MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT, HELD IN THE TOWH HALL AT 2.30 PM, TUESDAY, 24TH JUNE, 2025.

**Present:** 

Cllr. Pat English, Mayor

Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, Deputy Mayor

Cllr. John Fitzgerald Cllr. Richie Molloy Cllr. Niall Dennehy

In attendance:

Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Town Manager

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator

Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer

Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer

Ms. Sophia Doheny, Assistant Staff Officer.

Also in Attendance:

Ms. Carol English, Lady Mayoress

**Apologies:** 

Councillor Tom Acheson

## Item 1 Zoom Protocol

The Mayor confirmed that there was nobody in attendance at the meeting by Zoom

Councillor Pat English, Mayor welcomed everybody to the meeting. He thanked Deputy Michael Murphy who was elected Mayor for the year 2024/2025 and from whom Councillor English took on the role of Mayor following Councillor Murphy's election to Dáil Eireann. He thanked Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, Deputy Mayor and all the members for their support and assistance throughout his mayoralty. He expressed his thanks to the staff of Clonmel Borough District for all their expertise, support and knowledge afforded to him. Reflecting on his term as Mayor, Councillor English said he was delighted to see major progress on various projects such as:-

- · Suir Island Gardens,
- Abbey Street performance space,
- the active travel schemes at the Gaelscoil and the Cashel Road,
- the progression of the new garda station at Kickham Barracks.
- improvement works on the Suir Blueway

He spoke about the adoption of the Borough District Tree Strategy which is the first of its kind in the county. He was delighted that An Bord Pleanala have granted planning permission for the proposed future walkway bridge which will link the town centre to Suir Island and Denis Burke Park. He was happy to see the financial support given by the Borough District to support the Tidy Town Groups, Burial Ground Committees, Festival and Event Committees and thanked all these groups for their continued great work.

He thanked his wife, Carol and his family for all their support during his term as Mayor.

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The Mayor concluded by stating that it was an honour and a privilege to serve his home town as Mayor of Clonmel.

The members of Clonmel Borough District and Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Town Manager all congratulated Cllr. English on a successful term as Mayor. Even though it was a short term, they said that it was a very busy and successful term with a lot of great projects coming to fruition.

## <u>Item 2 – Election of Mayor of the Clonmel Borough District 2025/2026</u> Cllr. Pat English sought nominations for the position of Mayor.

Councillor Niall Dennehy voiced his objection to the use of the word Mayor stating that the office of Mayor no longer exists since the abolition of Clonmel Borough Council 11 years ago. He argued that it would be more correct for the Borough District to elect a Cathaoirleach for the coming year. This proposal did not receive the support of the members.

Councillor Dennehy also spoke about the isolation of previous Councillors from the role and his own current position.

Cllr. Richie Molloy nominated Cllr. Pat English for the position of Mayor. Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose seconded the proposal.

As there were no other nominations for the position, Councillor Pat English was elected as Mayor of Clonmel for the year 2025/2026.

Clir. Pat English thanked Clir. Molloy and Clir. Ambrose and all members for electing him as Mayor stating that it was a huge privilege and honour for him and his family to serve as Mayor in his home town for the sixth time. He thanked his wife, Carol and all his family for their continuous support. He expressed his thanks to Deputy Seamus Healy, T.D. and his colleagues in the Workers and Unemployed Action Group for their loyal support and encouragement over the years. He said that he intends to work with all the members of the Borough District in tandem with the Executive to promote the town of Clonmel and the surrounding areas of the District in a positive way and to serve all the people of the District. He hopes to see further investment to create more employment in the town during the coming year. He said he is looking forward to working with the members, the management and staff of Clonmel Borough District on various projects during the year including:-

- the opening of Suir Island Gardens and the performance space at the Abbey Street Car Park
- progressing the towns urban renewal project
- tackling dereliction in the town centre
- construction of the new Garda Station and the ETB/TUS integrated college at Kickham Barracks
- Suir Island Amenity Park and Bridge
- CCTV Scheme Extension
- Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.

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He acknowledged that there are serious challenges in relation to housing waiting lists, homelessness, anti-social behaviour and a lack of both a proper water supply and acute psychiatric beds for South Tipperary which need to be addressed.

He spoke about the great tradition of voluntary groups in the town such as sports clubs and community groups who work tirelessly towards promoting and improving Clonmel and hopes to recognise the work of many of these groups during the year.

All the members congratulated Councillor English on his election as Mayor. They wished him, his wife Carol and family every success in the year ahead.

Jonathan Cooney, Town Manager also congratulated Councillor English on his election as Mayor and extended his congratulations to his wife Carol and family. He looked forward to working with the Mayor and Members in the year ahead.

## <u>Item 3 – Election of Deputy Mayor of the Clonmel Borough District</u> 2025/2026

Clir. Pat English, Mayor sought nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cllr. John Fitzgerald proposed Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose.

Cllr. Richie Molloy seconded Cllr. John Fitzgerald's proposal.

The Mayor asked if there were any other nominations, to which there were no other proposals. He deemed Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose to be elected as Deputy Mayor for 2025/2026.

Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose thanked Cllr. John Fitzgerald and Cllr. Richie Molloy for their proposal and said she looked forward to working with Councillor Pat English, the members and officials for the betterment of the Town. All the members congratulated Cllr. Ambrose on her appointment as Deputy Mayor.

Jonathan Cooney, Town Manager also congratulated Cilr. Ambrose on her appointment as Deputy Mayor and wished her every success in the year ahead.

## <u>Item 4 - Fix Schedule of Meetings for 2025/2026.</u> <u>July 2025- June 2026</u>

16th July 2025

17th September 2025

15th October 2025

19th November 2025

10th December 2025 (1 week early due to Christmas)

21st January 2026

18th February 2026

18th March 2026

15th April 2026

20th May 2026

17th June 2026

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

Mayor of Clonnel Borough District