

South Tipperary County Council

Minutes of South Tipperary County Council Meeting held in The Council Chamber, County Hall on 13th December, 2010

In the Chair	Cllr. Sean McCarthy
Present	Cllrs. T. Acheson, L. Ahearn, S. Ambrose, M. Anglim, J. Brennan, S. Cooney Sheehan, J. Crosse, J. Crowe, J. Donovan, P. English, J. Fahey, M. Fitzgerald, M. Hanna Hourigan, S. Healy, D. Landy D. Leahy, S. Lonergan, L. McLoughlin, R. Molloy, M. Murphy, MI Murphy, J. O'Brien, E. O'Meara, D. Ryan, T. Wood.
In attendance	E. O' Connor, B. McEvoy, E. Drennan, S. Carr
Meetings Administrator	Mr. David Coleman
Minutes	On the proposal of Cllr. T. Acheson and seconded by Cllr. MI Murphy, the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 st November, 2010 were adopted.
Conferences	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. MI Murphy and seconded by Cllr. Tom Wood, it was agreed that: -</p> <p>Cllrs. MI Fitzgerald, Marie Murphy, M. Hanna Hourigan, L. Ahearn, S. McCarthy, E. O'Meara, L. McLoughlin, J. Brennan, T. Acheson, J. O'brien, J. Crowe, J. Crosse and D. Landy be nominated to attend conference organised by Law Reform Commission entitled Reforming the Law on Personal Debt to be held at Dublin Castle on 16th December, 2010.</p> <p>Cllrs. L. McLoughlin, J. O'Brien, J. Brennan, J. Fahey and J. Crowe be nominated to attend conference organised by Esperanza Enterprises entitled Building Regulations to be held at Manor West Hotel, Tralee on 17th – 19th December, 2010.</p>

Cllrs. J. Fahey, L. McLoughlin, Marie Murphy, M. Hanna Hourigan and J. Brennan be nominated to attend conference organised by Superior Training entitled Local Government Building 2011 at the Carlton Millrace, Bunclody on 10th – 12th December, 2010.

**Section 183
Notices –
(a) Disposal of
land at
Knockcommane,
Kilbehenny, Co.
Limerick**

It was proposed by Cllr. John Fahey
Seconded by Cllr. Tom Acheson
And Resolved: -

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, we hereby approve of the disposal of 0.2055 hectares (0.508 areas), at Knockcommane, Kilbehenny, Co. Limerick to Breda Barry, Knockcommane, Kilbehenny, Co. Limerick in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above section as circulated on the 26th November, 2010”.

**(b) Lease of
Industrial Units
at Drangan**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Fahey
Seconded by Cllr. Tom Acheson
And Resolved: -

“that pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, we hereby approve of the lease of industrial units Numbers 1, 2 & 3 at Drangan, Thurles to Mr. Gerard Manton, Main Street, Fethard, for a period of 2 years at a cost of €1 per annum”.

**Finance –
Approval to
authorised
signatories**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Ambrose
Seconded by Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan
And Resolved: -

“That all transactions on all Bank Accounts held by South Tipperary County Council be authorised on the drawing instructions of any two of the following signatories:

Panel A
Edmond O'Connor
Billy McEvoy
Eileen Drennan
Sinead Carr
Paddy Brennan

Panel B
Ken Conway
John O'Mahoney
Pat Slattery
Clare Curley
Deirdre Flannery
"That any two of the above be authorised to open and operate Bank Accounts with Financial Institutions for the efficient management of the funds of South Tipperary County Council".

Cahir Local Area Plan It was proposed by Cllr. Liam Ahearn
Seconded by Cllr. John Crosse
And Resolved: -

"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 20(3)(n) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 – 2010, the Draft Cahir Local Area Plan 2010 as amended by the Proposed Material Amendments and the Managers Report issued on the 10th November, 2010 is hereby made as the Cahir LAP 2011"

Limerick Junction District Service Enhancement Scheme The Limerick Junction District Service Enhancement Scheme had been circulated to the members for their endorsement. The final scheme was the result of extensive consultation and public information sessions were also held in each village. Members indicated their approval to the scheme as presented to them.

Holycross Local Area Plan 2006 It was proposed by Cllr. L. McLoughlin
Seconded by Cllr. T. Wood
And Resolved: -
"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 19 (1)(d) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 – 2010, that the sending and publishing of notices under Section 20(3)(a)(i) and (ii) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2010 be deferred for a period not exceeding 5 years in respect of the Holycross Local Area Plan 2006".

**County
Development
Board Update**

The South Tipperary County Development Board 2009 Review had been circulated to the members. Ms. S. Carr, Director of Services summarised progress in 2009 under the four key areas of economic, social cultural and Local Agenda 21. She thanked the past and present Chairmen of the Board.

**Fix date for
January Meeting**

It was agreed that the January meeting would be held on 10th January, 2010 at 11 a.m.

**Fix date for
Joint Policing
Committee
Meeting**

It was agreed that the Joint Policing Committee Meeting would be held on 7th February at 9.30a.m.

**County
Managers
Orders for
December**

County Managers Orders for the month of December were noted.

Notice of Motion

**Pedestrian
crossing at
Bailey Street,
Killenaule**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the names of Cllr. John Fahey:-

“That this Council provide a pedestrian crossing at Bailey Street, Killenaule so that the students from Scoil Ruain and St. Mary’s Central School can cross the road safely”.

The need for a pedestrian crossing for students from Scoil Ruain and St. Mary’s Cathedral was acknowledged. However, there would be difficulties constructing a pedestrian crossing at this location due to the nature and layout of the junction and proximity to the schools and shop.

A survey would be carried out of the existing layout on the ground and options for a revised junction layout including a pedestrian crossing will be drawn up for

discussion with the Fethard Area Members. If agreement was reached on the preferred layout the works would be costed and can be considered under the 2011 Roadworks Programme.

Pedestrian crossing at St. Anne's Terrace, Gortnahoe

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. J. Fahey: -

"That this Council provide a pedestrian crossing from the hall to St. Anne's Terrace, Gortnahoe".

The proposal for a pedestrian crossing in Gortnahoe would be costed and considered at the Annual Area Roads Meeting in March 2011 subject to availability of funding.

Community Based Drugs Initiative Programmes

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Darren Ryan: -

"That this Council writes to the Minister for Education & Skills and Minister for Health and Children requesting them to direct their Departments to reinstate the partnership that existed between our secondary schools and Community Based Drugs Initiative Programmes in delivering information classes on substance misuse to pupils".

This motion was supported by a number of members.

Postal Service in Ireland

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the names of Cllrs. Liam Ahearn, Marie Murphy, Seamus Healy and Pat English: -

"South Tipperary County Council calls on the Government to recognize the unique and vital role of the postal service in Ireland, particularly rural

Ireland, as a means of communication, as a vital economic tool and as an intrinsic part of the fabric of the community.

Our postal service has a social value and an economic value; these must be properly protected as the Government drafts legislation to open the postal market to full competition. Postmen and women provide an important public service and also function as an integral part of the social fabric of their community, particularly for the elderly and the isolated citizens whose only human contact might be their post person. Furthermore An Post's extensive delivery and collection network, is an intrinsic part of the economic and business infrastructure of the country. Reaching every corner of the country and by delivering to every front door An Post is an essential partner in business from a marketing, payment collection and business generation point of view.

As Ireland prepares to liberalise its postal market it is essential that the Government acknowledges this important public service, ensures that the Universal Service Obligation is protected by legislation and does not allow the opening of the market to lead to wide spread job losses, social dumping and an erosion in service levels as has happened in other countries who have already opened their postal market to competition.

Members spoke in support of the motion. They referred to the importance of the service in rural Ireland and voiced their concerns about the cherry picking of routes by private operators. It was

requested that An Post would be asked to hold formal consultation with Mayors and Chairman of City and County Councils. It was also requested that the motion would be circulated to all local authorities.

Speed ramps/traffic calming in Faugheen, Carrick on Suir

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Seamus Healy: -

“That speed ramps/traffic calming measures be provided in the village of Faugheen, Carrick on Suir”

The proposal for speed cushions in Faugheen Village would be costed and can be considered at the Annual Area Roads meeting in March 2011 subject to availability of funding.

Footpaths at Frank Drohan Road

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pat English: -

“That South Tipperary County Council ensures that the footpaths at the Frank Drohan Road are cleared of leaf during this time of year as they are in a dangerous condition for pedestrian users”

Ordinary maintenance was carried out on this road and leaves are cleared from the footpath by General Operatives travelling in front of the road sweeper as a matter of routine. However, it must be appreciated that falling leaves during November and December cause difficulties and are cleared as much as possible within the limited resources of the Clonmel Area.

Footpaths to Glenbawn, Knocklofty

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pat English: -

“That South Tipperary County Council provides a footpath from the Council

Lay-by to Glenbawn, Knocklofty, Clonmel”

There are no plans in the 2010 Roadworks Programme to provide the footpath as requested.

As the length of requested footpath is approximately 350m and the road is extremely narrow the cost of the proposal will be significant and land will need to be acquired to facilitate the construction of the footpath.

The proposal can be designed and costed and further discussion will be held at the next Clonmel Area Roads meeting.

Flooding at Grangemockler

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Joe Brennan: -

“That South Tipperary carry out drainage works to alleviate the flooding of the lands of Mr. Peter Lyons, Breanormore, Grangemockler, Carrick on Suir as the current flooding is causing the Lyons family hardship”

This matter was the subject of correspondence between the County Solicitor and the landowners and we are awaiting further instruction from the County Solicitor in relation with this.

Surfacing and drainage works on the road from South Lodge to Breanormore

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Joe Brennan: -

“That South Tipperary County Council carry out surfacing and drainage works on the road from South Lodge to Breanormore to help prevent the flow of water onto the N76 at South Lodge and improve the road Surface”

There are currently no plans in the Clonmel Area Programme to carry out drainage works at this location.

In the new 3 year Road Restoration Improvement Plan 2011 – 2013 this road is included for re-surfacing and drainage would be carried out as part this work. However, this will be subject to grant allocation.

Cllr. J. Brennan requested that these works be prioritised.

Post Office at Carrick on Suir

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. J. Brennan: -

“South Tipperary County Council writes to An Post requesting that measures are put in place at Carrick on Suir post office for people to queue indoors and not out on the footpath”.

Cllr. Brennan in speaking to the motion referred to the inadequate facilities in the Post Office for people to queue for services.

Cllr. Landy informed the meeting that a similar motion was being considered by Carrick-on-Suir Town Council and it was being proposed that a meeting with An Post officials would be sought to discuss the issue.

Lighting at Skeheenarinky

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Marie Murphy: -

“That in the interests of health & safety, additional public lighting be provided at Skeheenarinky”

No funding has been provided in the Roads budget to erect new public lighting in 2010 or 2011 and therefore the erection of additional public lighting

cannot be considered at this stage.

**Bend between
Walsh's and
McCarthy's at
Ballyboy,
Clogheen**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Marie Murphy: -

"That this Council makes improvements to bend between Walsh's and McCarthy's at Ballyboy, Clogheen (Road No. 7417) in the interest of road safety. There has been a number of accidents at this location"

This matter can be considered in the context of Cahir Area Roadworks Programme 2011 subject to availability of funding.

**Resurfacing at
Castlevew
Estate,
Ardfinnan**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pat English: -

"That South Tipperary County Council ensures that the Road in Castlevew Estate, Ardfinnan is resurfaced and the pot holes filled and made good"

Normal road maintenance works would be carried out at this location.

Subject to availability of funding this can be considered in the context of the Cahir Area Roadworks Programme 2011.

**European Court
of Auditors
report on the
international
sugar industry**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. J. Fahey: -

"That in view of the recent European Court of Auditors report on the international sugar industry, this Council calls on the Government to consider measures which would result in Ireland reacquiring its sugar beat production quota and encourage the re-establishment of the sugar

processing industry in Ireland and further that this Council would facilitate a meeting of interested parties with a view to progressing any proposal in this regard”.

Members complimented Cllr. Fahey on submitting the motion. It was agreed to refer the motion to North Tipperary County Council for consideration and to recommend that a committee would be set up comprising of the party whips of both Councils to examine ways of progressing the issue. It was also agreed to submit the motion to Association of City and County Council’s, Local Authority Members Association, Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland and the South East Regional Authority.

Resurfacing of Ardfinnan Road from Cahir to Rochestown and the Goatenbridge Road from St. Finnans Avenue

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Seanie Lonergan: -

“That the Ardfinnan Road from Cahir to Rochestown be surfaced dressed and also the Goatenbridge Road from St. Finnans Avenue be taken in hand as a matter of urgency”

The R670 from Cahir to Rochestown was in need of strengthening and resurfacing. These works are included in the 2011 to 2013 three year Restoration Improvement Plan. Subject to the availability of grant allocations in 2011 this can be considered in the context of the Cahir Area Roadworks Programme 2011.

In relation to the Goatenbridge road, surface repairs and normal maintenance works will be carried out in early 2011.

Flooding on the main Clonmel to Fethard Road at Caherclough

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Tom Acheson: -

“In the interest of traffic safety that South Tipperary County Council would take immediate action to prevent the flooding that occurs on the main Clonmel to Fethard Road at Caherclough”

In recent years during times of heavy flood water has been accumulating on the side of the road at Caherclough. It is unclear whether this water is coming from adjoining land or from the road as it builds up slowly on a bend. As there are no streams or surface water outlets located nearby, it would be difficult to pipe water away from this location. The nearest watercourse is located at the Halfway House approximately 500-600m away.

There is a relatively large grass margin at this location and as a first option it may be sufficient to construct a soak pit off the road in the grass margin and pipe the surface water into the soak pit. This will be investigated as a first option and may alleviate some or all of the flooding problem at this location.

Correspondence (a) Letter dated 26th October, 2010 from Minister for Lifelong Learning, Seán Haughey TD in relation to children with special needs resident in South Tipperary.

Cllr. S. Cooney Sheehan queried who the Special Educational Needs Organiser for South Tipperary was and Cllr. Ryan queried what criteria was used in assessing applications.

(b) Letter dated 3rd November, 2010 from Interim National Care Group Lead – Disability Services regarding funding to Disability Service Providers

(c) Reply dated 17th November, 2010, from Mary Coughlan T.D., Tanaiste and Minister for Education and Skills regarding

the amalgamation of the V.E.C.'s.

(d) Reply dated 17th November, 2010, from IVEA regarding the amalgamation of the V.E.C.'s.

(e) Reply dated 17th November, 2010, from South Tipperary Health Service Executive regarding Home Help Services in South Tipperary.

(f) Thank you letter dated 24th November, 2010, from John Watson in relation to vote of sympathy passed on the death of his late mother.

(g) Letter dated 25th November, 2010, from Meetings Administrator, North Tipperary County Council re. Joint Policing Committees.

Cllrs. D. Landy, J. Brennan and M. Hanna Houigan did not support any amalgamation of town and county Joint Policing Committees.

**Resolutions
from other Local
Authorities**

Clonmel Borough Council

"Clonmel Borough Council call on the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Minister for Enterprise Trade and Innovation and the Minister for Finance to provide funding to Local Authorities to allow them to administer a waiver scheme for commercial rate payers genuinely struggling to make rates payments. That this motion be circulated to all other Local Authorities requesting their support for the motion".

Monaghan Town Council

"That this Council calls on the Government to increase fuel allowance".

Offaly County Council

"That this Council write to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Finance

requesting the implementation of a new scheme for Medical Cards for people who are diagnosed with cancer. Upon written diagnosis by a Consultant, a person should automatically receive a full medical card for a minimum one year period or such time as treatment is completed and should not be subjected to means assessment. The motion was amended to include the following: "That action should be taken to streamline the processing and issuing of medical cards".

Offaly County Council

"That this Council write to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government requesting the introduction of a rain water harvesting grants scheme for Domestic, Commercial and Agricultural Users in the upcoming Budget".

Carrick-on-Suir Town Council

"That Carrick on Suir Town Council would request a review of the powers of HIQA (Health Information and Quality Authority) in the ability of its inspectorate team to decide the appropriate/inappropriate care needs of people requiring care in nursing homes and other residential settings and the fact that there is no place in current nursing home legislation to the right of redress by care providers following publication of their findings".

Donegal County Council

"That this Council calls-

(a) Upon the Government and HSE -

- (1) To make Alzheimer's and other forms of Dementia a National Health Priority;
- (2) To meet the growing needs of families affected by dementia by advancing the Action Plan for Dementia in a manner consistent with the Dementia Manifesto 2007-09 published by the Alzheimer's Society of Ireland, until a more permanent Strategy can be determined;

and

- (a) Upon other local authorities and groups representing civil society in Donegal and nationwide to add their support to this call”

Donegal County Council

“That Donegal County Council opposes the Government’s introduction of a Public Service Obligation (PSO) levy on electricity bills that will increase the cost of electricity to householders and businesses by an average of 5%”.

New Ross Town Council

“Mindful of the recent report of the Radiological Protection Institute and aware that New Ross is designated a “High Radon Area” this Council calls on the Minister for the Environment to implement a scheme of free Radon tests in areas of high risk – as recommended by the RPI – and that a grant system for remediation works be likewise put in place”.

Waterford City Council

“That this Council, recognising that,

- The National Minimum Wage is an important instrument designed to prevent worker exploitation
- Low paid workers and those on the minimum wage are struggling to get by and cannot afford to take any reduction in their incomes
- Any reduction in the minimum wage or the incomes of low paid workers would force more families to rely on supplementary welfare assistance from the state
- Economic recovery will not be achieved by driving down wages or by becoming a low wage economy

Opposes any reduction in the National Minimum Wage.

Dublin City Council

“This Council calls on the Oireachtas to introduce regulations on the “Cash for Gold” business. This transaction enterprise is prolific throughout Ireland and is not regulated which leaves the business open to be used as a legal way of disposing of stolen goods. The lack of regulation on Cash for Gold shops could possible lead to an increase in theft of jewellery from persons and homes”.

Monaghan Town Council

“That this Council calls on the Government to address the plight of the self-employed, who now find themselves unemployed, to access welfare assistance more speedily”.

**Votes of
Congratulations**

- Denis Leamy on his success as captain of the Munster Rugby Team
- Ann McGrath, National Carer Award

**Votes of
Sympathy**

- Cllr. Pierce O’Loughlin, Carrick on Suir Town Council on the death of his mother Catherine
- Deputy Mattie McGrath on death of his mother Mary McGrath
- Ryan family Gortnahoe on the death of Michael Ryan, former overseer
- Ken Conway on death of aunt Delia Neary

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/_____. Dated/_____.
Cathaoirleach.

Signed/_____. Dated/_____.
Meetings Administrator.

