MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN CIVIC OFFICES, CLONMEL ON MONDAY AT 11 AM ON 10TH APRIL 2017

Present

Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, Cathaoirleach.

Cllrs. Anglim, M; Bourke, J; Bourke, K; Browne, M; Bugler, P; Carey, C; Carroll, J; Crosse, J; Darcy, G; Doran, D; Dunne, D; English, P; Fahey, J; FitzGerald, M; Goldsboro, I; Hanafin, S; Hannigan, J; Hogan, J; Hourigan, M.Hanna; Kennedy, R; Leahy, D; Lonerigan, M; Lowry, M; McLoughlin, L; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E; Morris, S; Murphy, Marie; Murphy, Ml; O’Meara, E; O’Meara, Ml; Ryan, J; Ryan, M; Ryan, S; Smith, M

Also Present


Apologies


Minutes Silence

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach and with the agreement of the members, a minutes silence was observed in memory of the following:-

Mr. John McGinley, former County Manager, North Tipperary County Council.

Capt Dara Fitzpatrick, Irish Coast Guard;

Capt Mark Duffy, Irish Coast Guard;

Martin McGuinness, former first Minister of Northern Ireland;

Maureen Haughey, wife of former Taoiseach Charles Haughey.

Congratulations

Congratulations were extended to the Tipperary Football Team and Cllr Joe Hannigan on winning the Allianz Football League Division 3 Final and promotion to Division 2 for 2018.

Item 1.1

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 13th March, 2017

Proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. D. Doran and resolved

“That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th March 2017 in the Civic Offices, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, as presented be adopted”.

Matters Arising

In response to a query from Cllr. D. Doran, it was noted that a letter had issued to the Minister for Finance seeking recoupment of payroll costs associated with the Lansdowne Road Agreement payable with effect from 1st April 2017.

Item 2.1

Conferences /Seminars /Training

It was proposed by Cllr. R. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. M. FitzGerald and resolved:-

“That pursuant to Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act 2001 and having regard to (i) the benefits likely to accrue, (ii) the general interest of this administrative area and of the local community (iii) the estimated cost of the proposed attendance and the provision made for such purposes in the annual budget, hereby nominate those listed hereunder to attend the following Conferences/Seminars/Trainings:-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminar/ Conference/ Similar Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Nominees</th>
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**Item 2.2**
Reports on Conferences

Proposed by **Cllr. M. FitzGerald**, seconded by **Cllr. J. Fahey** and reports noted.

**Item 3.1**

Proposed by **Cllr. J. Hogan**, seconded by **Cllr. M. Smith** and resolved

**Section 183**

Notice Disposal of lands at Benamore.

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of property, consisting of circa 2.88ha, within the townland of BENAMORE, within the barony of IKERRIN, in the County of...
Roscrea to Mr. Brendan Phelan

TIPPERARY, contained in the Folio(s) TY16036F, Plan No. 44, Property No. 1, in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above Section, as circulated on the 31st March 2017” It was noted that the lands were no longer required for Council purposes.

Item 3.2
Section 183 Notice
Disposal of property at Scart, Bansha, County Tipperary to Eamon Crowe

Proposed by Cllr. D. Leahy, seconded Cllr. R. Kennedy and resolved

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of property, situated Scart, Bansha, Co. Tipperary comprising 0.136 hectares to Mr. Eamon Crowe, Murgasty, Tipperary in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above Section, as circulated on the 27th March 2017”. It was noted that the site was now derelict and no longer required for Council purposes.

Item 3.3
Tipperary Covenant of Mayors Sustainable Energy Action Plan 2016-2020

The Tipperary Sustainable Energy Action Plan as circulated with the Agenda was noted by the Members. This plan provided an in-depth overview of the county’s emission statistics as well as a number of actions proposed to improve energy efficiency and renewable deployment in Tipperary. The aim of the plan was to generate actions which would reduce Tipperary’s emissions by 30% from the 2005 baseline year. The plan was an official recognition by the Council of its responsibility to improve the environmental standards associated with its jurisdiction and a detailed action-by-action synopsis of how this may be achieved.

In response to queries concerning the funding of measures mentioned in the plan, Mr. Paul Kenny, CEO, Tipperary Energy Agency highlighted the importance of community led Energy Projects and referred to chapter 8 of the document which outlined the various funding schemes available, noting that the Council would continue to use National and European funding to implement measures. It was also noted that €10M would be invested in Tipperary during 2017.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Hogan, seconded by Cllr. Marie Murphy and resolved

“The adoption of the Tipperary Sustainable Energy Action Plan 2017-2020 in accordance with Tipperary County Council obligations as a signatory to the Covenant of Mayors to reach a 30% reduction of CO₂ emissions by 2020 and the adoption of a joint approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change”.

Item 3.4
Draft Service Delivery Plan 2017

Proposed by Cllr. Marie Murphy, seconded by Cllr. P. English

“That adoption of the Draft Service Delivery Plan would be deferred to the May Meeting” to allow further consideration of the Draft Plan by the Members.

Item 3.5
To Consider the Chief Executive’s Report on Variation No. 4 to the South Tipperary County Development Plan 2009 (as varied)

The Chief Executive’s Report formed part of the statutory procedure for the preparation of proposed Variation No. 4 to the South Tipperary County Development Plan 2009 (as varied) – Incorporation of Settlement Plan for Fethard. Material Alterations to the proposed Variation were made available for public consultation on Friday 24th February 2017 for a period of 4 weeks and five submissions were received.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Fahey, seconded by Cllr. I. Goldsboro and resolved

“That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and having considered the proposed Variation No. 4 of the South Tipperary County Development Plan 2009 (as varied) – (Fethard Settlement Plan), the Chief Executive’s Report of the 27th January 2017 with the associated proposed Material Alterations and the Chief Executive’s Report circulated on the 3rd April 2017 on the submissions received, the Council
hereby resolve to make the Variation without further modification”.

It is hereby noted that making of Variation no. 4 shall have effect from the date of the meeting – 10th April 2017.

Item 4.1
Ratification of PPN Representative to the Planning & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee

Proposed by Cllr. R. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. M. Hanna-Hourigan and resolved

“That Richard Long, Clonoulty/Rossmore be and is hereby ratified as PPN nominee to the Planning & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee as a replacement for Seamus Coffey”

Item 4.2
Ratification of PPN Representative to the Local Community Development Committee

Proposed by Cllr. M. Hanna-Hourigan, seconded by Cllr. M. FitzGerald and resolved

“That Sean O’Farrell, Cloncannon, Moneygall, Roscrea, County Tipperary be and is hereby ratified as replacement nominee for Carmel McCormack as PPN Environmental Pillar Representative on Local Community Development Committee”

Item 5.1
Consideration of Management Report

The Management Report with a focus on directorates in Clonmel as circulated with the Agenda was noted and considered by the Council.

Community & Economic Development

Strategic Projects Unit (SPU)

Mr. Michael Moroney, C&E, gave a presentation to the members on the Strategic Projects Unit. The role of the unit was:

• To source and identify Calls for Proposals of relevance to Tipperary County Council and to liaise with the various sections of TCC to identify areas suitable for inclusion in Calls for Proposals;
• To work on behalf of TCC to develop and pursue project applications with relevant external agencies, e.g. Energy Agency, I.T.s, Teagasc, Local Enterprise Office, Chambers, Waterways Ireland, PPN, YWI Tipperary, etc;
• To co-ordinate preparation, submission and management of project bids for EU and Exchequer funding;
• To manage EU and Exchequer part-funded projects secured by TCC, including contractual, activity and financial reporting activities.

EU Project activities in 2015 and 2016 were outlined together with current activity.

He referred to issues that required consideration and noted that while EU funding programmes did present opportunities for relevant locally-based activity there was a high percentage of unsuccessful applications. It was necessary to ensure that involvement aligned with the Tipperary County Council Corporate Plan goals and sub-sectoral objectives and the ability to match-funding requirements.

Feasability Study West Gate, Clonmel

In response to a query from Cllr. P. English, it was noted that the Feasibility Study was nearing completion and the report, when completed, would be brought to Clonmel borough
District Members for their information.

Rural Development (LEADER) Programme
Ms Sinead Carr, DOS, C & E, in response to concerns expressed by the members in relation to the assessment of applications under the Rural Development (LEADER) programme and in particular to the use of the deprivation index which they felt was working to the disadvantage of certain rural areas, advised that South Tipperary Development CLG (STDC) and North Tipperary LEADER Partnership (NTLP), on behalf of Tipperary Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), had sought Expressions of Interest from interested parties under the Rural Development (LEADER) Programme 2014 – 2020. She stated that LEADER is a grassroots method of delivering support for rural development through implementing Local Development Strategies thereby enabling communities to actively engage with and direct local development. The priority for the LEADER Programme is to promote social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas. Tipperary LCDC has been awarded a project of over €7.5 million for the 2014-2020 programme period and the LEADER Programme had operated targeted/competitive/Calls for applications, which was a significant change from previous programmes. This was a two-stage process involving a Call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) and a subsequent Application Stage for successful EOI’s. Proposals had been sought under the following categories and the total budget for this Targeted Call was €1,616.327.00;

- Rural Tourism
- Rural Towns
- Basic Services
- Rural Youth
- Water Resources and Biodiversity

She stated that Social deprivation was one of the criteria used in the targeted call assessment. Applicants were invited to complete a short expression of interest application to help determine if their proposal met with the objectives of the Programme and complied with the Programme Guidelines, prior to submitting a full application. Ms Carr acknowledged the difficulties being encountered and confirmed that the application process would be reviewed and agreed to circulate the criteria used in the assessment process and a breakdown on the status of applications received.

It was also agreed to circulate details of the Local Community Development Committee membership composition to Members.

Business Incentive Scheme
In reply to an enquiry by Cllr. Ml Murphy, Ms. Carr confirmed that a sub-committee of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee were considering the introduction of a Business Incentive Scheme.

Thurles Castle
Cllr. J. Ryan requested that consideration be given to the purchase of Thurles Castle which recently came on the market. This request was noted.

Thurles Canoeing Trail
In reply to a query from Cllr. J. Ryan, it was noted that the County Kayaking Trail audit was nearing completion and a Feasibility Study on the route would then be determined. The Canoeing Officer’s brief would be to examine the potential of Social Enterprises along the river.

Swiss Cottage & Tourist Office, Cahir
At the request of Cllr A. Moloney it was agreed to write to Failte Ireland to request an extension of opening hours at the Swiss Cottage and the Tourist Office in Cahir to incorporate opening during school midterm breaks.
Canoe Slalom Course, Clonmel. Members complimented all involved in the development of the Canoe Slalom Course, one of only 2 such courses in the Country and also complimented all involved in the recent Canoeing Ireland Club Championships held in Clonmel. The event was a great success.

River Suir Blueway
While members welcomed the ongoing development of the River Suir Blueway, concerns were expressed about its ongoing maintenance. It was agreed to clarify maintenance proposals to Carrick on Suir Municipal District Members and Clonmel Borough District Members.

Community Facilities Scheme 2017
It was clarified that the Tipperary Local Community Development Committee were accepting applications from community groups for funding under the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government’s Communities Facilities Scheme 2017.

The Scheme was being administered, on behalf of the Department, by Tipperary LCDC along with the five Municipal Districts and the closing date for applications was the 30th June, 2017.

Broadband Officer
At the request of the members it was agreed that the Broadband Officer would provide an update to members at the June Monthly Meeting.

Toll Charges for Volunteer Rescue Service
Members expressed their outrage at the recent imposition of toll charges on Carrick-on-Suir River Rescue vehicles and boats returning from a search for missing Coast Guard Crew members and asked that this Council write to Transport Infrastructure Ireland to request that vehicles used by Volunteer Rescue Services be exempt from such toll charges.

Water Services
Payment of Non Domestic Bills.
In response to an enquiry by Cllr Leahy, it was noted that queries in relation to non domestic water bills were to be made to Irish Water. While local authority staff were available on a part-time basis to deal with queries, the queries had to be lodged with Irish Water in the first instance.

Strand Car Park Pumping Station
It was agreed to revert to Cllr Bourke and Cllr Dunne on the current status of works by Irish Water at the Strand Car Park.

Water Interruptions Goatenbridge
Members complimented staff on the speedy resolving of water interruptions recently in the Goatenbridge area.

Combined Drains
In response to an enquiry by Cllr English it was agreed to seek clarity from Irish Water in relation to the revised procedure for combined drain queries by members, Mr. Sean Keating, Director of Services advised that Irish Water, while not statutorily required to deal with combined drains, would examine each request individually on its merits and that Local Authority were not in a position to respond to individual requests.
He stated that it was a matter for each Councillor to contact Irish Water through their dedicated contact number setting out the reasons as to why the specific combined drain issue requires attention and the matter would then be decided upon by Irish Water, having regard to it merit.
Clonmel Water Supply
Following concerns raised by Cllr Ml Murphy, members were informed that there was an adequate water supply available in Clonmel. While parts of the town were dependant on boreholes, improved storage capacity was a project that was on the Irish Water Capital Programme. Officials of the Council had recently met with Irish Water and emphasised the importance of these works for Clonmel Town.

Carrick-on-Suir Flooding/Pumping Station Failure
Mr. Sean Keating, Director of Service, advised that the matter would be followed up with Irish Water and Agreed to revert to the Councillors concerned in due course.

Consultants Brief
Concerns were raised by members in relation to the lack of consultation by consultants engaged by Tipperary County Council to prepare a brief on water abstraction proposals from the Mid West Region to Dublin. It was clarified that the terms of the brief related to analysis and reporting on technical and other reports prepared by Irish Water. An Bord Pleanala would be the deciding authority on the abstraction proposals and interested parties would have an opportunity to make submissions to them of which Tipperary County Council would be a statutory consultee and invited to make a submission.

Item 6.1 Connecting for Life – Suicide Prevention Strategy
It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take item 6.1 Connecting for Life – Suicide Prevention Strategy in accordance with the time specified on the agenda. The Cathaoirleach introduced Ms. Mary Kennedy Resource Officer, HSE Mid West and Ms. Tracy Nugent, Resource Officer South East and invited them to make a presentation to the members on the strategy and their role.

The role of the Resource Office was to
- Coordinate and implement national suicide prevention strategy
- Coordinate and integrate suicide prevention service delivery and mental health promotion, by working in partnership with other statutory, voluntary and community groups
- Coordinate training in the region
- Research in relation to suicide and to translate research findings into action
- Develop and progress mental health promotion
- Assist with the development and implementation of new suicide prevention responses and services.

Connecting for Life: Ireland’s National Strategy to Prevent Suicide 2015-2020 was a 'whole of society' strategy to coordinate and focus a national effort to reduce the loss of life by suicide with the vision of an Ireland where fewer lives were lost through suicide and where communities and individuals were empowered to improve their mental health and well being.

It was noted that the Mid West Plan which covered North Tipperary had 123 actions while the South-East Plan which covered the South Tipperary Area in addition to Kilkenny, Wexford, Carlow and Waterford had 53 specific actions.

An overview of suicide factor risks, protective factors, priority groups and self harm statistics were presented to the members, Education and Training Programmes that were available for groups and individuals were outlined and information was given to the members on contacts, publications and websites to access for help and further details.

Members thanked Ms Kennedy and Ms Nugent for their presentation on this difficult topic. While they found the statistics presented shocking, they were encouraged by the efforts that were being made to improve awareness and education. They acknowledged that everyone had a role to play in awareness of the behavioural signs and the sources available to help.
They referred to the importance of education in schools and with community/sporting groups and to the problems in rural communities created by isolation. Concerns were voiced about the lack of facilities and funding in the County.

Ms. S. Carr, Director of Services, spoke of supports provided by Tipperary County Council through various strategies including Age Friendly, Children/Youth Services, Sports Partnership and the Joint Policing Committee. It was agreed to circulate a copy of the Presentation to the Members for their information.

Environment.

Mr. Sean Keating, Director of Services, highlighted two items that had not been included in the Management Report and which he wanted to clarify further for the Members.

Lead Poisoning Silvermines Area

Mr. Sean Keating advised the Members that high levels of lead were naturally present in the Silvermines area, which has been subject to mining for centuries. A lead poisoning incident in cattle in the late 1990s prompted an inter-agency investigation, an expert group report and a significant remediation project. In mid-February this year, lead poisoning was diagnosed in two cows that had died suddenly and that were voluntarily submitted by the owner of a dairy herd from the Silvermines area to the Department of Agriculture's Regional Veterinary Laboratory in Limerick. The Department immediately performed a field investigation and on-farm risk assessment, including sampling of bulk tank milk from the affected farm and 20 further herds from the Silvermines area; milk from a further two of these herds exceeded the maximum residue limit.

Blood and milk lead levels in herds had decreased relatively quickly after their cows were fed on alternative forage. Follow up investigation was continuing in all three herds to try and establish with greater certainty the source of the lead and the pathway of exposure in each case and to fast track the process by which these herds might be derestricted so that they can safely resume the supply of milk and sale of animals.

The Department of Agriculture had led the initial investigation to date with the assistance of this Council and the Environmental Protection Agency; both the Food Safety Authority of Ireland and the Health Services Executive had also been informed. The Department had now formally activated an inter-agency protocol for investigation of incidents of animal disease which have potential public and/or environmental health implications, proposing a review of the 1999-2002 findings and recommendations in light of the current incident and specifically focused on monitoring and mitigation measures that might be undertaken.

The IAG comprised representatives from DAFM, Tipp Co Co, EPA, FSAI, HSE and Teagasc. And the Tipperary County Council nominees were Gillian Delehunty, Agricultural Scientist and Karl Cashen, DOS.

He also advised that due to the location of the initial incident, it was suggested that activities at the Macobar site to the west of Silvermines village may have contributed to the lead contamination. Waste Management staff from the Council had immediately investigated and it appeared that there was no connection between the Macobar site and the lead poisoning incident. However evidence of significant illegal dumping throughout the site was found and appropriate action has already been initiated against offenders. He agreed to keep the members briefed of further progress in this regard.

Civic Amenity Sites

Mr. Sean Keating, Director of Services, Environment/Water Services advised that Tipperary
County Council currently operate Civic Amenity Sites at five locations across the county; namely Tipperary (Donohill), Cashel, Clonmel, Nenagh, and Roscrea.

Those serving Cashel and Clonmel were constructed in recent years and were designed to modern standards of operation, health and safety and with full capabilities for measuring waste throughput and for the efficient recycling or disposal of waste material.

The Civic Amenity Site at Donohill was operated in parallel with the (now closed) landfill on the same site and had more limited facilities for the acceptance of waste. The site met health and safety standards and was being further improved through planned upgrading works this year.

The Nenagh Civic Amenity Site was co-located with the Machinery Yard on the Limerick Road and had a number of serious deficiencies. The site was accessed via a grit depot operated by the Nenagh MD, containing a number of semi-derelict sheds that were of no practical use and was laid out in a haphazard manner that was not ideal for customers and staff.

Both sites at Nenagh or Roscrea did not contain a mechanism for weighing incoming and outgoing waste, which was contrary to the Council’s obligation to measure quantities of recycling material processed through our network of Civic Amenity Sites.

It was now necessary to upgrade both sites at an estimated cost of €600,000. This capital outlay would be recovered by the introduction of charges for disposing of some materials as was already the case at the other three sites in the county. It was noted that Members had received notification of the proposed charges in this regard.

Mr. Keating advised that once the planned works were completed, all five Civic Amenity Sites would be in line with modern standards and would provide safe and accessible depots for the organised disposal of waste. Charging mechanisms would also be harmonised across the county.

It was acknowledged that there was ongoing demand for a more extensive network of Civic Amenity Sites, in particular in the town of Thurles and Carrick-on-Suir. The costs to provide modern facilities at these locations would be high and could only be considered if grant funding for both capital and operational was to be made available from central government.

Cllr. MI Murphy proposed that the imposition of charges would be deferred for one month to allow a benchmarking exercise to be carried out with other local authorities on charges. He was concerned about the message that an increase in charges would send to the public when this Council was dealing with so much illegal dumping.

Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, stated that it was necessary to bring all Civic Centres to the same standard and to provide the same level of service. Charges could then be standardised across the County. He referred to the need to ensure that the waste charges levied at civic amenity sites were sustainable. He advised that the levying of charges was an executive function and it was not possible to defer the increase in charges as the Council were currently paying an increase in costs for the waste disposal. If waste charges were not increased, monies would have to be allocated from other services to subsidise the cost of running the sites.

Cllr MI Murphy, while noting the Council’s position, expressed his disappointment with the decision not to defer the increase in charges for 1 month.

Members from Carrick-on-Suir and Thurles Municipal Districts referred to the demand in both towns for a Civic Centre and urged that alternative options be examined including entering into discussions with private operators to examine the feasibility of providing a civic amenity type service. Mr. Sean Keating, Director of Services undertook to explore options with private
operators, noting that it was not possible to set up a temporary site in these locations owing to present Regulations and EPA Standard Requirements.

WEEE Collections

Members from Carrick on Suir Municipal District asked that future WEEE collections in Carrick on Sure be held in a suitable location.

**Item 8.2**
**Notice of Motion**
**Dog Control Act**

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 8.2 Notice of Motion No. 1009 submitted by Cllr. I. Goldsboro as part of the Management Report on Environment.

In the absence of Cllr. I. Goldsboro, motion No. 8.2 (Ref 1009) was proposed by **Cllr. Marie Murphy** and the agreement of the Cathaoirleach.

"That the members of Tipperary County Council write to the Minister to amend the current Dog Control Act to include an exemption for other assistance dogs which serve people with disabilities, such as Autism".

The motion was seconded by **Cllr. G. Darcy**

It was agreed that the motion would be referred to Mr. Simon Coveney, TD, Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government for consideration and reply.

**Item 8.3**
**Notice of Motion**
**Gortmore Tailings Management Facility Mining Site**

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 8.3 Notice of Motion No. 1017 submitted by Cllr J. Carroll as part of the Management Report on Environment.

Motion No. 8.3 (Ref 1017) was proposed by **Cllr. J. Carroll**

“We, the Elected Members of Tipperary County Council, call on the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment to honour previous commitments and to acquire without delay, by CPO if necessary, the site at the Gortmore Tailings Management Facility, and all the other mining sites in the Silvermines area.

Significant expenditure was made by the State in remediating these mining sites, however the remediation work that was carried out is now deteriorating as these sites are still in private ownership and are not being maintained, which conflicts with recent Department Correspondence and Instructions on the ongoing maintenance of affected Mining Sites”.

The motion was seconded by **Cllr. M Ryan**.

The reply to the motion was noted as follows:-

North Tipperary County Council acted as an agent for the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources for the rehabilitation of the mining sites in the Silvermines area including the rehabilitation of the Gortmore Tailings Mine Facility (TMF). The rehabilitation work was undertaken in accordance with the SRK Phase IV Report which also identified ongoing monitoring and maintenance of the mining sites as being an essential part of the remediation works.

Six mining sites were identified for rehabilitation in the Phase IV Report and works were undertaken on five of these sites between 2007 and 2011. The works at Gortmore were undertaken in two phases and were completed in 2009.
A commitment was given to the local community that the Gortmore site would be taken into public ownership and, in pursuit of this, a CPO process for the purchase of the site was initiated by the Department in June 2013. This process has not, to date, been brought to a conclusion with the result that Gortmore site remains in private ownership.

Cllr Carroll outlined the background to the motion. Issues at this site were ongoing for a number of decades and two communities were affected by the sites. He expressed disappointment at the lack of progress to date and sought the members support to the motion.

It was agreed that the Council would write to the Department asking that the CPO of the Gortmore site be concluded with the land being brought into State ownership, and also that a monitoring and maintenance programme, as recommended in the Part IV Report, be put in place. It was also agreed to send the motion to the Oireachtas Members seeking their support.

Cllr M. Anglim took the Chair while Cllr Ambrose left the chamber for a short period.

**Housing**

It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 8.1 Notice of Motion No. 1013 submitted by Cllrs. M. Browne, S. Morris, D. Doran, C. Carey, D.Dunne as part of the Management Report on Housing.

Motion No. 8.1 (Ref 1013) was proposed by **Cllr. M. Browne**

"Subject to the scrapping of water charges we are asking Tipperary County Council to ask the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government to drop the condition of asking people to pay the water charge before allowing them to get sanctioned for the Tenant Purchase Scheme".

The motion was seconded by **Cllr. D. Dunne**

Section 48 of the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2015 (No.29 of 2015) inserts a new section 3A into Water Services Act 2015 (No.44), subsection (9) of which provides that a housing authority shall not complete the sale of a dwelling under a tenant purchase scheme until the tenant provides to the authority a certificate from Irish Water confirming that any charge under section 21 of the Water Services (No.2) Act 2013 (No. 50) in respect of that dwelling payable by the tenant has been paid.

It was noted that this matter was the subject of a previous motion approved by the Council in June 2016 and referred to the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

Members viewed the current conditions of the Tenant Purchase Scheme as too restrictive and supported the motion.

In response to queries by members, it was confirmed that 122 applications had been received for the scheme of which 40 applications had qualified for the scheme subject to finance.

**Repair and Lease Scheme**

In response to an enquiry by Cllr Ml Murphy it was agreed to circulate a FAQ Booklet to members on the recently announced Repair and Lease Scheme and to put details on the Council website.
Greenhill Village, Carrick-on-Suir
Cllr D. Dunne queried the availability of vacant dwellings in the Greenhills Village in Carrick on Suir for social housing and it was agreed to follow up with NAMA re dwellings available in this estate and revert to Carrick-on-Suir District Members.

Housing Adaptation Grants
In response to an enquiry by Cllr English it was noted that grant allocations had not yet been advised by the Department.

Chair
Cllr Ambrose returned to the Chair.

Human Resources/Corporate Services
It was agreed on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 8.4 Notice of Motion No. 1010 submitted by Cllr M. Brown as part of the Management Report on Corporate Services.

Item 8.4
Notice of Motion
Coroner’s Bill
Motion No. 8.4 (Ref 1010) was proposed by Cllr. M. Browne
“This Council requests the Government to progress the Coroner's Bill as a matter of urgency, and that the Coroner's Bill will provide for an automatic inquest into Every Maternal Death in the State”.

The motion was seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne

It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Minister for Justice and Equality, Ms. Frances Fitzgerald TD for consideration and reply. It was noted that this matter was also the subject of a previous notice of motion in September 2016 following which the motion was referred to the relevant Minister and reply received on 28th October 2016 advising that a review of the Coroner’s Bill 2007 had commenced in 2015 and extensive work has already begun on the necessary legal and technical updates.

Item 5.2
Draft Annual Report 2016
The draft Annual Report 2016 as circulated to the members with Agenda was noted. The final report would be brought before the members at the June Meeting for adoption as required by Section 221 of Local Government Act 2001.

Item 7.1
Consideration of Orders for the period to 31st March 2017
Chief Executive and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to 31st March 2017 were noted.

Item 9.1
Notice of Motion
Ibrahim Halawa
Motion No. 9.1(Ref 1011) was proposed by Cllr. P. English
“That Tipperary County Council request the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Charlie Flanagan to seek a presidential decree on behalf of Ibrahim Halawa from the Egyptian authorities. Ibrahim has been in prison in Egypt without trial since August 2013 with his latest scheduled court appearance postponed again for the 19th time. The presidential decree would allow Ibrahim to return to Ireland before a final ruling has been made in his case and it is used in cases where a deportation or extradition would serve the "higher interest" of the Egyptian state"

The motion was seconded by Cllr. C. Carey
It was agreed that the motion would be referred to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Charlie Flanagan, TD for consideration and reply. It was noted that the matter was the subject of a previous notice of motion in May 2016 which was approved and forwarded to the Minister and reply received dated 27th May 2016.

Item 9.2
Notice of Motion
Insurance
Premiums on Vehicles over 15 Years

Motion No. 9.2 (Ref 1014) was proposed by Cllr. D. Doran

"I am calling on this Council to unanimously support my call to ask the Minister for Transport or other relevant Ministers to intervene re the blatant discrimination which currently exists towards car owners whose vehicles that are 15 years or older are quoted significantly more for their insurance because of the year of manufacture of the vehicle and in some cases are not quoted at all, this practice makes a mockery of the NCT for such vehicles and needs to be challenged strongly".

The motion was seconded by Cllr. S. Carey

It was agreed that the motion would be referred to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross TD for consideration and reply.

Item 9.3
Notice of Motion
Jobs at Bord na Mona Briquette Factory, Littleton

Motion No. 9.3 (Ref 1015) was proposed by Cllr. S. Ryan

"That this Council would seek a meeting with the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment Denis Naughten TD and urge him to protect the jobs of the 70 workers at the Bord na Mona Briquette Factory in Littleton".

The motion was seconded by Cllr. J. Hogan

It was agreed that the motion would be referred to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment for consideration and reply and that the motion would be forwarded to the Tipperary Oireachtas members for their support.

Item 9.4
Notice of Motion
Community Employment Scheme

Motion No. 9.4 (Ref 1016) was proposed by Cllr. S. Ryan

"That this Council would write to the Minister for Social Protection, Leo Varadkar TD and urge him to allow those over 55 on Community Employment Schemes to continue to do so until they reach 65".

The motion was seconded by Cllr. K. Bourke

It was agreed that the motion would be referred to the Minister for Social Protection, Leo Varadkar, TD for consideration and reply and that the motion would be forwarded to other local authorities.

Item 10.1 – 10.6
Correspondence

Correspondence as circulated was noted.

Item 11.1 – 11.2
Resolutions from Other Local Authorities were noted:

Kilkenny County Council
That Kilkenny County Council calls on the Minister for Health and the HSE to change the review on the standard of cancer care in Ireland from 10 years to 5 years, as the number of cancer patients are increasing each year and new research is being identified.

Clare County Council
That this Council would request Minister for Social Protection, Leo Varadkar to re-instate the telephone allowance for the elderly.
Expression of Votes of Sympathy

Votes of Sympathy were extended to the following:-

- Sandra Lawlor, Canteen Staff, Clonmel on the death of her brother, Noel.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/____________________________________

Cathaoirleach.

Date: _______________________________________

Signed/____________________________________

Geri Walsh,
Meetings Administrator.

Date: _______________________________________