



**Wicklow County Council  
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

**ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON THE 9th October 2024**

**Present:** Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald,  
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke  
Cllr. Warren O'Toole

**Officials Present:** Ms. Leonora Earls, District Manager  
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator  
Ms. Avril Hill, District Engineer  
Ms. Lorraine Hayes ASO

**Apologies:** Cllr. Peir Leonard  
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 minutes silence was observed.

**Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes.**

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Bourke.

**Item 3: Confirmation of Minutes.**

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 were proposed by Cllr. Bourke and seconded by Cllr. O’Toole.

**Item 4: Matters arising.**

None.

**Item 5: Consideration of reports and recommendations.**

- ❖ To receive an update from the Town Regeneration Officer.

Unfortunately Stephen Clarke could not attend this meeting he will attend the Arklow Town Team meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October. The District Manager provided an update:

- Local Authority with the Department of Housing is in the process of buying derelict buildings by agreement with landlord and also through CPO. The objective is to purchase these buildings, refurbish and sell on thus encouraging more retail and commercial opportunities in the town. The scheme does not allow us to keep these buildings.
- Arklow does not qualify for RDF funding but will discuss with Stephen if and where there are alternate funding streams available.
- When the Local Authority nominates buildings and receives approval for this scheme, the LA can contact the owners; this in itself is often enough for the owners to refurbish their buildings. The LA may proceed with a CPO of the building. It is intended to carry out some minor works and sell the property on with a view to it being developed. It is not the intention of the scheme to allow for the property to be developed and held by the LA for their own use.

- ❖ To receive a report from District Engineer.

**Municipal District of Arklow**  
**District Engineer’s Report**

**4<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Roads**

**Restoration Improvement**

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

**Restoration Maintenance**

All surface dressing work has 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
Tree Management	Putting together scope for engaging arboriculturist.
Heritage Signage for Villages	Waiting on delivery.
Footpath repair - Ferrybank	<a href="#">Contractor appointed for resetting/replacing cobbles sets.</a>
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	<a href="#">100% complete</a>
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	Contractor to confirm dates
Ballinabarney	Contractor to confirm dates

### Other Projects

- Running Track – Lighting installed and certified waiting ESB connection. Tendered for improvements to existing surface.
- Abbey Lane –Paving and planter is almost complete. Lighting to be installed
- Multi-use pitch at Coral Leisure – Construction commenced.
- Beech Road Footpath – 80% complete. Road surface to finish
- Drainage works are planned at Killahurler /Moorehill.
- Initial drainage works are complete at Johnstown. Additional application to be made for funding in 2025.

### **6 Other business set forth in the notice convening meeting.**

- Drainage work carried out on the running track, the track itself will be regraded and a dusting applied.
- Double yellow lines sought at Templeraíne Heights.
- NTA hope to have Knockmore to Kish complete in the last quarter of 2024.
- Cleaning of footpath on Beech Road to be completed.
- Aquaplaning is occurring on R753, pipe needs to be unblocked. GPS co-ordinates required for this.
- Bridge near quarry off M11 motorway needs improvement on safety grounds. MD does not carry out works on bridges it will be highlighted to our roads department.
- A lot still to be done with roads in the District, we will contact Joe Lane, DOS regarding the possibility of extra funding for same.

### **Item 7: Notice of Motion/s**

- (a) To consider the Notice of Motion in the names of Cllrs S. Bourke and P Fitzgerald received on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024.**

*“That the council refurbishes the entrance an internal road at Castlemacadam cemetery”*

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

It was agreed to investigate the works required and refer to the Environment Section to possible funding of these works.

#### **Item 8: Correspondence**

- An email from N Quinn was read with regards to the upgrade of footpath at North beach, this was discussed at Wicklow Meeting on Monday and we are waiting for a court date. We will look into a temporary measure to alleviate the problem for now and revert.
- Transition Year student from St. Mary's sent an email requesting the installation of a zebra crossing and drop curb at the footpath from Aldi to Bridgewater. We need to determine if this is a public road, it would also need to meet safety requirements.
- M Byrne sent an email relating to speed and vehicles ignoring the pedestrian crossing at Supervalu/Pettit's on Wexford road. This is a controlled lights crossing which is in working order, the matter will be referred to AGS for them to monitor driver behaviour.
- Ferrybank business owners lodged a petition seeking Christmas lighting be included in the Christmas lighting schedule. Members were advised that this would be a welcome addition to the Christmas street scape however there is currently no power source available for Christmas lighting. It would require the installation of a number of mini pillars and sockets along with civil works to facilitate the lights. Members would also need to consider the financial implications and additional resources which would be required long term for the extension of lighting to the area.

#### **Item 9: Any Other Business**

- Road markings at the crossroads near Grotto in Greenan need to be looked at.
- With the additional need for housing in Aughrim and Avoca a decision was made to write to Uisce Eireann for an update on the proposed waste water treatment plant for Aughrim. Money was sanctioned five year ago and planning has not been applied for as yet.
- The Elected Members voted unanimously to allow two hours free parking in car parks in Arklow for the Christmas period.
- Killaree have now taken over the contract for public lighting. The certification process is being carried out at present to ensure works can be carried out safely with priority given to areas which have lights out reported.
- A low basketball hoop is sought for wheelchair users. LSP have already organised to install this and have been in contact with Coral.
- A disability space in Bridgewater for enable Ireland has been requested. We will enquire with Manager of Bridgewater.

- Expansion of the Skateboard Park. This has been looked at previously and will go through LSP funding as part of the overall plan for the area.
- Seats at outdoor gym need replacing this will be done when funds are available.
- There is a blind spot at the junction of the Vale Road and Main Street and a barrier has been sought. The DE suggested bollards would be a better alternative from a safety perspective. This will be investigated.
- With new developments coming online the School transport system needs improvement. We will write to Department of Education regarding use of Local Link for School transport.
- Goalposts for Fernhill pitch are being sought. We would need an agreement from residents confirming they will undertake the work and upkeep of the pitches. Discretionary funding could be used for the goalposts. Residents should submit a proposal with signed agreement for maintenance.
- Can grass-cutting at Delany Park, Arklow be included going forward.
- There is a recurring issue with sewerage in Parnell Park, Rathdrum. Can we organise to have drains jetted in the whole estate?

**Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cllr. Patrick Kennedy, Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District**

