

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT, HELD AT 3.30pm IN THE
TOWN HALL, CLONMEL, ON WEDNESDAY, THE 30th JUNE, 2020.**

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

In attendance: Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive
Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services
Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator
Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer

At the outset Cllr. Pat English, Mayor called for a minute's silence for Detective Garda Colm Horkan RIP who sadly lost his life recently while on duty.

Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator explained that the clause in the standing orders relating to attendance of members of the public at meetings was suspended at the District meeting on the 20th May, 2020 due to Covid-19 due to limits on numbers allowed in the Chamber, the max. allowed being 14. Mr. Moroney was satisfied with a request received from Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose that two members of the public could attend today's meeting and asked if members were in agreement that this clause in the standing orders could be unsuspending for this Annual General Meeting. This would then allow two members of the public attend the meeting and would not go against Covid-19 guidelines as the number of persons in the Chamber would not exceed 14. This was proposed by Cllr. Niall Dennehy, seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy, and approved by all members.

Item 1 – Election of Mayor of the Clonmel Borough District 2020/2021

Cllr. Pat English welcomed former Mayor of Clonmel Mr. Tom Ambrose and his wife Mrs. Joan Ambrose to the Chamber. He also started off by thanking the front line staff, including the staff of the Clonmel Borough District, who carried out outstanding work during the Covid-19 pandemic. He thanked the District's Management team Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services, Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator, Mr Eoin Powell, District Engineer, Ms. Carol Creighton, Senior Staff Officer, Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer and all the indoor and outdoor staff for all the help during the year and in particular as Mayor during the last 2 months. Cllr. Pat English drew particular attention to the work of voluntary groups, clubs and tidy towns committee that have carried out great work in the town and thanked them for their on-going commitment. He thanked the Nationalist and Tipp FM for their coverage of meetings during the year. He stated that the projects that are rejuvenating the town of Clonmel are very positive and welcomed. He also thanked his wife

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Carol and five children for their help and encouragement over the last year. He concluded by stating that it was a huge honor to be Mayor of Clonmel Borough District as it is his hometown and thanked each member for the privilege of doing so.

Each member of Clonmel Borough District thanked Cllr. Pat English for the role he played in the last 2 months as mayor and they also acknowledged and thanked former Councillor (now Senator) Mr. Garret Ahearn for the role he played during 2019/2020 as Mayor of Clonmel.

Cllr. Pat English sought nominations for the position of Mayor.

Cllr. Richie Molloy nominated Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose for the position of Mayor.

Cllr. Michael Murphy seconded the proposal.

Cllr. Niall Dennehy spoke and referred to his position in relation to not electing a Mayor of Clonmel Borough District as outlined at the June monthly meeting. Cllr. Pat English addressed Cllr. Niall Dennehy stating that this issue was already dealt with.

There were no other nominations for the position of Mayor. Cllr. Pat English then deemed Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose elected as the Mayor of Clonmel Borough District for 2020/2021.

Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose thanked her proposer and seconder and all members for electing her as Mayor. She acknowledged all those who lost their lives as a result of Covid-19 and paid tribute to all the frontline staff who continued to put their own lives at risk to help others. A minute's silence was held for the victims of Covid-19. Cllr. Ambrose congratulated both Cllr. Pat English and now Senator Garret Ahearn for the roles they played as Mayor during 2019/2020. This is the second time the title of Mayor has been bestowed on her and she was particularly delighted that her parents were in the Chamber to share the special day with her. She stated that her father Tom was three times Mayor of Clonmel and her mother Joan had always been so supportive of her role in the local politics. Cllr. Ambrose said she was hugely ambitious for the future of Clonmel and particularly for the future vision and potential of the area. The new sports hub, re-development of Kickham Barracks, Clonmel Flights of Discovery, the public realm enhancement scheme, phase 2 of Questum and Suir Island Masterplan were acknowledged by Cllr. Ambrose as an exciting new chapter for the town of Clonmel. She agreed that housing remains the priority of the District due to the high demand in the area and looks forward to new housing projects in our towns and villages being progressed. Businesses at all levels have been impacted by Covid-19 and she thanked the Council for their on-going support to businesses

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during this difficult time Cllr. Ambrose spoke about initiatives such as digital hubs. She said that as Mayor of Clonmel she will be seeking a meeting with the IDA in order to remind them that Clonmel is the regional town in Tipperary with a track record of attracting high end industry. Cllr. Ambrose was delighted that the Clonmel Junction Festival is going ahead digitally as the arts sector had gotten a lot of us through the Covid-19 pandemic and it would be great to support this. The Suir Blueway has been a tremendous success and has become a great tourist attraction for cyclists, walkers and runners and Cllr. Ambrose thanked all the staff for the ongoing maintenance and also the Tidy Towns Committees who support the Council in their work. Cllr. Ambrose also wished to progress her plan to have Clonmel become an autism friendly town. She is aware of the capital works that is needed at the Clonmel Library and looks forward to working with the County Librarian and his team in this regard. She also wished Mrs. Marie McMahon, Museum Curator and her team all the best having carried out extensive refurbishment works recently. She wished to remember today two special people in her life, Ms. Kitty O'Brien and Ms Gráinne Ahearne, both of whom passed away in January of this year and who would have been the first to congratulate her in her new appointment.

Cllr. Michael Murphy congratulated Cllr. Ambrose and said that he had no doubt she would bring her dedication and commitment to her new role. There is a shared vision in this Chamber especially through the URDF application and he has no doubt she will drive those projects forward. He noted that it was a proud day for her parents.

Cllr. Richie Molloy concurred in wishing Cllr. Ambrose all the best in her role. He was delighted when Cllr. Ambrose mentioned Flights of Discovery as he believed that was first muted when Cllr. Ambrose's father was on the Council and it is finally coming to fruition.

Cllr. Pat English congratulated Cllr. Ambrose on the historic day. She has been serving the people of Clonmel since her election in 2004. In 2010 when she was last elected Mayor she carried out her role exceptionally well and has no doubt she will do the same for this term. He was sure that Cllr. Ambrose's parents would also enjoy the year ahead. He offered his full support throughout the coming year.

Cllr. Niall Dennehy congratulated Cllr. Ambrose and wanted to be associated with all the good wishes. He also congratulated former Mayor Mr. Tom Ambrose and his wife Joan on the occasion of their daughter becoming Mayor.

Ms. Sinéad Carr, Director of Services welcomed Cllr. Ambrose's parents to the Chamber. She acknowledged that his daughter was cut from the same cloth and we have no fear of how hard she will work in her position as Mayor. She reiterated the importance of the role of Mayor for the District not only as a prestigious role but to have

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somebody lead the District with assurance, pride and positivity as the face of the Council and all it does. She assured Cllr. Ambrose of the support that would be given to her from herself, Mr. Michael Moroney and his team in the Clonmel Borough District.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive congratulated Cllr. Ambrose on what is a proud day. He was delighted that her mother and father could be here to witness it. He knows from working with Cllr. Ambrose the commitment that she will bring to the role. In relation to her opening speech and the range of projects that she wants to see getting done he assured her that the full Council and District will give her full support for those objectives.

Mr. Michael Moroney, District Administrator bestowed his congratulations and gave his commitment and full support to the year ahead. He also thanked Cllr. Pat English and Senator Garret Ahearn for their role they carried out as Mayor. He also thanked all members for their work during the last twelve months.

Item 2 – Election of Deputy Mayor of the Clonmel Borough District 2020/2021

Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, Mayor sought nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cllr. Michael Murphy proposed Cllr. Richie Molloy.

Cllr. Pat English seconded Cllr. Michael Murphy's proposal.

The Mayor asked if there were any other nominations, to which there were no other proposals. She deemed Cllr. Richie Molloy to be elected as Deputy Mayor for 2020/2021.

Cllr. Richie Molloy thanked Cllr. Michael Murphy and Cllr. Pat English for their proposal and all members congratulated Cllr. Richie Molloy in his new role as Deputy Mayor.

Item 3 – Fix Schedule of meetings for 2019/2020

JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021

1. 15th July 2020
2. 16th September 2020
3. 21st October 2020
4. 18th November 2020
5. 16th December 2020
6. 20th January 2021
7. 17th February 2021

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- 8. 17th March 2021 (an alternative date will be needed)
- 9. 21st April 2021
- 10. 19th May 2021
- 11. 16th June 2021

The schedule was proposed by Cllr. Michael Murphy and seconded by Cllr. Pat English.

Signed/ 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Date/ 15-07-2020 2020

Signed/ 
District Administrator

Date/ 15/7/ 2020

