

MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE at 9.30 a.m.

Attendance:

Councillors:	Cllr. Aidan Browne (Cathaoirleach) Cllr. Pat Kehoe Cllr. Trish Byrne Cllr. John O'Rourke Cllr. Jackser Owens (Leas-Cathaoirleach)
Officials:	Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager Ms. Barbara Nolan, Staff Officer Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist. Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer, Housing Ms. Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Members of the Public:	Ms Sarah Kelly
Apologies:	Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer

Cathaoirleach Cllr Browne extended a welcome on behalf of those assembled to Cllr Trish Byrne to the Enniscorthy Municipal District. Cllr Byrne thanked the Members and said that she is looking forward to her new role and to working with everyone.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following: -

- The Cullen Family on the passing of Thomas (Ironsides) Cullen
- The Furlong Family on the passing of Mick Furlong

Congratulations:

The Members expressed congratulations to the following

- Louise Dobbs on winning 3 medals at the Senior All Ireland Irish Dancing Championships
- Patrick Hipwell on organising a very successful inaugural Darkness into Light Tractor Run for Green Ribbon
- Tom & Dena Hogan on becoming World Champions in the Hyrox World Championships in Chicago.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the May Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 20th May 2025

On the proposal of Cllr O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr Kehoe, the Minutes of the May Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 20th May 2025 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

Cllr O'Rourke asked for an update on the Columbarium Wall. District Manager Claire Lawless confirmed that she is awaiting some information and will have an update for the July meeting.

Cllr Owens asked about the issue of fly tipping at Na Sean Gearri – it was confirmed that this area will be prioritised for CCTV.

Cllr O'Rourke asked for an update on gulley cleaning in the town. Executive Engineer Neil Dempsey said that the Roads Crews are currently engaged in hedge cutting and the gulley cleaning is scheduled for August. Cllr O'Rourke welcomed the move to a different Out of Hours provider.

Cllr Owens requested an update on Stop Sign at Hospital Lane. Neil Dempsey advised that there is no room for a stop sign on the junction and he will look at road markings and advance stop sign. Cllr Owens requested an update on school crossing at St Senan's school. Neil Dempsey advised that he has been liaising with St Senan's and a survey is being carried out, but funding is not in place.

Cllr Kehoe welcomed the ongoing street cleaning in the town. He suggested that with the removal of sandwich boards perhaps shop front advertising could be included in the shop-front grant scheme next year.

1.2.1 Proposal for time change for Annual Meeting on 23rd June 2025

It was proposed by Cllr O'Rourke and seconded by Cllr Kehoe that the time of the Annual Meeting on 23rd June be changed to 9:30 am rather than 10:00 am as previously agreed.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. Cathaoirleach Cllr Browne advised that Greame Hunt would be attending the next meeting on behalf of Planning to answer queries.

Cllr Owens welcomed the update on Planning Permission for The Old Convent, Templeshannon.

2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

The Community, Environment, Libraries and Fire Service reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

The members raised various concerns including:-

- Old stone wall in Irish Street, Bunclody being destabilised by invasive weed
- Size of brown bins being distributed to householders by private bin companies
- Deposit return scheme (Re-turn) – has uptake reduced?
- Bins left out on footpaths

Executive Engineer, Neil Dempsey agreed to follow up on the wall in Bunclody.

Executive Scientist Siobhan Murphy responded to the Members queries and said that she will query with the Bin companies about the size of the brown bins but noted that the idea is to reduce food waste. She agreed that lack of 'Re-turn' stations in some areas might result in fall-off of use. Environment can issue a fine in relation to bins left out on streets and also the Traffic Warden if they are causing obstruction. District Manager to follow up on a combined approach to this issue.

2.3 Housing

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. Ms. Roseanne Redmond and Ms. Angela Finn responded to questions and comments from the members in relation to the report in particular:-

- Lack of 1-bed and 4-bed units available
- Delays with CBL, applicants waiting to be informed
- Discretion available within the HAP system for rent increases
- Supports/clinics to help DPA applicants
- Update on The Lyre

Roseanne Redmond answered the Members queries and will revert regarding HAP query. Ms. Redmond will liaise with Grants Section and Community in relation to supports for DPA applicants.

Director of Services, Carolyne Godkin advised that significant work has been done on shortening the waiting time for housing applicants and the lists are reducing. She acknowledged the need for 4 x beds for larger families and said that she expects more to be delivered through a combination of AHBs, Part V and LA turnkey developments.

Angela Finn updated re The Lyre. Surveys are ongoing and all is moving along well. She advised that there is no date for planning at the moment but would be hopeful that it would be late 2025.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Browne at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea at 10:17 am. The Meeting resumed at 10:37 am.

2.4 Municipal District Report

Enniscorthy Town CCTV Project

The civil works on the Enniscorthy Town CCTV project commenced on the 9th June. The scheme will provide a deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour, improve public safety and assist emergency services when investigating an incident and assist the Local Authority in the management of public areas for the wellbeing of the town.

The project is due to be completed by 16th July.

Street Cleaning

A deep street clean is being carried out at present and will continue into next week. Enniscorthy Municipal District outdoor crew are working hard carrying out their day-to-day duties including bin emptying, dog bins, litter picking, parks cleaning and bag collection, recycling centre clean ups, flower watering, gulleys, grass cutting and strimming of lanes and caretaking Vinegar hill.

Murphy Floods Site

The development of the carparking at Murphy Floods commenced on Tuesday 13th May. The carpark will include pedestrian linkages to both the Mainstreet via a set of concrete steps and a pathway/ramp to the Dunnes Stores side. The area that is not under macadam will be suitably landscaped. Provision has been made for additional public lighting as mentioned by the members. Drainage has been put in place and kerbing will be laid next week to set out the parking. Top soiling the green spaces will then be carried out followed by the macadam and line marking works. Once completed this carpark should add 37 more carparking spaces for the town.

St John's Campus Enniscorthy Activity Garden

Work is ongoing with the development of this site. The amphitheatre raised planter beds, macadam footpaths, and water feature has been installed on this site. Electric ducting and water are currently being installed. Granite seating will be installed next week. Thanks to S&N granite who sponsored some of the granite for this project. The lawned and wildflower areas have also been prepared. We have arranged for plants under the supervision of HSE Staff with the advice and assistance of Mr. Eoin Leacy Horticulturalist manager at Kilcannon garden centre, to plant some of the flower beds. Some musical instruments (Similar to that in the Orchard Peace park are on order). Monageer Contracting are on target to finish at the end of this month.

Riverside Trail

Works have been carried out on the trail. The grass edges have been trimmed back and an additional bench has been installed. Existing benches having been raised by installing concrete bases to enhance accessibility for individuals of all ages and abilities.

Enniscorthy Municipal District Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2025

Following the announcement of the extension to the closing date for applications for the Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme, the total number of applications received are as follows:-

40 Shopfront Painting Grants

26 Flower Grant

2 Awning Grants

Applications are being assessed at present. Correspondence will issue to the business owners once complete.

Traffic Cones

Traffic cones placed on public roads by members of the public will be removed by our the Enniscorthy MD Roads crew. Individuals are not permitted to reserve parking spaces or obstruct public roads by placing traffic cones or other objects on the public road. 25 traffic cones have been removed from the public road in recent days.

Municipal District Development Projects

The District Development Project provision for 2025 is an allocation of €75,000 for the development and delivery of MD specific projects.

A list of projects has been compiled by the Members, and costings are being carried out at present. The final list will formally be agreed by the Members at the July Enniscorthy MD Meeting.

Tour de France Cycle City Officially Launched

The Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District Cllr. Aidan Browne officially launched the Tour de France Cycle City Label for Enniscorthy.

The Cycle City label initiative was launched by the Tour de France in 2021 to support Municipal Authorities that have made commitments to supporting bicycle use. The programme acknowledges efforts in infrastructure development, community engagement, environmental sustainability, and education. Enniscorthy was the first town in Ireland to achieve this status.

Enniscorthy Cycle City Tour de France signs have been erected on the approach roads to the town. It is hoped that this will encourage people to use bicycles as an alternative to cars for local travel to schools and the workplace and that it will encourage more cycling tourists to the town this summer and beyond to Enniscorthy.

Pedal Together Project Officially Launched

Minister James Brown officially launched the county's first inclusive Bike Hub initiative, 'Pedal Together' project which includes adaptive cycles for rider of all abilities.

The fleet consists of a Draisin Andros Wheelchair Trike manual version, Easyrider trike 16" suitable for 4-9 year olds and Easyrider trike 20" suitable for 9-18 year olds.

The hub, located at the Learn to Cycle Park in Enniscorthy, provides adaptive bikes tailored for children and adults with disability and mobility difficulties making cycling a possibility for all members of the community. For more information on the use of the bikes please contact emdreception@wexfordcoco.ie.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025

The Expression of Interest for the Ballyhogue Post office has been approved, and a full application will now be submitted to the Dept of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) by closing date 25th July. It is proposed to the convert building and develop it as a multi-purpose community facility that will offer a wide range of facilities and services to all age groups.

A Public Information Event will be held on Wednesday 25th June between 5.00pm -7.00pm to hear your ideas and opinions.

Festival and Events

Enniscorthy Municipal District - National Play Day

Barbara Nolan, Staff Officer has secured funding from the Department of Children, Disability and Equality under the National Play Day Funding Scheme 2025. The theme for 2025 is *The Power of Play*.

We will host an event on Wednesday 9th July in collaboration with FDYS and Creative Places Enniscorthy. Play Strategist Martin O'Donoghue will facilitate a training workshop for people who work/volunteer in community settings engaging with early childhood up to teens and young adults. The workshop will encourage participants to explore how play can be used as a community building tool. This will be followed by a two-hour inclusive Play Event in the Orchard Peace Park where participants of the workshop will have an opportunity to see their newly learned skills put to work. There will be input from Creative Places to facilitate two creative playful activities and play props will be available such as tug of war, jump sacks etc. The balance of funding will be used to purchase durable play equipment for community settings.

Fleadh Cheoil Fringe Events

Wexford County Council is bringing a vibrant series of events to towns and villages across the county in the lead-up to Fleadh Cheoil 2025, inviting everyone to Feel the Spirit of the Fleadh & Join the Celebration.

Enniscorthy Municipal District will host a series of Fleadh Cheoil Fringe events at the following locations in May and June.

22nd June 12pm - 5pm Live Music Enniscorthy Comhaltas, Fr Murphy Comhaltas Boolavogue, 'Rebellion Day' @ National 1798 Rebellion Centre, Enniscorthy

4th July @ 7pm Ferns Comhaltas, Open Air Session Ferns Castle & The Thatch Bar Ferns.

4th-6th July Enniscorthy Irish Folk and Ballad Festival @ Treacys Hotel & The Whitehouse Bar.

July 19th 12.30pm. Craobh Chaoimhín Naofa CCÉ Buncoldy Comhaltas @ The Mall, Buncoldy

Enniscorthy CCÉ and Fr. Murphy's Boolavogue CCÉ unite for a special celebration of the Fringe Fleadh and Rebellion Day at the 1798 Centre in Enniscorthy — a vibrant tribute to Irish tradition, culture, and heritage!

As part of Wexford County Council's countywide programme leading up to Fleadh Cheoil 2025, this lively afternoon promises a feast of traditional music, rhythm, and community spirit — a perfect prelude to the main event this August.

Come for the music, stay for the experience! With additional activities hosted by the 1798 Centre, it's the perfect day out for families, visitors, and locals alike.

Feel the Spirit of the Fleadh — and Join the Celebration!

Wexford County Council invites you to be part of Fringe Fleadh 25 with the Enniscorthy Irish Folk and Ballad Festival, taking place from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th July at Treacys Hotel and The Whitehouse Bar. Celebrate a weekend of rich musical heritage, powerful performances, and authentic Irish atmosphere in the heart of Enniscorthy — a must for fans of folk, ballads, and the spirit of traditional Ireland and a taste of what we have to look forward to as part of Fleadh Cheoil 2025 in August!

Join Ferns CCÉ for an unforgettable open-air session at Ferns Castle and The Thatch Bar on Friday, 4th July 2025 at 7pm, as part of the exciting Fringe Fleadh 2025 celebrations!

Soak up the lively atmosphere and enjoy a toe-tapping evening of traditional Irish music in this stunning and historic setting.

Join us for a lively celebration of traditional music, dance, with Craobh Chaoimhín Naofa CCÉ Buncoldy Comhaltas as part of the Fringe Fleadh festivities on The Mall, Bunclody on Saturday 19th July at 12.30pm

Don't miss this celebration of tradition, rhythm and summer vibes — mark your calendar and spread the word!

District Manager answered questions and queries from the Members follows:-

- Sandwich Boards – disappointment was expressed at the way this issue was handled, and businesses are aggrieved. Supports should have been put in place before they were removed. It was argued that as Rafter Street is pedestrianised the rule should not apply to them.
- Murphy Floods – lack of detail in report and lack of consultation regarding the rail or Public Realm.
- CCTV – is it live on 16th July or is this the date that Civils works are complete?

District Manager confirmed that she will be working with businesses to find alternatives to Sandwich Boards. She is circulating info for alternatives including suspended chalk boards, wall mounted display cases and window graphics.

Director of Services confirmed that it is against the law to place an obstruction on a footpath or a roadway and we must strike a balance between supporting business and meeting our accessibility requirements. The Chief Executive has tasked the District Managers directly to execute this requirement.

Regarding Murphy Floods, the members originally agreed to a car park with soft landscaping incorporating 35 spaces. The members were updated at the May meeting when it was agreed to consider some seating and more lighting. The number of parking spaces has since increased to 37. As it is a design & build scheme some of the finer details change as works progress – the members will be kept informed.

District Manager to revert about the date for CCTV going live.

2.5 Roads Report.

The Members raised various concerns, in particular:-

- Resurfacing at Drumgould, Belfield Road
- Crossing at St Senans's School
- Spring Valley
- Pearse Road

Mr Neil Dempsey agreed that there is a body of work to be done. Currently there is funding for approximately 15km of resurfacing and 20 km of surface dressing. There will be scope to do more roads works within the District Development Projects funding which is still to be decided.

2.6 Flood Defence Scheme Report.

The Flood Defence Scheme Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Project Engineer Larry McHale answered queries from the members. He confirmed that the closing date for submissions from the public was 10th June but any queries could be emailed to him. Cllr Owens questioned the revised design of the new bridge and Mr McHale confirmed that the angled bridge from Millpark Road was the preferred option. There will be a second Public Consultation in Q4 and hopefully Phase 1 will go to planning in Q2 of 2026.

2.7 Special Projects.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The members welcoming the IDA factory getting to the planning stage.

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

3.1 The proposal for S183 Notice to be brought to the Council in regard to 34 Island Road, Enniscorthy was passed by the Members.

3.2 Nomination of Elected Member to the board of the 1798 Centre.

It was proposed by Cllr Owens and seconded by Cllr O'Rourke that Cllr Keogh be nominated to the board of the 1798 Centre.

4. Correspondence.

5. Any Other Business.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keogh, seconded by Cllr. Owens it was agreed to proceed to 'In Committee' at this juncture of the meeting to discuss the District Development Projects.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11.09 am.

Barbara-Anne Murphy

CATHAOIRLEACH

15th July 2025

DATE