

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON WEDNESDAY, 18th JUNE, 2025

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

In Attendance: Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services
Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer
Mr. Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer
Mr. Pádraig Franklin, Executive Engineer
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer
Ms. Sophia Doheny, Asst. Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian
Ms. Ann Marie Brophy, Senior Executive Librarian
Mr. Paddy Crowley, Senior Engineer, Planning
Mr. Kieran McKenna, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel
Ms. Marie Maher, Project Co-Ordinator, C & E
Ms. Cliona O'Donnell, A/Staff Officer, C & E
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public

The Mayor welcomed Pádraig Franklin who is replacing Emma Ryan to the Borough District and wished him well in his role. He thanked Emma for all her work during her time in the Borough District and wished her every success in her new role.

1.1 Zoom Protocol

There was nobody in attendance at the Meeting by Zoom.

2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 21st May, 2025.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 21st May, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

3.2 Minutes of Special Meeting held on 24th April, 2025

The minutes of the special meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 24th April, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Niall Dennehy, seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose and agreed by all.

4.1 Chief Executives Report Part 8 Davis Road & Anglesea Street Active Travel

The report as presented to the Meeting was proposed by Councillor Niall Dennehy, seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose and agreed by all.

The Mayor thanked Paddy and Kieran for their attendance at the meeting.

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5.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Economic, Community & Rural Development.

The report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read. Cliona O'Donnell highlighted the Age Friendly Event which was being held in Thurles that day with over 70 information stands on display. She also informed the members that since the Agenda issued that funding has been allocated to Tipperary Community Groups under the Local Enhancement Programme.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:-

- Councillor Dennehy spoke about the Tourism Strategy. He referenced Charles Bianconi and the 150th anniversary of his death which is being celebrated in September by Boherlahan/Dualla where he is buried. Councillor Dennehy stated that Clonmel should be associated with this initiative as Charles Bianconi had served twice as Mayor of Clonmel. He said that this would tie in with his proposal at the May Meeting which received the unanimous support of the members that the towns of Clonmel, Cahir, Cashel should make a solid case to host the National Fleadh Cheol noting that Bianconi's first horse-drawn carriage left for Cahir from outside Hearn's Hotel. He stated that Clonmel should be able to benefit from Bianconi's association with Clonmel both nationally and internationally and that this should be reflected in the Tourism Strategy.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if a copy of the Tipperary Discovery Guide will be circulated to the members. Councillor Ambrose suggested that there should be a separate guide for the north and south of the county as it is hard to sell the county as a whole to tourists. She expressed her thanks to the tourism groups who are working so hard to promote the county.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there is a cycle club available for adults.
- Councillor Molloy complimented the team for organising the age friendly event which is a very worthwhile event.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- Cliona O'Donnell informed the members that she will circulate a copy of the Tipperary Discovery Guide to them.
- Cliona informed the members that she along with Mairéad Winters will be attending the Clonmel Town First Meeting later in the week to discuss the tourism strategy.
- In relation to the query raised regarding cycling clubs for adults, Marie Maher stated that a Women on Wheels Programme was held in March which proved to be very successful.

The Mayor thanked Marie and Cliona for their attendance at the meeting.

5.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Cultural Services/Libraries & Biodiversity

Damien Dullaghan gave a presentation to the members on the proposed development of a new library in Clonmel. Damien explained that the current library was constructed in 1987 and since then there have been significant changes in the functionality of libraries. Libraries are now community hubs with the current library having in excess of over 100,000 visits per annum. Damien informed the members that €3m grant funding has been received from the Department of Rural and Community Development which is the joint highest funding allocation in the country. Following a detailed assessment of available sites, Damien informed the members that it is proposed that the new library building will be located in the centre of Clonmel adjacent to the Civic Offices in Emmet Street. The proposed new library will be 2,000 sq. metres and features will include study facilities, a digital hub, art gallery space, exhibition/lecture room, a collaborative

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learning space with a children's, teenage and adult library on the ground, middle and top floors respectively.

The members thanked Damien for his presentation and all spoke in support of the new library stating that it is a very exciting proposal and highlighted the importance of delivering a high-quality service to the people of Clonmel and hinterland. They complimented Damien and all associated with the project on the design of the building as everybody is being catered for and as a result will feel connected to the Library.

All the members gave their support to progress to the next stage of the project where the application will shortly go on public display as part of a Part 8 Planning Process.

The Mayor thanked Damien and Anne Marie for their attendance at the meeting.

Prior to the Report of the District Administrator, Councillor Dennehy spoke about the financial position of Clonmel Borough District stating that as there is no commitment in the programme for Government to restore Clonmel Corporation and South Tipperary County Council, that Clonmel Borough District is well placed financially to take control of its own affairs as a City Council. He also referred to the position of Mayor which he stated was abolished in 2014 with the abolition of Clonmel Borough Council and proposed that Councillor English remain on as Cathaoirleach for the coming year rather than hold an AGM for election to the position. This proposal did not receive the support of the Members.

6.1 Report of District Administrator

The District Administrator's Report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the progress to date on the Clonmel Garda Station and the expected commencement date of the works in late Summer/early Autumn.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the additional funding being made available to property owners under the enhancement and painting scheme. Councillor Acheson asked how much additional funding is being made available.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if it is possible to progress the extension of the CCTV Scheme.
- Councillor Ambrose said that it is great to see the CPO process being progressed in relation to Parke's Chemist and looked forward to the revitalised building being used for tourism. Members concurred with Councillor Ambrose on this.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was any further update on the installation of the signage at the Sports Hub.
- Councillor Ambrose wished the Tidy Towns Groups in the district every success in the upcoming Tidy Towns Competition and complemented these groups on the work being carried out. Members concurred with Councillor Ambrose on this.
- Councillor Molloy asked if the signage can be improved indicating the location of the tourist office.
- Councillor Molloy welcomed the revival of the Corpus Christi Procession which is taking place on the 19th June.
- Councillor English welcomed the progress on the Suir Island Gardens and asked for a completion date for the works.
- Councillor English asked that a meeting be arranged with the Oireachtas Members to seek their assistance in progressing the application for URDF Call 4 funding.

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- Councillor English asked that a letter be sent to the Minister for Justice regarding the delay in the installation of CCTV in the town.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update on the review of the parking bye-laws and the harmonisation of parking charges within the county.
- Councillor English welcomed the upcoming events organised for the Plaza over the summer months noting that the Plaza is a great asset to the town.

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- In relation to the signage at the Sports Hub, the District Administrator informed the members that the signage is being encompassed as part of the overall signage for the TUS Campuses. The District Administrator will follow up on the progress of same.
- In relation to the signage for the Tourist Office, the District Administrator is progressing same through the Economic, Community & Rural Development Directorate.
- The District Administrator will relay the thanks and compliments of the members to the Tidy Towns Group and Clonmel Borough District outdoor staff.
- In relation to the enhancement and painting scheme, the District Administrator informed the members that the additional funding allocated will depend on the size of the building and the enhancement works carried out.
- The District Administrator will follow up with Gillian Flynn, District Engineer and Eamonn O'Connell, Executive Engineer on the completion date for the Suir Island Gardens Project and will update the members.
- Regarding URDF Call 4, the District Administrator will contact the Oireachtas Members to arrange a meeting.
- In relation to the installation of the CCTV, the District Administrator said that she will contact the Garda Inspector in Thurles prior to contacting the Ministers Office as he has been liaising with the Garda Commissioners Office for updates.
- The District Administrator stated that the parking byelaws countywide are being reviewed and will be presented to the Districts before being presented to the full council.

6.2 Report of District Engineer – Roads Programme

The District Engineer's report was circulated to Members with the agenda.

Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Fitzgerald stated that speed continues to be an issue coming into Poulmucka from the Clonmel side and asked that speed reducing measures be introduced at this location.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked that surface dressing be carried out at Móorstown.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked if villages can avail of the road sweeper during the summer months.
- Councillor Molloy asked if there was an update on the petition submitted by the residents of Western Park regarding introduction of pay parking.
- Councillor Molloy asked if the abandoned vehicle in the allotments can be removed.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the pedestrian crossing between the Plaza and Dillon Street can be highlighted for motorists as currently the planting is obstructing the view. Councillor Molloy concurred with Councillor Acheson on this.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for a completion date for the works at Abbey Street Car Park stating she was aware that the delay was due to the wall needing additional works.

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- Councillor Ambrose expressed her thanks to Gillian Flynn, Adam Coffey and the outdoor staff in relation to the maintenance of the green areas.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was a further update in relation to the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update in relation to the funding for the installation of a drinking water station on the blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the flood alleviation works at Mountcahill, Kilcash.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update in relation to the installation of toilet facilities on the Blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the section of road opposite the church in Clerihan village can be resurfaced.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for the timeframe for cleaning of the signage on the by-pass.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the costing for repair of the playground equipment in Denis Burke Park.
- Councillor Dennehy referred to the Town Bus Service which is a great asset to the town. He mentioned that the 2nd bus stop is very near where the bus service originates and terminates outside the Talbot Hotel and asked if the TII consulted with the Borough Council when designing the bus routes. He asked if this can be raised with the TII
- Councillor English asked that the gullies in Irishtown and O'Neill Street be cleaned.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the works to be carried out by the OPW on the streams and river banks in the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English asked that the damaged bollards and traffic islands on the N24 at the Heywood Road Junction be repaired.
- Councillor English asked for the timeframe for repair of the lights at the Pedestrian Crossing on the Fethard Road.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the installation of speed ramps in Honeyview Estate/Summerhill Drive and Ard Fatima.
- Councillor English asked for a commencement date for works on the improved skid resistant paving at Marystone Mall.
- Councillor English welcomed the works on the safety barriers at Rathronan.
- Councillor English asked for a commencement date for the resurfacing works at Abbey Road and on the N24 through Kilsheelan.
- Councillor Acheson asked if the operational model for the Borough District can be reviewed in terms of Roads.
- Councillor English asked if the camper vans at Elm Park can be removed.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- Adam Coffey informed the members that signage will be erected at Poulmucka within the next 6 – 8 weeks under the low-cost safety scheme.
- In relation to resurfacing works at Moorestown, Adam Coffey informed the members that the Borough District can resurface the entrance but as this road is a local tertiary road a full road resurfacing would need to be carried out under the Community Involvement Scheme.
- Adam said that he will look at the schedule of works for the road sweeper and see if there is capability to deploy the sweeper to the villages during summer months.
- Adam informed the members that he will follow up on the parking at Western Park.
- Adam to follow up on the abandoned car at the allotments.
- In relation to the pedestrian crossing at Dillon Street, Adam will review same.

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- The District Administrator informed the members that works on the Abbey Street Car Park are on schedule with a completion date mid July. Repairs to the wall are complete and the artist is ready to commence work on the mural. The District Administrator to forward details of the mural to the members.
- The update on the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme is as detailed in the District Administrators Report.
- An update on the application for funding for the drinking water station on the blueway is still awaited.
- Adam said that he will follow up on the query in relation to the toilet on the Blueway.
- In relation to surface dressing at Clerihan, Adam will review same.
- Regarding the signage on the N24, these works have been included as part of the Safety Improvement Scheme Tender.
- Adam informed the members that a quotation has been received in relation to upgrading the playground equipment at Denis Burke Park and is currently being reviewed.
- In relation to the town bus service, Adam informed the members that the TII consulted with the Borough District with an RSA audit carried out to determine the location of the bus stops.
- Adam said that the gullies at Irishtown and O'Neill Street will be monitored and cleaned in accordance with the annual maintenance plan.
- Regarding the works to be carried out by the OPW on the streams and river in the Old Bridge, James Murray informed the members that there is engagement with the OPW and that the environmental screenings which have been carried out are being reviewed by the OPW
- The fault on the pedestrian lights on the Fethard Road Crossing has been reported and Adam will follow up on same.
- Adam informed the members that resurfacing works at Abbey Road is scheduled for week commencing 30th June. The installation of the speed ramps at Honeyview Estate, Summerhill Drive and Ard Fatima is also scheduled for this week.
- Adam will follow up on the installation of the skid resistant paving at the Marystone Mall.
- Pdraig Franklin informed the members that the resurfacing works at Kilsheelan will be progressing in the coming weeks.
- In relation to the query raised by Councillor Acheson, Jonathan Cooney advised the members that this is an operational matter for the Executive to consider.
- In relation to the camper vans, Adam advised the members that this is being followed up.

6.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The Report was noted by the Members.

Item 7.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 13th June, 2025.

These were noted.

Items 8.1 to 8.6– Notice of Motion

Motion 2989 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District upgrade the 1798 Monument outside the Town Hall. The existing monument needs urgent maintenance as it is under the threat of collapsing due to its poor condition. The monument is a protected structure and should be preserved for future generations.

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REPLY:

The Clonmel Borough District will apply for funding through the Built Heritage Investment Scheme in August 2025. Any works to the monument need to be specified by an appropriate conservation professional as this monument is protected (TRPS2166). Funding approval would be notified to CBD in February 2026.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Councillor English asked that this be reviewed.

Motion 2990 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District in conjunction with the T.I.L. look at providing a Bus Shelter at a number of bus stops on the Clonmel Bus routes.

REPLY:

The National Transport Authority provide funding for Bus Shelters and provide funding for the Clonmel Town bus service.

Local link are due to carry out a review of the service this year. I will request that an audit of suitable bus stop shelter locations is considered as part of the review.

Seconded by Councillor Tom Acheson

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2991 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District clean the laneway to the side of 55, Fairfields, Clonmel, as it is severely overgrown and littered with rubbish.

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District have a list of laneways scheduled for cleaning in 2025.

This work will commence once the busy grass cutting and flower season has passed.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2992 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

In the interest of safety, I am asking that consideration is given for the insertion of traffic calming measures over the Old Bridge between Cascade Park and the Centra Shop.

REPLY:

A raised pedestrian crossing located east of William O'Brien Street forms part of the Old Bridge to Suir Blueway Active Travel project.

This project will go through the Part 8 process where the local community will have an opportunity to review the plans and submit representations for additional traffic calming if considered necessary.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2993 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

What is the latest update regarding my previous notice of motion requesting that the Council carry out a survey in conjunction with members of the arts community around Clonmel with the purpose of identifying all of the existing public and private performance spaces around Clonmel? The findings of this report will support the Council in addressing the current gaps that exist in this area.

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REPLY:

Funding has been secured from the Arts Council by the Tipperary Arts Office for a planned research project which is due to commence later this year (Q4) to look at existing provision, identify needs and to explore models of provision nationally and internationally with a view to informing potential approaches to the needs of the artistic community and audiences in Clonmel.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 2994 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

What is the latest update regarding the continuation of re-surfacing works on the Glenconner Road as sections of this road are in very poor condition. I am also asking that in the interest of safety that traffic calming measures on sections of this road are also included as part of these works given the difficulty that some residents are experiencing entering and exiting their homes on this road.

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District are currently working on the design for this section of Glenconner Road.

This design includes a new surface water network, New footpaths, traffic calming, new road alignment and landscaping where possible.

We would hope to deliver the required drainage works in 2025 and apply for funding to continue the works in 2026.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 8.1 Correspondence

The correspondence as circulated with the agenda was noted. Councillor English asked the District Administrator to extend an open-ended invitation to Minister O'Brien to attend a meeting at a date suitable to him regarding the N24.

The District Administrator informed the members that a reply was received from the OPW regarding the signage programme being rolled out to upgrade signage at National Monuments which will include Kilcash Castle and said she will circulate the reply to the members.

Item 9.1 Votes of Congratulations

A vote of congratulations was extended to:-

St. Mary's Choral Society on their recent success at the AIMS awards held recently in Killarney.

10.1 Any other Business

The District Administrator suggested that a workshop be held with the Members and the Town Team on the 7th July to discuss the BIDS process. This was agreed by the Members.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 16/7/25

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 16/7/25.