



**Wicklow County Council  
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

**ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019**

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

**Apologies:** Cllr. Pat Kennedy

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

**Item 1 - Vote of Sympathy:**

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

Pearl McDonald, Kathleen Brennan, Ann Kinsella, Jimmy Murray, Sean Byrne, Peggy Brennan, Christy Canna, Larry Murphy, Violet Williams.

A minutes silence was observed.

**Item 2 – Confirmation of Minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting, held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2019.**

The Minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Annesley.

**Item 3 : Matters Arising.**

No matters arising to discuss.

#### **Item 4: To discuss Road Safety concerns on the L1113**

Cllr Murphy noted that this has been on the agenda for some time now even though the speed survey was carried out, the DA contacted WCC about this. A reply was received from the WCC - Limits were reviewed in 2017 after the receipt of over 500 submissions. All were considered with reference to Department guidelines. Cllr Murphy was disappointed with the vague reply. Cllr Fitzgerald said the mechanism is there and the limit should be brought back to 50km/hr. Cllr Fitzgerald asked that a timeframe be put on the review to speed things up. Cllr Kennedy agreed and proposed a 1 month timeframe for the review. Cllr Annesley suggested 4 to 6 weeks.

Cllr Bourke commented that the issue has come up a lot in the Beech Road area. Cllr Murphy asked that the report be made available if a request from a member of the public is received.

#### **Item 5 : To discuss blockage of Right of Way to North and Seabank beaches, Arklow**

Cllr Murphy said that more barriers have gone up. Ms Lawless DA stated that Planning Enforcement warning letter has issued and the landowner's reply is being considered. Cllr Murphy stated her disappointment at the delay and that the public have gathered all the info required and it is disgraceful that it has gone on so long. A response is required before June.

Cllr Fitzgerald said that the bigger problem is the rock armour – a child could be lost in the gaps, the solution is easy – remove the gate. He invited the DOS to walk the area and see the problem. Cllr Kennedy stated that the issue has been on the agenda for 2-3 years with very little progress. Cllr McDonald said that everyone concerned should be given regular updates. Cllr Bourke said that access should not be restricted as the area needs to be maintained. Cllr Annesley said that funding needs to be sought to ensure no further damage occurs – there are holes as big as the table there. Cllr Murphy asked if there was any update on the grant application. Cllr Bourke said that all members were frustrated – at the behest of this bureaucracy – more pressure needs to be applied as we are not getting the feedback. Ms Lawless DA will seek an update.

#### **Item 6: To receive an update on Local Authority Housing Construction Schemes within the AMD**

Ms Lawless DA updated the members with the current housing construction figures and build progress. Cllr Fitzgerald expressed his disappointment at the delays in completing schemes. Colm Lavery DM will pass on these comments. Cllr Annesley questioned the tendering system and that the cheapest quote does not necessarily mean the best build. Cllr McDonald said that tenders would surely be submitted to department standards.

### **Item 7: To discuss current roadworks in Arklow Town**

Item was discussed at the meeting with contractors prior to the AMD meeting. Cllr Annesley commented on the re-instatements around the ESB poles in the town – caving in. John Bowes DE will check these.

Cllr Kennedy asked if AMD would contact the developer working in Rathdrum about the planned pipe-work from Saville's Cross to Main St. The works have not started yet. Members commended John Bowes DE on the works completed in the Harbour/Tinahask area – communication with residents was appreciated. Cllr McDonald raised the issue of re-instatement works at Griffith St in the semi-circle in front of the houses – the height of the kerb needs to be reduced.

Comments were made on the quality works completed at Tinahask/South Green area. John Bowes said that the 2 pedestrian crossings at Tinahask would be further maintained.

### **Item 8: John Bowes DE to discuss the 2019 Roads Programme**

John Bowes DE gave an update on works since the meeting two weeks ago – Works at McGraths Cross have gone out to tender and snagging on the Emoclew works have been completed. Traffic calming works at the Fairgreen will go out to tender next week also.

### **Item 9: Correspondence**

Correspondence from RSA was circulated. Cllr Annesley welcomed the letter and stated that Arklow was a poster free zone for the duration of the campaign.

### **Item 10: Any Other Business**

Cllr Fitzgerald asked if the footpaths on the Vale Road could be checked – ESB poles were recently replaced and as a result the paths have been narrowed. Accessibility has been affected. John Bowes DE agreed to raise the issue with ESB Networks.

Cllr Annesley requested that a letter of appreciation should go to Richard White for his contribution to the River Walk – Owl and Fox carvings. Claire Lawless DA will write to him.

Cllr Murphy asked why there were no dog poo bins in the Seaview Ave public amenity area. This issue is raised at every Tourism group meeting and the Town Team has worked hard to improve the town and the bins are a necessity. Westport Town could be an example to follow.

Cllr Kennedy queried if the agreed amount was being put aside from the Parks and Open Spaces budget each year. Cllr Murphy also wanted it noted that the signage from Killahurler to Woodenbridge is inadequate.

Cllr Fitzgerald asked if there were any updates on public lighting on the Wexford Rd. John Bowes DE suggested that a more in-depth survey would be costly and that putting in a light would be better value. DE agreed to look at the area in question with Cllr Fitzgerald.

Redcross residents to apply for TVR Scheme funding – no AMD funding for works available this year but is on the 2021 Roads (RI) programme. Funding is also available under the LCSIS for installation of a pedestrian crossing in the village.

Members queried public lighting issues throughout the district -

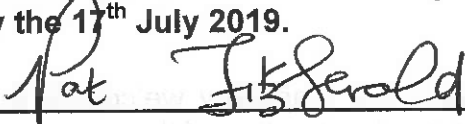
- Conary
- Ballyrichard
- Beech Rd

Cllr Murphy asked the DE if he could check out a report of flooding at the rear of 23/24 Fairgeen, Arklow – Cllr Murphy to give DE contact details for the resident.

Progress on the Flood Defence Scheme and the Waste Water Treatment Plant was discussed.

Members welcomed Claire Lawless to the district and thanked all for the work and effort over the last term and wished each other well in the upcoming elections.

**Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019.**

Signed: 

**Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.**

Signed: 

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