

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF
TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,
NENAGH, AND Remotely Via Zoom
AT 10.00 AM on Monday 11th December, 2023.**

Present

Cllr. G. Darcy, Cathaoirleach.

Cllrs. Ambrose, S; Anglim, MI; Bonfield, F; Bugler, P; Carroll, J; Dunne, D; English, P; Hanafin, S; Hannigan, J; Kennedy, R; Lee, S; McGrath, H; McGrath, JR; McGrath, M; Moran, E; Morris, S; Murphy, M; Smith, MI;

Remote

Cllrs: Black, T; Burgess, D; Crosse, J; Dennehy, NJ; FitzGerald, J; FitzGerald, M; FitzGerald, MI; Goldsboro, I; Hanna Hourigan, M; Lowry, MI; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Murphy, MI; O'Meara, K; O'Meara, MI; Ryan, AM; Ryan, J; Ryan, P; Ryan, S;

Also Present

Mr. J. MacGrath, Chief Executive, Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Ms S. Kennedy Director of Services, Mr. M. Connolly, Head of Finance, Mr. B. Beck, A/Director of Services, Mr L. Brett, S.E., M. A.M Devaney, S.E.P., Mr. G. Walsh, Meetings Administrator.

Apologies

K. Bourke, N. Coonan

Item 1.1

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the December Meeting of the Council.

**Welcome &
Introduction/
Meetings
Protocol**

He welcomed Ms. Sharon Kennedy as Director of Services for Planning and Development, Emergency Services and Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District Manager.

Members present in the Chamber were advised 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.

**Vote of
Sympathy**

The Cathaoirleach passed a vote of sympathy to the wife, father and sister and extended family of singer/songwriter Shane MacGowan, R.I.P. who had spent much of his life in Silvermines, Nenagh.

He thanked staff of Nenagh Municipal District, Civil Defence and Garda Siochana for facilitating the funeral and to the people of Nenagh for paying tribute to the late Shane MacGowan. He especially complimented Fr. Pat Gilbert who officiated at the funeral.

Members joined in expressing their sympathy and to complimenting the many people and services who made a sad day special for those who attended the funeral.

A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect.

Item 2.1
Disclosure/or
Conflicts of
Interest

Noted, no matters were notified to the Meetings Administrator

Item 3.1
Minutes of
Council Meeting
held on 27th
October, 2023

The Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting held on 27th October, 2023, were proposed by **Cllr. Marie Murphy**, seconded by **Cllr. John Carroll** and adopted.

Matters Arising

Algae Bloom, Lough Derg

Cllr Bugler sought further scientific detail on the effect of Water Treatment Plants on Algae Bloom and it was agreed to revert to her with this information.

Cllr S. Morris requested that consideration would be given to a review of licensed discharges to Lough Derg.

Item 4.1
Approval to
Attendance

It was proposed by **Cllr. R. Kennedy** seconded by **Cllr S. Hanafin** 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
Celtic Conference – Irish Social Welfare System	1 st -3 rd December	O'Donovans Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork	Cllr. Michael O'Meara Cllr. Roger Kennedy

Item 4 .2
Reports on
Conferences

Proposed by **Cllr. R. Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Hanrahan** and noted.

Item 5.1

Section 183
Notice -
Disposal of
property at
Longfordpass
South,
Gortnahoe

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

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 0.074ha of land situated at Longfordpass South, Gortnahoe, Co. Tipperary as contained in folio TY66673F to Mr. Sean Hayden in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023”.

The disposal was required to facilitate rectification of Section 183 Notice passed on 11th September, 2023 wherein a plot of land was excluded in error.

Item 5.2

Section 183
Notice -
Disposal of
property at
Gorteeshal,
Ballyporeen

It was proposed by **Cllr Marie Murphy** seconded by **Cllr M. McGrath** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 0.3045ha of land at Ballyporeen, Co. Tipperary as contained in Folio TY39966F to Ballyporeen Childcare Committee Ltd by way of an amendment to their existing lease agreement with Tipperary County Council in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023.”

The disposal was required to facilitate the development of a sensory garden for the benefit of the community.

Cllr M. McGrath thanked the Housing Section for facilitating this development.

Item 5.3

Section 183
Notice -
Disposal of
property at
Lisbunny
Business Park,
Nenagh

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Morris** seconded by **Cllr J. Carroll** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 0.143ha of lands at Lisbunny Business Park to Lukasz Bukala and Marcin Florczyk in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023”.

The disposal was required to facilitate the transfer of the property to the names of the purchasers

Item 5.4

Section 183

Notice - Disposal of property at Rosegreen, Cashel

It was proposed by **Cllr S Ambrose** seconded by **Cllr P. English** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of two plots at Rosegreen, Cashel, Co. Tipperary, ie. Plot B circa 0.0055ha and plot C circa 0.267ha to Cashel and Emly Diocesan Trust CLG, in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023”.

The disposal was required to regularise title of walkway to allow the upgrade of the pedestrian footpath.

Item 5.5

Section 183

Notice - Disposal of property at Butlerstown, Ballyneale, Carrick-on-Suir

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Ambrose** seconded by **Cllr P. English** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of 2no. plots of land measuring circa 0.042ha (A) and 0.051ha (B) at Butlerstown, Ballyneale, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary to Walsh and Nagel Ltd for a consideration of €500.00 in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023.”

The disposal was required to facilitate a name change on the Deed of Rectification, Section 183 Notice passed on the 27th October, 2023 refers.

Item 5.6

Section 183

Notice – Disposal of property at Longorchard, Templetuohy, Thurles

It was proposed by **Cllr N. Coonan** seconded by **Cllr E. Moran** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 15sqm at Longorchard, Templetuohy, Thurles, Co. Tipperary to James and Margaret Sweeney for consideration of €100.00 plus the council’s legal fees in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023.”

The disposal was required to facilitate a Deed of Rectification to regularise a mapping error

Item 5.7

Section 183

Notice - 9 Marian Terrace, Clonmel

It was proposed by **Cllr P. English** seconded by **Cllr S. Ambrose** and resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of the lands contained in Folio TY79L i.e. No. 9 Marion Terrace, Clonmel, to Michael O’Donnell, as executor of the estate of Joseph O’Donnell, via a Deed of Rectification in

accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th November, 2023”.

The disposal was required to facilitate the rectification of a mapping error.

Item 5.8

Section 85 Agreement between Tipperary County Council and Kilkenny County Council - Suir Blueway to Waterford Greenway Link

The Active Travel Team in Tipperary County Council were working with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Waterford City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Tobins Consulting Engineers to progress a Feasibility Study and Options Selection Study for the Suir Blueway to Waterford Greenway Project. Tipperary County Council received funding from Transport Infrastructure Ireland to develop the feasibility and options selection reports for the development of a greenway to link the Suir Blueway that currently terminates in Sean Healy Park, Carrick-On-Suir and the Waterford Greenway. One of the options to be assessed during the project development is a route corridor that crosses the River Suir at Fiddown and continues along the northern bank of the river Suir in County Kilkenny. As Tipperary County Council was acting as the Lead Authority for this study it was necessary to put in place a Section 85 agreement to allow TCC to complete the feasibility and options selection study in the functional area of Kilkenny Council Council

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Ambrose** seconded by **Cllr R. Kennedy** and resolved: -

“That Tipperary County Council agrees to the making of an Agreement, as presented to it under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) between Tipperary County Council and Kilkenny County Council in respect of the provision of a feasibility study on development of the Carrick on Suir to Kilmeaden Greenway”.

Item 5.9

Re-allocation of Arts Acts Grants

It was noted that three grants approved under the Arts Act Grant Scheme 2023 last April would not now be taken up fully due to changes to events/projects during 2023. An amount of €1,495 was now available for re-allocation under the 2023 scheme. The guidelines for the scheme allow for re-allocation of these funds.

It was proposed by **Cllr J. Carroll** seconded by **Cllr S. Hanafin** and resolved: -

“That re-allocation of grants to the sum of €1,495 as per the schedule below under the Arts Act 2023 are approved: -

No	Group	Recommended Allocation 2023
1	Poetry Plus, Carrick on Suir	600
2	Tipperary Rural Traveller Project	895

Item 5.10

Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024-2029

It was proposed by Cllr. M. McGrath, seconded by Cllr. M. Murphy and resolved: -

In accordance section 66B of Local Government Reform Act 2014

66B. (1) Each local authority shall make, in accordance with section 66C and any regulations made, or general policy guidelines issued, by the Minister for the purposes of that section, and the principles of sustainable development, a 6 year local economic and community plan (in this section referred to as the 'Plan'), which shall be referred to as the 'Local Economic and Community Plan', prefixed by the name of the local authority concerned, and the Plan shall be for—

- (a) the promotion of economic development in its functional area, and
- (b) the promotion of local and community development in its functional area.

That the County Tipperary Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029 be adopted by Tipperary County Council.

Item 6.1

Audited Financial Statements for 2022 and Local Government Auditors Report

The Audited Financial Statements for 2022 and the Local Government Auditors Report thereon had been circulated to the members and noted.

Item 7.1

Ratification of Nominees - Economic Development & Enterprise SPC

It was proposed by **Cllr S. Ambrose**, seconded by **Cllr R. Kennedy** and resolved: -

"That Mr. Conor Mulcahy of Conor Mulcahy Construction Ltd be and is hereby nominated to the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC".

Item 8.1

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 Nenagh and any queries/clarifications would be dealt with by the relevant Director of Services.

Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services and Mr L. Brett, S.E., responded to queries raised as follows: -

N. 24 – Cahir to Waterford

A remote meeting for Oireachtas and elected members outlining the proposed transport solution for the N24 Cahir to Waterford Project would be held on Friday 19th January at 9.30 a.m. Affected landowners would receive communication by post prior to this date. In person meetings would be held the following week at the below locations where both landowners and elected members could attend: -

24th January - Mooncoin

25th January – Carrick-on Suir

26th January - Clonmel

27th January - Cahir.

TFI Local Link – Clonmel

The launch of the Clonmel Town Bus Service on the 11th December was welcomed by members.

Shannon Bridge Crossing

The first steel beam being positioned as part of the new Shannon Crossing at Ballina/Killaloe was a significant occasion in the progress of the Killaloe Bypass/Shannon Bridge Crossing Scheme.

Lough Derg Greenway Project.

This extensive project would require considerable consultation in order to get an agreed route. The process was continuing.

Active Travel Schemes

Thurles (Schools & Third Level Linkage Project) - It was noted that funding was not allocated to progress this scheme.

Cashel Road, Clonmel – Part 8 planning had been granted and the advancement of this scheme was dependant on funding allocation.

Ballina – This project was under review.

Dublin Road, Nenagh – Awaiting construction approval.

Thurles Inner Relief Road

Negotiations with landowners on the route were advancing

Suir Blueway

Additional indicator markers had been erected along the blueway and emergency access points were available from the public road.

Public Lighting

There were ongoing discussions with the Maintenance Contractor to improve timelines for the repair of public lighting. The Contractor had recently increased the number of crews working on maintenance issues.

Hedge Cutting

Hedge Cutting season was between September and the end of February and landowners were encouraged to carry out hedge cutting on their properties.

Roadside Trees.

The maintenance of roadside trees and traffic management while works were being carried out was a matter for landowners. Should a road closure be necessary the landowner should contact the local authority.

Winter Maintenance

The emphasis of the winter maintenance programme was to reduce surface water on roads.

A map of the salting routes under the Winter Maintenance Programme was available on the Tipperary County Council website and it was confirmed that there was adequate stocks available in the event of a severe weather event.

Road Reinstatements

The reinstatement of roads following road openings were subject to a Road Opening Licence and the conditions of that licence had to be complied with in relation to the standard of works carried out.

N24 Moorstown, Cahir

Road surface repairs required to the N24 at Moorstown Cahir would be raised with the TII.

R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh Bends

Advance work including fencing and site clearance work is expected to commence in Q1 2024

N.62 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge

The advancement of this scheme was being discussed with TII.

N62 Pedestrian Crossing Templemore

The provision of a pedestrian crossing near the Church in Templemore was raised with TII but was not approved.

N62 Slievenamon Road Thurles Phase 2

The detailed design for this scheme would be completed in 2024.

N.24 Main Street N74 Fr. Matthew Street, Tipperary Town

Tender documents were currently being examined for this scheme.

N.75 Liberty Square to Anner Hotel

It was noted that the carrying out of works on this scheme during school holidays would be ideal but the work schedule would be determined by the Contractor appointed to the scheme.

Tullaskeagh Junction, Roscrea

The progression of a scheme at this location would be welcomed.

Munster Hotel Car Park, Thurles

It was noted that the Car Park at the Munster Hotel, Thurles, was not owned by Tipperary County Council and the previous lease was terminated by the owner.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland

It was confirmed that members should raise issues concerning the road network operated by TII with Roads Engineers in Tipperary County Council who would liaise with TII.

Flooding Ballina

Interim works were being carried out to gullies to alleviate flooding in Ballina.

EV Charging

13 new fast EV Charging Stations were being installed across Tipperary which could charge 24 cars simultaneously and were at various stages of installation. This brings the number of charging spaces available to the public in the county to over 100.

Planning and Development (including Town Centre First and Just Transition)

Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services, and Ms. AM. Devaney, SEP, responded to queries raised as follows: -

Cluster Housing Kilsheelan.

A decision was awaited from the Department on this scheme.

Conservation Officer

The position of Conservation Officer had been advertised.

Modular Homes/Demountable dwellings

Having regard to queries raised concerning the provision of modular housing/ timber cabins and mobile homes in response to the national housing issue, a number of Elected Members sought a moratorium on enforcement action for this type of development, having particular regard to the indication that the Department is to review of the legislation with respect to same. It was noted that the Council is bound by the current legislation in place notwithstanding the fact that a review of planning legislation has been indicated by the Minister and the Council will have to await the outcome of that process.

In relation to demountable dwellings, the Council is obliged to investigate all complaints received in line with its obligations under Part VIII of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and in doing so, will be aware of and sensitive to individual circumstances.

Vacant Properties/Protected Structures.

Information evenings had been held for Vacant Property owners outlining planning policy and supports available and these events would be further considered for 2024.

Rightsizing

Planning policy did not provide for downsizing of owners of dwelling but there were policies in relation to the reuse of existing housing stock and the adaptation of family homes for other family members.

Planning Application – Appeals.

The policies and objectives of the County Development Plan were consistent with the National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan. An Bord Pleanála had statutory timeframes to decide on appeals with an 18 week objective.

Urban Regeneration Development Funding (URDF)

It was confirmed that Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles were the only Tipperary towns eligible for Urban Regeneration Development Funding.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

The Council was preparing proposals for delivery of RRDF Call 5

Local Area Plans

The adoption of Local Area Plans was a reserved function. Following consideration of the Chief Executive's report a Local Area Plan shall be deemed to be made, amended or revoked as appropriate.

Workshops

It was agreed that a member's workshop on planning policy in relation to rural enterprises would be arranged early in 2024.

Emergency Services & Emergency Planning

Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services and Mr. E. Ryan, Chief Fire Officer, responded to queries raised as follows: -

Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

It was agreed to recirculate information to all members regarding the Community Smoke Alarm Scheme.

Official Opening Fire Stations

It was agreed to issue an invitation to the Minister to perform official openings of Templemore and Cashel Fire Stations

Fire Station Expansion/Upgrade

It was noted that applications were being progressed for the expansion/upgrade of Roscrea and Borrisokane Fire Stations.

Fire Safety at University Hospital Limerick

In response to a query raised concerning the safety of people working in and attending the emergency services at UHL, it was agreed to follow up with the Chief Fire Officer of Limerick City & County Council to convey the Council's concerns with regard to the emergency department at UHL Limerick on health and safety grounds having regard to the number of persons on trolleys at the hospital.

Library, Cultural Services & Biodiversity.

The Cathaoirleach advised members that Notice of Motion Ref: 2713 would be taken as part of the Management Report on Library, Cultural Services and Biodiversity.

Item 12.1

Notice of Motion **Ref: 2713 Civic** **Memorial Policy**

Motion Ref 2713 was submitted by Cllrs K. Bourke, D. Dunne, M. Fitzgerald, I Goldsboro, K. O'Meara.

The motion was proposed by **Cllr D. Dunne**

"The members of Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District-- Cllr.Kieran Bourke, Cllr.David Dunne, Cllr.Mark Fitzgerald, Cllr.Imelda Goldsboro, Cllr. Kevin O'Meara passed at a recent council meeting the following:

To name the Town Park "CLANCY PARK" after the Clancy Brothers.

I am calling on Tipperary County Council to review and amend section 7 "Infrastructure" of the "Civic Memorial Policy".This would allow Carrick Municipal District to name its Town Park "CLANCY PARK".

The motion was seconded by **Cllr P. English**

The reply to the motion was noted as follows: -

Tipperary County Council recognises that public commemoration and memorials offer opportunities to honour, celebrate, or remember a person, group of persons or events of significance. They provide an opportunity to highlight important social, cultural and economic contributions to society, to celebrate the County of Tipperary and to create a 'sense of place' which is identified as being of great importance to citizens and visitors. The policy does allow for the naming of major infrastructures such as roundabouts, buildings (non-residential), facilities and bridges. It does not allow for parks, fire stations, libraries and utility facilities to be named after individuals or events. The policy has been in operation since it was adopted at the full Council meeting in May 2019. Following a Notice of Motion in December 2021 to amend the policy to allow the naming of parks, fire stations, libraries and bridges after individuals, the Plenary Council referred the policy back the Community, Culture and Library SPC. The SPC met on 11th March, 2022 where this matter was an agenda item. The current policy was reviewed by the SPC and proposed the proposed amendment was considered at length.

The SPC made the following decision relating to the Motion:

- The Civic Memorial Policy has only been in operation since May 2019
- The policy has worked well to date and has simplified the process relating to memorials
- It would be premature to amend the policy at this point. The current policy should remain in place

A report outlining this decision was presented by the Chair of the Community, Culture and Library SPC to the CPG meeting on 8th April, 2022 where this decision was ratified by the CPG.

Director of Services Mr Brian Beck, reiterated the content of the reply response and said that the current policy was robust and was working well.

Cllr Dunne said that naming the park after the Clancy Brothers would be of huge benefit to Carrick-on-Suir. He said the Clancy Brothers have a direct association with the park, referring to the fact their father was once its caretaker. He said that there was national and international support for naming this park after the Clancy Brothers and noted that other parks in the county were named after people.

Mr Beck cautioned that that this was not just a Carrick-on-Suir District issue. The Civic Memorial Policy was for the whole county. He pointed out the policy allowed for the naming of buildings and suggested there would be no problem with erecting a plaque in the park to commemorate the Clancy Brothers.

Following further discussion on the motion and in an effort to reach a consensus Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, suggested that the motion would be referred to the Cultural SPC in January for consideration and that the Civic Memorial Policy would also be listed as an item on the agenda for Councillor Workshop to take place in Q1 2024 and that the motion would be re-submitted on the agenda for a future meeting of the Plenary Council during 2024.

Cllr Dunne indicated his agreement to the proposal and this was agreed by members.

Library, Cultural Services & Biodiversity.

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

Clonmel Library

The design process for Clonmel Library refurbishment was being finalised.

Thurles Library

The car park at the Source Arts Centre and Thurles Library remained closed following fire damage. An examination of the cause of the fire together with an assessment of damage was being carried out.

Item 9.1

Date for January Monthly Meeting

Members were advised that the January Monthly Meeting should take place on Monday 8th January, 2024 but having regard to the Christmas Holidays it was proposed that the meeting would be re-scheduled to Friday 12th January, 2024. The Corporate Policy Group endorsed the rescheduled date at their meeting held on Friday 8th December.

It was proposed by Cllr S. Hanafin seconded by Cllr R. Kennedy and agreed that the January Monthly Meeting of Tipperary County Council would be held on Friday 12th January 2024 at 11am in Clonmel Civic Offices.

It was noted that the CPG meeting would go-head as scheduled on Friday 5th January, 2024 at 10.00am, remotely via Zoom.

Item 9.2

Date for Workshop/Webi nar LACAP

Members were advised that the Local Authority Climate Action Plan would be brought before the Council at the February meeting for consideration and it was proposed to hold a workshop with the members in advance. The suggested date was Thursday 1st February, 2024 at 2.30pm remotely via zoom and this date had been endorsed by the Corporate Policy Group.

It was proposed by Cllr Marie Murphy, seconded by Cllr R. Kennedy and agreed that a remote workshop would be held on 1st February, 2024, to facilitate a webinar on LACAP and discussion also on the Civic Memorial Policy.

Item 9.3

Briefing on Preferred Transport Solution N24 Waterford to Cahir Project

Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services, informed members that a remote briefing on the preferred transport solution N.24 Waterford to Cahir Project would take place on Friday 19th January, 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

Item 10.1

Consideration of Orders for the period to the 30th November, 2023

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 30th November, 2023 were noted.

Item 11.1

Notice of Motion Ref: 2694 – Section 39 Organisations and staff

Motion Ref. 2694 was proposed by **Cllr A.M. Ryan**

“That Tipperary County Council write to the Minister for Health to express the councils full support for Section 39 Organisations and staff and to call on the Minister to restore full pay parity to these workers.

Under 2008, workers in these agencies received pay increases under national wage agreements. At the onset of the financial crisis, they were subject to pay cuts in line with the same cuts applied to public sector pay. Many "Section 39" workers have still not received pay restoration and are looking for pay parity with Section 38 Workers (HSE Workers) who perform the same duties.

"Section 39" agencies, who are funded under Section 39 of the Health Act, 2004, provide a range of residential and day services for people with disabilities, mental health, addiction, domestic and sexual violence services, and other supports, under service level agreements with the HSE. Pay inequality is leading to recruitment

issues, existing staff burn out and a reduction in the vital services they provide”.

Subject to Council approval this motion will be referred to the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly for comment/response

The motion was seconded by **Cllr P. English**

Members spoke in support of the motion and it was agreed to forward the motion to the Minister for Health.

It was requested by Cllrs S. Hanafin that the letter would also call for parity for all terms and conditions between Section 38 and 39 workers and this was agreed.

Item 11.2

Notice of Motion **Ref. 2691 –** **Gambling** **Regulation Bill**

Motion Ref. 2691 was proposed by Cllr MI FitzGerald

“That Tipperary County Council write to the Minister of State James Browne TD, Minister for Law Reform expressing concern with the consequences of the Proposed Gambling Regulation Bill on small rural racecourses (Tipperary, Thurles, Clonmel) which are a key economic component of our County's Development”.

The motion was seconded by Cllr S. Morris.

In moving the motion, Cllr. FitzGerald expressed his concerns about the adverse impact this ban would have on Tipperary's three racecourses and the local economy. He indicated that the horse racing industry fears a pre-watershed ban would threaten broadcasting coverage of the sport, damage racetrack revenues and ultimately horse ownership. It was noted that horse racing generates €2.46bn a year in Ireland and was a significant activity in County Tipperary where there are 800 horse breeders and 70 horse trainers as well as a lot of people working as jockeys and stable staff.

It was also noted that Horse Racing Ireland, which has a media rights deal with two dedicated racing channels, has warned if the advertising ban is introduced, it would not be viable to broadcast the channels in Ireland on a separate stream from that which is broadcast to the UK. This means they would effectively be blocked from Irish Airwaves.

Members spoke in support of the motion and it was agreed that the motion would be forwarded to Minister of State James Brown, T.D., Minister for Law Reform.

Item 13.1

Notice of Motion **Ref. 2733 –** **IPAS Asylum** **Seekers**

The following amended motion was proposed by **Cllr S. Morris**

“Tipperary County Council asks the International Protection office or the relevant ministers to cease the movement of IPAS "asylum seekers" into town and villages without first of all contacting local councils to see if the facilities for IPAS "asylum seekers" are in place and if the proposed building offered for the "asylum seekers" are suitable. That contact with the council should happen when the

building is offered and the local council should be part of the decision-making process thereby taking out the "secrecy" in the process that exists at the moment.

The amended motion was seconded by **Cllr M. McGrath.**

Cllr Marie Murphy requested two further amendments to the motion, that inverted commas would be removed from "Asylum Seekers" and the word secrecy would be changed to lack of information.

This was agreed by Cllr Morris, the mover of the Motion.

Members supported the motion and outlined the advantages of consultation with the members and communities in advance of final decisions being made regarding the placement of Asylum Seekers.

It was agreed to forward the motion to An Taoiseach, International Protection Office, Minister for Justice, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth, Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications.

Mr. B. Beck, A/Director of Services referred to Tipperary's great examples of integration and informed members that a Local Authority Integration Team was being established in 2024 which would comprise of a Co-ordinator, two workers and a support worker. The Team would help people to integrate with systems in towns and villages but would have no role in terms of accommodation.

**Item 14.1 to
14.5
Correspondence**

Correspondence as circulated was noted as follows: -

- Reply dated 8th September, 2023 from Office of Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- Letter of appreciation dated 11th November, 2023 from Ambassador Mission of the State of Palestine, Dublin
- Reply dated 21st November, 2023 from Office of the Minister of State for Nature, Heritage and Electoral Reform
- Reply dated 24th November, 2023 from Office of the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment

**Item 15.1
Motions from
other Councils**

Cavan County Council

At a recent meeting of Cavan County Council, the elected members passed a resolution asking that I write to Cavan GAA to express their opposition to a proposal to remove Cavan from the Allianz Hurling League in 2025 along with counties Fermanagh, Leitrim, Longford, and Louth. The members stated that this is complete discrimination because we have fewer than five senior hurling clubs in our Counties.

Clare County Council

“Today I want to encourage all of you to urge the Minister for Finance to take immediate action in introducing Primary Medical Certificates (PMCs) to all individuals with physical disabilities.

I also call upon the members of the Seanad to initiate a commencement date emphasising the critical necessity for the Minister for Finance to issue PMCs to all those with physical disabilities.

Item 13.1

Expressions of votes of sympathy

Members passed a vote of sympathy to the following: -

- Wife and family of Shane MacGowan.
- Retired Colleague Tom Sheehan (Environment Section) on the death of his wife Marian Sheehan and John Kelly (Water Services) on the death of his sister Marian Sheehan
- Catherine Taylor, IT Section on the death of her father Denis
- Martin Ryan, Water Services Caretaker on the death of his father Michael
- Family of Thomas Mulqueen, former member of Nenagh Town Council.
- Family of Michael O’Connor, son of the late and former Councillor Joe O’Connor
- Family of Deirdre Hough, former colleague in the Environment Section.
- Retired colleague Cathy Hickey on the death of her mother Teresa Hickey
- Thomas Kearns, Nenagh, on the death of his mother Marie, widow of former driver of Tipperary County Council.
- Family of Tony Seymour.
- Family of Fr. Donal Cunningham, former Parish Priest of Upperchurch, Drombane.

Item 17.1

Any Other Business

Attendance by Coillte

At the request of Cllr J. McGrath it was agreed to invite representatives from Coillte to a meeting of Tipperary County Council to discuss deer cull proposals for the County.


Times of TCC Meetings.

It was confirmed that the commencement times of plenary meetings of Tipperary County Council was set in Standing Orders.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/ _____
Cathaoirleach.

Date: _____

Signed/ 
Ger Walsh,
Meetings Administrator.

Date: