

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday, 21st March 2023, at 2:30pm**

Attendance:

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

Officials: Ms Breege Cosgrave, Acting 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,
Ms Paula Shortall, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,
Mr George Colfer, Coastal Engineer (MS Teams),
Mr Philip Mansfield, Executive Planner,

Apologies: Cllr Donal Kenny, Cathaoirleach,
Ms Elizabeth Hore, Director of Services/District Director




Deputation: Dr Yvonne Byrne, Management Consultant,
Joe Roche (Tara Hill Community Development Association CLG),
Danny O'Connor (Ballymoney Community Group),
Paul Dubsy (Ballymoney Community Group),
Moirá Kelly (Castletown Development Group),
Mary Byrne (Castletown Development Group).

Sympathies

Members proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the families of those recently bereaved, the late James Hendrick and Paula Carton. RIP.

Congratulations

Members extended their congratulations to the following:

-  Robbie Brooks, Castletown – Wexford Footballer of the Year 2022
-  Amber Cronin Kenny – All-Ireland Handball Champion
-  Colm Murphy – Winning Trainer at Cheltenham Racing Festival 2023

No. 1 Deputation

1.1 Deputation from Tara Hill, Ballymoney & Castletown Community Groups:

An Leas-Chathaoirleach, Cllr D Devereux welcomed representatives from Tara Hill, Ballymoney & Castletown Community Groups along with Dr Yvonne Byrne, Management Consultant to the Meeting.

Dr Byrne presented the Draft 5-year Community Development Plan for the three areas, outlining their objectives, research methodology, the proposed governance structure, and their final recommendations.

The Draft Plan was commended and fully supported by all the members.

No. 2 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

2.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr P Breen, seconded by Cllr A Donohoe the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on February 21st, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

2.2 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr J Sullivan, seconded by Cllr A Bolger the Minutes of the Briefing Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on March 9th, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

2.3 Matters Arising:

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






No. 3 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

3.1 Housing

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

Cllr J Sullivan expressed his disappointment with the lack of progress with Ramsfort Park, Tober Muire and the St. Joseph's housing developments, 90 units which will not be delivered by the March 31st expiry on rental evictions. Members agreed that it was essential that these developments be moved on at greater pace. Ms Shortall agreed to bring the members concerns back to the Executive.

Ms Shortall also agreed to revert with responses to the following issues raised:

-  Number of Council builds on Council owned land.
-  Reason for Monamolin Tender delay.
-  Current situation regarding energy upgrades with Council housing stock.
-  Whether any social housing allocation within Kilmuckridge developments.
-  Current position regarding provision of emergency accommodation in applicants own District.

3.2 Environment

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

Mr G Colfer informed the Committee that €160,000 has been approved for accessibility works at Ballymoney Beach and that works will complete before the summer. The members welcomed these works and Cllr A Bolger paid tribute to Mr Matthew McGrath's beach accessibility campaign.

Cllr A Donohoe highlighted health & safety concerns with sand banks at Clone Beach and asked that the matter be addressed as a matter of urgency. Cllr J Sullivan said the cuts into these sand banks are as a direct result of the lack of attention to the Ahare River and called on the Council to cut out the swell of water. Mr Colfer again explained that the main recommendation from the Report was the flood warning system. He said whilst cutting a channel at the Ahare River was listed as a potential option, there were a lot of conditions attached to this due to stringent environmental legislation introduced.

Cllr P Breen sought an update on the Rock Armour for Cahore and Mr Colfer advised that Consultants are finalising a Report for submission to the OPW.

Cllr A Bolger referred to the recently formed Gorey Youth Environmental Council and extended an invitation to WCC members and officials to attend one of their meetings. Mr Colfer agreed to pass this invitation onto the Environment Education Officer.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin commended the planting of 100 trees in Gorey District Park as part of the "100 million Trees Initiative" and called on the Council to look at additional sites within the district.

Cllr J Sullivan enquired whether there was any update regarding the compost factory at Ballyminaun and Mr Colfer advised that the company has submitted a proposal to the Council which is currently being examined.

Mr Colfer also agreed to follow up additional issues raised, including:

- ✚ Additional dog signage for Ballyconnigar & Ballynaclash beaches.
- ✚ Dredging at Courtown Harbour and cost to date.
- ✚ Clean-up and repairs to the Boardwalk in Courtown.
- ✚ Confirmation re: opening of Morriscastle & Ballymoney toilets all year round and
- ✚ Additional beach bye-laws signage with specific emphasis on owner's dog responsibility on beaches.

3.3 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.

3.4 Roads

The Roads Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. The members acknowledged the Programme of Works selected for the year.

Cllr A Donohoe sought an update on funding for two projects, a roundabout at the Coach Road and the completion of the Courtown footpath. Ms Kehoe said whilst no funding has been secured for the Coach Road, she will look at temporary measures later in 2023.

She advised funding is in place for Courtown, however lack of resources currently prevent work progressing.

Cllr M Farrell queried applications for works under the Local Improvement Scheme and Active Travel Projects. Ms Kehoe advised that all current Schemes which received funding are complete but that additional funding has not been allocated to applications currently submitted. She added that cycles lanes in towns and footpath connectivity to schools remain a priority.

Cllr D Devereux sought clarity on whether the plans for the Esmonde Street Regeneration Project included Esmonde Lane. Ms Kehoe said the Esmonde Street funding from the Roads Programme will only address road surfacing. Mr P Knight added that a clean-up of Esmonde Lane is currently being considered as a possible project for the additional GMA funding received from the LPT increase.

3.5 Water Services

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

3.6 Additional Departmental Reports

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

Cllr A Donohoe noted a significant number of chimney fires and sought a breakdown of the number of private and county council dwellings concerned. He also felt a stronger advertising campaign was merited. Mr Knight agreed to bring this to the CFO's attention.

3.7 District Administrator's Report

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

Mr P Knight thanked the members for their support in the lead-up and celebration of the St. Patrick's Day festivities. He paid tribute to Committee Chairperson, Mr Michael Gleeson, and to all Council Workers involved on the day.

Cllr A Bolger sought an update on the Dog Park to which Mr Knight advised is at design stage. He added that the Parks & Open Spaces Byelaws will apply in its operation.

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

4.1 GKMD Schedule of Municipal District Works 2023:

The GKMD Schedule of Municipal District Works 2023 was adopted, proposed by Cllr P Breen, and seconded by Cllr A Bolger.

4.2 GKMD Amenity & Arts and Residents Association Grant Scheme Allocations 2023:

The GKMD Amenity & Arts and Residents Association Grant Scheme Applications 2023 had previously been circulated to all members and allocations presented at the Meeting were proposed by Cllr A Donohoe and seconded by Cllr M Farrell.

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

None.

No. 6 Correspondence

Mr P Knight informed the Committee that he had received a deputation request from the newly formed Gorey Community Development Group to present to the members at the June District Meeting. All members agreed.

No. 7 AOB

Cllr A Donohoe was nominated to attend the Active Travel Study Visit to Utrecht 22-24 May, seconded by Cllr P Breen.

Cllr A Donohoe again asked for a full breakdown of Capital Projects for all the Districts from 2014 to date. Mr P Knight confirmed he is still waiting for this information.

Ms B Cosgrave informed the Committee that the Council is preparing a new Local Economic & Community Plan for the period 2023-2028 and advised that a series of public consultation events will take place throughout the District during March 2023.

Cllr M Farrell acknowledged the support received from the LEO for the International Women's Day event held in Kilmuckridge.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2023

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