

# South Tipperary County Council

## Minutes of South Tipperary County Council Meeting held in The Council Chamber, County Hall, Clonmel On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

**In The Chair**

Cllr. Tom Ambrose

**Present**

Cllrs. L. Ahearn, M. Anglim, K. Bourke, J. Crosse, J. Crowe, J. Donovan, S. Healy, J. Fahey, M. Fitzgerald, D. Foley, R. Kennedy, C. Kinahan, D. Landy, S. Lonergan, S. McCarthy, A. Moloney, S. Meagher, P. Norris, S. Nyhan, J. O'Brien, R. O'Meara, B. Shoer, T. Wood, D. Ryan and M. Maguire

**In Attendance**

Mr. E. O'Connor, County Manager, Mr. B. McEvoy, Director of Services, Ms. E. Drennan, Head of Finance, Mr. S. Keating, Director of Services, Ms. S. Carr, Director of Services, Mr. D. Holland, S.E., Mr. P. Britton, S.E.E. L. McKenna, Heritage Officer, Ms. H. Houlihan, S.O.

**Meetings  
Administrator**

Mr. John O'Mahoney

**County  
Development Plan  
Review – Sightlines**

Mr. B. McEvoy referred to a report that had been presented to the Roads, Transportation and Water Services Strategic Policy Committee outlining planning policy proposals in relation to road safety, in particular sight visibility. This report had also received consideration at a planning workshop on the 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

The recommended sightlines were:-

Class & Width	Sightline required
County (Local) Roads up to 4.25M	70m
County (Local) Roads greater than 4.25	90m
Regional	130m

This was proposed by M. Fitzgerald  
And seconded by Cllr. R. Kennedy

It was noted that these sightlines had been discussed and agreed at a workshop held on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

**County  
Development  
Contribution  
Scheme 2009-2015**

Ms. Sonja Reidy informed the meeting that a draft Contribution Scheme had been placed on public display between 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 and 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2009. Five submissions had been received and the County Manager's Report had been issued

to the members. A workshop had taken place to discuss the scheme and report.

It was proposed by Cllr. D Landy  
Seconded by Cllr. Roger Kennedy  
And resolved:-

“That having considered the Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2009-2015, which was placed on public display for the period from Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 and the Manager’s Report and Recommendation dated February 2009, we the Members hereby direct that the Development Contribution Scheme 2009-2011 be made in accordance with Section 48(8)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000”.

**County  
Development Plan  
2009-2015**

It was proposed by Cllr. Eddie O’Meara  
Seconded by Cllr. Roger Kennedy  
And resolved:-

“That in accordance with Section 12 (10) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 the Draft County Development Plan 2009-2015 and the Draft Environmental Report and the Draft Appropriate Assessment as amended by the proposed Material Amendments as further modified by the recommendations of Section 12(8) Manager’s Report and further modified by the Members Directions of February 2008 be adopted.”

**Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. S. Nyhan and seconded by Cllr. J. Fahey the minutes of Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, Budget Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 and the Standing Orders Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 were adopted.

**Matters Arising**

**Rural Roads**

Cllr. Fitzgerald spoke of the poor condition of country roads and requested that extra funding be made available to carry out maintenance works. Members supported Cllr. Fitzgerald and highlighted roads in Monard, Ballysloe, Gortnahoe, Killusty, Turraheen and Carhue that required works to be carried out. They also spoke of the need to unblock gulley’s and open inlets more frequently.

Mr. McEvoy referred to the weather conditions and volume of traffic which were a major factor in the condition of our roads. The budget and prioritisation of works would be discussed in more detail at area roads meetings.

In response to queries in relation to road surfaces, Mr. Britton confirmed that works were carried out in compliance with

national standards. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to seek extra funding and an increase in FÁS staff for roads maintenance.

#### Flooding in Clonmel

Members extended their sympathies to the residents and businesses whose premises were damaged in the recent flooding and asked that their thanks be conveyed to the Civil Defence, Army, Gardai, Carrick-on-Suir River Rescue, Borough Council and County Council staff for their participation in the response efforts. It was agreed that a Humanitarian Package would be sought from the Department of Finance and the Office of Public Works to assist those affected.

#### “Silo”, Cahir

In response to concerns raised by Cllr. Lonergan regarding safety issues in this building, Mr. D. Holland undertook to have the matter investigated and revert to Cllr. Lonergan.

#### Interruption to water supply – Glengoole

Cllr. Fahey queried the recent interruption to the water supply in Glengoole and sought an update on the Fethard Burncourt Water Supply Scheme.

Mr. Keating apologised for the problems encountered by residents in the Glengoole area and stated that works were ongoing to maintain the supply in this area. Funding for the Fethard Burncourt Water Supply Scheme was included in the Water Services Investment Programme and approval had been granted to proceed to contract document stage and a new water abstraction.

### **Conferences/ Seminars**

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. J. Crosse it was agreed that:-

Cllrs. Pat Norris be nominated to attend conference organised by Kadenza entitled “Effective Communications for Councillors” to be held at the Clonea Strand Hotel, Dungarvan on 30<sup>th</sup> January – 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. Tom Wood and Christy Kinahan be nominated to attend conference organised by Sustainable Energy Ireland entitled “See the light, 2009” to be held at the Ardilaun Hotel, Galway on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. M. Fitzgerald, J. O’Brien, M. Anglim, S. Lonergan, P. Norris, J. Crosse, R. Kennedy, L. Ahearn, J. Crowe, D. Ryan and J. Donovan be nominated to attend conference organised by Cumann Merriman entitled “Merriman Winter School 2009” to be held at the Meyrick Hotel, Galway City on 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. D. Ryan, S. Nyhan, S. Meagher, S. Lonergan, C. Kinahan, J. Crosse, M. Anglim, T. Ambrose, J. Crowe, L. Ahearn, D. Foley and J. Donovan be nominated to attend conference organised by AMAI entitled “Spring Seminar” to be held at Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. D. Landy, S. Lonergan and M. Fitzgerald be nominated to attend conference organised by Mid West Regional Authority entitled “Irelands Water; What is the real cost” to be held at Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, Co. Limerick on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. A. Moloney, M. Anglim, P. Norris and S. Lonergan be nominated to attend conference organised by Kadenza entitled “Review and Reform of Local Government in Ireland, North and South” to be held at Bellingham Castle Hotel, Co. Louth on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. J. Crowe and M. Fitzgerald be nominated to attend conference organised by TJK entitled “FOI Seminar” to be held at Patrick Punch Hotel, Co. Limerick on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. M. Fitzgerald be nominated to attend conference organised by Superior Training entitled “Election 2009: The Challenges” to be held at Ballsbridge Inn, Ballsbridge, Dublin on 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. P. Norris, A. Moloney, M. Anglim and S. McCarthy be nominated to attend conference organised by Kadenza entitled “Hospital Radio / The Irish National War Memorial 1919-2009” to be held at Green Isle Hotel, Dublin on 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.

Cllrs. S. Nyhan, E. O’Meara, J. Crosse, S. Meagher, J. Donovan, C. Kinahan, J. Fahey, M. Fitzgerald and D. Landy be nominated to attend conference organised by Colmcille Winter School entitled “Ireland and the Economic Recession” to be held at Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on 27<sup>th</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2009.

**Section 183 Notice  
Property at 23  
Beechpark, Cahir**

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Moloney,  
Seconded by Cllr. L. Ahearne  
And Resolved:-

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 we hereby approve of the disposal of the property at 23 Beechpark, Cahir, Co. Tipperary to the Housing Section, South Tipperary County Council, Emmet

Street, County Hall, Clonmel in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above Section, as circulated on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2009.

**Raising of loan –  
Inis Housing  
Association**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Crosse  
Seconded by Cllr. B. Shoer  
and resolved:-

“That in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001, we the members of South Tipperary County Council hereby authorise the raising of a loan in the sum of €1,634,418 (or such greater sum as may be approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government) for the provision of housing by Inis Housing Association Ltd at Monard Village, Co. Tipperary in accordance with the Minister’s approval of 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2009”.

**Draft Cashel &  
Envrions  
Development Plan  
2009**

The draft Cashel & Environs Development Plan had been placed on public display between 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2008 to 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2008. 120 submissions had been received and the County Manager’s Report had been issued to the members. Two workshops had taken place to discuss the scheme and report. It was now proposed by Cllr. S. McCarthy and seconded by Cllr. Tom Wood to put the material amendment to the Draft Cashel & Environs Development Plan and draft environmental report on public display for a period of 4 weeks.

**Report on meeting  
with National  
Roads Authority**

The Cathaoirleach reported on a meeting with National Roads Authority Officials held in the Leinster House, Dublin on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at which members of the Oireachtas, the Cathaoirleach and officials of the Council were in attendance.

N24

Reference was made to the N24 Prioritisation Study of June 2008 and the following priorities were highlighted:-  
The entire N24 route to be prioritised for construction;  
Tipperary Town By-pass, Carrick-on-Suir By-Pass and Clonmel to Cahir M8 inter-connector at Cloughabreeda, are to be approved for construction to begin in the post-2010 National Roads Programme.

In response the NRA agreed that the EIS / Land Acquisition Mapping / Design would be completed by the end of 2009 and that a further meeting would be held early 2010 in relation to the possibility of publishing the CPO and Road Scheme in 2010 for submission to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

M8 - Signage at Kilcoran

All of the members of the group spoke in relation to the need for

local signage at Kilcoran, in particular a sign for 'Kilcoran' was required because drivers were missing Exit No 11 for Kilcoran on the M8. It was accepted that the NRA had agreed to the provision of a standard facilities sign at this junction

The NRA undertook to review the need for signage for Kilcoran at this exit/junction and revert to the Council.

*NRA policy in relation to planning/development on the N24*

A number of issues were then raised in relation to planning and development on the N24. These were as follows: -

The NRA appeal in relation to a major development at Carrick-on-Suir

The refusal of a planning application on the Limerick Road, Tipperary Town

Difficulties with access to Ballingarrane Science and Technology Park and associated lands

The zoning of lands at Cloughbreeda for purposes including the possible provision of a service centre in view of its location adjacent to the intersection of the M8/N24 (a de facto North/South-East/West intersection)

It was agreed that the NRA would review the position in relation to the development of a service station at the M8/N24 interchange at Cloughbreeda instead of the proposal to provide an on-line service station north of Cashel and revert.

In relation to the issue of development at the M8/N4 intersection at Cloughbreeda the NRA stated that they had no function in relation to the zoning of land at interchanges, but planning authorities were obliged to refer all planning applications for development on National Roads to the NRA and that the NRA had the right to appeal any decision to grant permission on National routes. In relation to any proposal for development, the NRA would have regard to the following issues: -

- Protect the investment in the national road development programme
- Preserve the operational efficiency and carrying capacity of national routes
- Maintain safety at interchanges (acceleration and deceleration lanes)
- The impact of traffic generated by a proposed development

Members discussed the report and expressed disappointment that there was no clear commitment given by the NRA. Suggestions were made in relation to the merits of a deputation to the N.R.A. or an invitation to attend a meeting. It was subsequently agreed to invite the N.R.A. to attend a meeting of the Council to discuss the development of the N24 in more detail.

The County Manager spoke of the need to ensure the N24 was in

the Roads Programme after 2010 as the economic situation and emergence of other routes proved a challenge for the N24.

**Public right of way  
at Prices Lot,  
Cashel**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. McCarthy  
Seconded by Cllr. R. Kennedy  
And Resolved:

“That having regard to the report and recommendation dated 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, we the Members of South Tipperary County Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on us by Section 73 of the Roads Act 1993, hereby make an Order Extinguishing a Public Right of Way at Prices Lot, Cashel, as specified in the Public Notice dated 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2008”.

**Filling of Casual  
Vacancies**

It was proposed by Cllr. R. Kennedy  
Seconded by Cllr. S. Meagher  
And resolved that:-

“Cllr. Kieran Bourke be appointed to the following Committees:-  
County Museum Advisory Committee  
Suir Drainage Committee  
Roads, Transportation and Water Services Strategic Policy Committee  
County Enterprise Board  
Joint Libraries Committee

**Nominee to Local  
Traveller  
Accommodation  
Consultative  
Committee**

It was proposed by Cllr. R. Kennedy  
Seconded by Cllr. M. Fitzgerald  
And Resolved:-

“That Marie Motherway, Clonmel Community Partnership be appointed to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee”.

**Heritage Update –  
Presentation by  
Labhaoise  
McKenna, Heritage  
Officer**

Ms. L. McKenna, Heritage Officer, gave a summary to the members of the heritage activities that took place in 2008. The Heritage projects proposed for 2009 were:-  
- An ecological and industrial heritage survey of the River Suir  
- River Suir Museum Project  
- Raising awareness projects – Heritage Week, Biodiversity Day,  
- Walled Town Day, Heritage Seminar.  
- Local Biodiversity Action Plan;  
- Historic Town Trails;  
- Walled Town Funding;  
- Cashel World Heritage Site bid;  
- Waterways forward INTERREG IVC Project

Ms. McKenna outlined the process in producing the South Tipperary Heritage Plan 2010-2014, a draft of which would be considered by the Corporate & General Affairs & Cultural SPC

before being brought before the members.

Members thanked Ms. McKenna for her presentation and asked that consideration be given to the following heritage issues:-

- Athassel Abby to be included in Heritage Plan
- Walled cemeteries in Slieveardagh to be considered
- Conservation of Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir walkway
- Restoration of Town Hall, Fethard
- Carrick on Suir as a walled town and Tudor castle to be included in Heritage Plan
- Heritage meeting to be held in Carrick-on-Suir
- Hours of opening for Swiss Cottage & Ormonde Castle to be extended
- Tipperary to be included as walled town in Heritage Plan
- Community Participation
- Links with other state agencies
  - The development of Cashel town centre as a tourist destination.

Ms McKenna agreed to endeavour to deal with the issues raised in drawing up the plan.

### **Local Elections Exhibition**

Ms.Roisin Treacy informed the members that an exhibition on Local Elections in Ireland, produced by the Local Authority Archivists Group with the support of the Heritage Council was to be displayed in the County Museum and would provide an opportunity to assess benefits and changes local elections have brought to our society and would tell both the national and local story of Local Elections in this country.

The history of the local elections would be told on a series of panels that would be supplemented with local archives and objects from the County Museum. Members were asked to provide a memory of an election or a campaign that they were involved in or a photograph relating to a local election. It was hoped to get something from each elected member to use as part of the exhibition.

The members welcomed the staging of the exhibition.

### **LAMA Award**

Councillor Michael Anglim presented the National LAMA Award to the Cathaoirleach and Mr. B. McEvoy, Director of Services which was awarded to South Tipperary County Council in the category of Best Civil Engineering Project for the N8 Cashel/Mitchelstown Road Improvement Scheme.

### **Fire Services Training Centre**

Mr. O'Mahoney informed the members that it was proposed to invite Minister Kitt to officially open the new Regional Fire Services Training Centre and this was agreed.



- Votes of Sympathy**      Votes of sympathy were passed to the following:-
- Mary Carroll on the death of her husband, Philip
  - Siobhan Lambe on the death of her nephew, Lewis
  - John Condon, Cahir Area on the death of his brother William
  - Ken Conway on the death of his aunt, Kathleen Arrigan.
  - Denis Landy on the death of his aunt, Cathy Aylward.

**Votes of Good Wishes**                      Votes of good wishes were passed to Carrie Acheson for a speedy recovery

**Lunch  
Adjournment**

**Resumption**

**Notices of Motion**

**Pedestrian crossing  
at St. Michaels  
National School**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. B. Shoer:-

***“That an illuminated pedestrian crossing be installed at St. Michael’s National School, Ballyclerihan”.***

The provision of an illuminated pedestrian crossing at this location would be considered for inclusion as part of the 2009 Clonmel Area Roadworks Programme under the Discretionary Improvement Works, subject to availability of funding.

**Kilcommon Cross**

The following Notice of Motion was not moved in the absence of Cllr. S. Lonergan:-

***“That the Council look into the possibility of a roundabout at Kilcommon Cross, Cahir or some other traffic plan as the residents and motorists live in fear with the present situation”.***

An application for funding for improvement works at this location had been approved under the 2009 Low Cost Safety Improvement Works Scheme.

The Roads Design section would be working in conjunction with the Cahir Area to bring forward proposals for the works, which would be carried out during the course of the year.

**Boundary Wall at  
Community Park,  
Ballyclerihan**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. B. Shoer:-

***“That the boundary wall from the Community Park, Ballyclerihan be relocated back to make way for a cycle and walking track in the interest of safety, also that the same wall***

*be faced with stone in keeping with the area”.*

Discussions were continuing with the Landowner alongside the roadway regarding the removal of the roadside wall to facilitate the construction of a cycle track/and footpath to the Community Centre. It was proposed to face the proposed new wall with stone.

**Speed Limit on  
Clonmel Road**

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

**“That the Speed limit on the Clonmel Road entering Ballyclerihan be moved back to incorporate the new Community Field”.**

Speed limits would be examined at Ballyclerihan in conjunction with other speed limits across South Tipperary. Any proposed changes in this regard would need to be the subject of bye-laws following the necessary consultation process. It was planned that a review will be carried out by the end of 2009.

## **South Tipperary General Hospital**

The Council considered the following two Notice of Motions together in the names of Cllr. Darren Ryan and B. Shoer:-

**“That this Council calls on the Taoiseach, Brian Cowen to answer once and for all, what are the government’s future plans for South Tipperary General Hospital”.**

**“That this Council calls on the Health Service Executive and the Minister for Health and Children to retain all existing acute hospital services at South Tipperary General Hospital and to reject the plans outlined in the Health Service Executive National Service Plan 2009, which provides for the transfer, closure and downgrading of acute services at the hospital. Similar plans are already underway in the northeast, Midwest and Southern Regions”.**

In speaking to his motion Cllr. Ryan proposed that this Council write to Minister Harney and Professor Drumm seeking a definite answer to the future plans for South Tipperary General Hospital. This was seconded by Cllr. Anglim.

In speaking to his motion Cllr. Shoer updated members on a meeting that had taken place with officials from the Health Service Executive of the South East Region. He alerted members to the possibility of the A & E Department in South Tipperary General Hospital being downgraded and the transfer of the maternity unit.

Cllr. Wood requested that services in all the hospitals in South Tipperary should be included in the motions and this was agreed.

Members voiced their opposition to any proposed downgrading of services in South Tipperary and it was agreed that a letter would be sent to Minister Harney and Prof. Drumm seeking clarification on hospital services at Our Lady’s Hospital, Cashel, St. Patrick’s Hospital, Cashel, St. Teresa’s Hospital, Clogheen, St. Brigid’s Hospital, Carrick on Suir with specific reference being made to a legal agreement in relation to the delivery of services in Cashel.

## **Childcare Subvention System**

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

**“That we call on the Minister for Children Mr. Barry Andrews T.D. to review the Childcare subvention system with a view to increasing funding for childcare centres as the current system is putting these centres into serious difficulty”.**

This motion received the support of the members.

**Remaining space at Shanrahan Cemetery**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Andy Moloney:-

*“That this Council give up to date details of Shanrahan Cemetery with regard to space remaining and plans to extend or if we are looking for a Greenfield site”.*

The burial ground at Shanrahan, Clogheen has historically been under the control of the Council. An extension, which was provided by the Council in the early 1950's, is now nearly full with only 5 new grave spaces remaining.

Efforts to locate a suitable site have been a priority of the Environment Section in recent times.

Due to the site characteristics, location and topography of the existing burial ground, an extension can only be provided on lands to the immediate east of the existing facility. These lands are in the ownership of 2 individuals and it has not been possible to secure agreement from both of these landowners in respect of the acquisition of the necessary lands.

Alternative sites in the immediate vicinity of, but not adjacent to, the existing burial ground were also examined and, unfortunately, the Council did not receive a positive response from the landowner concerned.

Other sites within 1km of Shanrahan have been examined, particularly along the Ballyporeen road and within walking distance of St. Mary's Church, Clogheen. To date, the Council has been unsuccessful in identifying a suitable site (which would be satisfactory from the point of view of topography, size, access, sight distance etc.) and where the landowner is prepared to consider selling the site to the Council.

With a view to progressing the matter, staff from the Environment Section of the Council met in Clogheen on 18 December 2008 with the Parish Priest and representatives of the Parish and Community Councils. A full discussion was held in relation to the proposals to extend the burial ground or provide a new burial ground. However, despite these discussions, it has not yet been possible to identify a suitable site which is available.

The Council remains committed to achieving progress on this issue and, with this in mind, would welcome an opportunity to discuss this matter in greater detail at the next Cahir Area Meeting.

Cllr. Moloney requested that the extension of this cemetery be investigated further.

**CPO's during building of M8**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Andy Moloney:-

***“That this Council conclude the sale of all the houses that were CPO during the building of the M8 from Cashel to Mitchelstown immediately and put the money towards the payment of farmers still waiting to get settled in the area that they were vacated.”***

6 No houses were acquired under Compulsory Purchase Order for the construction of the M8. 4 No houses were placed on the market in 2008 and the sale of 2 No of these houses is close to completion. Arrangements are being made for the disposal of the remaining houses. All income generated by the sale of these properties will be credited to the project.

It should be noted that funding towards the cost of land acquisition is allocated directly by the NRA to the County Council in the budget allocation for 2009. Twenty such payments are currently being processed for payment in February 2009. Other payments will be processed once agreements are in place.

**Removal of Telephone Boxes**

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

***“That this Council seeks a meeting with Eircom Management to discuss their plan to remove 97 telephone boxes from this county and the implications of same on communities”***

In speaking to the motion, Cllr. Wood acknowledged the principal of reducing the number of telephone boxes but asked that consideration be given to the elderly living in isolated areas and also rural areas where there may be a poor mobile network coverage.

**Itemised bills to rate payers**

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

***“With our rate payers wondering, with all the additional service charges, what the rates are for, this Council calls on management to issue an itemised list to such subscribers”***

An information leaflet for Rate Payer's was currently being prepared, and will include details of services provided including Housing Services, Roads Maintenance, Street Sweeping, Public Lighting, Operation of Fire Services, Environmental Services, Operation of Libraries, Development Management, Franchise and Representation. This document would be issued to rate payers in the near future. It would also be circulated to the Council members for their information.

**“Charges free week” for household waste**

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

*That management consider the possibility of having a “charges free week” for household waste (bulky items) at the Wallers Lot amenity centre in early spring”.*

Household waste (bulky items) can be disposed of in the civic amenity area located within the Cashel Recycling Centre and Waste Transfer station at Waller’s-Lot, Cashel. These bulky items principally consist of beds and mattresses, sofas, carpets and large metal objects.

There is a charge of €10 per item for the disposal of these bulky items and this charge has remained unchanged since the facility was opened in September 2006. The facility, as with others throughout the county, is run at a net cost to the Council each year despite the fees charged for accepting certain categories of waste. This is due to the significant costs incurred by the Council in loading, transporting and, especially, recycling/disposing of these bulky items of household waste. Such disposal/recycling costs have been exacerbated in recent months due to the collapse of prices in the recyclables market worldwide. Consequently, it would not be feasible to have a charges-free week, particularly in the current climate of reduced operating budgets.

However, many bulky items such as washing machines, cookers and other waste electrical and electronic equipment are accepted free of charge, through a national producers responsibility scheme.

Further, the Environment Section will co-ordinate a number of Spring Clean initiatives during April, including the Council/FÁS roadside cleanup campaign and the black spot litter removal drive with local communities.

Cllr. Wood asked that consideration be given to the provision of a mobile facility to pick up bulky items at a reduced rate around a number of rural areas during Clean-up Week.

**Small business enterprises in South Tipperary**

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

“That management advise as to what practical assistance is available to small business enterprises in South Tipperary, recognising that such enterprises will be a key factor in any economic recovery”.

4 agencies offer support to enterprise development. Each has a different remit, and focuses on different types and sizes of

enterprise. There are eligibility criteria. A telephone call to any one of the agencies will quickly identify the most appropriate agency and what type of assistance that may be available to any given enterprise.

County Enterprise Board offers the assistance to small, mostly manufacturing type enterprises:

Enterprise Ireland offers assistance to companies who are primarily exporters or who are 'High Potential Start-up Businesses'. They generally work with companies who have more than 20 employees.

South Tipperary Development Company offers assistance to alternative rural enterprise development throughout the county. FÁS offers a range of Services to Business which focuses on the development of business skills.

South Tipperary County Council also has a role in the provision and support of business parks ( e.g. Tipperary Technology Park; Drangan and Ballingarry Business units and Ballingarrane Science and Technology Park) and the provision of sites at several locations for to facilitate business developments .It also takes a proactive role in promoting enterprise development through the policies in the County Development Plan (which have been improved and expanded in the draft County Development Plan). The Council also proactively works with other relevant agencies to initiate additional enterprise developments and this work is on going.

Members supported the motion and asked that a letter be sent to the Department of Enterprise requesting increased funding and flexibility for small businesses.

**Spreading of slurry on agricultural lands**

The following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Jimmy O'Brien was not moved in his absence:-

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Agriculture to immediately change the closed period for the spreading of slurry on agricultural lands”.

**Car Parking Spaces in Mullinahone**

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

“That the County Manager advises as to the number of car parking spaces provided in Mullinahone over the last 5 years and how many are proposed for the next 5 years”.

There had been no additional parking spaces created in Mullinahone in the last 5 years and there were currently no plans to create additional spaces. The provision of additional parking in Mullinahone could be considered in context of existing or increased demand for spaces having regard to available resources and can be considered as appropriate by the Fethard Area Committee Members.

Cllr. O'Meara referred to development charges levied on planning permissions granted in the area but stated that no spaces had been provided on foot of these charges.

**Flooding of Peter Lyons holding at Breanormore, Nine Mile House**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Derry Foley:-

“That this Council carries out the necessary works to alleviate flooding of Peter Lyons holding at Breanormore, Nine Mile House, Carrick-on-Suir.”

Local Road L6511 at this location is subject to constant damage, as a result of flash flooding from the mountain during periods of heavy rainfall.

In summer 2005, improvements were carried out to the road which included surface water drainage. At one field entrance on Mr. Lyon's landholding the concrete pipe across the entrance is broken causing an obstruction and water flows into his field.

Discussions have taken place with Mr. Lyon's and local area staff in relation to (a) replacing the damaged pipe at the entrance and (b) relocating the field entrance. However, no agreement could be reached. A further effort will be made to contact Mr. Lyon's with a view towards resolving the issue to both parties satisfaction.



**Correspondence**

- (a) Reply dated 15th January, 2009, from Social Welfare Services regarding designated contact point for Councillors.
- (b) Reply dated 28th January, 2009, from Office of the Minister for Education and Science regarding St. Mary’s School, Killenaule.
- (c) Pádraig Pearse Award 2009
- (d) The members expressed their appreciation for the letter of thanks received from Evelyn Bourke, widow of the late Cllr D. Bourke.

**Resolutions from other Local Authorities**

***Clonmel Borough Council***

“That this Council calls on Government to implement the school vaccination Programme for all twelve year old girls as announced by the Minister for Health last August”.

***Athlone Town Council***

In a letter to the Commission for Energy Regulation – “The Mayor and Members of this Council request that you review and reduce energy costs to levels which reflect current crude oil prices and that this be done immediately and not next October”.

**Conclusion**

The meeting then concluded

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

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