

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

Attendance:

In the Chair:

Cllr Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach,
Cllr Andrew Bolger, via MS Teams,
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 Administrator,
Ms Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer,
Ms Liz Stanley, Senior Staff Officer,
Ms Debbie Stanley, Assistant Staff Officer,
Mr Rory Curtis, Executive Engineer, Special Projects,
Ms Rachel Jordan, Administrative Officer, Housing,
Ms Sharon Ryan, Temp Senior Staff Officer, Housing,
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer, Environment,
Mr Philip Mansfield, Executive Planner.

No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr M Farrell, seconded by Cllr A Donohoe the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD held on October 17th, 2023, were signed, and adopted.

1.2 Matters Arising:

On the matter of the proposed conversion of the former St. Therese's B&B establishment into a Direct Provision Centre, Cllr D Devereux sought confirmation that this was no longer being considered. Mr. P Knight advised that confirmation to this effect had been sought from the Office of Mr. Roderic O'Gorman, TD, but no response had been received to date.

Cllr W Kavanagh asked again about contacting the DAFM with a view to re-opening the organic fertiliser season where weather permitted. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr P Breen advised that such a request would require a derogation application to the EPA and probably the EU.

No. 2 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations

2.1 Esmonde Street Redevelopment Proposal

Mr R Curtis circulated an updated proposal for Esmonde Street and Esmonde Lane redevelopment works to the Committee. All the members complimented the plan and Mr

Curtis took on board the suggestions of an additional disabled parking space at the top of the street and the installation of a water feature. Mr Curtis informed the members that construction will take the form of phased works to keep traffic flowing with some small closures when putting in crossings. He added that these works will also tie in with Uisce Éireann's upgrade works. The Plan was proposed by Cllr A Donohoe with all members in agreement.

2.2 Housing

The Housing Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Ms R Jordan provided an update on the Ramsfort Affordable Housing Scheme & confirmed that the Council is hopeful of a resolution with Tober Mhuire in the New Year. Regarding the Tenant-in-Situ Scheme Ms Jordan reassured the members that the Council is actively working with people who find themselves unexpectedly facing eviction.

Cllr J Sullivan expressed his disappointment with the Choice Based Letting Scheme to date. Ms Jordan said that the purpose of this Scheme is to show transparency and that houses are being put on as soon as they become available.

Cllr A Donohoe sought clarification on whether the 88 AHB Units were Gleann an Ghairdin and how many of the 318 Units were constructed by the local authority. Cllr M Farrell asked whether WCC bought any Units in the new Kilmuckridge development. Ms Jordan agreed to revert.

2.3 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 October GKMD Meeting.

Members acknowledged the continuous work of the Council's Rapid Response Crew and congratulated those affiliated with the recent Environment Awards.

Cllr F Ó'Súilleabháin sought a Monitoring Report of the Bann River, particularly at the Kilmichael Intake, which Mr Brennan agreed to circulate.

Cllr A Donohoe welcomed the recent investment announcement by Custom Compost into new technology for environmental improvement at its facility.

2.4 Planning

A discussion took place regarding the concerns of residents from the Ballytegan/Clonsilla/The Rock areas about future housing developments and the inadequate infrastructure and safety aspects that need to be addressed prior to any planning approvals. Members agreed both short-term and long-term propositions need to be presented but in the first instance safety measures to alleviate some of the current issues should be addressed as any large-scale infrastructure will take several years.

Ms L Hore informed the members that the Transport SPC will be meeting to discuss Ballytegan. She said they will focus on Phase 1 development and that the District Roads Engineer has been looking at safety measures with a view to pursuing funding in the New Year. Failing that, Ms Hore said funding can be addressed through Planning Contributions.

Cllr F O'Suilleabhain sought clarification regarding plans for a Nursing Home in Clonattin which is being funded by the same investment company as the Rosslare development.

Cllr W Kavanagh sought clarification on planning permission requirements for log cabins. Mr P Mansfield advised whilst log cabin builds are included in the new County Development Plan, they must still meet the necessary planning conditions. Cllr A Donohoe felt the Council should look favourably on such permissions as they would provide a rational solution to the current housing crisis. Cllr J Sullivan sought details of the number of applications received and the number of applications granted, and Mr Mansfield agreed to revert.

2.5 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:

- + Additional Lighting along Ramstown Road, out to P&H Doyles and Sean O'Byrne Park,
- + Safety measures at the Service Station in Inch,
- + Additional Funding for large-scale drainage works,
- + Trimming along Brickyard Hill,
- + Damaged tarmac on footbridge in Courtown,
- + Continued closure of Ballyvaloo Road.

2.6 Additional Departmental Reports

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

2.7 District Administrator's Report

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

- + Community Engagement Projects in Kilmuckridge,
- + LPT & Discretionary Spends for Gorey & Kilmuckridge,
- + Craanford TVRS 2021,
- + Christmas in Gorey 2023.

Mr Knight referred to the recent visit of the Ambassador of Slovakia to Ireland H.E. Andrej Droba where a Civic Reception was held at Gorey Civic Offices for students from Gorey Educate Together and College Bilikova as part of their new exchange programme.

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

None.

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

None.

No. 5 Correspondence

5.1 Correspondence to 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.

No. 6 AOB

Cllr D Devereux asked that parking in Gorey Town be re-examined.

Sympathies:

The members proposed a Vote of Sympathy to the family of the late Lily McDonald and John Smith.

Congratulations:

Members extended their congratulations to the following:

-  Ballynestrigh Gaels – U21 Football Premier Division Winners.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Daingnithe ar an _____ lá de _____ 2023

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