

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday 16th January 2024, 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,
Cllr Diarmuid Devereux,
Cllr Oliver Walsh,

Officials:

Ms Liz Hore, Director of Services & District Director,
Mr Philip Knight, Municipal District Manager,
Ms Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Mr Donal Gordon, Senior Staff Officer, Finance (Rates),
Ms Paula Shortall, Senior Staff Officer, Housing, MS Teams,
Mr Sean Savage, Arch. Technician, Housing Capital, MS Teams
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer, Environment,
Mr Oisín Boland, Executive Planner,
Ms Caroline Creane, Temp. Admin. Officer, Community, MS Teams,
Ms Tara Farrell, Staff Officer, Community, MS Teams,
Mr Ronan Griffin, Assistant Staff Officer, Community, MS Teams,

Others:

Liam Mannix, KPMG, MS Teams.

No. 1 Deputation from The Ballytegan/Tara Rocks Community Group

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr P Breen welcomed representatives from The Ballytegan/Tara Rocks Community Group to the Meeting and called on Mr Jim O'Connor to address the Committee.

Mr O'Connor expressed the growing concerns of their community that in the next few years over 1,100 houses are planned for construction in The Rock/Ballytegan Area. Whilst Mr O'Connor welcomed these new developments, their community felt that the absence of any plan to upgrade the road and footpath infrastructure to cater for additional traffic volumes, is a huge concern to the safety of those travelling within this community.

Mr O'Connor called on the Council to consider safety measures such as a roundabout on the Arklow Road at the Coach Road, pedestrian crossings on the Arklow Road and Coach Road and making the Rock Road to Arklow Road a left-turn only. In addition, the widening of the road to Gorey & Green's Berry Farm and finally the installation of a footpath from The Rock to Gorey.

Cllr A Donohoe referred to Planning Fees of almost €8m collected in the district from 2019 to date and called for these Fees to be designated for such projects. He said it was essential that the roundabout at Gorey bridge was in-situ before St. Walerans commences.

Cllr D Kenny noted that the area is progressively agricultural, and with the increased width of machinery, that any restrictions to road widths should be carefully considered.

Cllr P Breen said that a review of Gorey's Transport Plan is imminent which will in turn drive forward the required safety measures. Mr O'Connor feared such a Review would delay any works and said that all infrastructure needs to be fit for purpose before any development takes place.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr P Breen acknowledged the concerns of the deputation and thanked them for attending the Meeting. It was agreed to re-convene with the deputation at the April District Meeting and present plans for the short and medium-term whilst continuing to work on the long-term plan.

No. 2 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

2.1 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, both held on December 19th, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

2.2 Matters Arising:

Cllr D Devereux again highlighted the increased number of HGVs on the Main Street. Ms L Hore, District Director advised that this will be reviewed under the Traffic Management Plan for Gorey.

Referring to the S.183 Disposal of a Property at Ballinclare, Leskinfere, Gorey, at a recent Full Council Meeting, Ms L Hore provided clarification on the sales procedure when disposing of local authority property or land. Ms Hore advised that all public assets are subject to audit. She said the property had been valued correctly and that an open and transparent auction process on the open market had taken place, with the highest bid accepted. The district recommendation was then brought before the Full Council for consideration.

Sympathies:

The members proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the Carty, Murphy, and Whelan Families on their recent bereavements.

Congratulations:

The members offered their congratulations to Richard Levingstone, former player Gorey Rangers, on his debut for the U-15 Republic of Ireland Soccer Team.

No. 3 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

3.1 Presentation: 2-Year Implementation Plan for the LECP

Mr Liam Mannix, KPMG, explained that the LECP is being brought before all Municipal Districts, the Economic SPC, the LCDC and the Southern Regional Assembly for

recommendation before being brought before the Full Council in February for consideration. Mr Mannix addressed any queries raised by the members and the Plan was proposed by Cllr W Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr O Walsh.

3.2 Presentation: Commencement of Rates & Other Matters Act, 2019

Mr D Gordon presented the Commencement of Rates & Other Matters Act, 2019 to the Committee and addressed any queries raised by the members.

3.3 Housing Capital Report:

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

Members sought an update on the Ramsfort Park and Creagh housing developments. Mr S Savage informed the members that site investigation works are taking place on the Creagh Site and he agreed to revert with an update on Ramsfort Park.

Cllr M Farrell sought an update on the Monamolín development. Mr Savage informed the Committee that planning permission has been granted, Consultants have been appointed and site clearance is due to commence. Following the tender process, Mr Savage advised that construction should commence later this year.

3.4 Housing:

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

Cllr M Farrell again highlighted issues with air to water cylinders in the Church View, Blackwater, housing development and sought clarification over who is responsible for covering the cost of repairs and/or replacements. Ms P Shortall said Year 1 is covered by the Contractor and thereafter costs fall to the local authority but agreed to revert with confirmation.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin sought details of the timeline for 8 Eire Street, Gorey. Ms Shortall agreed to revert.

3.5 Environment

The Environment Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Mr E Brennan provided relevant updates to queries raised by the members at the December GKMD Meeting.

Mr Brennan announced that works at Ballymoney North Beach will be going to tender at the end of January. A Contractor will be appointed in February with works due to complete during the summer. He said car parking drawings for disabled spaces and barriers for the beach are currently under review. Cllr F Ó Súilleabháin asked that accessible car park markings be put in place close to the accessible toilets.

Mr Brennan advised that the eco toilets and footpaths at Cahore Beach will be installed in February and are expected to be open by the middle of March.

Cllr D Kenny sought information on the Community Climate Action Programme Grant and Mr Brennan agreed to revert.

Cllr D Devereux and Cllr M Farrell again raised their concerns over the level of dumping which has become a serious issue in North Wexford, particularly in the Kilmuckridge area and Cllr Farrell called for cameras to be installed at certain sections of the roads. Both members agreed to provide Mr Brennan with information regarding those involved for further investigation. Mr Brennan said that his team will set up a system to tackle the issue especially in the badly affected areas.

3.6 Planning

The Planning Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted and Mr O Boland addressed any queries raised by the members.

3.7 Roads

The Roads Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Ms J Kehoe either responded to or agreed to revert on the following issues:

- + Left turn only off Kilanerin Road at Green's Berry Farm,
- + Consideration of Pallas to Ballyfad Road for Improvement Works,
- + Consideration of Safety Cross Measures between the Railway Bridge & The Coach House under next round of Active Travel Funding,
- + Safety Works at Kyle Cross/Oulart Junction,
- + Update on Ballinatravay Bridge,
- + Update on Coach Road Roundabout,
- + Safety Works at Ballyloughlin Industrial Estate Junction,
- + Traffic Management at Borleigh to Inch Road Junction,
- + Realignment of Tinnock Roundabout,
- + Cycle Lane on Arklow Road compromised by briars,
- + Update on Ahare River Signage,
- + Grit Boxes for Craanford,
- + Review of Gritting Route in the District,
- + Signage at the Wicklow Gap re Icy Road Conditions.

3.8 Additional Departmental Reports

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

3.9 District Manager's Report

The District Manager's Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted and Mr P Knight provided relevant updates on:

- + GKMD Amenity & Arts and Resident Association Grant Schemes 2024,
- + St. Patrick's Day Parade,

Cllr M Farrell sought an update on Community Engagement Projects in Kilmuckridge and Mr Knight advised that he will follow-up on outstanding responses from the relevant Sections.

Members commended the Christmas lights and festivities in Gorey. Cllr A Donohoe asked that any unsightly cables be boxed off, particularly on the front of the Market House.

Mr Knight reminded the members of the upcoming visit of the Ambassador of Australia to Ireland H.E. Gary Gray on Monday 22nd January.

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

4.1 S.183 Disposal of Property at 7 Old Garden City, Gorey (Folio WX44271F)

On the proposal of Cllr D Kenny, seconded by Cllr D Devereux, the S.183 Disposal of Property at 7 Old Garden City, Gorey, Co Wexford, (Folio WX44271F) was recommended. All members agreed.

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

None.

No. 6 Correspondence

6.1 Correspondence from the Office of Mr. Roderic O’Gorman, TD., re proposed conversion of the former St. Therese’s B&B establishment into a Direct Provision Centre.

The Correspondence was noted. Cllr F Ó’Súilleabháin proposed that a response seeking clarification and a guarantee that this property will not be used at any time as a Direct Provision Centre be sent to the Office of Mr. Roderic O’Gorman, TD., seconded by Cllr D Devereux.

No. 7 AOB

None.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2024

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