

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District  
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey  
on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023, at 2:30pm**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr Donal Kenny, Cathaoirleach,  
Cllr Andrew Bolger,  
Cllr Pip Breen,  
Cllr Diarmuid Devereux, Leas-Chathaoirleach,  
Cllr Anthony Donohoe,  
Cllr Mary Farrell,  
Cllr Willie Kavanagh,  
Cllr Fionntán Ó'Súilleabháin,  
Cllr Joe Sullivan,  
Cllr Oliver Walsh,

Officials: Ms Elizabeth Hore, Director of Services & District Director,  
Mr Philip Knight, Municipal District Administrator,  
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr Barry Hammel, Executive Engineer,  
Ms Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,  
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,  
Mr Brian Galvin, Senior Engineer, Special Projects,  
Mr Rory Curtis, Executive Engineer, Special Projects,  
Mr Gerry Forde, Senior Engineer, Environment,  
Ms Helen Meehan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,



Deputation from Courtown Business Association:  
Karl Fleming, Pirates Cove,  
Tom Flanagan, Flanagan's Warf,  
Imelda Willoughby, Taravie Hotel.

**Sympathies**

Members proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the families of those recently bereaved, the late Mary Delaney, Peter Shortall, Paschal Whitmore, Stasia O'Loughlin and Eddie Fisher, UN Veteran. RIP.

**Congratulations**

Members extended their congratulations to the following:

-  Kilmuckridge & Blackwater Drama Groups participating in the upcoming All-Ireland Drama Festival Final 2023.
-  Brónagh Hogan representing Wexford in the Rose of Tralee 2023.

**No. 1 Deputation**

*1.1 Deputation from Courtown Business Association:*

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr D Kenny welcomed representatives from the Courtown Business Association to the Meeting.

Mr K Fleming, Mr T Flanagan & Ms I Willoughby identified key issues of importance for the future development of the village, such as re-instating the beach in Courtown, completion of the Gorey to Courtown footpath, seeking assistance from the Council with watering flowers and providing additional bins for the village. Representatives advised they are willing to work with the members and felt their local knowledge would benefit the Council with moving forward.

The members thanked the Courtown Business Association representatives for attending the Meeting.

## **No. 2 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising**

### *2.1 Confirmation of Minutes:*

On the proposal of Cllr W Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr P Breen the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

### *2.2 Matters Arising:*

It was agreed to deal with Matters Arising under each relevant Report.

## **No. 3 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations**

### *3.1 Esmonde Street Proposed Design*

Mr B Galvin and Mr R Curtis circulated the proposed design for the Esmonde Street Public Realm Improvement Works. Mr Curtis outlined details of the issues to be resolved, their objectives & proposed works and benefits from the following works:

- ✚ New footpaths tying into the existing curb lines,
- ✚ Placing overhead services underground,
- ✚ Provision of cycling infrastructure on both sides of the street,
- ✚ Improving pedestrian & cycling access to Gorey Community School, including a school zone for safe drop-off and collection,
- ✚ A designated Loading Bay for businesses on the street, to be located on Michael Street,
- ✚ Disabled parking bays, new planters & street furniture,
- ✚ Pedestrian Crossings along the length of the Street.

Members acknowledged the work put into the proposed design but also raised some concerns, in particular reduced parking spaces, the cycle lane route, insufficient disabled parking & location of proposed disabled parking bays and the timing of construction.

Mr Curtis advised that there are 1,100 parking spaces in car parks within a five-minute walk of Esmonde Street and that any parking spaces lost on the street can be accommodated in these.

Regarding the cycle lanes, Mr Curtis said that advice and best practice from the Roads Section and designers is to place cycle lanes on both sides of the street, adding that this will assist future Schemes. He also said the design of this cycle lane was the advised design considering the challenges posed by the Railway Bridge. Mr Galvin also added that when the Town Traffic Plan is complete, there will be much more emphasis on active travel, on

encouraging walking, cycling, and making the town as user-friendly from a walking and cycling perspective.

Mr Galvin and Mr Curtis agreed to take on board all concerns raised by the members and advised the next stage will be detailed design, tender by July, with construction works to commence in early 2024. Cllr D Devereux proposed that the Plan proceed as a matter of urgency, seconded by Cllr W Kavanagh.

### *3.2 Housing*

The Housing Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Ms H Meehan provided relevant updates to the Committee and responded to any queries raised.

Ms Meehan referred to the new Choice-Based Letting Scheme to be introduced next month which should result in a reduction in the social housing refusal rate. She explained that this new system will allow those on the Housing List to register their interest in houses as they come available and allocated based on their position on the List.

Cllr M Farrell sought clarity on the allocation of social housing in Kilmuckridge having previously been informed that there are no social houses allocated in a 50-house development in the village. Ms Meehan advised that any development with five houses or more must have a Part V Agreement setting aside 10-20% as social housing. Ms L Hore agreed to acquire details of the status of the Part V.

### *3.3 Environment*

The Environment Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted.

Mr G Forde provided relevant updates to the Committee including:

- ✚ Detailed refuse schedule for all beaches compiled,
- ✚ Possible scope for OPW funding for coastal protection works, beach nourishment and marina wall in Courtown,
- ✚ Kilgorman beach access,
- ✚ Accessibility Works at Ballymoney Beach & disabled toilets to commence.

On the matter of the compost factory at Ballyminaun, Mr Forde informed the members that proposals received from the company have been deemed unsatisfactory by the Council, which they are not prepared to proceed with. He said they have received advice from the EPA and contacted the company owner, who is required to send them a response within four weeks. Once that response is received, the next steps can be determined.

Mr Forde advised that dredging at Courtown Harbour will re-commence next week when the Contractor returns, that toilets at Ballymoney and Morriscastle beaches will be open at weekends all year round and that additional funding should also allow for full-time opening of both all year round, to be confirmed shortly.

Mr Forde also agreed to look at the provision of bins in Courtown and address the boardwalk in Ballymoney.

### *3.4 Planning*

The Planning Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted.

### *3.5 Roads*

The Roads Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Ms J Kehoe responded to queries raised by the members including:

- ✚ Coach Road Roundabout,
- ✚ Footpaths in Oulart Village & Coolgreany,
- ✚ Speeding in Glenbrien Village,
- ✚ Blackwater Bridge Works,
- ✚ Flooding at Ballina Road, Blackwater,
- ✚ Completion of Gorey to Courtown Footpath,
- ✚ Ballyellis Speed Limits and Update on Speed Level Reviews.

### *3.6 Water Services*

The Water Services Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted.

### *3.7 Additional Departmental Reports*

The Community Development, Library Services and Wexford Fire Services Reports, copies of which had previously been circulated were noted.

### *3.8 District Administrator's Report*

The District Administrator's Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted.

Cllr D Devereux asked that the district consider allocating funding to the Gorey 3-Day International Cycle Race, a long-standing event held in Gorey each year. Mr Knight advised that whilst funding has already been allocated to specific events for this year, he will consider a contribution towards this year's event which was a huge success again.

## **No. 4 Prescribed Business by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members**

### *4.1 GKMD Resident Association Grant Scheme 2023:*

The Chairman advised that a Resident Association Grant Application had been received from Clonattin Resident Association and on the proposal of Cllr A Donohoe, seconded by Cllr D Devereux, it was agreed to provide a grant of €500.

### *4.2 Proposal for Expenditure of GMA LPT Allocation & Member's Discretionary Allocation for 2023:*

Mr P Knight outlined the four projects proposed to receive funding under the GMA Local Property Tax (LPT) Allocation and Member's Discretionary Allocation for 2023:

- ✚ Gorey Family Resource Centre,
- ✚ Esmonde Lane,

- ✚ Improvements to Outdoor Dining Facilities,
- ✚ Installation of a Dog Park in Gorey District Park.

As all proposals centred around Gorey, Mr Knight said he is available to meet with Kilmuckridge members to discuss projects in their areas.

Cllr D Devereux proposed that the vote be deferred, requesting additional time to consider how the funding could best be spent, seconded by Cllr J Sullivan. Ms L Hore had no objection to deferring the vote, adding that members could also offer other suggestions of projects for consideration.

Cllr F Ó Súilleabháin noted the Family Resource Centre are in urgent need of the funding and members agreed to proceed with funding Gorey FRC, with a decision to be made on the remaining allocations at the next District Meeting.

#### **No. 5 Notice of Motion from Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District**

None.

#### **No. 6 Correspondence**

None.

#### **No. 7 AOB**

Cllr A Donohoe asked for a full breakdown of Capital Projects for all the Districts from 2014 to date.

Cllr A Donohoe asked whether the Section 183 proposed land swap in Courtown will come before the Committee next month. Ms L Hore advised that two delegations from Courtown have been allowed the opportunity to present to this Committee and advised documents will now be prepared for the May District Meeting.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ lá de \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

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**Donal Kenny**  
**Cathaoirleach,**  
**Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District**