
Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Tullamore
Held on Thursday 8th May 2025 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 (r); Cllr. A Masterson (r); Cllr. D. Harvey; Cllr. S. Murray; Cllr. S. O' Brien

In Attendance: Mr. P. McLoughlin, Director of Services; Ms. M. Cleary, Senior Executive Officer; Mr. J. Mitchell, District Engineer; Mr. D. Heavey, Meetings Administrator; Mr. J. Dooley, Executive Engineer.

Cllr. F. Moran, Cathaoirleach opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Director of Services; and Mr. Darragh Heavey, Meetings Administrator to their first meeting of the Municipal District of Tullamore. The members joined with the Cathaoirleach in welcoming both and wished them both well in their respective roles. Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Director of Services, said he was delighted to be back in his native county and was looking forward to working with the members and to build on the positive work taking place in the Municipal District.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. S. Murray, the following minutes were approved:

- Minutes of In-Committee Meeting held on 10th April 2025
- Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 10th April 2025

2. Regeneration Section – Report

Ms. O. Cummins, Town First Manager, attended for this item.

Ms. Cummins provided a detailed presentation on the work of Offaly County Council's Regeneration section. Ms. Cummins provided an update on the Clara

Town Centre First Plan, highlighting the active engagement of 16 community groups on the Town Team. Discussing the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2021 & 2023, Ms. Cummins complimented the Killeigh Community Centre Development Association on the refurbishment of their Community Centre. Ms. Cummins gave a detailed update on the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) and the 25 properties which were approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for advancement.

Cllr. F. Moran thanked Ms. Cummins for her presentation and acknowledged the excellent public consultation held in Clara the previous evening. Cllr. S Murray raised concerns over the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process and highlighted that some are listed on the Derelict Sites Register for many years and there was no effective progress thereafter. Ms. Cummins stated that €2 million had been allocated to Offaly County Council in 2023 and this fund would assist the Council in advancing these 25 properties. Ms. M. Cleary, Senior Executive Officer, noted that some houses had been acquired by CPO under the Housing Acts for the Social Housing Programme in recent years. Cllr. D. Harvey welcomed the works on the derelict properties and that it would be great to see people back living in them. Cllr. S O'Brien stated that he was thrilled to see a program in place to reactivate these properties and asked if grants such as Croí Cónaithe could be used to address over shop accommodation. Ms. Cummins in responding confirmed that the Croí Cónaithe Scheme provided for these units. Cllr. A. Masterson raised concerns on the number of Croí Cónaithe applicants that were not following through with the scheme and asked if the Council were contacting these applicants. Ms. Cummins stated that of the 71 grants applied for in Tullamore Municipal District, 14 grants had been paid, and all others were active. Ms. Cummins stated that she was confident funding would be drawn down and encouraged the members to advise their constituents to contact the Regeneration Section if they have any enquiries.

The members welcomed the presentation and thanked the Regeneration Team for their work.

3. Regeneration Programme Update

Mr. J. Dooley, Executive Engineer, provided an update on the status of works on the Urban Greenway project and Tanyard Link Road. Mr. Dooley responded to a number of queries raised by the elected members on the width of Kilbeggan Bridge and assured members that it was within regulations. Members recognised that works were still on-going and that current road designs helped reduce speeding. Mr. Dooley responded to all other queries on existing works and agreed to follow up where appropriate.

4. Community Grants 2025

Mr. D. Heavey, Meetings Administrator, listed the applicants recommended by the Community Grants Sub-Committee. The allocation of grant funding was proposed by Cllr. S. Murray, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey and agreed.

5. AOB

Esker Arts: Cllr. D. Harvey congratulated Kenny Lyons Associates Architects on winning the Irish Construction Awards for Architectural Design Excellence Project €5m to €15m for their design of Esker Arts Centre in Tullamore. He also congratulated Mr. J. Dooley, Executive Engineer, on his work on this project and thanked all other stakeholders for the wonderful transformation of the Arts Centre.

The members echoed the great work done on the Arts Centre and to all those that contributed to the winning of this award.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date:
