

**PRESS RELEASE 29 April 2024**

**Funding approved for state of the art Community Centre at Riverchapel Community Complex.**

Wexford County Council was delighted to received confirmation recently that Minister Heather Humphreys had approved funding for the development of a state-of-the-art community centre at the Riverchapel Community Complex. This grant awarded under the Community Centres Investment Fund 2023 of €1,797,919 will be match funded by Wexford County Council giving a total fund of approximately €2m to build the new Centre in Riverchapel.

The Community Centre development, which is a collaboration between the Riverchapel Community Complex, Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District, Wexford Local Development, and TUSLA, is a completely new build with sports hall, changing rooms, meeting rooms, digital remote working hub, community childcare facilities, youth café and a changing spaces room for people with special needs.

GKMD Chairman, Cllr Pip Breen welcomed the news calling it “a much needed and welcome investment in the Courtown and Riverchapel area a recognition of the needs and aspirations of the people.” The Chairman congratulated all involved in securing the funding saying, “It is testament to the hard work of the Community, the Council, the Director of Service and team at the Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District and to Malloy Architects and the Planning Section (Wexford County Council) in prioritising and expediting the planning and funding applications.”

Riverchapel Community Complex Chairman Craig Lang said “It will make an absolutely amazing difference to our community. This has been in the works even before my time, there have been groups trying to get a 21st century type of building……. its surreal to be honest it’s a massive game changer for the area – everyone is over the moon that we have a new facility going in that is so badly needed.”

District Manager Philip Knight said “the population in the Courtown, Riverchapel and Ardamine area has grown exponentially over the past decade; this is now the County’s 5th largest town. But unlike other towns of a similar scale there has been no increase in services or infrastructure to match. This new community centre will provide the space for much needed services in addition to the sports and recreational activity offering. We are delighted that the Minister has seen fit to invest with Wexford County Council in this project and the Courtown / Riverchapel area.”

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