

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District  
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey  
on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026, at 2:30pm**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr Donal Kenny, Cathaoirleach,

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

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 Daniel Roche, Senior Executive Engineer, Special Projects,  
Mr Tom Banville, Senior Executive Officer, Planning,  
Ms Paula Shortall, Senior Staff Officer, Housing,  
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer, Environment,  
Mr Eoghan Nolan, Executive Planner,

Apologies: Cllr Paddy Kavanagh.

**No. 1 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising**

*1.1 Confirmation of Minutes:*

On the proposal of Cllr N Boland, seconded by Cllr D McDonald, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD, held on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, were signed, and adopted.

*1.2 Matters Arising from the December Statutory GKMD Meeting:*

There were no Matters Arising.

*Sympathies:*

The members offered their sympathies to the families of the late Joe Funge, Lar Donohoe, Pierie Butler, Winnie Doyle and Eamon Manning and a Minute's Silence was held.

## **No. 2 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations**

### **2.1 *Gorey Market House THRIVE Special Projects Presentation:***

Mr D Roche, SEE Special Projects provided the Committee with an update on the status of the Gorey Market House Project, confirming that a Contractor will be appointed to commence construction in Q2 of this year with an estimated completion date of Q4-2027.

Mr Roche explained that the building will include a multi-function space and café, a 100-person seating area, as well as changing room facilities, a new lift, and stairwell.

Ms L Hore, District Director explained the various Sub-Committees that have been set up to assist with the project. Since appointing a Design Team, she said that several surveys have been carried out at the site which have unearthed cobblestone pathways and an old well. Ms Hore said the Team will incorporate the cobblestones into the new design and will convert the well into a water feature. She added that maintaining the heritage element of the building and telling its story is of the utmost importance, incorporating the old with the new.

The members welcomed the update provided and paid tribute to the Special Projects Team.

### **2.2 *Taking-in-Charge:***

Mr T Banville, SEO Planning informed the members that there are currently 36 TIC Applications pending in the Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD and that he and his team would be prioritising five of those in 2026.

Mr Banville explained how the Council's Planning Team select which estates to prioritise, focusing on those which offer the least number of complications. He said that residential estates built in the last ten years are usually in good condition, have wastewater services and are usually processed more quickly. Secondly, they look at estates that have Developer Provided Infrastructure or funding through the Council's Bond Reserve. Lastly, there are the legacy estates which are the most challenging ones as they may have issues with roads, footpaths, lighting, and water.

Cllr M Farrell and Cllr O Walsh expressed their disappointment that none of the estates chosen for TIC are in the Kilmuckridge District. Cllr Farrell referred to estates in the rural areas of the district which are in a dreadful state and questioned why the newer estates are being given priority over estates that have been on the list for 20 years or more. Mr Banville advised that this is a multi-annual programme and that all the estates on the list will remain under review.

### **2.3 *Derelict Sites:***

Mr T Banville, SEO Planning informed the members that there are currently 58 sites under investigation in the Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD, 30 of which are entered on the Derelict Sites Register. He said the focus to date has been on the towns, having been allocated €6m under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund to actively pursue properties in the four main towns. He added that there are currently 12 properties in Gorey on the approved acquisition programme.

When questioned about derelict site levies Mr Banville said levies are applied to encourage the owner to either sell the property or return it to use. He said owners are given time to attain planning permission to bring a property back into use and that the more engagement the Council gets from the owners, the more time given to them. Once a property is valued, it is levied at a rate of 7% per annum.

Cllr O Walsh highlighted 4 properties in Blackwater which have been subject to vandalism and asked could they be added to the list. Mr Banville said he would arrange for an inspection.

Cllr D Kenny referred to a boarded-up building at the bottom of Esmonde Street and asked Mr Banville what was the Council's intention with this property. Mr Banville advised that he has been in contact with the owner, that it is listed on the Derelict Sites Register and is subject to levies. Cllr D McDonald asked that the Council adopt a zero-tolerance approach to those that are not following the rules. He also asked that the Dereliction Site Process be circulated to the members.

#### *2.4 Housing:*

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

Ms P Shortall informed the members that recently there has been huge engagement from developers in the Gorey Area with proposals predominantly urban but some rural. The members welcomed this announcement.

#### *2.5 Environment:*

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

Mr E Brennan informed the Committee that a revised set of drawings for the Cahore North Beach Rock Armour Enhancement Project have been drawn up and markings set out for a second public consultation which is due to take place in March. He also informed the members that the Ballinamona Beach shelter has commenced.

Referring to fly-tipping along roads, Cllr M Farrell asked is the Council legally obliged to inform the public where CCTV cameras are set up. Mr Brennan said that there is a detailed application and justification process involved in placing a CCTV camera, but he agreed to revert.

#### *2.6 Planning*

The Members noted the Planning Reports which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Mr E Nolan informed the Committee that a detailed report on the Ballyloughan appeal decision will be circulated to the members shortly.

Cllr N Boland expressed his concern over the lack of a Primary Care Centre in Gorey. He also felt the Council must address infrastructure issues within the town, particularly with

schools and GP practices all at full capacity. It was agreed to write to the relevant Ministers and Local TDs seeking an update on the proposed Primary Care Centre for Gorey.

Cllr D McDonald raised the issue of creches being built in housing developments, many of which end up going unused, remaining vacant years after being built and highlighted how many developers are now attempting to circumnavigate these rules. Mr E Nolan informed the Committee that the Council continues to insist that a creche be included in any development of 75 houses or more and that the Council takes a dim view of applications for Change of Use.

## *2.7 Roads*

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 the following issues:

- ✚ Timeline for completion of ramps on Fort Road,
- ✚ Update on the parking analysis for Gorey Town,
- ✚ Overgrown trees behind Ard Lios HE,
- ✚ Potholes on the Pallas to Ballyfad Road,
- ✚ Responsibility and policing of cutting back ditches,
- ✚ Responsibility for damaged bridges,
- ✚ Ongoing parking on footpaths in Gorey Town,
- ✚ Active Travel funding for bus shelters and cycle lanes in Gorey,
- ✚ Request for number of parking fines issued in Gorey in 2025.

## *2.8 Additional Departmental Reports*

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

## *2.9 District Manager's Report*

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

Ms A McLoughlin informed the members that the licence agreements for Esmonde Street are still to be signed. Cllr A Donohoe requested that the Council write to the relevant Minister outlining the importance of these licences.

Ms A McLoughlin also provided the members with an update on the Riverchapel Community Centre, the Oulart Community Garden, the District Roundabout Scheme and the upcoming stream of funding available to community groups under the Amenity & Arts and Resident Association Grant Schemes.

Cllr M Farrell asked the District Manager to provide an update on the feedback received from the Kilmuckridge Community Meeting held over two years ago with the intention of compiling a village plan. Ms McLoughlin agreed to do so.

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

#### **3.1 Section 183 Disposal of Property at the Old Post Office, Oylegate**

The Section 183 Notice – Disposal of Property at the Old Post Office, Oylegate was proposed by Cllr M Farrell, seconded by Cllr O Walsh.

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

#### **4.1 Motion Submitted by Cllr Darragh McDonald**

"That Wexford County Council undertakes in Q1 2026 an analysis and development plan for the Mill Road, Gorey in light of the increased vehicular traffic as a result of the imminent opening of the link road through the Mill Quarter Estate."

Cllr D McDonald emphasised the urgency for an analysis of the Mill Road to be carried out. Ms L Hore said the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund was designed to provide money for these such projects, rather than using funds from the Council's own budget. Cllr McDonald asked where the development fees from the Mill quarter and other developments were being used. He said with major large-scale developments occurring on most of Gorey's surrounding roads, there is a clear need for specific road upgrades in Gorey, both in the urban area and the surrounding villages. Cllr McDonald called for a proactive approach to plan, fund, and execute road upgrades in line with new developments or very shortly afterwards, to ensure development levies are used as intended.

### **No. 5 Correspondence**

#### **5.1 Correspondence to Firehouse Bakery, Main Street, Gorey**

The above correspondence was noted.

### **No. 6 AOB**

#### **6.1 Consideration of Deputation for February District Meeting from Gorey Youth Reach re: Ramstown Crossing & Footpath**

Consideration was given for Gorey Youth Reach to make a deputation before the Committee at the February Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD Meeting, proposed by Cllr J Sullivan, seconded by Cllr M Farrell.

**6.2 Proposed Development for Taking-in-Charge – Ardamine Court**

District Director, Ms L Hore informed the Committee that the proposed development for taking-in-charge of Ardamine Court is due to be advertised and once submissions are made and considered it will be brought before the district members for consideration.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ lá de \_\_\_\_\_ 2026**

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