

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday, 18th October 2022, at 2:30pm**

Attendance:

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

Officials: Mr Philip Knight, Municipal District Administrator,
Ms Liz Hore, Director of Service,
Mr Barry Hammel, Executive Engineer,
Ms Helen Frayne, Senior Staff Officer (Housing),
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr George Colfer, Executive Engineer,
Ms Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms Margaret Kelly, Clerical Officer,

Apologies: Ms Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner.

The Chairman Mr. Donal Kenny opened the meeting with a minute silence in respect of the recent tragedy in Creeslough, Co. Donegal.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr A Bolger, seconded by Cllr Pip Breen the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on the 19th of September 2022, were signed, and adopted.

On the proposal of Cllr D Devereux, seconded by Cllr A Bolger the Minutes of the monthly meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on the 19th of September 2022 were signed and adopted.

1.2 Matters Arising:

No issues were raised.

Sympathies:

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of Pat (Buller) Mulhall, father of Declan Mulhall Gorey Roads Section.

Cllr Farrell proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of Kayleigh McInerney.

Congratulations:

Members proposed a Vote of Congratulations to the following:

- + Buffers Alley, Junior U-18 Team
- + TJ Carr, 75kg World Title
- + Adam McGrath, Garda Youth Award
- + Liz Hore, DoS and Breege Cosgrave, International Women's Day Event
- + Liam Mellows-Castletown, County Championship

No. 2 Consideration of Reports, Recommendation & Presentations

2.1 Gorey Green Schools Town Committee Presentation:

Sean O'Leary, GCS highlighted the need for the establishment of a Joint Council made up of student representatives from for all 3 secondary schools in Gorey along with a representative from GKMD where environmental issues could be raised and discussed. Cllr Bolger agreed to liaise with the 3 schools and emphasised that the process should be inclusive for all students. The District Manager said Meeting Rooms in the Civic Offices could be availed of by students during business hours subject to their availability.

Cllr Donohoe asked if Kilmuckridge and Carnew secondary schools could also be included.

2.2 Housing:

Members noted the Housing Report. Ms H Frayne provided an update on St. Walerans and informed the members that Part 8 should be lodged by the end of October 2022. She advised fencing is currently being erected on site and that it is envisaged that Phase 1 will take 18 months to 2 years.

Ms Frayne also responded to queries regarding units in Monamolin and Clonattin and she agreed to come back with homeless figures for County Wexford at the next meeting.

2.3 Roads:

Members noted the Roads Report. Ms J Kehoe informed the members that works have completed at Saleen Lane & Tara Hill and that the Low-Cost Safety Scheme will be circulated shortly. Ms Kehoe also responded to issues raised by members including:

- + Pedestrian Crossing at Clonattin Road
- + School Crossing at Oulart
- + Lights in Oylegate & Chestnut Walk, Kilmuckridge
- + Traffic Calming Measures on Fort Road & Ramstown turn
- + Re-location of Bus Stops from Main Street, Gorey
- + Ballyellis NS Speed Limit
- + Parking Issues at Creagh during school times
- + Clonattin Works

Cllr Donohoe pointed out that traffic issues with new developments usually come to the fore after the development is built and asked if such issues could not be pre-empted by

the Planning Department. He pointed out that Road Planning Levies are often substantial and asked if these could be used for road upgrades. Ms Kehoe informed the members that all planning applications are referred to the Roads Section for their observations.

2.4 Draft Budget Plan 2023 Presentation:

Ms A O'Neill, Head of Finance, presented the 2023 Draft Budgetary Plan for the GKMD, highlighting the main provisions thereof. She told the meeting that €505,000 was being allocated to the GMA and that €50,000 would be added from the Property Tax Fund.

Cllr Sullivan highlighted that the GKMD Allocation was less per member than any of the other districts in the county. He pointed out that if the Property Tax collected in each area was allocated to that area, GKMD would benefit most. He said that the allocation was not equitable and noted his disappointment. Both Cllrs Donohoe and Farrell agreed. Ms O'Neill advised that the Budget Strategy Committee look at the LTP portion of income.

Ms O'Neill told the meeting that it had not been envisaged that so much of the LTP collection would go into the lower band. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Kenny asked whether the Council should be notifying the public in relation to the consequences of undervaluation of property for LPT purposes. Ms. O'Neill said that the LPT was a Revenue function and did not fall under the remit of the local authority. She said it was a national problem and that it was the responsibility of the Government to address this issue. Ms. Hore said that the members could raise the issue with Revenue.

Cllr Bolger enquired whether unspent money could be transferred to the next year. In response, Ms O'Neill said that this can be considered, but approval would depend on the submission made.

Cllr Devereux asked Ms Hore if the members would be given more than €50,000 allocation. Ms Hore informed the members of the need to review how best to allocate the funding available and asked the members to consider how best to respond to the needs of the district.

The members gave due consideration to the GKMD 2023 Draft Budgetary Plan and on the proposal of Cllr P Breen, seconded by Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin, the Committee adopted the Plan without amendment.

2.5 Environment:

Members noted the Environment Report. Mr Colfer provide members with an update on Ballymoney Beach Accessibility Works and advised that the cost has now risen to €700,000 due to rock removal and a change to retention works originally envisaged. He added that he is reviewing this Report and will send his observations onto Management.

Cllr Ó'Súilleabháin asked if weekend hours could be factored into Beach Warden Contracts on blue flag beaches. Mr Colfer agreed to speak to Mr Forde on this matter.

Cllr Ó'Súilleabháin said that the bins had been removed at the Burrow Car Park without prior consultation and asked for them to be reinstated. Mr Knight said the bins had been removed following a Health & Safety Risk Assessment as they were attracting vermin. He felt the action was appropriate and proportionate to the risk.

He added that spot checks on the area had been carried out for littering/illegal dumping and the area was found to be litter free. Mr Knight also commended Courtown Community Council and Tidy Towns Groups for their efforts. He added that it was the national agenda to remove bins, to make the public responsible for their own rubbish. An Cathaoirleach and Cllr Donohoe supported the decision to remove the bins.

Cllr Farrell informed Mr Colfer that sand was now covering the marram grass that had been planted in Morriscastle earlier in the year and raised the on-going problem with car parking at Morriscastle. Mr Colfer said that he would look at the marram grass adding that the plant should recover itself.

Cllr Sullivan highlighted concerns from the Residents of Ballyminaun Hill regarding odour issues emanating from the compost factory and asked was the Council addressing this problem. Mr Colfer advised that a statutory legal process in place.

2.6 Planning:









Members noted the Planning Report. Mr Knight expressed Ms Lennon's apologies at not being able to attend the meeting and dealt with any planning queries.

2.7 Water Services:

Members noted the Water Services Report. Mr Hammel provided the members with an update on Fort Road Works which consist of rehabilitation and replacement works and advised works will complete by the end of November.

2.8 Gorey-Kilmuckridge District Report:

Members noted the District Report. Mr Knight outlined details of upcoming Halloween events and responded to other issues raised by members including:

-  Christmas Lights Cost
-  Proposed Christmas Festivities
-  Improved Lighting at Gorey District Park
-  Dog Park Facility
-  Esmonde Street Re-generation Works
-  Gorey Yellow Belly Festival
-  Courtown Footpath Improvements
-  Development of former Bay View Hotel, Courtown

Ms Hore informed the Committee that members of the Courtown business community had requested a meeting with the members. It was agreed to meet on the 1st of November, at 7pm with the venue to be confirmed. Ms Hore added that all parties must be included and consulted.

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

3.1 Section 183 Land Transfer:

Liz Hore, Director of Service asked for a vote on the Section 183 which had been circulated to members for transfer to land to Signal. Cllr Walsh asked if €500 was a true cost and would that even cover legal costs. The Director will enquire about the value and get back to members. The approval for Section 183 was proposed by Cllr Breen and seconded by Cllr Walsh.

3.2 Members Discretionary Budget:

The District Administrator noted the members Discretionary Budget of €60,000 remained unspent. It was agreed to establish a "Community Resilient Fund" for 2022 only to address ongoing difficulties encountered by Community Groups in relation to increases in the general cost of living and that the members would determine the allocation based on applications received from Groups in the District.

No. 4 Notice of Motion from Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District Members

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

None.

No. 6 AOB

Cllr Sullivan asked if a Civic Reception had been planned to recognise recent sporting achievements in the district. Cllr Donohoe suggested that one night to recognise all achievements be set aside. Mr Knight advised such an event is planned to take place in the New Year and asked the members to submit their nominations.

Cllr Breen said he had received an invitation from Mr Sean Doyle, Wells House & Gardens to hold the November GKMD Meeting in his premise. This was agreed by all present.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2022

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