10 YEARS AGO

MAYORAL SHOCK
ONE of the most entertaining nights in Limerick each year is the election of mayor – because anything can happen.

And it’s when everything seems wrapped up that things often take their most unexpected turn.

This is what happened ten years ago:
There was a Fianna Fáil/Labour pact in operation, and Tony Brommel (FF) was the outgoing holder of the chain.

Mick Lipper had been selected as the Labour candidate, and was expected to romp home, as Fianna Fáil had promised support. Mr Lipper, it will be remembered, had previously been mayor ten years before (1973/4) and personally drove the train which took that year’s All Ireland-winning team to Dublin.

However, having been proposed and seconded, Mr Lipper decided to withdraw “in the interests of the mayoralty”.

The result was the election of Terry Kelly (FG) by 9 votes to 7, Alderman Tom Allen (Lab) abstaining.

Mrs Kelly is sister to the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Peter Barry – himself a former Lord Mayor of Cork, and their father, in turn, the late Anthony Barry, had also worn the chain of Cork.