

# South Tipperary County Council

## Minutes of South Tipperary County Council Meeting held in The Council Chamber, County Hall, Clonmel On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2009.

<b>In The Chair</b>	Cllr. Liam Ahearne
<b>Present</b>	Cllrs. T. Acheson, S. Ambrose, M. Anglim, J. Brennan, S. Cooney Sheehan, J. Crosse, J. Crowe, J. Donovan, P. English, J. Fahey, MI Fitzgerald, M. Hanna Hourigan, S. Healy, D. Landy, D. Leahy, S. Lonergan, S. McCarthy, C. McLoughlin, R. Molloy, M. Murphy, MI Murphy, J. O'Brien, E. O'Meara, D. Ryan, T. Wood.
<b>In Attendance</b>	E. O'Connor, B. McEvoy, S. Keating, E. Drennan, MI Lynch, E. Murphy
<b>Meetings Administrator</b>	Mr. J O'Mahoney
<b>Minutes</b>	On the proposal of Cllr. Darren Ryan and seconded by Cllr. Pat English the minutes of 5 <sup>th</sup> October, 2009 were adopted.

### Matters Arising

#### Meeting with Oireachtas Members

Cllr. Seamus Healy expressed his disappointment that the meeting with the Oireachtas Members would not be until after the Budget. The chairman Cllr. Liam Ahearne explained that the reason that the meeting had not gone ahead with the Oireachtas Members was because the Oireachtas Members needed more time to consult with the Ministers. Cllr. Tom Wood also expressed his disappointment that the meeting with the Oireachtas Members would not be held until after the Budget.

#### Rural Garda Stations

Cllr. Joe Brennan expressed his disappointment that no reply had been received from the Minister for Justice regarding rural Garda Stations

#### Fair-trade Status

Cllr. Cllr. Richie Molloy informed the meeting that Tipperary Town had recently received Fair Trade Status and that Carrick on Suir, Templemore and Clonmel were yet to receive Fairtrade Status.

**Public Notice of Proposed Works – Golden Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Public Notice of the proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant for Golden had been published. The report of the Planning Section on the proposal and the reports received were noted. Following consideration of the issues it was proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr McCarthy that the project should proceed as proposed.

Cllr. Fitzgerald welcomed the move to upgrade the existing Waste Water Treatment Plant in Golden Village and expressed his hopes that this work would be carried out in the near future.

**Section 85 Agreement: N24 Carrick-on-Suir By-Pass**

It was proposed by Cllr. Denis Landy  
Seconded by Cllr. Eddie O’Meara  
And resolved:-

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001, we hereby approve that South Tipperary County Council and Kilkenny County Council enter into an agreement allowing South Tipperary County Council to execute powers and functions on behalf of Kilkenny County Council in relation to those parts of the road development on the N24 within County Kilkenny in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above Section, as circulated on the 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2009”.

A report on the N24 Carrick on Suir ByPass, Section 85 Agreement had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The report stated that a review of the preferred route for a bypass of Carrick on Suir on the N24 national primary route had been undertaken and that as a result of this review a new draft Route Selection Report had been prepared which identifies five new route options for the scheme. Each of these route options includes sections within the functional area of Kilkenny County Council. Mr. Billy McEvoy informed that members that an agreement would need to be entered into in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 to allow South Tipperary County Council to execute powers and functions on behalf of Kilkenny County Council.

**Conferences/Seminars**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. S. McCarthy it was agreed that:-

Cllr Joe Brennan, Cllr Catherine McLoughlin, Cllr Michael Anglim, Cllr Jack Crowe, Cllr Denis Leahy and Cllr Sean McCarthy be nominated to attend seminar organised by Limerick County Council (LAMA) entitled “Service Provision in Local Government The New Reality” at Carlton Castletroy Park Hotel, Dublin Road, Limerick on 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Cllr Michael Murphy and Cllr John Fahey be nominated to attend conference organised by Ace Training and Management entitled “Time Management, Media and IT Skills” at Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone on 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Cllr John Fahey and Cllr Jimmy O’ Brien be nominated to attend conference organised by Esperanza Enterprises entitled “ Local Government Ethics in Public Life your Responsibility” at Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo on 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Cllr Jimmy O’Brien be nominated to attend conference organised by Kadenza Consultancies Ltd entitled “Councils Budgets 2010” at Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009.

Cllr Sean McCarthy be nominated to attend conference organised by Clare Tourism entitled “Promoting Partnership in Tourism – 21 Years of Progress” at Falls Hotel, Ennistymon on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009

**VEC – Fix date for meeting re. 4 External Nominees**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. S. McCarthy and agreed that a meeting to consider the nominations be held at 9.30am on 14<sup>th</sup> December. This would enable formal proposals to be brought forward to the Council Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**Approval of Overdraft**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzgerald  
Seconded by Cllr. S. McCarthy  
And Resolved:-  
“That Overdraft Accommodation in the sum of €250,000 be approved for the 6 month period from 1 January 2010 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

**Dates for Meetings  
Budget Meeting**

It was agreed that the Budget Meeting of South Tipperary County Council would be held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 at 10am.

**December Meeting**

It was agreed that the December Meeting of South Tipperary County Council would be held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 preceded by a meeting with the Oireachtas Members at 10am

**Special Housing Meeting**

It was agreed that the Special Housing Meeting would be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at 10am.

**South Tipperary  
Annual Environmental  
Awards 2009**

Mr. Denis Holland informed the members that the Annual Environmental Awards would be held in Hotel Minella, on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm when the achievement of the Emly Tidy Towns Committee in winning the National Tidy Towns Competition will be celebrated.

**Recycling Centre of the  
Year Award 2009**

Mr. Denis Holland informed the members that Wallers Lot Recycling Centre in Cashel has been awarded the prestigious Recycling Centre of the Year Award 2009. A local awards ceremony has been organised for all the staff who are involved with Wallers Lot Recycling Centre for Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2009.

Cllr. Liam Ahearne, Cathaoirleach went on to say that Wallers Lot is an excellent, state of the art facility that South Tipperary should be very proud of.

Members congratulated staff at Wallers Lot and all those involved with the centre at Wallers Lot. It was proposed that South Tipperary County Council members and Cashel Town Council members conduct a tour of the facility and the date suggested was Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon.

In response to queries raised, Mr. Sean Keating gave an update in relation to proposals for facilities at other locations in the County which were resource dependent.

**South Tipperary Local  
Authorities Waste  
Collection Service**

Mr. Denis Holland informed the members that it had come to the attention of South Tipperary Local Authorities that there was speculation that South Tipperary Local Authorities are going out of the waste collection business. Mr. Holland reassured the members that this was not true and that South Tipperary Local Authorities have offered a reliable and efficient waste collection service to customers for decades and will continue to do so.

Mr. Holland went on to say that South Tipperary Local Authorities are the only waste collector in the County to offer a waiver scheme to those on a low income and also offer value in waste collection services while protecting the local environment.

Members were glad to see the position being clarified and welcomed the statement that South Tipperary Local Authorities were “open for business”. Members also commended the staff for providing such an excellent and efficient service.

Members expressed concerns that some people in rural areas could not avail of the collection and it was agreed that if there were people in a particular area that wished to avail of

the service that it would be investigated to see if a such a service could be provided.

A number of members also suggested that the Council should consider extending the service to accommodate Commercial Businesses and new housing estates.

It was agreed that the service provided by South Tipperary Local Authorities was an excellent service and that the Local Authorities need to get this message across to the public and various ways of promoting the service were discussed.

Mr. Sean Keating, Director of Services advised the members that a scheme is at present being piloted in Cashel whereby an advertising campaign is taking place door-to-door and if successful that this would be rolled out to other areas in the future. Other suggestions by members would also be considered.

**Fix date for opening of Knockavilla Burial Ground**

Denis Holland informed members that the Knockavilla Burial Ground was complete and the opening date was agreed for 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr. Seanie Lonergan enquired if there were any plans to review the graveyard in Cahir as spaces were becoming scarce. Mr. Holland agreed to come back to Cllr. Lonergan on this matter.

Cllr. Marie Murphy raised concerns about the lack of space at Shanrahan Cemetery, Clogheen and was assured that Staff were actively looking at land beside the cemetery.

Cllr. John Crosse complimented staff for the tremendous work which has been carried out at Knockavilla Cemetery.

**County Managers Orders**

County Managers Orders for the month of October were noted

**Chairman's Items**

*Meeting with Iarnrod Eireann*

Cllr. Liam Ahearne, Chairman informed the members of a recent meeting which he attended with the County Manager and Senior Officials with Mr. Myles McHugh, Service Planning Manager, Iarnrod Eireann regarding the continuation of services on the Waterford-Limerick Rail Line. Mr. McHugh clarified that Iarnrod Eireann, like other companies are in a very difficult economic situation at present. Passenger numbers have dropped and income is under pressure. Mr McHugh explained that the company is carrying out a national review of its services in order to try

and address its cost base and this will mean a reduction in services right throughout the country.

Mr. McHugh was made aware of the importance of this line to the economy of South Tipperary and to those living in the county. The strategic importance of the line, the type and frequency of services available, the linkages to the gateways and this capital city and the potential for future growth on the line were outlined to Mr. McHugh in detail.

The Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that the following three services will be retained in the timetable change from 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Three trains from Waterford at 06.35, 12.30, 16.38 and three trains from Limerick Junction at 08.50 (connecting with the 07.00 from Heuston), 15.46 (connecting with the 14.00 from Heuston), 18.45 (connecting with the 17.00hrs from Heuston).

The services being discontinued are therefore the 09.35 from Waterford and the 11.45 from Limerick Junction.

Cllr. Ahearn went on to say that the reduction in service is regrettable but that following the meeting with Mr. McHugh the more critical services from a customer, strategic linkage and economic perspective have been retained and that South Tipperary Local Authorities will work closely with Iarnrod Eireann and the local community in promoting and marketing the services currently on offer in South Tipperary and would encourage all citizens to use the rail services

Iarnrod Eireann have also agreed to work on the potential development of the Cahir Rail Station including the possibility of developing the land around it for car parking purposes.

The members complimented Cllr. Ahearn, The Manager and staff for having the foresight to meet with Iarnrod Eireann before the changes were implemented and their input into retaining the more critical services.

The members also agreed to invite Mr. McHugh to a Council Meeting to discuss various issues of concern.

#### Decentralisation for Tipperary Town

Cllr. Liam Ahearn, Chairman advised the members that approval has been granted by the Department of Finance for the construction of new decentralised offices of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in

Tipperary Town which will house 188 staff and also of the intention to proceed with the provision of New Civic Offices for Tipperary Town Council and South Tipperary County Council in conjunction with the newly developed decentralised offices.

Members very much welcomed the news and acknowledged the huge boost that this would bring to Tipperary Town in the current economic climate.

Members paid special tribute to the County Manager and Minister Martin Mansergh for progressing this matter to this stage.

**Presentation by Sports Co-ordinator – Ciaran O’Hiarnain**

Mr. Ciarán Ó hlarnáin, Acting Sports Coordinator gave a presentation to the members. Mr. Ó hlarnáin outlined the various achievements which Sports Partnership have progressed to date and outlined the key priorities for 2010. Mr. Hlarnáin thanked the Local Authorities for the significant support which Sport Partnership has received.

Members thanked Mr. Ó hlarnáin for his presentation and the work carried out by Sports Partnership during the past year and hoped that it would continue during 2010.

**Notice of Motions**

**Access to graveyard at Red City, Fethard**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Richie Molloy:-

**“That South Tipperary County Council put in a proper access to the graveyard at Red City, Fethard as at present the only access is for people to climb over a wall to enter cemetery and what is the up to date status on the disability audit that was carried on all graveyards in South Tipperary on the Red City Grave Yard”.**

A new entrance gate would be provided for Red City Burial Ground, Fethard. Work would commence within the next 2 weeks.

In relation to other works identified in the Access Audit I wish to confirm that works at Killaghy Burial Ground, Mullinahone and Crosscannon Burial Ground, Killenaule had been completed.

The overall position in relation to access audits was that all audits on towns, villages, burial grounds, local authority offices, amenity areas etc. had been completed. An implementation plan had been put in place which prioritises works completion on a phased basis between now and the

end of 2015 at an estimated cost of €15 million.

Cllr. Molloy asked if the new entrance gate could be put in before the Annual Maas which will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

**Wall at Community Park, Clerihan Village**

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

**“That consideration be given to the completion of the wall at the Community Park at Clerihan Village which is at a standstill”.**

The budget allocation in the 2009 Clonmel Area Roadworks Programme for the works at the Community Park at Clerihan Village had been exhausted and there were no further funds available to complete the stone facing of the block work wall in the current year.

The Ballyclerihan Community Council and the residents were informed at an early stage that the works would not be fully completed in 2009.

It was proposed to complete the wall and a part of the footpath in 2010 and complete the works in 2011, subject to the availability of funds

**Road Lining opposite Abbot/Guidant, Clonmel**

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

**“The lining of the Cashel Road – heading north from Clonmel – opposite Abbot/Guidant was removed during excavation works and while the tarmac was replaced the road lining was not. This is a hazard as the two lanes are no longer properly identified”.**

The roads markings at this location would be reinstated within the next week, weather permitting.

**Vincent O’Brien Equine Museum**

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

**“I wish to propose the creation of a Vincent O’Brien Equine Museum in Clonmel to honour the greatest trainer of equine flesh in the history of the world. Dr. Vincent O’Brien was the worlds finest racehorse trainer. During his extraordinary 51 year career he transformed many aspects of thoroughbred racing, winning 27 Irish Classic Races and 16 in Britain. This proposal suggests the creation of an Appreciation Society from within the**

**equine world to support directly/privately a project to honour the world's greatest horse trainer".**

After some discussion, members agreed in principle with the establishment of an equine facility in the County. It was agreed however that issues such as the views of the O'Brien family, the location and funding needed to be taken into account.

### **Broadband in South Tipperary**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Catherine McLoughlin:-

**"That this Council communicate with Minister Ryan regarding the immediate need to put proper national broadband in place. Broadband is now delivered over multiple networks, fixed line, fibre, cable, fixed wireless, satellite and mobile; all over 40 different service providers. This service is still most unsatisfactory for people trying to do business or promote their products inside or outside of Ireland".**

The situation regarding broadband provision in the county was progressing towards a better availability of the service but it is acknowledged that there are still outstanding difficulties in a number of areas and the Council are continuing to work with the relevant stakeholders to enable and facilitate a better service delivery.

Members expressed their disappointment at the poor service which is available to the people of South Tipperary. It was agreed to forward the response to the Notice of Motion to all members.

### **Housing Development at Ballypadeen, Cashel**

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

**'That management updates the Council on the status of the housing development at Ballypadeen Cashel'.**

Under Planning File Ref. No. 01908 planning permission was granted, subject to conditions, for an International Trade Centre, International Arbitration Centre, Aparthotel comprising 120 bedroom complete with restaurants, lounge bars, conference rooms and function rooms, leisure centre and swimming pools, 52 self contained cottages, underground parking and ancillary site works

The Planning Authority initiated legal proceedings on foot of unauthorized development in the form of non-compliance with conditions (Enforcement File Ref. No. Enf 42/05 (b)

refers). The presiding Judge decided South Tipperary County Council had not proved its case ‘beyond reasonable doubt’ and did not grant the order as sought. This fact was relayed to the Area Members in writing on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

Under Planning File Ref. No. 071615 a split decision issued from An Bord Pleanala (upholding the decision of the Planning Authority) under which permission to retain and complete elements of the development was granted but permission was refused to retain self-contained cottages numbers 33-52 and ancillary works.

At this time, it may be said that development has ceased on site and there are 2 no. extant permissions for the development of a hotel and self-contained house accommodation associated with the hotel.

Cllr Wood asked for clarification on the last paragraph. Ml Lynch, SEP informed the members that it was not unusual for a site to have 2 planning permissions.

### **Hedge Cutting**

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

**“That in view of the serious shortfall in funding for roads and the importance of hedge cutting both for safety and the protection of the road fabric, the Council gives serious consideration to the establishment of Local Authority Hedge Cutting Scheme subscribed to by landowners and operated by the Council”.**

Under the Roads Act 1993, landowners and occupiers were required to maintain trees, hedges, shrubs or other vegetation such that there is no danger to those using the public road.

On Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2009 a notice was published in the local press to remind landowners/occupiers of their obligations under the Road Act. Each Area Engineer has been requested to follow-up on this issue by carrying out inspections and by contacting landowners/occupiers to request them to attend to hedge cutting from September to February. Failing co-operation, a formal notice can be served on landowners by the Council.

It must be acknowledged that the vast majority of landowners co-operate in this regard. It should be noted that landowners are also obliged to do so under the terms of the REPS scheme.

Members acknowledged that the majority of farmers took great pride in the appearance of their land and kept the hedges very well and it was agreed that as the Local Authority doesn't have the manpower or machinery that such a scheme would not be feasible at this present time.

#### **Abolition of Fás**

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

**“That in view of the ongoing revelations surrounding Fás this Council calls for its abolition in its present format”.**

Members discussed this motion in detail and all agreed that the appointment of a new board was not sufficient that the whole working of Fás including the name need to be changed as it was not respected.

Members agreed to forward this motion to all Local Authorities.

#### **Roundabout at N24 junction with the Heywood Road**

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

**“That this Council be given an update on the installation of a roundabout at the N24 junction with the Heywood Road”.**

In order for the construction of a roundabout to proceed on the N24 Clonmel Inner Relief Road at the junction of the Heywood Road part funding will be required from the National Roads Authority. Applications to the National Roads Authority for funding in both 2008 and 2009 were unsuccessful. A further application is being made for 2010. At present there are no indications if this application will be successful. In the meanwhile works have been completed on a traffic calming scheme on the approach to the Heywood Road from the west which has had a positive impact on speeds approaching the junction and therefore the safe operation of the junction under current traffic flows.

#### **Public Lights in Clerihan Village**

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

**“That this Council include in its plans adequate public lights for the footpath from Clerihan Village to the Community Field.”.**

The provision of public lighting at this location was not included in the 2009 Clonmel Area Public Lighting

Programme. However, while constructing the footpaths from Ballyclerihan Village to the Community Field ducting was installed to facilitate the future erection of public lighting along the footpath.

The installation of public lighting at this location can be considered as part of the Clonmel Area Public Lighting Programme on a phased basis, subject to agreement at a further Clonmel Area Roads meeting regarding programme 2010 and to the availability of funding.

**Residency clause in  
Planning Permissions**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Eddie O'Meara:-

**“To ask the Director of Planning to review the residency clause in planning permissions as it is causing severe problems and hardship to people who are forced to sell their properties”.**

The Planning Authority was aware of the difficulties experienced by some persons, having to dispose of their properties, arising from the present financial and banking crisis and is pro-actively looking at measures that can be put in place to alleviate the hardship to those persons. A protocol document was being drawn up at this time and would cover all aspects of relevance, including relaxation of the 'residency clause' in exceptional circumstances. The protocol document would be presented to the members at the Area Meetings.

It was agreed that a copy of this motion would be circulated to all members.

**Wastewater at Killaghy  
Street, Mullinahone**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Eddie O'Meara:-

**“Could I have an update on what action has been taken to sort out wastewater problems at Killaghy Street, Mullinahone”**

This motion relates to odour issues in the sewage system at Killaghy Street, Mullinahone. The problem emanates from the sewage collection system and pumping station in Cois na hAbhainn Housing Estate, which has not been taken in charge by the Council.

Both the Planning Section and Water Services Section have been in consultation with the Developer in an effort to find an agreed resolution of the problem. While the Council is satisfied that the problem is as stated above, we are however

arranging for a CCTV survey of the network in the Killaghy Street area to be carried out.

A meeting has been arranged with the Developer for next Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> November, in relation to resolving the problem.

**Flooding at Forristals, Lisronagh, Clonmel**

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

**“That works be carried out to alleviate flooding on the roadway at Forristals, Lisronagh, Clonmel.”**

The drains and inlets at this location would be opened as part of the Council’s programme of works in preparation for the winter months which was currently in progress. The pipes at this location would also be checked to ensure that there are no blockages.

**Speed Ramps at Ardgeeha Upper, Clonmel**

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

**“That speed ramps be installed on the roadway serving the McGrath, Carroll and other families at Ardgeeha Upper, Clonmel.”**

This Notice of Motion refers to the L16681, a cul-de-sac local tertiary road, approximately 3.5m wide with 5 No residents. The traffic on the road consists of residential traffic as well as agricultural traffic a farm at the end of the cul-de-sac. This road does not have through traffic passing. It is a policy of South Tipperary County Council not to install speed ramps on local roads. It is proposed to erect 2 No. "Slow" signs along the road as a traffic calming measure over the next few weeks.

**Le Lande Unit, Our Lady’s Hospital, Cashel**

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

**“That we call on the Health Service Executive to withdraw the proposed cutbacks on the Le Lande Unit, Our Lady’s Hospital, Cashel and that the current level of excellent service being provided there for Alzheimer/Dementia patients be maintained.”**

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English and members were in support of this motion.

**Higher Rate of Tax and Wealth Tax**

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

**“That we call on the Minister for Finance to ensure that the wealthy sections of society make a serious financial contribution to the country by way of introducing**

**(a) a third higher rate of tax for incomes in excess of €100,000 p.a. and**

**(b) a wealth tax.**

Cllr. Healy referred to the necessity to consider raising additional taxation on wealth, high earners and the elimination of loopholes in the tax system. He was supported by Cllr. English.

A number of members spoke in support of fairness in the tax system and of the need for all sections to contribute to the economic recovery.

**Signage at Ardgeeha Roundabout**

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

**“That signage at Ardgeeha Roundabout be improved to indicate the existence of a “dead leg” section, in the interest of safety”.**

Signage indicating that one leg of the roundabout being a “dead leg” would be erected on the approaches to the Ardgeeha roundabout. These signs would be erected as part of the current signage upgrade works being carried out on the Cashel Road.

**Gaelscoil, Chluain Meala**

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

**“That the members be given an up to date position on the site for Gaelscoil, Chluain Meala”**

Representatives of the OPW met with officials of the Council earlier this year to discuss options in relation to progressing the issue of the provision of a Gaelscoil. Among the options discussed was the possibility of the purchase of the site and building in which the Gaelscoil is currently located. The representatives indicated an interest in pursuing this option further particularly as the County Council had ceased using the adjoining yard due to the completion of the new Machinery Yard facility at Carrigeen.

A detailed technical assessment of this option is now being progressed by the Office of Public Works who are to revert when all relevant issues have been considered.

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

**“That this Council deplores the daily scapegoating of public service workers by government and recognises that the current recession was created by government policy and their senior bankers and developer friends”.**

A number of members spoke in support of the motion. It was noted while in general numbers in public employment had decreased, services continued to be provided on an efficient basis and that the majority of employees were on relatively modest incomes. It was also noted that all sections of society had been impacted by the current economic circumstances.

**Investigation into the death of Michael Dwyer in Bolivia** The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pat English:-

**“That this Council requests Mr. Michael Martin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, to establish a well resourced investigation, meeting internationally recognised standards, into the death in Bolivia of Tipperary native Michael Dywer.”**

Members supported this motion.

**Correspondence**

(a) Reply dated 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Office of Minister of Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism regarding the greyhound industry.

(b) Reply received 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Senator P. Prendergast, regarding the greyhound industry.

(c) Reply dated 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Deputy Tom Hayes regarding the greyhound industry.

(d) Reply dated 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Deputy Mattie McGrath regarding the greyhound industry and enclosure from Mr. Eddie Kiernan, Private Secretary to Minister John Gormley.

(e) Reply dated 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from The Office of Public Works regarding Ahenny High Crosses.

(f) Reply dated 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Department of Social and Family Affairs regarding the Family Resource Centre Programme.

(g) Reply dated 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Office of the Minister at the Department of Finance, regarding Rapid.

(h) Reply dated 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 from Eamon O’Cuiv, T.D, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs regarding Rapid.

(i) Reply dated 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Brian Crowley,

- M.E.P., regarding Vat on medical equipment.
- (j) Reply dated 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Dr. Martin Mansergh, T.D., Minister of State, regarding VAT on medical equipment.
- (k) Reply dated 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Deputy Mattie McGrath regarding VAT on medical equipment.
- (l) Replies dated 8<sup>th</sup> October and 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 and enclosure from Deputy Tom Hayes regarding VAT on medical equipment.
- (m) Reply dated 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Liam Aylward, MEP, regarding VAT on medical equipment.
- (n) Reply dated 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 and enclosure from Jim Higgins, M.E.P., regarding VAT on medical equipment.
- (o) Reply dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, from Pobal regarding the Rural Transport Programme.
- (p) Reply dated 20<sup>th</sup> October from Eunan Dolan, Superintendent, An Garda Síochana, Clonmel regarding speed checkpoints in Lisronagh Village.

**Resolutions from Other  
Local Authorities**

**Listowel Town Council**

“Listowel Town Council calls on the Government to support the Family Resource Centre Programme and, in particular, the thirteen Family Resource Centres based in County Kerry. We support the three campaign principles of the Family Resource Centre National Forum, which are:

1. The Family Resource Centre Programme delivers a value for money support for families across Ireland. At times of financial hardship, the services of Family Resource Centre will be needed more than ever. Rather than considering closing or reducing the FRC programme, it should be developed and expanded.
2. The Family Support Agency is the best vehicle to deliver the Family Resource Centre Programme, and the Agency should be maintained.
3. If any changes are to be made in the FRC programme or Family Support Agency, the Family Resource Centre National Forum must be consulted on the way forward.”

**Killarney Town Council**

“I call on this Council to write to the Minister for education and science expressing opposition on the proposals relating to the re-introduction of third level tuition fees. I strongly urge that each and every member of South Tipperary County Council will fully support the Student Support Bill”.

### **Tuam Town Council**

“I call on this Council to write to the Minister for Education and Science expressing opposition to the proposals relating to the re-introduction of third level tuition fees. I strongly urge that each and every member of South Tipperary County Council will fully support the Student Support Bill”.

### **Carlow County Council**

“Carlow County Council calls on the Government to support the Family Resource Centre Programme and in particular, Family Resource Centres based in County Carlow. We support the three campaign principles of the Family Resource Centre National Forum which are:

1. The Family Resource Centre Programme delivers a value for money support for families across Ireland. At times of financial hardship, the services of Family Resource Centre will be needed more than ever. Rather than considering closing or reducing the FRC programme, it should be developed and expanded.
2. The Family Support Agency is the best vehicle to deliver the Family Resource Centre Programme, and the Agency should be maintained.
3. If any changes are to be made in the FRC programme or Family Support Agency, the Family Resource Centre National Forum must be consulted on the way forward.”

### **Waterford County Council**

“That Waterford County Council requests the Government to continue to support the Rural Transport Initiative. Waterford County Council further asks the County Secretary to inform the Minister for Finance and all Local Authorities of this Resolution”.

### **Muinebheag Town Council**

“Muinebheag Town Council call on the Taoiseach and Minister for Social and Family Affairs to publish the National Carers Strategy as committed to in the Social Partnership Agreement – Towards 2016 and in the programme for Government as a matter of principal”.

### **Galway County Council.**

“That Galway County Council rejects the Circular letter issued on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 transferring responsibility from the Department of Transport to the National Roads Authority for management of local and regional roads and that sufficient funding be provided under the control of the Council to maintain our roads to a safe condition”.

**Clonmel Borough Council.**

“That Clonmel Borough Council calls on the Government and Minister for Social and Family Affairs to reverse the decision not to pay the Christmas bonus to Social Welfare recipients”.

**Shannon Town Council**

“That Shannon Town Council calls on the government to set up a separate redress scheme for women detained in Magdalene laundries as demanded by the survivors and that this demand be circulated to all Local Authorities”.

**Edenderry Town Council.**

“I call on this Council to write to the Minister for education and science expressing opposition to the proposals relating to the reintroduction of third level tuition fees. I strongly urge that each and every member of South Tipperary County Council will fully support the Student Support Bill”.

**Monaghan Town Council**

“I call on this Council to write to the Minister for Education and Science expressing opposition to the proposals relating to the re-introduction of third level tuition fees. I strongly urge that each and every member of South Tipperary County Council will fully support the Student Support Bill”.

**Waterford City Council**

“That this Council requests the American Government to stop the extradition proceedings against Sean Garland”.

**Monaghan Town Council**

“That this Council call on the ESB to resume the previous practice of Meter Readers leaving cards for absent householders to enter their meter reading and post same to the ESB”

**Monaghan Town Council**

“That this Council emphatically opposes the threat to the existence of Town Councils as proposed by An Bord Snip Nua (McCarthy Report) and the sentiments of Minister John Gormley on the same subject. Any such proposals are an attack on the most basic democracy available in this State”.

**Votes of Sympathy**

- Stephen McEvoy on the death of his father Chris
- Ned Gleeson, former County Manager on the death of his mother in law
- Evelyn Byrne on the death of her mother Jenny
- The Kevin Family on the death of former Cllr. Tom Kevin and his wife Mairead.

**Any other Business**

The Chairman informed the members that a Civic Reception would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> November for Emly Tidy Towns Committee in recognition of their recent success at in winning the National Tidy Towns Competition.

The meeting then concluded.

**Signed/\_\_\_\_\_Dated/\_\_\_\_\_.**  
**Cathaoirleach.**

**Signed/\_\_\_\_\_Dated/\_\_\_\_\_.**  
**Meetings Administrator**