

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday 16th September 2025, at 1:30pm**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr Donal Kenny, Cathaoirleach,

Cllr Nicky Boland,
Cllr Pip Breen,
Cllr Anthony Donohoe, Leas-Cathaoirleach,
Cllr Craig Doyle,
Cllr Mary Farrell,
Cllr Darragh McDonald,
Cllr Joe Sullivan,
Cllr Oliver Walsh (via MS Teams),

Officials: Ms Liz Hore, Director of Services & District Director,
Ms Anita McLoughlin, Municipal District Manager,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms Stephanie Furlong, Staff Officer,
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Mr Mick McCormack, Town Regeneration Officer,
Ms Rachel Jordan, Administrative Officer, Housing,
Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist, Environment,
Mr Eoghan Nolan, Executive Planner,
Mr Vincent Gallagher, Senior Executive Technician, Roads,

Others: Dr Conor Norton, Loci Urban Design Architecture & Planning
(via MS Teams),

Apologies: Cllr Paddy Kavanagh.

No. 1 Deputation from Regnum Renewables

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr D Kenny welcomed a deputation from Regnum Renewables who outlined the status with the proposed windfarm development at Kilmichael.

The deputation responded to queries raised by the members and the Committee thanked them for attending the Meeting.

No. 2 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

2.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr C Doyle, seconded by Cllr O Walsh, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD, held on July 15th, 2025, were signed, and adopted.

2.2 Matters Arising from the July Statutory GKMD Meeting:

It was agreed to address any Matters Arising under relevant Agenda Items.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr D Kenny welcomed Ms Anita McLoughlin and Ms Stephanie Furlong to the district and wished them well in their new roles.

No. 3 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

3.1 Courtown-Riverchapel Town Centre First Plan

Mr M McCormack informed the Committee that the Courtown-Riverchapel Town Centre First Plan was adopted by the Town Team on the 15th of September, setting out a comprehensive and community-driven vision to guide the long-term regeneration of the town centre. He advised that this strategic urban renewal plan that has been endorsed by the Community will be the framework to secure national and EU funding streams to bring projects to fruition.

Mr McCormack introduced Dr C Norton to the Committee who responded to queries raised by the members. The members offered their full support towards the Plan and Ms L Hore District Director paid tribute to the Town Team for their contribution to the process.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr D Kenny thanked Mr McCormack and Dr Norton for their presentations.

3.2 Housing:

The Housing Report, which was circulated prior to the meeting was noted and Ms R Jordan responded to queries raised by the members.

Cllr D McDonald requested details of the number of Units to be delivered in the overall St. Waleran's housing project. Ms Jordan advised that Phase 1 will consist of 40 Social Housing Units which is due to go to tender shortly. She said the Housing Capital Team will then be reviewing the potential for affordable housing at the site along with sourcing funding. This response left Cllr McDonald questioning how the Council can effectively plan not knowing the population of the town and surrounding areas. As no definitive number of Units could be provided Ms L Hore agreed to ask the St. Waleran's Project Manager to attend the next District Meeting.

Cllr M Farrell asked whether the Tenant-in-Situ Scheme is still operational. Ms Jordan advised that the conditions of the Scheme changed in March and that the allocation given for 2025 has been fully exhausted. She said that as no funding allocation has been announced for 2026 yet that all Notices to Quit should be forwarded to the Council.

Cllr M Farrell sought an update on Transfers and Ms Jordan agreed to revert. Cllr A Donohoe queried the Estate Management Open Cases referred to in the Housing Report and Ms Jordan agreed to seek further clarification.

Ms Jordan informed the Committee that all Units with a 2025 delivery date are on target for the end of the year.

3.3 Environment:

The Environment Report, which was circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Cllr J Sullivan queried the status of Ballymoney Beach's Blue Flag considering recent tests revealing elevated levels of bacteria in the water. Cllr Sullivan said the Council has a responsibility to protect the county's Blue Flag Beaches and questioned the findings from investigations which took place. Ms S Murphy agreed to refer Cllr Sullivan's query to Mr B Cooney Senior Executive Scientist.

Cllr A Donohoe asked had the Council considered larger bins particularly in holiday resorts during the summer months. Ms J Kehoe, District Roads Engineer said that compactor bins had somewhat improved the issue of overflowing bins but that they are heavy to empty. She added that the refuse crew was not large enough to merit investing in expensive equipment for heavy lifting.

Cllr N Boland asked if lids could be sourced for concrete bins in Coolgreany. Ms Kehoe advised that the only option is replacing the bins.

Cllr D Kenny asked Ms Murphy had the Environment Section erected a gate in the laneway of Millbrook and Mill Green to fence off grass cuttings. Ms Murphy was not aware of this.

3.4 Planning

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

Mr E Nolan Executive Planner informed the Committee that no decision date on the Ballyloughlan Roundabout had been agreed and that the file was still with the Inspector of An Coimisiún Pleanála.

Under Matters Arising Cllr A Donohoe referred to previous District Meetings where he raised a query about residential zoning in Gorey Town.

Ms L Hore District Director referred to revised Section 28 Planning Guidelines issued instructing local authorities to update housing targets in line with the revised National Planning Framework. These Guidelines revised the new national housing growth requirements for each local authority, with a plan to deliver approximately 55,000 new homes per year from 2025 to 2034.

Ms Hore said this means that Wexford will have 550 additional annual units added to the current Development Plan's target. She also said an additional headroom of 50% will be available to local authorities meaning local authorities will be allowed to zone more land. Each local authority is expected to reflect these new targets by updating their Development Plan. Ms Hore said as both Wexford and Gorey are considered key towns, both Local Area Plans will be re-visited and the other towns incorporated into the County Development Plan. She said the Council will need to assess what land is available that is zoned and what other land has the potential to be serviced.

Cllr A Donohoe felt that the Council should prompt Uisce Éireann to take in charge sewerage treatment within villages to permit housing development and asked that the Council contact the Minister for Housing in this regard.

3.5 Roads

S.38 Consultation Report – Traffic Calming at Ballycanew National School

Ms J Kehoe District Roads Engineer informed the Committee of the Council's proposal to undertake traffic calming works and to upgrade the existing pedestrian crossing on the R741 in Ballycanew village. The proposed Scheme consists of two new speed ramps, a ramped pedestrian crossing, associated footpath and drainage works in the vicinity of Ballycanew National School.

Ms Kehoe advised that the Public Consultation period took place from July 30th to August 27th and that three submissions were received. Mr V Gallagher advised that these submissions have been addressed and that the Active Travel Team intend to commence the traffic calming works in early October 2025. All members welcomed these works.

Cllr J Sullivan informed the Committee that 20 fatalities have occurred in Gorey Town and environs in the last 40 years and called on the Council to conduct a Safety Audit from Gorey Hospital to the Railway Bridge and on the Courtown Road to determine what safety recommendations need to be put in place. Ms Kehoe agreed to request this Audit through the Roads Department.

Cllr D McDonald asked when the next Speed Limit Review will take place. Ms Kehoe said the Review was due in 2025 but due to recent changes and further planned changes it has been placed on hold so that all changes will be reviewed without the need for a change to Bye Laws. She informed the members that all requests can be submitted to speedlimits@wexfordcoco.ie

Cllr D McDonald raised the issue of illegal parking and parking on double yellows at various junctions in the town. Ms Kehoe said that this is a matter for An Garda Síochána to enforce and that traffic wardens can only monitor during the working day. She agreed to contact An Garda Síochána to request more frequent patrols be conducted in the town.

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

Ms Kehoe either responded to or agreed to follow up on several issues raised including:

- ✚ Allocation of funding specific to North of Gorey R722 – Surface Dressing of Tinnock Road to Gorey,
- ✚ Light Connections at Clonattin and Pedestrian Crossing in Riverchapel,
- ✚ Cut back trees on Pedestrian Crossing on Arklow Road,
- ✚ Signage or line markings to slow down traffic at the graveyard, bottom of Clonattin,
- ✚ Relocation of line marking on Hollyfort Road (outside Browne's Bar),
- ✚ Update on relocation of Bus Stops and request bus companies to alternate arrival times in Gorey,
- ✚ Dead Tree at McCanns, Carnew Road.

3.6 Additional Departmental Reports

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

3.7 District Manager's Report

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

Under Matters Arising Cllr N Boland sought an update on the Esmonde Street Redevelopment Works. District Manager, Ms A McLoughlin explained that the tender process is complete however before the Contract is awarded licences between Uisce Éireann and Irish Rail need to be executed. She added that the Council are currently in discussions with Uisce Éireann.

Cllr M Farrell sought an update on the Kilmuckridge Playground. Ms McLoughlin advised that the project is due to go to tender in late October. She added that there will be a link in with Community Groups before this.

Cllr M Farrell expressed her concerns over the viewing stand for Kilmuckridge which is essential to accompany the beach mat. Ms McLoughlin said she would follow up with Special Projects and the Access Office, agreeing that both must come as a complete project.

Cllr D McDonald raised his concerns over anti-social behaviour at a derelict commercial building opposite Gorey Community School. Ms McLoughlin agreed to follow up with Mr T Banville, SEO Derelict Sites.

Cllr D McDonald commended the completed works on the Toberduff Roundabout and Cllr A Donohoe asked could the district look at improving the appearance of the Clogh Roundabout next. Ms McLoughlin said it would be dependent on the district's budget allocation.

Ms McLoughlin informed the members that the Gorey Christmas Lights Committee would be meeting next month and that new members were being sought. Cllrs Boland, McDonald and Doyle agreed to join the Committee.

Ms McLoughlin informed the members that the Wexford Climate Action Team will be holding an event in The Loch Garman Arms Hotel on the 15th of October where expert advice will be available to business owners on grants and energy upgrades to improve efficiency and reduce costs.

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

4.1 Section 183 Notice

The Section 183 Notice – Transfer of Land at Efferogue, Ferns was proposed by Cllr P Breen, seconded by Cllr J Sullivan.

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

None.

Cllr J Sullivan called on the Council to condemn Israelis-led behaviour in Gaza.

When Ms A McLoughlin informed Cllr Sullivan that such a request must be submitted as a Motion, Cllr Sullivan objected to this suggestion referring to the thousands of people dying in Gaza each day.

Ms McLoughlin said she accepted the sentiment but would have to check with the County Secretary whether an Emergency Motion could be accepted.

All members unanimously agreed.

No. 6 Correspondence

03.09.2025 – Acknowledgement to Gorey Pedestrian & Cycling Association

The above correspondence was noted.

No. 7 AOB

Ms. A McLoughlin informed the Committee that both the District Manager and An Cathaoirleach have been invited to the London Wexford Association taking place from the 10th – 12th October. As both An Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cllr D Kenny are unable to attend the event, Ms. McLoughlin sought another member to represent the district. Cllr C Doyle agreed to attend the Association Dinner.

Ms. A McLoughlin brought to the members' attention, Application Forms for GMA Funds for 2025. Members agreed to use these Forms to reflect their allocations, proposed by Cllr A Donohoe and seconded by Cllr D Kenny.

The members agreed to hear a delegation from Gorey Athletic Club prior to the October District Meeting.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2025

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