

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING, HELD AT 9.15 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PARNELL STREET, CLONMEL ON WEDNESDAY, 17th SEPTEMBER, 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
Ms. Mary Irwin, Staff Officer
Ms. Georgina O'Loughlin, Asst. Staff Officer

Also in Attendance: Mr. Michael Moroney, Senior Executive Officer, Env. & Climate Action
Mr. Fergal Condon, Administrative Officer, Env.& Climate Action
Mr. Fran Igoe, Regional Co-ordinator, LAWPRO
Ms. Myriam Madigan, Member of the Public
Mr. Joey Fortune, Member of the Public

1.1 Zoom Protocol

The Mayor confirmed with Katie O'Donovan, member of the press who was in attendance by Zoom that she 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 there were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

3.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 16th July, 2025.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough District held on the 16th July, 2025, as presented, were proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy and agreed by all.

Councillor Acheson spoke about the attendance of Shane Grogan, Town Regeneration Officer at the July Meeting and the work being carried out by the Vacancy and Dereliction Team identifying derelict buildings and engaging with property owners to bring these properties back into use. In relation to this, Councillor Acheson highlighted the Dunnes Stores property on O'Connell Street which has been vacant for a number of years and requested that Shane Grogan be asked to engage with the owners to clarify their intentions for the use of the building. All the members concurred with Councillor Acheson on this.

In relation to the connection of the town water supply to the Monroe System, Councillor Acheson noted that this is a hard water supply and asked if Irish Water will be engaging with people to make them aware of this. All members concurred with Councillor Acheson on this. Councillor English stated that there is an upcoming meeting scheduled with Irish Water where this issue can be raised for clarification.

4.1 Attendance of Representative from Directorate Environment & Climate Action.

The report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

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Queries raised by the Members were as follows:-

- Councillor Ambrose asked for the timeframe for the removal of the clothes recycling banks from the Civic Amenity Sites. She also asked if there has been engagement with private contractors who provide this facility. Councillor Molloy also spoke about the problem surrounding the disposal of clothes at the clothes banks when they are full.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the deposit and return scheme and noted that in Newcastle, Co. Dublin large bins have been provided to dispose of refundable plastic bottles where the full bag of bottles can be inserted. She asked if suppliers of these bins can be engaged with to supply these bins locally.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work of the staff at the Carrigeen Civic Amenity Centre and the Environment Section.
- Councillor Molloy raised concerns regarding the problem with horses in St. Patrick's Cemetery and asked if a cattle grid can be provided at the new entrance. Members concurred with Councillor Molloy on this.
- Councillor English spoke about the historic landfill site in Kilsheelan and asked if there is a timeframe for certification from the EPA.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:-

- Michael Moroney clarified to the members that it is the clothing recycling pods at the bring centres that are being removed and that the clothing collection service will continue at the Civic Amenity Sites. He stated that the Council are engaging with suppliers to install a larger facility for recycling at these sites. The Environment Section will run a campaign to inform the public of same.
- Mr. Moroney explained that the Council does not have a specific role in the deposit and return scheme. This scheme is managed by the Government and these contracts are directly with the retailers where the machines are located. However, he will ask if businesses are interested in these large bins being installed and will refer to the department on same.
- Mr. Moroney stated that they are aware of the situation regarding the horses in St. Patrick's Cemetery and are actively following up on same.
- Mr. Moroney informed the members that he did not have a timeframe for certification from the EPA in relation to the historic landfill site in Kilsheelan and will follow up with the EPA.

The Mayor thanked Michael and Fergal for their attendance at the meeting.

4.2 Attendance of Representative from Directorate LAWPRO

The Report as circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

Fran Igoe gave a presentation in addition to the report circulated. He spoke about the following:-

- Water dependent habitats and species
- Community support provided through World Water Day, Biodiversity Week, Heritage Week and Water Heritage Day.
- Community funding ranging from up to €5,000 for small grants and up to €50,000 for capital projects to improve water quality.
- He stated that Clonmel is leading the way on the implementation of urban nature-based solutions and acknowledged the work of Gillian Flynn on these projects.

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Queries raised by the Members were as follows:

- Councillor English asked if Nitrates are a contributory factor to the growth of vegetation on the river bed.
- Councillor English enquired if crayfish have returned to the river.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work of Gillian Flynn, District Engineer on the installation of the nature-based solutions on the Cashel Road.
- Councillor Ambrose noted the significant decline in the water quality and asked the reason for this.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for Tipperary's position on the national league table for water quality.
- Councillor Fitzgerald spoke about the recent fish kill in Cork and asked if preventative steps are being taken to avoid this event occurring in Tipperary.
- Members thanked Councillor Acheson for his role in organising the meeting held in Monroe in July with the Minister for Agriculture, Martin Heydon, to update the farming community on water quality and nitrates derogation.

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- Fran Igoe stated that phosphorous is driving the growth in the river bed especially during low flows in the summer months.
- Mr. Igoe stated that the agricultural sector is placing significant pressure on the water quality. However, he said that this can be turned around. LAWPRO in partnership with Teagasc and Dairy Industry Ireland are engaging with the farming community to promote the Farming for Water EIP (European Innovation Partnership) Project to provide grant funding to farmers to assist them in meeting the required standards of water quality. Considerable work by all stakeholders will be needed to improve water quality to support healthy communities.
- Mr. Igoe spoke about the nature-based solutions projects in Clonmel and thanked Gillian Flynn, District Engineer for her work on this. He said that LAWPRO are hoping to have urban funding made available for the development of more nature-based solution projects.
- Mr. Igoe highlighted the importance of those involved in water sports e.g. kayaking to ensure that equipment is clean when moving from one catchment area to another.
- In relation to the query raised regarding preventative measure being taken to avoid a fish kill similar to Cork, Mr. Igoe informed the members that the EPA are monitoring the Water Treatment Plants but all sectors e.g. Local Authorities, EPA and the Public need to be mindful of their roles and responsibilities in relation to this.

James Murray, Senior Engineer acknowledged the great work being carried out by LAWPRO. However, he pointed out that while capital funding is available for projects, there is a lack of funding to maintain these projects. He asked the members to support the upcoming budget. The Mayor thanked Fran for his attendance at the meeting.

5.1 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 Dennehy asked if there was an update in relation to the use of the Friary and, in particular, to his previous request that the Friary not be de-consecrated.

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- Councillor Dennehy asked if there was an update in relation to his previous query regarding a public private partnership to develop the Clonmel Arms.
- Councillor Dennehy asked if there was an update in relation to his proposal that the 3 towns of Clonmel, Cahir and Cashel come together to host the All-Ireland Fleadh. He expressed his disappointment that Clonmel will not be associated with the 150 year Bianconi celebrations which are taking place in Boherlahan.
- Councillor Ambrose welcomed the positive news on the construction of the new garda station which is due to start in the next few weeks.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the works of the Borough District Staff in promoting the enhancement and painting scheme which has proved very successful this year. She asked if extra funding can be made available depending on the size of the building.
- In relation to Parke's Chemist, Councillor Ambrose asked for the timeframe involved for the handover of the building to the C&E Cultural Section.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update in relation to the erection of the signage at the Sports Hub.
- Councillor Ambrose expressed her disappointment in relation to the long delay in progressing with the CCTV for the town. All members concurred with Councillor Ambrose on this and Councillor English asked that a letter be forwarded to the Minister for Justice to seek clarity on the delay.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update in relation to the construction of the integrated college at the Kickham Barracks Site.
- Councillor Ambrose thanked Carol Creighton, Gillian Flynn and Jonathan Cooney for securing the funding to upgrade the Old Military Chapel at Kickham Barracks.
- In relation to URDF Call 3, Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the work of Shane Grogan, Town Regeneration Officer and the Vacancy and Dereliction Team who are engaging with property owners under the Derelict Sites Act, assisting and advising them on the works required and grants available to bring their properties back into use.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if there was an update on the ground investigation works in relation to the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- Councillor Fitzgerald asked for an update in relation to the plebiscite in relation to the name change for the village of Clerihan and asked for public engagement with the residents to inform them of the progress in relation to same.
- Councillor Molloy welcomed the upcoming performance by Des Dillon at the Abbey Street performance area which is a great facility and a huge asset to the town.
- Councillor Molloy complimented the Mayor and the Busking Committee on a very successful busking festival which was held in August.
- Councillor English asked if there was an update in relation to the meeting to be held with the Oireachtas Members regarding the delay in funding under URDF Call 4 and the N24.
- Councillor English asked for an update in relation to the harmonisation of the parking charges countywide. Members expressed their disappointment at the delay in progressing same as all other charges have been harmonised.

Queries raised by the members were responded to as follows:

- Regarding the query raised in relation to the towns of Clonmel, Cahir, Cashel hosting the All-Ireland Fleadh, the District Administrator stated that she has been in contact with the County Branch of Comhaltas and will revert in due course.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the Friary, the District Administrator stated that she has re-issued a letter to the Franciscan Provincial Office to seek an update.

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- The District Administrator will follow up on the query raised in relation to the development of the Clonmel Arms Hotel.
- The District Administrator spoke about the success of the enhancement and painting scheme. She advised the members that any additional funding for this Scheme will have to be allocated from the General Municipal Allocation.
- In relation to the query raised regarding Parke's Chemist, the District Administrator informed the members that she did not have a timeframe for same.
- The District Administrator informed the members that the signage at the Sports Hub forms part of the overall signage being designed for the TUS Campuses. She will follow up again on the progress of same.
- In relation to the installation of the CCTV, the District Administrator informed the members that Inspector Lyons from the Clare/Tipperary Division has been in contact and that the current delay is in relation to clarifications being sought by the Commissioner's Office regarding Clonmel's application form. He indicated that the applications are very lengthy, detailed and precise and require careful examination before they are approved in totality.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to the integrated college, the District Administrator informed the members that a Steering Group Meeting was held on the 15th September and she will issue an update on same to the Members once received.
- In relation to the Marlfield Flood Alleviation Scheme, James Murray informed the members that an update on the Capital Scheme will issue to them before the next Borough District Monthly Meeting.
- The District Administrator informed the members that legal advice has been sought in relation to the plebiscite. Legislation needs to be amended and the District Administrator will report back to the members re same.
- The District Administrator proposed to hold a workshop to discuss the N24 and URDF Call 4 on the 1st October which was agreed by the Members subject to this date being agreeable to the Oireachtas Members.
- James Murray informed the members that the harmonisation of the parking charges is a lengthy process and is being progressed by the SPC. The next meeting of the SPC is the 29th October.

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 Fitzgerald asked for an update on the works in Thomas Street stating that he had received complaints from residents in the Sweet Briar Estate regarding noise and unruly activity late at night during these works.
- Councillor Ambrose spoke about the condition of the roads after recent works carried out by Uisce Eireann and asked if full reinstatement of these road surfaces is undertaken on completion of the works.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the upgrading of the lights across Clonmel Borough District to environment friendly lighting.
- Councillor Ambrose asked if the wall at St. Patrick's Cemetery can be extended and also asked if additional burial spaces can be made available.
- Councillor Ambrose asked that the gullies continue to be checked and cleaned especially now with the winter months approaching.

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- Councillor Ambrose thanked Gillian for the upgrade of the pedestrian crossing and erection of signage in Clerihan. She also acknowledged the works carried out to the safety barriers at Rathronan.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for the timeframe for the completion of the Suir Island Gardens
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the traffic calming measures at the Loretto.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the progress being made on the installation of the bus stop at Ormonde Stores, Kilsheelan.
- Councillor Ambrose asked for an update on the installation of the drinking water station on the Blueway.
- Councillor Ambrose acknowledged the completion of the works on the Performance Space at the Abbey Street Car Park.
- Councillor Ambrose complimented Eric Ryan and his team on the grass cutting and floral displays which enhanced the Borough District during the summer months.
- Councillor Molloy welcomed the tree trimming being carried out on the N24 and asked if the trees from the Heywood Road junction to the Cashel Road Roundabout can be trimmed further back.
- Councillor Molloy asked if the footpaths from Staunton Row to Prior Park will be reinstated by Uisce Eireann once works are complete.
- Councillor English asked for an update on the streams in the Old Bridge.
- Councillor English asked that a yellow box be installed on the Fethard Road at Fairfields.
- Councillor English welcomed the removal of the dis-used trolley bays in Kickham St. Car Park.
- Councillor English asked that the back laneways of housing estates be maintained.
- Members asked for an update on resurfacing works at Glenconnor.
- Members asked for an update on the Suir Island Bridge project.

Queries raised by the Members were responded to as follows:

- In response to the query raised regarding the works at Thomas Street, the District Engineer informed the members that these works are now complete. She did speak to the Contractor about the noise levels. The works had to be carried out at night and the compound was out of use at the time.
- Regarding the reinstatement of road surfaces following works, the District Engineer informed the members that full lane width reinstatements are carried out once works complete.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the burial ground at St. Patrick's Cemetery was extended recently and will be extended again before the end of the year. The District Engineer to come back to the members regarding the query raised on the wall.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the gullies will continue to be monitored and cleaned under the annual maintenance plan.
- In relation to the Suir Island Gardens Project, the District Engineer will provide an update at the next meeting and organise a visit for the Members once complete.
- Regarding the traffic calming measures at the Loretto School, the District Engineer stated that these works will form part of the Active Travel Project and she will provide an update on same to the Members.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the Suir Island Bridge Project will not progress in 2025 and an application for funding will be forwarded to the TII in 2026 to progress to the next phase.

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- The District Engineer informed the members that a consultant has been appointed to prepare a feasibility report for the NTA and TII in relation to the installation of the bus stop at Ormonde Stores, Kilsheelan.
- Regarding the installation of the drinking water station on the Blueway, the District Engineer informed the members that funding has been received and a location for same is currently under review.
- In response to the query raised regarding the maintenance of laneways at the back of estates, the District Engineer stated that works are due to commence on the 29th September, 2025 under the maintenance programme for laneways and this maintenance will be ongoing
- The District Engineer informed the members that a yellow box will be installed on the Fethard Road, as requested.
- In relation to the query raised regarding the Glenconnor Road, the District Engineer stated that these works are being carried out under the Drainage Network Programme 2025 and there is no funding for road resurfacing at the moment.
- In response to the query raised in relation to the streams at the Old Bridge, the District Engineer informed the members that the vegetation will be cleared in the coming weeks.
- Regarding the query raised in relation to the trimming of trees on the N24, the District Engineer stated that the contract does not extend to Housing Estates but that she will arrange for the trees to be trimmed from the edge of the road to the back of the road.
- The District Engineer informed the members that the footpaths from Staunton Row to Prior Park will be reinstated by Uisce Eireann once works complete.

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 12th September, 2025.

These were noted.

Items 7.1 to 7.8– Notice of Motion

Motion 3016 was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald

That the council take steps to clean the pathway that goes from the Pond in the Wilderness all the way to the Bridge (The Loop). It is overgrown and harbouring dirt and waste of every description.

REPLY:

Clonmel Borough District will apply for funding in 2026 through the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme. We will keep this project in mind for any relevant funding opportunities that may arise in 2025-2026.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3017 was proposed by Councillor John Fitzgerald

That the Council take steps to mark the new road surface with white lines in the centre, on the Rathloose Road in Powerstown from the Railway Bridge to the Church, as the new school season has commenced.

REPLY:

The Rathloose Road in Powerstown from the Railway Bridge to the Church is under consideration for the 2026 Surface Dressing programme, the road will be lined following the works.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy

The reply to the motion was noted.

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Councillor Fitzgerald to meet with the District Engineer to discuss further.

Motion 3021 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

The Clonmel Borough District provide gates to the laneway to the rear of 35 to 39 St. Oliver Plunkett Terrace, Clonmel as the laneway is continuously been used for anti-social behaviour and the dumping of rubbish.

REPLY:

The laneway to the rear of 35-39 St. Oliver Plunkett Terrace was recently cleared of vegetation as it was overgrown and inaccessible. Clonmel Borough District require confirmation from residents that the laneway will be maintained by the residents of 35-39 St. Oliver Plunkett Terrace, if a gate is to be installed. The District will write directly to the residents regarding maintenance.

Subject to the above there is an existing gate at the St. Oliver Plunkett Terrace road entrance, this gate can be relocated, as it is currently not in use.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3022 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District replace the vandalised glass panels on the glass bridge at the Old Bridge, Clonmel. Also, that the unsightly overgrowth on either side of the bridge be removed.

REPLY:

We are currently working with the OPW to identify a preferred option to replace the glass panels on the Dry Bridge. A number of considerations need to be taken into account such as safety, aesthetics, and maintenance. We will provide further details once the assessment is complete.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3023 was proposed by Councillor Pat English

That Clonmel Borough District look at providing a yellow box on the Carrigeen Business Park Roundabout on the N24 at the Junction with Tivoli Road and also provide a yellow box at the T-junction from the Chase and Brookway housing schemes. The residents in both estates find it very hard to exit their estates during peak traffic times of the day.

REPLY:

We have requested Tramore House Regional Design Office to consider a yellow box on the N24 at Carrigeen. There is a yellow box at Brookway and we will install a yellow box at The Chase.

Seconded by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3028 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

That under future road programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of the road network in the Old Toberaheena estate (Ref my previous notice of motion on this issue).

REPLY:

This road will be assessed by the district engineers and depending on its condition and funding availability, may be considered for the 2026 Road Works Programme

Seconded by Councillor Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

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Motion 3029 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

That under future roads programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of sections of the L7109 from Moorstown to Husseystown.

REPLY:

This road will be assessed by the district engineers and depending on its condition and funding availability, may be considered for the 2026 Road Works Programme.

Seconded by Councillor Richie Molloy.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Motion 3030 was proposed by Councillor Siobhán Ambrose

That under future roads programmes that consideration is given for the re-surfacing of the road network directly outside the gates of Rathkeevin National School, Rathkeevin Hall and the individual houses nearby (Ref my previous motion on this issue).

REPLY:

The L-32832-0 at Rathkeevan is classed as a local tertiary road and as such can only be considered for resurfacing through the Community Involvement Scheme. This will require an application from the local residents when the scheme reopens.

Seconded by Councillor Pat English.

The reply to the motion was noted.

Councillor Ambrose to discuss further with District Engineer.

Item 8.1 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for noting.

Item 9.1 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

Votes of congratulations were extended to the following:-

- Mr. John McCarthy on his promotion to head of schools with Tipperary ETB
- Mrs. Karen Fitzgerald on her retirement as Principal of the Gaelscoil
- Mr. Kieran O'Regan on his retirement as Sergeant of Clonmel Garda Station.

10.1 Any other Business

There was no further business for discussion.

Signed: 
Mayor of Clonmel Borough District

Dated: 15/10/2025

Signed: _____
District Administrator

Dated: _____