

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Gorey Civic Offices, Civic Square, The Avenue,
Gorey on Tuesday, 19th April 2022, at 2:30pm**

Attendance: (In Chamber):

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

Apologies: Cllr Mary Farrell,

Officials: Ms Liz Hore, Director of Services/District Director,
Mr Philip Knight, Municipal District Administrator,
Ms Mary Kinsella, Clerical Officer,
Mr Diarmuid Houston, Senior Planner (Planning),
Mr Gerry Forde, Senior Engineer (Environment),
Mr Fintan Ryan, Executive Engineer (Special Projects),

Attendance (Microsoft Teams):

Ms Amanda Byrne, Senior Executive Officer,
Mr Eoghan Greene, Community Development,
Ms Helen Frayne, Senior Staff Officer (Housing),
Mr George Colfer, Executive Engineer (Environment),

Apologies: Mr Barry Hammel, Executive Engineer,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms. Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr D Kenny, seconded by Cllr J Sullivan the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on March 22nd, 2022, were signed, and adopted.

1.2 Matters Arising:

It was agreed to address Matters Arising during the various Reports.

No. 2 Courtown Community Council (Deputation)

Cllr P Breen welcomed Ms Linda Sinnott, Ms Melanie Croce and Mr Jeshua Toucher to the meeting.

Ms L Sinnott outlined key issues & projects for Courtown Riverchapel including:

- Courtown to Kiltannel Walking Trail
- Burrow Management Plan & Tús Scheme
- Courtown Pier Enhancement
- Linked walkway from Riverchapel to Courtown
- Local Heritage Project
- Partnership with SSE Renewables for coin operated Telescope

The Community Council expressed their thanks to Michael Drea and Liz Stanley for works completed at Courtown Pier Enhancement.

Ms M Croce outlined the works done in conjunction with Seal Rescue Ireland and Courtown Community Council in relation to Eco Tourism. She also outlined the large social media following which Seal Rescue have.

Mr J Toucher outlined the Smart Village Strategic Plan and highlighted projects such as the Clean Water Campaign and the Habitat Restoration Project.

The Deputation expressed their wish to facilitate a meeting between the Councillors and representatives from the Community Groups in Courtown.

The Members noted the presentation and thanked the Community Council for their participation and very informative presentation.

Mr P Knight informed the Members that a site has been identified for a community garden in Courtown.

No. 3 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

3.1 Planning

Members noted the Planning Report and Mr D Houston responded to members questions.

Cllr A Donohoe enquired about the new 35 per hectare density.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin highlighted issues about the development at Kilanhue to which Mr D Houston responded.

3.2 Ancient Connections Presentation

Mr Eoghan Greene, Project Officer outlined his Ancient Connections Presentation.

He outlined that this is an Arts, Heritage & Tourism Project funded by ERDF Ireland/Wales Programme and stated that the project structure consists of 9 interconnected work packages.

He spoke about the plans for the Creative Camino Walk launch which is taking place on Sunday 1st May at St Edan's Cathedral, Ferns.

The Members thanked Mr E Greene for his presentation.

3.3 Housing

Members noted the Housing Report. Ms H Frayne stated that an expression of interest for suitable land for social housing went in the paper last week.

She informed the Members that the Ballagh development had significant delays but will be ready in 4 weeks for handover. Letters of offer will be sent out this week. The first 4 units in Blackwater will become available in the next few weeks. Cllr O Walsh asked why just the first four houses in Blackwater and why not all sixteen. Ms Frayne replied that they will be released as they are completed.

Cllr A Donohoe asked regarding the process of buying turnkeys and not just building our own. Ms H Frayne replied that the Council are no longer permitted to buy second-hand houses.

Cllr A Bolger asked how many houses have been allocated to date in Ramstown. Ms Frayne replied that the first twenty-four houses are expected to be ready by the end of June – they are under construction now.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin requested an update on the affordable housing project in Ramsfort. Ms Frayne replied there are no regulations at the moment.

3.4 Environment

Members noted the Environment Report and Mr G Colfer responded to Members queries.

Cllr D Devereux enquired whether there could be a facility in Gorey for certain waste materials e.g., paint cans. Mr Colfer said he would check if the local recycling centre would take them.

Cllr J Sullivan spoke about the air pollution particularly at Ballyminaun. Mr G Forde stated that an inspection was completed last week and that they are trying to resolve this issue.

Cllr O Walsh enquired about the cleaning of rivers particularly from Blackwater down to the beach. Mr G Colfer responded that he would look at that regarding the work to be done and come back to the Members.

Cllr W Kavanagh asked about the litter at the sides of the N11 – maybe there is a machine available which could pick this up. Mr Colfer will speak to Ms J Kehoe regarding this. Mr G Forde said that there is a particular machine for this type of work, and they are currently looking into it.

Mr G Colfer informed the Members that the timber bridge should be in place at Ballinconnigar Beach towards the end of May. Mr Colfer also informed the Members regarding the Ahare Bridge that they are looking at ways the flood warning system works.

Mr G Forde informed the Members that a Warden for Morriscastle beach was advertised last week. There will be a shuttle bus running from Curracloe village to the beach this summer and an overflow car park will be in operation. Regarding Curracloe, permission has been received for CCTV and going to get control of the slipway. There will also be overflow car park in operation.

The Members raised concerns regarding parking in Ballymoney. Mr G Colfer stated that a shuttle bus wouldn't be able to turn in Ballymoney and they are currently looking at solutions. There will be a disabled toilet going in Ballymoney and they are currently looking at improving access to the Blue Flag beach.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin raised the issue of health and safety regarding the toilets in Cahore. Mr G Forde stated that there is no sewerage disposal in Cahore but they are looking at solutions. The portaloos are going to be moved to beside the bottle banks.

Members enquired about bins in Courtown and bin at bottom of Borough. Mr P Knight stated that due to Health & Safety with rat issues that there would be no bin in the Borough. Mr G Forde said we are encouraging people to bring home waste and litter complaints are down at the moment.

Cllr P Breen enquired about any further progress on Courtown. Mr G Colfer will get information on this and bring to the next meeting.

3.5 Roads

Members noted the Roads Report. Members requested clarification regarding how the LIS Scheme works and to see the full lists for this Scheme for the last few years. Ms L Hore said she will discuss the concerns raised at the meeting with Ms J Kehoe and will report back to the Members.

3.6 Water Services

Members noted the Water Services Report

3.7 Additional Departmental Reports

Members noted the Community Development, Library Services and Wexford Fire Services Reports.

3.8 District Administrator's Report

Mr P Knight informed the Members that he has spoken to Gallivanting Tours regarding Courtown Woods but hasn't been able to speak to Active Tribe as of yet. Gallivanting Tours has set up a meeting with Active Tribe and will come back to Mr Knight regarding the outcome of this meeting.

Concern was expressed from a business owner regarding the loss of a parking space on Esmonde Street. The Council have proposed a loading bay as an alternative and this matter is receiving consideration.

Mr F Ryan outlined the next steps and update regarding the Regeneration of Esmonde Street and Esmonde Lane going forward. At the moment, an application is being compiled and submitted for Category 1 RRDF Funding. A decision on this application is expected in Quarter 3. If unsuccessful with this funding the project will need to be scaled back. The €1m from the CEO is still available for this Scheme. Mr F Ryan answered the Members queries regarding this project.

Mr Knight informed the Members that the official opening of the TVRS Blackwater Community Centre will take place on Sunday, 1st May by the Bishop of Ferns, the Most Reverend Ger Nash.

Mr P Knight informed the Members that he received an email from the Mayor in Bayeux regarding Town Twinning and an exchange programme.

Ms L Hore stated an audit has been completed on Town Twinning County wide. We need to look at the strengths and what best matches with us.

Cllr J Sullivan required an update on the coffee shop at the District Park. Ms L Hore stated that the contractor is back on site. Mr Knight stated that the tender for the coffee shop is now being prepared and reviewed.

Ms Hore stated that whoever is successful in the tender could be in the Park in a temporary premises until the coffee shop is completed.

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

None.

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

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

None.

No. 6 AOB

Cllr A Bolger requested could Tim Murphy be invited to the next meeting regarding public lighting issues.

Cllr W Kavanagh asked regarding the CPO on a derelict building in Oylegate. If the Council acquire it, Cllr Kavanagh knows of volunteers willing to clean up around the building. Ms L Hore to investigate.

Cllr D Devereux informed the meeting that the Gaelscoil are considering becoming a non-denominational school. He requested could this be put on the agenda to meet with the Board of Management and discuss same.

Cllr D Devereux proposed that the Board of Management be invited to come in and talk to the Councillors, Cllr D Kenny seconded with support from Cllr J Sullivan. There was no opposition to this.

Cllr D Kenny requested that a letter be sent to the Department of Education regarding the 8 or 9 acres of land completely taken over by bushes to be cleaned up at Creagh.

Mr P Knight informed the Members that there would be a Civic Reception for the Ukrainian Ambassador, Her Excellency Larysa Gerasko on Monday, 25th April at 1:00pm.

Votes of Sympathy

Members extended their sympathy to Mr Philip Knight on the recent loss of his mother. Ms L Hore also extended sympathy to Mr Knight on behalf of all the staff.

Members extended their sympathies to the families of the recently bereaved of Mick O'Connor and to the Kavanagh Family, Castletown.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2022

**Pip Breen,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District**