

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2016, 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 (Via Skype)  
Fionntán Ó 'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan.  
Mary Farrell

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. Elizabeth Hore, Senior Executive Officer, Housing  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Joe O' Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. John Hegarty.

**Matters Arising from December Meeting**

The District Manager advised the Committee that Councillor Joe Sullivan had indicated his wish to join the Market House Festival Committee at the December meeting which wasn't noted in the minutes and it was unanimously agreed that this item should be noted in the January minutes.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Presentation of Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme:***

Ms. Liz Hore presented a detailed and complex report outlining the new Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme which outlined the relevant legislation, the broad parameters of the scheme, eligibility, discounts which can be applied, reckonable income for tenants and details of how the purchase price will be calculated by WCC.

The main differences between the original Tenant Purchase Scheme and the Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme were also outlined.

Ms. Hore then responded to all queries expressed by Members of the Committee.

## **Housing**

The Members noted the housing report and welcomed the following developments for Gorey Town and Environs for 2016:

- 19 Cluid Developments in Clonattin;
- Allocation of €1.6m resulting in the purchase of 6 properties in Gorey Town and Environs;
- Tender docs being prepared for 9 additional units in Baile Eoghain;
- Detailed examination of land register and examination of the possibility of developing such areas to meet the housing need.

The Members were further advised that the housing department intend to place an advertisement in the local newspapers for “turn key developments” with particular emphasis on Gorey and Wexford town.

The members welcomed these initiatives but felt that the above allocations will have no major impact on the numbers currently on the housing list and that all avenues should be explored to deal with the crisis we are currently managing in the Gorey area.

## **Planning**

Members noted the planning report and no queries were raised. Ms. Kearns informed the Committee that the public consultation had commenced on the new Local Area Plan for Gorey Town and Environs to cover the period 2016 to 2022 and advised that the closing date for all submissions was 02/02/16.

Members were further advised that a public consultation evening was taking place later that evening.

Ms. Kearns circulated a report outlining progress on derelict sites since the previous committee meeting.

## **Roads**

Members noted the roads report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. Hegarty requested an update on the location for the stand-alone telephone unit and was advised that discussions had taken place with Eircom and no definite response had been received regarding the preferred site.

Cllr. Sullivan expressed concern regarding flooding from the Ahare River which was causing difficulties for road users between Tara Hill and Castletown and the Senior Executive Engineer advised that it is not possible to alter the course of the river and the only option available is to adjust the road and bridge which would incur serious expenditure.

Members were advised that the Avenue Project is due to commence on shortly and following a discussion on the matter, the Committee unanimously recommended that comprehensive drawings and timeframes be advertised in the local newspapers and the Library keeping all members of the public up to date on progress, completion times etc.

Councillor M. Byrne expressed serious concern at the condition the road was left in near Ballinatrav following contract works by Irish Water. He stated that a very large pothole was left in the road all over the Christmas period which at times was hidden due to flooding on the road. Cllr. Byrne stated that this situation was not acceptable and that the Contractor and Irish Water be contacted advising them of safety concerns following the dangerous condition they left the road and request their comments on the matter.

The Senior Executive Engineer complimented the Roads and Water staff for their dedication and commitment over the flooding period where they worked long shifts and assisted other areas who were encountering more serious flooding issues.

### ***Water Services***

Mr. T. Quirke updated the Members on progress in the Water Services Department since the previous Committee meeting. Cllr. O' Suilleabhain sought an update on Creagh Demense and Mr. Quirke advised that Irish Water were holding a public clinic on 26/01/16 which was an opportunity for all members to express their ongoing concerns. He further advised that sampling had taken place and the householders are currently awaiting correspondence from Irish Water.

### ***District Managers Report***

#### ***(1) 1916 Commemorations***

The Committee was advised that a total of 22 applications were received for the 1916 Gorey Municipal District Allocation. It was agreed that a special meeting to discuss this issue would take place directly after the monthly meeting.

#### ***(2) Christmas Lights***

Ms. L. Stanley, Senior Staff Officer, presented a detailed report to the Members outlining the overall expenditure incurred during Christmas 2015. The committee was advised that the total expenditure incurred amounted to €132,606.04 with an income of €6,000 from the Economic Development Unit, WCC, and a total income of €24,551.50 from the Retail/Business Community in Gorey town and environs. The net cost of the project was €102,054.54 which will be funded from the Municipal District Budget over the next five years.

The members complemented the work done and were advised that a public meeting was taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> January at 06.00pm in Gorey Municipal District offices to review the overall project and plan for Christmas in Gorey next year.

#### ***(3) Opens Days for Primary Schools***

The District Manager recommended that Gorey Municipal District committee invite schools in to the Council Chamber over the coming months to highlight the work carried out by the officials and elected members. This project was run over the last few years but the uptake was generally from schools located within the urban area.

Following a discussion on the matter, the members agreed to cover the cost of the buses to bring the children in to the Chamber as an incentive to attract schools from the rural areas, and it was recommended that an open day be planned for the first half of the year and a further one towards the end of the year.

#### **No. 4 Notice of Motion**

##### ***Consider Motion submitted by Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin***

*"That as part of the naming process for new developments this municipal council will suggest that the proposed development adjacent to Tesco will be named after a local figure associated with the 1916 rising"*

Prior to a discussion taking place the Chairman highlighted the fact that the development in question was a private housing estate and therefore the only involvement that the Council could have would be for recommendation purposes only. On the proposal of Councillor Ó 'Súilleabháin, seconded by Councillor Farrell, the Committee agreed to write to the developer concerned advising them of the proposal to name the estate after a figure associated with the 1916 rising.

##### ***Consider Motion submitted by Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin***

*"This municipal council expresses our frustration at the large losses in staffing numbers of Wexford County Councils Roads Department in the Gorey District over recent years. It further calls for the maximum amount of pressure to be used to ensure that we have adequate staffing numbers to deal with roads-related issues, including flooding, during 2016"*

The Director of Service advised the Committee that Management acknowledged that the outdoor staff section is understaffed and has put together a workforce plan which has been sent to the Department for approval.

Following a general discussion, on the proposal of Councillor Ó 'Súilleabháin, seconded by Councillor M. Farrell, the committee agreed that Gorey Municipal District Committee proactively call on the Minister and all Senior Politicians and Senators to remove the current embargo and restore all positions to the numbers employed prior to the embargo.

#### **No. 5 AOB**

##### ***Development of Gorey Town Park***

Members were advised that funding in the amount of €1.2million has been secured to develop Gorey Town Park and Gorey Showground's into one single park. The Director of Service circulated drawings and advised the Committee that the new park will have additional landscaping and will be bordered by a woodland type habitat. Parts of the dividing wall will also be removed as part of this initiative, and the park will have two playing fields, an amphitheatre with low seating for outdoor events and a wetland area with a boardwalk.

The Committee was advised that the drainage issue would have to be dealt with prior to any other development taking place and the committee noted the serious flooding which took place in the park over the past few weeks. The District Manager advised that works would commence this year with an anticipated completion date of Spring 2017. Following a discussion on the project, the Committee members unanimously welcomed this great initiative and amenity for Gorey town and environs.

**Gateway Scheme**

The District Manager updated the Committee on progress being made by the Gateway Scheme with particular emphasis on the magic woodlands project.

**North Wexford 2K Clean Up**

Members were advised that this successful initiative is due to take place during March/April 2016.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2016, 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,  
Joe Sullivan,  
Mary Farrell,

Officials: Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Ms. Noirin Cummins, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Asst. Staff Officer,

Apologies Cllr. Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Cllr. Robert Ireton.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 were proposed by Cllr. John Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. Pip Breen.

**Matters Arising from January Meeting**

There were no matters arising from the January Meeting.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Housing***

The Members noted the housing report and welcomed the following developments for the Gorey District:

- Housing Scheme in Riverchapel almost ready for occupation;
- Additional units coming on stream for Gorey from Approved Housing Bodies – 19 in Clonattin Village and 38 underway in Hunters Green, 6 of which are ready.

Ms. N. Cummins informed the Committee of the announcement of a €1.67m grant scheme for private home owners. When Cllr. Byrne enquired as to what grants were

available, Ms. Cummins advised, grants for the elderly, disabled and those with impaired mobility up to a maximum of €8,500, €30,000 and €6,000 respectively. Cllr. Byrne also enquired whether there was any Affordable Housing Scheme coming on stream, to which Ms. Cummins advised, none. Cllr. Breen enquired whether there was any update on the Rental Purchase Scheme and Ms. Cummins advised that a draft Application Form had been issued to local authorities for comments and would be available to the public from 1<sup>st</sup> March.

### ***Planning***

Members noted the planning report and no queries were raised. Ms. D. Kearns informed the Committee that 20 submissions had been received during the consultation period on the new Local Area Plan for Gorey Town and Environs and that she would have a report at the next meeting.

Ms. Kearns updated the Committee on derelict sites and Cllr. Hegarty said it was encouraging to see the amount of progress that had been made to date.

### ***Roads***

Members noted the roads report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. Farrell enquired about signage for Kilmuckridge School and Mr. N. Shaw advised that he would follow-up.

Cllr. Sullivan, again, expressed serious concern regarding recent flooding on the Ahare Road and sought reassurance that works would be put in place to prevent a similar incident occurring again. Mr. Shaw advised that the Roads Design Office is currently costing work for bridge repairs and for raising the road and that he would have a report for the next meeting. He added that dredging the river is not an option because of environmental concerns.

Cllr. Byrne enquired about the plans for footpaths on the Red Row and Mr. Shaw confirmed that it was included in the Programme for Footpaths this year and that the Council is also considering a footpath between Riverchapel and Courtown. He said that a survey had been conducted on footpaths on Main Street and the side streets in Gorey and potential trip hazards had been identified. Cllr. Byrne sought reassurance that attention would be given to pools of water collecting at the pedestrian crossing on Main Street and at the crossing to Ramsgate Village.

Cllr. Sullivan enquired when the pedestrian crossing lights at Naomh Eanna GAA Club would be connected. Mr. Shaw advised that an application had been made to the ESB for power supply for four crossing points, namely, St. Michael's Street, Paul Funge Boulevard, Kilanerin NS and Clonattin and that he was waiting on the ESB to revert back.

Cllr. Hegarty sought an update on the Lighting Review in the town and Mr. Shaw confirmed that the review was in progress and would be available at the next meeting. Cllr. Hegarty also enquired as to the status of the stand-alone telephone units. Mr. Shaw advised that he was due to meet Eircom in the coming week and that a new unit would be installed before St. Patrick's Day.

Cllr. Donohoe suggested that the Council look at a one-way traffic flow system at The Monument to which Mr. Shaw replied that plans were already in place, with funding required. Cllr. Donohoe also enquired as to the status of the bus shelters. Mr. Shaw confirmed that a shelter for both Camolin and Main Street, Gorey, were at planning design stage and should be at the Part VIII planning process by March/April. Cllr. Donohoe also drew Mr. Shaw's attention to trees on the Hollyfort Road making footpaths a potential slip hazard.

Cllr. Byrne expressed his concerns regarding the difficulty that buses were having moving through St. Michael's Road because of parking on both sides. Following a short discussion Members decided against removing parking bays as it would inconvenience local business people and also result in a loss to revenue. Ms. A. Byrne agreed to have the wardens access the situation over the next couple of weeks and review at that stage.

### ***Water Services***

Mr. T. Quirke updated the Members on progress in the Water Services Department and no additional queries were raised.

***Nominations from Gorey Municipal District to the County Joint Policing Committee*** - Cllr. Breen was proposed by Cllr. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan. Cllr. Ireton was proposed by Cllr. Donohoe and seconded by Cllr. Byrne and Cllr. Hegarty.

### ***District Managers Report***

Ms. A. Byrne updated the Committee on some upcoming projects and events.

### **No. 3 Prescribed Business**

None.

### **No. 4 Notice of Motion**

None.

### **No. 5 Correspondence**

Correspondence received and issued was noted. Ms. Byrne informed the Committee that she is waiting for confirmation of an installation date for the CCTV but that it would be up-and-running by the summer. Ms. Byrne also informed the Committee that she had received a letter of thanks from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in relation to the Book of Condolences from the people of Gorey in memory of the victims of the Carrickmines fire.

### **No. 6 AOB**

#### ***Accessibility Audit on Gorey Town***

Cllr. Farrell enquired had an Accessibility Audit on the town been carried out recently. Ms. Byrne advised that a public consultation process on access issues had taken place last summer but no recent audit had been carried out on infrastructure.

Mr. Shaw confirmed that the last accessibility survey was carried out in 2008 and that he would review this process with the Access Office where any local issues could be addressed.

***Discretionary Budget***

Cllr. Hegarty enquired whether any plans had been made for the additional €30,000 discretionary budget. Ms. Byrne advised that she had compiled a workplan for the coming year and that the Schedule of Works would be on the Agenda for next month so any suggestions could be addressed at that time.

Cllr. Hegarty also brought to the attention of the Committee the up-coming *Night Run* in Gorey on 10<sup>th</sup> March, proceeds to a local charity, and expressed his thanks to Ms. Amanda Byrne and Mr. Neville Shaw for their support.

***Consultation for Gorey Showgrounds***

Cllr. Donohoe sought an update on the consultation process for Gorey Showgrounds development. Ms. Byrne advised that the Planning Department would take on board any submissions but that a design team would also be incorporated.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016, 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: Anthony Donohoe,  
John Hegarty,  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

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

Apologies Cllr. Pip Breen, Leas Cathaoirleach,  
Cllr. Mary Farrell.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. A. Donohoe, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

**Matters Arising from January Meeting**

There were no matters arising from the February Meeting.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Gorey Town & Environs Local Area Plan 2016-2022***

The Chairman invited planning officials to update members on the development of the Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan to-date. Ms. P. Doyle explained the process leading up to the Pre-draft LAP stage and gave an overview of key changes since the 2010 Plan. Mr. M. Linehan summarised the submissions and observations received from the public during the Pre-draft Consultation Stage and noted any comments from members to be referred onto the Chief Executive. Ms. D. Kearns

advised that the Forward Planning Team would now prepare the Pre-draft LAP for presentation and discussion with the members of Gorey Municipal District by the June Meeting.

### **Planning**

The members noted the planning report and no queries were raised.

With regard to derelict sites, Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired as to the status of a house on Eire Street, to which Ms. Kearns advised that a CPO is being considered by the Council. Cllr. Byrne again acknowledged the progress being made with derelict sites, however raised serious concerns regarding the lack of action with the Old Stafford's House premises and sought reassurance that the dereliction process will re-commence immediately. Ms. Kearns confirmed that she would have the premises re-inspected. Cllr. Hegarty enquired as to the status of 2 houses in Coolgreany, to which Ms. Kearns advised that she would report back with an update.

Cllr. Ireton expressed his concerns over illegal dumping on the Red Row. District Manager, Ms. A. Byrne, advised that she would ask the Community Warden to visit the site to collect GPS data and photos to forward onto the Environmental Response Crew.

### **Housing**

The members noted the housing report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. Byrne raised his concerns regarding a proposed housing allocation in Garden City. Mr. A. Bailey updated members on the applicant's case and advised that following the applicant's assessment from various agencies the Council proposed to allocate a house in Garden City. He further added that the allocation had been made in line with the Scheme of Letting Priorities and that the matter had been dealt with in a professional manner and was an executive decision. Following a lengthy discussion, Cllr. Byrne formally objected to the housing allocation transfer proceeding, seconded by Cllr. Donohoe and Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin, and agreed by other members. Cllr. Ireton expressed strong opposition to this objection.

The formal objection was put to vote :

For	5
Against	1
Abstaining	0

Mr. A. Bailey advised that he would refer this matter onto the SEO, Housing.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

Cllr. Sullivan noted from Council figures over the last 16 months that only 28 offers of housing have been made in the Gorey District. Cllr. Hegarty added that in Gorey the Housing Maintenance requests were in some cases, less than half that of other towns in the county. Cllr. Byrne noted that the Housing Strategy, which members requested from the Housing Department a year ago, had never materialised and called for a Special Meeting to consider the matter. Members agreed that Gorey's

housing situation has become an emergency case, requiring immediate attention. District Director, Ms. A. O'Neill, suggested sending in formal submissions to the Housing SPC to which Ms. A. Byrne agreed was the starting point.

Mr. A. Bailey informed the Committee that the SEO, Housing, was agreeable to meet with members for a Special Meeting and it was proposed to hold such a meeting in April. Members asked that both the Director of Services and SEO, Housing, attend along with the Chair of the Housing SPC and that the findings be prioritised on the agenda of the next Housing SPC to communicate the serious nature of the housing crisis.

### **AOB**

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin requested that electricity be switched on at Pedestrian Crossings to which Mr. N. Shaw advised that applications had gone to the ESB but that he would follow up with the Council's Energy Officer.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin highlighted a number of accidents that have taken place at a dangerous bend at the top of Limbrick Hill and enquired whether improvements could be made. Mr. N. Shaw confirmed this would be possible when re-surfacing works commence.

Cllr. Sullivan sought an update on the Ahare River and Mr. N. Shaw advised that a costing to raise the road came to €250,000, funds which the Council did not have. Alternatives were to look at lowering the river or dredging which he confirmed he would approach the Environment Section over.

Other issues raised by members included lights at Ballythomas School not working, centre markings requested on narrow bends on roads around Tara Hill, additional lighting at Gorey Community School, monitoring traffic on St. Michael's Road, some patch work required at the back of Allenwood Lane and some lighting issues in Riverchapel. Mr. N. Shaw advised that he would address all issues prior to the next meeting.

Cllr. Byrne reminded members of the Irish Mass in Gorey on St. Patrick's Day and also times of the parades in both Coolgreany and Gorey. He also commended the Council on their successful ban of "silly string" on St. Patrick's Day.

With regard to the Discretionary Allocation, District Manager, Ms. A. Byrne, informed the Committee that there were a number of small scale projects for which plans have been prepared, in particular, the development of walking trails at Coillte Woods at Ramsfort. Ms. A. Byrne advised that the local Coillte Forestry Manager has given approval in principle for this project and she envisaged that the Gateway Scheme would also be used in the delivery of this project. She further added that the trails will provide an alternative, longer walk and address some anti-social activities. Cllr. Hegarty suggested looking at a theme for the trail. The works were agreed in principle by members.

Cllr. Hegarty expressed his thanks for all those involved in the recent *Night Run* in Gorey and Cllr. Ireton informed the Committee that he would be representing the Council in Vigo, Spain, shortly.

Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that she proposed holding an information evening for the public to submit suggestions regarding town twinning.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin, on behalf of Sean Doire Residents Association, presented a petition to Mr. N. Shaw regarding the need for speed ramps.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016, 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: Anthony Donohoe,  
John Hegarty,  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance,  
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Elizabeth Hore, Senior Executive Officer, Housing  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Asst. Staff Officer,

Apologies Cllr. Pip Breen, Leas Cathaoirleach,  
Cllr. Mary Farrell.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. A. Donohoe, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

**Matters Arising from March Meeting**

It was agreed that matters arising from the March Meeting could be dealt with under the relevant agenda items.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Planning***

The members noted the planning report and no queries were raised.

Ms. Kearns informed the Committee that she aimed to have a Pre-draft Gorey Town & Environs LAP Plan for presentation and discussion at the June Meeting.

***Derelict Sites***

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired as to the status of a house on Eire Street, to which Ms. Kearns advised that an assessment is currently being carried out by the Senior

Executive Architect to see if viable for social housing and that a decision for CPO would be made on that basis. Cllr. Sullivan enquired as to the status of two houses in Coolgreany, to which Ms. Kearns advised that 1 house was being considered for social housing.

Members expressed concerns over large amounts of littering and illegal dumping at houses on the Red Row and in Cluain Caislean, Ferns, and on the Old Singing Kettle Site in Riverchapel. District Manager, Ms. A. Byrne, advised that she would ask the Community Warden to visit these sites to collect GPS data and photos to forward onto the Litter Register for action.

### ***Housing***

The members noted the housing report and no queries were raised.

Ms. Hore informed members that the Director of Housing has given a commitment to hear members concerns at the May District Meeting regarding housing needs and delivery in the Gorey District. Cllr. Byrne re-iterated the serious nature of the current housing crisis in Gorey and while Ms. Hore agreed that Gorey is in need of housing supply, she advised that the Council is continuing to work with housing bodies and acquiring NAMA houses. Cllr. Donohoe asked what funds the Council have at their disposal. Ms. Hore informed the Committee that €25m over a 3 year period will provide approximately 677 units, of which up to 50% of these units will be allocated to Gorey, with more under the Housing 2020 Strategy.

### ***Roads***

Members noted the roads report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. Hegarty, under Matters Arising, sought an update on parking arrangements on St. Michael's Road. Mr. Shaw proposed replacing up to 5 parking bays with double yellow lines on one side of the road and to review again in six months.

The proposal was put to vote :	For	5
	Against	1
	Abstaining	0

Mr. Shaw provided updates on the following issues raised by members - completion date for the Gorey Inner Relief Road, Bus Shelters for Gorey and Camolin, the switching on of pedestrian light crossings, an update on The Avenue and road surfacing from Limbrick Hill to Kilanerin. When asked about the possibility of a pedestrian crossing at Coláiste an Átha, Mr. Shaw advised that he would address the issue next year, as there was no money in the budget for it this year.

### ***Water***

Mr. T. Quirke updated the Members on progress in the Water Services Department and no queries were raised.

### ***No. 3 Gorey Youth Needs Presentation***

Mandi Tighe, Gorey Youth Needs, and students from Creagh College and Gorey Community School joined the Meeting to update members on the GMD Youth

Participation Project. Ten students successfully completed Occupational First Aid Training, which in conjunction with upcoming Event Management Training, will be of benefit towards their proposed project of a music festival in Gorey Town Park, promoting positive mental health and greater awareness of facilities available to the youth in Gorey.

#### ***No. 4 Amenity & Arts and Resident Association Grants***

The Amenity & Arts and Residents Associations Grant Allocations were circulated to all Members. Following a short discussion the allocations were proposed by Cllr. Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. Donohoe. Cllr. Ireton noted his disappointment with the allocation made to the London/Wexford Association.

#### ***No. 5 Schedule of Municipal District Works***

The Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Gorey District for 2016 was proposed by Cllr. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. Donohoe.

#### ***No. 6 GMD Festival & Events GMA 2016***

The GMD Festival & Events GMA proposal for 2016 was adopted by the Committee. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin informed the Committee that the County Fleadh is under huge financial pressure and would be grateful of any support available. District Manager, Ms. A. Byrne, informed Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin that the District had financed the opening reception for the Fleadh for the past two years in Gorey, which had brought people into the town, and that the Fleadh Committee had been happy with this arrangement. She advised that it may be possible to give the value of the reception cost to the committee as a once-off provision.

#### ***No. 7 Chestnut Walk***

The taking-in-charge of Chestnut Walk, Kilmuckridge, Gorey, was proposed by Cllr. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan.

#### ***No. 8 Correspondence***

Correspondence received was noted.

With regard to the 1916 Commemoration Plaques, it was agreed by members that one event would be chosen for the official unveiling of plaques. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired when plaques would be erected and Ms. A. Byrne advised that final details were being sorted and all would be erected within the next 4 months.

#### ***No. 9 AOB***

Members passed a vote of sympathy to Trish & Anto Ryan following the loss of their daughter, Ciara, to Colm Webb & his family following the passing of John Webb and to the Kehoe Family following the passing of Cllr. Fergie Kehoe.

Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that the various International Award winners would be recognised at the June District Meeting.

With regard to circus queries raised, Ms. A. Byrne informed members that no responsibility lies with the Council.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

**Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016**

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2016, 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,  
Mr. John Carley, Director of Services,  
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer, Housing,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Mr. Ger Mackey, Administrative Officer,  
Mr. Tom Banville, Head of Local Enterprise,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Asst. Staff Officer,

Apologies Cllr. Mary Farrell.

Items Circulated (1) Local Economic & Community Plan 2016 – 2021,  
(2) Local Policing Fora for Courtown Riverchapel Presentation,  
(3) Garda Síochána Act 2005 – Local Policing Fora in Local  
Drugs Task Force Areas Guidelines.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

**Matters Arising from April Meeting**

There were no matters arising from the April Meeting.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Housing***

The members noted the housing report and no queries were raised.

### ***Consideration of Draft Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP)***

Mr. Mackey and Mr. Banville presented the Draft Local Economic & Community Plan 2016–2021 to the Committee, and responded to members questions. Cllr. Hegarty commended all those involved with the Plan but raised his concerns over its implementation, highlighting that some areas may have different priorities than others. Mr. Mackey acknowledged that North Wexford has different challenges in comparison to other districts, but that the Plan, to be adopted in June, will be consistently reviewed over its lifetime and that the Council will target intervention where it sees fit. Members formally adopted the Draft Plan, proposed by Cllr. Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. Hegarty.

### ***Resident Association Grants***

The Chairman advised that an application had been received from the residents of Millbrook, and it was agreed to allocate €500 to the group, proposed by Cllr. Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. Hegarty.

### ***Correspondence***

Correspondence received and issued was noted.

### ***Local Policing Fora (LPF) for Courtown Riverchapel***

Mr. Mackey gave a presentation on the proposed Local Policing Fora to be piloted for Courtown Riverchapel to address anti-social behavior and crime in the area. Mr. Mackey explained that the forum can include representatives of the local gardai, the community, local agencies, Gorey Municipal District. He recommended that it be supported by the District Manager. Mr. Mackey added that he hoped the Committee could be established before the next JPC Meeting in July. Cllr. Byrne felt that the Garda Representative on the Committee should be a Superintendent or higher, a view which was supported by Cllr. Breen. Following a short discussion, Cllr. Byrne proposed a 12 month trial of the forum, subject to the Superintendent attending meetings, seconded by Cllr. Sullivan and Cllr. Ireton. Ms. O'Neill, District Director, welcomed the idea though expressed her concerns that the LPF might not perform at the level required and that a substantial workload will fall on the District Manager.

Ms. O'Neill suggested discussing resources at Council level, adding that the correct structure needs to be in place for the initiative to work. Mr. Mackey suggested the possibility of an agency taking on this challenge, which might have more resources than the Municipal District. It was agreed that the Community Section will work on devising the structure of the forum and report back at a later date.

### ***Planning***

The members noted the planning report and no queries were raised.

Ms. Kearns informed the Committee that it was intended to bring the Pre-draft Gorey Town & Environs LAP Plan to the full Council in July and it was agreed by Members to meet Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June for discussion on same.

### ***Derelict Sites***

Ms. Kearns updated members on a planning application that has been received on Coill na Guise. There were no further queries raised and Ms. Kearns left the meeting.

## **Roads**

Members noted the roads report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. Sullivan raised a number of queries to which Mr. Shaw responded:

- Update on Inner Relief Road,
- Completion Date for The Avenue Project,
- Continuing problems with The Ahare River, and
- Completion Date for Courtown.

A number of members raised their concerns over ongoing coastal protection works at Courtown and questioned whether the rock armour work had been the best option for protecting the beach. Ms. O'Neill provided members with an update from Mr. J. Lambe, Executive Engineer, Environment, and added that both Mr. Lambe and Mr. Forde will be attending the June Meeting.

Cllr. Ireton reported a large number of potholes in the road at the seafront in Courtown and Mr. Shaw advised that he would release a crew for repair work.

Cllr. Hegarty sought an update on the Lighting Review. Mr. Shaw advised that the report was complete, that he was due to meet with AlReid shortly and would have an update for the June meeting.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin raised a number of queries to which Mr. Shaw responded:

- Pedestrian Crossing Connections,
- Town Footpath Review, and
- Road Strengthening on Limbrick Hill to Kilanerin.

Cllr. Byrne enquired whether parking in the direction of traffic could be introduced to improve traffic flow in the town and Mr. Shaw agreed to investigate this matter.

Cllr. Byrne raised his concerns regarding Visitor Permits being abolished in Gorey. Ms. L. Stanley explained the difficulties encountered over the past number of years in controlling these permits and added that the Roads Department were currently carrying out an in-depth overview of the Bye-Laws for the County. Cllr. Byrne stressed the need to accommodate vulnerable residents. Ms. L. Stanley informed the Committee that a full report will be available at the June meeting.

Cllr. Sullivan commended recent changes made on St. Michael's Road which have led to a marked improvement for traffic flow.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed his concerns regarding the condition of some back lanes and enquired could they be taken in under the Council's remit. Mr. Shaw replied that it may be possible, but that he didn't have the funding. He added that he would speak to Mr. Mackey, Community & Enterprise Section, regarding funding and that it may be possible to address 1 or 2 lanes a year.

## **Water**

Mr. T. Quirke updated the Members on progress in the Water Services Department and no queries were raised.

### ***District Manager's Report***

Ms. L. Stanley updated members on developments to date with Christmas 2016. She informed members that the Council has set aside €25,000 to cover the cost of power, erecting lights, christmas trees, maintenance and the festive programme. Ms. A. Byrne also added that a Traffic Management Plan would be put in place for the night of November 24<sup>th</sup> for the 'Big Switch On'. Ms. A. Byrne reminded members of the LoveGorey.ie website re-launch which will take place alongside a discussion on a tourism destination strategy for North Wexford on 24<sup>th</sup> May in the Amber Springs Hotel. Ms. Byrne also reminded members of the PolskaEire Festival in Gorey this coming weekend.

### **AOB**

Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that the Gorey Municipal District AGM will take place on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed his congratulations to 3 schools in the district, namely Craanford NS, Gaelscoil Moshíológ and Bunscoil Loretto for their recent success in reaching the final six in the Walton's Music for Schools Competition.

Cllr. Byrne updated the Committee on Town Twinning and confirmed that Gorey was receiving strong interest from Normandy.

Ms. A. Byrne reminded members of the North Wexford 2k Clean Awards taking place following the meeting and added that communities have raised a number of issues regarding litter. Cllr. Ireton added that the introduction of the new pay by weight system for recycling will lead to an increase in fly tipping and called on the need for CCTV in litter blackspots. Ms. O'Neill, District Director, informed members that the Council has used cameras for successful prosecutions in the past and are looking at more innovative measures.

Cllr. Donohoe expressed his congratulations to Tuaisceart Loch Garman on their successful hosting of the County Fleadh in Craanford over the weekend.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016.

**Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016**

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

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016, 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. Malcolm Byrne, Cathaoirleach.

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

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

**1. Outgoing Cathaoirleach's Address:**

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Byrne, addressed the meeting, drawing particular attention to the wide ranging achievements from the last year, in particular the development of the Technology Park in the town, the GMD Youth Participation Project, improved disability access through engaging with Disability Groups and the piloting of the Disabled Parking App, and the strong links made with France which he hoped would continue to strengthen. He thanked his Leas Chathaoirleach, Cllr. Pip Breen, fellow elected members, District Director, District Manager and officials and he extended his best wishes to the incoming Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Members and officials joined in congratulating the Cathaoirleach and Leas Chathaoirleach on their positive contributions, achievements and worthy representation of the District throughout the year.

**2. Election of Cathaoirleach**

Cllr. J. Sullivan proposed Cllr. Pip Breen as Cathaoirleach.  
Cllr. Sullivan's nomination was seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin proposed Cllr. Mary Farrell as Cathaoirleach.  
Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin's nomination was seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton.

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

Cllr. Hegarty	PB
Cllr. Ireton	MF
Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin	MF
Cllr. Donohoe	PB
Cllr. Farrell	MF
Cllr. Sullivan	PB
Cllr. Breen	PB
Cllr. Byrne	PB
Cllr. Pip Breen	5
Cllr. Mary Farrell	3

Cllr. Pip Breen was declared elected as Cathaoirleach and assumed the Chair.

Cllr. Ireton and Cllr. Farrell expressed the opinion that the procedure for determining the positions was not equitable and removed themselves from the Chamber.

Cllr. Breen addressed the meeting and thanked his proposer and seconder for their nomination and support. He briefly outlined his key priorities for the coming year, namely, the continued development of the Innovation Centre, Gorey Town Park, the Gateway Scheme and promotion of the Three Sisters 2020 initiative as well as a university for the South East.

### **3. Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach**

Cllr. M. Byrne proposed Cllr. John Hegarty, as Leas-Chathaoirleach. Cllr. Byrne's nomination was seconded by Cllr. A. Donohoe.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin proposed Cllr. Ireton as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

As there was no seconder for Cllr. Ireton's nomination, Cllr. John Hegarty was declared elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach and addressed the meeting thanking his proposer and seconder for their nomination and support.

### **THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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**Mr. Pip Breen**  
**Cathaoirleach**  
**Gorey Municipal District**

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016, at 3.30 pm  
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District  
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,

Councillors: Malcolm Byrne,  
Anthony Donohoe,  
Mary Farrell,  
John Hegarty, Leas Chathaoirleach  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT,  
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Mr. Gerry Forde, Senior Engineer,  
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer, Housing,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Pat Collins, County Secretary,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Mr. John Lambe, Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Brian O'Shaughnessy, I.S Analyst Developer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Asst. Staff Officer.

Items Circulated (1) Presentation on Member's Query System

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. A. Donohoe, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan, the minutes of the Special Housing Meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

**Matters Arising from May Meeting**

There were no matters arising from the May Meeting. Cllr. Hegarty sought confirmation that comments he raised in relation to the LECF had been addressed within the document.

## **No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

### ***Members Query's System***

Mr. P. Collins and Mr. B. O'Shaughnessy presented the Member's Query System to the Committee. The system, which is being piloted in Gorey, is part of the overall development of the Customer Service System whereby members must ensure that all queries are logged through the system in order to effectively evaluate its potential. Members welcomed the introduction of the system.

### ***Environment***

Mr. G. Forde and Mr. J. Lambe gave a presentation to the Committee of the ongoing activities of the Environment Department:

- Recent success with litter prosecutions;
- Coastal Protection Works at Donaghmore Cemetery;
- Update on Courtown Pier;
- Options for breakwaters and a marina in Courtown;
- Appointment of a new Farm Inspector;
- Carrying out of noise tests at windfarms in the Askamore Area.

Cllr. Sullivan raised the issue of flooding problems at the Ahare River in Castletown. Mr. Forde replied that he would look at possible solutions but advised that there was no straightforward one.

Cllr. Byrne complimented the Environment Section on their work to achieve the blue flag for Ballymoney beach. He expressed his concern, though, over the level of illegal fly-posting in the District. Mr. Forde advised that the Council is in the process of appointing an Environmental Warden for Gorey and Enniscorthy.

Cllr. Farrell called for a review of parking and traffic flow at Morriscastle beach, particularly in the event of emergency services trying to gain access to the beach. Mr. Forde agreed to meet with Mr. Shaw to discuss traffic management options for the area approaching the beach. Cllr. Farrell also added that with the introduction of the Beach Wheelchair to Morriscastle, the beach boardwalk will need to be swept free of sand, to which Mr. Lambe confirmed that it would be cleaned regularly.

Mr. Lambe provided members with an update on Courtown beach and pier repairs and informed the Committee that the Council is planning to appoint consultants to examine options for breakwaters and a marina in Courtown. The majority of members felt that, in terms of tourism, the number one priority is a marina for the District, and Cllr. Hegarty added that the beach restoration is also key. It was agreed by members to hold a special meeting to discuss Courtown at a later date.

### ***Housing***

The members noted the housing report and no queries were raised. Ms. Hore informed the Committee that the Council is continuing to look at possible housing units and that the recent Social Housing Assessment Guidelines require each local authority to carry out a review of all approved applicants for Social Housing Supports to establish the housing needs in Wexford.

Members called on the Council to compulsorily purchase land and derelict houses for social housing, to which Ms. O'Neill, District Director, advised that the Council is not currently in a position to purchase due to limited finances. Ms. Hore added that CPO is a lengthy process and informed the Committee that she has invited a Department official to come to Wexford to determine the specific needs of all districts. Cllr. Hegarty added that the Council should be looking at developers who are sitting on land and Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin called for a CPO on NAMA developments. Cllr. Byrne called for a meeting with the Minister for Housing and Senior Officials to express the concerns of the District.

### ***Planning***

The members noted the Planning Report and Derelict Sites update and no queries were raised.

Members agreed to the morning of Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> July for a Pre-draft Gorey Town & Environs LAP Review Meeting.

### ***Roads***

Members noted the Roads Report and no queries were raised. Mr. N. Shaw informed the Committee that resurfacing of Craanford Village is due to commence shortly along with work on the roundabout on the Hollyfort Road at Creagh.

Cllr. Donohoe requested an update on the pedestrian crossing at Kilanerin and Mr. Shaw advised that the Council is waiting on an ESB connection.

Cllr. Ireton expressed his concern over the footpath widths on The Avenue which he felt has left the road very narrow. Mr. Shaw informed members that the road was deliberately narrowed to slow down traffic and eliminate parking.

Cllr. Farrell welcomed the new footpath on the approach road to Ballycanew and suggested a footpath along the road from Kilmuckridge to Morriscastle Beach. Mr. Shaw advised that he would consider this request under his Programme for Footpaths.

Cllr. Hegarty expressed his concern over the safety of the crossroads in Kilanerin where another serious accident took place recently. Mr. Shaw advised that he would look at some low cost, safety improvements.

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin welcomed the announcement of five planned roads staff to be recruited to the Gorey District. He then sought an update on any funding secured to clean up lanes behind several estates in Gorey and handed in a letter from the residents of Allenwood Drive. Mr. Shaw confirmed that he had recently met with residents of Sean O'Byrne Park and that perhaps one lane a year could be addressed.

Cllr. Byrne raised the issue of the M11 Service Station at Ballyellen which has yet to open and enquired whether the Council could speed up the process in any way. Mr. Shaw replied that this was not within the Council's remit. Cllr. Byrne then requested that Transport Infrastructure Ireland be contacted to seek clarification on this matter.

### **Water Services**

Members noted the Water Services Report and no queries were raised.

### **Resident Association Grants**

The Chairman advised that applications had been received from the residents of Oakwood and Charlotte Grove, and it was agreed to allocate €500 to each group, proposed by Cllr. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Sullivan.

### **District Manager's Report**

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

Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin and Cllr. Ireton expressed concerns over the variety of tree to be selected for The Avenue and Ms. Byrne informed members that she would seek the advice of a specialist.

Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that an invitation had been received from Rouen, Normandy, to discuss twinning with them and it was agreed to seek advice of the County Secretary with regard to protocol for the visit..

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, at 3.30 pm  
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District  
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,

Councillors: Malcolm Byrne,  
Anthony Donohoe,  
Mary Farrell,  
John Hegarty, Leas Chathaoirleach  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance & ICT,  
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Mr. Pat Collins, County Secretary,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer.  
Ms. Anita McLoughlin, Senior Staff Officer  
Mr. Bob Cowman, Asst. Staff Officer

Apologies: Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner

Prior to the monthly meeting, the official opening of the Magic Woodlands took place at 1:30pm which was followed by a presentation from Tony Ennis, Ennis & Co., Dr. Ronan O' Flaherty and Dr. Yvonne Byrne on the North Wexford Tourism Scoping report outlining progress to date.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. A. Donohoe, the minutes of the following meetings were agreed and adopted:

- Annual General Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016
- Monthly Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016
- Minutes of Special Meeting on Draft Gorey Local Area Plan of 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2016

**Matters Arising from July Meeting (Planning):**

Cllr. M. Byrne sought to clarify and it was agreed that the wording of the minutes in relation to the Council's Development Contribution Scheme was to set up a specific Contribution Development Scheme which would be used for clearly identified projects such as the Showground's project, a planned cultural Project Centre and the

Director of Planning would advise members as to such a scheme in the Autumn. Cllr. M. Byrne also requested and it was agreed that it be noted that in relation to Section 8 (Retail Section) of the Draft Local Area Plan, that he and Cllr. M. Farrell voted against the motion passed by members of Wexford County Council on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, that fast food restaurants, takeaways and amusement arcades should not be permitted within 250 metres of existing schools, on the basis that this was not sufficiently far enough away for this type of development.

## **No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

### ***Members Query's System***

Mr. P. Collins and Ms. A. McLoughlin attended the meeting and outlined the progress to date on the new Customer Service System. The members were positive regarding this new development and recognised the potential the new system had to offer. The County Secretary outlined the importance of using this system for all queries going forward, as this is a valuable means of recording all queries and assessing how they are being dealt with.

### ***Magic Woodlands Project***

The members noted the tremendous work carried out by Gorey Tidy Towns and the Gateway Scheme and welcomed a new amenity for the town.

### ***Mid-Term Review of Traveller Accommodation Programme 2017- 2018***

Members were advised that the Housing Department is in the process of carrying out a mid-term review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 for County Wexford.

It is envisaged that the draft review will be presented at the November meeting of GMD and to assist in the preparation of this review, Members were requested to forward written submissions where relevant and advise all interested parties of this process also.

### ***Housing***

The members noted the housing report and serious concerns were expressed in relation to the number of housing allocations in Gorey in comparison to the other three Districts. Cllr. M. Byrne highlighted the fact that during the first six months of the year, 19 houses were allocated in the Gorey District in comparison to 40 allocations in New Ross, 27 in Enniscorthy and 34 in Wexford. Cllr. J. Hegarty also expressed concern noting that the allocations in Gorey are 50% lower than the second lowest housing allocation in the County.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed concern regarding the number of vacant houses highlighted in the recent Census figures and recommended that this matter receive immediate attention. Cllr. J. Hegarty agreed but felt that an audit of vacant houses should take place as a priority and Cllr. J. Sullivan agreed with this proposal but recommended that the audit should take account and record the number of units which are currently inhabitable.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Farrell, seconded by Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin, the members agreed to forward a submission to the Housing SPC outlining their concerns. It was further agreed that the members should provide the District Manager with details of any vacant properties in their area by e-mail and copy the email to the Director of Services and all details should be provided on or before 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2016.

Ms. A. O' Neill agreed that the housing situation in Gorey is of concern but advised that the Housing team is very much aware of the current situation and proactively working to secure land in Gorey town and environs and is currently working with the Department to fast track other programs to improve the current situation.

The discussion concluded with the proposal of Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne, that Wexford County Council write to South Dublin County Council and Louth County Council requesting statistical information or a policy document on how they deal with re-letting vacant houses within their area of responsibility.

### ***Planning***

The members noted the Planning Report and Cllr. M. Byrne welcomed the progress outlined on the Derelict Sites report. However, concern was expressed regarding the former telecom exchange on Rafter Street and following a discussion on the matter, it was agreed that the District Manager would contact Eir asking them to address the matter as the site is now visually unacceptable and in a state of disrepair.

The former Tesco site was also discussed as a matter of concern and it was agreed to discuss the possibility of a dereliction levy on this site with the Senior Executive Planner.

### ***Environment***

Cllr. J. Hegarty welcomed the success of Wexford County Council in securing litter convictions recently but expressed concern at the anonymous details provided in the Councillor's monthly report. He strongly felt that these individuals should be "named and shamed" and the District Manager agreed to clarify the situation regarding data protection with the Council's Legal Team.

### ***Roads***

Members noted the Roads Report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. A. Donohoe expressed concern at the lack of cycle ways on the plans for The Avenue and stressed that amendments should be made to ensure that they are provided prior to works being completed.

Cllr. M. Farrell also highlighted the serious traffic congestion encountered when accessing the beach in Morriscastle during the summer season and stressed that this situation required attention as emergency services would not be able to access the beach in the event of an emergency.

Cllr. J. Hegarty outlined concerns regarding a dangerous cross roads located in The Rock and stressed that the situation is degenerating as the growth in the ditches is now camouflaging the Stop sign and also there is an issue with gravel coming down the hill which needs to be addressed.

### ***District Manager's Report***

Ms. A. Byrne advised the members that the procurement process for Gorey Town Park is finalised and work will begin in September 2016.

Members were also advised of forthcoming events particularly in relation to the Market House Festival.

The District Manager outlined the progress made during the recent twinning trip to Normandy which took place on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 and briefly outlined actions for consideration going forward.

Members were also advised that the new parking pilot app is proving very successful with the number of fines increasing over the past number of weeks. The public's assistance has proved very beneficial in highlighting offences as they are taking place which can then be addressed by the Community Warden on patrol.

### ***Report from discussion meeting with Community Groups from Ballycanew, Ballygarret, Cahore and Killenagh***

This item was deferred for discussion at the September Meeting when the Senior Executive Engineer would outline proposed plans for these areas.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

### ***Water***

Members noted the Water Services Report and no queries were raised.

### ***Resident Association Grants***

The Chairman advised that an application had been received from the residents of Harbour Court Residents Association, and it was agreed to allocate €500 to this group as proposed by Cllr. R. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne.

### ***Representative from GMD to Corporate Policy Group***

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan, the Committee recommended that the Chairman, Cllr. P. Breen represent Gorey Municipal District on the Corporate Policy Group.

### ***Correspondence Received***

The members noted correspondence received from HE Ryszard Sarkowicz expressing his gratitude for the support and assistance of Gorey Municipal District in organising the Polska Eire Festival 2016.

Correspondence from Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the M11 Service Station, Gorey, was also noted.

### ***Correspondence Issued***

- Letter of acknowledgement to HE Ryszard Sarkowicz, dated 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 was noted.

- Letter to Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, dated 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2016 was noted.
- Letter to Damian English, TD, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal, dated 1<sup>st</sup> July was noted.
- Letter to Transport Infrastructure Ireland, dated 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2016 was noted.

***Minutes Silence:***

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Breen, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan, a minutes silence was observed for the 84 victims of the Bastille Day Massacre in Nice and the victims of the Turkish Coup which took place on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

Sympathy was offered to the victims' families and those injured in these horrific attacks.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016, at 3.30 pm  
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District  
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,

Councillors: Malcolm Byrne,  
Anthony Donohoe,  
Mary Farrell,  
John Hegarty, Leas Chathaoirleach  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Mr. Tom Enright, Chief Executive,  
Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services,  
Mr. Diarmuid Houston, Senior Planner,  
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

The Chairman opened the meeting and invited Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services, to begin his presentation, outlining progress to date on various projects with members. These discussions were held In-Committee.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders for half an hour.

**Matters Arising from July Meeting**

There were no matters arising from the July Meeting.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Planning***

The members noted the Planning Report and Derelict Sites update and no queries were raised.

Cllr. R. Ireton sought details of Event Licences, to which Ms. Deirdre Kearns advised, she would report back.

Cllr. J. Sullivan expressed his concerns over the condition of the old St. Joseph's School site which is attracting some anti-social behaviour, including a recent fire on site. Members agreed that the building is a dangerous structure and should be considered for a Dereliction Order. Ms. D. Kearns advised that she would forward onto Mr. Tony Nolan for an urgent inspection.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired about when the Special Development Contribution Scheme for Gorey would be prepared. Ms. D. Kearns clarified that it was not possible to do a separate Development Contribution Scheme for Gorey and that it could only be done within the context of the existing County Development Contribution Scheme.

Ms. D. Kearns provided members with an update on the Gorey Town & Environs Local Area Plan and informed the Committee that the Draft LAP would be on public display from 28<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 and that written submissions and observations could be submitted to the Forward Planning Department during that 6 week period.

### **Roads**

Members noted the Roads Report and no queries were raised.

Mr. Neville Shaw informed members that the Roads Allocation Funding was nearly exhausted, with 78% already spent before the commencement of the last quarter of 2016. As a result of this, Mr. N. Shaw advised that the Council would only finish those projects already under way, and that some roads, namely Monaseed, part of Craanford and the link between the bridge and the railway station, would be put on hold and addressed as a priority in early 2017.

Cllr. M. Farrell enquired when the trees and landscaping on The Avenue would be finished. Mr. N. Shaw confirmed that they were currently pricing trees and that the project would be complete by Christmas.

Cllr. R. Ireton asked could an assessment of public lighting be conducted around the town and Mr. N. Shaw advised that such an assessment had been completed. Cllr. R. Ireton felt that lighting in Riverchapel should be moved closer to the school and Mr. N. Shaw advised that there was a planned over-lay for the village in 2018 and lighting would be included.

Cllr. J. Sullivan welcomed the commencement of the Inner Relief Road. He also enquired about a footpath from P&H Doyle's Garage to Gaelscoil Moshíológ, to which Mr. N. Shaw confirmed that the footpath was a priority. Cllr. J. Sullivan suggested introducing "Age Friendly Parking" on The Avenue to allow for short-term parking stays for the elderly. Mr. N. Shaw advised that he would look into such a proposal but added that it would not be enforceable, rather an initiative which could be promoted.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin informed the Committee that the Ballycanew Development Association had expressed their disappointment with the lack of response from the Council following their meeting last April. Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager, said that a number of the works sought were delivered, but apologised for the delay in responding to the group, as due to time constraints the report hadn't been addressed at recent Monthly Meetings. Ms. A. Byrne confirmed that the report would be issued to Groups following this Meeting. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin added that the group were looking for a piece of land for a playground, but have been unsuccessful to date. Cllr. M. Farrell added that the IWA Centre is already being used as a Community Centre and that there was a field to the back of the Centre which could be utilised. It was agreed by members that both the Development Association and the Tidy Towns Group need to converse and that Mr. Ger Mackey should also be brought on board for assistance.

Cllr. Donohoe sought an update on the bus shelters. Mr. N. Shaw advised that the Council was finalising funding and that he would liaise with the NTA and Bus Agencies who may be able to provide additional funding. Cllr. Donohoe added that the two designated bus stops in Camolin are causing a build-up of traffic on the N11 when people are boarding and disembarking, to which Mr. N. Shaw confirmed that he would be putting in lines once the shelter is going in. Cllr. Donohoe also enquired had contact been made with the driver involved in a recent accident which took place on the bridge at Hollyfort, seeing that the bridge had already been repaired. Ms. A. Byrne advised that she would follow up with the Gardai regarding insurance etc.

Cllr. J. Hegarty expressed his concerns again over the crossroads at The Rock and Limbrick Hill. Mr. N. Shaw advised that due to limited funds minimal works have been completed at these crossroads. Cllr. J. Hegarty commended the road surface from Croghan to the Raheenleagh Windfarm and informed the Committee that the National Hill Climb Championship held by Gorey Cycling Club is due to take place in Ballyfad on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. He hoped that the Council could provide barriers for the event and sponsorship in the amount of €200. Ms. A. Byrne agreed, but informed Cllr. J. Hegarty that the club would need to apply for an Event Licence.

### ***Water Services***

Members noted the Water Services Report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin sought an update on Creagh Demesne. Mr. Tony Quirke informed the Committee that Irish Water had tested the Main Supply in the estate, which they reported was clear. In addition IW had written to all householders regarding the oil supply into their homes and had requested that they contact the Council's Environment Section. Mr. T. Quirke advised that he would check on progress to date and report back.

### ***District Manager's Report***

The District Manager outlined some recent events which took place in the District, in particular the Ullswater Commemorative Event, which received very positive feedback.

With regard to the Trails at Ramsfort Woodlands, Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that once the Coillte works are complete, the Council can commence the

trail development. Cllr. J. Hegarty enquired whether any specific theme for the trail had been decided on and Ms. A. Byrne replied that once a start date is available, that would be addressed.

Ms. A. Byrne updated members on the Town & Village Renewal Scheme application which could provide funding for renewal works in Camolin and Ferns to encourage tourists and motorists to divert off the extended M11 to visit.

Ms. A. Byrne also outlined the progress made during the recent twinning trip to Normandy which took place on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 and briefly outlined actions for consideration going forward. Members agreed with the proposed actions.

Ms. A. Byrne highlighted the amount of unlicensed road signage currently around the District, particularly in Camolin. She added that a complete signage audit has been conducted on approach roads to Gorey Town and a work plan has been developed on how best to deal with this issue.

### ***Report from discussion meeting with Community Groups from Ballycanew, Ballygarret, Cahore and Killenagh***

The Report from the Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 was presented to members and approved for circulation to the Community Groups involved.

### ***Resident Association Grants***

The Chairman advised that an application had been received from Camolin Community Development Association on behalf of Annesley Court, and it was agreed to allocate €500 to this group as proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan.

### ***Correspondence***

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

### ***AOB***

Cllr. M. Byrne commended the Cycle Path Initiative for the N11 which had recently received funding from the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs.

On behalf of the District, Cllr. M. Byrne extended his best wishes to Ms. Hazel Percival on her forthcoming appointment to Wexford Library HQ and praised her for her tremendous work and dedication to Gorey Library.

Cllr. M. Byrne expressed his annoyance with the decision of the Housing Executive to over-turn this Committee's previous objection to a housing allocation in the District and requested that housing be made a specific agenda item for the next meeting. This request was supported by Cllr. J. Sullivan.

Cllr. J. Hegarty expressed his concerns again at the anonymous details of recent litter convictions provided in the member's July Monthly Report and asked that clarification be sought from Mr. Hugh Maguire, Environment Section.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired as to the status of the 1916 Commemoration Plaques and Ms. A. Byrne replied that the last remaining few were being erected.

Cllr. M. Farrell asked that a letter be sent to the HSE requesting that a transport service be put in place for people with disabilities to access hospital appointments, particularly those living in rural areas that are not covered by the existing service.

There was no further business and it was noted that the next meeting would take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.

**Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016**

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2016, at 2.30 pm  
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District  
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,

Councillors: Malcolm Byrne,  
Anthony Donohoe,  
Mary Farrell,  
John Hegarty, Leas Chathaoirleach  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Ms. Lynda Lacey, Acting Head of Finance,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer,  
Mr. David Codd, Chief Technician (Roads),  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,

Apologies: Ms. Annette O'Neill, District Director.

***Virgin Media Presentation:***

The Chairman opened the meeting and invited Mr. Don Davern, Virgin Media, to give his presentation. Mr. Davern provided members with an overview of the company, details of their fibre optic broadband expansion strategy and responded to member's questions.

***Matters Arising from September Meeting:***

Cllr. J. Hegarty sought to clarify and it was agreed that the wording of the minutes was that the Council was to seek an increase in the Local Property Tax rate by 5% for 2017. Mr. N. Shaw also clarified that the wording of the minutes was that works linking the bridge and the RNLI Station would be put on hold and addressed as a priority in early 2017.

***2017 Draft Budgetary Plan for Gorey Municipal District:***

Ms. L. Lacey, A/Head of Finance, presented the 2017 Draft Budgetary Plan for Gorey Municipal District and highlighted the main provisions thereof.

Cllr. M. Byrne expressed his disappointment that the allocation to the Gorey District is the lowest in the County, to which all members were in agreement with. Ms. Lacey advised that the allocation is in line with that of New Ross and Ms. A. Byrne, District Manager, added that taking into account Wexford's higher population and the greater number of schools with disadvantaged status in the Enniscorthy District, there is little difference between Districts. Ms. Lacey further added that County Wexford has one of the highest GMA Allocations in the country. Ms. A. Byrne advised members that there were a number of projects forthcoming which would be funded from other budgets and so the GMA should not be looked at on its own.

Members retired from the Chamber for further discussion. On return, Cllr. M. Byrne proposed to reject the Draft Budgetary Plan and asked Ms. Lacey that the Committee's concerns be brought back to the Chief Executive, seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty.

***National Road Speed Limit Review:***

Mr. David Codd, Chief Technician, presented members with Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) proposed changes to speed limits on the N11 in Ferns and Camolin, which involve an increase in the limit on certain sections. Mr. Codd advised that the TII's National Roads Review was aimed at ensuring consistence and appropriateness of speed limits on national roads across the country and that these alterations would then be incorporated into the Council's Draft County Speed Limit Bye-Laws.

Cllr. J. Hegarty enquired as to the status of these draft bye-laws and whether submissions made over the past seven years will be included. Mr. Codd confirmed that if these submissions were deemed appropriate they will be included in the draft bye-laws, which should be ready for presentation at the December Meetings.

Cllr. J. Sullivan felt that the speed limit approaching Ferns, at Caislean Cluain, should be reduced rather than increased and Mr. Codd explained that it is calculated on the number of entrances onto the road.

Cllr. M. Farrell felt that lower speed limits are needed as far as the IWA Centre in Ballycanew and at the Well's House junction on the R741. Mr. Codd confirmed that Ballycanew is included in the draft plan for the county and that the guidelines say warning signs might be a better solution in one-off rural locations, rather than lower speed limits. Cllr. P. Breen added that the Council should look at realigning the junction and cutting back foliage.

Cllr. A. Donohoe asked whether new limits could affect new housing planning applications, as regards density, and Mr. Codd advised that they could, but that limits can be reviewed again.

Cllr. A. Donohoe enquired as to how the school speed limit signs will operate, to which Mr. Codd advised that the electronic led signs will be in operation 30 minutes prior to and up to school start time. Cllr. J. Hegarty enquired whether a motion had been passed to have a 30km limit at all schools. Whilst Mr. Codd was not aware of this, he advised that submissions can be made. Ms. A. Byrne asked would all schools be reviewed and Mr. Codd confirmed that all schools in the county were being audited to ensure that they have the minimum warning signage.

## **No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

## **No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

### ***Housing***

The members noted the Housing Report and no queries were raised. Ms. L. Hore informed members that she would have a report on the Housing Needs Assessment for the next meeting. Ms. Hore also informed the Committee that the Council has placed bids on 94 properties, with 38 purchased and ready for offer. When asked the number of properties on offer within the Gorey District, Ms. Hore confirmed that she would have details for the next meeting. Members expressed their concerns over rent supplements rates in Gorey and increased rents which are forcing families into homelessness. Cllr. P. Breen said the Council needs to look at using unoccupied houses for accommodation, to which Ms. Hore advised that there are a number of initiatives underway for vacant stock. Cllr. P. Breen also enquired whether derelict houses which banks have taken back are being offered back to local authorities. Ms. Hore advised that she would also report back on this.

It was agreed by members to postpone a discussion regarding a housing allocation in the District until the November Monthly Meeting.

### ***Roads***

Members noted the Roads Report and no queries were raised.

Members complimented Mr. N. Shaw and his Roads Staff on completion works to date in the District, in particular all the new footpaths. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin asked for a new footpath from the Kilnahue Lane junction to the P&H Doyle Garage to be a priority and Mr. Shaw agreed it would be for next year. Cllr. Ó'Súilleabháin also expressed his concern about safety measures at Willow Park. Mr. Shaw advised that funding was an issue but that line painting at crossings and fencing would be completed this year.

Cllr. J. Sullivan expressed his concern over the Council's failure to address flooding issues with the Ahare River at Castletown. Cllr. J. Sullivan asked that Mr. John Lambe and Mr. Gerry Forde advise what plans are in place should flooding occur again this year.

Cllr. A. Donohoe expressed his disappointment that lighting has not been connected at pedestrian crossings and called on the Council to write to ESB Networks. Mr. Shaw advised that he would be meeting with the Energy Officer next week to address some concerns. Cllr. A. Donohoe also expressed his concerns over open concrete drains in Coolgreany and Hollyfort and enquired whether steel grids could be placed over them. Mr. Shaw advised that following resurfacing works in Hollyfort, railings were suggested which locals were not in favour of, but he would look at it again. Cllr. R. Ireton called on additional lighting in Park Avenue.

### ***Planning***

The members noted the Planning Report and no queries were raised.

### ***Derelict Sites***

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin called on the Council to write to ESB Networks to connect the street lighting at Branogue Park, Ardamine.

Cllr. M. Byrne expressed his concerns over the lack of movement on the old Coill na Giuise site, adding that he did not want a planning application to be used as a way to delay action on the derelict site. Cllr. M. Byrne also called on the Council to address the old St. Joseph's School site which is attracting regular anti-social behaviour. Ms. D. Kearns advised that the site has been inspected and has requested a copy of the report.

Cllr. P. Breen enquired could the Council purchase three derelict cottages on Puddle Lane in Ballycanew. Ms. Kearns advised that she would have them inspected.

Cllr. J. Sullivan sought an update on the old Tesco site which is becoming overgrown. Ms. Kearns advised that permission had been granted to sub-divide it and work had been expected to commence straight away. Cllr. P. Breen suggested considering it as a derelict site.

Cllr. M. Byrne informed the Committee that the old Stafford's House at Ramsfort Park has worsened, despite assurances from the developer that it would be sorted. When Ms. Kearns advised that the Council is proposing to complete the work, Cllr. M. Byrne suggested that a CPO be placed on the house.

### ***Water Services***

Members noted the Water Services Report and no queries were raised. Mr. T. Quirke provided members with an update on Creagh Demesne. Cllr. R. Ireton enquired about a proposed Group Waste Water Scheme at Raheenagurren. Mr. Quirke confirmed that an application has been made and that he would follow up with Water Services. Cllr. P. Breen agreed that it is a huge pollutant going into the river.

### ***District Manager's Report***

District Manager, Amanda Byrne, highlighted relevant items, including the proposed introduction of an Age Friendly Parking initiative for Gorey Town. Ms. Byrne also advised that she would consult with Mr. Hugh Maguire again over recent anonymous litter convictions.

### ***Town Twinning Update***

Ms. Byrne updated members on the follow-up visit by Cllr. M. Byrne to Bayeux to establish a programme to bring young people from Gorey to the town in 2017 to take part in the annual War Correspondents Prize event. She also envisaged additional projects for 2018 and 2019. Cllr. M. Byrne added that the people in Normandy and the French Embassy were keen to explore the links and agreed that Ferns should be tied into the network. Cllr. M. Byrne suggested inviting them over for the St. Patrick's Celebration and also to recommend to An Post to issue a stamp commemorating

1169 and Diarmaid MacMurrough inviting the Normans to Ireland, and putting Ferns Castle on it.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin commended Ms. Byrne on work to date on this project though suggested greater discussion take place in advance of foreign trips. Ms. Byrne outlined that support in principle had been obtained at the September Monthly Meeting but that the invitation had issued after that. She added that the District Council is currently building and formalising a relationship with Bayeux and that once it is established there will be greater opportunity for all members to actively participate in the programme. Ms. Byrne added that a report on the initiative would be sent to the next CPG Meeting.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders until 6:00pm.

### ***Proposed River Walk***

Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that Gorey Municipal District is proposing to develop a network of river walks in Gorey which would be funded through Local Discretionary Funds, Roads and Community. Ms. Byrne explained that the route would see the up-grading of back lanes and provide safe off-road alternatives for walkers. They are routes which are already established but have fallen into disrepair and upgrades would include low level lighting, interesting features and possibly CCTV at certain locations. She added that the Gateway Scheme would undertake some of the work.

Cllr. M. Byrne supported the idea in principle but asked that residents be consulted as the lanes are used for crime purposes to gain access into back gardens. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin also commended the idea though his only concern was that residents on one section want their lane cleaned up, but a gate put on either end. Ms. Byrne replied that the scheme would only work if it created viable walkways that the entire community can use. Cllr. Hegarty and Cllr. Ireton also complimented the proposed development adding that if nothing is done, these areas will continue to encourage crime.

### ***AOB***

Cllr. M. Farrell queried the low usage figure for the Beach Wheelchair Initiative in Courtown this year and Ms. A. Byrne advised she would consult with Mr. Gerry Forde.

Cllr. M. Byrne extended his congratulations to all the District's Tidy Town's groups on their recent results and suggested that the Council assist groups in any areas that may have been highlighted.

Cllr. A. Donohoe expressed his concern to learn from the members Fire Services' Report that 25% of fire brigade callouts were to chimney fires and appealed to people to maintain their chimneys.

Cllr. A. Donohoe expressed his sympathies to the family of the late Canon Aidan Jones who passed away recently, having served in Courtown, Riverchapel and Bunclody.

Cllr. M. Farrell sought a report on how successful the District's Disabled Parking Text Alert Scheme has been and Ms. L. Stanley advised that she would issue a report following the meeting. When Cllr. M. Farrell suggested rolling out the Scheme to areas outside the town, Ms. L. Stanley added that with the IWA on board, she would hope that they would get involved with rolling the Scheme out also. Cllr. Farrell also enquired whether private disabled bays could be brought in under the Scheme but Ms. L. Stanley explained that the bays would need to be in the Council's Bye-Laws in order to enforce. Ms. A. Byrne added that signage may be a deterrent to persistent abusers.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin extended his congratulations to The Duck Restaurant on its recent Bord Bia award and also to businesses representing Gorey in the Friendliest Town awards.

Cllr. J. Hegarty extended his congratulations to Leanne Boland from Coolgreany for her recent Under-15 All Ireland Handball title win.

***Notice of Proposed Section 183 – 0.05 Acres of Land at Park Road, Camolin***  
Members noted the proposed Section 183 notice.

### ***Correspondence***

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

Cllr. M. Farrell asked that the HSE letter be brought to the Regional Health Forum.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2016, at 3:30 pm  
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District  
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,

Councillors: Malcolm Byrne,  
Anthony Donohoe,  
Mary Farrell,  
John Hegarty, Leas Chathaoirleach  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Mick McCormack, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Items Circulated: WCC Control of Skip Bye-Laws (Draft) Presentation  
WCC Traffic & Car Parking Bye-Laws (Draft) Presentation

**Matters Arising from October Meeting:**

1. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin informed the Committee that the street lighting at Branogue Park had been switched on.
2. Cllr. J. Hegarty noted the response regarding the Data Protection issue on recent anonymous litter convictions.
3. Cllr. M. Farrell acknowledged the increase in NAB figures, though requested additional signage as a deterrent and also expressed her dissatisfaction with the response from the HSE Forum regarding access to hospital appointments for disabled persons living in more remote areas.
4. Cllr. J. Hegarty enquired whether any response had been received from the Chief Executive following the Committee's rejection of the GMA at the October Meeting. Ms. A. Byrne replied that no official response has been received, but that the Draft Budgetary Plan has been adopted.
5. Cllr. J. Sullivan acknowledged the recent meeting held with Council Officials to discuss the Ahare Bridge and flooding issues.

***Wexford County Council Control of Skip Bye-Laws (Draft) Presentation:***

Mr. M. McCormack outlined the key features in the Draft Wexford County Council Control of Skip Bye-Laws which he added will bring a level of consistency across the County.

The Committee gave due consideration to the Draft Bye-Laws, proposed by Cllr. J. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan.

***Wexford County Council Traffic & Car Parking Bye-Laws (Draft) Presentation:***

Mr. M. McCormack outlined the key features in the Draft Wexford County Council Traffic & Car Parking Bye-Laws. Mr. McCormack advised that the Council was also looking at introducing alternative methods of payment, such as pay by text. When asked about the availability of Carer's Permits, Mr. McCormack informed the Committee that Carer's Permits will still be available, but with the burden of proof on the applicant to provide medical evidence. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin added that it would be important to consult with residents over all permits.

Members also considered removing barriers from car parks, designating Age Friendly Car Parking Spaces and enforcing no overnight parking of camper vans in car parks. Mr. McCormack added that provisions would have to be made in the Bye-Laws to allow all such matters.

The Committee gave due consideration to the Draft Bye-Laws, proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

**No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

***Planning***

The members noted the Planning Report and no queries were raised. Ms. D. Kearns informed the Committee that the submission period for the Draft Gorey LAP had ended and it was agreed to hold a Special Meeting to discuss the Chief Executive's Report on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, at 8:30am in Wexford.

***Derelict Sites***

Cllr. M. Byrne noted two sites not listed on the Derelict Sites List, namely the Old Tesco site and the former Telecom Exchange site. Ms. Kearns confirmed that the Old Tesco Site was currently being inspected and Ms. A. Byrne advised that Eir had applied for a scaffolding licence for work to commence next week.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin reported two long-term unoccupied houses in Garden City in a state of disrepair and Ms. Kearns confirmed that she would have both dwellings inspected.

## **Roads**

Members noted the Roads Report and no queries were raised.

Mr. N. Shaw addressed some matters from the October Meeting - Wells House junction, ESB connections at pedestrian crossings and open drains in Coolgreany and Hollyfort. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin enquired about a date for the replanting of trees on The Avenue and Mr. Shaw advised that detailed preparation work was being completed prior to the replanting of trees in the coming weeks. Ms. A. Byrne added that she had also sought assistance from Dublin City Council, Public Realm Designer, in selecting tree types.

Cllr. M. Byrne enquired about any re-development plans for the Market Square area and Ms. A. Byrne advised that such plans would come about in consultation with the Market House re-development.

Mr. Shaw also responded to the following issues raised by members:

- over-hanging boughs from trees causing damage to vehicles;
- delays on the Inner Relief Road;
- Lighting Review of the Town;
- bad bend at Raheenaskyagh;
- footpaths & pedestrian crossing on The Avenue;
- update on bus shelters, and
- works on Allenwood Lane and Monaseed.

Members acknowledged the efforts of Council and Gateway staff in enhancing the appearance of Gorey town and Cllr. P. Breen extended a vote of sympathy to Damian Doran, former Gateway Supervisor, on the recent loss of his brother, Darren.

## **Water Services**

Members noted the Water Services Report and no queries were raised.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin expressed his concern about the lack of a water connection at the Courtown Coastguard Station, which frequently hold training days. Mr. T. Quirke advised that he would investigate the matter and report back.

## **Housing**

The members noted the Housing Report and no queries were raised. Ms. L. Hore briefed members on the new Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Scheme and addressed any queries raised. Ms. Hore also reported back from the last meeting on housing acquisitions, confirming that out of the 94 properties ready for offer, 26% were in the Gorey District. Ms. Hore also informed the Committee that the Council would have a considerable Construction Programme underway in 2017, with lesser emphasis on purchasing.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

**Notice of Proposed Section 183 – Proposed Lease of Lands at Camolin to Camolin Community Development Association**

Members noted the proposed Section 183 Notice, proposed by Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan.

**District Manager's Report**

District Manager, Amanda Byrne, highlighted relevant items, including funding approved under the Town & Village Urban Renewal Scheme, the N11 Cycle-way Scheme and the 'Big Switch On'.

**Christmas Parking Arrangements** - Ms. A. Byrne informed members that there will be free parking in all Council car parks in Gorey on Christmas week, an arrangement that is being adopted by all Districts in the County.

**Correspondence**

Correspondence issued and received was noted.

**AOB**

Cllr. P. Breen extended his congratulations to Gorey Town, Springmount Garden Centre and The Duck Restaurant on reaching the finals of their respective categories in the recent Retail Excellence Ireland Awards.

Ms. A. Byrne informed the Committee that she would have a report from Cunnane, Stratton & Reynolds on the Preliminary Design for Gorey Town Park before the year end or early in 2017.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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

**Minutes of Meeting of Gorey Municipal District  
held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2016, at 4:00 pm  
in Council Chamber, Offices of Gorey Municipal District  
Civic Square, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,

Councillors: Malcolm Byrne,  
Anthony Donohoe,  
Mary Farrell,  
John Hegarty, Leas Chathaoirleach  
Robert Ireton,  
Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms. Annette O'Neill, District Director,  
Ms. Amanda Byrne, District Manager,  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer,  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. Tony Quirke, Executive Engineer,  
Ms. Pauline Doyle, Executive Planner,  
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms. Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer.

Items Circulated: Traveller Accommodation Programme Official Review 2016

**Matters Arising from November Monthly Meeting:**

1. Cllr. J. Hegarty re-iterated his annoyance regarding the Data Protection issues surrounding the publication of the identities of recent litter convictions.
2. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin sought an update on the status of the Gorey Town Park Preliminary Design. Ms. A. O'Neill, District Director, confirmed that a draft has been completed which further develops the preliminary design. It will be presented once full costings are prepared and most likely for the February District Meeting.
3. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin thanked Mr. T. Quirke for his efforts in resolving the water connection issue at the Courtown Coastguard Station.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton, the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 were agreed and adopted.

## **No. 2 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations**

### ***Housing***

The members noted the Housing Report and no queries were raised. Ms. L. Hore circulated the Traveller Accommodation Programme Official Review 2016. The members noted the Report, proposed by Cllr, J. Hegarty and seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne.

Following an announcement of funding for new social housing schemes in the county, Cllr. M. Byrne expressed his concern that the Gorey District wasn't seeing any new social housing coming into the area and requested a clear indication of housing planned in Gorey for the next couple of years. Ms. L. Hore agreed that there is an issue of housing supply in Gorey, but informed the Committee that additional houses were planned for Baile Eoghain and Creagh. Ms. L. Hore added that the Council continues to work closely with Approved Housing Bodies and that the Housing List has been reduced by 25%. Ms. A. O'Neill also added that the highest allocation of housing in the county up to the end of November was in the Gorey District.

All members wished Ms. L. Hore well in her new role of District Manager in Enniscorthy Municipal District in the New Year and paid tribute to her hard work and dedication during her time in Housing.

### ***Planning***

The members noted the Planning Report and no queries were raised.

### ***Derelict Sites***

Cllr. M. Byrne commended the significant progress made in the last year on tackling derelict sites, but expressed his concern over two sites in Gorey - former St. Joseph's School and the old Tesco site. Ms. D. Kearns informed the Committee that both sites had been inspected. St. Joseph's site was deemed not to be derelict and the old Tesco site was deemed derelict and the owners contacted. Members requested a copy of the St. Joseph's School site report to be made available to them. Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin sought an update on the two houses in Garden City to which Ms. D. Kearns advised that both properties had been inspected, deemed derelict and were proceeding to the next stage.

### ***Roads***

Members noted the Roads Report and no queries were raised.

Mr. Shaw also responded to the following issues raised by members:

- safety issues at The Avenue pedestrian crossing;
- update on the Inner Relief Road;
- Countywide Lighting Plan;
- speed control measures in Ramsfort Park;
- new bus shelters.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders until 6:00pm.

### ***Water Services***

Members noted the Water Services Report and no queries were raised.

### ***Resident Association Grants***

The Chairman advised that an application had been received from Beachside Residents Association, and it was agreed to allocate €500 to this group as proposed by Cllr. R. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne.

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin asked whether the Ramsgate Resident Group attending the meeting could address the Committee, this request was refused in accordance with the Standing Orders of Gorey Municipal District.

### ***District Manager's Report***

District Manager, Amanda Byrne, highlighted relevant items, including the Norman Way Project, the N11 Cycleway and The Byrne Perry Festival.

Ms. L. Stanley updated members on Christmas Lights and announced that the long-awaited reindeer crossing lights would be installed that evening. Members congratulated all involved with the Big Switch On event.

## **No. 3 Prescribed Business by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members**

### ***Proposed Taking in Charge***

The taking in charge of the following estates:

- ◆ Aylesbridge, Ardamine
- ◆ Borleigh Court, Gorey
- ◆ Chapelwood, Kilmuckridge
- ◆ Pearsons Brook, Gorey
- ◆ Riverchapel Woods, Gorey
- ◆ The Sidings, The Chase & The Gallops, Ramsgate Village, Gorey

was proposed by Cllr. R. Ireton and seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne.

Cllr. M. Byrne thanked Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Building Control, for his work on getting the estates finished and members wished him well in his new role within the Council.

## **No. 4 Correspondence**

Correspondence received was noted.

Cllr. J. Hegarty requested that the Council write to Superintendent Liam White to express the member's thanks and appreciation for his time in the District and to also write to Superintendent John Gordon to wish him well in his new post.

Cllr. M. Farrell requested that the Council write to the Transport Manager of the HSE regarding the issue of disabled person's access to hospital appointments and also to the Minister seeking an increase in funding to address this issue.

Cllr. M. Byrne informed the Committee of a proposed review on opening some Garda Stations on a pilot basis and asked that the Council write to the Garda Commissioner and Oireachtas Members for Gorey to be re-instated to full District status.

#### **No. 5 AOB**

Cllr. F. Ó'Súilleabháin brought forward the following emergency motion in accordance with Standing Orders of Gorey Municipal Distirct:

*"Gorey Municipal District Council notes that the Minister for Housing, Simon Coveney has stated that he may consider extending the "Rent Pressure Zone" to some counties in the Dublin commuter zone in the New Year. Gorey Municipal District Council calls on Minister Coveney to include North Wexford within any expanded zone"*

Members agreed with the motion and asked the Council to write to Minister Coveney to have Gorey included within any expanded zone, proposed by Cllr. A. Donohoe and seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty.

Members expressed their sympathies to the families of the late Paddy Graham and Mattie Murphy.

Members extended their congratulations to Ms. Caroline Siggins, Tara Hill, Gorey, on her 1st placing in Public Accountancy Examinations and to Mr. Bertram Allen on his recent success.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

**Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de \_\_\_\_\_ 2017**

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