

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

Present: Councillor Richie Molloy, Mayor
Councillor Martin Lonergan
Councillor Siobhán Ambrose
Councillor Marie Murphy
Councillor Pat English
Councillor Andy Moloney
Councillor Micháel Anglim
Councillor Michael Murphy

Apologies: Councillor Catherine Carey
Mr. Anthony Coleman, District Administrator

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

Also in attendance: Mr. Pat Holland, Administrative Officer, Water
Services
Mr. John Fogarty, Executive Engineer, Water
Services
Mr. Brian Beck, Senior Planner
Ms Caroline Conway, Senior Exec. Planner

Item 1.1 – Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 16th January, 2019 were proposed by Councillor Pat English, seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose and agreed.

Item 1.2 – Minutes of Special Meeting

The minutes of the special meeting held on the 30th January, 2019 were proposed by Councillor Martin Lonergan, seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose and agreed.

Item 2.1 – Attendance of Representatives from Planning Directorate

Mr. Brian Beck and Ms Caroline Conway circulated a district briefing note to Members detailing key issues relating to the Planning Directorate under the following headings:-

- National Planning Framework: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

- Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration Project
- Conservation Grant Schemes: Built Heritage Investment Scheme & the Historic Structure Fund
- Number of planning applications received in 2018
- Enforcement proceedings in 2018
- Southern Regional and Spatial Economic Strategy
- Design and Best Practice for Cluster Housing Schemes in Rural Villages
- Taking in charge estates update – Clonmel B.D.

The following queries and issues were raised by Members:

- The member of the Clonmel Borough District congratulated both the Planning Section and the Council for their involvement in the process of “taking in charge” of estates.
- There are currently approximately 11 different estates that are due to be “taken in charge”. How many will be processed and approved in 2019?
- What is the time line with regards to enforcements complaints made concerning unauthorised developments?
- It was agreed by members that running planning clinics for applicants has improved the process and time frame. By attending pre-planning meetings a lot of issues have been resolved at the clinic and commended the Planning Section on this improvement.
- What is the difference between changing from town plans to local area plans and how will it affect decision making at local level and when will this process be implemented?
- The conservation grants that are allocated are welcome but do not reflect the costs to owners associated with maintaining the buildings to the proper standards and regulations required.
- Members also welcomed the six major developments that are proposed to take place in the District over the coming years. This type of investment in the town was acknowledged as been very good news and positive for the District.
- Is there any update on the Clonmel Arms Hotel development?
- How does this District compare with other Districts in the County regarding planning applications?

Members’ queries and issues were responded to as follows:

- Planning staff acknowledged that they are being pro-active in the process of “taking in charge” estates in the District. However, it was acknowledged that the process is slow as they can only work

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.

within guidelines given from Department. It is a countrywide issue and not unique to Tipperary.

- When Town Councils were abolished the authority to develop a Town Development Plan changed to Local Area Plans (LAPs). This will mean that 9 Town Plans are changing to Local Area Plans and 2 County Development Plans will be 1 plan for the county. It is likely these plans will be developed in the 2023/24 period.
- Clonmel Borough District planning numbers are on par with Nenagh Municipal District.
- The Planning Section follows the proper procedures relating to enforcements and timelines. Once an enforcement notice is issued the final step is to go to court after warnings and final reminders are sent.
- There is no update on the Clonmel Arms development to report.
- With regards to the conservation grants, the funding is determined by the Department and the Planning Section does not have any control over those measures but acknowledged that the work involved for conservation is costly.

Item 2.2 – Attendance of Representatives from Water Services Directorate

Mr. Pat Holland and Mr. John Fogarty circulated a district briefing note to Members detailing key issues relating to the Water Services Directorate under the following headings:-

- Irish Water Capital Investment Plan (CIP) (2017-2019)
- Leakage Reduction Programme
- Networks Portfolio Delivery (Water)
- Local Projects
- Network Portfolio Delivery (Wastewater)
- Council Workshop with Irish Water
- Rural Water Programme

The following queries and issues were raised by Members:

- The notice of motion from Pat English (ref: 1594) was addressed and it was agreed that this Council write to the Minister & Irish Water in relation to same.
- Water extraction from River Suir won't be sufficient if weather conditions similar to last summer reoccur.
- Maintenance of treatment plant not as efficient now as it was when Clonmel Borough Council looked after it and why is this?
- What is the plan if two of the reservoirs fail; is there a backup plan?

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

- When heavy rains start the filters are blocked causing problems in the area.
- Significant issues and concerns from businesses locally such as restaurants and hotels regarding the problems of lime and hard water which will impose a huge cost on maintaining equipment.
- The lights currently on the Cashel Road heading to Clerihan are there a long time; when will the works be finished and when will the lights be removed?
- Local projects in Willow Park (Fethard road) area to be carried out; what kinds of impact will this have on the area?
- Members acknowledged the works carried out recently in New Inn was a great success.
- There seems to be a lack of communication with IW with regards to the Cahir Waste Water Treatment Plant. Replies are coming back two months after problems being reported.
- Has there been any leak detection carried out in the Cherrymount area as pressure is very low and are there figures on all leak detections in the District.
- Members acknowledged that a lot of their concerns were with Irish Water and issues that could only be addressed by Irish Water but asked that the Water Services Section relayed their concerns back to Irish Water on their behalf.

Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:

- The temporary lights on the Cashel Road heading to Clerihan has been raised with Irish Water and the Water Section will continue to request that the lights are removed.
- Following discussions with residents in Giantsgrave area they were happy to stay on the same supply.
- There has been a lot of leak detection work carried out in Clonmel. The number currently is in excess of 100. There is a significant amount of lead and older pipes works which is an issue in the town.
- The Water Section confirmed that they would be planning 12 outages in Clonmel this month but that they would normally be carried out during the night time which would mean very little impact on local residents and businesses.
- With regards to Cahir there will be a consultant's report finalised and a workshop scheduled for Cahir.
- Glenary will be brought up to standard with works planned for same and in Poulavanogue bore holes have been drilled.
- A lot of issues mentioned are in the Irish Water Strategy.
- There are very little leaks detected in the area of Cherrymount; pipe sizing and planning currently in the area could lead to a pump in the scheme as an option to increase pressure.
- The Water Section acknowledged that the concerns that the members had which related to Irish Water and confirmed that their

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.

issues would be raised with Irish Water. However, it was stated that if the Members attended the workshops with Irish Water when scheduled that they would have an opportunity to voice their concerns and that they could make a stronger case if they were present at the meetings.

Item 3.1 – Reports of Officers

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

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- The members congratulated the Clonmel Borough District with regards to the success of the Suir Island Car Park as it is in a most convenient location with access to the town centre less than 2 minutes walk.
- Members hoped that the official launch of the Blueway would happen before the elections take place in May so that they could participate in same.
- Has signage on the Blueway gone to tender?
- Can the Council re-use the stone from the wall at Gordon Street Car Park to rebuild same?
- Currently there are 3 applications in with planning section for developments at Glenconnor that would increase the amount of traffic at the junction which is already a difficult junction for traffic.
- Is there any news back from the TII regarding the Junction at Heywood Road?
- The condition of Mitchel Street pedestrian area was raised and the plans for the street queried?
- Ivowen Housing Estate in Kilsheelan was taken in-charge and is the fund for works ring-fenced?
- Is there an update on the situation with the Quaker Cemetery wall?
- What stage are we currently at with the Cahir Town Development, as submissions were given back in 2017?
- Is there an update on the columbarium that is planned for St. Patrick's Cemetery?
- Members welcomed the new car spaces that were made available by the Council recently.
- Councillor Richie Molloy suggested that a meeting should take place with the TII along with Deputy Mattie McGrath regarding the speed limit on the road at Redmondstown and also to speak at the same meeting regarding the junction at Redmondstown. Would it be possible if the officials also attended the meetings?

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

- What is the current status with the Musgrave property at Market Place? The Council should send a deputation to Musgrave Headquarters.
- What are the arrangements for the deputation from this Council to go to the Department regarding Clonmel Library and the funding for this project?
- What is the next phase of the Suir Island Plan and when is it to take place?
- What is it so difficult to recruit people for the CE Scheme in Clonmel and is there any update on this situation?
- What is the current situation with the Ballyporeen and Clogheen Building Facade Design Schemes?

Members' queries were responded to and agreed as follows:

- The Gordon Street Car Park wall is a protected structure and the matter of the wall is dependent on a ministerial decision which will dictate the conditions attached to any work.
- Contractors are on site on a weekly basis doing upgrade works and widening pathways on the Suir Blueway. Official launch date has been set for 17th May 2019.
- Signage is currently on e-Tenders for procurement as the scale of the signage contract will be large.
- Regarding the planning applications for the Glenconnor area, discussions are currently happening with the HSE regarding their lands in the area.
- Road designers are currently looking at the Heywood Road Junction and currently no approvals from TII.
- With regards to the issue of the pavement conditions currently in Mitchell Street, the Council are planning to restrict traffic using this street. Macadam surfacing will be examined as material for this street as part of the urban design works for Clonmel.
- The Council cannot progress with any improvement works in the Ivowen Estate in Kilsheelan until Irish Water is satisfied with underground services. If the Council were to carry out any works and then later found issues with underground services the roads would have to be resurfaced again which is something that the Council want to avoid.
- Workshops will take place as part of the final design works to Cahir Town Square redevelopment. The Council wants to incorporate ideas that locals have suggested for the plans. Traffic counts have been completed in the area in 2019 and a design team will need to be appointed, subject to funding availability.
- Currently the Council's Environment Section is examining the design of the columbarium in Nenagh Cemetery and this will be used as a prototype for designing and building the columbarium in Clonmel.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.

- Deputation to the Department concerning Clonmel Library will be organised as soon as feasible by the District Administrator and the Library Service.
- The supervisor of the CE Scheme has confirmed difficulties in getting people who are eligible to apply to come for interview. The Department Social Protection confirmed that there are approximately 8 other schemes in Clonmel that are also having difficulties filling vacancies on schemes currently.
- A letter has issued from the District Administrator to Musgrave Group to meet and discuss the vacant building in Market Place.
- The current status on Ballyporeen and Clogheen Facade is in the District Administrator's report.
- The Suir Island Master Plan is to be finalised and delivery is funding dependent. The Suir Island Car Park is now fully operational.

Item 4.1 – Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders

The Chief Executive Orders for the period up to the 14th February, 2019 were noted.

Item 5.1 – Consideration of the following Notices of Motion

Motion 1570 was proposed by Cllr. Andy Moloney

That this Council explore the provision of CCTV for the town of Cahir.

Reply: The provision of CCTV is covered by the County Tipperary Joint Policing Committee's Policy Paper on the Provision of CCTV in Public Places which sets out the requirements for establishing new CCTV systems.

A Project Team must be set up locally to assess the need for a CCTV system in the locality in question. A draft written submission making the case for authorisation of the system must be made by the Project Team to the National CCTV Advisory Committee through the Assistant Commissioner for Organisation Development & Strategic Planning, if the need for such a system is determined.

Funding and resources for the development of public-space CCTV systems is currently extremely limited and the proposer of any new CCTV scheme must identify and secure the necessary funding for the CCTV equipment, installation costs and on-going maintenance charges.

Where the proposer of a CCTV scheme is a community-based organisation and in order to ensure continued support and engagement from the community to the system post-installation, it will be that community-

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.

based organisation's responsibility to secure the necessary finances to cover the maintenance and operation costs.

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

Motion 1575 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

The former Chadwick's site extending to approximately 1.75 acres on Queen Street, Clonmel, has been vacant for more than 15 years. Having regard to its pivotal location in Clonmel town centre, I propose that Tipperary County Council explores the possibility of purchasing the site for residential and amenity development.

Reply: The matter has been referred to the Housing Directorate for further consideration.

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

Motion 1580 was proposed by Cllr. Andy Moloney

That this council carry out a survey on the health of the red chestnut trees on the Swiss Walk in Cahir and put a pruning or replanting programme in place as this is a highly important feature in the area.

Reply: A survey of the trees will take place in the coming month.

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

Motion 1581 was proposed by Cllr. Andy Moloney.

That this Council write to the Minister for permission to paint and tidy the front of any NAMA or Bank owned buildings and recover the costs of the works if they are not willing to do it themselves after 30 days warning notice.

Reply: This notice of motion will be brought to the Plenary Council as it would affect the wider County and not just the Clonmel Borough District.

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

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

Motion 1582 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy

That, in the interest of safety, the Council would install a pedestrian crossing at Abbey Road, with an intensification of traffic volumes in recent years, many local residents are finding it very dangerous when attempting to cross the road.

Reply: This location will be examined by the Town Engineer.

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

Motion 1586 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy.

Having regard to the level of traffic congestion on Davis Road and around the Showground's Shopping Centre, that the Council would carry out a traffic impact assessment or feasibility study around replacing the traffic lights at The Mall with a roundabout. Such congestion is likely to increase when works begin later this year on the redevelopment of Kickham Barracks

Reply: An assessment of this junction will be conducted should traffic congestion levels increase. It is worth noting that a roundabout may not be appropriate here, due to the potential for increased queuing on the Gas House Bridge leg, due to the fact that roundabouts give priority to vehicles on the right hand side and to vehicles already on the roundabout.

The largest volume of traffic flow at this junction is on the Davis Road legs, which could impact access from the Gas House Bridge leg. Also, roundabouts are less responsive to pedestrians than sequenced traffic lights and this is a busy pedestrian area.

The Town Engineer is reviewing a number of junctions in the town with the view to improving traffic flow, particularly at peak times. These alterations will be progressed in 2019.

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

Motion 1592 was proposed by Cllr Pat English.

That Clonmel Borough District replaces the existing footpath from No. 3 Queen Street to No. 28 Queen Street, Clonmel.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

Reply: This footpath was surveyed by the Town Engineer and the footpath surface was found to be in varying states of condition, so it will be replaced on a phased basis, with the worst sections to be repaired in 2019.

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

Motion 1593 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.

That Clonmel Borough District provide traffic calming measure's on the Cahir Road in the vicinity of Abbey Road housing scheme. As traffic volumes at this location are very high and at times are speeding.

Reply: This location will be surveyed by the Town Engineer in February, to access the speeding and causes

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

Motion 1594 was proposed by Cllr. Pat English.

That Clonmel Borough District in conjunction with Irish Water upgrade and maintain the existing water supplies to Clonmel from Poulmagunogue and Glenary to insure a continuous supply of pristine water to the people of Clonmel and surrounding areas, both water supplies have served the town of Clonmel for many years.

Reply: The provision of the Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme was included in the Water Services Investment Programmes published by the current Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd., consulting engineers, were retained by the then South Tipperary County Council to advise on the advancement of the Scheme. Representatives of Nicholas O' Dwyer Ltd. made a presentation on the Scheme to meetings of the then South Tipperary County Council and the then Clonmel Borough Council, on 01 July 2013 and on 02 July 2013, respectively. While the presentation outlined the nature and extent of the Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme, the following briefing was given in relation to the existing water supplies, from the Aughnablahee Stream at Poulmagunogue (colloquially called Poulavanogue) and from the Glenary River at Glenabbey, Clonmel (colloquially called Glenary), which are the subject of the Notice of Motion:

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

- It was proposed to decommission Poulavanogue Water Treatment Plant (WTP) as a treatment facility and as a raw water source.
- It was also proposed to decommission Glenary WTP as a treatment facility, but to retain the facility as a raw water source. It was envisaged that Glenary raw water would augment the raw water to be abstracted from the River Suir at Inishlounaght, Clonmel

As Councillor English is aware, responsibility for the provision of water services transferred from local authorities to Irish Water (IW) upon its establishment on 01 January 2014 as the water services authority. Consequently the Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme has migrated to IW. In preparing and planning the Scheme, IW has had to have regard to a number of influencing factors, not least of which is the inclusion of both WTPs at Poulavanogue and Glenary on the Remedial Action List (RAL) as prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The RAL is a register of public water supplies with the most serious deficiencies and most at risk, where the EPA is requiring IW to take corrective action to ensure the safety and security of the supplies. The RAL heading for Poulavanogue WTP is "inadequate treatment for cryptosporidium" and the proposed action programme is "abandon source and replace with supply from new Clonmel WS".

IW has reviewed the status of the project and prepared a revised scope for the Scheme, pursuant to which it is intended that the River Suir will be the single raw water source for Clonmel. Consequently, the WTPs at Poulavanogue and Glenary will be decommissioned.

Design of the Scheme by IW is ongoing with the preparation of the required planning application, incorporating an Environmental Impact Assessment Report, and Compulsory Purchase Order underway. A Water Abstraction Order will also be required and it is most likely that this will become a Water Abstraction Licence, which will fall within the jurisdiction of the EPA as the licensing authority pursuant to the Water Environment (Abstractions) Bill 2019, publication of which is awaited (public consultation on the General Scheme of this Bill was undertaken by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government from 31 August 2018 to 12 October 2018)."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Siobhan Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 1597 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose.

What is the latest update regarding the proposed Sports Hub on the current site of Limerick Institute of Technology? Will the provision of a skateboard park and playground as I requested in previous notices of motions be included in phase 1 or 2 of this project?

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

Reply: The Clonmel Regional Sport Hub development is being progressed by Tipperary County Council and other partners including Limerick Institute of Technology, who are undertaking the project management role.

Tenders will shortly be invited for Single Point Design Team (SPDT) services for the project. This team when appointed will be responsible for the detailed design, and construction tender documentation, management of the tender process, administration of the works contract, cost control including agreement of final accounts.

It is intended that the skateboard park and playground will be included in phase 1 of the development subject to the cost of valid tenders received for construction of the various facilities and the available budget for the overall project.

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

Motion 1598 was proposed by Cllr Siobhan Ambrose.

Tipperary County Council to consider carrying out covert surveillance at illegal dumping hot spots in the Powerstown area.

Reply: The enforcement section will carry out surveillance in this area.

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

Motion 1600 was proposed by Cllr Siobhan Ambrose.

What is the latest update regarding the rollout of the phase 2 Questum development at the Cahir Road Roundabout in Clonmel (ref my previous motion on this issue).

Reply: The Advisory Board of Questum has phase 2 development as a key objective for 2019 and the entrance for this phase is currently being designed.

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 4.30 p.m. IN THE TOWN HALL, PARNELL
STREET, CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY ON WEDNESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 2019.**

Item 7.1 – Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

There was a vote of congratulation to Councillor Richie Molloy as he completed his Masters in Social Science recently.

Item 8.1 – Any other business

It was confirmed that there would be a meeting regarding the Boundaries of the District with the Minister John Paul Phelan on Monday 25th February, 2019 at 9am in the Town Hall, Parnell Street, Clonmel.

Signed: _____
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Date: _____

Signed: _____
District Administrator

Date: _____