

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 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
Officials:	Ms. Carolynne 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. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer, Housing Mr. Tom Byrne, Executive Engineer, Active Travel
Members of the Public:	Ms. Sarah Kelly Ms. Jurgita Glodenyte
Apologies:	Cllr. Jackser Owens

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following: -

- Cllr. Jackser Owens on the passing of his sister Joanna Owens and his niece Johanna Hawkins.
- Bernie Lennon, WCC on the passing of her brother, Jim Freeman.
- Davy Power, WCC on the recent passing of his mother Mary Power (nee Kennedy)
- The family of Johnny Mythen, T.D. on their recent sad losses.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1.1 Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 15th July 2025

On the proposal of Cllr O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr Byrne, the Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 15th July 2025 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

Executive planner David Wall attended on behalf of planning and updated the meeting that the Columbarium Wall qualifies for Class 40 exemption.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Murphy raised the matter of pre-planning and expressed hope that the planning process can be speeded up as this is in everyone's interest.

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.

- Removal of the clothing bring banks at the "old Dunnes carpark".
- Update on CCTV at dumping blackspots.
- Request for Fire Service to attend schools to convey the safety message regarding Bonfires.
- Request for more details from Fire Service on causes of outdoor fires attended.

Siobhan Murphy Executive Scientist answered the members queries and advised that Environment Section takes a proactive approach regarding bonfires and liaise closely within estates.

The District Manager will request response from Fire Services regarding queries raised.

A member of the Library Services will attend the November meeting to update the members on the library programme.

2.2.1 Presentation by Cabrini Desmond, WCC Dog Warden

The dog warden gave a presentation on her role including the legislative framework in which the dog wardens operate.

The members praised the hard work of the dog wardens and agreed that the statistics are encouraging. However more work needs to be done in terms of raising awareness of the responsibilities of having a dog. It was encouraging that Wexford is in the top ten counties for compliance with licencing. The Dog Warden is currently putting together a pilot programme for St Peter's College Transition Year to educate young people on dog control.

2.2.2 Presentation by Annette Rowsome, Senior Enterprise Development Officer, LEO

Ms Rowsome answered the members queries on the various supports available to businesses through the LEO in particular: -

- Types of businesses eligible
- Green energy grants
- Student Enterprise awards in secondary schools

Cathaoirleach Cllr Murphy at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea at 10:35 am. The Meeting resumed at 10:54 am.

2.3 Housing

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted

Ms Angela Finn answered queries on the Housing Capital report in particular

- The Lyre - Archaeological report and issues with title
- Lack of housing development outside the town

Ms Finn answered the Members queries.

Cllr O'Rourke praised the work being done by the Housing Section in very difficult times. He raised an issue about the grants for older people. If a homeowner is refused, they are advised to contact the SEAI. While the assessment can happen quickly the process of getting works done takes a long time.

Director of Services Carolyne Godkin explained that the Council grant is to improve sub-standard property not energy upgrades. If an applicant gets approval from the SEAI the problem, can be finding contractors to do the work. The department are looking at ways to address this issue.

2.4 Municipal District Report

Murphy Floods Car Park

The Murphy Floods Car Park opened to the public on 14th August. The car park offers 37 parking spaces including 3 accessible parking bays for residents, visitors and businesses in the town. The car park has a standard rate of €1 per hour – max stay 2hrs. Signage is due to be installed this week.

Wexford County Council is committed to the long-term development of the site on a commercial basis; and it will be placed on the open market in the Autumn. Given current construction pricing it is expected that any development will take several years to come to fruition.

In the interim, the Council is continuing with predevelopment work to secure significant Urban Redevelopment Funding for the Market Square area. The Town

Centre First plan projects will be key to enhancing the attractiveness and viability of the Murphy Floods site within the heart of the town.

The project was delivered by Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer Enniscorthy Municipal District. Development of this site has opened the centre of the town and has provided important linkages between Mainstreet, Irish Street, Barrack Street and Island Road.

Columbarium Wall

Tender documents are being prepared for the installation of Columbarium Wall in Enniscorthy Lawn Cemetery. Wexford Co Co will run the tender once documentation has been completed.

Pedestrian Crossings

Two new pedestrian crossings will be put in place at the top of Weafer Street, with works due to commence in the coming weeks.

Enniscorthy MD Trails

Successful projects under Measure 1 and the Project Development Measure of the 2024/2025 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme announced today by Minister Dara Calleary for the Enniscorthy Municipal District are as follows:-

Wexford	Wexford County Council	Vinegar Hill trail upgrade & Links	To erect signpost along footpaths from old bridge, surface works to Vinegar Hill lane and signage to all trail links	€40,000
Wexford	Wexford Local Development	Ringwood lane resurfacing project	Upgrade works to access lane to Ringwood trail	€40,000
Wexford	Wexford County Council	Blackstairs Recreation Trail - Feasibility Study	Feasibility study for a walking & cycling trail connecting Bunclody, Kiltalea, Killanne, Templeudigan and Ballywilliam to include drawings costing and assessments.	€49,500

Works are ongoing on the design and planning to extend the trail network to link to the Ringwood and Borodale trails.

Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2025

We had a fantastic response to the scheme this year. The total number of applications received/eligible are as follows:

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44 Shopfront Painting Grants - estimated spend €12,144.33.

26 Flower Grant - estimated spend €2,769.53

2 Awning Grants - estimated spend €1,000

The total cost of the scheme for this year is estimated at approximately €15,913.86.

The Flower Scheme deadline for submitting receipts was 17th July.

Paint/Awning deadline for completion of works was 11th September.

The scheme was introduced to improve the attractiveness of the town and make it a better place to live, work

Enniscorthy Town CCTV Project

The civil works on the Enniscorthy Town CCTV project commenced on the 9th June and are now complete. The electrical works are complete.

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 CCTV system should be fully operational by mid-October.

Bunclody CCTV Project

Awaiting authorisation from the Garda Commissioner. Update on the Section 38 application has been requested.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme Applications 2025

Ballyhogue Community Development.

An application to the Dept of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) has been submitted to 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.

Bunclody Park

An application for funding for the Acquisition of the Land for proposed Bunclody Park under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme (Building/Land Acquisition Measure) has been submitted to the Department.

Shannon Way Project

Enniscorthy Municipal District are delighted to support the Shannon Way Project. Works were carried out at the 21 steps, growth has been cut back, flower beds have been established, and planters have been installed.

Festival and Events

Civic Reception Wexford Football League- Oscar Traynor Cup

Enniscorthy Municipal District hosted a Civic Reception on Thursday 17th July to honour the Wexford Football League's remarkable victory in the FAI Oscar Traynor Cup 2025 led by Manager Willie Peare,

Each member of the team received a commemorative civic scroll as a symbol of appreciation from the people of Wexford for their dedication and success; Raphael Abidoyle, Paul Brennan, Ryan Busher, Sean Allen, Conor Casserly, Niall Connolly, Gary Delaney, Evan Farrell, Luke Greene, Todd Hynes, Robbie Kane, Stephen Kinsella, Jason McGuire, Reece Murphy, Glen O'Brien, John Peare, Eoin Rhodes, Alan Rhodes, Ian Sinnott and Ethan Vickers.

The Management Team were presented with a commemorative civic scroll for their dedication and commitment to the team; Willie Peare (Manager), Mark Ross (Head Coach), Gavin Griffith (Goalkeeper Coach), Conn Mooney (Assistant Manager), Nick Finn (Coach), Billie Byrne (Logistics) and Ivan Lynch (Physio).

Huge congratulations to the players, coaches, and management– you've made Wexford proud!

Sod Turning Event – Enniscorthy Sports Hub Phase 2

On Friday 8th August 2025, the Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Councillor Joe Sullivan officially turned the sod to mark the commencement of the second phase of works at Enniscorthy Sports Hub. The Cathaoirleach was joined by Tánaiste Simon Harris, Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport Patrick O'Donovan., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage James Browne, Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District Cllr. Barbara- Anne Murphy and elected Members of Enniscorthy MD, Wexford County Council officials, contractors, design team and athletics groups

A €1 million investment delivered a state-of-the-art 400 metre eight lane, all-weather track in 2015. The project has been made possible through combined investment of **€600,000** by The Department of Culture, Communications and Sport Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund, contributing **€450,000** and with Wexford County Council providing match funding of €150,000.

The LSSIF backed project will deliver modern changing rooms, new toilet facilities, and a versatile open space, building upon the state-of-the-art athletics track and facilities completed in 2014. These upgrades are designed to support athletes at all levels, encourage participation across the community, and strengthen Enniscorthy's role as a hub for sports and wellness.

The Tánaiste also commended Wexford for its incredible hosting of the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann and thanked Wexford County Council, An Gardaí Síochána, Emergency Services and everyone who worked so hard to make it such a success.

Fleadh Cheoil Fringe Event Enniscorthy MD

What a summer it's been for Fringe Fleadh 25 in Enniscorthy Municipal District— a joyful celebration of Irish culture and community across the District.

From traditional tunes to ballads and dancing, the spirit was alive in every town. Here's a look back at the unforgettable moments.

The festivities kicked off on Enniscorthy Rebellion Day (Sunday, 22nd June) —, The National 1798 Rebellion Centre was buzzing as Fr. Murphy's Boolavogue CCÉ performed and Enniscorthy CCÉ. The rain showers didn't dampen the spirits with the celebrations moving indoors without missing a beat with lively performances also from Celtic Roots.

The stunning backdrop of Ferns Castle and the cosy setting of The Thatch Bar made for a magical session with Ferns CCÉ.

Enniscorthy Folk & Ballad Festival at Treacys Hotel and the Whitehouse Bar— who had powerful performances, and song that echoed through the town.

And to round it off The Market Square Bunclody came to life as Craobh Chaoimhín Naofa CCÉ finished off the festivities with incredible live music, singing and dancing.

A massive thank you to Comhaltas Groups who took part and all the incredible musicians, dancers, organisers, and communities who made each event so special.

Enniscorthy Municipal District brought a vibrant series of events in towns and villages across the district in the lead-up to Fleadh Cheoil 2025, inviting everyone to Feel the Spirit of the Fleadh & Join the Celebration.

The final events took place in Bunclody on July 19th 12.30pm. Craobh Chaoimhín Naofa CCÉ Bunclody Comhaltas @ The Mall, Bunclody

St. Johns Community Activity Garden

The official launch of the St. Johns Community Activity Garden took place on 2nd September. The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne T.D. carried out the official opening supported by Minister Jennifer Murnane O'Connor T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy.

The Activity Garden was supported as a placement incentive by Wexford County Council's Culture and Creativity team and Age Friendly programme in partnership

with the HSE, Creative Ireland and the Irish Architectural Foundation and the Enniscorthy Men's Shed. The funding was provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development and Gaeltacht's Town and Village Renewal Scheme and helped transform a green space into a vibrant community hub that is safe, accessible and welcoming to all.

The launch was attended by staff and officials from Wexford County Council and the HSE, Elected Members and Members of the Oireachtas as well as service users and residents from the St John's Campus. Guests were entertained by beautiful singing and melodies courtesy of Enniscorthy Comhaltas Group. This was followed by speeches, presentations and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque which will be permanently installed at the entrance.

Launch of Edermine Rowing Club New Boat

Edermine Ferry Rowing Club supported by Enniscorthy Tidy towns carry out regular litter picking and clean-ups on the river Slaney.

Wexford County Council was delighted to support the Club with their recent grant application to the Local Authority Waters Programme, resulting in the Club being awarded 100% funding for a new boat, engine and trailer to enable more regular and effective litter picks on the River Slaney. The boat will allow for collection of a greater volume of litter in a safer vessel and will increase the community presence on our beautiful river.

This special event was marked by an official launch by Cllr Barbara Anne Murphy on Friday 5th September at 6.30pm at Edermine Bridge.

Festival Programme 2025

Blackstairs Blues Festival 12th - 14th September

Enniscorthy Municipal District are delighted to support this festival. The festival is a three-day event with soulful ballads in different venues around Enniscorthy.

Arts and Culture Festival 18th -21st September

Enniscorthy Municipal District are delighted to support the Enniscorthy Arts & Culture Festival. The event takes place from the 18th – 21st September.

The District Manager responded to the members queries and comments, in particular: -

- Concerns about the condition of the fencing at the Astro Pitch
- Request to install a workout station/outdoor gym in public areas.
- Request for a detailed financial and operational report from Wexford Football Alliance Committee.
- Update on Management of ORIS funding project for resurfacing works at access to Ringwood trail.
- Request contact be made with the new Garda Commissioner in relation to update on CCTV in Bunclody
- Update requested on street cleaning in Ferns and Bunclody.
- Request to apply to LAWPRO for a grant to tackle invasive species and clean-up of river walk.

Cllr Murphy said that it is important that St John's Activity Garden be used as it is of great benefit to the public to have that outdoor space. She asked about a booking system – the District Manager said that anyone looking to use it would need to complete the "Apply to Host an Event in a Public Space".

Cllr Murphy commended the Shopfront Painting and Flower Grant scheme. It is a great project and should be expanded on next year.

2.5 Roads Report.

The Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members raised various concerns, in particular: -

- Pedestrian crossing at Wafer Street – will there be a lot of disruption? Executive Engineer Neil Dempsey confirmed that there would be disruption, but every effort will be made to limit the impact, and local businesses will be kept informed. Roads Section are working with Active Travel on this.
- Disused bin bay at Abbey Square – can this be marked out as parking spaces?
- Resurfacing of Barrack Street.
- Resurfacing of Priory Hill can be looked at this for next year's programme.
- Caim/Galbally crossing – school/village signage works. Surveys required.
- LIS allocations – second tranche is being allocated pro rata across the district with €112,000 being allocated to Enniscorthy. The criteria for works were discussed and Mr Dempsey confirmed that time on the list and suitability are the main criteria.

2.5.1 District Development Projects Report

It was proposed by Cllr Browne and seconded by Cllr Kehoe that the District Development Projects be approved by the members.

Neil Dempsey updated the meeting on the current progress. Works on the old Dublin Road are progressing well, and this is being augmented with funds from Active Travel.

Works on the Rugby Club/Sports Hub - Uisce Eireann will be running pipe here and pedestrian crossing and footpath will be postponed until those works are completed. Back up list of works can be considered instead. Suggestions were Brady's Hill in Bunclody and Balindaggin Village.

2.5.2 Enniscorthy Community College, Safe Routes to School – Section 38 Consultation Report for information

Executive Engineer Tom Byrne (Active Travel) updated the meeting.

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. Mr McHale confirmed that there will be a second Public Consultation in Q4 – this will be advertised at the end of October. Hopefully Phase 1 will go to planning in Q2 of 2026.

2.7 Special Projects.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Special Projects will attend the October meeting.

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

3.1 Draft Traffic and Car Parking Byelaws 2025 for adoption.

It was proposed by Cllr O'Rourke and seconded by Cllr Byrne that the Draft Traffic and Car Parking Byelaws 2025 be adopted by the Members of the Enniscorthy Municipal District and forwarded to the Director of Services for Roads and the Co Secretary for approval and presentation to the next full meeting of Wexford County Council for adoption.

3.2 Request for recommendation in relation to transfer of land at Scarawalsh from Wexford County Council to Simon Kavanagh Motors

Proposer - Cllr Browne
Seconder - Cllr Kehoe

3.3 Recommendation in relation to Section 183 Right of Way at Drumgoold

Proposer – Cllr Byrne
Seconder – Cllr O'Rourke

4. Notice of Motion.

4.1 Consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr O'Rourke

Cllr O'Rourke raised a motion to invite Minister Jennifer Murnane O'Connor to the Enniscorthy District. The purpose of the request is to engage with the HSE and Cornmarket with a view to repurposing some of the vacant HSE buildings in Enniscorthy for a drug rehabilitation centre along the lines of Cuan Mhuire. He argued that lots of families in the area are struggling with the issue of drug addiction. Many are engaging with private services which is very costly. This means that treatment is out of reach for so many people.

The Councillors were unanimous in their support for the motion.

5. Correspondence

No correspondence.

6. Any Other Business

No other business.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11.55 am.

Barbara Anne Murphy

CATHAOIRLEACH

21st October 2025

DATE