

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING,  
HELD AT 11.00 a.m. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON  
WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2024**

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

**In Attendance:** Mr. Jonathan Cooney, A/ Director of Services  
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator  
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer (Zoom)  
Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer  
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Assistant Staff Officer.

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. Shane O'Dwyer, Senior Executive Officer, Housing  
Ms. Déirdre Flannery, A/Administrative Officer, Housing  
Ms. Breda Ryan, A/Administrative Officer, Housing  
Mr. Shaun Lonergan, Executive Engineer, Housing  
Mr. Óisín Walsh, Student, Housing  
Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer, Planning  
Ms. Ann Marie Devaney, Senior Executive Planner  
Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner  
Ms. Teresa Kiely, Administrative Officer, Planning

**Apologies:** Ms. Nicola Keating, District Engineer.

The Mayor welcomed everybody to the first meeting of the new Council after the local election.

**1.1 Zoom Protocol**

The Mayor confirmed with all persons joining the meeting by zoom that they could see and hear all other speakers.

**2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest**

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator informed the meeting that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

**3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2024.**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2024, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

**3.2 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2024, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Pat English and agreed by all.

**3.3 Arising from Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

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**4.1 Amenity Grants Scheme 2024**

The Amenity Grants Scheme Allocation for 2024, as circulated to the Members was proposed by Councillor Pat English, Seconded by Councillor John Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

**5.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Housing**

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

Breda Ryan, A/Administrative Officer highlighted an amendment to the report. Under the "Offer of Tenancies", the figure quoted in the report was 14 and this should read 39.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- An update was requested by Councillor Ambrose in relation to the rollout of the Affordable Housing Scheme.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update in relation to the student accommodation planned for the Kickham Barracks Complex.
- In relation to the 14 units constructed in Kilsheelan, Councillor Ambrose asked for a breakdown on the configuration of the units.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the Housing Grant Allocations received stating that these grants are imperative to keeping people in their own homes.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the timeframe involved for the turn-around of the 11 vacant houses needing minor repairs.
- Councillor English welcomed the development of 6 units at Morton Street and asked if these units were being built on the site where the derelict houses are.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the planning for the 61 units at Thomas Street.
- In relation to the 14 units being constructed in Kilsheelan, Councillor English asked for an update on the timeframe for completion.
- In relation to the housing grant allocation, Councillor English asked if the grant allocation is fully utilised and whether the Department will be requested to fund any shortfall.
- Members asked for an update in relation to the 41 units at Prior Park Grove.
- An update was requested by Councillor English regarding the number of houses that have been retrofitted to date in 2024 and the number that will be retrofitted in 2025 under the Energy Efficient Retrofit Programme.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the number of landlords that have left the HAP/RÁS Rental Scheme.
- Councillor Murphy asked for an update on the Housing Waiting List trends for Clonmel Borough District over the last 6 months.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- In relation to the Affordable Housing Scheme, Mr. Shane O'Dwyer informed the members that expressions of interest had been sought from developers but there was very little engagement at that time. Since then, a number of developers have been in contact to discuss the scheme in more detail and it is hoped to re-advertise for expressions of interest in August/September after the builder's holidays.
- In relation to the Student Accommodation at Kickham Barracks, Mr. Jonathan Cooney stated that the ETB/TUS have forwarded a joint application to SOLUS for approval with a response expected in Q4 2024.

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- Regarding the 14 housing units in Kilsheelan, Mr. Shaun Lonergan informed the members that he will forward an exact breakdown of the mix of accommodation to them.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the Prior Park Grove Housing Estate, Shaun Lonergan informed the members that this is a turnkey development and the Council's role is limited to purchasing the finished houses and taking them on as complete units. He stated that the Council will provide assistance and continue to engage with the developer in relation to same. He did not have an update on the timeframe involved for completion.
- In relation to the 11 minor repairs needed on vacant houses, Shaun Lonergan stated that these repairs are being carried out by Clonmel Borough District Staff.
- Mr. Jonathan Cooney informed the Members that Thomas Street is a turnkey development. However, he stated that there is a change of applicant and to comply with procurement a new application has been forwarded to the Department for approval. He stated that there is a separate matter relating to a small strip of land which is the subject of a new planning application submitted to Tipperary County Council and this will follow the normal planning process.
- Shaun Lonergan informed the members that 74 units have been retrofitted to date countywide under the Energy Efficient Retrofit Programme and said he will forward a breakdown on the number of housing units in Clonmel. He stated that 32 properties have been surveyed in Clonmel Borough District for works under this Programme for 2025 and these works will be dependent on Department Funding.
- Breda Ryan informed the members that if there is a shortfall in the housing grant allocation that further funding will be requested from the Department, if needed.
- Deirdre Flannery informed the members that she will forward the exact figures to them in relation to the number of landlords who have exited the HAP/RAS Schemes.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the number of applicants on the housing waiting list, Deirdre Flannery stated that the numbers had slightly reduced since the beginning of the year.

The Mayor thanked Shane, Breda, Deirdre and Shaun for their attendance at the meeting.

**5.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Planning and Development/Emergency Services.**

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:-**

- Councillor English requested that a workshop be held with the members before a Section 55 is agreed to update them on the list of buildings for Clonmel Borough District on the Record of Protected Structures for inclusion on the TCDP.
- An update on the number of properties acquired under URDF Call 3 was requested by Councillor English and Councillor Ambrose.
- Members asked for an update on the timeframe for taking in charge of the following Estates:-CrannArd/Glencarra/Gracefield/AylesburyCourt/Churchview/Cnoc Aoibheann/Westgate Court and Wood Crescent in Kilsheelan.
- Councillor English highlighted the lack of public lighting in the Churchview and Cnoc Aoibheann Estates and asked that this issue be addressed before the winter evenings approach.

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- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was a timeframe for the monies to be spent under URDF 3.
- Councillor Fitzgerald welcomed the progression of the taking in charge of the Cnoc Aobheann and Churchview Estates in Clerihan. He also welcomed the survey undertaken in relation to the sewerage problem in Churchview.

**Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:**

- Ms. Devaney informed the members that the Section 55 process was outlined to them during the Local Area Plan process. She explained that the record of protected structures is only contained within the Development Plan and as a result, had to go before the Plenary Council for adoption. A report had circulated in advance and had been broken down by District where changes had occurred.
- In relation to URDF Call 3, Ms. Devaney informed the members that due to the complexity of the scheme, formal approval has been given for the appointment of a new dedicated team to be put in place. The recruitment process is taking place and the team will be appointed in September/October. She confirmed that there is no deadline on the spending of the fund which is a revolving fund. This team will operate under the Planning Directorate and will actively engage with the Districts to deliver the project. The District Administrator stated that a lot of work has been carried out to date in the Borough District by Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer who is working closely with the Environment Section to progress reports on derelict and vacant properties in the town. The Borough District is also engaging with property owners through the Derelict Sites Process.
- The Mayor requested that a workshop be held with the members prior to the September Borough District Meeting to go through the list of properties compiled for works under this project.
- In relation to the queries raised regarding the taking in charge of the various Estates, Kieran Ladden informed the Members that the Developers are being engaged with to progress these Estates.

The Mayor thanked Kieran, Ann Marie, Caroline and Teresa for their attendance at the meeting.

Councillor Richie Molloy informed the members that Senator Victor Boylan was visiting Clonmel. He proposed that Senator Boylan be invited to attend the meeting at 12.45pm and this was seconded by Councillor Pat English and agreed by all.

**6.1 Report of District Administrator**

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor English requested update in relation to the Jimmy Keating Site at Elm Park.
- Councillor English requested an update on the security issues at the Sports Campus.
- Councillor English requested update in relation to the finalisation of the Tree Strategy.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update in relation to the use of motor bike scramblers at Carey's Castle.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update regarding the policing of the Blueway.
- Councillor English noted that a contractor has been identified for the works at Suir Island Gardens and asked for a timeframe for completion of the works.

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- Members welcomed the acquisition of Parkes Chemist by Clonmel Borough District stating that it is great to see this unique building remain in the ownership of the town.
- Councillor Molloy asked for an update on plans for the use of Parke's Chemist and thanked the Heritage Council for the funding provided to repair the roof which protected the property from rain damage.
- Councillor Dennehy asked if the acquisition of Parke's Chemist was being funded by the Plenary Council or from Clonmel Borough Districts resources.
- Members requested an update regarding the installation of the CCTV in the Town and asked if there was an update on the meeting to be arranged with the Minister for Justice seeking clarification on the long delay in relation to same.
- Members asked if there was an update in relation to the proposed meeting with Minister Eamonn Ryan regarding the lack of progress on the N24 and the lack of a by-pass for Clonmel.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the timeframe for commencement of the ORIS works on the Blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update on the signage/bins at the Sports Hub and asked that the lack of toilet facilities be addressed stating that the toilets are not open unless the manager is on site.
- Councillor Ambrose suggested that Thurles MD be contacted to obtain information regarding procedures to be put in place for sports clubs to offer their facilities for use by camper vans etc. when festivals being held and large numbers of people in attendance. These facilities were in use in Thurles during a recent festival.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the works commencing in late July/early August on phase 2 of the Kickham Barracks Site i.e. the construction of the new Garda Station.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed that the TUS/TETB Business Case Application has been submitted to SOLUS.
- Councillor Murphy asked that a meeting be arranged with the new Superintendent, himself, as Mayor, Jonathan Cooney, A/Town Manager and Carol Creighton, District Administrator at the earliest opportunity to discuss the anti-social behaviour and other challenges facing the town of Clonmel.

**Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:**

- In relation to the Jimmy Keating Site, the District Administrator stated that she had been in contact with Robert Johnston, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing and will follow up with him.
- The District Administrator informed the members that she had met with representatives from TUS in relation to security and the provision of signage and bins at the Sports Hub and they are to progress.
- The District Administrator stated that she is conscious about toilet facilities at the Sports Hub and will ask for this matter to be reviewed again.
- In relation to the Tree Strategy, the District Administrator informed the members that the final draft will be brought to the September meeting for approval following screening for an Appropriate Assessment.
- The District Administrator informed the members that a letter had issued to Minister Ryan and she will follow up to ensure that a date is agreed.
- The District Administrator stated that she will follow up on the issues raised at Carey's Castle.

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- The District Administrator to arrange a meeting with Superintendent Niall O'Connell as requested by Councillor Murphy. She informed the members that she had met with the Superintendent and highlighted the delay in the approval of the installation of the CCTV, the issues regarding anti-social behaviour and the lack of visibility of Gardaí on the streets.
- Regarding the query raised for Suir Island Gardens, the District Administrator informed the members that she will follow up with Eamonn O'Connell, Executive Engineer.
- The District Administrator stated that she will follow up with Thurles MD regarding the roll out of sports club facilities for use during Festivals.
- Mr. Jonathan Cooney informed the members that the purchase of Parke's Chemist was being funded by the Plenary Council.

**6.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme**

The District Engineer's report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

**Queries raised by the Members were as follows:**

- Councillor Molloy asked for an update on the works in Connolly Park stating that they are leading to a lot of traffic congestion with the closure of Cantwell Street.
- Councillor Molloy requested that the road be resurfaced from the traffic lights on the Cashel Road to the GAA Club.
- Councillor Molloy asked if hanging baskets can be provided in Upper Irishtown.
- Councillor English requested that the installation of speed ramps be revisited in Old Bridge, Ard Fatima, O'Rahilly Avenue, Heywood Road and Summerhill Drive, as was agreed under previous programmes of work.
- Members concurred with Councillor English regarding the installation of speed ramps and Councillor Ambrose suggested that the developers of estates be asked to install the ramps at construction stage. Members agreed that speed ramps are the only measure to stop speed.
- Councillor Murphy highlighted the need for speed ramps on the Coleville Road.
- Councillor English raised the issue of grass encroaching onto the footpaths and cycle lanes on the by-pass and asked that this be addressed.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update on the maintenance of the streams at the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English raised the issue of stray dogs roaming in St. Patrick's Cemetery and asked that this matter be referred to the Dog Warden.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the works at Rathronan Cross.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update regarding the repair of the wall at Gordon Street Car Park/O'Neill Street.
- Councillor English requested that the road markings at Dunnes Stores at Oakville be relined and also the yellow box markings at the roundabouts on the Cashel Road/Fethard Road.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the resurfacing works at Raheen Road
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the road lining on the Kilkenny Road from Dempsey's Cross to Ballypatrick.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the traffic calming works being carried out at the Loretto School and thanked Gillian Flynn, A/Senior Executive Engineer for her work on this.

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- Councillor Murphy requested a speed survey be carried out at St. Nicholas Terrace, Old Bridge.
- Councillor Murphy acknowledged and thanked the outdoor staff for all the work being carried out to enhance the town and asked that this be relayed to the staff.

**Queries raised by the Members which Mr. Adam Coffey and Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineers responded to were as follows:**

- Ms. Emma Ryan, Executive Engineer informed the members that the OPW have to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment before maintenance works can commence on the streams/river. James Murray, Senior Engineer stated that there is active engagement with the OPW to get the EIA's done as a matter of urgency
- In relation to the query raised regarding relining on the Kilkenny Road from Dempsey's Cross to Ballypatrick, Emma Ryan informed the members that these works will be carried out.
- In relation to the issues raised regarding the installation of speed ramps, James Murray referred to the Traffic Management Guidance on Vertical Deflections approved by the Plenary Council which had been circulated to the members. He informed the members that he will look at the areas that have been committed and see what engineering measures can be taken. However, any works undertaken will need to be guided by design, guidelines and policy. After much debate on the subject, Councillor Murphy requested that an update be brought before the members at the September Meeting on the locations mentioned.
- Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer, informed the members that he will talk to Eric Ryan, GSS regarding the erection of hanging baskets at Irishtown.
- In relation to the road resurfacing at Cashel Road, Mr. Coffey stated that these works are scheduled to be carried out next year.
- Mr Coffey informed the members that he will follow up on the issue of grass encroachment on the bypass.
- In relation to the stray dogs roaming in the Cemetery, Mr. Coffey informed the members that he will refer to the Environment Section for the Dog Warden to follow up.
- Adam Coffey stated that works at Rathronan Cross will commence once the footpath programme is complete.
- In relation to the repair of the wall at the Gordon Street Car Park/O'Neill Street, Mr Coffey informed members that the repairs will be completed in the next 5 – 6 weeks.
- Mr. Coffey informed the members that road markings will be carried out at Dunnes Stores, Oakville. He will look at Cashel Road/Fethard Road Roundabout and if required, he will arrange same.
- Adam Coffey stated that resurfacing works will be commence on the Raheen Road on the first week of August.
- Adam Coffey informed the members that he will arrange for a speed survey to be carried out, as requested, at St. Nicholas Terrace.

**6.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme**

The Report was noted by the Members.

**Item 7.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2024.**

These were noted by the Members.

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**Items 8.1 to 8.7– Notice of Motion**

**Motion 2833 was proposed by Cllr. John Fitzgerald**

That this Council immediately set in place the procedure, if necessary, to replace the name "Ballyclerihan" with "Clerihan" in respect of the Village itself. Following on from my original Motion Number 2815 concerning the Signage. The members on that occasion voted unanimously for the change and we now request the Council to commence the procedure as soon as possible.

**REPLY:**

The procedure/plebiscite will be commenced for the re naming of Ballyclerihan following the summer break.

**This motion was moved by Councillor Murphy in the absence of Councillor Fitzgerald.  
Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.**

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

**Motion 2834 was proposed by Cllr. John Fitzgerald**

That the Council look at speed warning signage, or other measures, on the road from Springmount and close to Poulmucka Crossroads. Cars are approaching this cross at high speeds currently.

**REPLY:-**

This matter will be investigated for consideration for the the Low Cost Safety Scheme for 2025. There was speed warning signage erected on this road at Jamestown in 2023 as part of the Low Cost Safety Scheme. There is currently no funding available for Low Cost Safety Schemes in Clonmel Borough District for 2024.

**This motion was moved by Councillor Murphy in the absence of Councillor Fitzgerald.  
Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose**

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

**Motion 2835 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy**

That sections of O'Rahilly Avenue are considered for resurfacing under the next Area Roadworks Programme having regard to it's current extremely poor condition, in particular sections outside E91 KX08.

**REPLY:-**

This avenue will be assessed in due course and will be considered for inclusion in the 2025 roadworks programme subject to its condition and available funding.

**Seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

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

**Motion 2836 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy**

That the laneway at "Glennconner 1" is considered for resurfacing under the next Area Roadworks Programme having regard to it's current extremely poor condition.

**REPLY:**

This laneway will be assessed in due course and will be considered for inclusion in the 2025 roadworks programme subject to its condition and available funding. However, this may need to be considered under a CIS Scheme.

**Seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**



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The reply to the motion was noted.

**Motion 2839 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District request the harmonising of Parking Charges be carried out across the County to reflect the unfair Parking Charges been paid by the citizens of Clonmel.

**REPLY:**

Some of the preliminary work has been undertaken to date in relation to the harmonisation of parking charges across the county. Earlier this year the SPC considered the challenges associated with same. The next steps will be to further discuss options with the new SPC when in place, and then bring a recommendation to the full Council.

**Seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

**The reply to the motion was noted. Members spoke in support of the motion stating that a solution needs to be found. They agreed that this should be raised in the context of the 2025 Budget. Members queried if it is a reserved function of the Members of Clonmel Borough District to amend the parking bye-laws within the District or if it is a plenary function. Jonathan Cooney stated that he will revert with a response on this.**

**Motion 2840 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District replace the broken glass panels to the Glass Bridge on the Old Bridge, Clonmel and that the unsightly overgrowth of Sallys are removed either side of the bridge.

**REPLY:**

Maintenance of the River Suir within the Clonmel environs falls within the remit of the OPW as part of their role under the Clonmel Flood Relief Scheme. Prior to the commencement of maintenance works on the Suir the OPW is required to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). CBD is currently liaising with the OPW who are in the process of appointing a consultant to prepare this report. Once this is completed CBD will be in a position to arrange the required maintenance works.

Broken glass panels on the Glass Bridge have been previously replaced only to be vandalised and broken again. CBD has raised this issue with the OPW and asked them to consider replacing the glass panels with a suitable alternative material.

**Seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

**The reply to the motion was noted. Members requested that a letter issue to the OPW requesting a meeting. James Murray highlighted that the OPW are very supportive of the Flood Scheme and will carry out works on the maintenance of the Stream once the EIA is received.**

**Motion 2841 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District carry out a survey of all car tracks to the rear of our Housing Estates as a large number are overgrown with weeds and require general maintenance.

**REPLY:**

There is a significant number of car tracks throughout the District. These laneways generally form the rear access to individual properties and there are limited resources of funding for the maintenance of such areas.

**Seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

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

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**Item 9.1 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to be noted.

**Item 10.1 Votes of Sympathy**

A vote of sympathy was extended to Mrs. Eileen Ambrose, Dromindeel, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick on the passing of her son, Tom who is a first cousin of Councillor Siobhán Ambrose. A vote of sympathy was extended to the Tobin Family, Irishtown, Clonmel on the passing of their mother, Deirdre.

A vote of sympathy was extended to Joe MacGrath (Retired CEO), Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services and the MacGrath Family on the passing of their sister, Elizabeth MacGrath Stanley Smith.

A vote of congratulations was extended by the Members to: -  
Cliona Maher and her Team on the success of the Junction Festival and to the Clonmel Agricultural Society on the success of the Clonmel Show.

**11.1 Any other Business**

The Mayor and Members welcomed Senator Victor Boylan to Clonmel and to the Council Chamber with Councillor Murphy complimenting him as a champion of local government.

Signed:  Dated: 25/9/2024  
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Signed:  Dated: 25/9/2024  
District Administrator