

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District  
held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, The Avenue, Gorey  
on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026, at 2:00pm**

**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,

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 Alan O'Shea, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads,  
Mr Daniel Roche, Senior Executive Engineer, Special Projects,  
Ms Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer, Housing, via MS Teams,  
Mr Enda Brennan, Executive Engineer, Environment,  
Mr Eoghan Nolan, Executive Planner,

Apologies: Cllr Paddy Kavanagh.

**No. 1 Deputation from Brady's Cross Action Group**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Kenny welcomed the Brady's Cross Action Group deputation.

The deputation delivered a presentation to the Committee outlining in detail road traffic accidents that have occurred at Brady's Cross. They emphasised the need for improved signage, as well as the development of a long-term plan for the junction.

The Committee considered a range of potential measures to improve safety at the location and agreed to work in collaboration with the District Roads Engineer to identify and implement an appropriate solution. An Cathaoirleach thanked the deputation for attending the Meeting.

The members agreed to take a break and resume with the Statutory Meeting at 2:30pm.

**No. 2 Confirmation of Minutes & Matters Arising**

**2.1 Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Cllr O Walsh, seconded by Cllr C Doyle, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD, held on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, were signed, and adopted.

## **2.2 Matters Arising from the February Statutory GKMD Meeting:**

There were no Matters Arising.

### **Sympathies:**

Cllr D Kenny proposed a Vote of Sympathy following the recent passing of local historian Willie Willoughby. Members acknowledged the huge contribution Mr Willoughby made to Gorey town and all wished to be included in offering their sympathies to his family.

### **Congratulations:**

The members offered their congratulations to the following:

- ✚ County Wexford Senior Football Team on securing promotion to Division 2 League Football next year and into the final of Division 3 League Football.
- ✚ Ruby Gallagher O'Reilly, Wexford U-17 Athlete of the Year.
- ✚ Joe Sullivan, Club person of the Year, Castletown Liam Mellows Coolgreany GAA Club.
- ✚ Coláiste an Átha, Best Poster, Wexford Regional Rubbish Film Festival.
- ✚ Gorey Community School, Best Film, Wexford Regional Rubbish Film Festival.
- ✚ Blazing Blues RC Hurlers on the Ditch Horse Syndicate, Owners of Johnny's Jury, Winner of Grade 1 Albert Bartlett Novices' Hurdle at the 2026 Cheltenham Festival.
- ✚ Gorey St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee & GKMD Manager on a hugely successful parade.

## **No. 3 Consideration of Reports, Recommendations & Presentations**

### **3.1 Active Travel Programme Presentation:**

Mr A O'Shea, SEE Roads presented the Active Travel Programme to the members, outlining the allocated funding for 2026, typical delivery timelines for active travel infrastructure, and the improvements delivered under the Safe Routes to School Programme. He subsequently responded to queries raised by the members.

Cllr O Walsh expressed appreciation to the Active Travel Team for the works completed at Ballaghkeen, Ballymurn and Oulart. Cllr A Donohoe noted his disappointment that no major project has been approved for Gorey in 2026.

In relation to the completion of the Gorey-Courtown footpath to Ballinatray Bridge, members discussed options to facilitate safe crossing of the Ounavarra River. Proposals involving a stop/go system on the bridge and the reduction of traffic to a single lane were strongly opposed. Mr O'Shea advised that Ballinatray Bridge is a protected structure, which restricts the extent of structural modifications that can be undertaken. He further noted that a traffic modelling assessment has been completed to examine the potential impact of reduced lane widths. As nearby junctions are not currently subject to significant congestion, he indicated that an interim trial could be considered to assess its effectiveness.

Cllr N Boland enquired about the potential to secure funding for smaller villages within the district. Mr O'Shea advised that the team works closely with districts to assess the feasibility of proposals, noting that outcomes are largely determined by available funding and associated constraints.

### *3.2 Gorey Relief Road Presentation:*

Mr D Roche SEE Special Projects presented the Part 8 Planning Submission on the Gorey Relief Road to the Committee. He subsequently responded to queries raised by the members.

### *3.3 Housing:*

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

Cllr M Farrell sought clarification on the process for transferring from one type of housing unit to another. Ms A Finn agreed to circulate guidelines.

### *3.4 Kilpatrick Beach Presentation:*

Mr E Brennan presented the Part 8 Planning Submission for revetment access works to properties at Kilpatrick Beach to the Committee. He subsequently responded to queries raised by the members.

### *3.5 Environment:*

The Environment Report, which was circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Mr Brennan addressed queries raised at the March District Meeting:

*Cahore North Beach Rock Armour Enhancement Project:* A second public consultation meeting is scheduled for 30 March.

*Coastal erosion between The Burrow and Courtown Golf Club:* A meeting is being arranged involving National Parks & Wildlife, Coillte, Courtown Golf Club, the GKMD Manager and the Special Projects Team.

*Bridges at Clones & Ballyconnigar:* Temporary bridges at Clones to be installed next week, with works at Ballyconnigar to follow after Easter. Mr Brennan advised that an assessment of the beach and approach roads at Ballyconnigar is required to support the installation of a permanent bridge, and that the existing car park will need to be relocated further inland.

*Ballinamona Cliff:* an inspection of cliff edge is currently underway.

*Expansion of Service at Gorey Recycling Centre:* Mr Brennan advised that engagement with the recycling centre is ongoing. He proposed alternating sofa and mattress amnesty events, noting that there is currently insufficient capacity at Gorey to introduce additional full-time services.

Cllr M Farrell requested an update on the marram grass planting on Morriscastle beach. Mr Brennan advised that the initiative is community-led rather than a County Council project and undertook to support its promotion and advancement.

Cllr M Farrell requested a copy of the drawings for the Morriscastle Viewing Stand.

Cllr M Farrell questioned why only seven litter fines have been paid out of the 21 issued. Mr Brennan advised that the remaining fines may still be pending or progressing to the prosecution stage. He agreed to follow up.

Cllr M Farrell questioned why Wexford County Council is significantly behind in thermal and transport emissions. She asked whether this could result in fines and what measures could be taken to improve performance.

Cllr D McDonald queried whether carrying out harbour dredging in Courtown and sand relocation on separate days would incur additional costs. He also suggested that sand be retained near the lifeguard hut to assist in restoring that section of the beach, rather than transporting all material to Burrow Road. Mr Brennan confirmed that a single contractor is engaged for these works, that dredging has been undertaken on three occasions in recent months due to storm activity, and that the agreed contract sum includes both dredging and sand relocation.

Mr Brennan also agreed to investigate the clearance of debris beneath bridges in Courtown and Riverchapel, and to examine the provision of additional dog fouling bins along the Paul Funge Boulevard and on Creagh College Road.

Cllr D Kenny expressed his thanks to the Environment Section for providing pickers and gloves for the recent litter-picking event in Craanford.

### 3.6 *Planning*

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

Cllr D Kenny sought clarification on whether planning permission is required for connection to a sewage system. Ms J Kehoe advised that this is a matter for Uisce Éireann.

Cllr M Farrell reiterated her request for an update on the taking-in-charge of Forth Haven, noting that although it was included on the 2025 priority list, it does not appear on the 2026 list.

Cllr A Donohoe referred to the Gorey Area Plan, which is set to expire in June 2026, and raised questions about future development on lands not currently zoned, as well as and the timeline for the preparation of a new plan. Ms Hore advised that, as Gorey is designated a key town, new legislation requires the preparation of a standalone Urban Area Plan rather than a variation of the Local Area Plan. She added that, in the interim, planning decisions will continue to be made in accordance with the County Development Pan.

### 3.7 *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:

- ✚ Timeframe for completion of Fort Road Works,
- ✚ Submissions for left turn only on Church Street,
- ✚ Emergency funding for Storm Chandra,
- ✚ Opening of Millquarter Link Road,
- ✚ Esmonde Street Restoration Improvement Works,
- ✚ Inclusion of Cooney's Cross, Little Heaven to Kilahard,
- ✚ Extension of double yellow lines, Limerick Lane onto Camolin.

Cllr N Boland expressed his disappointment at the absence of restoration improvement works in the northernmost part of the district. Ms Kehoe explained that the Programme of Works is determined by survey data, the condition of the road network, and repair requests received. She noted that the Council receives only around 10% of the funding required for resurfacing.

To manage resources effectively, she added that funding is distributed as evenly as possible across the district, while also seeking to avoid overburdening road crews.

Cllr D McDonald felt that an improved response is needed for residents living on rural roads requiring repairs. Ms Kehoe confirmed that repair requests are being progressed, noting that works are dependent on weather conditions. She added that all roads require attention and are generally in a similar poor condition. Ms Kehoe also clarified that funding allocated for restoration maintenance cannot be reallocated to restoration improvement, and that budgets for regional roads cannot be transferred.

### **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 Managers Report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was noted. Ms A McLoughlin provided relevant updates on:

- ✚ Gorey Market House THRIVE Project
- ✚ Esmonde Street Redevelopment Works
- ✚ Oulart Community Garden
- ✚ Oris Footpath from Coolgreany Village to Ballyfad
- ✚ Clár Funding Expansion 2026
- ✚ New Gorey Banners on Main Street, Gorey

Ms A McLoughlin also highlighted recent events which took place (due to take place):

- ✚ International Women's Day Event
- ✚ Gorey St. Patrick's Day Parade
- ✚ LAMA Awards
- ✚ Wear Red Day
- ✚ Gorey Market House Festival

Ms McLoughlin informed the members of an issue with services at the Kilmuckridge playground site, as their location differs from what was originally indicated. She advised that the design would need to be revised to accommodate these constraints.

In relation to the Kilmuckridge Consultation Meeting, Ms McLoughlin stated that she has engaged with several stakeholders to determine what proposals are feasible.

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

### ***Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD Amenity & Arts and Resident Association Grant Allocations 2026***

The Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD Amenity & Arts and Resident Association Grant Allocations for 2026 were proposed by Cllr C Doyle, seconded by Cllr N Boland.

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

None.

## **No. 6 Correspondence**

### *6.1 Provision of a Primary Care Centre in Gorey Town*

- ✚ Acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister for Health
- ✚ Response from Deputy Fionntán O'Suilleabhain, TD
- ✚ Acknowledgement from the Office of Deputy Malcolm Byrne, TD

The above correspondence was noted.

## **No. 7 AOB**

### *7.1 Consideration of Deputation Request from Rás na mBan for April District Meeting*

Consideration was given for Rás na mBan to make a deputation before the Committee at the April Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD Meeting, proposed by Cllr C Doyle and seconded by Cllr A Donohoe.

### *7.2 Invitation to London Wexford Association Annual Dinner Dance*

The invitation to the London Wexford Association Annual Dinner Dance was noted, proposed by Cllr O Walsh and seconded by Cllr C Doyle.

Cllr N Boland requested an update on the taking-in-charge of Ardamine Court. Ms L Hore agreed to check the status, noting that it is due to be considered at the April District Meeting.

Cllr N Boland also requested that the surface of the playground in Coolgreany be examined, particularly given its use by children with special needs, including those with autism. Ms A McLoughlin agreed to have the matter assessed by the Risk Management Team.

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

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

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