

**Minutes of September Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Tipperary Town and hosted remotely on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2025 at 11.00 a.m.**

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**Members Present:** Councillor Roger Kennedy, Cathaoirleach  
Councillor Micheál Anglim  
Councillor Declan Burgess  
Councillor Liam Browne  
Councillor John Crosse  
Councillor Mary Hanna-Hourigan  
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. Michael Begley, Administrative Officer  
Mr. Tim Kilmartin, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Pdraig Franklin, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Frank Cussen, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Adeline Walsh, Staff Officer  
**LAWPRO**  
Mr. Fran Igoe, Regional Co-Ordinator, LAWPRO  
**Environment & Climate Change Directorate**  
Mr. Michael Moroney, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer

**Apologies** Mr. James Murray, Senior Roads Engineer  
Mr. James Swords, District Engineer  
Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator

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The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Roger Kennedy, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the September meeting. Mr. Michael Begley, Administrative Officer, commenced the meeting with the meeting prayer. The Cathaoirleach proposed a vote of sympathy on the passing of Anselm McGowan’s, mother in law Patricia Lally, Ballyroan, Co Laois and this was seconded by Councillor Liam Browne.

### **1.1 Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest**

There were no matters notified to the meetings administrator.

## **2.1 Minutes of July Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2025**

The minutes of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District July meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor John Crosse and seconded by Councillor John O'Heney.

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising.

## **3.1 Environment & Climate Action Directorate**

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

Councillor Andy Moloney noted that the new Biodiversity Officer was introduced at the Library Services, Culture and Biodiversity SPC meeting and asked if they had any link with the Environment and Climate Action Team. Councillor Browne referred to the average non-compliance rate of 67% for farm inspection and 624 notification letters were issued to farmers. He asked what are the reasons for non-compliance and is there that much non-compliance or are the notice too onerous. He also referred to historic landfill and the tender evaluation process. He asked what is the timeline and the potential risks whilst we wait for the works to be carried out. He noted that over 80% of the animal waste litter is dog fouling. He referred to a significant issue with stray horses and dogs in Cashel. He also asked why there is nothing being done about the derelict site on the entrance to Cashel town and stated that derelict sites put people off. He commended the fantastic town and the great work done by Cashel Tidy Town. Councillor Crosse asked if there was any update on the plans for Tipperary Town. Councillor John O'Heney requested an update on the quality of water at the Glen Hotel given that there have been pollutants flowing into the river.

In response, Mr Michael Moroney confirmed that the issues at the Glen Hotel are subject to court proceedings and this process is ongoing. He informed the Members that once the tender process for the Remediation of the Landfill has been completed a contractor will be appointed by the end of the year and the work will take 12 to 18 months. This will involve putting an engineered cap over the landfill site in Tipperary town. He also confirmed that there are other historic landfills which are at various stages in the program which will run till 2030 and is being funded by the Department of the Environment. Mr Moloney also confirmed that the Biodiversity Officer has a close interlinkage with Environmental Awareness and Climate Action Team. Regarding the farm inspections and whilst 64% seems high, the national average non-compliance rate was 75% for 2024. He confirmed that many premises are historic with

very little investment and many of the non-compliances are nothing too difficult or out of the ordinary. He confirmed that the farm owner is advised of the upcoming inspection and given notice of what areas will be inspected. Councillor Browne advised that some farmers have to apply for planning permission to carry out upgrade works and objections are made to the applications. Mr Moroney advised that everyone has the right to object to planning. However, the inspectors and ASSAP advisors can work with farmers to find solutions which do not require planning permission. Councillor Kennedy advised that a broken gutter could be a failure but it has to be dealt with, but inspectors are understanding.

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

### **3.2 Local Authorities Waters Programme (LAWPRO)**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr Fran Igoe, Regional Co-Ordinator, LAWPRO to the meeting. Mr. Igoe 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. Mr Igoe circulated to the Members a Guide for Community Groups on what environmental projects that can be funded through the 2023-2027 Leader Programme. He also confirmed that there is scope for additional funding from LAWPRO for any LEADER funded project.

Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan thanked Mr Igoe for facilitating a public meeting regarding the Giant Hogweed Project in Cappawhite and asked what are the next steps. Councillor Browne asked how much of the deterioration in water quality is down to the inaction of Tipperary County Council and Uisce Eireann. He referred to Golden not having a treatment plant and Dundrum House Hotel operating with a water treatment system that shouldn't be there. He also asked what percentage of farmers in Tipperary are eligible for the grants and are there any plans to meet farmers in West Tipperary similar to the meeting in Clonmel. Councillor Crosse thanked the LAWPRO team and supported Councillor Hanna Hourigan in her comments. He also wanted to compliment the contractor who was involved in the straying and asked if a particular type of spray and method was needed. He referred to media reports about the fish kills in Mallow and he was asked about Arrabawn in Tipperary town and he commented that the standard was at a very high level. Councillor Moloney thanked Mr Igoe and noted that we are very lucky to have him because he is internationally renowned and he particularly wanted to thank him for the €2,500 grant towards their project to prevent the river bank falling into the river in Cahir. He confirmed that Cahir Tidy Towns won the Waters and Communities Award at the South East Regional Awards of the 2024 SuperValu Tidy Town Ireland Competition. Councillor Moloney referred to a right of way from Rochestown to Ardfinnan and asked if an assessment could be carried out and if advice could be given to farmers similar to the Cappawhite project.

Councillor John O’Heney referred to the water quality in the River Ara and wanted to disagree with Councillor Crosse. He commented that the river is in a deplorable state and is totally overgrown and its condition has been raised several times. Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) wanted to concur with Councillor O’Heney and asked if Inland Fisheries or LAWPRO has a duty of care to clear the overgrowth. She asked for clarification on the cause and how to deal with the issue. Councillor Crosse clarified that Tipperary Co-op have improved under planning regulations.

In response, Mr. Igoe confirmed that the Giant Hogweed Project is focused on farms. He acknowledged that the residents in Cappawhite wish to be involved and referred to an application for funding which didn’t proceed. He confirmed that LAWPRO is using every avenue to access funding including Biodiversity Funding and Funding under National Parks and Wildlife to fund this project. They are trying to engage all the stakeholders. In relation to Councillor Browne’s query regarding the significant decline in water quality, they are currently waiting for the next EPA report. He referred to significant pressure from agriculture and they are also aware of municipal waste water entering the river particularly Golden. He noted that Uisce Eireann have their own investment programme and their own priority areas. In relation to the Farming for Water EIP Project he confirmed that farmers in problem areas are asked to be involved. Mr Igoe confirmed that there are different methods used for different weeds but the priority is to ensure that no chemical gets into the water. He confirmed that spraying works, however they are also digging it out. He confirmed that the fish kill in Cork is a concern and noted that the response time is important. Mr Igoe thanked Councillor Moloney for his kind words and highlighted the importance of engaging with the public to support our waterways. He commended Cahir Tidy Towns on their project in Cahir and agreed to follow up in relation to his query in Rochestown. Mr Igoe agreed with Councillor O’Heney that the River Ara is in a poor state however referred to some positives like evidence of Salmon spawning in the river. He noted that the River Ara is unusual because it goes very low in the summer months and therefore it needs to be protected. He confirmed that there is no plan in place to manage the river. He advised that the OPW deals with flood management, Inland Fisheries deals with fisheries and the wildlife is managed by National Parks and Wildlife and he confirmed that there needs to be a River Management Plan that looks at everything and involves all the stakeholders which then should be built into a Biodiversity Plan.

Councillor Kennedy noted that in 2014 before Uisce Eireann was set up Golden was priority one. Councillor McGrath thanked Mr Igoe for the report and noted that Newcastle was also a priority project in Tipperary and is now in competition with other towns and villages across the country which is very frustrating. Councillor Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) asked if the key stakeholders get together for the River Ara could LAWPRO offer support and guidance to put a River Management Plan together. Mr. Igoe agreed to speak to Uisce Eireann to advocate on behalf of areas that need treatment systems. Councillor Ryan

(Shiner) agreed to speak to the Director because our resources are limited. Councillor Micheál Anglim also agreed to use his connections through LAMA to also influence Uisce Eireann when identifying priority areas for the €300 million investment programme.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Igoe and the LAWPRO team.

### **3.3 Consider the Grant Allocations for 2025 Painting Enhancement Scheme Villages**

On the proposition of Councillor John Crosse, seconded by Councillor Andy Moloney, the grant allocations for 2025 Painting Enhancement Scheme Village Scheme for Ardfinnan were agreed as follows:

<b><u>Ardfinnan Village Streetscape &amp; Building Façade Scheme 2025</u></b>			
<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Grant 2025</b>
1	Brid Quinlivan Principle of Ardfinnan NS	Ardfinnan	€500
2	T J O Brien	Main Street Ardfinnan	€365
3	The Pure Drop	Ardfinnan	€500
4	Bourkes Foodstore	Ardfinnan	€175
			<b>€1540</b>

On the proposition of Councillor John O’Heney, seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy, the grant allocations for 2025 Painting Enhancement Scheme Village Scheme for Bansha were agreed as follows:

<b><u>Bansha Village Streetscape &amp; Building Façade Scheme 2025</u></b>			
<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Grant 2025</b>
1	Sandra McGrath and Brendan Healy	26 Cluain Arra Bansha	€460
2	Pauline Noonan	Barrack Street Bansha	€500
3	Shirley Fahey	Barrack Street Bansha	€457
			<b>€1417</b>

### **3.4 Consider the allocation of additional applications Burial Ground Grant 2025.**

On the proposition of Councillor Andy Moloney, seconded by Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, the additional grant applications for Burial Ground Grant 2025 were agreed as follows:

No	Burial Ground	Allocation
1.	St. Mary's Church Graveyard, Ballybacon, Co Tipperary	€500
	Total	€500

### **3.5 Consider the allocation of additional Festival & Events Grant Scheme 2025.**

On the proposition of Councillor John Crosse, seconded by Councillor Andy Moloney, the additional grant applications for Festival & Events Grant Scheme 2025 were agreed as follows:

No.	Name	Address Town	Proposed 2025
1	Cashel King Cormac's GAA	Homecoming & Community Day	€400
2	Dr. Diarmuid O'Hurley Pipe Band	Pipe Band 90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	€400
	<b>Total</b>		<b>€800</b>

### **3.6 District Engineer's Report**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Padraig Franklin and wished him well in his new role.

Councillor Hanna Hourigan acknowledged receipt of the increased RI allocation funding for Tipperary County Council from the Department of Transport and that two locations from year 2 (2026) of the Road Work Programme would be completed in 2025. She asked would there be an opportunity for engagement with the Councillors to add roads to the programme.

The Cathaoirleach complemented the outdoor staff on the tremendous work done during the year with the good weather.

### **3.8 District Administrator's Report**

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

Councillor Moloney thanked the outdoor team for their support to help marshal two events in Cahir on Saturday at the last minute because the Gardai had to attend an incident. He complimented the great bond between the outdoor staff and the people of Cahir.

#### **4.1 Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders**

The orders were noted.

#### **5.1 Councillor John Crosse (Ref ID 3014)**

That this Municipal District provide funding to upgrade the Main Street in Emly. There is a lot of subsidence issues and depressions in the road posing major Health and Safety issues for cyclists and pedestrians and an upgrade would also benefit the Tidy Towns in the National competition.

##### **Reply**

The condition of the section of road will be assessed and considered for inclusion in future Restoration Improvement works programmes.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan.

#### **5.2 Councillor Andy Moloney (Ref ID 3015)**

That this Council meet with the TII and come up with a plan to make the junction at Lady Gregory, Kilmoyler safer for pedestrians and road users when turning off the N24.

##### **Reply**

Tipperary County Council have been in contact with the Regional Road Safety Engineer and also the National Road Design Office in Tramore House, Waterford, who manage the TII delineation programme, regarding safety issues at Kilmoyler Cross.

We have been advised that new signage and road marking will be installed under the TII Delineation Maintenance Contract next year to raise driver's awareness of the junction. The lining will be based on the TII design standards.

In the longer term, the proposed N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction Scheme will remove significant levels of traffic from the N24 and includes Works on the existing N24 in the vicinity of this junction which will contribute to improved safety for drivers and pedestrians.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Máirín McGrath.

#### **6.1 Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations**

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

- Patricia Lally, Ballyroan, Co Laois

There were no votes of congratulations.

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

The Cathaoirleach advised the Members that the October MD meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2025 because of the October Bank Holiday. He also advised that the Cathaoirleach Awards night is to be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> October and that filming is ongoing. Councillor Liam Browne suggested that plaques be presented to the groups which could be erected by the groups and it was agreed that this is something which could be considered for next year. The Cathaoirleach referred to the successful trip to Mautern and confirmed that they received a lovely glass piece which he would have available at the next Council meeting. Councillor Hanna Hourigan congratulated everyone involved and advised that a delegation from Mautern would be coming in two years. Councillor McGrath thanked Dave Carroll, Acting District Director for his time and wished him well in his future career and the Elected Members supported this.

**This concluded the business of the Municipal District meeting.**

Signed/ Roger Kennedy Dated/ 21/10/2025.  
Cathaoirleach

Signed/ Annemarie Bowen Dated/ 21/10/2025.  
District Administrator