

**Minutes of October Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District
hosted in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Tipperary Town and held
remotely on Tuesday, 21st October 2025 at 11am**

Members Present: Councillor Roger Kennedy, Cathaoirleach
Councillor Micheál Anglim
Councillor Declan Burgess
Councillor Liam Browne
Councillor John Crosse
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. Damien Ginty, District Director
Mr. Anselm McGowan, District Administrator
Mr. James Swords, District Engineer
Mr. Tim Kilmartin, Executive Engineer
Ms. Adeline Walsh, Staff Officer

Finance Directorate

Mr. Mark Connolly, Head of Finance

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Roger Kennedy, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the October meeting, particularly Mr. Damien Ginty, District Director. 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 September Meeting of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District held on 22nd September 2025.

The minutes of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District September meeting held on 22nd September 2025 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor John Crosse, seconded by Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3.1 Consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2026

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Mark Connolly, Head of Finance, to the meeting.

Mr. Connolly thanked the Members and confirmed that they are at the early stages of the budget process and they are continuing to get additional updates from the LGMA and central government. He advised that the District's Draft Budgetary Plan was circulated with the agenda and the 2026 GMA allocation is €1,361,283. This budget comprising of €1,011,279 arising from the decision to increase the LPT in September 2024 and €350,004 of an allocation which is similar to last year. This is divided between the 5 Districts based on the population of the Municipal Districts at the time of the 2022 census. The next LPT review is 2028 and our draft budgetary plan for 2026 are indicative figures and are similar to 2025.

Councillor Crosse welcomed the budget but raised concern in relation to the rise in inflation and asked if inflation was being taken into consideration when preparing the budget. Councillor Liam Browne raised a similar point in that if it's the same amount as 2025 taking inflation into account, the cost of living crisis our budget in 2026 will be worth less. He sought a broader discussion on services, preletting repairs and TVR projects etc. Councillor O'Heney asked how our housing maintenance budget aligns with our housing stock.

In response, Mr. Connolly stated that inflation has an impact but our expenditure has to align with our income and the only way to increase income is through rates and costs. He accepted that there will be limited additional spending and we have maximised our LPT, therefore the GMA will be same for 2026, 2027 and 2028. He informed the Members that there are some non-discretionary costs that we have no choice but pay including insurance, but the GMA is discretionary and is set for the next 3 years. Mr. Connolly confirmed that TVR funding is separate issue and if there was a specific question in relation to the housing budget it should be directed to Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services.

Councillor Moloney stated that there is a perception that Tipperary County Council has the highest rate in the Country, however Mr. Connolly confirmed the we are one of the lowest and the lowest of all our neighbouring counties. He advised if Tipperary County Council increased our rate by 3% and no one else moved it would only bring us to the middle. Councillor Moloney asked if the Enterprise Board and other organisations who are trying to attract business if they are promoting this. Mr. Connolly also noted that if you consider the discounts available and the Rebate Scheme we are one of the cheapest counties to do business.

Councillor Crosse again referred to the perception that we are expensive and it is a challenge for SMEs not the big international companies. He requested additional supports for SMEs. Councillor Hanna Hourigan noted that much of the budget information won't be known until the new year and should we consider

the way we do our business. Mr. Connolly confirmed that the roads budget is the only element that will remain unknown, however it is safe to assume that the grants will be similar and there are no red flags from central government that there will be significant changes. Mr. Connolly advised that we should consider looking beyond the annual budget and consider a 5 year plan in line with the life time of the Council.

On the proposition of Councillor John Crosse, seconded by Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, the GMA Allocation for 2026 was noted.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Connolly and his team.

3.2 Consider the allocation of additional Festival & Events Grant Scheme 2025.

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

No.	Name	Address Town	Proposed 2025
1	Jim Halpin, Cahir Park Soccer	Cahir Park Halloween Pumpkin Carving Event	€500
	Total		€500

3.3 District Engineer's Report

The District Engineer's Report was circulated to the Members with the agenda and Mr. Swords advised the Members that the majority of the works have been completed. He confirmed that work on Ballycarron Bridge will commence on the 10th November and the road will be closed from 10th November to 19th December. He also advised that the LIS Scheme 2026 is expected to be open in January. Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan asked if the forms are available now and does an application require two herd numbers. The District Engineer confirmed that they are still waiting on the guidance, however Councillor Kennedy noted that there was a change to the guidance two years ago. Councillor Moloney asked if the District has access to the patching unit. Councillor Liam Browne wanted to commend the Cashel team who repaired the bad potholes in Rosegreen. Councillor John O'Heney also wanted to pass on his appreciation in relation to the work complete at the junction in Kilfeacle.

In response the District Engineer advised the Members that work should commence on any LIS applications and that the Red Roads would be brought before the Members for approval in February or March once the allocation from Finance is known. He also confirmed that the patching unit is available, however the optimum time to use it is during good weather. Councillor Crosse also

referred to the project at Kilfeacle and complimented the team but asked if the pole could be removed. The District Engineer confirmed that they are waiting for Eir to set back the pole with the new aligned junction. Councillor O’Heney noted that he wasn’t aware of Councillor Crosse’s involvement in delivering this project. Councillor McGrath stated that she was the person who spoke to the owner and got their agreement to set back the junction.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the District Engineer and his team.

3.4 District Administrator’s Report

The District Administrator’s Report was circulated to the Members with the agenda and he was open to questions. Councillor Ryan (Shiner) thanked the District Administrator for the report and noted that the tenders for the Court house and Bridewell projects have issued. She asked when will the work commence. She also referred to the recent decision from An Coimisiún Pleanála and noted that the retail impact assessment was an issue and she requested that the Council would engage with Mr Price to see if a suitable location could be found. Councillor Moloney welcomed the signing of the contracts for the Cahir Library development and he wanted to compliment the project team. Councillor Roger Kennedy wanted to thank the Members for the great nominees for the Cathaoirleach Awards and it was great to see the community bus being used. Councillor Browne also wanted to congratulate everyone for a great night. Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan noted that it was a brilliant night and thanked the staff. She also wanted to support Councillor Ryan (Shiner) in relation to Mr Price. Councillor Crosse also wanted to compliment the staff who were part of the Cathaoirleach Awards.

In response the District Administrator confirmed that the tender process has begun for the two projects and he will confirm the closing dates. In relation to the Cathaoirleach Awards he confirmed it was a successful night honouring people who make a huge contribution to our communities. He wanted to thank Verena for the huge amount of work she put into the event and also to Julie and Adeline who also assisted. In relation to Mr Price, Damien Ginty, District Director acknowledged that many town centres have suffered and that a huge amount is being done to get buildings back into use. He assured the Councillors that this District would engage with the owners of Mr Price to find a town centre location. He recognised that this has both social and commercial benefits to the town and therefore they will also link in with the Town Centre First Team. Mr. Ginty also confirmed that this was his first Cathaoirleach Awards night which acknowledges the unsung heroes in our communities. He wanted to sincerely thank everyone for a very professionally ran night. The District Administrator noted that it is a massive job and he requested the agreement of the Members that the venue and the format of the awards night works and he noted that the entertainment provided by Cahir Comhaltas set the tone for the very enjoyable night. Councillor Roger Kennedy complimented the layout of the venue and that the table layout encouraged social interaction. Councillor Máirín McGrath also agreed that the

format works, however proposed that the nominating Councillors name would also be included on the scroll. Councillor O'Heney also appreciated the work of the staff in organising the Awards and acknowledged the groups nominated.

4.1 Chief Executive/Delegated Officers Orders

The orders were noted.

5.1 Councillor Máirín McGrath (Ref. ID 3041)

That this Council would carry out traffic calming works in Newcastle Village due to speeding concerns.

Reply

Speeding and the enforcement of the speed limits is a matter for An Garda Síochána. 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 Safety Improvement Scheme if traffic calming measures are required.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Andy Moloney.

5.2 Councillor Máirín McGrath (Ref. ID 3042)

That this Council would carry out traffic calming works on the Clogheen Road in Cahir due to speeding concerns.

Reply

Speeding and the enforcement of the speed limits is a matter for An Garda Síochána. 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 Safety Improvement Scheme if traffic calming measures are required.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Andy Moloney.

5.3 Councillor Declan Burgess (Ref. ID 3043)

That Tipperary County Council considers installing additional public lighting on the Camus Road in Cashel at the back of the Rock in any future projects. This area isn't adequately covered and is a busy walking route.

Reply

Tipperary County Council will consider installing additional streetlights to infill gaps along the Camus Road between the Cattle Mart and the junction with the Circular Road. The installation of these lights will be subject to the required funds being available.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Roger Kennedy.

5.4 Councillor Declan Burgess (Ref. ID 3044)

The Asian hornet poses a serious risk to our bees, pollinators, and biodiversity. Early detection and prevention are vital if we are to stop this species from becoming established in Tipperary.

This motion is urging the Council to:

- Inform and train outdoor staff on how to identify the Asian hornet and the procedures for reporting sightings.
- Run a public awareness campaign through the Environment Section, providing guidance on identification and reporting methods.
- Work with Tidy Towns groups, and community organisations across the county to spread awareness at a local level.

Reply

The establishment of the Asian Hornet would have significant ecological and economic impacts on pollinators, biodiversity and local beekeeping. Early detection, accurate reporting and awareness are crucial in the response to this invasive species.

At present, Tipperary County Council is acting in accordance with current guidance and protocols as issued by the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC), National Parks & Wildlife.

Tipperary County Council will continue to liaise closely with NPWS to ensure that any potential sightings are appropriately investigated in line with current protocols.

In addition, the development of an Invasive Species Strategy for Tipperary County Council has been identified as a priority action within the forthcoming Tipperary Biodiversity Action Plan 2026-2031. This strategy will provide a coordinated framework for detection, monitoring and control of invasive species, including the Asian Hornet, thereby strengthening Tipperary County Councils commitment and approach to biodiversity protection.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Andy Moloney.

5.5 Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, Councillor Declan Burgess and Councillor Roger Kennedy (Ref. ID 3045)

That Tipperary County Council engage with all relevant internal sections and external stakeholders to develop a comprehensive Master Plan for the Waller's Lot area in Cashel, incorporating both Waller's Lot and the Clonmel Road access into Cashel town.

This Master Plan should address and integrate key elements including:

- Traffic management and road safety improvements,
- Provision and organisation of car parking,
- Addressing dereliction and vacancy,
- Tackling unauthorised development within the area, and
- Ongoing maintenance and enhancement of public and private property.

The purpose of this plan is to ensure a coordinated, sustainable, and visually improved approach to the development and regeneration of this important gateway area to Cashel town.

Reply

A significant amount of social inclusion and community engagement work has been and will continue to be carried out in the Wallers Lot Area of Cashel. The Waller's Lot Working Group, coordinated by South Tipperary Development Company (STDC) under the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP), includes Tipperary County Council, HSE, Tusla, Gardaí, the Tipperary Rural Traveller Project (TRTP), Education and Training Board, Youth Work Ireland and others.

This group under the SICAP programme has, to date, focused on "soft" interventions in the Wallers Lot area including; trust-building, youth engagement, education and health supports alongside physical works. Sample supports include:

- Over the years it has addressed issues and immediate responses to anti-social behaviour, such as SICAP supporting children to attend summer camps.
- The SICAP programme funded a part time development worker within Wallers Lot which was great a resource to TRTP in helping to address the ongoing issues.
- YWI were in a position to commit to sourcing the funding for the youth justice worker in Cashel from which a number of engagement programmes for young residents were rolled out.
- An ongoing focus of the group is to create and increase participation in training, look at the barriers and work together to reduce and minimise those.

In addition, a Primary Education Initiative (Cashel), coordinated by the Tipperary Childrens and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC) and Youth Work Ireland

Tipperary, delivers weekly family learning and homework support sessions for children in the area, promoting literacy, confidence, and cultural identity.

In relation to dereliction, vacancy, unauthorised developments, ongoing maintenance and enhancement of public and private property, significant capital investment addressing specific housing needs in this area has been made by Temporary County Council over the past 5 years. This investment has improved safety and living conditions, and the council will continue to engage with the Wallors Lot community in relation to ongoing housing needs.

The staff of the MD are, at present addressing unauthorised temporary structures in the area and it is envisaged that these structures will be removed in the coming days.

The MD team will engage with the Wallors Lot working group with a view towards a collaborative approach to improve the visual appearance of the area.

The area will also be referred to the Councils Derelict sites team to ascertain if some of the lands / sites fulfil the criteria to enable action under this legislation. The Council's Town Regeneration Officer, Shane Grogan, is also progressing the Town Centre First policy locally, focusing on dereliction, vacancy, and public realm enhancement. Coordination between the Regeneration Office, Housing, and the Waller's Lot Working Group will ensure joined-up delivery on:

- Dereliction and unauthorised development
- Road safety and traffic management.
- Visual improvement of this key gateway area to Cashel.

Finally, the MD is examining funding options in relation to the approach to Cashel off the M8, in order to improve road safety, traffic management / parking solutions and improve the visual appearance of the area.

5.6 Councillor Roger Kennedy (Ref. ID 3052)

That this Municipal Council extinguish the Casual Trading pitch in the Abbey Street Car park to be replaced by a Mother and toddler space and a bicycle parking rail.

Reply

The District Administrator will review the legislative requirement regarding the extinguishment of a designated casual trading area and revert to the Member.

This motion was seconded by Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan.

6.1 Votes of Sympathy

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

- Dr Martin Mansergh, Friarsfield House, Tipperary Town

- Betty Flood, Ballyslateen, Golden, Co Tipperary
- Dolores O'Donovan, Emmet Street, Tipperary Town
- Philly Ryan, Tivoli Heights, Clonmel, Co Tipperary
- Louise Haughney, Woodlawn, Cashel, Co Tipperary

6.2 Votes of Congratulations

A vote of congratulations was extended to the following:

- The Members extended best wishes to all the Tidy Towns Groups across the District who are taking part in the Super Valu Tidy Towns Competition 2025 and attending the awards ceremony on Friday 24th October in Croke Park

7.1 Any other Business

The Cathaoirleach advised the Members that the meeting with the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) has been scheduled for 18th November, 2025 and the Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Marie Murphy would deputise on his behalf.

This concluded the business of the Municipal District meeting.

Signed/ Roger Kennedy Dated/ 24/11/2025
Cathaoirleach

Signed/ Anselm W Gorman Dated/ 24/11/2025.
District Administrator

