

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, 15TH OCTOBER, 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
Ms. Gillian Flynn, District Engineer
Mr. James Murray, Senior Engineer
Mr. Adam Coffey, Executive Engineer
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Asst. Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Mr. Mark Connolly, Director of Services, Finance.
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public

Councillor Pat English opened the meeting by expressing his sympathy to the family of the late Mr. Martin Mansergh who passed away unexpectedly on the 26th September, 2025. Mr. Mansergh served as a Senator from 2002 to 2007, as a TD for South Tipperary from 2007 to 2011 and as Minister of State from 2008 to 2011. All the members concurred with Councillor English in expressing their sympathy to Mr. Mansergh's Wife, Elizabeth and family. Mr. Mansergh was remembered for the key role he played in the Northern Ireland peace process. He was remembered for the funding committed to the Flood Alleviation Scheme for Clonmel when he served as Minister for the OPW. Members described him as a great historian, statesman and true gentleman. A minute silence was observed in his memory.

1.1 Zoom Protocol

The Mayor confirmed with Eoin Kelleher, member of the press who was in attendance by Zoom that he could see and hear those in attendance at the meeting.

2.1 Disclosures and/or Conflicts of Interest

Ms. Carol Creighton, District Administrator confirmed that Councillors Siobhán Ambrose and John Fitzgerald would be excused during the vote under item 4.2 on the Agenda - Part 8 Kickham Barracks as they are members of the committee for the STAC Chapel.

3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 17th September, 2025.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 17th September, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

4.1 Clonmel Borough District – Draft Budgetary Plan 2026

Mr. Mark Connolly, Director of Services, Finance referred to the draft budgetary plan 2026 circulated to Members. Mr. Connolly stated that the total provisional General Municipal Allocation (GMA) for 2026 is €1,361,283. This allocation refers only to the discretionary funding that is allocated to the Municipal Districts. This funding is allocated to the Districts based on the population of the Municipal Districts at the time of the 2022 census. The provisional General Municipal Allocation 2026 for Clonmel Borough District is €202,723. Mr. Connolly explained

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that even though the GMA is retained at the 2025 figures there is a significant increase of almost 43% since 2024. Mr. Connolly informed the members that the main, strategic, non-discretionary expenditure of Clonmel Borough District will form part of the main local authority budget. Preliminary budgetary workshops have been held with the members with further workshops scheduled.

General Municipal Allocation	€ 202,723
Total GMA Expenditure	€ 202,723
Housing	€ 972,507
Road Transport & Safety	€4,270,263
Economic Development & Promotion	€ 59,568
Environmental Services	€ 820,086
Recreational and Amenity	€ 808,546
Relevant Directorate Expenditure	€6,930,970

Councillor Dennehy expressed his disappointment at the amount of €202,723 being the only discretionary spend available to a town the size of Clonmel. He stated that Clonmel is losing out as prior to the merger of Tipperary County Council, Clonmel would have had a discretionary spend of almost €26m based on today's figures.

Councillor Ambrose thanked Mr. Connolly for the presentation. She expressed concerns regarding the amount of funding that local authorities receive from the Department and stated that it does not adequately reflect the increasing costs incurred by local authorities.

Councillor Molloy spoke about the income which is contributed from the parking charges in Clonmel and asked for an update on the introduction of uniformity of charges countywide. He requested that 2 hour free parking be introduced to encourage more people into the town centre. Councillor English queried the delay in the harmonisation of parking charges countywide stating that all other charges have been harmonised.

Mr. Connolly noted the comments. He informed the members that the harmonisation of car parking charges countywide is a separate process with complexities. He stated that a further workshop will be held with the members in relation to same.

The draft budget was proposed by Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose and seconded by Cllr. John Fitzgerald.

4.2 Part 8 – 4 buildings in Kickham Barracks

The Chief Executive's report was circulated with the Agenda. Gillian Flynn informed the members that the part 8 proposal for the conservation, refurbishment and adaptive re-use of four number buildings within the curtilage of Kickham Barracks, which include the STAC Chapel, Café and 2 Munitions Buildings was published on Monday, 13th October 2025. It was advertised in August and submissions were due by the 19th September, 2025. There were no submissions received. The report was proposed by Councillor Pat English and seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy.

5.1 Report of District Administrator

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

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Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work of the Borough District Staff in promoting the enhancement and painting scheme which has been very successful this year and thanked the property owners who engaged with same.
- In relation to Parke's Chemist, Councillor Ambrose asked for details of the end use proposed for the property and if there is a timeframe for the handover to the C&E Section.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was any update in relation to the erection of the signage at the Sports Hub.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the update circulated in relation to the Marlfield Flood Scheme and asked for the timeframe involved for progression to the next phase.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the progress on the new Garda Station and noted all the positive things that are happening in the town including the opening of 3 new businesses in the last few weeks. She wished them every success.
- Members expressed their thanks to the outdoor staff in the Borough District for all their work in enhancing the town and also to the Tidy Towns Groups in the District for all the works carried out. They wished the Tidy Towns Groups every success in the Tidy Towns Competition with results expected in October.
- Members welcomed the approval received from the Garda Commissioners Office for the installation of the CCTV in the town and asked for an email detailing the locations of these cameras. They thanked everybody involved in securing this especially the District Administrator, Carol Creighton.
- Councillor Dennehy acknowledged the replies he received to the queries he raised at the September Meeting stating that he needs to review and will raise any queries in relation to same at the November Meeting.
- Councillor Acheson acknowledged the work being carried out by Shane Grogan and the Vacancy and Dereliction Team. However, he asked if there could be a targeted focus on 3 vacant properties in O'Connell Street i.e. Dunnes Stores, Heaton's and old Ulster Bank to apply pressure on the owners of the properties to engage with the team with a view to bringing these buildings back into use. Members concurred with Councillor Acheson and agreed that a charge should be applied to these properties. Members stated that it would change the dynamic of the town centre if these buildings were brought back into use.
- Councillor Molloy welcomed the Derelict Site Notices which have been issued on all the properties in Market Place and hoped that this would encourage engagement from the owners of the site.
- Councillor Fitzgerald spoke about the lack of designated regulated taxi ranks in the town centre and asked if this could be reviewed. He asked for a meeting to be held with the existing hackney drivers to discuss. He noted the success and advantages of the town bus service but said that the buses only go to specific locations. Members concurred with Councillor Fitzgerald stating that in the interests of safety it would be important to have an official properly regulated taxi rank.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the development of the Clonmel Arms Hotel.
- Councillor English welcomed the construction of the new Garda Station. However, he requested that the OPW be asked to review the design for the entrance to the building so that it wouldn't interfere with the performance space.
- Councillor English welcomed the upcoming workshop with the Oireachtas Members organised for Friday, 17th October to discuss the N24 and URDF Call 4 Funding.
- Councillor English thanked the Borough District Staff involved in the organisation of the upcoming Zombie Walk and Halloween events.

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Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- In relation to the enhancement and painting scheme, the District Administrator acknowledged the property owners who had engaged with the Scheme this year and the work of Mary Irwin in the Borough District in promoting the scheme.
- Regarding Parke's Chemist, the District Administrator informed the members that the vesting order has been issued for the transfer of the property to the Community and Enterprise Section.
- In relation to the signage at the Sports Hub, the District Administrator stated that she has followed up again on same. It will be the end of the year before there is a final update on this as the signage is being encompassed as part of the overall signage being designed for the TUS Campuses.
- The District Administrator informed the members that there was no further update to the report which had been circulated in relation to the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- In response to the query raised regarding the introduction of designated taxi ranks, the District Administrator said that she would arrange to meet with the Hackney Drivers.
- The District Administrator informed the members that she did not have an update on the Clonmel Arms Hotel.
- James Murray informed the members that the harmonisation of parking charges is being progressed by the SPC and that workshops with the members will commence within the next few weeks. He envisaged that it will be early next year before the bye-laws are adopted as there is a requirement for a period of public consultation.
- In response to the query raised in relation to the ETB/TUS Integrated College, the District Administrator informed the members that a formal decision on the business case submitted to SOLUS is still awaited but engagement to date has been positive.
- The District Administrator acknowledged the progress being made by Shane Grogan and the Vacancy and Dereliction Team in targeting derelict properties in the town and engaging with property owners in relation to same.

5.2 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 Dennehy raised the issue of speed at the roundabout at the Talbot Hotel stating that it is difficult for motorists entering the road from Gort-na-Managh and the Poppyfield Retail Park.
- Councillor Dennehy asked for the number of houses and business premises which will be affected with hard water once the town supply is connected to the Monroe System.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the provision of funding for the extension and entrance wall at St. Patrick's Cemetery.
- Councillor Ambrose requested that the gullies continue to be maintained especially with the winter months approaching.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the traffic calming measures at the Loretto and Davis Road and asked if the works proposed for Davis Road will come down as far as the pedestrian crossing at the back of the mall over gashouse bridge.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the works at the junction at Ormonde Stores, Kilsheelan.

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- Councillor Ambrose asked if a location has been identified for the installation of the drinking water station on the Blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the drainage works at Glenconnor and asked for an update on the timeframe for resurfacing works.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the works at Marystone Mall.
- In relation to the connection of the town water supply system to the Monroe Water Supply, Councillor Ambrose said that Uisce Eireann need to improve its communication to the public regarding these changes.
- Councillor Acheson asked for the timeframe for the completion of the active travel scheme at Cashel Road and asked if a temporary pedestrian crossing can be installed in the short-term especially with the winter evenings approaching.
- Councillor Fitzgerald raised the issue regarding the footpath from the Churchview Estate in Clerihan to the village and asked if this can be widened or bollards installed.
- Councillor English raised the issue regarding the reinstatement of road surfaces following works by Uisce Eireann and asked if these roads will be fully reinstated. Members asked if these reinstatement works will be carried out before Christmas.
- Councillor English thanked Gillian Flynn, District Engineer for arranging the clearing of the overgrowth at the Glass Bridge in the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English asked for the timeframe for the completion of the works at Suir Island Gardens.
- Councillor English acknowledged the completion of the works at the Abbey Street Car Park stating that the performance space is another great asset to the town. He complimented everybody involved in this project.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the works at Suir Island Bridge.
- Councillor English noted that the Thrive Stream 2 funding application was unsuccessful in relation to Kickham Barracks and asked if there is another funding stream which can be availed of.
- Councillor English raised the issue surrounding night time works at College Avenue and asked if these works can be carried out during daytime hours.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- In response to the query raised regarding the roundabout at the Talbot Hotel, the District Engineer said that she will review same.
- The District Engineer will contact Uisce Eireann to get a timeframe for the connection of the town water supply to the Monroe water system and clarify the number of properties that will be affected.
- Regarding the extension and entrance wall at St. Patrick's Cemetery, the District Engineer is waiting on the Environment Section to respond in relation to funding for same.
- The District Engineer informed the members that gulley cleaning will continue to be maintained under the annual maintenance plan.
- The District Engineer stated that the traffic calming measures at the Loretto School and Davis Road form part of the Active Travel Scheme which are subject to Part 8. The District Engineer will look at alternative measures for the pedestrian crossing at the Mall as this will not form part of the Active Travel Works.
- In relation to the works at Ormonde Stores, the District Engineer informed the members that a feasibility report is being prepared which will need the approval of the NTA and TII.
- Regarding the installation of the drinking water station on the Blueway, the District Engineer informed the members that funding has been obtained for 2 drinking water

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stations and that locations are being looked at to identify the most economical location for same.

- The District Engineer confirmed to the members that the drainage works at Glenconnor will be completed before Christmas under the Clonmel Town Works 2025.
- In response to the query raised in relation to the installation of a temporary pedestrian crossing at Cashel Road, the District Engineer said that she will talk to the Active Travel Team regarding same.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the paving will commence within the next 2 weeks at Marystone Mall with works expected to be fully complete by the end of the year.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the footpath in Clerihan, the District Engineer said that depending on the funding available she will review the options to either widen the footpath or install bollards.
- The District Engineer informed the members that works on the Suir Island Gardens project are ongoing with phase 1 expected to be complete by the end of the year.
- In relation to the Suir Island Bridge Project, the District Engineer stated that an application for funding will be forwarded to the TII in 2026 to progress to the next phase.
- In relation to funding under Thrive Stream 2, a review meeting has been requested with the Southern Regional Assembly to discuss the reasons that the application was unsuccessful and to explore other areas of funding.
- Adam Coffey informed the members that he attended a meeting with Uisce Eireann. Road reinstatements will commence within the next few weeks and will be substantially completed before Christmas. Business owners and residents will be informed of the works being carried out.
- In relation to the works at College Avenue, Adam Coffey stated that he will check the matter and revert to the members.

5.3 Report of District Engineer – Housing Voids Programme

The Report was noted by the Members.

Item 6.1 Chief Executive/Delegation Officers Orders – Period up to 10th October, 2025.

These were noted.

Items 7.1 to 7.8– Notice of Motion

Motion 3039 was proposed by Councillor Richie Molloy

That Clonmel Borough District trim back the tree's in Heywood Drive in line with the tree's that were recently trimmed back on the N24 to ensure uniformity .

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough district has over 90 CRM's in relation to tree pruning within the town. In accordance with our Tree Strategy tree pruning is prioritised based on health and safety reasons and impact on property. We will review our budgets at year end and have recorded this area for consideration.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3040 was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald

That the Council would address urgent safety concerns at Marlfield Clonmel between Eircode E91 HY52 and Saint Patrick's Well Crossroads. The road has become very fast, still has an 80km speed

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limit, no road markings, no speed bumps, and is extremely narrow. I would ask that measures be put in place to address this situation in the interest of public safety.

REPLY:

The 80kph speed limit sign will be changed to a 60kph sign. The majority of this road is a rural local road with no public lighting therefore speed bumps are not an option.

It is proposed to carry out a speed survey in the urban section (50kph section) to ascertain if speeding is an issue, a solution in line with the Councils Traffic Calming Policy will be identified if speeding is a problem at this location.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3047 was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald

Would the council consider installing road ramps/strips on the Cashel road across from Clonmel town football pitch, R688?. Residents very concerned about the speed of traffic on this road (sometimes over 100kph) and with new entrance to Melview Nursery Home, entrance to housing estates and sports complex, residents are afraid that a serious accident will occur.

REPLY:

It is proposed to carry out a speed survey on the R688 at the Clonmel Town pitch to ascertain if speeding is an issue, a solution in line with the Councils Traffic Calming Policy will be identified if speeding is a problem at this location.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3048 was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald

That the traffic lights at the crescent shop be adjusted to allow pedestrians the time to cross the road. Some elderly people find that the lights change too quickly.

REPLY:

Faulty cables were replaced at the Crescent traffic lights week commencing 6th October, we checked the timings on the pedestrian crossings and they are in accordance with Chapter 9 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3049 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District upgrade the road surface on the Fethard Road adjacent to the entrance of Willow Park, Clonmel.

REPLY:

Extending road resurfacing on the Fethard Road from the Wilderness Junction to the Willow Park entrance is under consideration for 2026.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3050 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District clean around the three stone monuments on the Frank Drohan Inner Relief Road. The monuments were erected to commemorate Frank Drohan, former Mayor

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of Clonmel Corporation, the leader of the local Clonmel Irish Volunteers during Easter week 1916.

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District will arrange to clean the three monuments.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3051 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District look at improving the sight lines at the Glenconnor/Western Road Junction. The existing junction is very dangerous given the increase in traffic coming from the Glenconnor Road due to additional housing schemes constructed over the last number of years.

REPLY:

The sight lines at the Glenconnor - Western Road junction are in compliance with standards for the posted speed limit. It's the volume of traffic on the Western road and increasing volume of traffic on the Glenconnor road that is causing the issues at this junction. Clonmel Borough District will review available options to improve safety at the junction.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Item 8.1 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for noting.

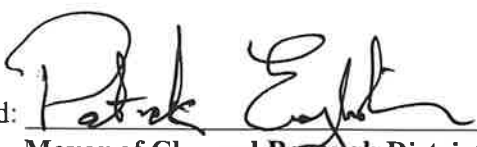
Item 9.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

A vote of sympathy was extended to Mrs. Elizabeth Mansergh and family on the passing of her husband, Martin RIP.

A vote of congratulations was extended to the Marlfield Tidy Towns Group who celebrated their 40 year anniversary recently.

10.1 Any other Business

There was no further business for discussion.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 19/11/2025

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 19/11/2025