

**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, 18TH NOVEMBER, 2020.**

Present: Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, Mayor
Councillor Richie Molloy
Councillor Niall P. Dennehy
Councillor Pat English
Councillor Michael Murphy

Apologies: Councillor John Fitzgerald

In attendance: Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services
Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer
Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator
Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer

Also in attendance: Mr. Sean Lonergan, A/Senior Executive
Officer
Mr. Jim Dillon, Administrative Officer
Ms. Nicola Keating, Executive Engineer

At the outset the Mayor, Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose declared that this years Mayoral Fund was opened.

The Mayor also said that she wished to congratulate Mr. Eamon Wynne from the Nationalist Newspaper, who was present at the meeting, on winning Sports Journalist of the Year as part of the Local Ireland Media Awards.

Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator confirmed that a workshop for the Part 8 of the Urban Design Project would be held on Wednesday 25th November, 2020 at 2.30pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices to accommodate participation through zoom.

He also proposed to hold a Standing Orders Committee meeting and workshop on the draft casual trading bye-laws at 11am on Wednesday, 2nd December, 2020 in the Town Hall Chamber. All Members agreed to same.

Item 1.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest. The District Administrator, Mr. Michael Moroney made members aware that Cllr. Pat English had contacted him in relation to item 6.1 on the agenda. His name is stated on a Delegation Officer's Order for a scaffolding licence, however, the District Administrator said the matter was just for noting and confirmed that there was no issue with this from a conflict of interest perspective.

Item 2.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 16th September, 2020

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 16th September, 2020, as presented, were proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy, and agreed by all.

Matters arising:

Cllr. Pat English referred to his question in relation to Irish Water regarding the new Clonmel Water Supply Scheme and the long term solution to water outages

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that have been happening in Clonmel over the last number of years. No report was received in relation to the meeting between the Chief Executive and Irish Water. He was disappointed in the lack of progress. Cllr. Pat English proposed a meeting of Clonmel Borough District members with Irish Water management; Cllr. Niall Dennehy seconded the proposal.

Cllr. Michael Murphy raised the matter of the condition of the Town Hall building. An architect's report was to come from Mr. Michael O'Boyle, Conservation Architect. Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator confirmed that no report had been received to date and was disappointed himself that it hadn't been received, but that he would inform members on progress as soon as he receives the report. Cllr. Michael Murphy asked if Ms. Sinéad Carr, Town Manager would write to Mr. Boyle to speed up the process.

Cll. Siobhán Ambrose asked all members if they were happy to take items 4.1 and 5.1 immediately. This was proposed Cllr. Richie Molloy, seconded by Cllr. Niall Dennehy, and agreed by all.

Item 4.1 Attendance of Representatives from Housing Directorate

Mr. Sean Lonergan, A/Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Jim Dillon, Administrative Officer and Ms. Nicola Keating, Executive Engineer referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members with the agenda detailing key issues relating to the Housing Directorate, including:

- Housing Construction
- Capital Assistance Scheme Voluntary Housing
- Housing Grant Allocations 2020
- House Purchases 2020
- Housing loan Applications
- Tennant purchase Scheme (countywide)
- RAS and Leasing 2020
- HAP 2020
- Housing Applicants and Vacant Houses
- Offers of Tenancy.

The following queries were raised by members:

- In relation to new Cluid housing scheme at Glenconnor when are we going to tender?
- Can you clarify the numbers of loan applications?
- In relation to vacant houses what time frame is there for turnaround?
- In relation to our housing social programme for Clonmel and surrounding areas we need to get back to constructing houses on a large scale like Glenconnor.
- Where are we with the choice based letting scheme, allowing approved applicants express an interest in an available home?
- It is a huge issue for single men to get accommodation in the Clonmel area, we have to keep on to the Government that more building will have to take place.
- The Minister lately approved funding for the upgrade of all vacant houses that we have in our stock across the County, in terms of that funding where are we in respect to turnaround of vacant properties?
- In relation to 14 houses in Ballyclerihan that are part 8 approved, what is the next step in the timeline?

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Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:

- Choice base letting is a new way for of allocating houses. It has proven successful in other Local Authorities and we are well advanced in our plans to introduce it in 2021.
- It was acknowledged there is an issue in relation to one bedroom letting, not just in Clonmel, but in other towns in the County. HAP has proved very successful in the County; to date we have with in excess of 1,800 people who are accommodated under the scheme. In our SHIP and construction programme in 2021/2022, one and two bedroom accommodation will prove a huge element of the project.
- Cluid Houses in Glenconnor are in the process of appointing a contractor.
- Loan applications, 72 applications received, 36 not valid, usually due to not having adequate paperwork or details submitted.
- Approval has been received from the Department for taking out of a loan to repair all our vacant/void houses.
- In relation to Ballyclerihan, stage 3 approval has been submitted. Once approved we will be able to go to tender for the contractor.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Sean Lonergan, A/Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Jim Dillon, Administrative Officer and Ms. Nicola Keating, Executive from their report for the Housing Directorate for their attendance and report.

Item 5.1 Derelict Sites Update

Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Officer made a presentation to all members in relation to work undertaken on derelict sites in Clonmel Borough District and responded to queries from the members.

All members complemented the work that is being carried out in the District in relation to derelict sites and thanked Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer and Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer on their report.

Item 3.1 Adopt revised Standing Orders of Clonmel Borough District – Change in Standing Order No. 5: Hours of Meeting

The recommendation as agreed at the Standing Orders Committee meeting to change the hour of Borough District meetings to 11am was proposed by Cllr. Pat English, seconded by Cllr. Niall Dennehy, and agreed by all. The District Administrator advised that this will take effect from the December monthly meeting.

Item 3.2 New Carpark at Davis Road – Amend Pricing Schedule of the Clonmel Parking/Traffic and Carpark Byelaws 2013

Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator referred to the report circulated to the Members with the agenda. Construction of the Davis Road Carpark (which forms part of the overall Kickham Barracks development) is expected to be completed in December 2020. It will become available and operational shortly thereafter. Charges for use of the carpark will apply.

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, it was agreed by all that pursuant to the provisions of Section 36 of the Road Traffic Act 1994, the Pricing Schedule of the Clonmel Parking/Traffic and Carpark Bye Laws 2013, be and is hereby amended to include the following:

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Location	Zone Type
Kickham Barracks Car Park	All Day Off Street

Item 3.3 Laneway between O'Neill Street and Gordon Place Carpark – Report on Consultation undertaken

Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator referred to the report circulated to the Members with the agenda. The Borough District has secured funding that will allow the following works to be carried out on the laneway between O'Neill Street and Gordon Place:

- Installation of automatic gates that will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. seven days a week, all year round. The gates will be installed in the same locations as the existing locked gates;
- Upgrade the CCTV system in the car park to view the laneway;
- Improve the existing paving and lighting to provide a more welcoming space;
- Remove the ivy from the stone masonry walls and re-point the stonework.

The result of the works will mean that there would be no access from Gordon Place car park through this laneway (i.e. the gates would be locked) from 7:00 p.m. in the evening until 7:00 a.m. in the morning.

The Borough District hand delivered a letter to residents on 29th October 2020 in the streets immediately adjacent to the laneway – O'Neill St., Anne St., Albert St. and Grattan Place. This letter outlined the proposal and sought the views and observations from local residents on them. The District Administrator advised that six submissions had been received, all expressing support for the proposed reopening and works involved. Issues that were raised in two of the submissions are as follows:

1. Need to install measures to prevent cyclists "speeding through" the laneway;
2. What if the automatic gates failed for any length of time; will the Council staff close the gates manually each evening until the problem was rectified?

In regards to the first issue, the Council will include measures, in the works undertaken, that will require cyclists to slow down going through the laneway. In relation to the second issue, should such a situation arise, the gates will be manually opened and closed by Council staff until rectified.

On the proposal of Cllr. Pat English, seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy, it was agreed by all that the public right of way over the laneway previously extinguished pursuant to Section 73 of the Roads Act 1993 remain extinguished, but that access to the laneway be now controlled by means of automatic gates, that will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. seven days a week, all year round.

Item 5.2 Report of District Administrator

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

- CCTV authorisation application for Clonmel has being going on for a long time now, what is the hold up?

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- Any update on planning permission granted for Clonmel Arms Hotel.
- Members were delighted to see upgrade works completed at the Elm Park Playground and thanked the staff involved in the process from start to completion.
- Members praised the District staff on the current lighting installation works to the walkway on the Frank Drohan Road/N24.
- Was there any update from Waterford County Council in relation to the cycle lane on the Dungarvan road?

Members' queries were responded to as follows:

- In relation to the Clonmel Arms Hotel it was confirmed that there was no further contact made with the planning section in relation to future plans.
- It was acknowledged that Tipperary County Council has no role in the cycle lane issue on the Dungarvan road as the responsibility lies with Waterford County Council.
- It was confirmed that the lighting on the N24 was progressing well. Members were informed by the District Engineer that although the pole installation works will be completed in the next few weeks, the connection of the lights BY the ESB will take a further 10-12 weeks approx.
- With regards to the CCTV in Clonmel the Borough District has done its part and it was currently with the local Gardai to take it forward and address queries raised by the National CCTV Committee.

Item 5.3 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme

The District Engineer's report was circulated to Members with the agenda. The following queries were raised by Members:

- Compliments were given to the District Staff as it was evident that a lot of roads works were being carried out currently and it was great to see.
- Is there any update on the speed survey at Abbey Road towards Marlfield?
- Has the sign been erected at Cashel Street to stop HGV's using that route as it is unsuitable?
- What is the update with the car park at Barron Park?
- Will there be reinstatement works to footpath outside Guiney's on Irishtown?
- What is the update on the condition of the footpaths/roads in the Cemetery? Will works be carried out there?
- Is there an update on the Marlfield survey?
- Members welcomed the new pedestrian crossing at Marlfield and thanked the District Engineer for engaging with locals in the area.
- Compliments were given by members on the work that was carried out at Suir House and Millrace on Suir Island; when will the works be completed?
- Will members have a say in the design process of the Suir Island?
- When will works be carried out at Rathronan cross?

Members' queries were responded to as follows:

- Marlfield road speed survey will be carried out next week.
- It will be checked if the sign at Cashel Road to stop HGV's using the route was erected.
- Footpath outside Guiney's on Irishtown will be reinstated Q1, 2020.
- There have been 3 footpaths/roads maintained in the Cemetery. A budget will be requested from Environment in order to carry out more improvements as currently there is no budget for same.

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- The car park at Barron Park will start next week and will be completed by the end of this month.
- The current works to Suir Island House and Millrace budget will be completed in Q1, 2021.
- Rathronan Cross maintenance works will be carried out by the end of the year. Repair works will go on the roads programme for 2021.

Item 5.3 – Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The District Engineer report had been circulated to Members with the agenda and was noted.

Item 6.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 13th November, 2020

The report on Chief Executive/Delegation Officers' Orders circulated to Members with the agenda was noted.

Items 7.1 to 7.10 - Notices of Motions

Motion 1955 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

That the provision of a footpath from the centre of Rosegreen village out towards the water tower and beyond is considered under the 2021 Area Roadworks Programme. The absence of any footpath whatsoever at this location is particularly dangerous for pedestrians.

Reply:

The length of footpath along this section of road is approx. 330 metres, and will cost in the region of about €35,000. Currently the Council do not have funding for such works, as the monies we do have available for footpaths is for repairs only and not for the construction of new footpaths. Other NOMs have come in for footpath works but all have been for repairs only. Based on the above the only option available at the moment is for the Council to make an application to Department in early 2021 for funding for this project under the Active Travel Measures and hopefully we receive a positive reply.

District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 1956 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

That sections of the L-3278-0, in particular that stretch from the fly over out towards Glenconnor Cottages at Ballingarrane North, are considered under the 2021 Area Roadworks Programme having regard to it's very poor current condition

Reply:

I have inspected this road and have noted that the surface dressing is stripping in a number of locations and as such this road is in need of repair. Therefore, I propose to include this section of road for consideration for inclusion in the 2021 Roadworks Programme.

District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

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Motion 1964 was proposed by Cllr. Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District engage with the owner of the web site "clonmelgraveyards.com" with a view of taking over the web site as it provides valuable information to people who have family buried in St Patricks Cemetery in Clonmel as the present owner who has put huge work in over the years in maintaining the web site is no longer in a position to continue.

Reply:

The Clonmel Graveyard website is an invaluable resource for researchers and it is clear that a great deal of work has gone into this site. The existing images on the website have the potential to work in tandem with Tipperary Studies graveyard inscriptions data on the Tipperary County Council Library website (<https://tipperarystudies.ie/digitisation-project/gravestone-inscriptions/>). The collection of images would greatly accompany the existing 20 volumes of Clonmel Gravestone transcriptions which are already online and which were scanned from Library collections. The Library Service will initiate contact with the website owner to explore the possibility of the Tipperary Local Studies Service hosting the data from the Clonmel Graveyards website.
District Administrator.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 1978 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

That Clonmel Borough District would carry out a review of land in its ownership, that land no longer needed for the intent for which it was purchased could be considered, if suitable, for Community Playing Fields, such a facility would lead to increased participation in sport and physical activity in addition to providing a "home" to a number of sporting organizations in the town.

Reply:

Property is of strategic importance to the County Council as it contributes to the Councils' core service objectives of housing provision, planning and development, environmental and sanitary services functions, fire and emergency services, community development, leisure and economic functions, tourism, heritage, culture and community development, urban renewal and transport. In order to delivery effectively in these areas the Council must have control of a multi-faceted portfolio of property, to enable the Council to be responsive and pro-active in delivering a varied economic, social and environmental service. It is therefore important that there is a strategic approach taken to property management. The property function is centrally managed as an integral part of the Council's ability to perform its statutory functions. Land banks have been acquired over time by the Council for various purposes. Clonmel Borough District currently engages, and will continue to do so, with the Council's Property Management function to identify lands which are no longer needed or suitable for the intent they were purchased and to bring forward alternative usage proposals. Sporting, recreational and/or amenity usage is one such alternative. The Borough District commits to undertake a consultation exercise with those who might be most expected to make use of "Community Playing Fields", namely sporting clubs and schools, in order to firstly determine if a strategic need exists for such in Clonmel. A further

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assessment of the matter will then be carried out following completion of this, with involvement from the Council's Property Management function.

District Administrator.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 1982 was proposed by Cllr Siobhán Ambrose

That under the Council's future roads programme that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of the last section of the road network in the Cherrymount Estate. The rest of the road network in this estate was completed under previous Council roads programmes.

Reply:

I propose that this be considered for inclusion under the 2021 Development Improvement Works Programme.

District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 1983 was proposed by Cllr Siobhan Ambrose

That under the Council's future roads programme that consideration is given for sections of the road network in Ard na Gréine to be re-surfaced

Reply:

I propose that this be considered for inclusion under the 2021 Development Improvement Works Programme.

District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 1999 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose

That Clonmel Borough District Council looks at the possibility of widening small sections of the Blueway that are particularly narrow. The additional width would make it easier for users coming from both directions to access at these particular sections on the Blueway.

Reply:

Where required the Council are currently widening the Blueway in a structured manner, and at the moment the section from Clonmel to just beyond the Anner confluence is 3m wide on average. It is the Council's intention to continue to seek funding to widen the Blueway downstream of the Anner River, which includes the narrow sections.

In that regard the Council in September 2020 submitted an ORIS (Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme) Measure 3 funding application to the Department of Rural & Community Development for an additional €100,000 for next year for this purpose and hope to have a positive reply to same by early 2021.

District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

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Motion 2000 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That under the 2021 Area Roadworks Programme sections of the Roads at Carrigeen / Wilderness Housing Estates be considered for re-surfacing having regard to their poor condition

Reply:

The Council propose to include this road for consideration under the Development Improvement Works Programme for 2021.
District Engineer.

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

Motion 2001 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That under the 2021 Area Roadworks Programme additional Car Parking spaces be provided in the Green Area in First Baron Park as the existing road is very narrow and is a danger for all road users.

Reply:

It is noted that if this goes ahead it will be a 2nd car park development in the southern section of the green area in Baron Park. While I am aware that the green area here is quite large, however, it may need to be discussed with the Planning Section as the green area in that location will be substantially reduced. Also, this issue will probably need to be discussed with the locals in the vicinity of House Nos. 14 to 35 inclusive, as there may be objections from some of these residents to a 2nd car park there.

District Engineer.

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

Motion 2002 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District give consideration to upgrade / replace the sections of footpaths that are in poor condition from House No. 3 to House No. 16, Wheatfields, Ballingarrane, Clonmel

Reply:

I inspected the footpaths in this cul-de-sac and noted that a number of repairs are required. I intend to repair two very bad sections this year, and repair the remainder of the defects in 2021.

District Engineer.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy.
The reply to the motion was noted.**

Item 8.1 – Correspondence

All correspondence circulated with the agenda was noted.

Item 9.1 – Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

- Vote of Sympathy to the Family of the late Mr. Niall O'Donnell Snr., Cuchullain Terrace, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
- Vote of Congratulations to Mr. Eamonn Wynne on winning Sports Journalist of the Year as part of the Local Ireland Media Awards.

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Item 9.1 – Any other business

There was no other business.

Signed: _____
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Date: _____

Signed: _____
District Administrator

Date: _____