

**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, 20<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2020.**

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

**In attendance:** Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services  
Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer  
Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator  
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer

**Also in attendance:** Ms. Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Cora Morrissey, Administrative Officer

The Deputy Mayor opened the meeting by paying tribute to the work of all the front-line workers who are dealing with Covid-19 pandemic. He congratulated the former Mayor, Garret Ahearn, on his election to Seanad Éireann. And he wished Michael Heverin from the Nationalist Newspaper (who was present reporting on the meeting) well as he retires shortly.

**Item 1.1 Suspend Standing Order no's 51 to 55 in relation to attendance of members of the public at Borough District meetings during the current Covid-19 restrictions**

This item was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy and agreed by all.

**Item 1.2 Election to fill the casual vacancy in the office of Mayor for remainder of 2019-2020 term of office**

Cllr. Richie Molloy proposed Cllr. Pat English as Mayor of Clonmel. Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose seconded the proposal. The proposal also received the support of Cllr. Richie Molloy and Cllr. Michael Murphy.

At this point, Cllr. Niall Dennehy requested that Notice of Motion 1875 in his name be taken under item 1.2 as it was pertinent to the matter. It was agreed by all members that the Notice of Motion be taken at this stage of the meeting

**Motion 1875 was proposed by Cllr Niall Dennehy**

That Clonmel Borough District Not elect a Mayor, at the 2020 AGM, but elect a Chairperson / Cathaoirleach instead. Further that the €12,000 stipend of taxpayers money be deployed to other uses, Not least of all to ensure that the Potential No Longer prevails for €12,000 of taxpayers' money funding Election Campaigns.

A Mayoralty is the Preserve of Borough and City Councils / Corporations, and continuing this masquerade of Clonmel having a Mayor where No Mayoralty exists, gives credence to the falsehood that some would have us believe, "that all is well in Clonmel" ALL is NOT well in CLONMEL.

**Reply:**

The use of alternative titles of "Mayor" to "Cathaoirleach" and Deputy Mayor" to "Leas-Cathaoirleach" in the case of City Councils, City and County Councils and certain Municipal Districts is provided for in Section 32 of the Local Government

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Act 2001 (as amended by Section 37 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014). In relation to Municipal Districts, the Act provides for the retention in use of the alternative title "Mayor" and "Deputy Mayor" in the case of any District which contained a former Borough Council. In the case of Clonmel, which was a former Borough, the Borough District considered this matter at its meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014 and agreed to retain the title of "Mayor" and "Deputy Mayor" for the Clonmel Borough District. The Borough District, if it so wishes, can decide by resolution to revert to the title of "Cathaoirleach" and "Leas-Cathaoirleach" in accordance with Section 32 of LG Act 2001.

The payment of an allowance to a Mayor/Cathaoirleach of a Borough/Municipal District is specifically provided for in the Local Government (Application of Certain Provisions of the Local Government Act 2001 to Municipal District Members) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 230 of 2014) and Directions issued by the Minister of State with special responsibility for Local Government and Electoral Reform under Article 17 of the Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations 2014 and 2017 (S.I. No. 236 of 2014 and S.I. No. 494 of 2017). The allowance for Mayor/Cathaoirleach of Borough/Municipal Districts shall not exceed that set out in the table hereunder. In respect of 2020, budget provision was provided by the Plenary Council in this regard for the allowance payable to the Mayor of Clonmel Borough District. No allowance is payable to the Leas-Cathaoirleach/Deputy Mayor of a Municipal District.

<b>Class of Municipal District</b>	<b>Maximum Amount of Allowance Payable to Cathaoirleach</b>	<b>Municipal District</b>
Municipal District known as a Metropolitan District	€18,000 per Annum	Metropolitan Districts of Limerick and Waterford Borough Districts of <b>Clonmel</b> , Drogheda, Sligo and Wexford.
Municipal District known as a Borough District and Municipal District	€12,000 per Annum	Municipal Districts of Bray, Carlow, Celbridge, Leixlip, Dundalk, Ennis, Kildare, Newbridge, Kilkenny City, Letterkenny, Mullingar, Naas, Navan and Tralee
Municipal District other than the foregoing	€6,000 per Annum	Remaining Municipal Districts

Cllr. Niall Dennehy spoke to his motion. The other members each spoke against the Motion.

***The motion was not seconded and was not agreed.***

There being no other nominations, the District Administrator declared Cllr. Pat English elected as Mayor of Clonmel Borough District for the remainder of the 2019-2020 term of office.

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Cllr. Pat English thanked the members for their support and nomination to the position of Mayor of Clonmel and stated that it was an honour to hold the position.

**Item 2.1 – Minutes of February monthly meeting**

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Michael Murphy, and agreed by all.

**Item 2.2 – Minutes of Decisions Taken through Written Procedure by Members of Clonmel Borough District, March 2020**

This item was proposed by Cllr. Richie Molloy, seconded by Cllr. Pat English and agreed by all.

**Item 3.1 Attendance of Representatives from Environment & Climate Change Directorate**

Ms. Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer and Ms. Cora Morrissey, Administrative Officer referred to a district briefing note circulated to Members with the agenda detailing key issues relating to the Environment Directorate.

**Key issues included:**

- Burial Ground and Tidy Towns Grant
- Control of Dogs
- Control of Horses
- Derelict Sites
- Litter Enforcement
- Public Awareness
- Waste Management
- Civic Amenity Sites – Carrigeen
- Environment Protection
- Complaints

**The following queries were raised by members:**

- In terms of dumping, some local authorities were using drones to identify those who were dumping and found it effective, have staff in Tipperary County Council started using drones?
- Members welcomed the allocation towards smart bins, how many will potentially be seen in Clonmel?
- Stray horses are a problem in and around Clonmel, in public parks and green areas within housing estates, the action time delay from the company in Cork who deal with this is assumed due to pressure they are put under, has the establishment of a local response team happened, what is the current status?
- In Kilkenny, they designated exclusion zones and introduced bye-laws in relation to horses, can this be referred to the SPC to consider?
- Dumping on the Frank Drohan road has become an issue can this be looked at as it is very visible to people who are walking/cycling there?
- Is there an update on 12/13 Queen Street and Morton Street derelict buildings?
- Is there a figure on how much we spend on collecting illegal rubbish/dumping in the town of Clonmel, some places in Clonmel rubbish has accumulated, it has been cleaned up by the local authority but then it

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returns again, we need to start prosecuting these people and it needs to be highlighted in the local papers that prosecutions are happening to deter further dumping.

- Nothing has happened in Clonmel with the "Saturday no plastics" initiative since it was brought to the Council as a notice of motion. At the time Cahir was part of the Clonmel Borough District and it seems to have happened in Cahir but not in Clonmel?

**Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:-**

- Environment Section do use drones especially in surveillance of commercial sites, and determining where illegal dumping was carried out in areas that were difficult to access. There are very stringent regulations/GDPR issues and limitations on where you can fly drones, but drones have helped in some prosecution cases to date.
- Smart bins are only being rented at the moment and are targeting rural areas, they are not being purchased at the moment as the cost is approximately €5,000 per bin. It is a pilot project to determine how effective they will be.
- Stray horses is an ongoing problem, the Council currently have bye-laws enacted in 2015. This Council is working together with the Dept of Agriculture and LGMA on getting the control of horses act amended, this Council were told it wont happen for another three years. Enforcement of any bye-laws is where success lies.
- Stray horses are being picked up and some people are paying the fines associated and the horses have to be returned to the owners so there are loop holes in the legislation.
- Environment section would welcome the opportunity to discuss the issue of horse control at an SPC meeting and to see what the options are.
- The local response team is progressing at the moment with various other sections involved, no timeframe has been set for when it will be up and running due to current Covid-19 restrictions.
- The matter of dumping at Frank Drohan Road is noted and it will be addressed.
- The derelict site at Morton Street, a contractor has been appointed to start works there. At 13 Queen Street, this property has been acquired by the Housing section. Efforts remain ongoing with the owners of the property at 12 Queen Street to render it non-derelict.
- The Environment Section had approached a number of large supermarkets in the town but they were not in a position to participate at the time and it is something that the Section may re-consider down the road. There was buy-in from Cahir at the time and Anne-Marie Clifford, Staff Officer worked closely with the supermarkets on the initiative in Cahir.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer and Ms. Cora Morrissey, Administrative Officer from Environment for their attendance and report.

**Item 4.1 – The proposed Taking in Charge of Gort na Smól and Barr an Aird, Ardgeeha, Clonmel**

This item was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy and agreed by all.

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**Item 5.1 – Burial Ground Grants 2020**

This item was proposed by Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

**Item 5.2 – Tidy Towns Grants 2020**

This item was proposed by Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy and agreed by all.

**Item 6.1 – Report of District Administrator**

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

- Members thanked all the staff both indoor and outdoor for their hard work and commitment during the Covid-19 pandemic and all the updates received in relation to it was acknowledged, also the signage around the town relating to HSE/Government guidelines was welcomed.
- Members acknowledged the strong input and commitment that the recently deceased Mr. Andrew Kearney, RIP had with regards to the URDF funded Sports Hub project in Clonmel.
- Suir Island tenders are currently being looked at for a design team to be appointed, is there a timeframe of when this will be done?
- The Clonmel Borough District was approved for funding under the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme for Suir Island & Millrace, what works are intended in respect to Suir Island House & Millrace.
- Funding for Elm Park has been announced for the playground, what type of works will take place?
- CCTV extension scheme, what is the update on this?
- In relation to the Davis Road car park, when will we see construction starting, will Covid-19 delay the process?
- In relation to Kickham Barracks site and Garda Station, there is very slow movement by the Department and the OPW in progressing it forward, is there any movement or commitment from the Minister to fund the Garda Station in Clonmel?

**Members' queries were responded to as follows:**

- Phase one of Kickham Barracks which includes the Davis Road car park, a contractor has been appointed to the Davis Road car park. Engineering staff are co-ordinating with the contractor to get a commencement date which should be soon. Regarding the public realm and civic plaza, the tender documentation has to be finalised. The tender should be going out in the next 4-6 weeks.
- The Suir Island Amenity Park, assessment of the tender submissions for the design stage for the bridge is almost complete. There is a level of funding available in 2020 which will bring the project to a certain stage.
- The Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme funding for Suir Island House and Millrace, funding will be used to rectify and make safe the structures and will add to the overall cultural and heritage aspect of the future Amenity Park.
- The Elm Park Playground is currently being inspected by the District Engineer to determine the type of works that will be carried out. The application submitted was for considerably more funds than what was approved and so the works proposed need to be scaled back to fit the funding.

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- The CCTV extension process is taking a long time, queries were raised by National Garda CCTV committee and technical unit and are currently being looked at by local Gardai officers. The District is continually pressing the issue as funding for construction is there but we cannot progress until the required authorisation is received.
- The new Garda Station process is a lengthy one. It is part of an OPW PPP project to construct along with other stations. The OPW have engaged with our design team re the phase one design works on the public plaza.

**Item 6.2 – Report of District Engineer – Roads Program**

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

- With regards to the electricity poles/pinch point at junction of The Crescent Shop, they were moved in a while back, can the works regarding the width of the path be addressed as it is a real pinch point at that spot.

**Members' queries and issues were responded to as follows:-**

- The District Engineer agreed to look in to the pinch point at Junction at The Crescent Shop.

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

The District Engineer report was circulated to Members with the agenda and was noted.

**Item 7.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.**

The details of the Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders were noted.

**Items 8.1 to 8.10 - Notice of Motions**

**Motion 1855 was proposed by Cllr Michael Murphy**

Following on from some sections of the Abbey Meadows Estate been resurfaced in recent years, that the remaining sections are considered in this year's Clonmel Area Roadworks Programme 2020 having regard to their poor condition.

**Reply:**

Completion of Abbey Meadows Estate is part of the 2020 Road Works Programme. Works commenced 20th May, 2020 and will be finished on 22nd May, 2020.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

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

**Motion 1856 was proposed by Cllr Michael Murphy**

That the laneway to the rear of St Patrick's Terrace is considered for resurfacing in this year's Clonmel Area Roadworks Programme 2020 having regard to their poor condition

**Reply:**

Please note that I had surveyed this roadway last September and noted it's very poor condition, (a PSCI Condition Rating of 1, i.e., the lowest rating a road can have). This roadway is included in the agreed 2020 Road Works Programme for resurfacing.

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

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

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**Motion 1857 was proposed by Cllr Michael Murphy**

With regard to Ballyclerihan, that the Council would examine extending the existing footpath out the Poulmucka road having regard to large number of houses and the many young families living in the area thereby improving the safety of these residents

**Reply:**

It is intended that the Council will put this proposal forward for consideration as part of the Low Cost Scheme Applications for 2021

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

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

**Motion 1865 was proposed by Cllr Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough Council provide security gates between houses no. 46 and no. 47 Carrigeen, Clonmel to prevent anti-social behaviour and dumping of rubbish in the laneway.

**Reply:**

The District Engineer has to investigate the requirement and necessity to instal these gates. The District Engineer will need to meet with locals and get an agreement from all locals directly involved. Depending on circumstances, gates may not be capable of being installed at this location.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

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

**Motion 1866 was proposed by Cllr Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough Council ensure that funding is made available on a yearly basis to maintain the building fabric of Clonmel's historic Town Hall

**Reply:**

The Water Services Directorate is responsible for day-to-day management of the Town Hall. There is an adequate budget for ongoing maintenance, services etc. and every effort is made to maintain the building to a good standard.

Clonmel Borough District and Water Services Directorate have been seeking to rectify an external leak issue with the roof of the buidling which has caused water ingress and has resulted in damage to the interior façade of the Chamber.

The Borough District has very recently requested the assistance of Michael O'Boyle, Conservation Architect for Tipperary County Council to undertake a full examination of the Town Hall and determine the full extent of the external and internal repairs/works, with estimated costs, that are required to be done. On the basis of his report/costings, a decision on how to proceed will be made

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

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

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**Motion 1867 was proposed by Cllr Pat English**

That Clonmel Borough District request the Minister for Communication, Climate Action and Environment, Mr. Richard Bruton to introduce a deposit and refund scheme for plastic bottles

**Reply:**

Subject to approval by the members of the Borough District, this motion will be forwarded to the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment for consideration and response

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose**

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

**Motion 1869 was proposed by Cllr Siobhán Ambrose**

Following the recent additional funding for the proposed Sports Hub on the site of current L.I.T. site on the by-pass can I have confirmation that my previous motions calling for both a playground and a skateboard park to be included as part this project are still going ahead?

**Reply:**

In December 2019, Tipperary County Council secured an increased provisional funding allocation of €5,320,158 from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government under the terms of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund for the Clonmel Regional Sports Hub (CRSH) project.

The CRSH will include mix of athletics and cycling facilities, outdoor recreational amenities and a range of shared facilities including:

- 400m athletics track with associated in-field training and competitive areas, finishing straights and boundary fencing;
- Bicycle trail;
- A playground;
- Skateboard Park;
- Perimeter walkway / running / cycling track;
- Single-storey Pavilion building to accommodate cycle storage, workshop/training space and toilet facilities.

The appointed Design Team is progressing with the required tender competitions to get to the construction phase. The first tender competition, which is currently underway, involves the playground, skateboard park and bicycle trail elements of the project. This will then be included in the final tender for the overall construction project.

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

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

**Motion 1870 was proposed by Cllr Siobhán Ambrose**

That under future roads programmes that consideration is given for sections of the road network in Monroe to be re-surfaced.

**Reply:**

Please note that this will be considered under the next 3-Year Road Works Programme, (RWP), for 2022-2024

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

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



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**Motion 1871 was proposed by Cllr Siobhán Ambrose**

What is the latest update regarding my previous motions calling for the provision of a Columbarium in St. Patrick's Cemetery?

**Reply:**

The Environment & Climate Action Section have included as part of the 2020 Capital Projects the provision of a Columbarium in St. Patricks Burial Ground in Clonmel. The Technical & Maintenance staff of Clonmel Borough have been consulted and a suitable location has been agreed in which to install a standalone type Columbarium. A design and specification is currently being drafted to suit this location. On completion of the design & specification, it is intended to tender out the fabrication and installation to experienced Contractors and complete the works in 2020.

**The motion was seconded by Cllr. Richie Molloy**

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

**Item 9.1 – Correspondence**

All correspondence was noted.

**Item 10.1 – Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mr. Andrew Kearney, "Deerpark House", Marlfield Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mrs. Kathleen Hogan, William O'Brien Street, Old Bridge, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mr. Robbie Fahey, Cherrymount, Clonmel, Co Tipperary

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mr. Thomas Ahearne, Goatenbridge, Ardfinnan, Co. Tipperary

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mr. David O'Sullivan, Bianconi Drive, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mr. Fergus Hanley, Kickham Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

A vote of sympathy to the family of the late Mrs. Kitty Hogan, 7 Dunbane, Carrick-on-Suir

**Item 11.1 – Any other business**

- Members agreed to fix date of the AGM for Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
- Cllr. Michael Murphy raised the issue of the recently announced Re-start Grant Scheme. He asked that details of the scheme be communicated to members at the earliest convenience.

There was no other business.

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Signed:   
**Mayor of Clonmel Borough District**

Date: 17/6/2020

Signed:   
**District Administrator**

Date: 17/6/2020