

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, CLONMEL
AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM
AT 10.00 AM
ON MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 2025.**

Present

Cllr. D. Burgess, Cathaoirleach

Cllrs: Acheson, T; Ambrose, S; Anglim, M; Brennan, M; Browne, L; Bugler, P; Cahill Skehan, K; Carroll, J; Crosse, J; Dennehy, N; Dunne, D; English, P; FitzGerald J; Hourigan, Mary Hanna, Kennedy, R; Kennedy, W; Lowry, MI; McGrath, M; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E.; Morris, S; Murphy, Marie; O'Heney, J; O'Meara J.P.; Ryan, J; Ryan S; Smith, MI;

Remote

Cllrs: Bonfield, F; Bourke K; Hannigan J; Lee, S; Morgan Walsh, L; O'Meara, M; Quirke O'Meara, P; Ryan (Shiner), AM; Ryan, P;

Apologies

Cllrs: Fitzgerald M;

Also Present

Ms Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive, Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator, Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Mr. Brian Beck, Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Mr. Anthony Coleman, Directors of Services. Mr. Jonathan Cooney, A/Director of Services. Robert Johnston S.E.E., Mr. Michael Moroney, S.E.O., Anne Marie Devaney, A/ Senior Planner, Ms. Claire Lee C.A. Co-ordinator

Item 1.1
Welcome &
Introduction/
Meetings
Protocol

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the February Meeting of the Council, advising members present in the Chamber that their microphone had to be turned on when they spoke and referred members attending remotely of the protocol for remote meetings circulated with the agenda and asked members to observe the rules contained therein with regard to remote meetings. He checked with each councillor attending remotely that they could see and hear clearly. He welcomed the media and the members of the public who were in attendance.

The Meetings Administrator took a roll call and commenced the meeting with the opening prayer.

The Cathaoirleach extended congratulations to Imelda Goldsboro on her nomination, by An Taoiseach Micheál Martin, to Seanad Éireann. He said it was a proud moment for her family and the Fianna Fáil party. The members joined with him in congratulating her and acknowledged her capability and hardworking track record as a councillor.

Item 2.1
Disclosure/or
Conflicts of
Interest

There were no disclosures or conflicts of interest advised to the Meetings Administrator in advance of the meeting.

Item 3.1
Minutes of
Council Meeting
held on 13th
January 2025

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on 13th January 2025, were proposed by **Cllr. Séan Ryan**, and seconded by **Cllr. Marie Murphy** and approved subject to an amendment outlined hereunder:

Matters Arising

Cllr. Roger Kennedy noted that that the specifics of the location regarding Item No 5.4 was not detailed and it was agreed that Item No. 5.4, Local Authority own development pursuant to Article 81 of Part 8 of the Planning development Regulations, be amended to include reference to the location of the proposed development i.e. 7 Brittas, Thurles.

Cllr. Marie Murphy requested an update on the list of local contractors hired to clear roads in the severe weather event and the position regarding indemnifying local contractors in such an event. She also requested an update on the Power Up grant. Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive said that the list of contractors had been circulated but a follow up would be made. The matter of insurance cover would be addressed with Irish Public Bodies. An update on the Power Up grant will be provided when available.

Cllr. Niall Dennehy stated that he raised the issue of speed limits at the January meeting. He stated that advice is opinion and it does not equate to a judgement in court. He stated that he made it clear at the January meeting why it is constitutional and legal for councillors to exercise their reserved functions in this matter. He stated that Tipperary County Council is a local authority with a constitutional dilemma as to where exactly the authority lies. He stated that we have the Executive on the employer's side identifying as Tipperary County Council in opposition to Tipperary County Council, the Elected Members and it is inevitable that sooner rather than later that the matter will end up in a court of law.

Item 3.2
Amended
Minutes of
Budget 2025
Meeting held on
6th December
2024

The Minutes of Budget 2025 Meeting held on 6th December 2024, were proposed by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy**, and seconded by **Cllr. Ann Marie Ryan (Shiner)** and approved.

Matters Arising

There were no further matters arising.

Item 3.3
Amended
Minutes of
Council Meeting
held on 14th
October 2024

The Amended Minutes of Council Meeting held on 14th October 2024 were proposed by **Cllr. Pat English** and seconded by **Cllr. Michael Brennan** and approved.

Matters Arising

On the request of **Cllr. Pat English** it was agreed to seek an update on a reply from An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Simon Harris on correspondence issued after the October Meeting regarding NOM Ref: 2881 Occupied Territories Bill

Item 4.1
Approval to
Attendance

It was proposed by **Cllr. John Crosse** and seconded by **Cllr. Séan Ryan** 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: -

Seminars/ Conferences/ Similar Events	Dates	Venue	Nominees
Assoc. of Irish Regions Annual Training Seminar	5 th and 6 th February, 2025	Radisson Blu, Athlone	Cllr. Máirín McGrath Cllr. Mark FitzGerald Cllr. Niall Dennehy Cllr. Marie Murphy Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan Cllr. Richie Molloy Cllr. Phyll Bugler
Celtic Conferences – Corporate Governance	7 th – 9 th February, 2025	Clonakilty, Cork	Cllr. Mark FitzGerald
Irish Rail – Future of rail transport Mid-West Region	20 th February, 2025	Stand Hotel, Limerick	Cllr. Andy Moloney Cllr. Michael Smith
AILG – Overview of Wind Energy	22 nd February, 2025	Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny	Cllr. Andy Moloney Cllr. John Carroll Cllr. Sean Ryan
SEAI – Windsense: Developing Wind Turbine Noise	26 th February, 2025	SEAI Offices, Dublin	Cllr. Phyll Bugler Cllr. John Carroll Cllr. Michael O'Meara Cllr. Michael Smith

Training and Development Programme for Elected Members 2025

Mr.. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator informed the members that under the regulations, Tipperary County Council was required to adopt a Training and Development Programme for the Elected Members. The draft annual training programme had been developed in consultation with the Privilege and Procedure Committee for endorsement by the CPG, and approval by the Council. He outlined that the training would be divided into 3 types: -

- In-house, either individual or group
- Outsourced, either individual or group
- Seminar/Training, provided by LAMA or AILG

It was noted that Appendix 1 set out a draft programme for 2025 and courses may be added to the programme throughout 2025 as required.

It was proposed by **Cllr John Crosse**, seconded by **Cllr Séan Ryan and agreed: -**

"That the Training and Development Programme 2025 would be adopted".

Invitation to Cathaoirleach to attend New York St. Patrick's Day Parade

Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator informed the members that Mr. Norbert Hennessy, President of the County Tipperary N. & B. Association of New York had invited members of the Tipperary County Council to march with their contingent at the 264th Annual New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade taking place on Monday, 17th March, 2025.

He stated that it was intended that the Cathaoirleach would utilise the opportunity, while in New York, to promote Tipperary from an economic investment and Tourism perspective. For information, he noted that Clare County Council had reached out to the Council and Limerick County Council regarding the New York Trip. They have flights and accommodation booked for their Chief Executive and Cathaoirleach for the 13th to the 18th of March, and are arranging meetings with IDA, Tourism Ireland and Enterprise Ireland and suggested that if Tipperary County Council intended on travelling, to attend the meetings as a Mid-West Delegation

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan**, seconded by **Cllr. John FitzGerald**,

"That the Cathaoirleach Cllr. Declan Burgess would attend the New York St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York on the 17th March, 2025."

It was counter proposed by **Cllr. Seamus Morris**, seconded by **Cllr. Niall Dennehy**,

"That the Cathaoirleach, Cllr, Declan Burgess, would not attend the New York St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York on the 17th March, 2025."

Cllr. S. Morris outlined concerns regarding the proposed visit in light of the Gaza-Israel conflict. Notwithstanding Cllr. Morris's sentiments regarding the political dispute in Gaza and the American Administrations stance on same, members spoke in support of the Cathaoirleach's visit to New York. They outlined business and networking opportunities provided and Cllr. Tom Acheson referred specifically to Merck Sharp and Dohme being introduced to Clonmel through contact being made by the IDA. The members stated the visit is a platform for the Tipperary Cathaoirleach to meet and support fellow Tipperary people abroad and also the strong sporting connections, notably the GAA contingent in the U.S.A. It was stated that the invitation to visit was an honour. It was stated that the President Trump was elected via a democratic process.

Cllr. David Dunne proposed a letter be taken on the visit by the Cathaoirleach outlining the council's position. This was seconded by Cllr. Pat English.

Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive stated that this was not a political trip. The purpose was to develop and maintain relationships and noted that

there are other ways the council can express their concerns. She advised members not to go down this route and stated it would not be productive.

The Cathaoirleach said that he was committed to making the trip a productive one and will report back to the members on the trip. He said the majority of members had spoken in favour of the visit.

Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan asked Cllr. Morris to withdraw his proposal. Cllr. Morris stated he was not withdrawing. The Chief Executive said that the meeting was with the Tipperary Association in New York and it was not an opportune time to bring up a political matter. She said that the people voted and not everyone votes the same way. The choice before the council is whether the Cathaoirleach goes or not.

Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator noted that Cllr. Morris's proposal was deemed a direct negative in accordance with standing orders. He advised that a vote would be taken on the proposal by Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan, seconded by Cllr. John FitzGerald.

A vote was taken on the proposal, 'Approval to Attendance – Cathaoirleach to attend New York St. Patricks Day Parade', as follows:

	COMHAIRLEOIR	For	Against	Absent	Abstain
1.	Acheson, Tom	✓			
2.	Ambrose, Siobhán	✓			
3.	Anglim, Micheál	✓			
4.	Bonfield, Fiona	✓			
5.	Bourke, Kieran			✓	
6.	Brennan, Michael	✓			
7.	Browne, Liam	✓			
8.	Bugler, Phyll	✓			
9.	Cahill Skehan, Kay	✓			
10.	Carroll, John	✓			
11.	Crosse, John	✓			
12.	Dennehy, Niall		✓		
13.	Dunne, David	✓			
14.	English, Pat		✓		
15.	FitzGerald, John	✓			
16.	Fitzgerald, Mark			✓	
17.	Hannigan, Joe	✓			
18.	Hourigan, Mary	✓			
19.	Kennedy, Roger	✓			
20.	Kennedy, William	✓			
21.	Lee, Shane	✓			
22.	Lowry, Michael	✓			
23.	McGrath, Máirín	✓			
24.	Molloy, Richie	✓			
25.	Moloney, Andy	✓			
26.	Moran, Eddie	✓			
27.	Morgan Walsh,	✓			
28.	Morris, Seamus		✓		
29.	Murphy, Marie	✓			
30.	O'Heney, John	✓			

31.	O'Meara, J.P.	✓			
32.	O'Meara, Michael	✓			
33.	Quirke O'Meara,	✓			
34.	Ryan (Shiner), AM	✓			
35.	Ryan, Jim	✓			
36.	Ryan, Peggy	✓			
37.	Ryan Séan	✓			
38.	Smith, Michael	✓			
39.	Declan Burgess	✓			
	TOTALS				

The Meetings Administrator noted that there were 34 votes in favour of the proposal, 3 votes against, with 2 absentees, deeming the Cathaoirleach's visit, to The New York, St. Patricks Day parade in New York, as approved.

Cllr. D. Dunne withdrew his proposal to send a letter with the Cathaoirleach on the visit.

Item 4.2

Noted

Reports on Conferences

Item 5.1

Section 183 Notice - Disposal of land at No. 5 Avondale Court, Caherabbey Upper, Cahir to William & Margaret Magner

It was proposed by **Cllr. Marie Murphy**, seconded by **Cllr. Andy Moloney** and resolved: -

"that in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of 0.016ha situated at No. 5 Avondale Court, Caherabbey Upper, Cahir, Co. Tipperary to William & Margaret Magner for a consideration of €100.00 and the Councils Legal Fees in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th January 2025".

The disposal of property was required to facilitate the regularisation of a mapping error

Item 5.2

Section 183 Notice - Disposal of land at Garranalea, New Inn, Cashel, Co. Tipperary to Jennifer and Michael Boland

It was proposed by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. Declan Burgess** and resolved: -

"that in accordance with the provision of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Tipperary County Council hereby approves of the disposal of circa 0.0257 ha at Garranalea, New Inn, Cashel, Co. Tipperary to Jennifer & Michael Boland for a consideration of €500.00 and the Councils Legal Fees in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section, as circulated on Thursday 30th January 2025".

The disposal of the property was required to facilitate the regularisation of title to the property.

Item 5.3

Draft Strategic Policy Committee Standing Orders

Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator informed the members that Draft Standing Orders had been circulated for consideration to all the SPCs and also to the Tipperary PPN Network. No significant amendments were proposed other than the consolidations and numbering as highlighted in red on the draft as circulated. It was noted that a reference to membership and non-attendance at meetings had been mentioned twice in the draft document.

Members were informed that at the Environment SPC, the Sectoral Representatives raised the possibility about holding meetings in the evenings but this suggestion was not supported by all the SPC members. The Executive advised that it would take note of the request by the sectoral reps. It was noted that the standing orders does allow discretion to each SPC to agree an alternative venue or hold meetings in person, hybrid or remotely at a date/time to be agreed by each SPC so members were advised that they could for example agree to hold at least one meeting per year in the evening, which might be a compromise. Adoption of the draft standing orders as presented was recommended.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Roger Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. Michael Smith** and resolved: -

"That the revised Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Standing Orders 2024 -2029 Version 2 20250210, as presented be and are hereby adopted".

Item No. 5.4

Consideration of Audit Committee Reports in accordance with the Local Government Act, 2001

It was proposed by **Cllr R. Kennedy**, seconded by **Cllr. Wm. Kennedy** and resolved: -

"That in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 9 of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014, Tipperary County Council adopt the Audit Committee Annual Work Programme 2025".

The following documents were also provided to the members and noted.

- Audit Committee Report to Council for 2024
- Audit Committee Report on Audited AFS 2023
- Audit Committee Self-Assessment for 2024

Item No. 5.5

Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029 as per Section 10 of the Housing Traveller Accommodation Act, 1998

The Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 governs housing authorities' duties in relation to preparation, adoption and implementation of accommodation programmes.

Following notification from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, Tipperary County Council commenced a review of its Traveller Accommodation Programme for the period 2025 - 2029.

Under Section 9 of the Act, this Draft Programme was made available for public inspection and advertised in local papers. A copy of the notice and the Draft Accommodation Programme was sent to relevant bodies as identified and interested parties and also made available for inspection at appropriate offices of the Local Authorities. Under the Act, interested parties have two months to make submissions.

This Report is made in accordance with Section 11 of the Act, which requires the Manager to submit a report to the members on the submissions.

Cllr S. Morris referred to issues with movements into certain private sites in Nenagh. He stated that a Multi-Agency meeting was needed. Cllr. L. Browne stated his objection to proposing and seconding the programme. He stated the concentration of traveller accommodation can be an issue. He referred to ongoing issues in Cashel and agreed with the need for a multi-agency approach with more input from members of the Traveller community. Cllr. T. Acheson highlighted the issues in Clonmel and said that some areas were difficult for agencies to engage with. Cllr. D. Dunne stated, as a previous member of LTACC, there are many areas to consider. The history of traveller culture must be considered and the lifestyle of the traveller is not an easy one. He said the topic was a divisive one and it should be noted that the social issues outlined by other members are also contributed to by residents that are not within the traveller community.

In response to members comments, Mr. Jonathan Cooney A/Director of Services and Mr. Shane O'Dwyer S.E.O. referred to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) and noted they meet on quarterly basis. Jonathan Cooney stated that he would not be in a position to respond on behalf of the agencies mentioned in the discussion. He did state that there was a need to work with members of the traveller community in terms of their location and like all social housing applicants, they determine their area of choice and housing endeavour to work with them, noting there are constraints to what can be provided as is with all social housing applications. As is required by statute, there was a public consultation period on the report and seven submissions were received and were before the members. During the consultation process Traveller groups were invited to a workshop and the small attendance was noted. The report presented to members is Housing Accommodation specific and the reserved function of the council in approving the report was noted. The housing section are looking at those that need housing across all forms of social housing and that would be indicative of some families within the traveller community. He said that housing the traveller community has historically had a positive impact on outcomes. The Housing Directorate noted that the Council are examining setting up a traveller inter-agency group in 2025 and the need for this approach across the county was recognised.

The Cathaoirleach stated that he was conscious that the conversation was going into the broader aspect of the community and reminded members that a report was before them on the Traveller Accommodation Programme and stated that there are other forums that discuss stakeholder engagement and a process around addressing ongoing issues and asked that the Director of Services would keep members updated on the elected members role within the proposed inter-agency group

Following consideration, it was proposed by **Cllr. Ml. Smith**, seconded by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan** and resolved: -

"That this Council in pursuance of Section 7 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation), Act, 1998 be and is hereby giving

approval to the adoption of the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme for the period 2025-2029”

Item No. 5.6
Strategic
Infrastructure
(SID
Application)

On May 3rd, 2024, An Bord Pleanála determined that a proposal by Brittas Wind Farm for a wind energy development of 10-12 turbines and associated infrastructure in townlands of Brittas, Rossestown and Clobanna, near Thurles, Co. Tipperary would be strategic infrastructure within the meaning of Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

An application for permission for the proposed development was therefore submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála by the applicant. An Bord Pleanála informed Tipperary County Council on 15th January 2025 of the receipt of the strategic infrastructure development application. The Chief Executive is required to submit a report to An Bord Pleanála setting out the views of the Planning Authority on the effects of the proposed development on the environment and the proper and sustainable development of the area.

The Cathaoirleach noted that before this report is submitted to the Bord, the Chief Executive shall submit it to the elected members, in order to seek their views on the proposed development. The members may, by resolution, decide to attach recommendations to the report (Section 37E (6) of the 2000 Act refers).

Section 37E (6) of the 2000 Act also provides that the views expressed by the members on the proposed development during the Council meeting, can also be attached to this report i.e. the 'meetings administrator's record'.

Members from Thurles M.D. referenced the report as circulated. Notwithstanding the report was a comprehensive one, they referred to serious concerns raised at community meetings with regard to the following:

- Lack of consultation with local community
- Lack of consultation with Bio Diversity Officer
- Impact on wildlife and marine life on the River Suir
- Removal of trees and hedgerows
- Traffic Impact during construction phase
- Flood Risk
- Pollution Risk
- Visual impact of the development
- Devaluation of properties in proximity to the development
- Lack of information on possible health issues associated with shadow flicker
- Outdated Met Eireann data relating to sunlight provided
- Storage of excess energy
- Noise level assessment
- Lack of speed survey
- Road reinstatement
- Impact of severe weather events on turbine structure

The need for the provision of greener energy was noted. Members referenced the County Development Plan policy and the suitability of

locations for such developments. The proposed development was very close to a town centre and the members queried the possibility of reducing the numbers of turbines, particularly those near Thurles town. Of the issues outlined, they considered that many were not adequately dealt with and some were not addressed at all and further conversation was warranted. Members stated that there is a need to be conscious of how land is preserved for future generations.

In response to members queries, Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services and Mr. Jonathan Flood A/Senior Executive Planner responded as follows:

The Director noted that the application was not being managed under the new Planning Act. It is being managed under the Planning & Development Act 2000 and that was set out in the report. It was not the first SID application that was before the council and two previous SID applications were referenced. The significance of the development was noted. Ms. Sharon Kennedy acknowledged the work of the planning section in compiling such a comprehensive report in a short time. The report provided was the Chief Executives Report and any additional comments that members wished to make could be attached to the report in the form of an addendum once that addendum was agreed to by resolution from members.

The disappointment at the lack of consultation with the council's bio-diversity officer was noted. Mr. Jonathan Flood stated that given the comprehensive nature of the biodiversity section of the EIAR report, the planning section did not consult with the Bio Diversity Officer in drafting the report and contained comprehensive mitigation measures to mitigate against adverse impacts on ecology/biodiversity. He noted that the area in question is not a designated habitat.

The significance impact of the construction phase on road conditions was acknowledged and their concerns regarding the road reinstatement figure of €396,000. It was suggested that a pre-work and post-work survey could be undertaken to compile a reinstatement schedule and a cost reinstatement schedule would be based on that. He noted that the figure of €396,000 was provided to Planning by the district office.

The EIAR and the accompanying flood risk assessment was considered to have comprehensively examined flood risk. The conclusions from these reports was that the development would not give significance rise to flood risks. The sections of the report on hydrology and hydrogeology were detailed in terms of addressing water pollution.

The landscape was outlined as being open and relatively low level and flat. The mitigation measures for shadow flicker were outlined to members. He noted that it was an industry norm to power down turbines at times when the potential for shadow flicker was at its highest and there are software packages that manage turbines to power down in such climate conditions. He did concur with members concerns with mitigation factors such as window blinds and fencing/hedging. He stated the request to reduce the number of turbines was contained in the report. The report also referenced the noise impact.

He noted that the area is identified in the council's renewable area strategy as an area open for consideration for wind energy development. The objectives state that such developments could be considered once environmental impacts are low.

It was noted that An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to the objectives, standards and policies contained in the County Development Plan when they are coming to a decision on the application.

The EIAR included an assessment of a battery energy storage facility. The application for consent didn't include such a facility but it was noted that a future application for consent may be made for this infrastructure. The EIAR accounted, in detail, for all construction related impacts during the construction phase.

Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services summarised the areas of concern as raised by the members for inclusion in the addendum, noting that reference would also be made to Tipperary County Council's proactivity in accommodating renewable energies.

The Cathaoirleach proposed that the Planning Staff leave the meeting to draft the addendum for council consideration and approval. It was agreed to take the two remaining planning items on the agenda when the planning section returned to the meeting.

Following members consideration of the addendum as circulated, it was proposed by **Cllr. Séan Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. Peggy Ryan** and resolved: -

"That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 37E (6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and having considered the following:

The Chief Executive's reports prepared pursuant to 37E(4) the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended on the proposed Brittas Wind Farm of which An Bord Pleanála case reference: PA92.321454 relates.

We the members of Tipperary County Council hereby resolve to attach the following recommendations to the Chief Executive's report: -

Siting and Landscape/Visual Impact

- i) The location of the development in a flat open landscape in close proximity to Thurles town and the significant visual impact of the development on the landscape and on Thurles town is a concern noting the height of the turbines at 180 metres to tip.***
- ii) The 2 turbines closest to Thurles should be omitted.***

Flood Risk

- i) The flood risks to the development and arising from the developing are a significant concern. Large areas of the lands are identified on OPW Mapping as at risk of flooding***

and there is a history of flooding on the lands. This matter may be worsened by the development and development of this nature on flood prone lands to be avoided.

Shadow Flicker

- i) The development presents potential to generate shadow flicker impact on a high number of dwellings. There are concerns with impacts of shadow flicker on adults and children in the area with ASP and other sensitivities.***
- ii) The meteorological data contained in the EIAR is outdated and a revised assessment is required based on up to date data.***
- iii) The mitigation measures outlined in Section 13.7.2 of the EIAR are not implementable and are dependent on 3rd party consent which may not be provided.***

Noise

- i) The development presents potential to generate significant noise impacts on residents in the area and will significant change the noise environment.***

Roads

- i) The construction phase of development will significantly impact on road traffic noting the road width in the area and levels of use. Of particular concern is the potential for impacts and restrictions on residents' access, emergency services access, deliveries etc.***
- ii) There is a need to ensure that the roadways are adequately reinstated following construction and all costs borne by the developer. This can be dealt with by a condition seeking a bond, any such condition to allow flexibility to ensure the bond figure covers road reinstatement costs at the time of undertaking the development to reflect accurately costs at that time.***

Biodiversity

- i) There is a concern with impacts on biodiversity and impacts on wildlife, birdlife and aquatic ecology.***
- ii) Compensatory planting to be of native species and at appropriate maturity and density.***

Community Benefit Fund

- i) Access to funding under the Community Benefit Fund to be open to all communities in the vicinity, including Thurles Town.***

Item No. 5.7

Draft Carrick on Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031

Tipperary County Council commenced the process of preparing a new Local Area Plan (LAP) for Carrick-on-Suir on 25 October 2024 with the publication of a Section 20 notice and the Draft LAP. Once the new LAP is made and has effect, it will replace the Carrick-on-Suir Town Development Plan 2013 (as varied and extended). The Draft LAP was made available for a period from 25 October 2024 to 9 December 2024 (6 weeks and 3 days) and submissions were invited from stakeholders and the public during this time. This report provided a summary of the 23 submissions and observations received during the public consultation process, and provided

the Chief Executive's considerations and recommendations on the submissions and observations received. This report was before the Elected Members of the Council for their consideration.

A workshop was held with the Elected Members of the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District on 23rd January 2025 to facilitate consideration of this report and recommendations contained therein. 2025. As material alterations were recommended by the Chief Executive to the Draft LAP, a further period of public consultation for a minimum of 4 weeks is required. This is subject to the agreement of the Elected Members. Publication of the Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft LAP would take place from Friday 28 February until Monday 31 March 2025, if agreed.

Following consideration, it was proposed by **Cllr. David Dunne**, seconded by **Cllr. Michael Brennan** and resolved: -

"That having regard to the following: -

- 1. The Draft Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031***
- 2. The Chief Executives Report on the Draft LAP (dated 22nd January 2025)***
- 3. The Additional Proposed Amendments of the Elected members (dated 7th February 2025)***
- 4. The Draft Environmental Screening Determinations***

"That the Elected Members of the Council resolve to amend the Draft LAP in accordance with the recommended changes in the CE Report and Additional Proposed Amendments by Elected Members".

Item No. 5.8
Public
Consultation
Process –
Eastern &
Midlands Water
Supply Scheme

Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services noted that members were familiar with the ongoing non-statutory consultation process being undertaken by Uisce Éireann (UE) with regard to the Non-Statutory Public Consultation process for the Uisce Éireann – Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region proposal and had the opportunity to meet with Uisce Éireann at the workshop held in Nenagh on the 13th January 2025. She acknowledged the concerns raised by the members at this workshop noting that the consultation was open until the 4th of March. The consultation process was outlined as a precursor to the UE submission to ABP which UE have indicated will be submitted towards the latter end of the year.

Following on from the concerns raised she informed members that the Chief Executive had drafted a submission outlining the elements of concern from a Tipperary County Council perspective and this was before the council. Notwithstanding the fact that some members are not in favour of this project progressing, the government had indicated that funding for the project would be forthcoming.

She stated that there would be three different approval processes, noting Tipperary County Council would not be the deciding body in any process.

- A Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) expected to go to AN Bord Pleanála by the end of the year
- A Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process
- An Extraction Licence process.

She noted the latter being relatively new legislation and this would be undertaken by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

She informed the members that it would be possible to add an addendum to the report outlining any additional concerns and considerations raised. She noted that members have their own entitlement as dual members of the public living in the county to submit to the public consultation process via the Uisce Éireann website.

A number of members spoke in strong opposition of the proposal and noted that there was an insufficient period of time given to the members to consider the report. It was stated that the project was based on a misnomer that Dublin was short of water and this was stated as being untrue.

Reference was made to the specific conditions within the Development Contribution Levy and concerns surrounding the fact that it would be An Bord Pleanála (ABP) imposing the development contributions for this scheme thereby handing over power from the local authority to ABP.

It was stated that the report does not reference the destruction to landscape. The ecological impact was also queried. The members expressed concern with regard to infrastructural deficits, ongoing supply issues and to the impact such a development would have on the tourism sector fishing sector, farming community and the economic disadvantage to the Mid-West Region. Reference was made to an unconsidered proposal made to Uisce Éireann to pump water from Lisheen Mines to Dublin.

In response to members queries, Ms. Sharon Kennedy, Director of Services clarified that Tipperary County Council was not transferring power to another entity. Legislation states that the project was a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) and, in that case, the deciding body was An Bord Pleanála. Tipperary County Council planned to provide comprehensive details on all expressed elements of concern during the SID process and seek professional advice to compile a substantive submission to include the Community Gain Fund and Development Contributions.

Ms Anne Marie Devaney, Senior Planner informed the members that the location of the extraction would take place from the Parteen Basin, which operates a controlled flow system, controlling flows to Ardnacrusha, under licence from the ESB. Indications are that the proposed extraction from Parteen would not operate outside the already licenced flowrate parameters, noting that the finalised plan was not to hand and this would not be available until the application is made, at which point Tipperary County Council would be formally part of the application process. The site was noted as protected and mitigations on the impacts would be part of finalised proposals. The requirement for the proposal to consider and reflect balanced regional development was acknowledged. It was noted that the consultation documentation indicated that the offtakes referred to in members queries do not form part of the proposal at this point in time. It was also noted that the Chief Executives report posed questions on infrastructural deficits within Tipperary and in particular the catchment area of Loch Derg.

It was agreed to revert to Cllr. Phyll Bugler with regard to specific queries.

It was proposed by **Cllr. S. Morris**, seconded by **Cllr. P. Bugler** and agreed, that the matter be brought back to Nenagh M.D. for further consideration. It was agreed that the Planning section would facilitate a workshop with Nenagh M.D. and would draft an addendum to the Chief Executives report from this. It was noted that the workshop would be scheduled within the next week to ten days.

Item No. 8.1
Comhairle na
nÓg
Presentation

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach, seconded by Cllr. John Crosse and in line with Standing Order No. 86, it was agreed to take Item No. 8.1 Comhairle na nÓg presentation at this time.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed members from Comhairle na nÓg to the Meeting together with their co-ordinator Pauline Strappe and Angela Sheehan Projects, Office C&E. He invited Chloe Duggan and Michael Kolodziejczak to make a presentation to the members on their activities.

They spoke about the mental health problems facing young people and said that 'School Stress' was a theme for the year. In 2024 Tipperary Comhairle focused their work on a theme of Vaping and Drugs as part of a two-year cycle. They informed members that they would be linking in with health professionals as part of this theme. They also discussed the voting age and ways to encourage young people to exercise their vote.

They outlined the challenges faced by the group. The Cathaoirleach and members thanked the Comhairle na nÓg representatives for their presentation and congratulated them on their achievements in 2024. The members suggested that all elected members should be invited to the Comhairle na nÓg AGM and encouraged more regular engagement between Comhairle and the Council. The members suggested that the Comhairle committee make a submission for additional funding for the group.

Cathaoirleach
requested that
in the absence
of Leas
Cathaoirleach
that Cllr. Roger
Kennedy take
the chair.

Item No. 6.1
Appointment of
Members (3) to
Social Inclusion,
Community &
Rural
Development
SPC

It was proposed by **Cllr. J. Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. D. Dunne** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Mairín McGrath be ratified as Nominee to the Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development SPC".

It was proposed by **Cllr. M. McGrath**, seconded by **Cllr. D. Dunne** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Jim Ryan be ratified as Nominee to the Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development SPC".

Item No. 6.2
Nomination to
the Board of
Tipperary
Transport Co-
Ordination Unit.

The Cathaoirleach noted that one vacancy remained and this would be deferred to the March Meeting of the Council.

It was proposed by **Cllr. J. Carroll**, seconded by **Cllr. J. Crosse** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Joe Hannigan be ratified as Nominee to the Board of Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit".

Item No. 6.3
Appointment of
Members to
Committees –
Vacancies
arising from
election of Cllrs.
MI. Murphy and
Ryan O'Meara to
Dáil Eireann

Regional Health Forum West (1)

It was proposed by **Cllr. MI. Smith**, seconded by **Cllr. Marie Murphy** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. J.P. O'Meara be ratified as Nominee to the Regional Health Forum West".

Social Inclusion Community & Rural Development SPC (1)

It was proposed by **Cllr. MI. Smith**, seconded by **Cllr. John Carroll** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. J.P. O'Meara be ratified as Nominee to the Social Inclusion Community & Rural Development SPC".

Infrastructure (to include Roads, Transportation) SPC (1)

It was proposed by **Cllr. MI. Smith**, seconded by **Cllr. S. Ambrose** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. J.P. O'Meara be ratified as Nominee to the Infrastructure (to include Roads, Transportation) SPC".

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC (1)

It was proposed by **Cllr. Marie Murphy**, seconded by **Cllr. John Crosse** and resolved: -

"That Cllr. Tom Acheson be ratified as Nominee to the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC".

It was agreed to defer the appointment of a member to the board of Comhairle na Óg to the March Meeting of the Council pending clarification from Comhairle nan Óg concerning the constitution of the board.

Cllr. Declan Burgess resumed the chair.

Item No. 7.1
Consideration of
the Management
Report

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Management Report as circulated with the Agenda noting that the reports related to the Directorates based in Clonmel and any queries/clarifications would be dealt with by the relevant Director of Services.

- Economic, Community and Rural Development

- Environment & Climate Action
- Corporate Services
- Housing, Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation Response

Economic, Community & Rural Development

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 7.2, Community Mapping Exercise, as part of the Management Report on Economic, Community & Rural Development.

In advance of this item, Brian Beck, Director of Services reported to the members on the following;

The Community Recognition Fund

It was noted that following a 2024 call for expressions of interest 51 applications were submitted for a fund of €400,000. A maximum of 8 applications can be accommodated allowing for a €50,000 maximum allocation. He acknowledged that this would be disappointing for the unsuccessful. No details on funding for 2025 have been provided to date but applications received will be retained on file.

Local Enhancement Scheme

It was noted that a fund of €206,000 is in place for small capital schemes, with a fund of €34,000 for operational running costs. Mr. Beck asked members to encourage local groups to apply.

Just Transition

It was noted that two applications in Thurles MD secured funding. One million euro was secured for land in Lisheen to undertake a planning application for infrastructure with a view to opening the land up for job creation. €344,000 has been secured for 40 acres of land in Templemore for job creation. Both projects were 100% funded. Since this fund was launched just under €10,000,000 has been provided.

LEO

262 client companies were supported in 2024 with a net of 149 jobs created.

Comhairle na nÓg

He noted that in a lot of grant schemes there is an increasing focus on the engagement of youth in these applications and he noted the importance of including young people as part of capital funding stream applications.

Item No. 7.2 **Community** **Mapping** **Exercise**

Ms. Fiona Crotty, Administrative Officer, Economic Community and Rural Development made a presentation to the members titled 'The Power of Place & People in Tipperary – A Survey. The presentation was noted.

She informed the members of a Tipperary LECP Action to undertake a Community Capacity and Community Organisation Audit. The survey/audit is currently being finalised with input from Climate Action, Health and Wellbeing, Tipperary PPN and other stakeholders. Each community facility in the county will be recorded. Social capital will also be examined as well as organisations without a facility. Targeted training, support and mentoring opportunities will be identified. A dedicated team of staff from Tipperary Public Participation Network and Tipperary Community Team will

conduct surveys with a plan to commence in Q.1 2025 with an anticipated project timeframe of 12-18 months. The unique identifier will be the PPN ID number and the Eir code will be used for mapping. All information will be hosted on Tipperary County Council website and linked to Tipperary PPN.

The members stated the need to reach out to local businesses. It was also suggested that in addition to local enterprises that the consultation would be undertaken with local sporting groups to assist them with applications. It was agreed to circulate presentations from the Tipperary Age Friendly Meeting for Tidy Towns Groups to the members.

Mr. Brian Beck, Director of Services, responded to general C&E queries raised on the Management Report as follows: -

LCDC

He acknowledged the work of local groups. In response to members queries, he noted that the LCDC programme was in the programme for government and this would be an area a lot of local authorities would be looking at. He stated that whatever resources are available at a particular time and place would be utilised and this would include the PPN network of people.

The Platforms for Growth

This work is ongoing. Destination Loch Derg promotion will involve working with local authority staff in Clare and Galway, noting the Platforms for Growth and E-Biking are elements of that. He noted that this was not just about Tipperary, but the entire area around Loch Derg.

Spotlight Series

It was agreed to revert to Cllr. P. Bugler on the Spotlight Series timing

Templemore Project

He noted that funding for the Templemore project, done jointly with the Templemore Development Association, was noted that this funding was for job creation. He recognised the importance of a 10 acre plot available for sporting organisations and engagement will be had with stakeholders as part of the job creation element.

Item No. 7.1 **Consideration of** **the Management** **Report** **continued**

Environment & Climate Action

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 7.3, Climate Action Plan Progress Report & Item 11.1 Notice of Motion Ref. 2922 in relation to Election Posters as part of the Management Report on Environment & Climate Action.

Item No. 7.3 **Tipperary** **County Council** **Climate Action** **Plan Progress** **Report**

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services informed members that the report was an important milestone on Tipperary County Council's decarbonisation and climate action journey. The Local Authority Climate Action Plan is a statutory document which was adopted last year and the report before the members was to report on the progress of that document outlining that 90 actions identified are ongoing or completed. He acknowledged the work of Clare Lee, Climate Action Co-Ordinator, Marie O'Donnell Community Climate Action Officer and the wider staff involved.

The report reflects the implementation status and illustrates what is being done across the county. He acknowledged the significant challenge ahead in terms of the statutory targets on local authorities around the decarbonisation of fleet and facilities.

The Report was noted.

The Motion Reference No. 2922 was proposed by **Cllr. A. Moloney**.

Item No. 11.1
Cllr. Andy
Moloney (NOM
Ref. 2922)

"That this council have a serious discussion about the amount of election posters been erected in the county at election time. We need to regulate the numbers or create locations to erect posters in towns and villages".

This motion was seconded by **Cllr. Michael Smith**.

In moving the motion Cllr. A. Moloney stated that the council need to examine second use plastics. He raised concerns on the number of posters erected at election time and he believes that they should be restricted. He said that posters do not improve voter turnout. He said that erecting posters in designated areas could be considered and suggested that it be discussed at SPC in advance of sending the motion to the relevant government minister. Tidy towns do a lot of work in this area in agreement with elected members.

Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan (Shiner) spoke in support of the motion and the idea of a designated areas for posters. Cllr. Liam Browne spoke of the importance of posters for new candidates and people do take notice of them and there is an advantage in incumbency. Cllr. David Dunne said legislation would not prevent posters being erected at election time as ways will be found to navigate outside the proposed legislation.

The Meetings Administrator advised Cllr. Moloney that it would require a change in legislation to ban election posters referring to the reply to the Notice of Motion as follows: -

Legislation concerning election posters was brought in to regulate the erection and removal of election signage to avoid same being considered as 'littering' during an election/referendum campaign. The legislation provides that posters may only be erected for a certain specified period before an election. This period is either (a) 30 days before the poll date or (b) from the date the polling order for an election has been made, whichever provides the shorter period of time. Posters must be removed within 7 days of polling day. These requirements for election posters are set out under Section 19 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and the Electoral (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 2009.

The legislation places no further restrictions on election posters. The Council cannot therefore enforce additional controls within these specified periods, save where posters are considered to be a safety hazard. Under the Road Traffic Act 1961, Section 95, Subsection 14 "It is an offence to erect any notice that makes a traffic sign less visible to road users, causes confusion or obstructs the view of the road."

Local Authorities have the power under the Traffic Signs Manual issued by the Department of Transport to take appropriate action to deal with any obstructions or confusion caused to the clear visibility of signs. Tipperary County Council has a protocol in place with respect to the placement of posters along roads and streets in county Tipperary in the interests of road safety. The Council must be mindful of the safety of all road users - pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

The following limitations apply:

- No signage is to be erected on a roundabout or within 50m of the entrance to a roundabout.
- No signage is to be erected on existing road signage poles.
- No signage is to be erected where it blocks sightlines from entrances onto any road.
- No signage is to be erected on pedestrian safety barriers.
- Where Tipperary County Council deems a sign to be hazardous, a distraction to safe movement of road users, or in breach of the above rules, it may remove that sign for storage at the local depot where it can be collected within one week of removal.
- Electronic Display Panels, also known as Variable Message Signs (VMS) or VMS display panels are not permitted to be used for any purpose connected with the election/referendum, as they are considered to be advertisement structures requiring appropriate planning permission.
- Motorways/High-Speed Dual Carriageways: Candidates and election workers are advised that, with the exception of emergencies, it is illegal to stop on motorways for any purpose, including the erection of election material. Similarly, for road safety and efficiency, the same applies in the case of dual carriageways.
- Bridges: There is an inherent risk in the practice of suspending or attaching banners and posters from/to road overbridges and pedestrian bridges.
- Election candidates should ensure that all campaign workers are made aware of the dangers of working at the road side and not to place themselves or others at risk when erecting posters. Such workers should take necessary safety precautions for both themselves and road users.

Outside of that there is a dependence on the goodwill of each candidate, including candidates who are not sitting members. Restrictions on the erection of election posters elsewhere in the country have either been by agreement between councillors /candidates or in response to requests from Tidy Town committees that posters be excluded from a town, or restricted to a specific area of the town. Such arrangements would not be enforceable by the Council. Further restrictions on the placing of election posters would require a change to the existing legislation.

Following further consideration by the members, It was agreed to forward the Motion to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Mr. James Browne for consideration and reply.

Item No. 7.1
Consideration of
the Management
Report
continued

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services and Mr. Denis Holland S.E. responded to queries raised as follows: -

Kilboy Burial Grounds

It was noted that Nenagh MD members passed a resolution registering the ground in the name of the local authority. The process is ongoing and there has been engagement with the maintenance committee and a further meeting will be arranged.

Bohar Burial Ground

Satisfactory Progress is being made and it is anticipated that there will be a formal opening later in the year.

Well Grants

The maximum grant available for an eligible applicant is 85% of the approved costs subject to a maximum of €5,000 and criteria pertaining to the nature of the application.

Textile Industry/Clothing Banks

The market for second hand clothes is diminishing impacting across all local authorities. Tipperary are part of a national and a regional group around the area of the circular economy. Rationalisation of textile banks will be considered if a regional/national solution cannot be found. There are currently 80 textile banks across the county. The financial impacts are substantial on a local authority.

Adjournment of
Meeting

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach the Meeting adjourned for lunch at 1.30 pm and it was agreed to resume at 2pm.

Resumption of
Meeting

The meeting resumed at 2pm with the Cathaoirleach instructing that questions on the Corporate Services Management Report would be taken next.

Item No. 7.1
Consideration of
the Management
Report
continued

Corporate Services

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Cathaoirleach to take Item 10.1, Notice of Motion Ref. 2909 in relation to Section 183s in Clonmel Borough District as part of the Management Report on Corporate Services.

Cllr. Dennehy requested that the motion be deferred again. He stated he was not prepared to proceed with the tabling of NOM Ref. 2909 at this point in time. He stated he required further information to proceed. Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator stated that the motion before the council was that Clonmel Borough District would be given independent legal advice before any Section 183's. There was no indication that further information was required to move the motion. Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive stated that if the motion was going to refer to specifics, the motion should reference that to ensure all members are aware of it. On that basis there may be a requirement to readjust what the notice of motion is. She concurred with the Meetings Administrator that the Notice of Motion as presented was generic.

Item No. 10.1
Cllr. Niall
Dennehy (NOM
Ref. 2909)

Cllr. Niall Dennehy stated that he agreed to a previous deferment of the motion in December to allow him to gather further information so that members would understand the motion. He does not have all the

information at this time. He stated he was not prepared to go forward with tabling the motion at this time and if he was required to amend the motion, he would do that.

The Chief Executive stated that it was her understanding that the motion was deferred in December to permit the provision of legal advice on the Section 183 process to the members. A workshop had taken place on the 4th February 2025 with the Council's solicitors, Harte LLP at which the members were briefed on the provision of Section 183 and the councillor's liabilities arising from decisions taken. She said that if Cllr. Dennehy wanted a specific issue to be given attention, the motion would need to be amended and it could be done in the context of the motion.

The Notice of Motion was deferred.

Item No. 7.1
Consideration of
the Management
Report
continued

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services & Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator responded to queries raised as follows: -

Electoral Register Reform

The Electoral Reform Act 2022 introduced significant reform to the electoral registration process, including the establishment of a single shared Register of Electors managed by a designated local authority, Dublin City Council. This initiative aims to reduce duplication, enhance data security and standardise registration processes across all local authorities, while ensuring that each maintain legal responsibility of its own register. It was noted that work is continuing on this process of transferring the Electoral Register to Voter.ie. This new system will be elector-based, as opposed to the current dwelling-based system.

The Franchise Team are currently working on the following:

- Identification of amendments or updates required to Townlands
- Translation of all townlands, polling stations and reference data to Irish
- Identification and removal of duplicate entities (elector and non-elector).

A Data Quality Cleansing Exercise is currently ongoing.

In response to queries raised by Cllr. Dunne, it was noted that before a person can be removed from the register, there is a requirement to contact them three times. Persons are not automatically added to the electoral register. They must apply themselves and register on the system. Awareness campaigns have been used in the past. Removing someone from the electoral register is not undertaken lightly.

Housing, Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation Response

Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services, responded to queries raised as follows: -

Social Housing Numbers

The number of units delivered across the capital programme was advised and it was noted that the Housing for All targets of 887 units would be significantly exceeded over the lifetime of the plan 2022-2026. It was also

noted that 140 voids are typically turned around and re-let on an annual basis.

Downsizing Policy

It was noted that this matter is listed on the Work programme for the Housing SPC in Q3/Q4. 2025

Homeless Services

It was noted that the homeless figures were referenced in the Management Report. Reference was made to the severe weather event and the staff acknowledged for their work. Extra beds had been provided and it was noted that there was adequate capacity. Capacity is being managed on an ongoing basis and options being examined.

Tenants in Situ

It was noted that no department sanction had been received to date but it was anticipated direction would be provided in the coming weeks.

Mountain View Drive

The project is currently at tender stage

Affordable Housing

An application was made to the department for affordable housing in Clonmel in January. A mixed take up generally across the country was noted. Expressions of interest have been sought for Nenagh and this process will remain open until the 28th February. It was noted that the First Home Scheme can provide equity of 30% for first time buyers which is comparable to Affordable Housing Scheme.

The Challenges with Air to Water Heating in a power cut.

The Decarbonisation requirement was noted and in the vast majority of cases to achieve a B2 BER rating or higher, air source heat pumps will form part of the retrofit measures. Issues during the recent weather events were acknowledged and currently there is a number of residents turning down the offer of Air to Water but similarly others are looking to join the scheme. It was highlighted nationally following the recent storm event and the fact that severe storms appear to be happening more frequently that the electricity networks vulnerabilities would be examined and measures put in place to minimise the risk posed by such storms into the future.

Thomas Street

Contractor is on site. Awaiting contracts from developer as it is a turnkey site.

Vacant Homes

It was noted that this is now under the remit of Planning. Approximately 600 applications have been received to date with approx. 450 approved. The positive progress was noted.

Tenancy Handbook

Responsibilities have been reviewed and the requirement for Tipperary County Council to work within budget was noted. Under 2% voids vacancy has been maintained in 2024. The establishment of a framework

agreement where contractors can submit tenders for grouped works will be discussed with the districts.

Social Housing Limits

These are set under national policy and had been reviewed in 2024

Housing Units Thurles

61 units will be delivered, anticipated delivery Q3. 2025

Town Centre Rejuvenation

A cross directorate working group will look at over the shop living accommodation. The complexity and the cost of such an undertaking was noted.

Special Housing Meeting

A letter has recently issued to the new minister for Housing, Mr. James Browne T.D.

Social Housing Waiting List

Approximately 3,500 across all Housing Supports. The net need is in the region of 1,300.

Nine to Nine

Two approaches are currently being looked at with the HSE which will assist with the delivery of this service.

Item No. 9.1
Consideration of
Orders for the
period to the
31st January
2025

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 31st January 2025 were noted.

Item No. 12.1
Cllr Anne Marie
Ryan (Shiner) &
Cllr. David
Dunne (NOM
Ref. 2923)

The Motion Reference No. 2923 was proposed by **Cllr. David Dunne**.

"That this council write to Uisce Eireann requesting they provide compensation for businesses who suffer loss of water due to no fault of their own. There are many water outages occurring throughout the County and some businesses are regularly losing significant revenue due to repeated forced closures. Many businesses cannot operate without water and when a water outage occurs, they have no choice but to close".

This motion was seconded by **Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan (Shiner)**.

In moving the motion Cllr. Dunne outlined the issues faced by businesses during the severe weather event. A number had closed temporarily or had implemented reduced opening hours as a result of a water outage. He referred to Dove Hill Shopping Centre in Carrick on Suir which had to temporarily lay off 15 staff and despite every effort to sort the water they had to get in their own water tank to permit them to continue trading. He also said that the resident of Kilsheelan had been without water for 12 days. Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan (Shiner) referred to incidents outside of the

severe weather event in Tipperary Town where the water is off at intervals and negatively impacting businesses.

It was agreed that the motion would be referred to Uisce Eireann for comment/response.

Item No. 13.1
Invitation to
Visit Coolmore /
Ballydoyle

It was agreed to revert to the council with alternative dates as dates suggested by Coolmore/Ballydoyle were not suitable.

Item No. 14.1
Motions from
Other Councils

The following Resolutions from other Local Authorities were considered and noted: -

Leitrim County Council

"That Leitrim County Council calls on the next Government and all the elected members of both Houses of the Oireachtas to pass whatever legislation necessary to hold the referendum, promised by the previous administration, to allow our diaspora to vote in the Presidential Election to be held in November of this year".

Clare County Council

"That Clare County Council oppose the recent decision by the GAA, whereby children under the age of sixteen will be charged a fee to gain admittance to GAA matches, and that we call on the GAA to reverse this decision as a matter of urgency. It is also proposed that this Notice of Motion be circulated to all Local Authorities across the country".

Clare County Council

"We request Clare County Council to make urgent contact with the Department of Local Government regarding housing aid for Older People's Grant in connection with the exclusion of new fossil fuel boilers, oil or gas".

Roscommon County Council

"It was agreed to write to the Taoiseach and the Tanaiste to consider that in the formation of the incoming government that the matter of rural and urban isolation and loneliness is directly allocated to a Ministry".

Item No. 15.1
Expressions of
Votes of
Sympathy /
Congratulations

Votes of Sympathy were passed for the following: -

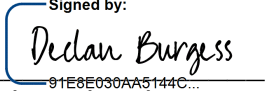
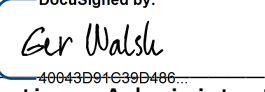
- Liam Kenny, Traffic Warden, Cashel on the death of his mother Ella Kenny
- Donal Kennedy, Roads Section, Tipp Cahir Cashel MD on the death of his mother Hannah Kennedy
- Karen McMahon on the death of her father Andrew McMahon
- Fergal Condon on the death of his father Liam Condon

Votes of Congratulations were passed for the following: -

- Imelda Goldsboro on her nomination to Seanad Eireann

Item No. 16.1
A.O.B.

There being no other business, the Meeting concluded at 15.05.

Signed/	<div>Signed by:  91E8E030AA5144C...</div>	Date/ 10/03/2025
	Cathaoirleach.	
Signed/	<div>DocuSigned by:  40043D91C39D486...</div>	Date/ 10/03/2025
	Meetings Administrator	