
Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Tullamore
Held on Thursday 14th of November 2024 at 2.30pm in the Council
Chamber, Town Hall, Cormac Street, Tullamore

Present: Cllr. F. Moran (Cathaoirleach); Cllr. O. Bryant (Leas Cathaoirleach); Cllr. N. Feighery; Cllr. D. Harvey; Cllr. S. O'Brien

In Attendance

Mr. N. Gorman, Director of Services; Mr. T. Shanahan, Director of Services; Ms. M. Cleary, Senior Executive Officer; Mr. J. Connelly, District Engineer; Mr. K. O'Brien, Meetings Administrator; Mr. B. Lennon, Senior Engineer, Roads; Mr. D. Egan, Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. F. Moran welcomed Mr. Noel Gorman, Director of Services of the Municipal District of Tullamore, to the meeting. The members joined with the Cathaoirleach in welcoming Mr. Gorman and wished him well with his appointment and advised that they looked forward to working collaboratively to advance projects throughout the Municipal District.

The members joined with the Cathaoirleach in thanking Mr. Tom Shanahan, DOS, and acknowledged the significant progress made throughout the Municipal District over the past 7 years. They wished Mr. Shanahan and his family well in his pending retirement. The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Shanahan for his support, dedication and service to the district during his tenure.

Mr. Shanahan acknowledged and thanked the members for their support over the previous 7 years. He highlighted many of the projects that were completed during this time and noted those that are currently in progress. He wished Mr. Gorman every success in his role.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The following minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr. N. Feighery and seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey:

- *Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 10th October 2024*

-
- *Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 10th October 2024*
 - *Minutes of Meeting held on 17th of October 2024 re. Draft Budgetary Plan 2025 – Consideration of the amount of General Municipal Allocation*

2. Healthy Ireland Fund Programme Round 4

Mr. D. Egan provided a detailed presentation to the members on Round 4 of the Healthy Ireland programme, noting in particular:

- Background of the Programme
- 2023 / 2024 Actions
- 2024 Programme
- Budget Allocation

The members welcomed the presentation and acknowledged the significant work programme being delivered, the value for money being achieved and its value for the community. In responding to questions raised Mr. Egan provided clarification to the members in relation to the programme's involvement with the Aisling Murphy race and his on-going collaboration with the HSE.

3. Roads Report

Mr. J. Connelly provided a detailed presentation on the Municipal District's 2024 roads programme. The members welcomed the report and acknowledged the work completed by Mr. Connelly and Tullamore MD staff.

During the discussion that ensued the following issues were raised:

- Benefits of LIS and CIS schemes
- The works completed at Screggan, Killina and Cappincur.
- Possibility of including the following in future Road Lining programmes:
 - on Rahan to Tullamore Rd (*before bridge*)
 - at Ballydaly
 - at Cloona (*Derrygolan Junction*)
- Consideration of improvement works at:
 - Dillon Street

- Ross Road
- Boston Road
- Bridge at Daingean Rd.

Mr. Connelly responded to queries raised by the elected members and agreed to follow up where appropriate.

Mr. B. Lennon, Senior Engineer with the Council's Roads Department, provided a report, with updates on various areas including:

- The County Roads programme and activities.
- Active Travel.
- Community and Local Improvement Schemes.
- Roads SPC Programme.

The Members welcomed the comprehensive report and acknowledged the significant Roads work programme.

In responding to issues raised regarding public lighting Mr. Lennon informed the meeting that the current rate of faults is 1.69% of total lights in the county, of which 0.74% are in Tullamore MD. He advised that the contractor is performing to a high level and that, where repairs require third party involvement, they may take longer than the timeframe provided for in the service level agreement.

In relation to a request to install public lighting between Charleville and Mucklagh roundabouts Mr. Lennon noted the cost of installing new public lights and the increased energy costs in relation to public lighting.

Mr. Lennon provided an update regarding N52 Tullamore to Kilbeggan Road. He advised that tenders for consultants to progress safety works at Durrow cross would be issued in Q1, 2025 and that these works would be developed while the link road is considered with TII.

Mr. Lennon noted the significant work programme in preparing for and replacing speed limit signs across the county in preparation for the revised speed limits, effective from February 2025.

The members welcomed the policies being developed by the Roads SPC, namely, Taking in Charge of Estates; Regional Electric Vehicle Infrastructure; and Traffic Calming Policy.

The Cathaoirleach, in drawing the discussion to a conclusion, thanked both Mr. Connolly and Mr. Lennon for their comprehensive reports. He acknowledged Mr. Shanahan, as Director with responsibility for Roads, role in advancing the numerous schemes and the improved road network in the Municipal District.

4. Regeneration Programme

Mr. J. Connelly provided a presentation that reviewed the various strategic plans for Tullamore. The members welcomed the report, raising several items, compliments and recommendations including:

- Playgrounds at Connelly Park and Ballycumber.
- Acres Folly – Fence.
- Greenway works – Kilbride to Clara Rd.
- Bus Shelters for Killeigh and Clonminch.

Mr. J. Connelly responded to queries raised by the elected members and agreed to follow up where appropriate.

5. Community Grants

Mr. K. O' Brien listed the applicants recommended by the Community Grants Sub-Committee. The allocation of grant funding was proposed by Cllr. N. Feighery, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey and agreed.

6. AOB

Ms. M. Cleary informed the meeting that the Tullamore Christmas markets will take place from the 22nd to 24th of November and that the Christmas Lights will be switched on at 6pm on Sunday, 24th November. She acknowledged the work of the Tullamore Christmas Lights committee in preparing for the event.

Ms. Cleary proposed that the Christmas Parking Scheme be operational from the 2nd to 31st of December, noting that this provides free parking for the first hour on all on-street and off-street parking zones and that there is an additional 3 hours of free parking in O' Neill's Car Park.

The members welcomed the Christmas Parking Scheme arrangements and agreed that every effort should be made to support and promote local businesses this Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date:
