



## **MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING OF THE THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE DISTRICT CHAMBER, THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

**Present:** Councillor Peggy Ryan, Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Kay Cahill Skehan, William Kennedy, ,  
Jim Ryan, Seán Ryan and Michael Smith.

**Apologies:** Councillors Shane Lee, Michéal Lowry, Eddie Moran

<b><u>Also Present:</u></b>	Mark Connolly	Director of Services
	Kieran Malone	Senior Engineer
	Thomas Duffy	District Engineer
	Jim Ryan	Executive Engineer
	Enda Walsh	Executive Engineer
	Sharon Scully	District Administrator
	Orla McDonnell	Staff Officer

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

There were no Disclosures/Conflicts of Interest raised at the Meeting.

### **2.1 Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of Thurles Municipal District held on 20th October, 2025.**

It was proposed by Councillor S. Ryan, seconded by Councillor W.  
Kennedy and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the Thurles Municipal District October 2025 Monthly  
Meeting, which was held on the 20th October 2025, be adopted as a true  
record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

### **3.1 The proposed taking in charge of Leighton Manor, Two-Mile-Borris, Co. Tipperary.**

A Report on the Proposed Taking in Charge of Leighton Manor, Two-Mile-  
Borris, Thurles was circulated to the Members, with the Agenda, in  
advance of the Meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Ryan, seconded by Councillor K. Cahill  
and resolved:-



"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, and being satisfied that the roads are of public utility, and having considered the financial implications for the local authority and any submissions made, it is hereby ordered that the roads serving the housing estate known as

### **Leighton Manor, Two-Mile-Borris, Thurles, Co. Tipperary**

be declared a public road. In addition, any open spaces, car parks, sewers, water mains and service connections within the attendant grounds of the development be taken in charge, which was on public display during the prescribed period and the Director of Services Report to Members for the November 2025 Thurles Municipal District Meeting".

#### **4.1 Presentation from Economic, Community & Rural Development.**

Sheevaun Thompson, Administrative Officer, Kathleen Prendergast, Economic Development Officer and Kate Madden, Social Inclusion Manager, North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC) were in attendance for this item. Sheevaun gave a presentation on the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and Kathleen gave a presentation on the Love Tipperary Gift Card.

Sheevaun's presentation included the following:

- SICAP aims to reduce poverty and promote social inclusion and equality
- There are specific targeted groups under the programme such as disadvantaged communities, long-term unemployed, people with disabilities, travellers, refugees, etc. and others at risk of social exclusion
- This programme is currently at planning stage
- Individuals can get 1:1 support
- SICAP has a complex organisation structure, it is managed by TCC with the North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC) acting as a partner.

Kathleen's presentation included the following:

- The Love Tipperary Gift Card was launched in November 2024
- Over 300 businesses in Tipperary have signed up to the card
- The card keeps money circulating within Tipperary
- It is unique in that all money invested is spent within the County
- As of August 2025, sales through the card reached €250,000
- The card supports economic resilience, fosters local pride and helps our county thrive
- Several major businesses, including Tesco, Aldi and Penneys, have already signed up.
- The card promotes the 'Shop Local' circular economy



- The Love Tipperary Gift Card campaign will run from now until Christmas and will be promoted via social media, radio and window stickers.

Queries raised by Members were as follows:-

- Is there is list of participating shops available for the Love Tipperary Gift Card?
- TCC should write directly to employers across the County, advising them about the card and encouraging its use as an alternative to employee bonus payments.
- Is it possible to revert to National Broadband Ireland under the National Broadband Plan for those who were missed during the rollout – for example, properties located at the end of lanes where the scheme did not extend to?

Replies to queries raised were as follows:-

- A list of participating shops for the Love Tipperary Gift Card is available on TCC website.
- TCC issues a newsletter that reaches over 600 retailers, encouraging them to use the Love Tipperary Gift Card. In addition, the Chambers and the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) also issue newsletters and will use them to promote the card.
- Under the National Broadband Plan, the aim was to bring broadband to a designated point, after which potential customers would contact a service provider to complete the connection to their premises. Kathleen will follow up with the Broadband Officer to confirm if this process is being implemented in other areas.

Sheevaun, Kathleen and Kate left the Chamber.

#### **4.2 Update from Cultural Services/Libraries & Biodiversity.**

Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian and Ann Marie Fleming, Biodiversity Officer were in attendance for this item. A Culture Team Report dated 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 was circulated to the Members in advance of the Meeting and taken as read.

Damien reported that since the last meeting attended by Cultural Service/Libraries & Biodiversity, Heritage Week, Culture Night and the Children's Book Festival have taken place.

Ann Marie noted that the Biodiversity Plan is nearing completion and will be finalised in early 2026. She also highlighted the success of the TCC Heritage and Biodiversity Workshop, with several requests already received to run the event again next year.



Queries raised by Members were as follows:

- The Members complimented TCC on the very informative River Suir Workshop that was held at the weekend.
- How accurate is the claim that biodiversity concerns are the reason for not cleaning or dredging the River Suir? The state of the River is a big issue for the people of Thurles.
- Cloone, near Loughmore, is experiencing flooding as the River Suir flows at the back of the area. Fallen trees are blocking parts of the river, worsening the flooding and residents have been told that they cannot remove the trees. What can be done to address this situation?
- Does a dead tree that has fallen into a river need to remain there or can it be removed?
- What are the plans for the future use of the former library building in Templemore?

Replies to queries raised were as follows:-

- It is understandable that people are concerned about the current state of the river. However, the river is experiencing a biodiversity crisis which is why a quick fix or rash decision such as dredging would not be appropriate. Intensive upstream farming, resulting in nitrate run-off, combined with the effects of climate change, are contributing to the growth in the river.  
The existing vegetation in the river has a cooling effect on the water; removing it will accelerate further vegetation growth.  
Efforts are ongoing behind the scenes to improve the water quality of the River Suir. There is no quick solution, it will take time – certainly more than one year and likely more than five. It took a long time for the river to reach its current state and it will take a long time to restore it.
- Regarding flooding at Cloone, the impact of a fallen tree into the river depends on the direction in which it falls – while it can obstruct flow, it may also serve a purpose in the ecosystem.
- Any dead trees that have fallen into a river should be reported to the MD, where they will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- Local Links has occupied the entire former Templemore library building since last July.

Damien and Anne Marie left the Chamber.

### **5.1 Consider Chief Executive's Report PT8TT294 on Part 8 Development – Lisheen Masterplan.**

Brian Beck, Director of Services and Michael Kealy, Executive Engineer, Planning Directorate, were in attendance for this item. Brian gave a brief summary of the Report, which had been circulated to the Members in advance of the Meeting.



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This proposal is for the installation and construction of a 30 PE packaged Tertiary Wastewater Treatment System to serve the existing agri-food sector research and development light industrial (with ancillary office space) building, to incl.: connection to existing and new gravity foul sewer, underground primary settling and secondary treatment tanks (with above ground control kiosk), rising foul main, raised tertiary polishing filtration and percolation area, and all other ancillary and associated site development works above and below ground level.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Ryan, seconded by Councillor W. Kennedy and resolved:-

"that the Chief Executive's Report PT8TT294 Part VIII Development – Development of Wastewater Treatment Plant at National Bio economy Campus (former Lisheen Mine) Lisheen, Co. Tipperary be approved."

## **5.2 District Engineer's Report.**

An Updated District Engineer's Report was circulated to the Members in advance of the Meeting and taken as read.

Queries raised by Members were as follows:

- The Engineers, GSS's and outdoor staff were commended for their effective response to the flooding caused by the recent heavy rainfall.
- Could the recent speed survey conducted on Innishfallen, Iona and Butler Avenues, Thurles – which concluded that traffic calming measures were not required - be reviewed again?
- Could gullies be cleaned on a more regular basis - ideally every few weeks - as the recent flooding following heavy rain was largely due to blocked gullies?  
Can Members submit a list of locations where gullies require attention so that Hogan's Drain Clean can be scheduled to clear them?
- What measures can be taken to address the dangerous bend on the Tonagha Road, approaching the N75, where numerous accidents have occurred?
- Could road markings be installed in Littleton Village - from the Band Hall down to the Thurles Road - where parking is permitted but currently no markings are in place?
- What actions can be taken to address vehicles speeding in estates, such as Derrynaflan Avenue, Littleton and similar areas.
- Could additional lighting be installed in Ballysloe village?
- Is there a budget available to prune back dangerous trees?
- Can safety measures be implemented at Gortagarry National School, given that the school has grown substantially since enhancement works were carried out approximately ten years ago?





- Are there any plans to address the currently unused former Council District building on the Birr Road? Lack of funding should not be the sole reason for leaving it as is, has a decision been made on whether to sell, upgrade or repurpose the building?
- Could road markings and signage be provided at Cooleeney Cross, where numerous traffic accidents have occurred over the years?
- What is the update regarding the installation of an additional pedestrian crossing in Templemore?

Replies to queries raised were as follows:

- The speed survey undertaken on Innishfallen, Iona and Butler Avenues showed that 80% of the vehicles in the area were within the speed limit. This indicates that additional traffic-calming measures are not a priority.
- The outdoor crews attended to numerous gullies, helping to alleviate flooding after the recent heavy rainfall. Members are encouraged to submit details of any problematic gully locations to the MD. These will then be communicated to the GSS for appropriate action.
- The options for addressing the dangerous bend at Tonagha are quite limited as there is a house with its gable end on one side of the road and a floodplain along the river on the other side. The issue will be investigated.
- A proposal to install road markings in Littleton Village where parking is permitted - from the Band Hall down to the Thurles Road - will be examined.
- TCC cannot unilaterally implement safety measures in every area. Speed enforcement is the responsibility of An Garda Síochána. Equally drivers must take personal responsibility for their driving.
- Lighting at Ballysloe Village will be examined.
- The pruning of dangerous trees will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and CRM submissions regarding such trees are currently under review. Members are encouraged to submit details of any locations where dangerous trees are present.
- The MD are currently reviewing plans for implementing safety measures at Gortagarry National School in 2026. Once finalised, the plan will be presented to Members for approval subject to funding.
- The MD had previously proposed a plan for the use of the former Council District building on the Birr Road, Roscrea; however, this idea was put on hold due to cost concerns. The matter will now be reconsidered again.
- Cooleeney Cross was resurfaced only last year; however, the road markings and signage in the area will be reviewed.
- The surveys for the proposed additional pedestrian crossing in Templemore have been completed. A meeting with TII will take place next Thursday to review and consider the survey results.



### 5.3 Update on District Project Pipeline Plan.

Project Name & Details	Next Phase Works/Actions
THURLES	
Market Quarter - Thurles	Construction works are progressing. Extension of programme of work to November 2025.
Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme Phase 2 - Thurles	Design Consultants to be appointed after standstill period has expired. Detailed design to commence in Q1 2026. Discussions with the national URDF Team and TII will be required in 2026 when detailed design is complete to finalise costings, funding requirements and gateway/programme status.
Mill Road Footpath (phase 2)	Await ORIS funding decision.
Redevelopment of Thurles Skateboard Park	Draft tender docs for issue Q3 2025.
Littleton Labyrinth Walkway and Cycleway - Phase 2	Identify the best routes back into the villages. Landowner approval.
Semple Stadium/Teagasc Offices - footpaths	Works programmed for Q4 2025.
Road Safety Works – Turtulla Junction	Capital Section reviewing options and costings.
Thurles Inner Relief road	Detailed design to be finalised.
Munster Hotel Site Redevelopment	Discussions ongoing with landowner.
Cycle and Walking corridors – Thurles Town	
ROSCREA	
Gantly Road, Roscrea – <i>an age friendly Neighbourhood</i>	Site surveys have commenced. Estimate construction works to commence in Q1 2026.
Main Street Enhancement Works - Roscrea	Tender brief to be prepared for Consultants to produce a design and upgrade of Main Street and lane ways, to include a public realm works and redevelopment of Walsh's Printers.
Reimagined Castle Street - Roscrea	Preliminary design has commenced. Site surveys to commence. Stakeholder engagement to begin in Q4 2025.
Rosemary Square Footpaths & Pedestrian Crossings	
Installation of Skateboard Park adjacent to the swimming pool	Town and Village Funding Application 2025 unsuccessful. Other funding source to be identified.



TEMPLEMORE	
Templemore Town Carpark, Dunkerrin Road	Funding application submitted under Town & Village Renewal 2025.
The Mall River – Infill Works	Consultant appointed and draft design plan drafted. Ongoing consultation with landowners in progress.
Templemore Town Park Maintenance Plan	Short, medium and long-term actions identified within the plan for maintenance and future development. Actions will be worked through over the coming years.
Templemore Landbank Master Plan	Consultant appointed. Preliminary Plan to be presented to Elected Members at November 2025 meeting for comment.
Main Street Enhancement Works, Templemore	The Project will be considered for the next RRDF Calls. If successful under this funding stream, a brief will be prepared for Consultants to produce a new design and upgrade of Main Street and to include public realm works.
Vacant Housing Units	MD Awaiting receipt of keys to property
	At Inspections/Costings Stage
	In Progress
	<b>TOTAL</b>

Queries raised were as follows:-

- Will the CCTV scheme for Littleton qualify for funding this year?
- Can speed reduction measures be installed at Slievenamon Road carpark, Thurles?

The Meetings Administrator replied as follows:-

- The CCTV oversight board are currently awaiting the appointment of additional staff. This matter will be followed up and an update will be provided to the Members.
- The MD have plans to install ramps in Slievenamon Road carpark to reduce speeding.





## **6.1 Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Jim Ryan – Id 3055.**

### **NOM in the name of Councillor Jim Ryan – Id 3036**

Councillor J. Ryan formally moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

I am calling on this District Council to install appropriate traffic calming measures within Two Mile Borris village as a matter of urgency.

Reply to NOM

An Garda Síochána, as the Road Traffic Authority has the ultimate responsibility for speed control enforcement on all public roads.

Before implementing any traffic calming measures, it is essential to confirm the existence of a speeding issue. This involves a structured approach, beginning with a speed survey and consultation with An Garda Síochána where necessary. This will be followed by the installation of a temporary speed indicator signage and ongoing monitoring to assess whether the issue persists.

Further interventions will be guided by the Infrastructure SPC document 'Traffic Management Guidance on Vertical Deflections', and any physical infrastructure will be subject to planning and funding approvals.

However, it should also be noted that as per the direction of Minister for Transport Darragh O'Brien, 30kph speed limits will be implemented where appropriate in specified locations in urban areas by Q1 2027. Therefore, there will be no substantive physical works until such measures are implemented and allowed to bed in.

The above principle will apply to all villages in the MD unless a road improvement opportunity arises.

Presently the MD seeks to address speeding in the vicinity of schools within the parameters of the SPC document, as these locations are identified as being high risk areas.

Councillor Ryan expressed his satisfaction with the comprehensive response and noted that the issue had been raised by a group of local residents. He suggested that installing a ramp on either side of the pedestrian crossing could help reduce speeding, as the road is a long and busy stretch.

Councillor S. Ryan seconded the Motion, stating that the real issue stems from the crossing being perceived as a courtesy crossing rather than a formal pedestrian crossing. He highlighted that the road is heavily used



by HGVs and suggested that mobile speed signs in the area could also help address the problem.

### **7.1 Correspondence.**

There was no correspondence.

### **8.1 Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations.**

A vote of sympathy was extended to:-

- Sean Ryan, Architect on the recent passing of his father-in-law John (Jack) Gooney (RIP).

Votes of congratulations were extended to:

- The Ryan Family, Lisheen on winning the NDC & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards.
- Parish of Moycarkey Borris on winning the County Intermediate Camogie Championship defeating Boherlahan-Dualla.
- Upperchurch-Drombane on winning the Tipperary Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship defeating Carrick Swans.
- Sarsfield Camogie Team on winning the Tipperary County Senior Camogie Championship defeating Clonoulty-Rossmore.

### **9.1 Any Other Business.**

There was no other business.

That concluded the official business of the November Meeting.

SIGNED:

  
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025

SIGNED:

  
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025