

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF  
TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
CLONMEL AND Remotely Via Zoom  
AT 10.00 AM on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.**

**Present**

Cllr. R. Kennedy, Cathaoirleach.

Cllrs: Ambrose, S. Anglim, M; Bourke, K; Burgess, D; Coonan, N; Crosse, J; Darcy, G; Dunne, D; English, P; FitzGerald, M; Fitzgerald, J; Lee, S; McGrath, M; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; O'Meara, K; Murphy, Marie; O'Meara, K; Ryan, P; Ryan, S;

**Remote**

Cllrs: Black, T; Bonfield, F; Carroll, J; Denehy, FitzGerald, M; Goldsboro, I; Hanafin, S; Hannigan, J; Hanna-Hourigan, M; Lowry, M; McGrath, H; McGrath, J; Morris, S; Murphy M; O'Meara, M; Ryan, AM; Ryan, J; Smith, M;

**Also Present**

J. MacGrath, Chief Executive, Ms S. Carr, Mr. E. Lonergan, Director of Services, Mr. B. Beck, A/Director of Services, Mr. G. Walsh, Meetings Administrator.

**Apologies**

Cllrs: Bugler, P; Moran, E;

**Item 1.1**

**Welcome &  
Introduction/  
Meetings  
Protocol**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the May Meeting of the Council advising members present in the Chamber that their microphone had to be turned on when they spoke and referred members attending remotely of the protocol for remote meetings circulated with the agenda and asked members to observe the rules contained therein with regard to remote meetings.

The Meetings Administrator took a roll call and commenced the meeting with the opening prayer.

**Item 2.1**

**Disclosure/or  
Conflicts of  
Interest**

Noted, no matters were notified to the Meetings Administrator

**Item 3.1**

**Minutes of  
Special Meeting  
held on 29<sup>th</sup>  
March, 2023**

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 were proposed by **Cllr. S. Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Lee** and adopted.

**Item 3.2**  
**Minutes of**  
**Council Meeting**  
**held on 9<sup>th</sup> April,**  
**2023**

The Minutes of the April Monthly Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 were proposed by **Cllr. P. English**, seconded by **Cllr. Marie Murphy** and adopted.

**Matters Arising**

Cllr. Ambrose requested that interventions from Councillors be added to the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The Meetings Administrator Mr. G. Walsh agreed to this request.

**Item 4.1**  
**Approval to**  
**Attendance**

It was proposed by **Cllr. S. Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. N Coonan** and resolved: -

“That pursuant to Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act 2001 and having regard to (i) the benefits likely to accrue, (ii) the general interest of this administrative area and of the local community (iii) the estimated cost of the proposed attendance and the provision made for such purposes in the annual budget, hereby nominate those listed hereunder to attend the following Conferences/Seminars/Trainings: -

Seminar/Conference/ Similar Event	Dates	Venue	Nominees
Together in Politics Conference	20 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023	Royal Marine Hotel Dún Laoghaire Dublin	Cllr. John Carroll Cllr. Michael Smith Cllr. Michael FitzGerald Cllr. John FitzGerald Cllr. Micheál Anglim Cllr. Marie Murphy
Count Her In National Conference	26 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023	Cork City Hall Cork	Cllr. John Carroll Cllr. Annmarie Ryan Shiner

**Item 4 .2**

**Reports on**  
**Conferences**

Reports on Conferences were noted.

**Item 5.1**

**Consideration of**  
**Management**  
**Report**

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Management Report as circulated with the Agenda noting that the reports related to the Directorates based in Clonmel and any queries/clarifications would be dealt with by the relevant Director of Services.

Members agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take the following presentations under the relevant Directorates with the Management Report:

- Fáilte Ireland- Regenerative Tourism Scheme 2023-2026
- Siro – roll-out of high-speed Fibre broadband in County Tipperary
- Southern Waste Region – Draft National Waste Management Plan
- Diverse Tipperary – An Integration Strategy 2023-2025 - Report

## **Economic, Community & Rural Development.**

Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services responded to queries raised as follows:

### Greenways

In response to queries raised on Greenways, members were reminded that there was a substantial consultation requirement in relation to the development of Greenways, which go through a 7-phase process and the Council consult and engage with residents and landowners at each stage.

Members were updated on the extension to the Blueway Waterford with Mr. Brian Beck, DOS advising that Tipperary is the lead on this project and confirmed the Strategic Assessment Report and Feasibility Report have been forwarded to TII. It was confirmed the next stage is the corridor review and route selection process. It was noted there are consultants in place for this and Tipperary County Council have signed Section 85 documents with Waterford City and County Council along with Kilkenny County Council.

### Just Transition Territorial Area

In response to queries raised by various members Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive clarified the areas included in Just Transition Territorial Areas.

Following further clarification, it was proposed by **Cllr. G. Darcy**, seconded by **Cllr. Ml. O'Meara** and resolved: -

**"That Tipperary County Council write to Minister Eamon Ryan, Department of Environment, Climate and Communications seeking the inclusion of Lower Ormond and seeking clarification on areas of North Tipperary bordering Offaly in the Just Transition Territorial Areas".**

### CCTV

In response to queries raised it was confirmed a letter did issue to the Garda Commissioner on CCTV and no reply was received to date. Members frustrations were acknowledged. Mr. Brian Beck. DOS advised members a funding proposal for the supply, operation and management of CCTV schemes was currently at draft stage and it is proposed to hold a workshop for members shortly to consider same.

### Community Recognition Fund

Following a query Mr. Brian Beck confirmed no update had been received from the Department on this fund and it was agreed to consult with communities as soon as confirmation received. It was noted 60% of available funding has to be spent before the end of the year

### CLÁR

CLÁR Scheme Measure 1 – it was confirmed this is being progressed and staff will engage with applicants once more information is available.

It was agreed to write to the Department of Rural and Community Development again to clarify how this scheme pertains to the Clonmel

District and seek clarification as to why Killallon is the only area included for Clonmel.

#### Community Centre Investment Fund

In response to queries raised it was clarified this fund is for greenfield capital builds of a full centre and it does require planning permission along with all consents. It was confirmed Tipperary County Council have received no expressions of interest under this fund.

#### Trishaws

It was clarified the Trishaws were part of a pilot cycle scheme and no decision had been made to roll them out at present. It was agreed to liaise with the Age Friendly Department regarding the bicycles and training for same.

### **Environment & Climate Action**

#### Illegal Dumping

Roadside Dumping. Members were advised Tipperary County Council were successful this month in securing €90,000 under the National Anti-Dumping Initiative and were advised that the council have a number of pilot projects which will be commenced, during 2023.

### **Housing & Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation Response**

Before responding to queries raised on the Management Report, Ms. Sinead Carr, Director of Services made a statement in relation to a radio programme which aired two weeks ago and was subsequently printed on social media. Members were advised it related to the issue of succession of tenancies in Local Authority dwellings.

At the outset she acknowledged that the council and county need a good strong functioning media and noted it was important that different views were aired and debated on air as well as in print. It was agreed the acts of officials should be held to account but the reason this case was highlighted today was too set the record straight in a public forum and to highlight the level of misstatements made. Ms. Carr highlighted it was particularly important to maintain the level of trust with the public to allow the institution operate. Particular attention should be given to the type of comments and language used as these have consequences.

It was acknowledged there are times everyone makes mistakes but requested that everyone works under a number of core principles. Ms. Carr requested members, staff and media not to speak on media about specific cases in relation to specific people unless all of the facts are up to date.

Reference was made to the fact that the public see the members and staff as leaders within the community and the need to be honest in our discussions even when it is unpalatable with constituents.

Ms. Carr requested any issues in relation to the way Housing Staff carry out their jobs or implement the policies be directed to her as the first port

of call. Members were given assurance the evidence would be examined and issues dealt with. As a Director Ms Carr expressed her dissatisfaction at people going on a public station making ill-judged, ill-informed and wholly inaccurate statements about a particular council official who was carrying out their work in accordance with the policy and procedures that are laid down. Ms. Carr highlighted staff have to work in volatile situations where there is a lot of concern, upset, anxiousness and frustration and raised concerns where intemperate or inflammatory language is used it could make the space for staff very unsafe. Ms. Carr requested it put on record that the staff member referenced is one of the most dedicated, professional, compassionate and diligent workers that she has the pleasure of working with

In conclusion Ms. Carr confirmed she had met the Councillor in question and he has acknowledged he didn't have all the facts in place and was put in an awkward position. The councillor has spoken with the particular constituent who has agreed to work with the Council to resolve issues and the Councillor also agreed to apologise to the council official in private

Ms. Carr concluded by noting that all of us make mistakes but requested everyone operate within the key principles as language matters, words matter and facts matter.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. Sinead Carr and noted the elected members have the best interests of the people they serve at heart but noted Councillors should have the best interest of the staff at heart also.

#### Rent a Room Scheme

In response to queries raised on Council Tenants renting rooms for up to €14,000 a year it was advised no details have been received but it was agreed to update members once available.

#### Choice Base Lettings

Apartments in Carrick –Members were advised these apartments are two approved housing body units and don't come through Choice Base Lettings.

In response to query re issuing correspondence to those who have been unsuccessful on a bid, Ms. Carr advised the SPC examined the matter and found this would be hugely cumbersome/confusing.

#### Succession of Tenancy

It was noted housing had completed a review of this policy approx. 2 years ago however It was agreed to bring the Succession of Tenancy Policy back to the SPC but noted that it would be very hard to find the perfect solution.

#### Emergency Accommodation – Homeless

Members were reminded the Local Authority requires at least 6 months to work with applicants issued a Notice to Quit so if members are aware of people receiving Notice to Quits it is important they immediately engage with the council to allow time to work up solutions. It was agreed where the housing section are trying to purchase the house, it is important to give updates to the housing applicant.

### Notice to Quit

It was clarified that 248 Notices to Quit had been received since June 2022 with an additional 24 Notices to Quit since the last emergency meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Members were advised the council has purchased 56 Notice to Quit properties to date and of the remaining 192 notices a further 32 properties are at various stages of consideration for purchase. Further clarification was given in relation to the remaining 160 NTQ applicants. Members were advised the current priority is the 98 HAP tenants with NTQ. It was noted of these 98 (HAP NTQs) there are currently 21 live with 13 engaging with staff to find solutions. Members were advised on the various actions.

The position regarding NTQ Applicants not within Social Income Limit pathways were clarified with Ms. Carr advising when an NTQ applicant presents to the Local Authority an assessment takes place to determine the level of homelessness and examine what options are available. If the applicant is deemed homeless and below the €53,000 income limit they are referred to the Housing Agency where the tenant in situ option will be progressed once the applicant's landlord is in a position to work with the Local Authority however if this not the case the applicant comes back to Local Authority to find the best solution.

### Vacant Housing Officer

It was confirmed a business case was currently being prepared for submission to the Department to fill this position and it was agreed to keep members updated on progress on the matter.

### Homeless Presentation

In response to queries on the 114 homeless presentations it was confirmed this figure represents presentations made and is not the number of people currently in emergency accommodation. Members were advised the actual number of people in Emergency B&Bs at present totals 16 singles and 4 families. It was confirmed all are being worked with and there is a pathway in place for two of the families at present

### Invalid Housing Applications

Members were advised there were a variety of reasons why 312 applications were deemed invalid, which generally related to incomplete documentation.

### Housing Adaption Grants

It noted Tipperary County Council have received €3,408,125 in private grant funding for 2023 and it was acknowledged this was a significant level of funding which will allow the Local Authority support a significant number of people to remain in their homes longer.

### Affordable Housing Scheme

Members were advised a document will be circulated that captures all the supports that are available under the Affordable Housing Scheme, a calculator will also be uploaded to the website and Tipperary County Council will engage with auctioneers and developers to go through the document.

In response to Cllr McGraths query on the uptake or timeframes for the Affordable Housing Survey members were advised Housing intend to advertise a number of schemes shortly and it is intended to relook at the survey and most likely close it off to focus on the particular areas being advertised.

#### Social Housing Clerihan

It was noted the expected completion date for the 14 houses in Clerihan is Q4 2023

#### Pledge a Property

In response to Cllr. Bourke's query on what criteria property owners have to meet to qualify under the commercial pledge a property scheme, Ms Carr clarified Tipperary County Council are now managing the IRC Pledged Properties Scheme along with the Offer a Home Pledged Property. Members advised the Department of Housing operate the commercial side, however Ms Carr agreed to engage with Cllr Bourke and to follow up with the Department.

#### Croí Cónaithe Scheme

Ms. Carr, Director of Services advised that housing are awaiting details on the amendments to the scheme.

#### Community Liaison Officer Thurles MD

It was noted this was currently a priority in terms of filling the vacant post.

#### Dogs

Ms. Carr advised that any issues with dogs in estates members should contact the Community Liaison Officers and Dog Warden.

#### Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

It was advised this policy will be reviewed with the SPC and housing currently have an inhouse working group commencing work on the review.

#### Social Housing Scheme

It was confirmed a number of one-bedroom units have been designed into new schemes. It was agreed to revert with specific numbers.

### **Item 5.2**

#### **Local Community Development Committee Annual Report**

The Tipperary County Council Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2022 had been circulated to the members and was noted.

### **Item 5.3**

#### **Tipperary Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2022**

The Tipperary Joint Policing Committee Annual Report 2022 had been circulated to the members and was noted.

#### **Item 5.4**

#### **Diverse Tipperary - An Integration Strategy 2023- 2025**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Margo Hayes, Administrative Officer, Community & Economic Section to the meeting.

Ms. Hayes commenced by advising members that this is the first Migrant Integration Strategy in the County and is a strategy of the Local Community Development Committee which was before the council for endorsement. Ms. Hayes outlined the various steps in the consultation process and spoke in detail on the findings of the survey which took place. Members were advised there are 42 actions across the following 8 key areas Education and Language, Integration, Celebrate Diversity, Awareness, Sport, Challenging Racism, Increase Representation, Target Marginalised.

Members thanked Margo Hayes for her informative presentation and ongoing hard work. Members confirmed all migrants are very welcome in Tipperary and agreed all 40 members need to stand together as a united front.

The Diverse Tipperary – An Integration Strategy 2023-2025 was endorsed by the members of Tipperary County Council on the proposal of **Cllr. G, Darcy**, seconded by **Cllr. Marie. Murphy**.

Mr. B. Beck, DOS thanked the members for endorsing the report and acknowledged the work of Margo Hayes as well as the Migrant Forum in the development of this document. The work of the LCDC and SPC was also noted. In conclusion Mr. B. Beck noted in 2015 there were 15,900 migrants in the County and advised this has increased significantly with the number of migrants now in Tipperary equivalent to the population of Clonmel.

#### **Item 6.1** **Regenerative Tourism Scheme 2023-2026**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Brian O'Flynn, Head of Ireland's Ancient East who jointed the meeting remotely via zoom and invited him to make a presentation to the members on the Regenerative Tourism Scheme 2023-2026 under the EU Just Transition Fund (EU JTF).

Mr. O'Flynn commenced by setting out the agenda for his presentation.

Members were advised Carrick on Suir and Thurles Municipal Districts are eligible for funding under this new scheme. Mr. O'Flynn noted that in advance of the Just Transition Scheme, Fáilte Ireland had been considering ideas from a visitor perspective and had decided on a trails network.

Mr. O'Flynn confirmed any work undertaken by Fáilte Ireland is linked to their Regional Tourism Development Strategies 2023-2027. It was noted these strategies are developed in consultation with Local Authorities and other Stakeholders. Members were advised Tipperary County Council is covered by two strategies namely Hidden Heartlands and Irelands Ancient East. It was confirmed both strategies have similar objectives.

Members were advised Fáilte Ireland had been awarded funding of €68million to administer on behalf of the Just Transition Fund. Members were given an overview of the chronology of events which led to Fáilte Ireland being awarded the funding. It was highlighted to the members that 3 Priorities



have been set out in the policy from a national perspective and must be adhered to. Mr. O'Flynn advised there were 9 areas within each of the priorities and Fáilte Ireland are involved with the following 2 Priorities:

Priority A1.1 Economic Diversification €38million.  
Priority A2.3 Network of Trails €30m.

Members were advised the funding must be spent by 2027. It was noted €30million has been assigned to start the journey covered under the Midlands Trail Plan. This plan outlines how a connected network can be developed across the midlands and details the intention to develop 50km of trails. Members were advised this will be dictated by the availability of Bord Na Mona lands.

Mr. O'Flynn confirmed Fáilte Ireland have been assigned to deliver The Regenerative Scheme through EMRA and advised this has been split in to the following 4 Strands:

Strand 1 - Trail Development on old railways through rehabilitated wetlands

Strand 2 - Support for SMES and Amenity Development

Strand 3 – Low Carbon Alternative Accommodation

Strand 4 – Smart Solutions/digitisation programme for tourism sector

In conclusion Mr. Flynn notified members that there is public consultation process to help finalise funding schemes which commences in the Anner Hotel, Thurles on 9<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30-8.30. Members were advised Fáilte Ireland will continue to consult with Tipperary County Council along with other stakeholders and aim to launch funding schemes in July/August 2023.

In response to queries raised by members Mr. O'Flynn clarified the Just Transition Funding is specifically to develop trails of a significant scale. He confirmed Fáilte Ireland were an administrative body who were working under EU directive.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. O'Flynn for his presentation and highlighted to members it was important to note there will be a call for funding in Carrick On Suir and Thurles Municipal Districts in early July.

## **Item 6.2**

### **SIRO's roll-out of highspeed Fibre Broadband in County Tipperary**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Amanda Clancy, Director of Corporate Affairs and Denis Cambridge, Director of Build, to the meeting.

Ms. Clancy commenced by outlining the agenda and advising the presentation was to allow SIRO update Councilors on the roll out of high-speed broadband across Tipperary and update members on the work in progress and future plans. The benefits of SIRO for Tipperary were highlighted. Members were advised to date 7,975 premises across Cashel, Clonmel, Nenagh Roscrea have been completed and this includes both residential and commercial premises. To date there has been €20million investment across Tipperary.

Mr. Denis Cambridge gave members an overview of the build to date and outlined what was next for County Tipperary.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, thanked Ms. Clancy and Mr. Cambridge along with their team for the work they are doing and acknowledged the investment was welcomed highlighting the importance of a good quality high speed broadband for Tipperary. The work of Tipperary County Council Broadband Officer, Simon Howe was also acknowledged.

Members thanked Ms. Clancy and Mr Cambridge for their informative presentation. In response to queries it was clarified Broadband in rural Ireland was being rolled out by National Broadband Ireland. It was agreed to invite National Broadband Ireland to provide a presentation at a future upcoming council meeting. It was also confirmed that it was possible to roll out Broadband to more than 3,500 homes in Thurles if the demand was there. It was noted there was a capacity to provide 25GB but advised it was not yet operational in Europe due to lack of demand.

The Cathaoirleach concluded by thanking Ms. Clancy and Mr. Cambridge for the presentation.

### **Item 6.3 Draft National Waste Management Plan**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Phillipa King, Regional Waste Co-Ordinator, Southern Waste Region to the meeting. Mr. Eamon Lonergan welcomed Ms. King to the meeting also and advised members that each Local Authority in the Country is involved in this plan and advised it is now in the period of statutory consultation and Ms. King was invited to give members more information to allow members to make a written submission. Members were advised the consultation process was opened until the 5<sup>th</sup> July.

Ms. King commenced by advising that the Draft Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy launched Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023. Members were advised that the 3 National Waste Management Plans will be replaced with One Single National Plan. Members were advised collaboration will be required for the delivery of this plan. It was highlighted that approximately 13.9million tonnes of waste are produced in the country each year. It is made up of approximately 58% construction/demolition, 33% municipal, 12% from households, 11% from the commercial sector. This is equivalent to 2.7tonne per person per year. It was highlighted the plan contains five volumes It was noted the ambition of the new plan was to have a 0% growth per person. Ms. King identified the targets for consumption which have been set at 1% reduction per person per year, 2% reduction in construction materials per year, 90% of recycling material in compliance, 10kg reuse of materials per person per year., 10 sites for reuse, 3 repair of material collections. There are a number of Core Policies which underpin the work of the plan.

In summary Ms. King advised there was 1 Plan Ambition, 6 National Targets, 13 Core Policies, 16 Focus Areas, 73 Targeted Policies, 83 Priority Actions, 51 Key Deliverables.

Members thanked Ms. King and in response to queries raised on green waste washing Ms. King confirmed there is no integration of waste allowed.

Spot checks are carried out to ensure compliance and confirmed bottle recycling is also kept separate.

Concerns were raised in relation to clothes/textile waste and Ms. King advised there was a new forum set up nationally to manage this issue and agreed there is a huge amount of textile landfilling

In response to queries on Local Authorities having a role in the collection of household waste in the future Ms. King advised this would require new legislation and there are currently no plans for this in the framework.

In response to queries on Illegal Dumping members were advised €3m had been released for anti-dumping initiatives.

It was clarified to members that if waste collection areas were to be zoned this would require legislation but it was suggested that Tipperary County Council could take on board what other LA have done and convene waste collectors together to outline the issues and find a suitable solution.

It was also confirmed there is no waste regulator in place but there is a price monitoring group.

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services confirmed as a Local Authority it is our responsibility to seek investment and noted there is an allocation of €40million nationally and confirmed Tipperary will seek to be part of the pilots and will be represented at the Regional Meetings. In conclusion Mr. Lonergan DOS encouraged members to get involved in the consultation process and highlighted the closing date of the 5<sup>th</sup> July and thanked Phillipa for her presentation.

Chief Executive Joe MacGrath thanked Eamon and the Environment team in the area of waste and litter management and thanked Phillipa for her ongoing work on behalf of Tipperary County Council

**Item 7.1**  
**Annual Meeting**

On the proposal of **Cllr R. Molloy**, seconded by **Cllr S. Ambrose** it was agreed that the Annual Meeting would be held in Knockavilla Community Hall, Knockavilla at 11 a.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023.

**Item 7.2**  
**Civic Reception**  
**Conferral.**

Conferral of the following Civic Reception was approved on the proposal of **Cllr S. Ambrose**, seconded by **Cllr Michael Fitzgerald**: -

Civic Reception

Shane and Trevor Breen, Cashel in recognition of their contribution to show jumping at National and International Level and representing Ireland on Nations Cup Teams on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.30pm, Bru Boru Cultural Centre, Cashel

**Item 7.3**

The following Councillor workshop date was approved on the proposal of **Cllr. D. Dunne**, seconded by **Cllr. G. Darcy**: -

It was noted that the workshop would focus on the following matters:

- Local Development Strategy Draft Consultation
- Residential Zoned Land Tax & Modular Homes
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 10am held remotely via zoom.

### **Item 8.1**

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 were noted.

#### **Consideration of Orders for the period to the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.**

### **Item 9.1**

Correspondence as circulated was noted as follows: -

#### **Correspondence**

- Reply dated 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 from Office of the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth of Ireland re. Mother and Baby Homes
- Reply received 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 from Office of the Minister for Finance re. Retail Banking Sector

### **Item 10.1**

Resolutions from other Councils was noted as follows: -

#### **Motions from other Councils**

##### **Wexford County Council**

“That Wexford County Council endorses and remains to the roll out of the Able Disabled campaign as a means of inclusion and prioritising the needs of those with a disability by companies and utilities.

Furthermore, as part of the evolving nationwide expansion of the AD call sign, this Council calls on all Chambers of Commerce members, County Councils and all utilities to engage, promote, and sign up to the AD Award Programme as part of their corporate social responsibilities.

Upon passage, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities, Chambers of Commerce Ireland, Regulators and Government Information Service for dissemination”

##### **Westmeath County Council**

“That Westmeath County Council would write to the Minister of Housing and request that he support and encourage the immediate construction of affordable housing units by temporarily removing the need for local authority contributions and facilitating the designation of affordable units in developments that are in the planning system or that have a grant of planning”.

### **Item 11.1**

Members passed a vote of sympathy to the following: -

#### **Expressions of votes of sympathy**

- Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro on the death of her uncle Paddy Kennedy
- Tim O’Driscoll, IT Section on the death of his mother Patricia
- Anselm McGowan, District Administrator, Tipperary Cahir Cashel MD on the death of his father in law John Cormac Lally
- Mattie Ryan (Coole), Former Councillor on the death of his brother Paddy Ryan (Coole).
- Former Councillor Helen Magee on the death of her father William Billy McGee

- The Shanahan Family, Carrick on Suir on the death of Margaret Shanahan

**Votes of  
Congratulations**

Members passed a vote of congratulations to the following: -

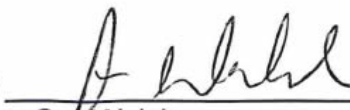
- King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla on the occasion of their coronations
- Newcastle GAA on winning the All Ireland Scór na nÓg Rince Foirne dancing competition and for winning County and Provisional Championships
- Joe MacGrath on winning a life time achievement award at the LAMA Awards

**Item 12.1**  
**Any Other  
Business**

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach.

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

Signed/  \_\_\_\_\_  
Ger Walsh,  
Meetings Administrator.

Date: