

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 9:30 AM

Attendance:

Councillors: Cllr. Pat Kehoe (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy
Cllr. Trish Byrne
Cllr. Jackser Owens
Cllr. Aidan Browne

On Teams: Cllr. John O'Rourke (Leas-Cathaoirleach)

Officials: Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Barbara Nolan, Staff Officer
Ms. Jamie Barcoe, Clerical Officer
Mr. Ian Plunkett, Executive Technician, Environment Section
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer
Mr. Enda Waters, Executive Engineer Special Projects
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Mr. David Wall, Executive Planner

Apologies: Ms Claire Lawless, District Manager
Ms Caroline Creane, Housing Capital

Condolences:

The members expressed their sympathies to the following bereaved.

- Mr Johnny Walsh, GSS Roads Section on the death of his wife, Margaret
- Mr Enda Waters, Executive Engineer, on the death of his father-in-law, James (Jimmy) Guinan

Congratulations:

Cllr. Kehoe congratulated BD Enniscorthy who celebrated 30 years in business recently. The company now employs more than 350 people and is going from strength to strength.

The members welcomed the announcement of €9 million funding for Castle Quarter and congratulated all involved in bringing the project to this stage. The Director of Services Carolyne Godkin echoed this sentiment.

A discussion ensued about the Templeshannon Regeneration Project and when it would be ready for funding. The DOS confirmed that Special Projects are appointing consultants for the design stage of the project. This is necessary before submitting Part 8 application. Once

Part 8 is in place, funding can be sourced. She advised that Special Projects would attend the October meeting and give a full update to the Members.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 21st July 2026

On the proposal of Cllr Murphy, seconded by Cllr Byrne, the Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 21st July 2026 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

- Cllr O'Rourke advised that he had received a reply to his request to the Minister for Education to teach Amhrán na bhFiann in Primary Schools and was not satisfied with same. It was agreed that a follow up letter be sent to the Minister.
- Cllr O'Rourke requested an update on the Columbarium Wall. DOS confirmed that the works are complete and a pricing structure for niches is being finalised.
- Cllr O'Rourke requested an update on the provision of parent & child spaces at Lymington Road Car Park. Executive Engineer Neil Dempsey will look at this.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. Executive Planner, Mr. David Wall answered questions and queries from the Members, in particular: -

- Planning Enforcement
- Planning on the Lyre

Cllr. Murphy expressed frustration at the lack of enforcement when people report works that are taking place without planning permission.

Mr Wall explained that these are criminal prosecutions and that the burden of proof rests with the Local Authority in these cases which is why they always try to find a workable solution. There are currently 500 open planning enforcement cases in Wexford.

A query was raised about how works without Planning can get ESB and water connections. Mr Wall confirmed that the utilities do not need to have planning permission to put in connections. Mr Wall suggested that the Head of Planning Enforcement could be prevailed upon to give a full answer to the Members on the issue of enforcement.

Mr Wall will revert on the current situation with The Lyre.

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: -

- Cllr Browne mentioned that he had previously requested a breakdown of the number of rubbish fires that the Fire Service had been called to. The DOS referred to her email on same, advising that the statistics had not risen significantly.
- Cllr Murphy raised an issue of bottle banks at Kilmyshall Hall. Broken glass is being spilled when the bins are being lifted and this is not being cleaned up. The Hall is being used as an afterschool centre and this is creating a health and safety issue. She requested that the bottle banks be relocated.
- Amnesty for furniture and mattresses – currently Holmstown is the drop off, there should be a drop off point in each district as the cost of fuel could be prohibitive for some people.
- Dumping at bottle banks and bring centres – clean-up of same.
- Dormant bins at Killorgan
- People dumping in residents' bins overnight.

Executive Technician Mr Ian Plunkett acknowledged that there had been delays and issues with getting staff for clean-ups. He advised that crews will be dealing with these matters in the coming weeks.

He confirmed that Environment Section will write to bins providers about removing old bins at Killorgan. Environment will investigate solutions for overnight dumping in wheelie bins but added that this is difficult to police.

Mr Plunkett also advised that bins have been removed from the Ross Road. A one-off clean-up has been done at Patrick's Lane and locks installed for the gates on either end to prevent dumping. Keys have been issued to residents.

The issue with AES bins in Bunclody has been sorted.

Mr Plunkett also highlighted the upcoming EV Expo being organised by the Climate Action Team in Enniscorthy on 22nd October and asked the Members to spread the word.

At 10:05 am Cllr Owens joined the meeting.

2.3 Housing

2.3.1 Housing Acquisitions/Allocations

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. Senior Staff Officer Roseanne Redmond answered the members queries, in particular.

- Timeframe for delivery of 65 new units in Cnoc na Greine.
- Date for handover of land in Bunclody

- Deeds for properties originally owned by Council and now in private ownership.
- Servicing of Air to Water Heating systems in Council properties

Cllr Owens expressed his appreciation to the housing staff responsible for administering the Older Persons Grants for all their hard work.

Ms Redmond advised that when properties are sold, be it by the Local Authority or private individuals the deeds are usually held by the solicitor handling the sale. Deeds of LA owned properties would be held by the Council's Solicitors, Ensor O'Connor. If a property is sold on by the LA the deeds would then be transferred to the purchaser's solicitor. If someone is having difficulty locating deeds they can check who this solicitor was at the time of purchase.

In the case of Air to Water Heating systems Ms Redmond advised that the tenant handbook clearly states that the tenant is responsible for annual maintenance costs on their heating systems. They can also log issues with Housing Maintenance.

Ms Redmond will pass the queries on Cnoc na Greine and lands at Bunclody to Housing Construction Department who will revert in due course.

2.4 Municipal District Report

The District Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

The members raised queries and concerns, in particular: -

- Enhancement of Vinegar Hill visitor experience
- CCTV in Bunclody
- Request for Dog fouling bins in Millpark Road
- Improvement of playground facilities in housing estates
- Finish date for building at Sports Hub

Ms. Barbara Nolan advised the meeting that the District Manager had been consulting with local historians and working with the 1798 centre on a range of measures to enhance the visitor experience at Vinegar Hill. These include QR codes, improved signage and going forward a car park at the base of the hill and possibly interpretive centre.

Mr Neil Dempsey advised that ESB connections for CCTB are expected to take place at the end of September – they have requested traffic management to facilitate this. CCTV will go live soon after.

EMD has received funding for purchase of more dog fouling bins and will consider Millpark Road as a location for one.

Playground maintenance comes under the remit of Community Section, will advise them of Cllr O'Rourke's concerns.

It is expected that the Sports Hub will be finished sometime in October. Special Projects will confirm the date.

The Cathaoirleach called for a break for tea at 10:30 am. The meeting resumed at 10.45 am.

2.5 Roads Report.

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Executive Engineer, Mr Neil Dempsey answered questions and concerns from the members, in particular: -

- Timeframe for works at Templeshannon.
- Works at Galbally
- Safety improvement works at Ballymorris
- Road safety/traffic management issues at Millpark Road at school drop-off/pick-up
- Road-sweeper at Bunclody
- Parking at Bunclody
- Installation of bollards at Island Road Childcare Centre (FDYS)
- Overgrowth at signage at Carley's Bridge
- Update on interim flood measures
- Learn to Cycle Park tidy-up
- Signage at road works for loose chippings
- Grotto in Templeshannon

Executive Engineer advised that Interim flood measures works are progressing on Island Road and works will commence soon at Abbey Square car park which includes resurfacing and reinstatement of wall. Surveys have commenced on flood barriers. In Bunclody the wall is repaired and they are working on embankments.

2.6 Flood Defence Report

The Flood Defence Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Executive Engineer Enda Waters answered questions from the Members.

Cllr Owens queried whether the interim barrier works can be extended to Donnelly's bus park on Island Road as there are concerns that this could flood in the future. Neil Dempsey said he will look at it.

Mr Waters confirmed that the consultants will progress the bridge to Planning stage in early 2027.

2.7 Special Projects.

The report circulated during the meeting was noted.

The members unanimously welcomed the news about €9 million funding for the Castle Quarter. The members agreed that it was their responsibility to ensure that businesses in the town are kept apprised of upcoming works so that everything can run as smoothly as possible.

Cllr Murphy requested that RRDF funding be used for Bunclody Park. She also requested an update on Senan House.

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

- 3.1 Recommendation in relation to Section 183, lease of lands at Killagoley
- 3.2 Recommendation in relation to Section 183, disposal of Borrmount, Bree

The members requested to go to “in committee” at the end of the meeting to discuss the Section 183

4. Correspondence

Letter received from Ms Barbara Kehoe, Chair of Oiche nOcht le Cheile thanking the members for the donations received under the Arts & Amenity and Festival Funding.

5. Any Other Business

Cllr. Murphy raised concerns about recent disturbing phone calls which had been received by female Councillors and requested that some protections be enabled on the Council work phones.

Cllr Murphy requested an email update on the following:

The current situation with Senan House and the Bridge at Singa Care.

DOS confirmed that responsibility for the bridge and access to the nursing home rests with the owner. Cllr Murphy requested that a meeting be organised with reps from Tullow MD, Enniscorthy MD and the Singa Care owner as was agreed at the meeting in May. The district manager to follow up on this.

On the proposal of Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Owens it was agreed to go to “In Committee” at this stage to discuss the two Section 183s. Members of the Press were asked to leave the meeting at this point (11:30 am)

The Members returned the meeting at 11:40 am.

On the proposal of Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Kehoe the recommendation in relation to Section 183, lease of lands at Killagoley was agreed by the Members.

On the proposal of Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Kehoe, the recommendation in relation to Section 183, disposal of Borromount, Bree was agreed by the Members.

This concluded the business of the main meeting at 11.45 am

Pat Kehoe

20th October 2026

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE