked if the programme has been communicated to different retirement groups. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) referred

to the work under the "Grow Garden Scheme" in Cashel and asked if they could provide similar support to a group in Tipperary town.

In response, Mr Kaar confirmed that there is a budget of €75,000 for the county and if there was more funding available they could expand the programme. He confirmed that they are not going to schools, however they are working with Clogheen Men's Shed who are working with Clogheen Primary School. He advised that they have reached out to retirement groups and would be in a position to support communities under the "Grow Garden Scheme". Councillor Moloney wanted to thank Mr Kaar for his support in procuring the additional outdoor gym equipment pieces in Cahir and for arranging the fitness programme to ensure that they are fully utilised.

### **3.2 Culture Services / Libraries & Biodiversity Directorate**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian and Ms. Roisin O'Grady, Heritage Officer to the meeting. Mr. Dullaghan thanked the Members for the opportunity to attend the meeting. Mr. Dullaghan wanted to promote the Ireland Reads Campaign and the libraries are running activities encouraging reading for enjoyment & wellbeing, leading up to Ireland Reads Day on 28<sup>th</sup> February. Ms O'Grady referred to the Community Monuments Fund and in particular to the 2 applications which were submitted from this District including funding for Loughloher Castle, Cahir and a Monument in Toem Cemetery. She also advised the Members that the AGM for the Irish Community Archive is to be hosted in Tipperary in May and they will have an opportunity to showcase to 58 community archives across the country who work with younger audiences and school. The Draft Heritage Plan for 2026-2031 has been finalised and it is hoped that it will be before the SCP in March and the full Council in May. She also advised that they will be running Grant Clinics which will include training for heritage funding. She also confirmed that there is an open call for projects for funding of €100,000 under the Creative Ireland Project Award and noted that in 2025 a number of successful high quality projects were delivered.

Councillor McGrath referred to the progress at the Cahir Library, noting the stone work to the front façade and asked if work is on track. She asked if there is a fund or suitable grant scheme for old water pumps which are an important historical feature. Councillor O'Heney sought an update on the Tipperary Youth Arts Hub and if this was through the library. He advised that he has a background in education and noted that some students don't excel academically and would enjoy this initiative. Councillor Hanna Hourigan sought more information in relation to the grant application at Toem Burial Ground.

In response, Mr Dullaghan confirmed that the work to the Cahir Library is going well, he was on site last Wednesday and it is on target. He referred to the stone work and that the internal rooms were taking shape. It is expected that the contractors will be completed in Q3 and once the building is handed back it will need to be stocked with 1000 books and the IT systems will need to be commissioned. Ms O'Grady confirmed the Community Monuments Fund is

restricted to pre 1700 monuments and she also highlighted the Community Heritage Scheme – Adopt a Monument Scheme which is also open to communities seeking funding. She confirmed that the Toem Church structure is fragile and she has been working with Ruairi Boland over a number of years to secure funding and they will continue to try because it is so vulnerable. The fund is 100% funded and both private and public can apply.

### **3.3 Consider Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works**

James Swords, District Engineer presented the road programme for 2026. On the proposition of Councillor Declan Burgess, seconded by Councillor John Crosse, it was resolved,

*"That in accordance with section 103 of the Local Government Act 2007, as amended by section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014,*

*a. the Draft schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW) for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026 as presented, be and is hereby adopted, and*

*b. where relevant, that any subsequent changes of the schedule necessitated by either an inability to proceed with certain works or by emergency repairs elsewhere may be implemented subject to notification to the members as soon as may be and that the works so deferred may be considered for inclusion in the Schedule for the next financial year*

### **3.4 Consider Draft 2026 General Municipal Allocation (GMA)**

On the proposition of Councillor John Crosse, seconded by Councillor John O’Heney, the 2026 General Municipal Allocations were agreed as follows:

#### **TIPPERARY-CAHIR-CASHEL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT G.M.A. 2025**

<b>Type of Grant</b>	<b>Breakdown</b>
FESTIVAL & EVENTS GRANT SCHEME – MUNICIPAL	65,000
FESTIVAL & EVENTS GRANT SCHEME - COMMUNITY	55,000
CHRISTMAS LIGHTING TIPPERARY TOWN	3,650
CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CAHIR TOWN	7,500
PAINTING ENHANCEMENT SCHEME CASHEL TOWN	4,000
PAINTING ENHANCEMENT SCHEME TIPPERARY TOWN	4,000
PAINTING ENHANCEMENT SCHEME CAHIR TOWN	4,000
PAINTING ENHANCEMENT SCHEME VILLAGES	6,000
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT TIDY TOWNS GRANTS	
CASHEL TIDY TOWNS - Special Project	5,000
TIPPERARY TIDY TOWNS - Special Project	5,000
CAHIR TIDY TOWNS - Special Project	5,000
District Special Projects	4,000

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BURIAL GROUND GRANTS	€2,500
ST. PATRICK'S BRASS BAND, CASHEL CONTRIBUTION	300
CASHEL PIPE BAND CONTRIBUTION	300
CAHIR TRAD BAND	500
CONTRIBUTION TO TIPPERARY TOWN REVITALISATION	30,000
DISTRICT TOWN & VILLAGE RENEWAL PROJECTS & SCHEMES	109,313
DISTRICT PLAYGROUNDS & AMENITY AREAS	50,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>361,063</b>

### **3.5 Consider Chief Executive's report – Draft Church Street, Cahir Car Park Bye Laws**

Councillor Máirín McGrath noted that the Byelaws as presented as an interim measure pending the adoption of the Tipperary County Council Byelaws. She noted that only a few submissions have been received. On the proposition of Councillor Máirín McGrath, seconded by Councillor Andy Moloney it was resolved:

"That the Draft Church Street Car Park Byelaws Cahir 2025 be and are hereby adopted"

### **3.6 District Administrator's Report**

The District Administrator requested that his report be taken as read and he was available for questions.

Councillor John O'Heney asked what is the Green Hub Project. Michael Begley, Administrative Officer confirmed that the campaign was launch in March 2024 and is a new initiative for Tipperary Town to help business to reduce their business waste, potentially reduce costs and help the environment.

### **3.7 Vacant Houses**

Noted.

### **4.1 Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders**

The orders were noted.

### **5.1 Councillor Liam Browne (Ref. ID 3103)**

That this Municipal District calls for an urgent review and technical assessment of recently replaced public lighting on Main Street, John Street, and the approach to Lowergate Square in Cashel.

A large number of businesses and residents from the affected streets have submitted a petition expressing serious concern that the new LED lighting is inadequate and unfit for purpose. They report that the current luminaires provide insufficient brightness, resulting in reduced visibility, diminished sense of safety, and potential negative impacts on evening commerce.

Accordingly, this Municipal District requests that the Roads and Public Lighting Section carry out a full lighting performance evaluation of the area, including but not limited to:

1. Lux level measurements at street level and footpath level during night-time operation.
2. Uniformity of lighting (ratio of minimum to average illumination).
3. Luminaire output and specification compliance versus original design standards.
4. Glare rating assessment and identification of any shielding/angle issues.
5. Comparative analysis with the previous lighting installation, if data is available.
6. Safety and crime-prevention implications, including any input from An Garda Síochána.
7. Options for improvement, such as higher-output LEDs, different colour temperatures, supplemental columns, or re-aiming of fittings.

The findings should be presented back to the Municipal District with clear recommendations for rectifying deficiencies to ensure that lighting levels meet recognised standards for urban streets and public safety.

## **Reply**

Further to an email correspondence from Councillor Declan Burgess, the matter has been sent to the Roads team who in turn have referred the request for review to the lead authority Kilkenny County Council. They in turn have requested the consultants ARUP and the contractor KLS/ASD to investigate and respond to the queries. They are currently working on their response.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy.

### **6.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

A vote of sympathy was extended to the following:

- Elizabeth (Lizzie) Murphy, Main Street, Clogheen, Co Tipperary
- Joe Quinn, Galbally Road, Tipperary Town, Co Tipperary
- Wally Ryan, 'The Anchor', John Street, Cashel, Co Tipperary
- Aileen Carroll, St. Michael Street, Tipperary Town, Co Tipperary

### **6.2 Votes of Congratulations**

A vote of congratulations was extended to the following:

- Kilfeacle & District RFC on becoming Munster Junior League Champions 2025/2026

### 7.1 Any other Business

Councillor Máirín McGrath referred to the Public Consultation Portal for the Parking Byelaws and that it wasn't available at the weekend and asked if the deadline for submissions could be extended. Mr. James Murray confirmed that he would get IT to investigate and they would consider an extension to the submission period.

**This concluded the business of the Municipal District meeting.**

Signed/ Roger Kennedy Dated/ 23/3/2026  
Cathaoirleach

Signed/ Anselm Mc Gowan Dated/ 23/3/2026  
District Administrator

