

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 20th of January, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. John Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan, (Leas Cathaoirleach),
Malcolm Byrne,
Pip Breen,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Mark Collins, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner
Ms. Noirin Cummins, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies: Ms. Elizabeth Hore, Senior Housing Officer

Items Circulated: Presentation & Brochure (Draft) – Wexford Walking Trails
Derelict Sites Report
Water Services Monthly Report

At the beginning of the Meeting, the Chairman proposed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the late Sam Murphy, son of Ms. Amanda Byrne Murphy. Cllr. Hegarty added that a donation had been made on behalf of the Council to a charity chosen by the family. Ms. O'Neill also expressed her sympathies on behalf of the Staff and Members of Wexford County Council on the family's sad loss.

Presentation – Wexford Walking Trails

A presentation was given by Wexford Walking Trails. The project, which is set to launch this Spring, has identified 6 walks in the North Wexford Area, though not all currently meet official walking trail standard. Waymark posts, hardcore and metal poles are required to bring some trails up to immediate standard and the project sought an allocation from the Member's Amenity Grant Funding to do so. The Chairman complimented the voluntary effort already involved in this initiative and encouraged Members to support the request. Following a discussion an allocation of

€270 per Member was agreed and Mr. Shaw agreed to consider the group's request for hardcore. The group then left the meeting.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th of December, 2014, were proposed by Cllr. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan.

Matters arising from December Meeting:

Speed Limits on Mill Road – Mr. Shaw advised Members that traffic counters had been installed on the Mill Road as agreed at the December Meeting. The counters will remain in place for six weeks and the results will be brought to the Council for further discussion.

Allocations – The criteria for allocating the provisions of the 2015 General Municipal Allocations, circulated at the December meeting, were agreed in principle on the proposal of Cllr. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Ireton.

Gorey Festive Lighting – Cllr. Byrne suggested that a meeting be convened with local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce to look at alternative ways of marking Christmas in Gorey. The Chairman noted that this had already been agreed at the December meeting and would be arranged in the first part of 2015. Cllr. Breen asked that the condition of the current christmas lights be assessed. Mr. Shaw advised that an inventory on the lights was currently in place to determine their condition. He added that the current lights have outlived their lifespan and many of the connectors on the walls of buildings need to be re-fitted.

There were no others matters arising from the minutes.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Planning

Ms. Deirdre Kearns circulated a report on derelict sites and responded to Members' questions thereon.

Cllr. Byrne proposed that a report be circulated each month on derelict sites. Members mentioned a number of other sites in the North Wexford Area that should be added to the list, namely sites in Riverchapel, Hollyfort, a thatched cottage in Ballyedmond, 2 vacant hotels in Courtown, the vacant section of Aldi Supermarket and the Old Tesco site.

Housing

Ms. Noirin Cummins gave an update on housing activity and responded to Members questions.

Cllr. Byrne enquired about the waiting time for new applications under the Council's HOP Scheme bearing in mind there were still 48 applications from the existing Scheme. Ms. Cummins advised that she would report back with the waiting time.

Cllr. Breen sought an update on the potential reinstatement of the Tenant Purchase Scheme. Ms. Cummins advised that the Council has received no communication from the Department on any change in the current position of this Scheme.

Cllr. Ireton expressed his concerns about illegal dumping behind the Hunter's Green Estate which was attracting vermin into the area. Ms. Cummins advised that if the issue is as a result of illegal dumping, the Council's environmental protection would look at the problem.

Cllr. Ireton raised a number of issues in relation to Housing Policy, particularly in relation to re-housing of owners of repossessed houses and recent announcements in relation to loan level restrictions for borrowers. The Members suggested that Cllr. Ireton submit his points in writing for agreement of Members before the matters are referred to the Housing SPC.

Roads Services

Mr. Neville Shaw gave an up-date on activity and answered Members' questions.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin handed in a petition of 750 signatures from residents in the Clonattin area calling for a pedestrian crossing at Naomh Eanna GAA Club, with a footpath linking to Gorey Rugby Club. Mr. Shaw said a survey would need to be carried out to determine the need before such a project could be progressed.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin highlighted problems with visibility coming down the Carnew Road and parking on double yellow lines at the Monument. Mr. Shaw advised that the Council is looking at introducing a one-way traffic flow in that area and would be showing a plan to the gardai.

Cllr. Byrne sought reassurance that the Gorey to Carnew Road would be entirely gritted this year in the event of icy weather. Mr. Shaw advised that the salting routes have been rearranged to go out to the Wicklow border.

Cllr. Ireton raised his concerns about a dangerous bend at Killenagh and Mr. Shaw advised that the Council were putting in road markings and signs to slow traffic. Cllr. Sullivan raised his concerns about the road surface at Kilmurray cross and Mr. Shaw said he would look at the problem.

Water Services

Mr. Mark Collins gave a report on water services and responded to Members' questions.

Cllr. Farrell enquired as to when the motion passed by the County Council calling for an end to fluoridation would come into effect. Mr. Collins replied that nothing had changed at national level and that the Council are required to add fluoride to the water supply until there was a change in regulation.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None.

No. 4 Notice of Motion

None.

No. 5 Correspondence From

Deputy Brendan Howlin (Kilnamanagh National School)

Deputy John Browne (Kilnamanagh National School)

Deputy Paul Kehoe (Kilnamanagh National School)

Deputy Mick Wallace (Kilnamanagh National School)

No. 6 AOB

The Chairman informed the Committee that news on the appointment of the new District Managers was expected shortly.

Members agreed to hold the March Gorey Municipal District Monthly Meeting on Monday, 16th March, 2015 at 3.30pm.

Cllr. Byrne asked that the provision of broadband services in North Wexford be included on the February Agenda. He asked that the service providers be contacted to determine the level of service in the North Wexford Area and whether there were any plans to improve the service.

The Chairman announced that the Council would look at any way it could to help reopen the indoor skate park which had closed by Order of the Court due to excessive noise levels.

Cllr. Donohoe enquired about the possibility of placing a bus shelter on Main Street. Mr. Shaw advised that when they previously looked at this, there wasn't enough footpath width to accommodate pedestrians behind. However, there may be newer designs now, he added and he would have another look at this.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 17th of February 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

Mr. John Hegarty
Cathaoirleach
Gorey Municipal District

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 17th of February, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. John Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan, (Leas Cathaoirleach),
Malcolm Byrne,
Pip Breen,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Mark Collins, Executive Engineer,
Mr. James Lavin, Senior Executive Planner
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer (Housing & Community)
Mr. Michael Doyle, Executive Engineer
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies: Mr. Diarmuid Houston, Senior Planner
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner

Items Circulated: Housing Presentation on Maintenance Services
Derelict Sites Report on Gorey Area
GMD Submission for Joint Policing Committee on 9th March

The Chairman extended his congratulations to Ms. Amanda Byrne on her recent appointment to the post of District Manager, Gorey Municipal District, and the Committee also extended their best wishes.

Presentation – Ms. Marie Brennan

Ms. Marie Brennan of *Glasshouse Creative* who recently carried out a review for Wexford County Council on how it engages with the arts, spoke about the review and responded to Members' questions thereon.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 20th January, 2015, were proposed by Cllr. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Donohoe.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 20th of January, 2015, were proposed by Cllr. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. Byrne.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Matters arising from January Meeting :

Housing Issues - Anomaly for Distressed Borrowers evicted from their property. As no further comments were received with regard to Cllr. Ireton's submission, it was agreed that the submission should now be forwarded on to the Housing SPC.

Bus Shelter on the Main Street – At the January Meeting, Cllr. Donohoe enquired about the possibility of placing a bus shelter on Main Street. Mr. Shaw advised that he was still looking at designs and would report back at a later meeting.

There were no others matters arising from the minutes.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Housing

Ms. Liz Hore gave an update on housing activity and responded to Members questions. Ms. Hore advised that the Council had applied to the Department for €900,000 to continue with their energy efficiency measures of insulating its housing stock which will be completed this year. It is further planned to extend this programme to include community buildings, firstly those under the Council's remit.

Mr. Michael Doyle gave a presentation on Housing Maintenance and responded to Members questions. Cllr. Byrne raised his concerns over tenants availing of the maintenance programme in instances where they are not paying their rent or have no payment scheme in place. Ms. Hore advised that the Council is actively engaging with tenants in arrears and whilst they had a responsibility to maintain their housing stock, the Council only carries out essential repairs in cases where tenants are not making an effort to pay. In response to Cllr. Byrne's query on tenants being rehoused in instances where they are not keeping their Council house in good condition, Ms. Hore advised that the property is inspected on the day of vacating. She further added that a costing of any repairs is noted on I-Home and the tenants have to engage with them on that. Cllr. Breen enquired whether the Tenant Purchase Scheme was being brought back and Ms. Hore replied that the Scheme was being replaced by an Incremental Purchase Scheme and that information sessions would be held for the Members.

The Chairman extended his congratulations to Ms. Liz Hore on her recent appointment to the post of Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Community, and the Committee also extended their best wishes.

Planning

Mr. James Lavin reported on planning activity and responded to Members' questions thereon. Cllr. Byrne sought clarification on why a house at Ramsfort Park which has been derelict for over six years has been removed from the derelict sites register. Mr. Lavin advised that he would check out the status of this site and report back. Cllr. Breen welcomed the demolishing of the Creamery Gardens Site in Ballycanew and enquired what would happen to the site once cleared. Cllr. Ireton added that the site of an abandoned house near Ballycanew National School would be an ideal site for a children's playground.

Members requested a number of other sites in the North Wexford Area be added to the list, namely sites in Hollyfort, two vacant hotels in Courtown, two houses in Ballycanew and the vacant section of Aldi Supermarket and the Old Tesco site. Mr. Lavin asked that Members submit details of derelict properties to the Council to match with those already on the list.

Roads Services

Mr. Neville Shaw gave an up-date on activity and answered Members' questions. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin welcomed the commencement work of footpaths on the Carnew Road. Mr. Shaw advised that lighting would be installed as part of the works. Cllr. Byrne highlighted the problem of black ice in Tara Hill and Mr. Shaw advised that he would look at problem. Cllr. Byrne said the residents of Sean Doire had raised the issue of speed in their estate by way of a petition to the Chief Executive requesting speed ramps. Mr. Shaw added that a list of housing estates where speeds should be reduced was currently being compiled and agreed to meet with residents. Cllr. Farrell asked whether the Council pursues motorists who crash into bridges and walls for the cost of repairs. Mr. Shaw said they do pursue the cost of any repairs in cases where they know who is responsible. The Chairman called for improvements to be made to street lighting in various parts of the town, in particular at The Bridge, Clonattin. Cllr. Ireton reported on increased litter at Junction 23 on the M11, the Burrow Road in Courtown and on the Ballymoney Road. Cllr. Breen added that the Killenagh to Ballycanew Road is a rubbish blackspot. Ms. Byrne added that the Council can find out from people how they dispose of their rubbish if they have no bin and to make people aware of the text alert system for reporting incidents.

Water Services

Mr. Mark Collins gave a report on water services and responded to Members' questions. Cllr. Byrne sought reassurance that the expansion works at the Courtown Wastewater Treatment Plant would provide additional treatment capacity. Mr. Collins advised that the upgrade will take 1½ to 2 years and will have the extra capacity. Mr. Collins added that a review is being carried out of the water network in Gorey.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None

No. 4 Correspondence

None

No. 5 AOB

Ms. Amanda Byrne highlighted additional upcoming meetings / closing dates :

- Meeting with local businesses in the Loch Garman Arms, Monday, 16th of March at 9.15am;
- Amenity Arts and Resident Association Grant Schemes to be advertised in the local papers next week, with a closing date for applications of Friday, the 20th of March, 2015;
- Civic Honours List, with a closing date for nominations of Tuesday, 31st of March, 2015.

Cllr. Farrell asked that a letter be sent to the Management of Wexford General Hospital calling on them to re-open its old entrance. It was agreed to refer this to the full Council to seek their support. Cllr. Byrne suggested that Mr. John Green make a presentation to Gorey Municipal District re: Love Gorey. Ms. Byrne noted that Members had agreed to support the tourism promotion function of www.lovegorey.ie and advised that further work was required to co-ordinate tourism promotion in the District and that a presentation would be made at that point. Cllr. Byrne agreed to defer his broadband services agenda item until local businesses made known their own broadband issues and suggested getting an update from the Department of Communications.

It was agreed by Members that the Submission on the Downgrading of Garda Service in Gorey be forwarded onto the next Joint Policing Committee Meeting.

Ms. Byrne informed Members that Gateway Interviews were taking place on 18th February and that more information would be available at the next meeting. Cllr. Ireton proposed a €100 donation from each Member for London/Wexford Association. It was agreed that this should be raised at full Council by Cllr. Ireton.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 16th of March, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Mr. John Hegarty
Cathaoirleach
Gorey Municipal District**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 16th of March, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. John Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan, (Leas Cathaoirleach),
Pip Breen.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer (Housing & Community),
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer (Housing),
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies: Cllr. Malcolm Byrne.

Items Circulated: Broadband Connecting Communities.

Presentation – Mr. Paul Delaney & Ms. Claire Ryan, Cornmarket Project

Mr. Paul Delaney and Ms. Claire Ryan gave a presentation on the Cornmarket Project, an initiative of Wexford Local Development, and responded to Members' questions thereon.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 17th February, 2015, were proposed by Cllr. Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. Ireton.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Cllr. Ireton proposed that a prayer be said prior to the commencement of GMD Meetings. This was seconded by Cllr. Breen with all Members in favour. Cllr. Ireton recited the Serenity Prayer (Reinhold Niebuhr, American theologian, 1892–1971)

Matters arising from February Meeting :

Cllr. Donohoe asked if there was an update about the possibility of placing a bus shelter on Main Street following his request from previous meetings. Mr. Shaw advised that he had no further update on the matter and would report at the next meeting.

Cllr. Ireton requested the removal of the telephone box on Main Street which is attracting anti-social behavior. The Chairman suggested the removal of the kiosk and that a card phone replace it. Mr. Shaw said he would contact Eircom regarding this matter.

Ms. Amanda Byrne informed Members that the Business Consultation Forum which had taken place earlier that day had received a positive response. She advised that the purpose of the Forum was to discuss and develop plans for the 2015 Christmas Festival and that a working group would meet shortly to consider options for the Festival.

Ms. Byrne asked Members to encourage any applicants for the Civic Honours List and reminded Members of the North Wexford Clean 2k. Ms. Byrne also confirmed that a Motion from all Members of GMD would be referred to the full Council to seek their support in their request for the old entrance to Wexford General Hospital to be re-opened to facilitate members of the public with access issues. She advised that the matter had been forwarded as correspondence previously.

There were no others matters arising from the minutes.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Housing

Ms. Liz Hore introduced Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer, Housing, to the meeting. Ms. Hore gave an update on housing activity and responded to Members questions.

Cllr. Ireton expressed his concerns over the large number of unfinished houses and asked could the Council move in to purchase these and complete them. Ms. Hore advised that the Housing Department, in conjunction with the Planning Department, were looking at housing supply potential and would bring a Report back to the Members. Cllr. Ireton also expressed his concerns regarding the new Building Regulations as he felt a lot of skilled workers would not meet the requirements. Ms. Hore advised that she would liaise with the Council's Architect and review same.

Cllr. Sullivan requested that a substantial allocation be given to Gorey from the 440 units coming on stream over the next 3 year period. Cllr. Ireton reported that up to 800 people in Gorey were looking for homes. Ms. Hore advised whilst Wexford and Gorey were the leading areas for housing demand, Gorey currently has no homeless problem, due to the provision of emergency housing from private landlords.

Roads Services

Mr. Neville Shaw gave an up-date on roads activity and answered Members' questions. Cllr. Ireton expressed his concerns over a large number of roads not listed on the Schedule of Restoration. This concern was also re-iterated by Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin. Mr. Shaw agreed with Members and said that it is difficult to spread the budget around to include all areas. He also advised that he would be seeking additional funding for beach roads.

Cllr. Ireton asked when CCTV would be made available to the Courtown/Riverchapel areas. Mr. Shaw said that when Gorey town was commissioned the possibility of expanding the system would then be considered.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed the delight of Ballylarkin Lane Residents at the approved funding for the repairs to the bridge and lane which were damaged by BAM. Mr. Shaw advised that work would commence shortly.

Cllr. Sullivan enquired whether any plans were in place to extend the footpath on Kilnahue Lane to the Londis Supermarket. Mr. Shaw advised that it was in the pipeline but that they would need to seek funding and speak to landowners as the Council didn't own the land.

Cllr. Farrell enquired whether the funding for the Town's Restoration Scheme would include disabled parking bays. She expressed her concerns regarding a number of such bays on Main Street and St. Michael's Road which need to be re-painted and in some instances, moved to safer places, with easier access. Mr. Shaw advised that funding is strictly for road repairs but agreed that some disabled parking bays needed to be moved. He agreed to meet with the Access Officer to try secure funding. Cllr. Farrell also enquired whether any Phone Apps existed for identifying disabled bays. Ms. Byrne advised that the bays were already GIS referenced and that the information was readily available under accessibility on the Council's website.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin reported the street lighting at Pearson's Brook hasn't been connected and whilst lighting is in the Inner Relief Road Plan, residents couldn't wait until the end of the year for them to be connected. Mr. Shaw said he would contact ESB.

Water Services

Mr. Neville Shaw gave a report on water services and responded to Members' questions. Cllr. Ireton asked could the mainline at Seascapes Estate be repaired which had been damaged by Irish Water when installing meters. Mr. Shaw agreed to put a logger on the mains to see where the leak is.

Mr. Shaw advised that Mr. Collins is being relocated to the Wexford Area and is being replaced by Mr. Tony Quirke. He further advised the Committee of the recent birth of Mr. Collin's son and the Committee extended their congratulations.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None.

No. 4 Correspondence

None.

Ms. Amanda Byrne gave an update on the following :

- Members Allocations;
- Reminder of Closing Date for Amenity Grant Applications;
- Food Waste coming to Gorey on 15th July. More information can be provided if requested by Members;
- Closing Date for Green Schools was 28th November, 2014 and will seek an update for Members;
- ParkRun Community Runs;
- Market House Festival Committee have made a change to bring Family Day and Music Entertainment up to the park;
- Ms. Byrne introduced Ms. Liz Stanley to the District and advised Members that Ms. Stanley would be dealing with Specific Projects;
- GMD re-submitting an application for All-Weather Facility in the Showgrounds;
- North Wexford Clean 2K – 6 groups have signed up. The District is also working with the IFA and Bolgers regarding gate painting;
- The final Tidy Towns Meeting will take place on 26th March which will be attended by Ms. Cliona Connolly, Environment Education Officer. The meeting will specifically be looking at completing Application Forms;
- Sri Lankan New Year Celebration taking place on the Civic Plaza on 8th April.

Cllr. Breen and Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin were the Gorey Municipal District nominations to the County Wexford 1916 Commemorative Committee, proposed by Cllr. Farrell and Cllr. Sullivan.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

No. 5 AOB

Ms. O'Neill reported on recent correspondence to Courtown WaterWorld proposing to provide further financial assistance going forward and advised Members that she is waiting for a response from them.

Ms. Byrne advised that she had been in contact with Ms. Shirley MacLeod of Oban and that there is certainly an interest in exchanging ideas and re-igniting contact.

Ms. Byrne reminded Members about Polish Day on 29th March, which is being marked by a number of events taking place in Gorey Library.

Ms. Byrne also advised Members that she would have further information at the April Meeting regarding Landscape Development at Gorey Showgrounds.

Ms. Byrne advised the Committee of two upcoming Civic Receptions, the first being the launch of Canon Mark Hayden's book which is due to take place in April and the

second event in July to recognise a number of families in Gorey who have acted as host families to German Students for the past 25 years. The Chairman suggested holding low cost/low key receptions for smaller celebrations and for more emphasis and expenditure be allocated for greater events.

Cllr. Ireton requested that a letter be sent to the Department of Taoiseach requesting that a Minister for Drugs be appointed due to the increasing drug-related problems arising both locally and nationally.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 21st April, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Mr. John Hegarty
Cathaoirleach
Gorey Municipal District**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 21st April, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. John Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan, (Leas Cathaoirleach),
Malcolm Byrne,
Pip Breen.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Mark Collins, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Noirin Cummins, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Items Circulated: - Update on General Municipal Allocation 2015.
- Amenity & Arts Grant Allocations.
- Resident Association Grant Allocations.
- Update on Sports Capital Programme 2015.

The Chairman extended his congratulations to Kilmuckridge on their successful hosting of the recent All-Ireland Drama Festival. Members agreed to his proposal that a civic reception be held in recognition of Kilrush Drama Group's All-Ireland win.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 16th March, 2015, were proposed by Cllr. Breen and seconded by Cllr. Ireton.

Matters arising from March Meeting :

Ms. Byrne informed Members that:

- (1) A motion had been referred to and passed by the full Council regarding the layout of Wexford General Hospital and access challenges it presented to members of the public.

- (2) A letter had been sent to the Department of the Taoiseach seeking the appointment of a Junior Minister to co-ordinate the campaign against substance abuse.
- (3) Following a discussion on twinning arrangements with Oban, a letter had been sent to Ms. Shirley MacLeod for the referral to the Members of Oban District Council in June.
- (4) Following a query raised by Members regarding whether the Council had the power to increase parking fines, it was determined that fines are set nationally.
- (5) The Planning Department was advised of the Members' concerns with the absence of a planning representative at the March meeting.
- (6) Mr. Pádraig O'Gorman, Secretary to the 1916 Committee, advised that it was agreed by Members of Wexford County Council that only one representative per district, (other than Enniscorthy), was to take up a place on the 1916 Committee. Ms. Byrne also advised that a local history group were collating material for a Gorey focused 1916 exhibition to run in Gorey Library in 2016.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed his disappointment at not having his nomination accepted for the 1916 Commemorative Committee.

There were no other matters arising from the minutes.

Ms. Byrne gave Members an update on the General Municipal Allocation spending to date. Cllr. Ireton queried the €5,000 allocation to School Meals and enquired whether the allocation could be spent in schools outside the town. Ms. O'Neill informed Cllr. Ireton that the Scheme applied to schools in urban areas only and that the money was in the budget on the basis of a 50% recoupment from the Department. Cllr. Ireton requested that a letter be sent to the Department requesting that the Scheme be extended to include schools outside of urban areas.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Planning

Ms. Kearns reported on planning activity and responded to Members questions. Cllr. Byrne raised a concern regarding a number of derelict sites and progress with same. Ms. Kearns advised that some of these properties had moved to Section 22 which is a lengthy process due to the legalities involved. Cllr. Breen raised his concerns about a derelict cottage, Rose Cottage in Ballycanew, which is now attracting illegal dumping. Ms. O'Neill added that the Planning SPC has been working on stronger policy to apply derelict sites levies. Ms. Kearns confirmed that the policy had been to the SPC and that Members would have opportunity to input further thereon.

Housing

Ms. Cummins gave an update on housing activity and responded to Members questions. Cllr. Farrell raised a query with regard to housing for those with disabilities. Ms. Cummins advised that the Council is currently prioritising its housing lists, particularly families with the greatest of needs whether disability or overcrowding. Cllr. Farrell enquired whether there was provision for to buy out their

homes. Ms. Cummins advised that the Tenant Purchase Scheme which was abolished in 2013 had not been replaced. Ms. Cummins further advised that the Council would write to all tenants once a new Scheme is announced.

Cllr. Byrne enquired as to the status of the Housing Assistance Programme for the elderly and disabled. Ms. Cummins advised that the grant allocation hasn't been announced by the Department yet, so no works have been approved. The applications that have been made have been assessed and are ready to start once funding is made available. Cllr. Byrne noted the high demand for housing in the Gorey Area and enquired if the Council could acquire some housing that is currently lying empty, particularly in view of the current market. Cllr. Sullivan agreed and called for a substantial allocation to be made to the Gorey Area.

Roads Services

Mr. Neville Shaw gave an up-date on roads activity and responded to Members' questions. Cllr. Sullivan enquired about whether work had commenced at Ramstown and Mr. Shaw confirmed that it should start in the next 4 to 6 weeks. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin asked that speed control signage and children at play signage be prioritised for the Morriscastle Beach to Kilmuckridge Road. Mr. Shaw confirmed that he would look into it.

Water Services

Mr. Mark Collins gave a report on Water Services and responded to Members' questions. Cllr. Byrne enquired as to when the issue at Creagh Domain would be resolved as he hadn't been able to obtain an update from Irish Water. Mr. Collins advised that he would report back with an update for the next meeting.

Cllr. Byrne enquired whether the Mill River would be able to take the volume of water once the development works at the back of Garden City/Ballytegan commence. Mr. Shaw advised that the Council was looking at cleaning out the river to minimise risk to Garden City.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired about whether the residents of Creagh Domain would be exempt from water charges as currently there is only a HSE restriction on water rather than a Boil Notice. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin added that he had been unable to obtain an update from Irish Water on this matter and asked Mr. Collins could he communicate this onto Irish Water.

Cllr. Ireton informed the District that a water pipe in Sea Scapes is leaking since the installation of water meters and that Irish Water are denying all responsibility. Mr. Collins advised that there had been a dispute between Irish Water and the contractors and that the Council had been given no directions to fix the leak but that he would follow up on the matter. Cllr. Ireton also informed Members that another major leak in Gorey had taken 10 days to fix. Mr. Collins confirmed that the leak has been fixed but that the Council had to check matters out with nearby landowners which delayed works. Mr. Collins further added that in general leaks are dealt with in a timely manner.

Cllr. Breen thanked Mr. Collins for his courtesy and wished him well with his new post in the Wexford Area. These good wishes were re-iterated by all Members.

Ms. Amanda Byrne gave an update on the Summer Planting Scheme in Gorey which will include new tiered planters on Main Street and additional pole baskets and pavement planters on Esmonde Street. Ms. Byrne further advised that prices have been sought for an irrigation system in order to reduce work load and costs associated with hanging baskets and that planting is due to commence shortly on the roundabouts at the Monument and the Paul Funge Boulevard.

The nominations for an Achievement Award were noted by Members and it was agreed to hold a Civic Reception at Civic Offices on 5th May, 2015.

The Amenity & Arts and Residents Associations Grant Allocations were circulated to all Members. Following a short discussion the allocations were proposed by Cllr. Breen and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan. Cllr. Ireton noted his disappointment that not all Members allocated funds to the London/Wexford Association.

The Draft Protocol for Civic Receptions and Events was circulated to all Members. Ms. Byrne presented the Draft Protocol to the Committee and following a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Farrell and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan.

Ms. Liz Stanley gave an update on the application made under the Sports Capital Grants Scheme for an all-weather, multi-use pitch at The Showgrounds. The pitch, costing €306,000 to build sought grant funding of €250,000 with the Council using its own resources to fund the remaining €56,000. Ms. Stanley advised that the walkway around the grounds is near to completion and that the adult gym equipment would be installed in the coming weeks.

Cllr. Byrne expressed concern for the residents that adjoin The Showgrounds and the potential rise in anti-social behavior at the grounds. Ms. Stanley advised that lighting will be provided along all pathways which will act as a deterrent for anti-social behavior and that a Management Team would also be put in place. Cllr. Byrne suggested that a representative from local residents be appointed onto the Management Team.

Members complimented the design for the Showgrounds Park and welcomed the facility for all groups. Ms. Byrne added that the Council wanted The Showgrounds to be an attractive amenity. Ms. O'Neill informed Members that if the grant application for the all-weather pitch was not successful that the Council would only be proceeding with the completion of the park.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None.

No. 4 Notice of Motion *'That Wexford County Council would move toward the provision of loading bays for a defined number of hours each day on each side of the Main Street in Gorey'*

It was agreed that the motion would be deferred to the May Meeting.

No. 5 Correspondence issued to the Department of The Taoiseach and Shirley MacLeod, Argyll & Bute Council was noted.

No. 6 AOB

Clonattin Village Playground – Following recent damage to signage at Clonattin Village Playground, residents have now given a commitment to the Council to become involved in the monitoring of the playground and the Council have agreed to explore that.

Disabled Parking Bay – Following a query raised by Cllr. Farrell, Mr. Shaw confirmed that disabled parking bays have been recently upgraded.

Phone Box on Main Street – The Chairman asked for an update on the position regarding the telephone box on Main Street and Mr. Shaw advised that Eircom have the maintenance of the kiosk let out to a private company and so are tied into the agreement.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 19th May, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Mr. John Hegarty
Cathaoirleach
Gorey Municipal District**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 19th May, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. John Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan, (Leas Cathaoirleach),
Malcolm Byrne,
Pip Breen.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton, those in attendance expressed their sincere sympathy on the death of former County Manager, Mr. Noel Dillon and mother of Former Councillor Angie Dooley. A minutes silence was then observed.

The Chairman expressed satisfaction regarding the reception for the French Ambassador, Mr. Jean-Pierre Thebault which took place earlier in the day and felt that the visit was productive and support should be given by all to encourage possible links between Normandy and Wexford from a Cultural and any other relevant aspect.

Cllr. M. Byrne referred to a very successful visit to Ferns Castle and requested that signage be erected at the roundabout in Ferns directing traffic to this tourist amenity. The Executive Engineer agreed to install relevant signage in this area.

Mr. Tony Quirke was then welcomed to Gorey Municipal District as Executive Engineer with responsibility for Water Services in the area.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. J. O' Sullivan, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 21st April, were adopted and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters arising from April Meeting:

1. Cllr. M. Farrell enquired whether Wexford General Hospital had responded to our recent correspondence in relation to the new entrance and the District Manager advised that to her knowledge, no reply had been received to date and agreed to discuss the matter with the County Secretary and update Members at the June Meeting.
2. Cllr. J. Hegarty requested an update on the proposal to remove the phone boxes from the Main Street. The Senior Executive Engineer advised that progress had been made and that the most likely scenario is that the three phone boxes would be removed and replaced with one pedestal type phone on the Main Street. He advised that this is a nationwide issue and that the matter may not be addressed for 3-4 months.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Planning

The Planning report was circulated to members prior to the meeting and Ms. Deirdre Kearns responded to all queries. Cllr. M. Byrne expressed disappointment with the progress being made in relation to Derelict Sites and suggested that no progress was evident since the April meeting. Ms. Kearns went through each case individually and highlighted progress where appropriate. Following a discussion on the matter, it was recommended that the format of the report be amended to reflect this progress. It was further recommended that this item be referred to the Planning Strategic Policy Committee for consideration.

The Senior Executive Planner ensured the Members that a Dereliction Levy will be applied to all properties where a valuation has taken place and the property has been put on the Register by 01/01/2016 that is where a S22 notice has progressed to a S27.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed concern regarding three derelict buildings in Hollyfort and requested that the Planning Department review the current status of these buildings. The District Manager agreed to follow up on this matter.

Councillor M. Byrne expressed concern regarding the appearance of the Courthouse and requested that the exterior of the building be cleaned as it did not reflect well on the Council in its current condition. He also noted work required on the interior of this building and agreed that this matter was for discussion at a later date. It was decided to contact the Property Department and request an update on this situation for the next meeting.

Cllr. J. Hegarty expressed disappointment at the removal of the seat feature at Grattan Terrace and advised the committee that the property adjacent to the seat was a protected structure but following discussions with the Senior Planner, he was advised that this protection did not extend to the seated area. The Senior Executive Engineer advised that he had met the developer and was confident that a similar seat would be reinstated in that location. The Members agreed that a list of structures with a particular historical or cultural interest to Gorey should be compiled and listed in Wexford Development Plan going forward.

Housing

Mr. Anthony Bailey attended the meeting and the Members noted his report. There were no queries in relation to this report and Mr. Bailey withdrew from the meeting

Roads Services

Mr. Neville Shaw updated the Members on the roads activity within the area and responded to Members' questions.

A general discussion took place regarding entrance roads to beaches in the area and following a discussion on the matter, the Senior Executive Engineer agreed to contact landowners on the road to Morriscastle beach and request their cooperation in cutting the ditches and hedges in the area to increase safety measures on this stretch of road. It was further agreed to improve signage and road markings in the area.

Water Services

Mr. Tony Quirke provided a progress report on Water Services and responded to Members' queries.

Cllr. Byrne requested assistance with an ongoing issue in relation to flooding on the Main Street. He stated that the water outlets on the Main Street were not able to contend with the flow of water following heavy rainfall and this excess water is then building up on the side streets and in particular Thomas Street. Mr. Quirke agreed to investigate the matter and stated that a CCTV investigation may be necessary to establish where problems are located.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin requested an update on the current situation regarding Water Charges in a number of estates in the area which he felt should be exempt and the Executive Engineer agreed to follow up on recent correspondence to Irish Water regarding this matter.

District Managers Report:

- The District Manager advised the Members that from 01st July, 2015, The Food Waste Regulations 2013 will come into force in Gorey town which will impose obligations on both Waste Collectors and householders to use a separate bin for the collection of food waste. It was agreed to circulate further information on this initiative to all Members prior to the next Committee meeting.
- The Members were advised that the Gorey office was piloting a "Customer Response Initiative" with particular emphasis on housing services. Ms. Byrne

requested the Members support for this initiative and asked the Members to contact reception with all queries so that the calls are logged and monitored until the query is dealt with appropriately.

- The Members noted the success of the Educate to Innovate evening and congratulated all involved.
- The Civic Honors Ceremony was also noted and all agreed that it was a very positive evening and agreed to revisit this matter later in the year to decide if this event should be held annually or bi-annually.
- The Members noted the success of the 2K Clean up and noted that five groups were now nominated for representation at the “Keep Wexford Beautiful Awards”. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of linking this initiative with “The Pure Mile” initiative in Co. Wicklow.
- Ms. Byrne advised the Committee that the Gym equipment due to be installed as part of the Walking Track in the Town Park/Showgrounds had been destroyed in a warehouse fire in Dubin and plans were now in place to source this equipment elsewhere.
- The Members were also advised that the Christmas Lighting Plan for Gorey town was at an advanced stage and a full report would be available for discussion at the next meeting.
- The District Manager also advised the Committee that she was compiling a report following the meeting with the Courtown/Riverchapel residents on 21st April, 2015, and advised that the report would be available for discussion at the next meeting.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None.

No. 4 Notice of Motion

‘That Wexford County Council would move toward the provision of loading bays for a defined number of hours each day on each side of the Main Street in Gorey’

Following a discussion on the provision of loading bays in Gorey town, it was agreed to withdraw the Notice of Motion and carry out a consultation process with local businesses in the area to assess whether they felt loading bays were required on the Main Street or not.

‘Gorey Municipal Council will campaign to have a bus shelter installed on Gorey’s Main Street’

The Senior Executive Engineer advised the Members that this motion was currently under examination and therefore the motion was withdrawn.

No. 5 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for consideration.

No. 6 AOB

- The District Manager advised that applications had been received from the residents in Pearson's Brook, Monaseed and Clonattin Village and on the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. J. O' Sullivan, it was agreed to allocate €500.00 to each group.
- The Director of Services advised the Committee that "The Schedule of Municipal District Works" would be presented to the Members at the June meeting for discussion.
- It was agreed to invite residents from Hollyfort, Craanford and Monaseed to a future meeting to discuss any particular areas of concern which they may have.
- The Members were advised that the School Meals Scheme cannot be extended outside urban areas and Cllr. Ireton advised that there are currently 413 children in Riverchapel School and wondered if this would merit "Urban Status". The District Manager agreed to investigate this matter further.
- Concern was noted regarding ongoing crime in the area and the lack of Garda resources to address the situation. Cllr. J. O' Sullivan advised that based on the National average, 23 Gardai should be allocated to every 10,000 in population and this is certainly not the case in the Wicklow/Wexford Division.
- Cllr. J. Hegarty advised the Members that the charity "Cycle against Suicide" had raised funds recently and had requested the support of the Local Council to erect a sign acknowledging this in a public building/area. Following a discussion on the matter, it was unanimously agreed that the sign be erected in the Town Park.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 16th June, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Mr. John Hegarty
Cathaoirleach
Gorey Municipal District**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 16th June, 2015, at 3:00 pm
in The Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. John Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan, (Leas Cathaoirleach),
Malcolm Byrne,
Pip Breen.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

1. Outgoing Cathaoirleach's Address:

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Hegarty, addressed the meeting and spoke briefly of the work undertaken throughout the year. He thanked his Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Joe Sullivan, fellow Elected Members, District Director, District Manager, Officials and People of North Wexford on their dedicated hard work. He also thanked Members for his election as the 1st chair of Gorey Municipal District.

Members and Officials joined in congratulating the Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach on their excellent work and representation of the District throughout the year.

2. Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. J. Sullivan proposed Cllr. Malcolm Byrne as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Byrne's nomination was seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton.

Cllr. Byrne was declared elected as Cathaoirleach and addressed the meeting thanking his proposer and seconder for their nomination and support and also thanking Cllr. Hegarty for his Chairmanship in the previous year.

3. Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach

Cllr. M. Farrell proposed Cllr. F Ó'Súilleabháin, as Leas-Cathaoirleach. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin's nomination was seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton.

Cllr. A. Donohoe proposed Cllr. Pip Breen as Leas-Cathaoirleach. Cllr. Breen's nomination was seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan.

The matter was then put to vote, with a roll-call.

The vote was as follows:

Cllr. Hegarty	PB
Cllr. Ireton	FO'S
Cllr. FOS	FO'S
Cllr. Donohoe	PB
Cllr. Farrell	FO'S
Cllr. Sullivan	PB
Cllr. Breen	PB
Cllr. Byrne	PB

Cllr. P Breen	5
Cllr. F Ó'Súilleabháin	3

Cllr. Pip Breen was declared elected as Leas-Cathaoirleach and addressed the meeting thanking his proposer and seconder for their nomination and support and thanking officials also.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

Mr. Malcolm Byrne
Cathaoirleach
Gorey Municipal District

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 16th June, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. Malcolm Byrne, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Robert Ireton,
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan,
John Hegarty,
Pip Breen, (Leas Cathaoirleach).

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Ms. Carolyn Godkin, County Development Officer
Mr. Bernard Browne, Graduate.

Items Circulated : Follow-up on Meeting with Courtown Residents.
2016-1916 Commemoration Fund.
Report on Gorey Christmas Lighting.
Feile Parade, Gorey, 26th June.

Presentation – Ms. Carolyne Godkin, County Development Officer - Vacant Property Grant Incentive Scheme

Ms. Carolyne Godkin, County Development Officer, introduced the Vacant Property Grant Incentive Scheme with the proposal to extend parts of it to Gorey Urban, Courtown Village and Business Parks at Goreybridge, Ramstown and Ballyloughan to address issues of vacancy and to encourage new business development. Cllr. M. Byrne welcomed the introduction of the Scheme to the Gorey District and Cllr. R. Ireton suggested that the Scheme be extended to include Riverchapel and Clonattin. Following a short discussion, Members approved the draft for submission to the full Council.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 19th May, were adopted and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters Arising from May Meeting:

1. Discussions took place with the Planning Department regarding a revised format for the Derelict Sites Report. Specific locations of Hollyfort sites were referred to the Planning Department.
2. A Tidy up of the Courthouse will be undertaken by the Gateway Scheme when it commences in early July.
3. The North Wexford Historical Society and Tidy Towns Groups have been invited to identify structures of historical / cultural interest in Gorey for consideration in future Wexford Development Plans.
4. Members were circulated with details on the new Food Waste Regulations 2015.
5. Due to time constraints no discussion has happened on linking 2km Clean Up with Wicklow's "The Pure Mile".
6. Prior to consultation with local businesses on need for loading bays, a review of parking fines issued to same is being undertaken. Informal discussions have also been had with Gorey Chamber of Commerce.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Planning

Ms. Deirdre Kearns attended the meeting and the Members noted her report and there were no queries raised.

Cllr. M. Byrne acknowledged the progress made to date with regard to derelict sites in the Gorey District but queried why a particular property had been left off the list. Ms. Kearns advised that the property in question was being inspected that day with the view to being recorded on the list. Cllr. R. Ireton enquired who the designated contact person was to report derelict sites to which Ms. Kearns advised that Mr. Tony Nolan, County Hall, was that person. Ms. Amanda Byrne asked that any such reports also be submitted to herself and Mr. Neville Shaw.

Housing

Ms. Liz Hore attended the meeting and the Members noted her report. Cllr. Breen enquired about expenditure from the Maintenance Grant Allocation. Ms. Hore advised that the Sceptic Tank and Radon Programmes were financed through these Grants and with the Council having taken over the towns, works involved repairs to older homes. Ms. Hore assured Members that the Council was only carrying out essential repairs and that they were conducting an Efficiency Review to ensure that

they are getting value for money. Ms. Hore also added that a new Tenants Handbook will be available from October, 2015.

Cllr. Farrell enquired whether there was any financial support available for private home-owners whose homes were in need of repair. Ms. Hore advised that grants were available for older people, over 66 years of age, for essential repairs. Ms. Hore suggested that Cllr. Farrell contact Ms. Noirin Cummins for the specific detail of the scheme. Cllr. Farrell asked if there was any significant drop in the numbers on the housing list bearing in mind the significant funding that has been made available to the local authority.

Ms. Hore responded by saying she would hope to see some impact within the next year. The Council are currently working with NAMA, 19 premises are coming on board in the Gorey District and with the completion of the Capital Assistance Programme in Kilanerin with people moving in soon. Ms. Hore further advised that she would bring a Report before the Members at a future meeting. Cllr. Byrne enquired as to when Baile Eoghan would be available for occupancy and Ms. Hore confirmed completion in 2016.

Roads Services

The Roads report had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting and Mr. Neville Shaw responded to questions. Cllr. Ireton expressed concern over some overhanging branches on the Carnew Road, which Mr. Shaw agreed to inspect. Cllr. Ireton also enquired as to when footpaths would be laid at Red Row. Mr. Shaw confirmed that the works were part of the 3-year Programme and would be addressed in 2016. Cllr. Hegarty enquired about repairs to alleviate drainage problems at The Rock Junction. Mr. Shaw advised that the junction has a history of flooding and repair work in the past had not been successful. Mr. Shaw assured Members that the re-surfacing across the junction would eliminate the long-term gravel problem there. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin commended the recent re-surfacing work that has taken place in Craanford and Hollyfort. Cllrs. Breen and Byrne named some areas in need of trimming, namely Ballycanew, Clonattin to Coach Road junction. Cllr. Byrne also highlighted overgrowth in the laneways at Sean O'Byrne Park/Eire Street which was attracting illegal dumping.

Water Services

The Water Services report was circulated to Members prior to the meeting. Mr. Tony Quirke provided a progress report on Chestnut Grove, Hollyfort, advising that following works on a UV unit and a sump pump automatic shutdown, 3 clear samples have been obtained resulting in the boil water notice being removed. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed disappointment at no further progress having been made on an update from Irish Water regarding the Creagh Domain issue. Cllr. Byrne added that this issue was ongoing for 18 months and requested that a representative from Irish Water be asked to report at the July monthly meeting.

Schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW)

Ms. Annette O'Neill, District Director, spoke briefly about the SMDW and responded to Members questions. A short discussion took place and on the Chairman's proposal the Schedule was unanimously adopted.

Courtown Report

Following on from the meeting of 21st April, Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager, highlighted the main areas of concern expressed by residents of Courtown and outlined action being taken or referrals made. It was agreed to update residents on the progress to date.

It was also agreed to invite groups from Hollyfort, Craanford and Monaseed to the July meeting and that groups be asked to outline 4-5 priorities in their specific area.

Cllr. Ireton expressed his concern over casual traders in Courtown which were undermining existing businesses. Ms. Amanda Byrne advised that licenses are issued according to the Bye-Laws which are in place, traders are paying their licence fees and cannot be criticised for setting up business.

1916 Commemoration

Ms. Amanda Byrne referred to the forthcoming 1916 Commemorations and advised of a €5,000 fund available to the Gorey District. Based on attendance at a recent workshop event in Enniscorthy, Ms. Byrne outlined some proposals such as a Commemorative Exhibition and Trail, a Remembrance Garden and the development of a local committee to organise the Gorey commemorations to link to the County Programme. Members welcomed the proposals and agreed that Cllr. Pip Breen, as Gorey MD rep on the County Working Group should chair the committee.

Christmas Lighting Plan

Ms. Liz Stanley updated Members on the Christmas Lighting Plan for Gorey and responded to Members questions. Cllr. Byrne requested that some mechanism be put in place to ensure that those who benefit from the lights, contribute towards the lights. Members were in agreement with the Plan and noted the €20,000 shortfall. It was agreed to put the Plan back on the Agenda for July meeting and in the meantime contact Gorey Chamber and local businesses to look at ways the shortfall could be financed.

Specific Projects

Ms. Amanda Byrne drew Members attention to specific projects that took place in the District since the last meeting. Ms. Byrne also highlighted the 30,000th Last Post - Tribute to Firefighters taking place on the 9th of July at Gorey Fire Station. It was agreed to make a €200 contribution from the Festival Budget to cover refreshments at the event. Ms. Byrne noted the Byrne Perry Summer School at the end of the month and paid tribute to the contribution of the late Rev. Walter Forde.

Cllr. Byrne proposed a vote of sympathy on the recent passing of Rev. Walter Forde, to his sister, Maura and his extended family and those who worked with him.

Cllr. Ireton proposed a vote of sympathy on the passing of Mr. Noel Swaine of the London Wexford Association.

Cllr. Donohoe offered his sympathies on the passing of 6 students in Berkeley, California, which was re-iterated by all Members.

Resident Association Grants

Ms. Amanda Byrne advised that an application had been received from the residents of An Bruach, Kilanerin, and it was agreed to allocate €500 to the group.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None.

No. 4 Notice of Motion

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

Correspondence from Ms. Shirley MacLeod - It was agreed to arrange for a Skype call with Argyll Bute Council at a future meeting.

Correspondence re Feile Parade - Ms. Byrne advised Members that sponsorship was being sought and a €200 donation was agreed.

No. 6 AOB

Cllr. Farrell offered her congratulations to Gavin Byrne, Aisling Lyons and the Coastal Rescue Services on the recent rescue at Morriscastle Beach. It was agreed that Gorey Municipal District write to both to extend congratulations.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin extended his congratulations to Lucia Merrigan, Coolgreany, a recent All-Ireland Champion in Inter Schools Show jumping.

A short discussion took place regarding the hockey pitch at Loreto School and Cllr. Byrne suggested contacting the school to ascertain what the plans for the pitch are.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 21st July, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Malcolm Byrne,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey Municipal District.**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 21st July, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. Malcolm Byrne, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Pip Breen, (Leas Cathaoirleach).
Fionntan Ó'Súilleabháin,
Anthony Donohoe,
Robert Ireton
Mary Farrell,
Joe Sullivan,
John Hegarty,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer,

Apologies Mr. Neville Shaw
Ms. Deirdre Kearns

Items Circulated: Briefing Notes for Meeting with Craanford/Monaseed/Hollyfort
Groups

It was noted that the meeting with community groups from Craanford, Monaseed and Hollyfort which took place prior to the meeting was very useful and that the report on same would be considered at the next meeting on the 15th of September.

Presentation – Mr. Frank Burke, GIS Officer – Accessible Parking APP

Mr. Burke gave a demonstration of the APP and explained how it would work on user's mobile phones. He said that there were some further technical features he wished to incorporate in to it but expected it to be available shortly. He added that it would also provide a useful tool for maintenance of spaces. Members welcomed the APP and thanked Mr. Burke and Ms. Elisa Woods for their work in developing it. Related issues highlighted were boat access for disabled at Courtown Harbour and the poor orientation of certain accessible parking spaces which cause difficulties for disabled drivers.

The Chairman opened the meeting and extended birthday wishes to Cllr. R. Ireton on the occasion of his 60th Birthday.

Congratulations were extended to the following:

Paralympian Darragh Mc Donald on winning Bronze in the final of the 400m Freestyle (S6 class) at the Paralympic Swimming World Championships in Glasgow on July 13th - Cllr. R. Ireton.

Mr. John Carley and Ms. Caroline Horan on the launch of the beach wheelchair - Cllr. M. Farrell.

Ms. Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian, for her phenomenal work throughout her career in Wexford Co. Council - Cllr. J. Hegarty.

Craanford under 14 hurlers for their success at the recent Feile - Cllr. A. Donohoe.

Pettitts Supervalu (Gorey) on being announced 'Best Meat Counter' in Ireland and on their sponsorship of the roundabout at the Monument - Cllr. M. Byrne.

Naomh Eanna for their success in the Feile Peil na nOg Boys Div 1 Cup Final at Wexford GAA, Training Centre at Ferns between winner Austin Stacks (Kerry) and Gorey's Naomh Eanna (Wexford) on a score line of 2-12 - 1-6 after extra time - Cllr. J. Hegarty.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Gorey Municipal District of 16th June, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. John Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. Joe Sullivan.

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 16th June, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Joe Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. John Hegarty.

Matters Arising from May Meeting:

There were no matters arising.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Planning

Members noted the planning report and there were no queries raised.

Housing

Mr. Anthony Bailey invited Members' questions on the housing report. He advised that Members would be given details of the new Tenant Purchase Scheme as soon as it was issued by the Department.

Members discussed the housing list for the Gorey area and the potential of Wexford Co. Council to meet current housing needs. It was agreed that this matter would be raised as a specific agenda item at the next meeting.

District Manager Report

District Manager, Amanda Byrne highlighted relevant items. Ms. Byrne advised Members that there discretionary local roads budget was available to them and to liaise with Senior Engineer Mr. N. Shaw as soon as possible to ensure required works could be done by the year end.

It was agreed on suggestion of Cllr. J. Hegarty that a notice be issued in local press to invite submissions to compile a list of structures with a particular historical or cultural interest to Gorey for inclusion in future Wexford County Development Plans.

Members noted that no contact was had with representatives of the Loreto Primary Board of Management regarding the planned restoration of the hockey pitch at the school. It was agreed that representatives would be invited to a meeting to discuss the project.

It was noted that the Town Park and Showgrounds would be managed directly by Wexford Co. Council through the Gateway Scheme from mid-August approximately. As part of the management protocol an incident log will be kept to record any anti-social activity.

It was agreed that the policy adopted by the Members for naming of public infrastructure would be used to name the walking track and that a call for submissions would be made.

Roads Services

Mr. Tony Quirke invited Members' questions on the roads report. It was noted that some legal issues had arisen with the new inner relief road and that it was expected that they would be resolved shortly. Ms. A. Byrne said that Senior Engineer Mr. N. Shaw would provide an up-date on all capital schemes on his return from annual leave.

Nomination to Wexford County Council Corporate Policy Group;

Cllr. Joe Sullivan proposed that the Chairman Cllr. Malcolm Byrne represent Gorey Municipal District on the Corporate Policy Group.

Update on addressing shortfall in Christmas Lighting costs

Ms. A. Byrne advised that she had spoken with board members of Gorey Chamber and that the Chamber undertook to raise a contribution of €15,000 toward the Christmas programme. Members welcomed this initiative. It was agreed that the trees on the Main Street be pruned as soon as possible. It was also agreed that any existing lights that were in good repair could be allocated to other areas for their own use. The District Manager agreed to investigate this.

It was also noted that the reporting of the Christmas lights programme had caused some concern as it did not give a full break down of the expenditure. Ms Amanda Byrne advises that a full report would be available once the final costs were determined.

French Ambassador's Visit

Areas of Common Interests to be pursued included the printing of French language tourism material, development of the Myles Byrne connections and developing the Wexford – Pembroke – Normandy route.

Additional Resident Association Grants for Approval

Members approved the payment of residents' grants to Riverchapel Wood, Riverchapel View, and Hollyfort Development & Residents Association.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None.

No. 4 Notice of Motion

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

No. 6 AOB

Youth Engagement

Cllr. M. Byrne discussed the paper he had issued on the development of a youth participation programme for Gorey District. Ms A. Byrne noted that the programme must be sufficiently resourced in order to be successful with a funding element for the project(s) and support for the facilitation work required to drive the programme.

It was agreed that contact would be made with Schools and local youth organisations to determine the level of interest and support available.

Courtown Public Car-park

Cllr. M. Byrne expressed concern regarding the works carried out at Courtown car-park. District Director Annette O'Neill noted a response from Director of Roads, Eamonn Hore, to the issues raised by Cllr. Byrne and advised Members that a copy of same would be issued to them. Ms A. Byrne gave a short presentation on the works and the general consensus amongst Members was that the works improved safety at the location, addressed the problems with the recycling area and provided a greater range of accessible facilities.

Facilities for Talk to Tom

Cllr. M. Farrell advised Members of a request from the Talk to Tom Charity seeking the support of Gorey Municipal District in securing a building for their support service. The Chairman noted that the District was fully supportive of the charities' work and invited them to bring forward proposals for consideration.

Under 18 Pool Team

Cllr. M. Byrne congratulated the recent achievement of Gorey native(s) Kyle Murphy, Jordan Sinnott and Jordan Doyle on the Under 18 Pool Team in the World Championship in Malta (runner-up position)

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

It was agreed that a motion be put forward for the next meeting of Wexford Co. Council requesting that each District have a minimum of three representatives on the County JPC.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 15th of September, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Malcolm Byrne,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey Municipal District.**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 15th September, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. Malcolm Byrne, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Pip Breen, Leas Cathaoirleach,
Anthony Donohoe,
John Hegarty,
Robert Ireton,
Joe Sullivan.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Noel O'Driscoll, Senior Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Mr. John Lambe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies Cllr. Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,
Cllr. Mary Farrell.

Items Circulated: Follow-up Report from Meeting with Community Groups from
Craanford, Hollyfort and Monaseed.

Live Link to Argyll & Bute Council re Twinning Arrangements with Oban

District Manager, Amanda Byrne, and Members of Gorey Municipal District spoke with Cllr. Ian Stewart McFlynn, Cllr. Vivienne Robertson and Ms. Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager, Argyll & Bute Council, via a live link. The discussion considered the potential economic, social and cultural benefits to both Oban and Gorey from twinning links. Both sides committed to continuing with the link and suggested that the District Manager and her counterpart from Oban identify areas for a more in-depth discussion at the end of October.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 21st July, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. John Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. Robbie Ireton.

Matters Arising from July Meeting:

There were no matters arising.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Housing

Mr. Anthony Bailey invited Members' questions on the housing report. Cllr. R. Ireton raised the issue regarding the supply of housing for the North Wexford Area. Cllr. M. Byrne advised that the planned Housing Strategy was being prepared for the Housing SPC and that a more detailed discussion could take place thereafter. There were no further queries.

Environment

Mr. John Lambe provided an update on ongoing works at Courtown and responded to Members questions. Cllr. Ireton said re-development of the beach was a priority for Courtown and Cllr. P. Breen added that the marina needed to be built in County Wexford and preferably in Courtown. Cllr. M. Byrne expressed his concerns regarding coastal erosion. He asked that the matter be raised directly with the OPW and that Minister Simon Harris be invited down to Courtown. Cllr. M. Byrne mentioned considerable erosion at Ballymoney, Clone and Castletown, Mr. Lambe advised that he would look at these areas.

Planning

Members noted the planning report and there were no queries raised.

Cllr. M. Byrne suggested that the Council move to compulsorily purchase urban derelict properties, following Minister Alan Kelly's recent funding announcement, and use them to help solve the housing problem. Ms. Byrne advised that such properties were routinely considered.

Roads

Mr. Noel O'Driscoll invited Members' questions on the roads report. Members sought an update on the Inner Relief Road and Mr. O'Driscoll advised that while the contract for final works had not yet been tendered he expected a commencement date by late 2015 and a completion date by late February, 2016. Members raised their concerns regarding site lines at the junction and Mr. O'Driscoll said he would look at costing up a roundabout as there was sufficient space to put one in if funding permitted.

A discussion took place regarding speed limit signs and Mr. O'Driscoll advised that the speed limit reviews had been completed but had been placed on hold until speed limit guidelines were released. He added that the Council would be moving ahead on full bye-laws shortly. Cllr. M. Byrne requested that the Adoption of Speed Limit Bye-Laws be put on the December Agenda.

Cllr. J. Hegarty expressed his concerns with regard to problematic in-sight lines at Ballycanew Village and suggested a one-way system. Mr. O'Driscoll, though not in agreement with the suggestion, agreed to inspect.

Mr. O'Driscoll also responded to others concerns raised by Members at various locations incl: Ballycasey, Boley Cross, Kilmurray Cross, Long Lane, Coolgreany and he gave an indication of completion dates for re-surfacing works. He also mentioned Park Avenue and recommended that re-surfacing and footpath repairs be done simultaneously to obtain best results and Value for Money.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

District Manager Report

District Manager, Amanda Byrne highlighted relevant items. A follow-up report from the July Meeting with Community Groups from Craanford, Hollyfort and Monaseed was circulated to Members which Ms. Byrne said would be sent to the relevant groups. Ms. Byrne advised that no feedback had been received from the previous report sent to Courtown Groups. It was agreed that support be sought for a community development based programme for Courtown to strengthen local capacity building. Ms Byrne advised members that the 1916 Working Group had met and that a workshop to gather memorabilia for the Gorey Exhibition was taking place that evening.

Christmas Lighting Report

Ms. L. Stanley updated Members on Christmas Lighting for Gorey, in particular the recent tendering for installation and ESB supply for the lighting and a sound system for Gorey town. Ms. A. Byrne advised that existing lights would be checked by an electrician to see what is working and an advertisement placed for those interested in availing of them.

Cllr. J. Hegarty enquired whether any funding had been raised to date and Ms. Stanley advised that the Lighting Committee had written out to 26 businesses seeking a €1,000 contribution from each. She further added that an advertisement would be placed in papers inviting the public to contribute if they wished, albeit on a smaller scale, and that fundraisers will also be held. Ms. Stanley highlighted the workings groups concerns with the 2014 Christmas market. She outlined the plans for re-location of the Commemorative Tree from the front of the Market House to the Civic Square. Members gave their approval for the additional cost of €2,500 for the provision of lighting for Side Streets.

Additional Resident Association Grants for Approval

Members approved the payment of Residents' Grants to Craanford Community Association and The Chase/The Heath Residents Management Committee.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None

No. 4 Notice of Motion

None

No. 5 Correspondence

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

No. 6 AOB

GMA

Members were in agreement to combine the GMA Meeting with the October Monthly District Meeting.

London Wexford Association

Cllr. M. Byrne offered his support for Cllr. R. Ireton to attend the Annual London Wexford Association Dinner Dance and it was agreed to forward Cllr. Ireton's name as the Gorey Representative onto the Protocol Committee for consideration.

Meeting with Gorey District Superintendent

It was agreed to propose a meeting with the Gorey District Superintendent for October and to meet thereafter in the Spring and Autumn on an annual basis.

Loreto Board of Management

Ms. A. Byrne informed Members that she had spoken to the Principal of Loreto School who advised her that the school has a lease from the Trustees that the hockey pitch be used by the school only.

Vote of Sympathy

Cllr. R. Ireton proposed a vote of sympathy for the late James "Norman" Kavanagh, former employee of Wexford County Council, and requested that a sympathy card be sent to his family.

Cllr. R. Ireton asked that the tradition of reciting a prayer at the commencement of the former Gorey Town Council Meetings be adopted by the new Municipal District Committee.

District Director, Annette O'Neill, reminded Members of the discretionary local roads budget available to them and asked that they liaise with the District Manager as soon as possible to ensure required works could be done by the year end.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 20th of October, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Pip Breen,
Leas Cathaoirleach,
Gorey Municipal District.**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 20th October, 2015, at 3.00 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Leas Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Anthony Donohoe,
Mary Farrell,
John Hegarty,
Robert Ireton,
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,
Joe Sullivan.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies Cllr. Malcolm Byrne

Items Circulated: 2016 Draft Budgetary Plan for Gorey Municipal District.

Cllr. Sullivan proposed a minutes silence for the victims of the recent Carrickmines fire and for the tragic death of Garda Anthony Golden in Co. Louth. Cllr. Ireton seconded this proposal and also asked that a prayer be recited prior to the commencement of the meeting. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin commended the support shown by Kilmuckridge people this week towards a local supermarket outlet following its repossession by a security firm.

2016 Draft Budgetary Plan for Gorey Municipal District.

Ms. O'Neill, District Director, presented the 2016 Draft Budgetary Plan for Gorey Municipal District and highlighted the main provisions thereof. She drew the member's attention to the discretionary element of the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) and highlighted the additional €30,000 funding per district. Ms. O'Neill explained that this additional funding is directly linked to the level of movement in the Rates Harmonisation which is to be formally decided by members at the Statutory Budget Meeting in November. Members welcomed this 11% increase in funding.

The Vice-Chairman welcomed the Budget and the District Director and District Manager responded to queries raised by the members.

Cllr. Ireton expressed his concerns with regard to the tourist facilities allocation for Gorey being the lowest in the county. Ms. Byrne explained that the unit in Gorey Market House has been provided under license to the Tourist Office and it is self-funding. She advised that the allocation goes towards the funding of the Love Gorey website which serves the entire district and works in conjunction with www.visitwexford.ie. Cllr. Ireton also questioned the higher festivals and concerts allocation for Wexford to which Ms. O'Neill advised that the additional allocation recognised that Wexford is the primary town in the County. Cllr. Ireton questioned the higher allocation for School Meals for other districts to which Ms. O'Neill explained that other districts have a bigger school meals programme and this is recognised with a bigger budget. Cllr. Ireton also suggested that the Council use this allocation for produce other than milk. Ms. Byrne agreed to clarify the terms and conditions of the Scheme with the Department.

On the subject of town twinning it was agreed to make an application to carry over the €5,000 2015 allocation into 2016 and to make a decision next year about how best the money could be spent.

Following additional short discussions, members were all in agreement with the remaining allocations. Members agreed to set a deadline of the end of July next to notify Mr. Neville Shaw of their allocations for local road improvements and any remaining money be put towards town projects. Ms. Byrne added that a report would be made available to members highlighting the improvements made by Resident Associations and also explained that the spending on Christmas lights would be capitalised over a number of years.

The members gave due consideration to the Gorey Municipal District 2016 Draft Budgetary Plan and on the proposal of Cllr. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. Donohoe, the Committee adopted the Plan without amendment.

Cllr. Ireton asked could the Saturday casual trading market in Gorey be moved to an alternative day of the week so that the Market Street car parks be freed up for public parking. Ms. Byrne informed him that as there were adopted Bye-Laws in place, they would have to be put up for consultation to make such a change. Ms. L. Stanley advised that the pitches would be allocated to just one Market Street car park in the New Year, thus freeing up the second for public parking.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 15th September, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Donohoe and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan.

Matters Arising from September Meeting

Cllr. Hegarty enquired whether there had been any developments in addressing the problematic sight lines at Ballycanew Village and Mr. Shaw advised that he would be meeting with Mr. Noel O'Driscoll, Senior Engineer, to discuss same.

Cllr. Hegarty expressed his disappointment that the Loretto School Board of Management had confirmed that the hockey pitch, once restored, would be reserved for school use. The Council had offered its support to assist with fundraising and

Cllr. Hegarty informed members that the school was conducting its own fundraising campaign.

Cllr. Ireton acknowledged the completion of works at Kilmurry Cross.

There were no others matters arising from the minutes.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Housing

Mr. Anthony Bailey updated members on the housing report. Members spoke of the crisis housing situation both locally and nationally and it was agreed that this matter would be raised as a specific agenda item at the next meeting.

Planning

Members noted the planning report and there were no queries raised.

Roads

Mr. Neville Shaw invited Members' questions on the roads report.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin welcomed the commencement of final works on the inner relief road and asked that safety be made a priority, particularly at the Willow Park/Fort Road junction.

Cllr. Sullivan asked that the Council mount an aggressive campaign to get hedges cut on minor roads. Mr. Shaw advised that a general advertisement is placed each year outlining farmer's obligations to cut their own road frontage as the Council trim back at junctions only. He added that verbal and written warnings have been issued from time to time to landowners who do not take care of their own road frontage.

Cllr. Donohoe enquired whether there was any update on a bus shelter for Main Street. Mr. Shaw advised that it was still at the design stage with some details to be finalised with bus companies, but hoped to have more information for the next meeting.

Cllr. Hegarty enquired whether there was any update on the phone box on Main Street and Mr. Shaw advised that this was also at design stage.

Water Services

Mr. Tony Quirke invited Members' questions on the water services report.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin acknowledged the improvements that have been made to Hollyfort GWS but reminded members the issue was initially raised in April, 2014. He also advised that a review had commenced at Creagh Domain but that there was no guarantee to finding the problem. Mr. Quirke confirmed that IW, in conjunction with the HSE, had approved further sampling and that action would follow, but at this stage that was not determined.

District Manager Report

District Manager, Amanda Byrne highlighted relevant items:

Gorey Market House Festival (GMHF) - Ms. Byrne informed members that the GMHF committee met with Gorey Main Street traders in relation to festival road closures following concerns that were raised. Ms. Byrne explained that whilst road closures were necessary to the festival it was agreed that the road could have been closed later in the day, but that was only apparent once the stage had been installed. It was agreed that a comprehensive report would be brought to the next meeting

Sports Capital Programme 2015 - Ms. Byrne informed members that the Council's Sports Capital Application for a multi surface pitch at Gorey Showgrounds had not been successful. The application was deemed invalid due to a technicality in relation to the date of certification of the Title documents for the lands on which the pitch was to be sited. Cllr. Ireton asked that the Council write to Minister Michael Ring TD requesting that the application process be simplified. It was agreed to do so and to write on behalf of Gorey Rugby Club, whose application was also rejected on a minor technicality.

Naming of Walking Track - Ms. Byrne informed members that to date only one name has been proposed but that more were to be submitted. Ms. O'Neill suggested the possibility of selling the naming rights to the walkway for an annual fee. She further suggested that benches in the park could commemorate people from the town who had been instrumental in leading the way to progress the idea of the town park.

Christmas Lighting Report - Ms. L. Stanley updated members on Christmas Lighting for Gorey. She informed members that the Lighting Committee that raised €14,700 to date and had also organised a Christmas raffle. Ms. Stanley confirmed that wiring was substantially completed, the sound system was progressing and the trees were being pruned. She informed members that a briefing document would be sent to them shortly outlining the festive plans for November 20th.

1916 Commemoration - Ms. Byrne informed members that the process of sourcing material for the centenary commemoration was well under way and that the research group would be meeting later in the month. She further added that it had been proposed that the formal ceremony for the Gorey district take place in Ferns on March the 6th as this was the main area of activity in the district.

Members agreed to defer the discussion on the Gorey Municipal District Disability Strategy Implementation Plan 2015-2016 until the November meeting.

Cllr. Ireton requested that the disability spaces in St. Michael's cemetery be moved from the back wall to the entrance of the cemetery.

Additional Resident Association Grants for Approval

Members approved the payment of Residents' Grants to Ferns Tidy Towns, Camolin Community Development Association and Ballycanew Court Residents Association.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None

No. 4 Notice of Motion

“The Municipal Council applauds the work of officials in relation to the ongoing development of Gorey Showgrounds and recognises the need for a steady stream of funding in the future to support its ongoing maintenance. It also notes the special connection that Gorey Rangers Football Club has had with the grounds for over half a century. It further notes that over 350 children from the club are currently being trained at the venue (now reaching 19 separate teams in the youth section). It proposes that should any new hourly payment system be introduced it will take account of these large numbers and will be set at a rate that will be considerably less than €10.00 per hour.

Footnote: *Club calculations have estimated a cost of over €20,000 per annum for rent under a revised €10 per hour system (in addition to around over €10,000 this year for other expenses)”*

Ms. A Byrne outlined the charging regime in place and the need to regulate use of the facility. She advised that Gorey Rangers Schoolboys had been given a commitment that their fees would be capped at €1,000 for the 2015/2016 season.

A discussion took place by members regarding funding towards maintaining the Showgrounds and Cllr. Donohoe proposed the executives recommendation of a club fee of €1,000p.a. for the next year with a review to be conducted at that stage. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Ireton. Ms. L. Stanley suggested a review in summer 2016. As the motion was not seconded, it was deemed failed.

No. 5 Correspondence

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

No. 6 AOB

Cllr. Ireton requested that letters of congratulations be sent to Tidy Towns winners in the district.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 17th of November, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Malcolm Byrne,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey Municipal District.**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 17th November, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. Malcolm Byrne, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Pip Breen, Leas Cathaoirleach
Anthony Donohoe,
John Hegarty,
Robert Ireton,
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,
Joe Sullivan.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies Cllr. Mary Farrell

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy for victims of recent global tragedies including the Russian plane crash, the bombings in Beirut and Paris and to the family and colleagues of the late Garda Anthony Golden. The Chairman also expressed his support and solidarity to the Gardai following an outburst at a recent protest in Gorey at an auction of NAMA properties. Members joined in this expression of support towards the Gardai and Cllr. Donohoe wished Garda Smith a speedy recovery.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 20th October, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. Hegarty.

Matters Arising from October Meeting

Cllr. Ireton questioned why members of the public were receiving parking fines in Market Street car parks on Saturdays. Ms. L. Stanley advised that the car parks are clearly signposted for traders use only on a Saturday and as a health and safety measure parking is prohibited on trading day. She advised that from 1st January all traders will operate from one car park, facing onto a newly aligned walkway from which the public will access the front of all stalls. The second car park will be available to the public for parking.

Cllr. Hegarty asked for a further update on the provision of a phone box for Main Street. Mr. Tony Quirke advised that the Council had met with the supplier and they are looking at a freestanding, wheelchair accessible design which should prevent anti-social behaviour. Mr. Quirke added that he would discuss the location of the phone shelter with the Roads Engineer. Cllr. Hegarty also raised his concerns regarding the current traffic flow system through Ballycanew village and that there is no mechanism for crossing the road. The Chairman requested that this issue be made a specific Agenda item at the next meeting and asked that recent surveys be clarified by the Senior Roads Engineer.

Cllr. Hegarty congratulated all North Wexford winners of the Keep Wexford Beautiful Competition, in particular Kilanerin for best Environmentally Aware and Presented Housing Estate and Kilanerin-Ballyfad Community Development Group for the overall winner of the Keep Wexford Beautiful Competition. Cllr. Donohoe also congratulated Kilanerin and in addition, congratulated Hollyfort Development Group on their Best New Entry and Hollyfort Tidy Towns on winning the North Wexford 2k Clean. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin also extended his congratulations to all groups.

There were no others matters arising from the minutes.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) Presentation

Ms. Deirdre Kearns gave a presentation on the LECP and responded to members' questions thereon.

Planning

Members noted the planning report and there were no queries raised. The Chairman and Cllr. Hegarty both acknowledged the work to date on derelict sites. Ms. Kearns confirmed that a number of problem sites have been resolved and that dereliction levies will be imposed on several houses in the New Year if action is not taken before then. The Chairman sought an update on Coill na Giuise and Ms. Kearns advised that she would report back at the next meeting.

Housing

Members noted the housing report and there were no queries raised. Mr. Anthony Bailey advised members that any new grant applications would at this stage have a new year turnaround. Cllr. Breen enquired about the new Rental Purchase Scheme and Mr. Bailey advised that the Council hadn't been issued with full details of the Scheme from the Department. Cllr. Ireton sought an update on halting-site inspections and Mr. Bailey advised that the inspection process was underway and that they were working in conjunction with the Fire Services Department.

Roads

Members noted the roads report and there were no queries raised. Mr. Quirke confirmed that the final stage of the Link Road was due to commence in the next 3-4 weeks. He informed the Committee that the Council was in discussion with the NTA regarding a bus stop/shelter for both Gorey and Camolin and was subject to NTA approval. A number of the Committee members reported potholes repairs needed at Esmonde Gardens and at Oakwood and for lights to be turned on at Creagh. Cllr.

Donohoe asked for a pedestrian crossing from Gorey Shopping Centre across to Redmond Electric and the Chairman added that a crossing is needed from Ramsgate Village to the Railway Station. Mr. Quirke advised that he would raise all issues with the Roads Engineer.

Members outlined areas such as the Red Row, Ballyvaldon, the Bridge Bar corner and outside the Town Park in need of additional lighting and Cllr. Hegarty requested an update on the lighting review of the town. Mr. Quirke replied that he would consult with the Roads Engineer. Cllr. Ireton enquired as to when the Inner Relief Road would be finished to which Mr. Quirke replied, around Easter. The Chairman asked that the Roads Engineer make a presentation at a later meeting on the Inner Relief Road.

Water Services

Mr. Tony Quirke invited Members' questions on the water services report. Cllr. Ireton asked Mr. Quirke the cost of repairs at Creagh to which he responded €500,000.

Taking in Charge

The taking in charge of Glen Richards Woods, Poulshone, Gorey was proposed by Cllr. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. Breen.

Gorey Municipal District Disability Strategy Implementation Plan 2015-2016

Following a short discussion Members were in agreement with the Disability Strategy Implementation Plan and the Plan was proposed by Cllr. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin. The Chairman proposed putting the plan back on the Agenda in early in 2016 regarding its implementation.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin requested that an audit be conducted on footpaths in the town and specifically highlighted the footpath outside Bank of Ireland as being an issue following heavy rain. Mr. Quirke advised that he would discuss temporary remedial works with the Roads Engineer.

District Managers Report

Christmas Lighting Report - Ms. L. Stanley updated members on Christmas lights and the *Big Switch On* arranged for 20th November which also includes a Christmas Market, a live crib, late night shopping and art exhibitions. The Chairman complimented Ms. Byrne, Ms. Stanley and the business subscribers of Gorey for their efforts in bringing together this event. Cllr. Ireton enquired about the old Christmas lights and Ms. Stanley advised that there is a list of groups who have expressed interest. The Council is currently looking at what lights may be used in other areas of the town and the remaining lights will be given out to those interested. Ms. O'Neill, District Director, commended the phenomenal work that has been put into this project and this expression was reiterated by all members.

Gorey Market House Festival Review - Ms. Amanda Byrne gave a short presentation on a review of the Gorey Market House Festival and members were in general agreement with the suggestions made. Cllrs. Breen, Byrne, Donohoe and Hegarty put forward their names as committee members.

What is a Republic ? - Ms. Amanda Byrne reminded members of the 1916 commemorative debate taking place in the Civic Offices on 25th November which will be attended by HE Jean-Pierre Thebault, Ambassador of France.

Additional Resident Association Grants for Approval

Members approved the payment of Residents' Grants to Clonattin Village Residents Association and Harbour Court Residents Association.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None

No. 4 Notice of Motion

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

No. 6 AOB

The Chairman requested a review on the provision of loading bays in town.

Cllr. Hegarty asked that the Council advertise details of free parking over the Christmas period.

Cllr. Hegarty informed the Committee that a Serbian/Croatian Delegation were coming to meet with the Kilanerin Community Development Group regarding rural and cultural matters.

Cllrs. Hegarty & Donohoe reminded the Committee of the importance of the upcoming Council vote on the Equalisation of Rates.

The District Manager informed the Committee that proposals for the re-development of Gorey Town Park were being put out to public consultation. Cllr. Hegarty recommended that the Council give a time limit on reaching specific goals and outline the longer term objectives.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 15th of December, 2015.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2015

**Malcolm Byrne,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey Municipal District.**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District
held on Tuesday, 15th December, 2015, at 3.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. Malcolm Byrne, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: Pip Breen, Leas Cathaoirleach
Anthony Donohoe,
John Hegarty,
Robert Ireton,
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,
Joe Sullivan.

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT, District Director,
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,
Mr. David Codd, Chief Technician
Mr. Anthony Bailey, Administrative Officer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies Cllr. Mary Farrell

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 17th November 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. Breen.

Matters Arising from November Meeting

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

Review of Countywide Special Speed Limits Presentation

Mr. D. Codd gave a presentation on the Review of Countywide Special Speed Limits and responded to members' questions thereon.

Proposals for R741 Ballycanew Junction

Mr. D. Codd also outlined proposals for the R741 Ballycanew Junction and responded to members' questions thereon.

Housing

Members noted the housing report and there were no queries raised.

Cllr. Byrne enquired as to the total number of additional social housing units that had become available to the Council. Mr. Bailey advised that the Council was finalising a number of acquisitions, completing construction projects and working in conjunction with approved housing bodies and that he would have an estimate for the Committee at the January Meeting. Ms. O'Neill, District Director, advised of indications of a €25m social housing programme but was not aware when funding would be available. Cllr. Sullivan enquired whether any notification of offers had been made on Baile na Trá to which Mr. Bailey replied that formal offers would be made in January. Members agreed that Gorey's housing situation had become an emergency case requiring immediate attention. Cllr. Byrne added that a strategy needs to be put in place to address the situation and called for a Special Meeting to consider the matter. It was agreed to discuss the Housing Strategy and the new Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme in the New Year.

Planning

Members noted the planning report and there were no queries raised. Ms. Kearns informed the Committee that the public consultation had commenced on a new Local Area Plan for Gorey Town and Environs to cover the period 2016 to 2022. The Chairman complimented the Planning Department on their work to date on derelict sites and enquired about the number of levies issued. Ms. Kearns confirmed that at least 4 properties had been issued with dereliction site levies and a number of other sites were at valuation stage, ready to be levied.

Roads

Members noted the roads report and there were no queries raised. Mr. Shaw confirmed that the Roads Programme was complete for the year and within budget and thanked the efforts of the Roads Staff, particularly Donal McLoughlin and Tom Bates.

Cllr. Hegarty sought an update on the provision of a phone box for Main Street. Mr. Shaw advised that the existing kiosks would be removed at the end of January/early February. He added that the location for the stand-alone unit was undecided and that he would be in discussions with Eircom regarding a preferred site. Cllr. Hegarty also sought an update on the Town Lighting Review and Mr. Shaw advised that Al Reid have been asked for an assessment of the town and are due to report back by the end of February. Cllr. O'Suilleabhain enquired when the Audit on Footpaths would be completed and Mr. Shaw advised by the end of March. Cllr. Sullivan raised concerns about flooding from the Ahare River which was causing difficulties for road users between Tara Hill and Castletown. It was suggested that dredging the river, raising the level of the bridge and re-directing the river may lessen the flooding, however Mr. Shaw felt that such actions would have a knock-on effect on coastal erosion. He agreed to raise this issue with Mr. John Lambe, SEE, Environment.

Other matters raised included littering on the Gorey-Clough Road, speeding off the motorway at Camolin, a call for signage and rumble strips in Hollyfort, flooding at Brickyard Hill and ongoing flooding problems at a premises below The Rock Junction, suggestions to compile a list of flood zones, the road from Limbrick Hill to

Kilanerin Village and footpaths at Clough. Mr. Shaw responded to issues raised and advised his staff would be pursuing problems in due course.

Water Services

Mr. T. Quirke invited Members' questions on the water services report. Cllr. O'Suilleabhain sought an update on Creagh Demense and Mr. Quirke advised that a meeting was taking place on 22nd December with Irish Water and the HSE when the results from recent sampling would be made available to the Council.

District Managers Report

Loading Bays, Ms. A. Byrne, District Manager, informed the Committee that a review of the Pay Parking Bye-Laws was planned in the New Year and that they would use this consultation period for businesses to make submissions at that stage regarding the provision of loading bays.

Casual Trading in Market Square, Ms. L. Stanley circulated a map of Market Square and outlined the new proposal to which all members were in agreement with.

Launch of Youth Initiative, Ms. A. Byrne advises that Gorey Youth Needs would work collaboratively with the Council and other youth interests to develop a series of initiatives which emerged from Gorey Youth Needs participation in a national study of youth issues during the summer of 2015. Members were in full agreement with the proposals.

No. 3 Prescribed Business

None

No. 4 Notice of Motion

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

Correspondence issued was noted.

No. 6 AOB

Ms. Amanda Byrne informed the Committee of the roll-out of a Disabled Spaces Text Alert Scheme being piloted in Gorey.

Ms. Byrne also reminded members of the ongoing events to commemorate 1916 and the recently launched funding scheme.

Ms. L. Stanley provided members with an update on Christmas Lights, Christmas Parking and the Town Park. Ms. Byrne added that more accurate costings needed to be compiled and the proposed plan be put out for public consultation, linking into the 2016 Local Area Plan process. Cllr. Hegarty raised concerns over the number of plans that had been prepared previously and the extensive level of consultation to-

date and asked that it be moved on quickly. Ms. O'Neill advised that costings would be available for the January Meeting.

The Chairman complimented Ms. Byrne and Ms. Stanley on the success of the Christmas Lights and wished all members and staff a Happy Christmas and New Year. Cllr. O'Suilleabhain also added congratulations on Gorey Library's success on being shortlisted for a Youth Job Seeker award.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 19th of January, 2016.

Daingnithe ar an _____ la de _____ 2016

**Malcolm Byrne,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey Municipal District.**