

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT  
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL  
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2019.**

**Present:** Councillor Pat English, Deputy Mayor  
Councillor Siobhan Ambrose  
Councillor Richie Molloy  
Councillor Michael Murphy  
Councillor Niall P Dennehy

**Apologies:** Councillor Garret Ahearn, Mayor  
Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator  
Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer

**In attendance:** Ms. Sinead Carr, District Manager  
Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Senior Engineer  
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer

**Also in attendance:** Mr. Karl Cashin, Director of Services, Culture & Library Services  
Ms. Marie McMahon, Museum Curator  
Ms. Fiona Crotty, A/Administrative Officer, C&E  
Mr. Sean Lonergan, Administrative Officer, Housing  
Mr. Jim Dillon, Administrative Officer, Housing  
Mr. Damien Dullaghan, Library Services  
Ms. Nuala O'Connell, Senior Executive Planner

**Item 1.1 – Minutes of May monthly meeting**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhan Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed.

**Item 1.2 – Minutes of AGM**

Councillor Niall P Dennehy voiced his opposition to the adoption of the minutes as he considered them incorrect. Councillor Niall P Dennehy stated that he had issues in relation to how the AGM was conducted as he considered it hadn't been in accordance with Standing Orders. Marie O'Donnell noted that Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive has clarified in writing to Councillor Dennehy that he had carried out an examination of the matter and that he was satisfied at how the meeting was conducted and that no further action will be taken in this matter.

The minutes of the annual general meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Michael Murphy, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all members, except Councillor Niall P Dennehy.

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**Item 2.1 – Part 8 Development: Serviced Site Scheme at  
Cloughcarrigeen West, Kilsheelan**

Ms Nuala O’Connell, Senior Executive Planner made a presentation to all members and the presentation was circulated to the members in advance of the meeting.

**The following queries were raised by members:-**

Councillor Michael Murphy raised the following issues:

- The surface water and the discharge from the site with the use of a 225mm diameter pipe connecting with a 450mm pipe. Can the 225 mm pipe be increased?
- Could the pumping station be upgraded in size?
- Can the council clarify the owners of the 4ft buffer zone?
- Can a new wall around the boundary of the 4 existing houses be a possibility?
- There needs to be a continuous strong engagement with Kilsheelan Tidy Towns.

Councillor Richie Molloy raised the following issues:

- After speaking with a number of residents in Kilsheelan there was a fear of flooding and there was a fear that their concerns were not taken on board.
- Ask that the Engineers would meet with residents.
- Regular flooding issue needs to be addressed, re-assurance needed.

Councillor Siobhan Ambrose raised the following issues:

- Prescribed pipe outside Cloughcarrigeen to take an additional 6 houses could actually take a couple of hundred houses and was satisfied with the Council’s confirmation on that aspect.
- Given the fact that the site was an old quarry, were surveys carried out on foot of that?
- Having spoken with residents from the buffer zone I asked them to check their deeds as this would clarify the ownership of this zone.
- I note that TII have had no objections with traffic issues.

Councillor Pat English raised the following issues:

- Met with residents in Kilsheelan, were existing services being connected to the new scheme – could Council clarify that this wouldn’t be the case?
- Can the issue of the boundary wall be addressed in the conditions of the proposal?
- If modification could be made, that would satisfy a lot of the concerns that residents in Kilsheelan had relating to this development.

**Members queries and issues were responded to as follows:-**

Eamon Lonergan, Senior Engineer addressed the following issues:

- The concerns that were raised by the members of the public through the councillors have shown that the need for public consultation in this type of process is very important and necessary. This Part 8 process included

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public consultation and valid issues were raised and further investigated by the Council.

- The General Services Supervisor and local Council Engineers, who are working in the area of Kilsheelan have better local knowledge of the area and played an important role in answering questions and identifying solutions that were asked by the members of the public and the members.
- The concerns mentioned by the residents were very valid.
- Flood alleviation works were done in 2017 by the Council and significant weather events that have happened since and the new system has performed in Kilsheelan.
- Hydraulic assessments were carried out and the existing 450 mm pipe has sufficient capacity to cater for this development and site. 250 mm pipe is more than adequate for 6 houses.

Nuala O'Connell, Senior Executive Planner addressed the following issues:

- The upgrade of the pump forms part of the proposal.
- There is a proposed right hand turning lane which TII has no issues or concerns about.
- Boundary wall, 4 houses butting the site, condition that wall would be supplemented and would include survey of structure and integrity.
- The condition to build a new wall over the entire boundary length was agreed.

The resolution for Part 8 Development: Serviced Site Scheme at Cloughcarrigeen West, Kilsheelan was proposed by Councillor Siobhan Ambrose and seconded by Councillor Michael Murphy and agreed.

**Item 2.2 – Taking in Charge of Estate at Oakwood, Glenconnor Road, Clonmel**

The resolution for taking in charge of the estate was proposed by Councillor Siobhan Ambrose and seconded by Councillor Pat English and agreed.

**Item 3.1 – Attendance of Representatives from Housing Directorate**

Mr. Jim Dillon, Administrative Officer and Mr. Sean Lonergan, Administrative Officer referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members detailing key issues relating to the Housing Directorate:

- Housing Grant Allocation 2019
- House Purchases 2019
- Buy and Renew Purchases 2019
- Housing Loan Applications 01/01/2019 to 30/06/2019
- Tenant Purchase Scheme 01/01/2019 to 30/06/2019
- RAS and Leasing 2019
- HAP 2019
- Housing Applicants and Vacant Houses
- Breakdown of 55 Vacant Houses
- Offers of Tenancy
- Approved Housing Applicants

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**The following queries and issues were raised by Members:**

- What is the turnaround for houses that have only small maintenance works to be carried out?
- Buy & Renew Purchases Scheme hasn't attracted too many people.
- Members acknowledged the energy efficiency work that is being carried out and that there is a really good working relationship with Tipperary Energy Agency.
- Members thanked the staff for their co-operation in dealing with any queries that arise.
- Tipperary has the biggest uptake in Housing adaptation grants outside cities and members acknowledged high value of money being spent which was welcomed.
- Housing adaptation grants for local authority houses, as the allocation is down this year can we write to the Department for further funding. People with serious issues would be in hospital if it wasn't for family/carers allowing them to stay in their own homes.
- How many landlords have terminated their contracts?
- There is a lack of houses in Clonmel – high rents an on-going issue.
- Clonmel should be registered as a rent pressure zone this would make a difference in the town.

**Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:**

- It was confirmed that there is a focus this year on turnaround of houses.
- James Swords, Executive Engineer was going to play a vital role in the housing team and we are committed to putting in resources there.
- Hugh Houlihan, Clerk of Works has been involved in site supervision since earlier in the year.
- It was confirmed that minor works does not mean a "lick of paint". It has to go through a lot of processes such as surveys in order for the standard to be met once keys are handed over to the new tenant these type of works take a number of months. When the cost for the works are determined the figure is given to Housing who have to find a budget in order for the works to be carried out and need to have competent people involved, it is quite a process involved.
- The idea of grouping houses together to get faster turnaround time is an idea that is being explored – same type of works/same housing estates etc.
- Competing with increased building market getting contractors on board to work with council is becoming an issue.
- Grants for local authority houses are down €100k on last year's allocation.
- Funding for private housing adaptation grants applicants have six times more funding than applicants of local authority houses.

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The Housing Section have been in touch with the Department about this but additional funding does not seem to be available for local authority houses.

- When funding is spent we do make a case – we received an additional €400k but local authority houses received no additional funding.
- There has been a loss of landlords however we currently have 1500 between RAS and long term leasing
- Housing section keep a good track of rents - a 3 bedroom house would be renting currently for between €700-€1000 when offers are made with landlords for 3 bedrooms.
- The Council signed up to a house for rent of €800 for a 3 bed only yesterday – which given an indicator of where the current market is at.

The Deputy Mayor Councillor Pat English thanked Mr. Jim Dillon and Mr. Sean Lonergan from the Housing Directorate for their attendance and report.

**Item 3.2 – Attendance of Representatives from Community/Economic Development**

Ms. Fiona Crotty, A/Administrative Officer referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members detailing key issues relating to Community/Economic Development.

- LECP – Community
- Local Development Strategy/LEADER
- SICAP
- LCDC Team Led Funding Schemes
- Tipperary PPN
- Joint Policing Committee
- Children’s and Young Person’s Services Committee
- Age Friendly Tipperary
- Play
- Comhairle na nOg
- Sign of the Times
- Strategic Projects Unit EU Part-funded Projects
- Tipperary Sports Partnership
- FAI
- LECP – Economic
- Tourism
- Local Enterprise Office – Measure 1
- Measure 2 Training Programmes
- Online Trading Voucher Scheme
- Ireland Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE)
- Digital Strategy, National Broadband Plan & Commercial Investment

**The following queries and issues were raised by Members:**

- Members acknowledged the very busy section and all the work that was being carried out in C&E.

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- The concept of the digital strategy "Landing Space" developed by the IDA in connection with another Local Authority where an open plan working environment for businesses on a small scale, could the C&E section look in to this concept to see if it would be suitable for this town, preferably town centre.
- Is there any update on the Old Museum building with regards to the hot desk concept that was proposed?
- It is found that the LEO start up business supports were very beneficial.
- The success of the Blueway launch in May was acknowledged and that the village of Kilsheelan and the tidy towns committee put on a great show on the day.

**Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:**

- Fiona Crotty, A/Administrative Officer confirmed that she would bring the idea of the "Landing Space" back to her section and discuss.
- The Manager Sinead Car will come back with a report with regards to the current position with Old Museum Building on Parnell Street.

The Deputy Mayor Councillor Pat English thanked Ms. Fiona Crotty from the C&E Directorate for her attendance and report.

**Item 3.3 – Attendance of Representatives from Culture/Library Services**

Mr Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian and Ms Marie McMahan, Museum Curator referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members detailing key issues relating to the Culture/Library Directorate

**Library Report**

- Talk entitled "Reducing emissions is costly to our environment and economy – how small modular (nuclear) reactors could be a solution" by Denis Duff
- An environmental and biodiversity workshop by Albert Nolan
- A Line Dancing Taster Class with Ray Cahill
- Cllr Richie Molloy, outgoing Mayor opened a new digital hub in Clonmel Library
- A talk entitled The Pilgrim Paths of Ireland by John Gerald O'Dwyer
- Acquisition of Clonmel Corporation minute book, 1687-1712
- Sustainable Energy Week, TEA workshop held
- Councillor Garret Ahearn, Mayor of Clonmel officially launched The South Tipperary Art Group 51<sup>st</sup> Art Exhibition

**Museum Report**

- Clonmel Flights of Discovery: Phase 1 Museum
- Education Programme

**Heritage Report**

- County Heritage Plan Actions: The geological audit of the County

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- Planting for a River God, was a very successful Biodiversity and Communal Drawing project
- Creative Ireland

**Arts Office Report**

- The Tipperary Bealtaine Festival
- Music Generation announced that Tipperary is amount five new counties in Ireland to participate in its most recent phase of development
- Creative Supports – Ongoing provision of information, advice and support to the arts sector within the county.

**The following queries and issues were raised by Members:**

- Members thanked all staff for work being carried out to date in the Directorate.
- When would works be completed in the Museum as it is great to see the progress that is being made there?
- Is there any update on the library?
- Members agreed that the Digital Hub at the Library facility was a great success.

**Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:**

- It was confirmed that the Museum works would be complete by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in September 2019.
- Funding for Clonmel Library – there was no current update on this. The Department is being engaged with. It is the No. 1 infrastructural goal in Tipperary to achieve this.
- With regards the delegation from the Council, this will be clarified and a response will be made at a later date.

The Deputy Mayor Councillor Pat English thanked Mr. Damien Dullaghan and Ms. Marie McMahon from the Culture/Library Services Directorate for their attendance and report.

**Item 4.1 – Reports of Officers**

The District Engineer and District Administrator reports were circulated to Members with the agenda and the following queries were raised by Members:

- What is the current position with the Quaker Burial Ground as the knocked wall is down approximately one year and is a shame to see it in that state.

**Members' queries were responded to as follows:**

- It was confirmed that the Environment Section was dealing with the Quaker Burial Ground and that an update will be requested from them.

**Item 4.2 – Visit by Tipperary County Council delegation to TII on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. Nomination of one Member from District to Delegation**

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The members nominated Mayor Garret Ahearn as it was tradition that the Mayor would go and represent the members on delegations.

This was proposed by Councillor Siobhan Ambrose and seconded by Councillor Michael Murphy and agreed.

**Item 4.3 – To agree name for potential new housing scheme in Ballyclerahan**

It was agreed by all members that the first 4 houses that are an extension of the existing line of houses on Ballyclerahan Crescent, continue the name Ballyclerahan Crescent.

It was agreed by all members that the cluster of 10 houses beyond that would be called Ballyclerahan Court.

This was proposed by Councillor Pat English and seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed.

**Item 5.1 – Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders**

The Chief Executive Orders for the period up to the 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 were noted.

**Item 6.1 – Consideration of the following Notices of Motion**

***Motion 1693 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.***

I write on behalf of the residents of Elm Park, Clonmel, who are requesting the provision of speed ramps between house no's 39 and 45 St. Joseph's Terrace, Elm Park, to deter speeding at this location and in the interest of safety and prevention of serious injury to children.

**Reply:** Having examined this section of road, it is the opinion of the District Engineer that unintentional speeding is not an issue here, so any speeding issue is likely due to intentional speeding. Firstly, such intentional speeding is a matter for An Garda Síochána and the enforcement of the speed limits and if necessary, the Council following consultation with An Garda Síochána, will consider traffic calming options. The procedure for this is outlined in the Council's Traffic Calming Policy adopted in May 2019. It should be noted that speed ramps are the last resort and other speed reducing measures should be considered first.

***The motion was seconded by Councillor Michael Murphy.  
The Reply to the motion was noted.***

***Motion 1694 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.***

That Clonmel Borough District Council re-surface the road off the R6891-1 at Tannersrath, Clonmel, as it is in very poor condition and is in need of urgent repair.

**Reply:** This road is a rural Local Tertiary road and as such funding for an overlay will need to come from the nationally grant funded Community



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Involvement Scheme CIS, where residents would make a financial contribution to facilitate the works. Applications will be sought later in the year.

***The motion was seconded by Cllr Michael Murphy  
The reply to the motion was noted.***

**Motion 1698 was proposed by Cllr Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District maintain the Old Powerstown Cemetery as it is in a very poor condition and in need of urgent maintenance.

**Reply:** The Borough District recommends that a local committee from the community is set up who can make a funding application annually to the District's Burial Ground Grants Scheme to allow them carry out maintenance works each year at the graveyard.

***The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose  
The reply to the motion was noted.***

**Motion 1701 was proposed by Cllr Siobhan Ambrose.**

That Clonmel Borough District Council writes to both the Minister of State with responsibility for Mental Health Jim Daly and also the Minister for Health Simon Harris to impress upon both of them the urgent need to upgrade the mental health facilities in Clonmel. We also want to express our serious concerns following the recent announcement that the tender process for Clonmel's Mental Health Crisis House has not yet been given approval.

**Reply:** Subject to the approval of the Elected Members, this motion will be forwarded to Minister of State, Jim Daly, TD and Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris, TD, for consideration and response

***The motion was seconded by Cllr Pat English  
The reply to the motion was noted.***

**Motion 1702 was proposed by Cllr Siobhan Ambrose.**

That Clonmel Borough District Council contacts Irish Water about re-surfacing sections of the road from Temple-Etney to Ballypatrick. Irish Water carried out major water mains upgrade works in this area which has left sections of this road in a bad state of repair.

**Reply:** Clonmel Borough District Council will contact Water Services to discuss planned road reinstatement works on this road.

***The motion was seconded by Cllr Michael Murphy  
The reply to the motion was noted.***

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**Motion 1703 was proposed by Cllr Siobhan Ambrose.**

That under Clonmel Borough District Council's future Road Programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of sections of the Baptistgrange Road in Lisronagh which is in need of re-surfacing.

**Reply:** This road was transferred from the Carrick MD as part of the boundary reconfiguration. It is not included on the adopted 3 year Road Improvement Programme 2019-2020-2021. Drainage Works are planned on this road in 2019 and pavement repairs will be carried out here also, but not a full overlay, as the budget is not provided.

***The motion was seconded by Cllr Pat English***

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

**Item 8.1 – Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

There was a vote of sympathy for the Davern Family on the recent death of Ms. Anne Marie Davern RIP.

There was a vote of sympathy for Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator on the recent death of his uncle Mr. Gerard Moroney RIP.

There was also a vote of sympathy for Mr. Karl Cashen, Director of Services on the recent death of his mother Ms. Mary Cashen RIP.

**Item 7.1 – Any other business**

The issue of the County Coroner's Office was discussed. It was agreed by all members that it was very important for Clonmel that the office of the County Coroner's stays in Clonmel. It was requested that a letter would issue to the relevant body on behalf of the Members to that effect.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor of Clonmel Borough District**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**District Administrator**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_