

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER at 9.30 a.m.

Attendance:

Councillors:

Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Pat Kehoe (Leas-Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Aidan Browne
Cllr. Trish Byrne
Cllr. John O'Rourke
Cllr. Jackser Owens

Officials:

Ms. Carolyn Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager
Ms. Barbara Nolan, Staff Officer
Ms. Lisa Moore, Assistant Staff Officer
Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist.
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer

Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Ms. Caroline Creane, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Mr. David Wall, Executive Planner
Mr. Enda Waters, Special Projects

Ms. Eileen Morrissey, County Librarian
Ms. Trish Keenan, Executive Librarian, Enniscorthy Library

On Teams

Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer
Ms Sandra Martin, Community Climate Action Officer

Members of the Public: Ms. Sarah Kelly

Apologies: Mr. Larry McHale

Congratulations:

The members expressed their congratulations to the following:

- Ryan Butler from Bunclody on his success on the Under 17 Squad in Doha
- Festy Ebosele on the recent success with the Republic of Ireland National Team
- The winners of the South East Radio Hospitality & Tourism Awards 2025 in particular Best Heritage Site (Enniscorthy Castle) and Best Cultural Experience (The National 1798 Rebellion Centre) and Best Festival – Fleadh Ceoil na hEireann
- The nine graduates of the National Hairdressing Apprenticeship Programme from Enniscorthy Community College (WWETB)

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1.1 Minutes of the October Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 21st October 2025

On the proposal of Cllr Byrne, seconded by Cllr O'Rourke, the Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 21st October 2025 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

- Cllr. O'Rourke wished to correct the record regarding a letter he had written to the GAA about parking at Pearse Road on match days – correspondence was not issued to Derek Kent as stated at the October meeting.
- Cllr Kehoe confirmed that he had spoken to the Secretary of Fixtures who apologised for the recent overlaps in fixtures. The various sporting organisations will be liaising with each other to allow time between matches, and this will make it easier for local residents and ease congestion.

Sandra Martin then updated the members about Phase 2 of CCAP funding – closing date for applications is 16th December 2025. Cllr Browne enquired about eligibility for groups who had already received funding in Phase 1. Ms Martin confirmed that they could apply but priority will be given to first time applicants.

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

Executive planner David Wall attended on behalf of planning. He confirmed that the Draft Local Area Plan for Enniscorthy is due to be published before Christmas. A discussion took place about plans for rural villages and cluster developments with a communal septic tank. Mr Wall confirmed that there are plenty of applications for such development, but the problem is when things go wrong who is responsible and there are many developments not taken in charge as a result, which is a problem. Zoning for larger towns is a priority.

2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

The Community, Environment, Libraries and Fire Service reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted and various issues discussed – in particular: -

- CCTV for dumping hotspots – no update
- Prosecutions in respect of illegal dumping – Executive Scientist Siobhan Murphy to revert on numbers of prosecutions for 2025.

The members were advised if they are aware of specific dumping blackspots, other than those listed for the pilot, to let the Council know.

2.2.1 Presentation by Wexford Football Alliance

Mr Tony Doyle from Wexford Football Alliance updated the meeting about the Enniscorthy Astro pitch. The Wexford Football Alliance (WFA) is a not-for-profit organisation and run by a committee founded in February 2024. The facility is very busy and is running well and the new online booking system will enhance this. There is a caretaker part paid/part voluntary. There will always be a need for staff even when the facility is automated.

The members praised the facility and raised some issues of concern, in particular: -

- Booking fees
- Priority booking for local clubs

Mr Doyle advised that the booking rates are consistent with other all-weather facilities and that any monies accrued by the WFA are channelled back into the maintenance and upkeep of the facility.

Mr Doyle advised that while it is an automated booking system there is priority for Enniscorthy Clubs, and no one can monopolise the bookings.

2.2.2 Presentation by Wexford Library Services

County Librarian Eileen Morrissey and Executive Librarian for Enniscorthy Trish Keenan gave a presentation on the range of services available through the Library Service. The members were unanimous in their praise of the service. Ms Morrissey also asked that the members encourage people to participate in the Library Survey which feeds into the Library Development Plan due to be launched in 2026. The library particularly wants to hear from people who are not accessing the service to see how they can further adapt to their needs.

2.3 Housing

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. The members raised some issues, in particular:-

- Progress on the Lyre
- Developments in rural areas
- Acquisition of land

Senior Staff Officer, Caroline Creane advised that the Lyre has Stage 1 funding. Further archaeological tests are being carried out. While the land transfer is not complete this is not delaying pre-development work. It is hoped that the project will reach Stage 2 in 2026.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Murphy stressed the need be more ambitious in the district, building one or two houses in villages where people still want to live. Clarification is needed from Uisce Eireann on capacity.

Cllr Kehoe stressed the need for land acquisition rather than waiting for developers to come to the Council. Ms Creane advised that an Expression of Interest for houses and land had been advertised with a closing date of 13th November and a further one

will be advertised in early 2026. Director of Services Carolyn Godkin advised that the Council is actively looking at land purchase. The new Housing Plan has been launched, and Wexford County Council will now put their programme together based on this.

Cllr O'Rourke requested that the HDM1 form be amended so that the GP is required to provide more specific information on housing need. Roseanne Redmond to revert on this but did comment that this form is a national one.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Murphy at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea at 10:34 am. The Meeting resumed at 10:47 am.

2.4 Municipal District Report

Enniscorthy Municipal District Parking Bye-Laws 2025

The Enniscorthy Traffic and Car Parking Bye-Laws 2025 were adopted by the Members at a meeting held on the 10th October 2025 and come into effect from 12th November 2025. Details can be found on Wexford County Council website in the following link.

[Enniscorthy Municipal District Parking Byelaws 2025.pdf](#)

National Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition

Congratulations and well done to all the Tidy Towns groups in the district who entered the competition this year. Tidy Towns groups from Bree, Bunclody, Ballindaggin, Ferns, Marshalstown and Bunclody all increased their points on last year.

Enniscorthy Tidy Towns brought home a gold medal for the second year running earning 386 points – an improvement of 15 points on last year's mark. This is a fantastic achievement for Enniscorthy.

I wish to thank all the volunteers, groups and members of the Enniscorthy Municipal District outdoor staff for their continued efforts in keeping the town and district tidy and looking it best. The dedication, commitment and passion of the volunteer groups is something to be proud of.

Enniscorthy Municipal District will continue to work with the Tidy Town Committees to make Enniscorthy Municipal District a better place to live and visit.

Pairc Na Gabhar, Bunclody

A revised plan for Paric Na Gabhar has been drawn up. Once approval has been received the plan will proceed to Part 8.

Enniscorthy Town CCTV Project

The civil works and electrical work on the Enniscorthy Town CCTV project are now complete. Educom will commence with the CCTV installation works on 17th November.

Bunclody CCTV Project

No further update. Awaiting authorisation from the Garda Commissioner.

Enniscorthy Digital Retail Village

The Enniscorthy Digital Retail Village (DRV) pilot scheme continues to progress positively. Thank you to all the retailers for their interest and enthusiasm in supporting the Digital Retail Village initiative.

Due to strong demand Wexford County Council has agreed to support an additional five businesses bringing the total number of participating businesses to 15.

Working closely with Tap Retail, the final 15 have now been selected. However, should any of the chosen businesses be unable to fulfil their commitment to the scheme we will revisit other applicants.

Wexford County Council hope to secure additional funding in early 2026 to extend participation to more businesses.

The Digital Retail Village will be up and running for the busy Christmas period. More details to follow regarding the official launch.

Sponsorship of Roundabouts

Enniscorthy Municipal District seek *Expressions of Interest* for sponsorship of the landscaping and maintenance of Roundabouts in the Enniscorthy area as listed below.

Sponsorship of the roundabout will entitle the Sponsor to have defined advertising rights on the roundabout. Roundabouts offer an excellent promotional opportunity for businesses and organisations. At this point businesses and organisations are invited to register their interest in sponsorship, when the interested parties are identified a short meeting will be held to outline the Sponsorship Scheme Policy.

To Register:

Please send in the details of your company or organisation, the roundabout(s) you are interested in sponsoring and details of the person in your organisation who will attend the briefing meeting.

Expressions of Interest should be returned in a sealed envelope clearly marked:

**“Expressions of Interest for Sponsorship of Roundabouts” to,
Enniscorthy Municipal District Office, Market Square, Enniscorthy, Co
Wexford, Y21 W2V4 by 4:00pm on Friday 12th December 2025.**

LIST OF ROUNDABOUTS - ENNISCORTHY

1. Blackstoops Roundabout R772,
2. Shingaun Roundabout R702
3. Bellfield Road Roundabout R702
4. Abbey Square Roundabout R744
5. Ross Road Roundabout L2028.

Local Enterprise Office- Support for Local Business

Enniscorthy Municipal District encourages all businesses to stay connected with your Local Enterprise Office by signing up to their newsletter. By subscribing you will receive regular updates on the latest grants, funding opportunities, training, and supports available to help your business grow and succeed.

Staying connected ensures that local businesses don't miss out on valuable supports and upcoming initiatives. Please share and spread the word.

Festival Programme 2025

Halloween

Congratulations to the winners of the Enniscorthy MD Halloween Spooktacular Shop Window Competition. Thank you to all the business owners who took part and decorated their premises as the Halloween themed window displays contributes to the Halloween atmosphere in our towns.

Winner: Bernie's Florist, Bunclody

Runners up

Heavenly Cafe, Wafer Street, Enniscorthy

Revive & Thrive, Wafer Street, Enniscorthy

Christmas Light Switch on Events

Enniscorthy Christmas Light Switch On

The Enniscorthy Christmas Lights switch on event will take place on Friday 28th November commencing from 5.30pm. The event will commence with a festive parade starting at the Castle travelling up Church Street, Rafter Street up to Market Square. A Sensory Inclusion Street has been organised on Church Street for the Parade.

Join Santa, Mrs Claus, the Elves, and Rathnure Pantomime Society, and Martina Leacy's Dance Academy for some festive fun. Free kids face painting, and the North Pole Post Box will be in the Market Square to post your Santa letters.

South East Radio will broadcast live from 3-6pm. Retailers will be offered a time slot to promote their business over the Christmas period.

Bunclody Christmas Light switch on

The Bunclody Christmas lights switch on will take place on Saturday 29th November with music and entertainment between 5pm and 5.30pm on the Market Square.

Best Christmas Window Display Competition

Enniscorthy Municipal District will host the Best Christmas Window Display Competition again for 2025.

Business owners in Enniscorthy, Ferns and Bunclody are invited to take part, as dressing windows for Christmas really helps to create a wonderful atmosphere in our towns and villages.

The prizes for the winning entries are:-

1st Prize €200 Wexford Chamber Shop Local Gift Card

2nd Prize €100 Wexford Chamber Shop Local Gift Card

3rd Prize €50 Wexford Chamber Shop Local Gift Card

The winning entries with the WOW factor will be announced on Friday 19th December.

Please register your interest in entering the competition by emailing emdreception@wexfordcoco.ie

Best of Luck to all!

SANTA'S ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS – THE NATIONAL 1798 REBELLION CENTRE

Enniscorthy Municipal District are delighted to support Santa's Enchanted Christmas.

The tickets for the experience are selling well. 1695 tickets have been sold to date. The event will run from Saturday 29th November to Saturday 23rd December.

Spaces are filling fast. Don't miss out on this magical experience.

Bookings are also open to visit Santa Paws with your furry friends.

Book now: <https://santasenchantedchristmas.ie>

Creative Ireland Wexford Culture Team Project 2026

Artist in Residence at Eadan's Glen Social Housing Estate, Ferns

The Creative Ireland Programme and the Housing Section at Wexford County Council in partnership with the Enniscorthy Municipal District propose to engage an artist to complete a residency at Eadan's Glen between February and October 2026.

The residency will support the development of a Residents' Association and build upon the sense of community already established there. It is intended that this creative residency will meaningfully connect the residents of Eadan's Glen not only to each other, but also to the wider community of Ferns. The main objectives are to provide a programme of activity including workshops and events; to develop an event for Crinniú nan Óg 2026; to establish a Residents Association.

Residents have been informed of the project, and the Residency has been advertised through the relevant channels.

The members congratulated the various Tidy Towns teams on doing such great work in the district and all improving their score from the previous year. Cllr Murphy praised the work which is all voluntary and suggested that an information evening be organised for the groups early in 2026 to help them prepare for the next round.

District Manager, Claire Lawless confirmed that there has been a great response to Enniscorthy Digital Retail Village. A workshop has taken place to onboard the participants, and it is hoped that the retail village will be launched in early December.

2.5 Roads Report.

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

The members praised the efforts of Neil Dempsey, Roads Engineer and his crews for their efforts during Storm Claudia the previous weekend.

Mr Dempsey responded to various queries and questions from the members as follows: -

- Works at the Duffry – a new curblin has been put in and space left for planting/biodiversity
- Old Dublin Road – works are finishing up for now as there is no further funding.
- N80 crash barriers and manholes – hope to get funding for these in 2026.

2.6 Flood Defence Scheme Report.

Enda Waters, Engineer from Special Projects attended the meeting in place of Larry McHale. He confirmed that the Public Consultation is on Wednesday 26th November in the Riverside between 3.00 pm and 8.00 pm and he encouraged the Members and members of the public to attend.

2.7 Special Projects.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. A member of the Special Projects team will attend the December meeting.

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members.

None.

4. Correspondence

No correspondence.

5. Any Other Business

None

On the proposal of Cllr Kehoe seconded by Cllr Byrne it was agreed to proceed to “In Committee” at this juncture of the meeting to discuss the District Additional Funding.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11:13 am.

The meeting re-convened at 11:32 am

It was proposed by Cllr Kehoe that the €5,000 allocated per member in the General Municipal Allocation 2026 be used at the Members’ discretion to support local community groups for specific projects. Application form to be submitted with supporting documentation to the Enniscorthy Municipal Office to allocate funding. This was seconded by Cllr O’Rourke.

It was proposed by Cllr Keogh, seconded by Cllr Byrne that the December meeting of the Members of the Enniscorthy Municipal District commence at 9:15 am to facilitate a subsequent planning meeting.

The meeting concluded at 11:34 am

Barbara Anne Murphy

16th December 2025