



**Wicklow County Council  
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

**ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019**

**Present:** Cllr. Miriam Murphy, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke  
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald  
Cllr. Mary McDonald  
Cllr. Tommy Annesley

**Officials Present:** Mr. Colm Lavery, District Manager  
Ms. Linda McDonald, District Administrator  
Mr. John Bowes, District Engineer  
Ms. Sinéad Boddy, Assistant Staff Officer

**Apologies:** Cllr. Pat Kennedy

**Item 1 - Vote of Sympathy:**

The Members expressed votes of sympathy to the families of the following, who recently passed away:

Eileen Godkin, Thomas Forde, Tessy Hennessy, Brenda McGrotty, Larry Kenny, Alice Finn, Theresa Power, Seamus Hunt-Tyrrell, , Owen Byrne, Margaret Tyrrell, John Brickenden, Helen Nolan-Craine, Billy Breen, Jim Beere, Simon Byrne, Genesa Phelan, Frankie Harper, Matt Doyle, Lucy Stack, Leslie Armstrong, Barty Kenny.

A minutes silence was observed.

**Item 2 – Confirmation of Minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting, held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2019.**

The Minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Bourke.

**Item 3 : Matters Arising.**

Cllr Murphy, on behalf of the members, welcomed Colm Lavery DM to his new role with Arklow Municipal District.

Ms McDonald DA updated the members on the Columbarium Wall for Arklow – online survey to be carried out. Cllr Murphy stressed that a paper survey should issue in conjunction with the online survey – not everyone has access to online surveys.

Ms McDonald confirmed that the proposal to hold an event for upcoming World Shore Angling competition in Arklow was discussed at Management Team who supported the proposal and will discuss a possible contribution to the event. Cllr Fitzgerald confirmed that a press release has issued today to say that Arklow has been chosen and the event will be held in October 2020 – U16 & U21 championships. Cllr Fitzgerald recommended that AMD should be represented on the co-ordination committee.

**Item 4: To receive an update on the Avonmore Bridge Project.**

Ms McDonald updated the members on the project. WCC in partnership with Coillte and the National Parks and Wildlife Service intend to develop a new bridge over the Avonmore River which will link the Avonmore Way and the Jubilee Way. A funding application was made under the Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme last year and in January 2019 the Dept. of Rural and Community Development approved funding of €392,000 for the project and WCC will fund the balance. The project will start with the preliminary design stage. Cllr Bourke asked if it would construction would start this year and Ms McDonald said it would be unlikely as the project would go through the part 8 process. Cllr Bourke said that the project is great for the area and will link up with other walkways and could be compared to the Camino.

**Item 5 : To discuss the street lighting on the Wexford Road Arklow**

A draft report was circulated to the members and discussion followed on the standards used to reach the conclusion that no additional lighting was required. John Bowes DE confirmed that the measurements were taken on the opposite side of the road to the lights and all were above the minimum required. Cllr Fitzgerald acknowledged the work put into the survey but recommended that AMD re-instate the pole outside Kavanagh's Shop, the power connection is there still. It gets very dark there at night. Discussion continued on the variations in the report and Cllr Bourke requested that a comparative data from another area of the town be given so that the members could be better informed. John Bowes agreed to go back with that feedback. Members agreed to keep this item on the agenda.

**Item 6: To agree Festival Funding for 2019.**

The members agreed on the following funding proposal –

<b>Arklow Christmas Festival</b>	<b>€1000</b>
<b>Arklow Halloween Festival</b>	<b>€1000</b>
<b>Arklow Music Festival 2020</b>	<b>€400</b>
<b>Arklow Maritime Festival 2019</b>	<b>€500</b>
<b>Arklow Tidy Towns walking Festival 2019</b>	<b>€400</b>
<b>Inbhear Mór Performance Ensemble</b>	<b>€1000</b>
<b>Light Up Avoca</b>	<b>€700</b>
<b>2019 Estate Development Fund</b>	<b>€5000</b>

**Item 7: To receive a report from John Bowes District Engineer on the following works :-**

**Roads Programme 2019**

Tendering and planning work has commenced for the 2019 roads programme

***Road Strengthening Works 2019***

Contractor has been appointed for 6 locations.

***Surface Dressing Works 2019***

A list of surface dressing has been compiled and issued to the Roads Department. Feedback is currently awaited as to when these works can be scheduled for completion during the summer months.

**Discretionary Projects**

**2018 works** - substantially complete.

**2019 works** - approximately 9 different projects agreed, each of the projects is at varying stages of progression.

Cllr Fitzgerald asked why the 2018 Kirikee/Beech Rd 2018 public lighting works are not yet completed – 16 months later. John Bowes indicated that some of the works were not standard and this may explain the delay.



Cllr Bourke asked the DE to keep in mind Brookmeadow Avoca and Barndarrig for pruning back trees – some public lights are obscured both summer and winter.

### **Footpaths/IPB Remedial Works**

**2019 Works** - approximately 8 different project locations agreed, each of the projects is at varying stages of progression.

Cllr Murphy requested that residents are notified prior to works commencing. Communication links are not great – it would help if the names and contact number for the contractors were given to the members. Cllr McDonald suggested that just one number be given as a point of contact if issues arise. The traffic problems around the current works in the town were further discussed.

Cllr Bourke asked that the issue with the ramps on Abbey Street be looked at while these road works were ongoing.

### **Low cost Safety Schemes**

**2018 schemes** - ESB connection works now complete on Dunnes Lane, Vale Road and at Avoca NS. ESB connections outstanding at Dublin Road and Coolgreaney Road. The ESB are undertaking additional civil works to extend ducting to new pole locations. Connections expected by next week

**2019 schemes** - There are three pedestrian crossing schemes approved under the low cost safety scheme 2019.

- L2900 Emoclew Road, Arklow
- L2172 Redcross
- R754 Avoca

### **Navvy Bridge Works**

The replacement of the Navvy Pedestrian Bridge is complete.

### **CIS and LIS Road Works**

- a) Local Improvement Scheme 2019:-  
13 applications were received - 2 applications have been shortlisted
- b) Community Involvement Scheme 2019: -  
1 Application was received

### **Other Road Works**

#### **Ballycumber Windfarms: -**

Ballycoog to Clone and L-2143 Annacurragh to Preban both overlaid last year by private contractor Moriarty. The current contractor has commenced snag works which are still ongoing. Snagging on surfacing commenced on 9th April and surfacing on the R747 Woodenbridge junction at Delaney's garage advised for next week.

Cllr McDonald said that this is the third time to Delaney's for snagging.

Cllr Fitzgerald noted that extra civil works were required at Woodlands for the Pedestrian Crossing – ESB. The sightlines are not good and barriers could be a solution. Pedestrians crossing need to be slowed up before stepping on to the road.  
John Bowes DE

**Item 8: To discuss receive an update on the URDF – Arklow Historic Core Project.**

The Courthouse works are going through a detailed design process and the tender information is being finalised at present - planned to issue to the market by 19/04/2019.

The Parade Ground public Realm works are progressing - survey works have been completed during March 2019 to assist the design process. The tender for Consultancy Design Services 05/03/2019 – return date now 10/04/2019.

**Item 9: To receive an update on the Primary Health Care Centres for Arklow & Rathdrum.**

Ms McDonald DA advised the members that the transfer of the development portfolio should not impact on the plans for both centres. Cllr Fitzgerald confirmed that the board decided to sell on the portfolio and could lead to a delay of 6 months or longer.

**Item 10: To receive an update on the Harbour Projects – Hoist and Fishermen's Huts.**

Ms McDonald DA advised the members the FLAG funding was to be extended – the project has been delayed as there has been no engineer assigned to the project. There will be a part 8 process and it is hoped that it will be completed in quarter 3 this year.

Cllr Annesley noted that commitment had been given to paint the existing huts in the short term. The wrecks are gone which is a great thing for the area. Ms McDonald DA will follow up on the painting of the huts. Cllr Murphy said it would be kept on the Agenda.

**Item 11: Correspondence**

Correspondence was received from South East Road Club with a request to use the running track for an estimated 18 week training period – they would be using the inner track. Permission to use the track is to be granted with conditions. The training period will co-incide with National Bike Week and the LSP are involved.

**Item 12: Any Other Business**

The date for the Vale Rd spring clean has been set for 28<sup>th</sup> April – registered with An Taisce. A clean up in the Aughrim area has also been arranged for this coming Sunday - AWD.

Invitations have issued for the launch of the smoke free playgrounds initiative in Aughrim.


Cllr Fitzgerald requested that a reception be held for Tegan Farrell – Arklow Boxer and national cadet champion – to recognise her achievements. This was proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Sylvester Bourke.

Cllr Murphy requested that a letter of congratulations issue to Mick Byrne from Aughrim to acknowledge his achievements a recent track event in Poland.

Cllr Annesley reminded everyone that the Tidy Towns fundraising walk and family day were on Easter Monday.

The members wished Linda well in her new role and all agreed that she has been great for the district and will be missed.

**Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**

Signed: 

**Cllr. Miriam Murphy, Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.**

Signed: 

**Ms. Claire Lawless, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District**