



**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF NENAGH  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER AND  
via ZOOM AT 10.30 AM ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2025**

<b>Present in chamber</b>	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, John Carroll, Phyll Bugler, Louise Morgan Walsh, J.P. O'Meara, Pamela Quirke O'Meara, Michael O Meara and Séamus Morris
<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr. Joe Hannigan
<b>Also Present</b>	Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Liam Brett, Director of Services and Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer  Former councillors Ger Darcy and Jim Casey
	<p>Cllr. P. Bugler thanked the members for coming in to the meeting and proposed a vote of sympathy for the former councillor, the late Tony McKenna, R.I.P.</p> <p>Tony McKenna (1939-2025) was first elected to North Tipperary County Council in 1979 and continued in office until 2004. He was successful in the Seanad elections in 1987 through the Cultural &amp; Educational panel. He lost this seat two years later but was nominated by the Taoiseach Charles Haughey and remained a senator until 1992.</p> <p>He was Cathaoirleach of North Tipperary on two occasions - 1991/1992 and 2000/2001.</p> <p>A vocational teacher he played a significant role in education in Tipperary particularly through the Vocational Education Committee. A lover of the Irish language he was instrumental in the promotion of the use of the language and was one of the founders and directors of Tiobraid Árann ag Labhairt which was set up to promote Irish use in schools and communities by bridging primary/postprimary gaps, supporting teachers and creating a supportive environment.</p> <p>He came from a family of 15 children - his sister Philomena is the sole surviving sibling. Among his brothers were the legends John Mackey McKenna, winner of 4 All Ireland winning medals and Ger McKenna the renowned greyhound trainer.</p> <p>Very much a community advocate, in 1982 he made national headlines when he made the 140 mile journey from Borrisokane to Dublin while soloing a sliotar to raise funds and highlight the need for a day care facility for the elderly in the town.</p> <p>He is pre-deceased by his wife Phyllis and is survived by his daughter Deirdre and his sons Malachy and Tony.</p> <p>Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.</p>



	<p>Cllr. Carroll seconded the vote of sympathy.</p> <p>Cllr. Morris offered his deepest condolences to the McKenna family and acknowledged the work done by Mr McKenna as a long serving local politician.</p> <p>Former councillor Jim Casey wished to be associated with the votes of sympathy. He served as a councillor with him and he was a genuine, hardworking elected representative. He enjoyed his time working with him and learned a lot from him. Mr. McKenna was well educated, he had a good political life and served 2 terms as a senator.</p> <p>Cllr. M. O'Meara also wished to be associated with the vote of sympathy and said it was right and proper that his passing is marked in this way. He knew him well, he was an excellent teacher and gave grinds to a student ever before grinds was a thing. This person has now become very successful due to this help.</p> <p>Cllr. Quirke O'Meara, Morgan Walsh and Bonfield offered their condolences to the McKenna family.</p> <p>Former councillor Ger Darcy wished to be associated with the vote of sympathy. He explained that Mr. McKenna was very involved in the school in Borrisokane and the VEC, where he came into his own. He served as an excellent chairman on the VEC and had a flair for education and wanted to improve the school. He was a larger than life character.</p> <p>Cllr. Carroll knew Mr. McKenna for years and while there were rivalries he was a very articulate person and an excellent teacher. He was very involved in the VEC nationally and the elderly care unit. He will be missed by the people of Borrisokane and Lower Ormond.</p> <p>Cllr. J.P. O'Meara said it was an honour listening to the words about Mr. McKenna and his contribution to public life, sports, politics and education. As a politician he would aspire to be like him.</p> <p>Mr. Liam Brett on behalf of the executive expressed his deepest sympathy to former councillor Tony McKenna's family. He made a significant contribution to the community and served as a councillor and a Senator. His legacy in leadership will be remembered.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce remembers him from the Borrisokane area meetings. He had a community spirit and even though times are different the issues are the same today. He represented the people of the</p>
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	<p>area and did achieve a lot. He had a love of the Irish language and she remembers a Council meeting being held completely in Irish. She wished to pass her condolences to the family and said he will be missed.</p> <p>The meeting was closed with a prayer.</p>
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This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

Signed: Phyll Bugler  
**Cathaoirleach**  
**Cllr. Phyll Bugler**

Date: 15/1/2026

Signed: Ms. Rosemary Joyce  
**Ms. Rosemary Joyce**  
**District Administrator**

Date: 15/1/2026

