



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER 2014.

Members Present: Cathaoirleach Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. T. Annesley, Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Cllr. Sylvester Bourke,
Cllr. Miriam Murphy, Cllr. Mary McDonald.

Officials Present: Mr. Bryan Doyle, District Manager
Ms. Linda McDonald, District Administrator
Mr. Jack Kelly, District Engineer
Mr. Sean Dunne, Executive Technician
Ms Iris Gould, A/Staff Officer.

Item 1 - Confirmation of minutes of meeting of the Arklow Municipal District held on the 10th September 2014.

The minutes of meeting for Arklow Municipal District held on the 10th September 2014 were confirmed and agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Tommy Annesley and seconded by Cllr. Miriam Murphy.

Item 2 – Presentation on the Avoca River (Arklow Town) Flood Relief Scheme from Marc Devereux, Senior Engineer.

It was noted that a report on this item had been circulated to the Members in September. Mr. Devereux advised that the draft feasibility study is currently being tweaked to ensure it is robust. Once this is done there will be public consultation and following on from that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared. Various local concerns were raised with regard to the rising level of gravel in the river. It was further noted that there is a lot of support from the OPW for this scheme. Cllr Pat Fitzgerald informed the members that this is one of the most positive proposals to date and that together with the proposed Sewage Treatment Plant, the outlook for Arklow is good. It was agreed that a quarterly report on the scheme would issue to the Members.

Item 3 – Roads/Upkeep of back lanes and related matter with Arklow Town.

It was generally accepted that there has been a significant amount of damage to the local roads as a result of the increase in the number of trucks due to the construction of the bypass. It was proposed by Cllr Pat Fitzgerald that Arklow MD would request Sean Quirke Director of Roads to write to the NRA seeking funding to repair the damage. This was seconded by Cllr Sylvester Bourke. Bryan Doyle suggested that a report to include a map and photographs be prepared for submission to Mr. Quirke.

A number of roads / back lanes were identified as being in need of repair/clean up i.e. St Patrick's Terrace, Cluain Ard and the South Green. Cllr Miriam Murphy also enquired about upgrading the footpaths. It was

agreed that all such works would be considered when preparing the schedule of works for the District. All areas in need of improvement to be forwarded to Jack Kelly for review.

Cllr Mary McDonald enquired about the possibility of some of this work being undertaken by the participants on the Gateway programme. Jack Kelly advised that there are 20 participants due to commence in the Arklow Town area before the end of the year.

Item 4 – Playground at St Peter's Place

Cllr Pat Fitzgerald outlined to the meeting the ongoing issues i.e. Anti-social behaviour and the difficulties experienced by the Gardai due to the number of entrances into the playground. Cllr Mary McDonald advised the members that the residents are living in fear and suggested that the hedges could be lowered and the playground locked at night.

Jack Kelly advised that it is an inter-agency problem. It was decided that Linda McDonald would write to the residents living in the vicinity of the playground asking for their suggestions and comments.

Item 5 – To consider Report on suggested proposal for works to the Fr. Murphy Statue at Parade Ground.

Sean Dunne distributed a report containing suggestions for improvements. A discussion followed and it was agreed to place an advert in the Wicklow People inviting submissions/comments from the public and interested groups. Jack Kelly raised the possibility of making it an open space, a project for the future and the possibility of seeking a grant for its improvement.

Item 6 – Notices of Motions.

Cllr Sylvester Bourke

“That the Council ask the Minister with responsibility for the OPW to investigate the possibility of acquiring and converting the green space to the rear of Aughrim Garda station for use as a public car park.

Cllr Pat Kennedy informed the group that he had spoken to the Minister and a decision is pending. Linda McDonald to be informed of the decision prior to writing to the Minister.

Item 7 – Correspondence.

- **Letter from the residents of Beresford Terrace with regard to their 120 year anniversary celebrations.**

Linda McDonald to advise them to write to Wicklow County Council for funding under the community grants. A copy of their letter also to be forwarded to Joe Lane.

- **Letter from Arklow Chamber of Commerce requesting a meeting with the members.**
It was agreed to hold this meeting on Wednesday 12th November at 2 pm.

- **Petition from Rory O Connor residents for extra traffic calming measures.**

It was decided that Jack Kelly and Sean Dunne would meet with a contact person in order to discuss their request.

- **Request from the Willie Murphy South East Cycling Club for a site to build a club house.**
Sean Dunne and Jack Kelly to consider any available land within the town area.

- **Petition from the residents of Knockmore for a survey to be carried out with regard to speed ramps.**

It was agreed that Jack Kelly would review and advise the members.

- **Request from Principal Peter Somers, CBS Arklow for the drawdown of the 2014 Bursary.**

It was agreed to arrange for this payment to be made to CBS Arklow. It was also agreed that Avondale Community School would be included in 2015. Proposed by Cllr Tommy Annesley and seconded by Cllr Mary McDonald.

- **Rathdrum - request for funding for Christmas Lights**

It was proposed by Cllr Pat Kennedy to give €5,000 and seconded by Cllr Sylvester Bourke. Cllr Pat Kennedy expressed his gratitude to Cathaoirleach Pat Fitzgerald, Linda Mc Donald and Bryan Doyle on behalf of the people of Rathdrum.

Item 8 - Any Other Business.


- **Traffic Calming in Rathdrum.**

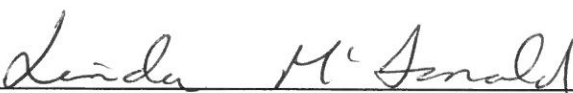
Cllr Pat Kennedy informed the members that a 12 year old girl was knocked down the previous Sunday and highlighted the need for improvements to be included in the 2015 programme.

- A minute's silence was observed following Votes of Sympathy passed for the following:
 - Anna May Appleby
 - Joe O Toole.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

Minutes confirmed at Meeting held on Wednesday 12th November 2014.

Signed: 
Cllr Pat Fitzgerald, Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District

Signed: 
Linda Mc Donald, District Administrator.

