

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey
on Tuesday 19th December 2023, at 2:30pm**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,
Cllr Andrew Bolger,
Cllr Anthony Donohoe,
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 Administrator,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Ms Paula Shortall, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,
Ms Therese Nolan, Executive Architect, Housing Capital,
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer, Environment,
Mr Philip Mansfield, Executive Planner,

Apologies: Cllr Mary Farrell.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr D Kenny, seconded by Cllr D Devereux the Minutes of the Meeting held with An Garda Síochána and of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD, both held on November 21st, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

1.2 Matters Arising:

There were no Matters Arising from the November District Meeting.

Sympathies:

The members proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the Kinsella and Gregan Families on their recent bereavements.

Cllr A Donohoe proposed that a deputation from Ballytegan present to the Committee at the January GKMD Meeting, seconded by Cllr D Kenny.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

2.1 Housing

The Housing Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Ms P Shortall informed the members that the Tober Mhuire development is progressing and are hopeful of delivery by the end of Q2-2024. Ms Shortall also announced that the recently

appointed Social Housing Officer will take the lead on the Ramsfort Affordable Housing Scheme.

Cllr W Kavanagh asked had the Council reached its targets set for 2023 and whether all funds have been exhausted. He asked how much land the Council owns in the Kilmuckridge District which is available for housing and whether there is any intention to purchase land. Cllr Kavanagh was agreeable that these issues be addressed at the January Council Meeting.

2.2 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 November GKMD Meeting.

Mr Brennan informed the members that the eco-toilets have been installed in Cahore. He added that concrete and access works will commence in January with the facility open by mid-February. Mr Brennan also advised that proposed drawings for the carpark in Cahore will be presented at the January GKMD Meeting.

Mr Brennan informed the Committee that a new warning system is set to be implemented on the road beside the Ahare River to alert people to the possibility of flooding in the area. Whilst Cllr J Sullivan welcomed the safety measures, he felt dealing with this as a Roads issue is not a solution to the problem, but rather an environmental issue and the capacity of the river to get rid of the water that comes into it during high tides and heavy rain events.

Mr Brennan confirmed that details of Christmas tree shredding arrangements for householders at locations throughout the County will also be circulated.

2.3 Planning

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

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin asked has the Council relaxed its policy on log cabins. Mr P Mansfield advised that the County Development Plan facilitates log cabins but that they must still meet the necessary planning conditions. Ms L Hore, District Director, reiterated that log cabins cannot be erected without planning permission and those that do so will be subject to enforcement legislation.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin commended the progress made with the derelict property on 8 Eire Street. Ms L Hore also provided an update on seven derelict properties in Gorey as follows:

- **8 Eire St** – ABP approved the CPO, which was objected to approximately 2 years ago, in November. Property will now be vested in WCC in Jan 2024.
- **7 Garden City** – currently on open market. Anticipated sale agreed this month or early Jan 2024.
- **15 Railway Road** – stay put on original CPO process due to commitment by owner to address dereliction by way of works on foot of a planning application. Planning application submitted but withdrawn by the owner/applicant in Nov. PMU wrote to the owner in Dec requesting comments on the reason for the withdrawal.
- **3 Church St** – PMU engaged with owner under URDF and were informed that this property was being sold to a third party who will address the dangerous structures and dereliction issues identified with this property in accordance with WCC requirements.

- **1 Centenary Place** – Vested in WCC in Nov.
- **16 Michael St** – URDF approved property. Proceed to initiate CPO subject to approval in Dec 2023/Jan 2024.
- **7 Grotto Terrace** – Vested in WCC. Property being cleared to enable site survey required to assess suitability for inclusion in Housing Funding Schemes.

A new focused list of URDF approved properties has been requested from Planning for progression by Property Management Unit in 2024.

The Chairman and members supported the progress in relation to the above Work Programme.

The Chairman and Director of Services thanked Mr P Mansfield and wished him success with his new position in Dublin.

2.4 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:

- ✚ Drainage issues outside Gorey Rangers, Ramsfort Road,
- ✚ Relocation of Bus Stops,
- ✚ Review of Disabled Bays in Gorey,
- ✚ Footpath repairs on the corner of Joannes, Gorey,
- ✚ Parking Regulations.

Outdoor Dining Facilities:

Members raised their concerns over the dilapidated condition of the outdoor dining buildouts on Main Street, Gorey. Mr P Knight informed the members that the panels for the buildouts needed to be re-procured due to their increased cost. He added that the feedback from businesses had been very positive, and he added that during off-season periods they have been used for hosting events, so are multi-functional. When asked about the source of funding for the buildouts, Ms L Hore advised they are being funded from the Economic Budget and not the GKMD GMA.

Gorey to Courtown Footpath:

Ms L Hore informed the members that the completion of the Gorey to Courtown footpath is a top priority and has been raised by the members at several Council meetings. In response to a request for an update, the Director advised that a designated person has been assigned to this project from the Council's Active Travel Team to work on the project.

Ms Hore said that the Council is currently preparing options and considering the option of assessing the feasibility of a 'stop-go' system or single lane layout for the bridge in the area. Several members were against the idea of a 'stop-go' system being implemented on the bridge and thought this would create significant traffic issues in the area. Ms Hore agreed that when the drawings and options were prepared that this would be brought to the members early in the New Year - January /February 2024 for feedback.

2.5 Additional Departmental Reports

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

2.6 District Administrator's Report

The District Administrator's Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Mr P Knight provided a detailed report on the various events held, projects delivered and visiting dignitaries to the district during 2023.

Members paid tribute to the various events and projects completed, particularly the Gorey District Park official re-opening and the launch of the new Coffee Pod within the Park grounds during the Market House Festival.

Ms L Hore thanked the members for their support with projects throughout 2023 and advised that Gorey District Park will be put forward for National Award recognition next year.

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

3.1 S.183 Disposal of Property at Ballinclare, Leskinfere, Gorey (Folio WX11702F)

On the proposal of Cllr D Devereux, seconded by Cllr D Kenny, the S.183 Disposal of Land at Ballinclare, Leskinfere, Gorey, Co Wexford, (Folio WX11702F) was recommended.

Cllr J Sullivan asked for a Report on the sales procedure for this property and Ms L Hore agreed to revert.

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

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

None.

No. 6 AOB

Cllr J Sullivan noted the date of submission for Notice of Motions from Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD for the June Statutory Meeting to be the 7th of June, the date of the 2024 Local Elections, and asked that this date be revisited. Ms L Hore advised that it will be re-addressed, and the Meetings Administrator P. Knight will liaise with the County Secretary.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2024

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