

Minutes of May Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Tipperary Town and hosted remotely on Monday 26th May, 2025 at 11.00 a.m.

Members Present: Councillor John Crosse, Cathaoirleach
Councillor Micheál Anglim
Councillor Liam Browne
Councillor Mary Hanna-Hourigan
Councillor Roger Kennedy
Councillor Máirín McGrath
Councillor Andy Moloney
Councillor Marie Murphy
Councillor John O’Heney
Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner)

Officials Present: Mr. Dave Carroll, A/District Director
Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator
Mr. James Swords, District Engineer
Mr. Richard Power, Executive Engineer
Mr. Tim Kilmartin, Executive Engineer
Mr. Frank Cussen, Executive Engineer
Mr. Michael Begley, Administrative Officer
Ms. Adeline Walsh, Staff Officer
LAWPRO
Ms. Ruth Hennessy, Executive Scientific Officer, LAWPRO
Ms. Aoife Egan, Catchment Scientist, Water EIP
Environment & Climate Change Directorate
Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer
Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer

Apologies Councillor Declan Burgess
Mr. James Murray, Senior Roads Engineer

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John Crosse, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the May meeting. Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator, commenced the meeting with the meeting prayer.

1.1 Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest

There were no matters notified to the meetings administrator.

2.1 Minutes of April Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held on 28th April, 2025

The minutes of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District April meeting held on 28th April, 2025 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor John O’Heney and seconded by Councillor Micheál Anglim.

Matters arising from the minutes

Councillor Andy Moloney requested an update in relation to concerns the Members had in relation to the Red Roads Funding Allocation. Mr Carroll advised the Members that Mr Liam Brett, Director of Services Roads Section proposed to hold a workshop with all the Elected Members on the matter. Councillor Máirín McGrath requested an update in relation to queries that were raised at the last meeting regarding taking in charge and it was agreed to follow up with Planning.

3.1 Environment & Climate Action Directorate

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer and Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer, Environment & Climate Change Section to the meeting. Mr. Holland thanked the Members and was taking the report as read and was available for questions.

Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) requested an update in relation to Solohead Burial Ground. Mr. Holland confirmed that a site in Solohead had been identified and is owned by a local co-op who recently completed a merger and is now known as Arrabawn Co-op. He confirmed that the sale had been agreed in principle and once finalised, the Council can apply for Part 8, which is hoped will happen in the next few months. Mr. Holland envisaged that the burial ground would be open in late 2026 and the project is a priority.

Councillor Browne referred to the control of horses and asked if the Council employed a Horse Warden and asked who enforces the control of horses. He referred to videos circulating online about abuse of horses. He also referred to a number of resident’s groups in Cashel who will no longer be insured unless they go under Cashel Tidy Towns. Councillor Kennedy referred to the green Schools Award and asked why it was being held in Kilkenny.

In response, Mr. Condon confirmed that Tipperary County Council does not have a Horse Warden and only has powers to deal with complaints of horses on publicly owned lands. He confirmed that to date this year €25,000 has been spent on the control of horses and only €4,000 can be recouped from the Department. He confirmed that the Council does not have powers to deal with horse welfare issues and the Council uses an external north Cork company to remove horses. He also confirmed that the local authority has not returned any horse which has been removed because the owners haven’t been able to demonstrate that they meet the requirements of responsible horse owners. He also confirmed the presentation of the Green Flag Award is held on a regional basis and a number of schools from Tipperary were nominated. Mr. Anslem McGowan confirmed that IPB insurances is now including Tidy Towns groups under Tipperary County Councils insurance, however it does not apply to residents’ associations.

Councillor Browne supported the initiative however, noted that it has not been communicated to each residents group. Mr. McGowan confirmed that a letter issued to all groups registered with the PPN and there was a call number for IPB on each letter for any queries. Councillor Kennedy advised that he attended the IPB AGM last month and these issues were discussed. IPB have confirmed that they will look at community groups who work with the Council to allow them to also be covered but first they have to do a risk assessment and quantify the number of groups.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Holland and Mr. Condon and their team.

3.2 Local Authorities Waters Programme (LAWPRO)

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Ruth Hennessy, LAWPRO and Ms. Aoife Egan, Water EIP to the meeting. Ms. Hennessy thanked the Cathaoirleach and the Members and made a presentation on the work being carried out by LAWPRO and the Farming for Water EIP which is administrated from Heffernan House in Tipperary Town.

Councillor Kennedy referred to the term CWO and to many that means Community Welfare Officer, not Community Water Officer and Anthony Coleman should have been aware. He referred in particular to the Tipperary Giant Hogweed project in Cappawhite and asked who will be carrying out the spraying and how many years will it take to eradicate. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) asked if the Giant Hogweed is always found by rivers and asked what does ASSAP stand for. She also asked for an update on the River Aherlow and the River Ara and noted that at the last meeting the issues were being finalised. Councillor John O'Heney asked if it can only be an agriculture advisor that can apply and how does the farmer know if they are successful. Councillor Crosse asked what is the minimum and maximum grant available.

In response, Ms. Hennessy confirmed that the CWO acronym pre-dated Anthony Coleman and she confirmed that the Community Water Officer, Catherine Seal is currently on maternity leave and they are looking forward to welcoming her back soon. She confirmed that ASSAP stands for Agricultural Sustainability, Support and Advisory Programme and they are the link between the team and the farmer. She confirmed that the reports for the River Ara and River Aherlow have been delayed due to staff vacancies and it has taken longer than liked. In relation to the Tipperary Giant Hogweed Programme they are engaging specialist contractors and will look at pilot areas. She confirmed that it is not only found near rivers and it is spread by wind, water and machinery. She confirmed that the ASSAP advisors are engaging with farmers in specific target areas. They are liaising with farmers to agree measures which will be implemented by the farmer. Once verification from the farmer or ASSAP advisor that the works are completed, the grant is paid. There is no minimum grant however each application requires a Water Management Plan to be completed and this costs €250.00 and there is a cap of €40,000. She confirmed that the average grant being paid is €2,000 to

€3,000. Councillor Crosse asked if the farmer needs to be near a stream and Ms. Hennessy confirmed that there has to be a connection and the ASSAP advisors are prioritising particular catchments. Councillor Kennedy requested further information in relation to the treatment of the Giant Hogweed and if the Inland Fisheries Board have been contacted. He also asked for details in relation to the surface retention scheme at St Michael Cemetery. Ms. Hennessy confirmed that they have been engaging with the relevant agencies and she was not aware of any monitoring at St Michael's Cemetery.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. Hennessy and Ms. Egan and their teams.

3.3 Consider the Grant Applications for the Streetscape & Building Façade Enhancement Scheme 2025 for the public realm of Tipperary Town Centre, Cahir Town Centre and Cashel Town Centre.

On the proposition of Councillor Roger Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Máirín McGrath, the grant applications for the Streetscape & Building Façade Enhancement Scheme 2025 for the public realm of Tipperary Town Centre, Cahir Town Centre and Cashel Town Centre were agreed as follows:

No.	Name	Address	Town	Grant 2025
1	Ian Quinlan, Quinlans Bar	15 Davis Street	Tipperary	€500
2	Ian Quinlan, Quinlans Bar	16-17 Davis Street	Tipperary	€500
3	Bobby Bradshaw	14 Bank Place	Tipperary	€400
4	Donal Ryan	48/49 Upper Church Street	Tipperary	€500
5	Grace Durkan	4 Church Street	Tipperary	€500
6	William Ryan	2 Church Street	Tipperary	€500
7	Eamon Ryan	10 Bank Place	Tipperary	€500
8	Darren Ward	Old Church Street	Cahir	€500
9	Donal T. Ryan, Solicitors	Castle Street	Cahir	€500
10	William Fahey	Castle Street	Cahir	€500
11	Cahir Development Association	Market Yard	Cahir	€208
12	Antonio Morelli	Church Street	Cahir	€500

13	Brian Costigan	5 Castle Street	Cahir	€442
14	Anthony O Gorman	2 Bridge Street	Cahir	€500
15	Dermot O Dwyer	Church Street	Cahir	€500
16	Sharon Buckley	Errigal House,	Cahir	€500
17	Robert Ely	The Green	Cashel	€500
18	Affinity Credit Union	Main Street	Cashel	€500
19	Michael O Regan	Bank Place	Cashel	€500
20	Paddy Hourigan	43 Main Street	Cashel	€500
21	Biddy Perdue	44 Main Street	Cashel	€500
22	Tom Leamy	45 Main Street	Cashel	€500
23	Marie Whelan	Friar Street	Cashel	€500
24	Donnagh Davern	John Street	Cashel	€475
25	Kathleen D'Arcy	3 Friar Street	Cashel	€500
26	Shelagh Marshall	9 Lady's street	Cashel	€500
27	A.M. Office & School Supplies	15 Friar Street	Cashel	€500
28	Cathal Barrett	William Street	Cashel	€500
			Total	€13,525

3.4 District Engineer's Report

Mr. James Swords, District Engineer referred to the report circulated with the Agenda and advised the Members that a lot of the RI has been completed and the RM will be starting in July. He confirmed that rehabilitation works to Ballygriffen and Rossadrehid Bridges are out to tender and he was available for any questions.

Councillor Ryan (Shiner) asked when work would be commencing at Station Road and she also raised concerns in relation to the new layout at the graveyard as a result of the N74 works. She feels that the parking is limited particularly for larger funerals. Councillor Crosse supported this and asked if the contractors depot could be used for additional parking. Councillor Hanna Hourigan also

supported this and noted that the carriageway is very tight particularly if two large vehicles met. Councillor McGrath sought an update in relation the climate change funding works at Kilmoyler. She also asked if the delays relating to the LIS scheme was a Department decision. She requested school safety measures at Bunscoil na Cathrach because its very busy and the parents have requested a school warden be provided. Councillor O'Heney referred to his recent Notice of Motion and requested an update on the fence in Bansha. He also referred to the recent tragic incident and requested safety measures be put in place. Councillor Kennedy wanted to support the Councillors in relation to St Michael's Cemetery and agreed that space was limited. Councillor Browne asked if there is a standard road width and noted that many buses are wider now and asked is our standard outdated.

In response, the District Engineer agreed to share the Members concerns with Michael Woulfe and he confirmed that road standards are in line with RSA guidance for vehicle sizes and acknowledged that it can be tight for larger machinery. He confirmed that works at Kilmoyler will commence mid June and the LIS applications will be advertised the end of the summer by Roads Central. The concerns in relation to Cahir Primary School were raised last week and it will have to be assessed. He confirmed that there is an ongoing Gardai investigation into the incident and if there are any recommendations from the report it will be implemented. The District Engineer confirmed that any extraordinary load requires a permit and Councillor Moloney advised that 2.5m is the standard bus width and anything over 2.55 m is classified as extraordinary.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the District Engineer and his team.

3.8 District Administrator's Report

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

Councillor Annemarie (Shiner) requested that vehicular access to St Michaels Cemetery be permitted for elderly people and if a contact number could be provided to arrange access when required. The District Administrator confirmed that he will raise a CRM on this matter and that it will be referred to the Environment Section.

4.1 Nomination of Elected Member to Town Centre First Team

Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan proposed Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) as the Elected Member to sit on the Town Centre First Team and this was seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy.

5.1 Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders

The orders were noted.

6.1 Councillor John O’Heney (Ref ID 2979)

That this Council would work to improve the Road Safety concerns on St Patrick's Avenue in Tipperary Town: This may include extra signage and the installation of speed ramps. This Avenue is a one-way system and it has the Monastery School located on it. It has become extremely busy in recent times and now has a lot of young families living on the Avenue who are very concerned with the speed of the traffic daily.

Reply

Speeding and the enforcement of the speed limits is a matter for An Garda Siochana. A speed survey will be carried out at this location. The survey will be analysed and a design completed in line with the Councils Traffic Calming Policy if speeding is identified. Following this the location will be submitted for funding under the Low Cost Safety Scheme if traffic calming measures are required.

This motion was seconded by Councillor John Crosse.

7.1 Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations

A vote of sympathy was extended on the death of the following:

- Johnny Murphy, New York and formally Cashel, Co Tipperary

A vote of congratulations was extended to the following:

- Katie O’Donovan who has been appointed a Journalist with the Irish Independent
- Paudie Roche, Cahir who coaches the Arsenal Ladies Team and won the UEFA Women’s Champions League Final on Saturday, 24th May, 2025.

8.1 EU Rural Charter delegation to Luxembourg from Cashel

The District Administrator advised the Members that subvention is made available to the Charter, however there is no funding this year and he proposed that €1,000 from the Festival & Events Grant fund be made available for 2025. Councillor Kennedy confirmed that normally grant funding is available from the European Council and there has been a delay in sanctioning the Charter appointment. On the proposition of Councillor Roger Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Liam Browne, €1,000 from the Festival & Events Grant fund would be made available for European Charter travel in 2025.

9.1 Any other business appropriate to a meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel MD arising with the permission of the Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Liam Browne raised concerns in relation to large monuments being erected at St Cormac’s Cemetery, Cashel by non-approved contractors who are entering the cemetery in the middle of the night. He stressed that the Byelaws are not being enforced and the monuments are getting bigger and bigger.

Councillor Crosse agreed with Councillor Browne and he confirmed that the rules should apply to everyone and the byelaws should be enforced. The District Administrator agreed to arrange a site visit to discuss the proposed new plinths and new signage and he advised that the funeral service providers would be advised of the new changes to ensure clarity. He confirmed that the Byelaws and their enforcement lies with the Environment Section. He acknowledged that it is frustrating, however asked for patience. Councillor O'Heney supported Councillor Browne and asked that St Michael Cemetery would be included. The District Administrator extended an open invitation to all the Members.

This concluded the business of the Municipal District meeting.

Signed/ Roger Kennedy Dated/ 23/6/25
Cathaoirleach

Signed/ Anselm W. Goren Dated/ 23rd of June 2025
District Administrator