

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday, 20th June 2023, at 2:30pm**

Attendance:

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

Officials: Mr Diarmuid Houston, A/Director of Services & District Director,
Mr Philip Knight, Municipal District Administrator,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Mr Barry Hammel, Executive Engineer,
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Ms Paula Shortall, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,
Mr George Colfer, Executive Engineer (Coastal),
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer,
Mr Philip Mansfield, Executive Planner,

Apologies: Cllr Diarmuid Devereux,
Cllr Oliver Walsh.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr, A Bolger, seconded by Cllr D Kenny the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on May 16th, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

1.2 Matters Arising:




There were no Matters Arising.

Sympathies

Members proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the families of those recently bereaved, the late Eileen Doyle–née Graham, and Margaret Stafford–née Foley. RIP.

Congratulations

Members extended their congratulations to the following:

-  Gorey Rangers – Winners of Wexford Premier Division.
-  Naomh Eanna – Double Winners of All-County Hurling League.
-  Gorey Musical Society – Triple Winners at Association of Irish Musical Societies Awards for their production of 'The Sound of Music'.

- ✚ Kilanerin – Winners of Wexford All-County Football League Premier.
- ✚ Filip Kopczak – Called into U-15's Ireland Squad following his performances in the Kennedy Cup.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

2.1 Arts & Tourism Office Proposal

District Administrator, Mr P Knight informed the Committee that Expressions of Interest to manage Gorey Arts/Crafts Hub and Tourist Information Centre had been advertised following the recent closure of this outlet in the Market House. Mr Knight advised that one valid Expression of Interest was received, that the process of appointing the successful operator has commenced and it is envisaged that this facility will open to the public from early July. Members welcomed this proposal.

Cllr J Sullivan expressed his disappointment to see Gorey Market House falling into such a state of disrepair and sought an update on the building's redevelopment. Cllr A Donohoe reminded Cllr Sullivan that a third round of Expressions of Interest were called earlier this year and understood they were now with the Executive for assessment with a Report pending, to come back before the members.

2.2 Housing

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

Cllr M Farrell highlighted several plumbing issues brought to her attention in the new Church View Housing Estate in Blackwater. Ms Shortall agreed to revert on this matter.

2.3 Environment

The Environment Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted and Mr G Colfer responded to queries raised by the members.

Cllr M Farrell raised concerns about overhanging cliffs at a section of Ballymoney beach. Mr Colfer suggested additional signs could be placed on the approach to the beach, but Cllr Farrell's preference was for fencing or wire around the area. Cllr Donohue felt ultimately this was an issue that came down to personal responsibility. Mr Colfer agreed to review the issue and report back.

2.4 Planning

The Planning Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted and Mr P Mansfield responded to queries raised by the members.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin requested that a letter be sent to An Bord Pleanála by the Planning Department and/or Chief Executive requesting an urgent decision be made on 8 Eire Street, Gorey, a premise which has been lying in a derelict state for 33 years.

Cllr D Kenny also asked for confirmation that No. 2b Garden City is on the Derelict Register.

2.5 Roads

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

Ms J Kehoe informed the members of ongoing maintenance issues with the barriers in carparks in Gorey since the installation of new pay & display machines last September. Ms Kehoe explained how it is proposed to decommission the barriers and move the pay & display machines to safe locations within the carparks. She added this is a parking operational matter which does not constitute a byelaw or policy change as the parking tariffs of €2:00 per day will remain unchanged.

The members had no objection to this proposition provided adequate signage is put in place clearly displaying the area is pay & display and outlines parking times at the location.

Ms J Kehoe also responded to the following queries raised by the members:

- ✚ Road upgrade, Review of Speed Limit & Flooding Report for Millands, Gorey,
- ✚ Safety concerns at Island Crossroads, Craanford and Ramstown/Paul Funge Boulevard Junction,
- ✚ Installation of Roundabouts at Ballyloughlin & The Rock/Arklow Road,
- ✚ Proposed left turn only at Berry Farm/Tinnock Junction,
- ✚ Courtown Footpath Update,
- ✚ Trimming along Beach Roads, roadside ditches, and line-marking at junctions,
- ✚ Widening of road at bottom of Kilmuckridge Hill.

2.6 Water Services

The Water Services Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted and Mr B Hammel responded to queries raised by the members.

Mr Hammel informed the members of the undertaking to plant trees at WWTPs in Ferns, Boolavogue & Pallas which will enhance biodiversity as part of Uisce Éireann's Biodiversity Action Plan.

Cllr A Donohoe enquired about the prioritisation of the upgrading of WWTPs in small, rural villages and sought an update on whether Camolin WWTP will amalgamate with Ferns.

2.7 Additional Departmental Reports

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

2.8 District Administrator's Report

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

Cllr J Sullivan highlighted concerns raised by business owners in Gorey regarding the Main Street closure over the Market House Festival weekend.

Mr P Knight advised that he had already spoken to those business owners most affected by the closure and once they had been afforded a full explanation, the majority understood the reasoning behind this decision. He added that the Festival Committee sought a representative from the retailers to sit on the Committee at the start of the year, but no one came forward.

Mr Knight said as Event Controller for the festival, he is responsible for all health & safety aspects and several incidents which came to light at the 2022 festival debriefing led to the decision to re-position the stage this year. He added that he did not want this to define this year's festival particularly with the excellent and diverse line-up of musical acts performing.

Mr Knight agreed to speak with Cllr Sullivan following the Meeting to discuss any business concerns.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin asked that works on the Courtown Playground be expedited so that it will be open for the summer months. Mr P Knight agreed to follow this up with the Community Development Section.

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

Consider Motion submitted by Cllr Diarmuid Devereux & Cllr Joe Sullivan

"That the GMA Member's Discretionary and LPT Provision for project development in the Gorey District, less the agreed allocation set aside for the Family Resource Centre, be amalgamated and spent on projects to be determined by the Gorey Members in local areas".

The Motion was proposed by Cllr J Sullivan and seconded by Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin. It was agreed that the Gorey Electoral Area members will meet to discuss proposed projects.

No. 5 Correspondence

5.1 Correspondence to Uisce Éireann re Delays in responding to queries raised.

The Correspondence outlined above was noted by the members.

No. 6 AOB

Mr P Knight informed the members that the newly formed Gorey Pedestrian & Cycling Association wish to make a deputation at the July District Meeting, proposed by Cllr D Kenny, seconded by Cllr A Bolger.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2023

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