

South Tipperary County Council

Minutes of South Tipperary County Council Meeting held in The Council Chamber, County Hall on 7th February, 2011

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, T. Wood.
Apologies	Cllr. D. Ryan
In attendance	E. O'Connor, C. Curley, K. Conway, S. Reidy, A Fennessy, P. Britton, J. Harney
Meetings Administrator	Mr. John O'Mahoney
Minutes	On the proposal of Cllr. S. Leahy and seconded by Cllr. P. English, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 th January, 2011 were adopted.
Conferences	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. S. Ambrose and seconded by Cllr. S. Lonergan, it was agreed that:-</p> <p>Cllr. Seanie Lonergan be nominated to attend conference organised by Celtic Conference entitled "A practical guide to Media Skills for Councillors" to be held at The Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarerry, Co. Cork on 4th – 6th February, 2011</p> <p>Cllrs. Mary Hanna Hourigan, Tom Wood, Sylvia Cooney Sheehan, Seanie Lonergan and Joe Brennan be nominated to attend conference organised by AMAI entitled "Spring Seminar 2011" at Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, Cork on 11th and 12th February, 2011</p>

Cllr. Sean McCarthy be nominated to attend conference organised by Senator Terry Leyden Conferences entitled "Taking Care of Business – Health & Safety for Small Business Owners to be held at the Conference Centre, Spencer Dock, Dublin on 16th February, 2011

Cllr. Tom Acheson be nominated to attend conference organised by Esperanza Enterprises entitled "Charities Act 2009 – Implications for the Voluntary Sector" to be held at Manor West Hotel Spa & Leisure Club, Killarney Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry on 18th – 20th February, 2011.

Public Notice of proposed works:

(a) Development of a Borehole at Carrigwillin to augment the Monroe Supply

A report pursuant to Part 8, Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations in relation to the proposed development of a borehole and at Carrigwillin, Lisronagh had been circulated to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. S. Ambrose and seconded by Cllr. D. Leahy that the works would proceed as proposed subject to the recommendations of the Council's Planning Department.

(b) Fethard Water Supply Scheme – Intake works at Walshbog, Killusty and Water Treatment Works at Cloran

A report pursuant to Part 8 Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations in relation to the proposed development of Intake Works at Walshbog and proposed Water Treatment Plant at Cloran Old had been circulated to the meeting. Following consideration of the report, it was proposed by Cllr. S. Ambrose and seconded by Cllr. T. Acheson that the works would proceed as proposed subject to the recommendations of the Councils Planning Department.

**Section 183
Notice –
Disposal of
property at 1
Beechpark,
Cahir**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Lonergan
Seconded by Cllr. M. Anglim
And Resolved:-
"That in accordance with the provisions of
Section 183 of the Local Government Act,
2001, South Tipperary County Council
hereby approve of the disposal of property
at Beech Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
containing approximately 0.023 acres to
Mr. Jimmy Flannery, No. 1 Beech Park,
Cahir, Co. Tipperary in accordance with
the terms of the Notice under the above
Section as circulated on the 25th January,
2011".

**Finance
Auditors Report
2009**

Mr. K. Conway, S.E.O., Finance, referred
to the report of the Local Government
Auditor for 2009 which had been
circulated to the members and stated that
the Auditor had reported on the Annual
Financial Statements of South Tipperary
County Council and certified them to be a
true and accurate account of the financial
position of the Council.

The position was noted.

**Draft
Development
Contribution
Scheme 2011 -
2015**

Ms. Sonja Reidy referred to the draft
development contribution scheme for the
county area excluding the Borough and
Town Councils which had been on public
display from the 8th November to the 21st
December. Submissions were received
and a report had been submitted to the
members.

Members were being requested to make
the Development Contribution Scheme as
amended by the Manager's Report.

Cllr. S. Cooney Sheehan referred to the
difficulties facing small businesses and
expressed her opposition to developments
in villages being levied the same
contributions for car parking spaces as in
towns and suggested decreased amounts.

The County Manager outlined the importance of the Development Contribution Scheme as the only source of funding for capital projects.

In discussions which followed it was noted that the proposals now before the meeting had been discussed in detail at two specially convened workshops and modifications had been agreed to.

It was proposed by Cllr. Ml. Fitzgerald
Seconded by Cllr. Ml. Anglim
And resolved: -

“That pursuant to the provisions of Section 48(8)(a) of the Planning and Development Acts, 200-2010, the Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2011-2015 as amended by the Managers Report issued on the 19th January, 2011 and the Members Directions received on the 7th February, 2011, is hereby made as the South Tipperary County Council Development Contribution Scheme 2011 – 2015”.

**Progress Report
on the County
Development
Plan**

Cllr. Fitzgerald suggested that a workshop would be held to discuss issues relating to the County Development Plan and this was agreed.

**Fethard Local
Area Plan 2011**

At a meeting of the Council held on 29th November, 2010, material alterations to the draft Fethard Local Area Plan were agreed by members. The material alterations were put on public display. The draft Local Area Plan as amended by the published Material Alterations and by the Manager’s Report were now before the members for adoption.

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Landy
Seconded by Cllr. J. Brennan
And Resolved: -

"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 20(3)(n) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 – 2010, the Draft Fethard Local Area Plan 2010 as amended by the Proposed Material Alterations and the Managers Report issued on the 1st February, 2011 is hereby made as the Fethard Local Area Plan 2011."

NRA National Road Grants Allocation 2011

The National Roads Authority 2011 Allocation for South Tipperary had been circulated to the members. Mr. P. Britton outlined works that would be undertaken as a result of this allocation during the year. In responses to queries by members he clarified aspects of specific works in each electoral area.

The County Manager informed the members that €456,000 was included in the allocation to complete the design of the Pallasgreen/Bansha Bypass and bring this project to C.P.O. stage.

Members referred to road works that had recently taken place in Moorstown, Cahir and to the damage caused to minor roads in that area due to diverted traffic. Mr. Britton confirmed that repair works would be carried out to these roads.

Housing Adaption Grants

Ms. C. Curley informed the meeting that amendments were proposed to the Housing Adaption Grant Scheme 2011 in an effort to improve the administration of the scheme.

These amendments included: -
A clearly defined timeframe for the receipt of applications;
Re-advertise the Occupational Therapist Panel;
Re-advertise for interested Contractors;
Alterations to the application forms;
Revision of the schedule of standard costs.

The amended scheme had been considered by the Housing Strategic Policy Committee and the approval of the full Council to the amendments was being sought.

Members indicated their agreement to the amendments as proposed and Cllr. Landy requested an insertion of the words "return to home" in the Emergency Criteria which was agreed. Mr. G. Walsh responded to queries from members regarding Occupational Therapists, Priority 2 and 3 applicants and mobility grants.

**Presentations
(a) FAI
Development
Officer**

Mr. David Lenane, FAI Development Officer updated members on events that had taken place in 2010. Work in the rapid areas continued with after school/drop in programmes, Midnight Soccer and Community Street Leagues. Other key areas of work that had taken place were coach education, volunteer education, summer camps, school competitions, emerging talent programme, girls soccer, fustal, football for all and intercultural programme.

Members complimented Mr. Lenane on the excellent soccer events that had been organised.

**(b) South
Tipperary
Sports
Partnership**

Mr. Valerie Connolly, South Tipperary Sports Partnership updated members on activities held in 2010. 2,905 people had participated in 59 programmes/initiatives. Highlights of 2010 had been the Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon, Safer Cycling Programme and Bike Week, sports inclusion for people with disabilities and active living programmes. The priorities for 2011 included the continued roll out of key programmes, launch and implementation of the new strategic plan, increased co-operation with partner

agencies and community organisations and generate funding. Members complimented the staff on their achievements to date.

County Managers Orders for January

County Managers Orders for the month of January were noted.

Notice of Motion

Print and Packaging Sector

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

“That due to the crisis facing the print industry and the serious drop in employment this Council (1) calls on all parties contesting the next general election to specify their policy on the print and packaging sector and (2) at a county level requests the County Development Board to investigate the possibilities of finding ways to safeguard and promote employment in the industry in South Tipperary”.

In speaking to the motion Cllr. Wood outlined the difficulties facing the print industry. He asked that this issue would be considered by the County Development Board. Members were in support of the motion.

Council Community Employment Projects

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

“With time running out for the future of some Council Community Employment projects, with the resulting loss of at least 37 jobs, the Manager would advise as to the situation following our meeting with Fás in the Council Chamber prior to Christmas”.

FÁS wrote to the council in July 2011 indicating their intention to reduce FÁS placements in the community employment scheme in South Tipperary from 600 to 450.

A number of meetings followed this announcement, and Mr. Jim Coughlan, Regional Manager, FÁS was invited to the Chamber in November 2010 to outline the FÁS proposals. At the November Council meeting Mr. Coughlan outlined plans to reduce FÁS community employment placements in the county by 150, and that the council CES scheme would reduce from 60 to 30 placements. This would also mean a consequent reduction in FÁS supervisors.

A meeting was held at Mr. Michael Ormond FÁS on the 31st January, 2011, and he clarified that there was no change to the position outlined by Mr Coughlan in November 2011. Therefore as of March 2011 the council is required to reduce our FÁS supervisors from 4 to 2, and the FÁS placements will be reduced to 39 and eventually 30 by 2012. The four FÁS supervisors have been informed of the position and discussions are ongoing in this regard.

Cllr. Wood referred to a commitment made by Minister O'Cuiv not to terminate the scheme and he proposed that the Council would write to the Minister and Fás strongly urging them not to reduce the numbers employed on the Community Employment Scheme. This proposal was unanimously supported.

Maintenance Programme on approach roads to Clonmel

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

"That South Tipperary County Council in conjunction with Clonmel Borough

Council put in place a proper maintenance programme on the approach roads to Clonmel to ensure that the areas are clear of litter and well maintained”.

In 2010 Tidy Towns Competition, Clonmel Town received a total of 296 points, an increase of 6 points from the 2009 total. South Tipperary County Council has been working closely with the Clonmel Borough Council, especially over the past year, to carry out works to improve the approach road roundabouts (Cahir Road roundabout and Cashel Road roundabout) making them easier to maintain and thus improving them visually. Over the coming months, before the spring planting season is over, Clonmel Borough Council hopes to get these roundabouts planted.

South Tipperary County Council have also been working on the approach roads to Clonmel, in particular the Cashel Road opposite Boston Scientific, to re-level and re-sow overgrown areas. It is also hoped that a planting scheme will also be implemented here over the coming months.

Both South Tipperary County Council and Clonmel Borough Council carry out maintenance, litter picking and grass cutting on the Frank Drohan Road and the approach roads to Clonmel however the extent of this maintenance is entirely dependent on funding available. This funding has been substantially cut over the past number of years, however South Tipperary County Council will continue to work closely with Clonmel Borough Council to improve the approach roads and continue the maintenance programme over the coming years while working within the budgets provided.

**Footpath for
Grange Village**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose: -

“What is the latest position in relation to the provision of a footpath for Grange Village? Has a group of contractors been appointed to draw up the plans for the proposed attenuation pond and what is the projected timeframe for this project”?

Contract has been made with 2 contractors with regard to the feasibility of installing a stormwater attenuation system to alleviate flooding in Grange village. A meeting is to be arranged over the coming fortnight with representatives of these companies on site. It is hoped that once this meeting has taken place we will know whether this option is possible. If it is not possible alternatives will have to be explored. We will be in a better place to establish a timescale for the project once these meetings have taken place.

The provision of a footpath will be addressed when the flooding issue has been finalised.

**Entrance to
tennis court at
Ballypatrick**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion on the name of Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose: -

“That in the interest of safety that the Road section of South Tipperary County Council examines the possibility of removing at least 2 metres from the bend at the entrance to the tennis court in Ballypatrick”.

The provision of funding for these works will be considered in the allocation of funding for the Clonmel Area 2011 Roadworks Programme.

Depot in Ardfinnan

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllrs S. Ambrose and M. Anglim

“That South Tipperary County Council confirms that there is no threat of closure of the Councils depot in Ardfinnan”.

South Tipperary County Council confirms that there is no current plan to close the Council’s depot in Ardfinnan.

It was agreed to send a copy of this reply to all Cahir Area Members.

Road from Rochestown to Ballyhickey

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllrs. M. Anglim and S. Ambrose: -

“That the stretch of road from Rochestown to Ballyhickey be included for resurfacing in this years Roads Programme”.

The above local road is in need of re-strengthening work for approximately 2.5 km. This work will be considered for the 2011 Cahir Area Roadworks Programme.

Repairs to road between Roxborough, Grange and Tullamaine

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

“That South Tipperary County Council carry out immediate repairs to the road between Roxborough, Grange (from Pollards to Andrew Healys) and Tullamaine as the road surface is in a desperate condition”.

Works were carried out as part of the 2010 Clonmel Area Roadworks programme, to strengthen and resurface the section of this road worst hit by the

weather last January. Patching works on the remainder of the road will be carried out as soon as possible. This road will be considered for strengthening in the 2011 Roadworks programme depending on funding available.

Repairs to road from Ballyhickey to Rochestown Cross

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

“That South Tipperary County Council carry out road repairs from Ballyhickey to Rochestown Cross as it is in a very poor state and the Council have made a number of promises to repair this stretch of road in the past”.

The above local road is in need of re-strengthening work for approximately 2.5km. This work will be considered for the 2011 Cahir Area Roadworks Programme.

Breastcare Clinic at South Tipperary General Hospital

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllrs. S. Healy and P. English: -

“That the Health Service Executive South East be requested to reinstate the Breastcare Clinic at South Tipperary General Hospital as a matter of urgency”.

Member supported the motion and it was agreed to contact the HSE.

Correspondence

- (a) Letter dated 7th January, 2011 from Association of County and City Councils regarding Regional Housing Authorities
- (b) Reply dated 10th January, 2011 from Mary Harney, T.D., Minister for Health and Children, regarding information classes on substance misuse for pupils
- (bii) Reply dated 28th January, 2011 from

- Tánaiste and Minister for Education and Skills regarding information classes on substance misuse in secondary schools
- (c) Reply dated 12th January, 2011 from Special Education Needs Organiser, NCSE, regarding school transport for children with special needs
- (d) Reply dated 18th January, 2011 from ESB regarding works carried out in Mullinahone Area
- (e) Letter dated 18th January, 2011 from Comhairle na Mire Gaile seeking nominations for Bravery Awards
- (f) Reply dated 20th January, 2011 from HSE in relation to Home Help Service, Cluain Arann Welfare Home and Carers Allowance
- (g) Letter dated 21st January, 2011 from Fodúireacht an Phiarsaigh seeking nominations for the Padraig Pearse Award 2011.
- (h) Letter dated 25th January, 2011 from North Tipperary County Council regarding sugar beet industry
It was agreed to defer the arrangement of a date for a joint meeting with North Tipperary County Council.
- (i) Reply dated 26th January, 2011 from Department of Tourism, Culture and Sport regarding funding of the Arts and Culture Sector
- (j) Reply dated 28th January, 2011 from Department of Education and Skills regarding VEC's
- (k) Reply dated 1st February, 2011 from Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources regarding the Postal Service

**Resolutions
from other Local
Authorities**

Limerick County Council

"That in the case where a said planning application is about to expire that the site assessment and sightlines pertaining to that application transfers to any new application on the said site by another applicant who satisfies the need and all other relevant criteria to obtain planning".

Monaghan Town Council

“That Monaghan Town Council implores the Competition Authority to implement measures that will enhance competition within the bulk LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) market. Restrictive licensing agreements have resulted in domination of this market by Calor Gas and Flogas. The Competition Authority have acknowledged since 2005 improvements are necessary but have failed to date to protect the consumer”.

Castlebar Town Council

“That the members of Castlebar Town Council condemn the recent increases in mortgage rates by our financial institutions”.

Castlebar Town Council

“That Castlebar Town Council calls on the Minister for Education to ensure that the following protocols are introduced in all primary and secondary schools: -

1. A Book Rental Scheme (including all examination papers)
2. A standard method of facilitating the use of Stick-on-Crests on all school uniforms
3. Provision of a Confidential Information box as part of Anti Bullying Policy”.

Donegal County Council

“That Donegal County Council contact all relevant authorities and raise the need for addressing the serious issues facing the undocumented Irish in America including many Donegal people taking into account the following: -

1. The problems encountered in obtaining visas.
2. The need to reinstate the 245 (i) which would benefit a large majority of the undocumented Irish
3. Necessity of reducing detention times for Irish Citizens detained on

an overstay of their waiver, together with the assurance that there would be no associated criminal conviction”.

Votes of Sympathy

- Chris Bartley on the death of her father James
- Family of Brian McMahon, Former Chief Fire Officer
- Dolores Fahey, Civil Defence Officer on the death of her brother Anthony
- John Doyle, Wallers Lot, Cashel on the death of his brother Michael

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/_____. Dated/_____.
Cathaoirleach.

Signed/_____. Dated/_____.
Meetings Administrator.