

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 11.00 a.m. BY ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY, 20TH
JANUARY, 2021**

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

In attendance: Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services
Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer
Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator
Ms. Carol Creighton, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer
Ms. Jacqui Dowling, Assistant Staff Officer

Also in attendance: Ms. Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Ruairi Boland, Senior Executive
Engineer
Ms. Anne-Marie Clifford, A/Senior Staff
Officer
Ms. Marie McMahon, Museum Curator
Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian

Item 1.1 Remote Meeting Protocol

Noted by all Members. The Mayor confirmed with each Member that they could see and hear all Members when speaking.

Item 2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

Item 3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 16th December, 2020

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

Matters arising:

- Cllr. Pat English asked if there had been any response from Irish Water in relation to his query on water outages in the town. Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator confirmed that the Water Section of Tipperary County Council had written to Irish Water on the matter and that he would follow up on same.
- Cllr. Niall P. Dennehy enquired if there was any response from the OPW to his query regarding the mast that is part of the proposed new Garda Station development in Kickham Barracks. Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator advised that he would follow up on the matter with the Planning Section who were in contact with the OPW.
- Cllr. Niall P. Dennehy referred to the issue he raised regarding a property on Suir Island that was presently for sale and if it presented any opportunity for the Council. Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator advised that he would look into the matter.

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- The tree campaign last year was a great success; can this be rolled out again this year?
- Dumping in the District is a big problem and the Environment Section need to fine and bring individuals to court to give a message that it will not be tolerated; can drones be used to tackle the issue?
- Members thanked the section for the work carried out at the Quaker Burial Ground.
- Members reported that during Covid-19 a lot of people are walking country roads and therefore more reports of dumping is being sighted on these routes. Has the council any strategy to deal with this ongoing issue?
- Litter on Blueway needs to be revisited as there is an ongoing problem that needs to be addressed.
- Cllr. Michael Murphy asked if the initiative in Northern Ireland called "Don't Mow Let It Grow" could be rolled out in a similar fashion here?

Members' queries were addressed as follows:

- Covid-19 restrictions has delayed the progress in the two derelict sites but Environment Section are working with Housing Section currently on resolving issues.
- Ms. Anne-Marie Clifford, Staff Officer is obtaining additional trees for community groups as the initiative will continue again this year.
- €50,000 was spent on illegal dumping clean ups last year. The team is working hard to fine and bring individuals to court but are restricted under data protection when providing evidence.
- CCTV has been installed in various locations to tackle the issue of illegal dumping.
- Drones can't be used as evidence as Council would be looking in to private property.
- In relation to the country roads and illegal dumping, there is a "Keep Tipp Tidy" campaign. As part of the initiative signage was placed on all approach roads. Dumping is a behavioural issue which needs to change. The Blueway will be part of the campaign also.
- Columbarium has been installed but due to Covid-19 restrictions the final works have been held up. The administration protocol is currently being developed. The policy and procedures for the Columbarium will have to be first ratified by the Environment SPC and Plenary Council (as they will have county-wide relevance if future ones are installed), before the Columbarium can become operational.
- The District Engineer added that there would be further litter prevention measures along the Blueway such as staff cycling the route with a receptacle to pick up discarded items. He will also look in to the issue of slippery leaves on the pathways.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer and Mr. Ruairi Boland, Senior Executive Engineer from the Environment and Climate Change Directorate for their attendance and report.

Item 6.2 Attendance of Representatives from Directorate Culture, Library Services, Fire & Emergency Services

Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian and Ms. Marie McMahon Museum Curator referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members with the agenda

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members of the public and local businesses in the town who really appreciated the effort and creativity shown. It was also noted that Ms. Carol Creighton, Senior Staff Officer and her team played a very important role in pushing the initiatives forward.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Cliona Maher, Artistic Director for her attendance and presentation.

Item 8.1 Report of District Administrator

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

- Members thanked all staff in the Clonmel Borough District for their commitment and taking of additional roles during Covid-19 pandemic.
- The funding under the town and village renewal scheme was welcomed for Kilsheelan and Marlfield.
- Is there any update on the Town Hall since receipt of report from Conservation Architect?
- Can we get an update from the owners of the former Musgraves property regarding their plans for the site?
- Is there any update on the Clonmel Arms and can we look for a meeting for progress on this?
- When do we expect a response from the Department in relation to the Kickham Barracks and Sports Hub projects.
- What has the response been like to date to the questionnaire on the shared use sports field?
- There have been lots of vehicles parked near the Slievenamon access point; what can be done to alleviate parking difficulties there?

Members' queries were responded to as follows:

- Details of the submission for Kilsheelan and Marlfield town and village renewal scheme projects will be circulated to Members.
- It is expected that by next month a cost estimate of the works that need to be carried out at the Town Hall will be provided to the District Engineer; then, a budget will have to be sourced.
- In relation to Kickham Barracks and Sports Hub projects, a response from the Department is expected shortly.
- There has been a good response to the shared playing pitch questionnaire. The information received is being collated and examined. TCC' Property Management will then be contacted.
- The District Administrator will contact the Planning section to see what possibilities exist in relation to the Clonmel Arms Hotel planning permission. As things stand, it is up to the private developer to progress matters.
- The District Administrator will seek an update from Remcoll in relation to the former Musgraves building.

Cllr. John Fitzgerald, at this point, left the meeting.

Item 8.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme

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

- Is there any update on the Marlfield Road speed ramps?

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Motion 2036 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy.

Following a number of accidents over a number of months, that the Council would carry out the necessary tests to establish grip on the main Clerihan to Clonmel road at the junction of Rathduff Upper. If necessary, that road retexturing would be carried out along this stretch so as to prevent any further accidents at this location.

Reply:

Please note that the last reported accident to the Council at this location was about 16 years ago. I am not saying that there were no other accidents as some accidents do not get reported for one reason and another. It was noted that on the day of the accident you are possibly referring to, which was not reported to us, was on one of the days when it was minus 3 degrees Celcius and the driving conditions were very slippery, and the accident was more than likely as a result of not taking account of prevailing road conditions when driving. However, I inspected the location and saw that some of the surface dressing chips has stripped. I intend to consider including this section of road for surface dressing as part of the 2021 Roadworks Programme. District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2037 was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy.

That a small section of footpath between the entrance to the Minella Hotel and the former Dudley Mills factory could be repaired, perhaps the worst sections replaced having regard to their very poor condition as part of this year's Area Roadworks Programme.

Reply:

I am aware of the section of footpath, about 215m long and will cost in the region of about €20,000 to repair/replace. I propose to include this proposal for consideration for inclusion in the 2021 Development Improvement Works Programme, (DIW), or the Active Travel Measures. District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2042 was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

That Clonmel Borough District Council investigates the possibility of removing a small section of the green area at the junction where St. Patrick's Road and Silversprings Road access the small roundabout on the Waterford Road. This would enable the re-alignment of this road which would give better sightlines to drivers entering the roundabout from these two roads

Reply:

I will carry out a detailed survey of this location and will report back to on same at the Council's February meeting. District Engineer.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy.

The reply to the motion was noted.

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Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Date: 17/2/2021

Signed: 
District Administrator

Date: 17/2/2021