



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON THE 11th
September 2024**

Present: Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Peir Leonard, Leas-Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Warren O'Toole

Officials Present: Ms. Sorcha Walsh, District Manager
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator
Ms. Avril Hill, District Engineer
Ms. Lorraine Hayes ASO

Apologies: Cllr. Miriam Murphy

Press: Eoin MacRaghnaill

Public: None

Presentations: None

Item 1: Votes of Sympathy.

The members expressed votes of sympathy to all families who have recently lost a loved one. A minute silence was observed.

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes .

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on 28th June 2024 were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Bourke.

Item 3: Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of the AMD Ordinary Meeting held on 10th July were not agreed upon as Cllr. Leonard requested these minutes be amended as they did not include that the Men's Shed are seeking a location in the Town to meet up. Amendment has been made, amended minutes will be available to be approved at the October AMD meeting.

Item 4: Matters arising.

None

Item 5: Consideration of reports and recommendations.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

5th September 2024

Roads

Restoration Improvement

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
R-752 Ballybeg – Rathnew	Line marking & Ironworks to be completed
L-2190 Coolgreany Road	Line marking & Ironworks to be completed
L-6139 Ballyshane - Cappagh	Completed
L-5155 Tullylusk to Kilmacoo	Commenced on site 05/09/24
L-2196 Ballykillageer	Completed
L-6181 Tigroney to Knockanree	Completed
L-6168 Cronemore to Coolflake	Completed

Restoration Maintenance

All surface dressing work have been completed.

Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience

Works complete

Safety Improvement Works

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Status</i>
Johnstown Village, Arklow	Installation of safety signage	To be tendered

Discretionary Funds 2024

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
Educational Signage - Beaches	Liaised with Biodiversity officer
Footpath - Kingsbrook to Centre Road	Completed
Public Realm Furniture - Aughrim	Completed

Tree Management	Putting together scope for engaging arboriculturist.
Heritage Signage for Villages	Waiting on delivery.
Footpath repair - Ferrybank	Pricing for resetting/replacing cobbles sets.
Meeting Park - Bridge repair	Completed
Bus Shelter in Aughrim	Minor works to be completed
Bus Shelter in Annacurra	Follow up with landowner
Public lighting at The Birches, Ballinaclash	Lighting installed, waiting on commissioning.
Public Realm - Rathdrum	Bollards & Planters ordered
Footpaths at Templeraíne Heights	70% complete
Repair of footpath at Curran's Corner	To be discussed with Roads Department
Pedestrian Crossing - Rathdrum	Considered in wider scheme
Public Realm - Arklow	
Public Realm Furniture Upgrade - AMD	
Public Realm - Rathdrum	
Footpath - Conary	
Infill Lighting Annacurra	
Footpath - Arklow Bearing Services	

Former National Roads

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
R772 Knockmore to Kish	Liaising with NTA team

Local Improvement Schemes

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
Kilpipe	Tendered & Contractor appointed
Ballinabarney	Tendered & Contractor appointed

Other Projects

- Fairgreen, Rathdrum – Completed.
- Running Track – Lighting installed and certified waiting ESB connection. Tendered for improvements to existing surface.
- Abbey Lane – Conservation works to wall complete. Paving is currently underway.
- Multi-use pitch at Coral Leisure – Construction commenced.
- Beech Road Footpath – 80% complete.
- Riverwalk – Footpath cleared, some minor branches to be trimmed.
- Graveyard – Plinths in place to provide 76 additional plots.
- Drainage works are planned at Killahurler/Mooreshill.
- Drainage works are planned at Johnstown. Have agreement with landowner. Additional application to be made for funding in 2025.

Comments:

- Lighting in Annacura needs to be done as soon as possible.
- Johnstown drain has been cleared and jetted others to be completed.
- Discharge from farmlands at Monoglough need to be sorted before road can be overlaid.
- Disability spaces are needed at upper Main Street and St. Mary's Road, more parking spaces will be lost if these are put in place and it does not guarantee a parking space for a specific person. It is thought set down parking is more appropriate.
- Speeding at Back Street and Harbour area need addressing, it was suggested this be put on the agenda for next the meeting.
- Tremendous work has been carried out in the graveyard and the extra plots are welcomed.
- People are delighted with works carried out on the Coolgreany Road.
- It was thought the Local Area Plan was out of date and serious implications would arise if it was not renewed.
- SW explained there is no provision in law for plans to lapse or die. We have a valid LAP for Arklow, which will be used to access for any further planning applications. A new LAP for Arklow is currently being drafted with a workshop scheduled for November, any application can be appealed. The drafted plan will go to the Chief Executive by end of 1st quarter 2025 and then to the Elected Members.
- Running track it is hoped the ESB will be on site this Month.
- Finish date for the new MUGA will be end of Sept or Mid October, there is a provision for lighting but at present no funding.
- Many local roads need maintenance.
- AH replied it was thought we should be able to carry out some minor works. We are currently working on a three year plan incorporating complaints already received to AMD from people.
- Roadside Ash trees are the owners responsibility.
- Potholes at Mountain Bay will be looked at.

Item 6: Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

None

Item 7: Notice of Motions

(a) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr S. Bourke received on 13th June 2024.

“That Arklow Municipal District explore the funding options for extending cycle lanes throughout the main transport thoroughfares of Arklow, including Templeraíne, Main Street, Abbey Street and Wexford road, and access routes to all schools.”

Proposed by Cllr. Bourke and seconded by Cllr. Leonard.

- Presentation/workshop with Active travel is required for further update/discussion.

(b) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr S. Bourke received on 13th June 2024.

“That Arklow Municipal District explore an application for RRDF funding for a Town First project, similar to Carrick on Suir, that prioritises undergrounding of ESB and other utility cabling, to enhance the visual urban landscape of Arklow, and provide funding to eliminate exterior metal shuttering from retail premises on the Main Street, as recommended on pg 190 of the Architectural Heritage Protection document issued by the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht.”

Proposed by Cllr. Bourke and seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald.

- SW will get an update from the Regeneration Officer and revert regarding vacant buildings.

(c) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr S. Bourke received on 15th June 2024.

“That Arklow Municipal District unify the public lighting infrastructure in Arklow public realm areas initially by removing redundant attachments, matching lighting fixtures, and paint all stands in a single uniform colour, (grey, black or a suitable alternative), to unify the street landscape. Ferrybank, Main Street, the river banks, and Wexford road should be the initial focus. Other towns and villages in the AMD could be incorporated in this scheme to reorganise lighting to match up older lighting fixtures. Climate sensitive lighting should be prioritised.”

Proposed by Cllr. Bourke and seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald.

9. Correspondence

Petition received from Active Retirement seeking full restoration of the river walk and accessibility for all. Some paths are not accessible at present.

Cllr. Fitzgerald proposed €10,000.00 be used from discretionary funding and Cllr. Leonard seconded this proposal.

Item 10: Any Other Business

The cross at St. Gabriel's cemetery needs cleaning and the inscription to be re-done. Cllr. Kennedy proposed using €5000.00 from discretion funding to enable this, Cllr. Fitzgerald seconded this.

Lease on the goods store is confirmed. Part 8 will be needed for this project. DM will know if it is AMD or Town Regeneration Team who will be looking after this.

The lights on the bridge should be changed to purple on 15th October for 'the wave of light' on behalf of Féileacáin.

The Palestinian flag will be hung at AMD on 29th November in solidarity with Palestine.

Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th October 2023.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.

Signed: _____
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District

DRAFT