

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday 15th April 2025, at 2:30pm**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr Donal Kenny, Leas-Chathaoirleach,

Cllr Nicky Boland,
Cllr Pip Breen,
Cllr Anthony Donohoe,
Cllr Craig Doyle,
Cllr Mary Farrell,
Cllr Darragh McDonald,
Cllr Joe Sullivan,

Officials: Ms Liz Hore, Director of Services & District Director,
Mr Philip Knight, Municipal District Manager,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Mr Marcus Linehan, Executive Planner,
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer, Environment (MS Teams),
Ms Paula Shortall, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,

Apologies: Cllr Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach,
Cllr Paddy Kavanagh.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr C Doyle, seconded by Cllr D McDonald, the Minutes of the Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD with An Garda Síochána, held on March 25th, 2025, were signed, and adopted.

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr C Doyle, seconded by Cllr D McDonald, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD, held on March 25th, 2025, were signed, and adopted.

1.3 Matters Arising from the March Statutory GKMD Meeting:

There were no Matters Arising from the March Meetings.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

2.1 Housing:

The Housing Report, which was circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Ms P Shortall responded to queries raised by the members relating to Monamolin, Tober Mhuire and Ramstown Lower housing developments.

2.2 Environment:

The Environment Report, which was circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Mr E Brennan provided updates on Ballyconnigar Bridge, Clone Bridge and Kilpatrick Access Works. He also informed the members that the National Blue Flag Beach Award Ceremony is due to take place in Curracloe on the 16th of May.

Cllr C Doyle suggested re-instating access to Courtown Beach following the re-emergence of part of the beach. Mr P Knight advised that it is currently closed off due to the danger posed by the boardwalk and the rock armour with incoming tides. Cllr D McDonald asked that the Council erect more signage and issue a press release informing the public that the beach is closed on health and safety grounds.

Cllr D Kenny questioned why Clean Ups are encouraged during April when there is less growth during the month of March. Mr Brennan was not aware of any reason but agreed to revert on this matter.

2.3 Planning

The Members noted the Planning Reports which had been circulated prior to the meeting and Mr M Linehan responded to queries raised.

Cllr Mary Farrell enquired about any update on planning and log cabins. Mr M Linehan said the Council has received no further instructions.

Cllr A Donohoe asked for a residential zoning map for Gorey that will highlight what is zoned and what has been built out.

Cllr N Boland highlighted concerns raised by the residents of Millquarter regarding the construction of the new relief road and asked whether any safety measures will be put in place. District Roads Engineer Ms J Kehoe said that the road has been specifically designed with bends to prohibit the build-up of speed.

2.4 Roads

The Members noted the Roads Reports which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr D McDonald asked what the Council's best practice is to reduce speed in urban areas, particularly on the Fort Road where a school, the town park and numerous residential estates are located. Ms J Kehoe said that the Council does not have a traffic calming policy, rather it is done on a case-by-case basis. She said driver feedback signs work well as does giving the impression of narrowing the road, narrowing the footpath to the edge of the road.

Cllr J Sullivan felt raised crossings on either side of the park entrance would be of benefit. Cllr C Doyle agreed with this suggestion and asked that signage also be erected off the Main Street warning drivers of the park ahead. Ms Kehoe added that she has already enquired about including the Fort Road in the next round of applications for Safety Improvement Works.

Cllr Sullivan also referred to a wall on the Fort Road obstructing pedestrians along the footpath which Ms Kehoe agreed to investigate and see what options are available to her.

Ms J Kehoe also responded to or agreed to revert on the following issues:

- ✚ Ballytegan-Arklow Road Works Timeline and Temporary Traffic Lights
- ✚ Streetlights in Clonattin and Pedestrian Crossing in Riverchapel
- ✚ Street sweeper for inside cycle paths on Relief Road
- ✚ Wifi Cables at Garryvaughan, Ballymurn cut during works
- ✚ Dangerous junctions at Ballyfoley and Ballycanew/The Harrow
- ✚ Public Lighting Audit for Kilmuckridge
- ✚ Chestnut Walk, Meadows HE – No right/giving way.

2.5 Additional Departmental Reports

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

Cllr D McDonald again called for the Water Safety Programme in Courtown and Cahore to be re-instated during the summer months. District Manager, Mr P Knight agreed to follow up on this matter with the Water Safety Officer.

2.6 District Manager's Report

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

District Manager Mr P Knight informed the Committee of upcoming events in the district, in particular a media project due to commence shortly, documenting people's views on the Market House redevelopment works, which will be edited as one piece for release on social media platforms.

Cllr M Farrell enquired of any assistance available for Men's Shed Start-ups for Ballycanew and Oulart. District Director Ms L Hore said that Adman Sheds have come on board as a sponsor for Men's Sheds and that funding is also available from the local authority.

Cllr Farrell called on the public for assistance with the provision of tents and sleeping bags for Blackwater Scouts following the recent fire in their Scout Hall.

Cllr Farrell expressed her frustration at having no direct point of contact at Uisce Éireann as District Engineers are no longer responsible for water service enquiries, particularly outages and notifying the public. Cllr D McDonald also expressed his frustration with Uisce Éireann with regards to a long-term issue in Ballymoney and said anyone who has issues with them should bring them to the Minister for Housing who has ultimate responsibility for them.

Cllr N Boland asked did private housing estates with playgrounds need their own insurance. Ms J Kehoe said they do, unless the estate has been taken in charge and the playground handed over to the Playgrounds Inspection Team. Cllr Boland asked can a housing estate with a public space apply for a playground. Ms L Hore recommended that residents meet with the Planning Section and that funding is available under the Community Recognition Fund. Cllr Boland asked had there been any progress with installing an autism swing in the Town Park. Mr P Knight said he would investigate this once current works in the park have completed.

Cllr Boland asked for an update on mobile sauna services. Mr Knight said he was aware of several applications having been lodged for sauna licences in the county but that granting those licences was a complex issue. He added that there are two mechanisms under which they could be dealt, (i) Beach Byelaws and (ii) Casual Trading Act. He said the Environment Section have already carried out a review but are reluctant to grant licences for health & safety and environmental reasons. As regards Casual Trading which now covers service providing, the two designated trading areas in the district are Market Square, Gorey and Courtown, and Courtown has no mechanism for these units. Ms L Hore agreed to look at how mobile sauna services have been established in the West of Ireland, how they are operating and complying with which legislation.

Cllr D McDonald and Cllr M Farrell raised concerns over bins overflowing at beaches in the district. Cllr Farrell said the Contractor must be instructed to empty bins both prior to and immediately after each weekend and called for a service-level agreement to be reached with the bin company. Mr Knight agreed to speak with the Environment Section.

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

The Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD Schedule of Municipal District Works Programme 2025 was proposed by Cllr J Sullivan and seconded by Cllr N Boland.

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

None

No. 5 Correspondence

All correspondence was noted.

No. 6 AOB

District Director, Ms L Hore sought the approval from the members to hold an Awards Night for the recipients of Amenity & Arts and Resident Associations Grants.

Ms Hore also informed the Committee of her intention to hold a Civic Honours Awards Ceremony and asked the members to submit their nominations to the district office.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2025.

**Oliver Walsh,
Cathaoirleach,
Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District**

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