

## South Tipperary County Council

### Minutes of South Tipperary County Council Meeting held in The Council Chamber, County Hall on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2010

<b>In the Chair</b>	Cllr. Sean McCarthy
<b>Present</b>	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. Leahy, S. Lonergan, L. McLoughlin, R. Molloy, M. Murphy, Ml Murphy, J. O'Brien, E. O'Meara, D. Ryan, T. Wood.
<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr. D. Landy
<b>In attendance</b>	E. O'Connor, B. McEvoy, E. Drennan
<b>Meetings Administrator</b>	Mr. John O'Mahoney
<b>Minutes</b>	On the proposal of Cllr. D. Leahy and seconded by Cllr. S. Ambrose, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 <sup>th</sup> October, 2010 were adopted.
<b>Conferences</b>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr. Joe Brennan, it was agreed that: -</p> <p>Cllrs. S. Ambrose, L. McLouglin, D. Leahy, R. Molloy and J. Fahey be nominated to attend conference organised by Smart Marketing entitled "Professional Development Training Seminar for Councillors" at The Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Donegal to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2010</p> <p>Cllrs. E. O'Meara and J. Donovan be nominated to attend conference organised by Superior Training entitled "Bogs – Management and Development at the Carlton Atlantic Hotel, Westport, Mayo to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2010</p>

Cllr. M. Hanna Hourigan be nominated to attend conference organised by Ballyhoura Development Ltd entitled "The future of rural Areas to 2031 to be held at Charleville Park Hotel, Charleville, Co. Cork on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

Cllrs. T. Acheson and D. Ryan be nominated to attend conference organised by Clonmel Chamber entitled "National Enterprise Conference" to be held at Hotel Minella, Clonmel on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

Cllr. L. McLoughlin be nominated to attend conference organised by Esperanza Enterprises entitled "Radon a Hidden Killer" to be held at West Hotel, Tralee, Kerry on 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

Cllr. L. Ahearne be nominated to attend conference organised by "World Futures Studies Federation entitled "Getting ahead of the curve: fostering through Futures Thinking to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

Cllrs. M. Hanna Hourigan, J. O'Brien, M. Anglim, J. Donovan and J. Fahey be nominated to attend conference organised by Kadenza Consultancies Ltd entitled "Council Budgets 2011" to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2010

Cllr. L. Ahearne be nominated to attend conference organised by Irish National Flood Forum to be held at West Cork Hotel, Skibberren, Cork on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

Cllrs. S. Cooney Sheehan and S. McCarthy be nominated to attend conference organised by Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland entitled "Eighth Irish National Radon Forum" to be held at Silver Springs Moran Hotel, Cork on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2010.

Cllr. M. Hanna Hourigan be nominated to attend conference organised by Clare Tourist Council entitled "Achieving World Class Tourism" on 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2010.

**Bulmers**

The Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that he and the County Manager had met with Senior Management from Bulmers in view of the recent announcement of proposed redundancies in the company. At this meeting they were assured of the company's long term commitment to Clonmel but that due to a weakening consumer environment reorganisation was necessary to ensure competitiveness and secure the remaining 220 jobs. Where possible it was hoped to obtain redundancies on a voluntary basis. Members thanked the Cathaoirleach and Manager for meeting with the company.

**Finance**

**(a) Approval to Overdraft Accommodation for 2011**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. O'Brien  
Seconded by Cllr. MI Murphy  
And Resolved: -

"That Overdraft Accommodation in the sum of €250,000 be approved for the financial year from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.

**(b) Water Services Capital Schemes**

It was proposed by Cllr. MI Fitzgerald  
Seconded by Cllr. J. O'Brien  
And Resolved: -

"That in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Act, 2001, we the Members of South Tipperary County Council hereby approve the raising of a loan in the sum of €1,700,000 (One million and seven hundred thousand euro) to finance the local contribution to Water Services capital schemes".

**Public Notice of Proposed Works – Booster Pump**

Reports were circulated to the members in accordance with the provisions of Part 8 of the Planning and Development Acts 2001

**Station at  
Cappaghmore,  
Cloneen Fethard  
and at Coolbaun  
Cross, Fethard**

– 2010. The reports referred to the proposed development of a Booster Pump Station at Cappaghmore, Cloneen, Fethard and at Coolbaun Cross, Fethard. Both proposals were recommended subject to conditions. It was proposed by Cllr. J. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. M. Fitzgerald and agreed that the works as proposed be proceeded with.

**Roads Winter  
Maintenance  
Programme  
2010/2011**

A report had been circulated to the members on winter maintenance of roads in South Tipperary and set out the policy and procedure in relation to salt spreading. There was 2993km of public roads in South Tipperary and winter maintenance had to be prioritised in view of the available finance, equipment and staffing. The following were the proposed priorities to be given: -

**Priority 1. National Routes**

Motorway M8, National Primary N24,  
National Secondary N74, N76

**Priority 2. Regional Roads**

Prioritised based on traffic volumes

R639	Cashel to New Inn (Ambulance Route)
R661	Tipperary to Rathkennan
R665	Clonmel to Ballyporeen
R687	New Inn to Rathkeenan (Ambulance Route)
R688	Clonmel to Cashel
R689	Clonmel to Killenaule

**Priority 3. Towns/Urban Areas**

The national and regional roads within the towns of Clonmel, Cahir, Carrick on Suir, Cashel, Tipperary, Fethard

It should be noted within these towns, approaches to schools, bus and ambulance routes are given priority.

Members welcomed the plan and suggestions were made in relation to salt/grit stations for access by the public,

some possible extensions to routes and local responses to particular issues which may arise.

Members referred to the recent heavy rainfall and the need for a similar plan to be made in this regard. They referred to the need for maintenance of inlets and gulleys. They also indicated certain stretches of road that were problematic. Recent water supply interruptions in Mullinahone/Drangan areas were highlighted.

Mr. McEvoy thanked the members for their comments and acknowledged that this time of year was challenging for road maintenance. A computerised weather forecasting system was used to warn of freezing ground temperatures and the policy was to treat roads two hours before they were predicted to freeze. The maintenance policy would be refreshed next year and he would discuss problem areas highlighted with the area engineers.

Mr. A. Fennessy outlined the problems that caused the interruption to the water supply in Mullinahone and the steps that were taken to repair the faults.

**Emly District  
Service Centre  
Enhancement  
Scheme**

A report had been circulated to the members on the proposed Emly District Service Enhancement Scheme. Written submissions and observations on all aspects of the scheme were invited from the public both at pre-draft stage and during the public display period and the schemes had been modified and amended as a result of the input and recommendations from the local community.

It was proposed by Cllr J. Donovan, seconded by Cllr MI Fitzgerald and agreed that the Emly District Enhancement Scheme would be endorsed.

**Fix date for Meetings**

It was agreed that the Budget Meeting would be held on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at 10am.

It was agreed that the December Meeting would be held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at 11am.

It was agreed that the Special Housing Meeting would be held on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 at 10am.

It was agreed that the South Tipperary annual Environmental Awards 2010 would be held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at 7.30pm.

**County Managers Orders for November**

County Managers Orders for the month of November were noted.

**Notice of Motion Grants for Artists**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the names of Cllrs. Seanie Lonergan, Denis Landy and Darren Ryan: -

**“That South Tipperary County Council contact the Minister of Arts, Sports and Tourism and ask of him to ensure that the existing grants for artists remain at current levels”.**

This was agreed.

**Car Litter Collection Bin Scheme**

The following Notice of Motion was not moved in the absence of Cllr. Denis Landy: -

**“That this Council promote a car litter collection bin scheme in 2011 as part of the Local Authority war on litter”.**

**Roadway at Ard Mhuire, Golden**

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

**“That the roadway at Ard Mhuire, Golden be resurfaced as it is in a very poor condition”.**

There are no plans in the 2010 Area Roadworks Programme to resurface the road at Ard Mhuire. Road Maintenance Works will be carried out as normal.

This road will be included in next year’s roadwork’s programme subject to agreement at the Annual Area Roads Meeting in March 2011 and to availability of funding.

**Traffic calming measures at Knockavilla, Dundrum**

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

“That traffic calming measures be provided at Knockavilla, Dundrum in the interest of public safety”.

The closing date for application to the National Roads Authority for funding for Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads in South Tipperary in 2011 expired on 25<sup>th</sup> August this year. An application for funding for measures to calm traffic at Knockavilla, Dundrum can be considered in 2011 for inclusion in the 2012 programme of Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads in South Tipperary.

**South Tipperary VEC**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motions in the names of Cllrs. John Fahey, Mary Hanna Hourigan, Tom Acheson, Denis Leahy, Marie Murphy, Liam Ahearn, John Crosse, Siobhan Ambrose, Richie Molloy, Pat English and Darren Ryan: -

- (a) "We the members of this Council call on the Minister for Education, Mary Coughlan to reverse her decision to aggregate South Tipperary VEC with Waterford City and County VEC's".
- (b) "We the members of this Council call on the Minister for Education to fill the posts of responsibility in the VEC Schools in South Tipperary immediately".
- (a) Cllr. Fahey expressed his disappointment that the Minister for Education had made a decision to aggregate South Tipperary and Waterford City and County. He stated that the decision should be reversed and that South Tipperary VEC, a medium sized VEC, should remain as it was. He outlined the many courses and services it delivered and the benefits to the community. He feared that services would be lost to the people of South Tipperary should the aggregation go ahead.

Members were unanimous in their support of the motion.

- (b) It was agreed to write to the Minister in this regard.

**Correspondence**

- (a) Acknowledgement dated 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, from Mary Harney, T.D., Minister for Health and Children, regarding funding to service providers.
- (b) Reply dated 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, from Green Party, in relation to their policy on the future of local government.
- (c) Acknowledgement dated 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, from Mary Harney, T.D., Minister for Health and Children, regarding Home Help Services.

- (d) Acknowledgement dated 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, from office of the Minister for Finance in relation to librarian positions.
- (e) Correspondence dated 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2010 from Iarnród Éireann in relation to the system of payment enforcement in car parks
- (f) Acknowledgement dated 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2010 from Dr. Martin Mansergh, TD, OPW regarding Clonmel Garda Station
- (g) Acknowledgement dated 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2010 from Ms, Mary Harney, T.D. concerning St. Luke's Hospital, Dublin
- (h) Correspondence dated 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, from Richie Dooley, Network Manager, Acute Hospitals South East, regarding hospital services.

**Resolutions  
from other Local  
Authorities**

**North Tipperary County Council**

"At a recent meeting of this Council the members resolved that I write to you requesting the re-introduction of a refund system on all glass bottles containing alcoholic beverages in an effort to reduce littering of parks and other amenity areas".

**Galway County Council**

"At a recent meeting of Galway County Council the following resolution was passed "that Galway County Council requests the Government to defer the idea of a directly elected Mayor for Dublin. The monies saved should be distributed to the County and City Enterprise Boards to help generate jobs throughout the Country. The exceptional talent available in this Country needs to be encouraged into business and the County and City Enterprise Boards should be utilized to help this job creation happen. The Workforce available should be encouraged to become involved in schemes which will up skill people in Business, Technology and practical knowledge.

<b>Best Wishes</b>	Members passed a vote of Best Wishes to Cllr. Denis Landy for a speedy recovery after his recent operation.
<b>Votes of Sympathy</b>	<p>Bridget Hayes, Motor Tax on the death of her mother Mary.</p> <p>Matt Condon, Clonmel Area on the death of his son Matthew.</p> <p>Patricia Barron, Roads on the death of her mother in law Kathleen.</p> <p>Watson Family on the death of their mother Diana.</p> <p>Michael &amp; Mary Martin on the death of their daughter Leana.</p>
<b>Presentation by FAS</b>	<p>The Cathaoirleach welcomed Jim Coughlan, Regional Director of Fás to the meeting who was attending on the invitation of the members in view of recent announcements regarding cuts in training scheme places in South Tipperary. Mr. Coughlan outlined unemployment statistics, facts and figures in relation to various training schemes and details on the Fás budget. He stated that the money being invested in South Tipperary was greater in comparison to other counties based on unemployment figures. Training schemes were currently being realigned to ensure equity and equal opportunities. The process had commenced in South Tipperary and meetings were taking place with various sponsors.</p> <p>Members thanked Mr. Coughlan for his presentation, they pointed out the contribution and investment of sponsors to Fás schemes, the high unemployment rates and rapid areas in South Tipperary.</p> <p>In response to specific queries Mr. Coughlan confirmed that all training courses with the exception of Community Employment Schemes and Local Training Initiatives were to be moved to the Department of Social Protection and he</p>

also outlined the current position of Fás in relation to the Tipperary Hostel Project in Tipperary.

He asked that Fás would take account of South Tipperary's strong support for the various community employment and training schemes over the years. He also asked that account would be taken of overall public investment in the County and offered to work with Fás in whatever manner possible in their re-evaluation of the schemes under consideration.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed/\_\_\_\_\_. Dated/\_\_\_\_\_.  
Cathaoirleach.

Signed/\_\_\_\_\_. Dated/\_\_\_\_\_.  
Meetings Administrator.