



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

5 Samhain, 2025.

DON CHATHAOIRLEACH AGUS DO GACH BALL DEN CHOMHAIRLE

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Leis seo, iarraim ort, le do thoil, a bheith i láthair ag Cruinniú Míosúil na Comhairle a thionólfar ar **Dé Luain, an 10 Samhain, 2025 AR 3:00 i.n. i SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS CONTAE AN CHLÁIR, INIS agus via ardán MS Teams.** Thíos faoi seo, gheofar sonraí den ghnó a dhéanfar ag an gcruinniú.

Iarrtar ort a bheith i láthair.

Mise le meas,

Riarthóir Cruinnithe

TABHAIR FAOI DEARA: Cruinniú
faisnéise ó Clare Comhairle na nÓg ag
2pm

NOTE: Briefing by Clare Comhairle na
nÓg at 2p.m.

CLÁR OIBRE - AGENDA

- 1) Miontuairiscí na Cruinnithe seo leanas den Chomhairle.
- 1) Minutes of the following Council meeting.
 - (a) Miontuairiscí Chruinniú mí Deireadh Fómhair, a tionóladh ar an 13 Deireadh Fómhair 2025.
 - (a) Minutes of October monthly meeting held on 13 October 2025.
2. Matters Arising.
2. Nithe ag éirí as.
3. **Comhfhreagras/Correspondence.**
4. Minutes of Municipal District Meetings.
4. Miontuairiscí cruinnithe Ceantar Bardasach.
 - (a) Ennis Municipal District meeting held on 9 September 2025.
 - (a) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 9 Meán Fómhair 2025.
5. Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 6 October, 2025.
5. Cruinniú Grúpa Polasaí Corparáideach a tionóladh ar an 6 Deireadh Fómhair, 2025.
6. Monthly Management Report.
7. Report in accordance with Part XI, Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and Part VIII, Article 80 and 81 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2013 for the proposed development at Finian Park, Shannon, Co. Clare.
8. Proposal to initiate a Variation to the Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029 on foot of the 'NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements' Guidelines for Planning Authorities (July 2025) issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.
9. Briefing from Clare Comhairle na nÓg at 2.00p.m.
10. **Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. J. Garrihy, T. Mulcahy agus J. Crowe (Deferred from the October meeting):-**

“That this Council resolves to prioritise the development of housing solutions for the aging population in County Clare, with a specific focus on those living alone in isolated rural areas.

This Council notes that:

The most recent Census highlights a significant challenge in rural areas of Clare, particularly in the North and West, where high levels of isolated living among the aging population are evident. There is a pressing need for innovative housing solutions that cater to the unique needs of older people, enabling them to live independently and safely.

This Council calls on the relevant departments and agencies to:

1. Develop models of independent living housing that incorporate support services, community engagement, and accessible design.
2. Incorporate mixed housing types in future developments, including age-friendly and accessible units.
3. Prioritise the needs of older people living alone in isolated areas, ensuring that housing solutions are tailored to their specific requirements.

That this Council further resolves to:

- Work with relevant stakeholders, including community groups, healthcare providers, and approved housing bodies, to deliver innovative and responsive housing solutions.
- Conduct a comprehensive review of existing housing stock and infrastructure to identify opportunities for adaptation and retrofitting.
- Develop a Clare-specific strategy for aging-in-place, incorporating the needs and preferences of older people.

By passing this motion, Clare County Council can demonstrate its commitment to supporting the aging population and addressing the unique challenges faced by older people in rural areas.”

11. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. I. Lynch:-

“That Clare County Council calls on the Minister for Finance to urgently introduce a 0% VAT rate on all remediation works undertaken by homeowners affected by defective concrete blocks, including MICA and pyrite-related damage.”

12. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. G. Keating:-

“That a deputation from Clare County Council meet with TII with a view to enforcing traffic calming measures outside a busy commercial premises on the N68 at Darragh, Ennis, Co. Clare to avoid imminent danger of a tragic accident.”

13. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. M. Shannon:-

“I call on Clare County Council for an update on the introduction of the default speed limit of 80kph on our national secondary road network and also request the introduction of speed reduction measures and safety improvement works on the N68 at Darragh considering ongoing collisions at this location.”

14. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. R. McInerney, I. Lynch agus D. Gould:-

“That Clare County Council:

1. Formally identify Darragh village and the surrounding section of the N68 at McNamee’s Cross and the adjoining double junction as an Area of Interest for public road safety, in line with local authority and TII guidelines.

2. Include this area for assessment within the forthcoming Clare County Council Road Safety and Speed Limit Review (2026), ensuring that it is prioritised for the development of appropriate safety interventions, including traffic calming, reduced speed limits, improved signage, and pedestrian safety measures.
3. Engage directly with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to progress the development and funding of safety improvement works on this section of the N68, as referenced in correspondence from the Senior Executive Engineer (October 2025), who confirmed that a formal funding application to TII will be made.
4. Provide an interim safety response, in consultation with the area office, including temporary electronic signage or other short-term safety measures to mitigate ongoing risk to residents, road users, and pedestrians pending the full review and implementation of long-term works.”

15. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy:-

“That Clare County Council calls on the Government of Ireland not to support the European Commission’s proposal to establish a single common fund under the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028–2034, which would merge key EU policy instruments such as the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), Cohesion Policy, and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund into one overarching funding mechanism.

This Council expresses concern that:

1. The proposed “common fund” risks undermining the integrity and transparency of longstanding EU policies that have delivered tangible benefits to Ireland’s regions, farmers, and coastal communities.
2. The Commission’s justification—that this structure would “simplify” the MFF—fails to recognise that simplification through centralisation can weaken the specific policy objectives and ring-fenced funding that underpin regional and rural development.
3. The proposal links the next MFF to the repayment of EU debt incurred under the NextGenerationEU recovery instrument, creating fiscal pressure that is already leading to an overall 20% reduction in key investment areas compared with the current period.
4. The Commission’s claim that the new MFF will be “the biggest EU budget ever” is misleading, as this increase is largely accounted for by debt repayments rather than by additional funding for future programmes or regional growth.

Accordingly, Clare County Council urges the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, and the Minister for Finance, to:

- Reject any move towards a single aggregated fund that would erode the distinct purposes of the CAP, Cohesion, and Fisheries policies;
- Advocate instead for a transparent, policy-based MFF that maintains clear and separate funding streams for agriculture, regional development, and the blue economy; and
- Support an ambitious, adequately resourced EU budget that ensures balanced and sustainable growth across Ireland and the European Union’s regions.”

16. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Ryan:-

“To ask Clare County Council to assist Tidy Towns Groups in housing estates to be able to avail of the same funding that is provided to official villages and towns in Clare. These Tidy Towns Teams currently cannot receive certain funding because the area is a grouping of housing estates and not a village or town.”

17. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. M. Howard:-

“Period Poverty and Period Dignity in Ireland: This is a very real issue.

Clare County Council has received funding from the Department of Health to provide free sanitary products in our public buildings. This has been a very successful and positive initiative. Clare County Council requests the Ministers for Health, Education, Sport, and Finance to continue to support this important action that affects young women and families on low incomes. I am requesting that funding be identified that will allow free sanitary products be made available in all secondary schools, 6th class in primary schools, and in all sports clubs nationwide.”

18. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. R. McInerney:-

“That Clare County Council undertake a comprehensive audit of vacant, underused, and derelict properties within the towns and villages of Clare to identify opportunities for activation under the Town Centre First, Croí Cónaithe, and other relevant regeneration schemes.

That this audit build upon and incorporate the work and data collection already undertaken by the Council’s Derelict Properties Team, recent Council reports, the relevant Strategic Policy Committees, and available national data sources, to ensure an integrated and evidence-based approach.

Further, that this process include a review of existing zoning designations within settlement plans to ensure an appropriate balance between residential, commercial, community, and leisure uses, supporting the sustainable development, liveability, and vibrancy of our towns and villages.

That a pilot project for community-led property activation and zoning review be developed in collaboration with local development groups, business associations, and community representatives, with a view to informing the next review of the County Development Plan.”

19. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. A. Baker Bashua:-

“I’m calling on the Minister for Transport, the Road Safety Authority and Transport Infrastructure Ireland to carry out an immediate safety audit and design compliance review of the M18 motorway slip roads at Barefield (Junction 14) and Tulla Road (Junction 13).

The M18, linking Limerick and Galway, carries a 120 km/h speed limit. Therefore, I’m asking that:

1. An **independent engineering and safety audit** be undertaken immediately at both junctions.
2. TII **publish the actual lengths and design classifications** of these slip roads, along with any existing safety mitigations.
3. The Minister **prioritise remedial measures** — whether that means lengthening the lanes, improved signage, or interim speed controls.
4. A **formal update** be provided to Clare County Council.”

20. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. T. Guilfoyle:-

“Clare County Council will write to the Áras to formally extend our fraternal congratulations to President-Elect Catherine Connolly on her historic election as Uachtarán na hÉireann.

We commend her lifelong commitment to public service, social justice and democratic values, and we recognise the significance of her election for communities across the island of Ireland as we take steps towards reunification under the Good Friday Agreement.

We also extend our warmest wishes to her family, her husband, Ennis native Brian McEnery and their two sons who have supported her throughout her distinguished career.”

21. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P. O’Gorman:-

“Clare County Council would request that the TII would look at installing a motorway/dual carriageway average speed camera safety system. On the M18 and N18 wherever the TII would feel that it would work best.”

22. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. D. Griffin:-

“Calling on the HSE to work proactively with Google maps to ensure the location of all registered defibrillators in the country are available and accessible on their app.”