



**Wicklow County Council  
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

**ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

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

**Officials Present:** Mr. Michael Geaney, District Manager  
Ms. Linda McDonald, District Administrator  
Mr. Brendan Doyle, A/District Engineer  
Mr. Rob Mulhall, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Sinéad Boddy, Assistant Staff Officer  
Mr. Declan Marnane, T/Senior Engineer  
Ms Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer

**Item 1 - Vote of Sympathy:**

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

Dessie Mulhall, Teresa Murray, John Lee, Violet Shaw, James Flaherty, Mary Healy, Bridget Horan, Teresa Morena Abellan, Aodh O'Neill, Irene Smith, Francis Cooney, Michael Hatton, Mollie Treacy, Elizabeth Donegan, Joe Delaney, Pat McDonald, Eamonn Kelly, Charles Corbett, Mary Doyle, Mary Fogarty, Gerald Moore, Michael Broderick, Jill Armstrong, John Hudson.

A minutes silence was observed.

**Item 2 – Confirmation of Minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Meeting, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2018.**

The Minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were proposed by Cllr Annesley and seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald.

**Item 3 : Matters Arising.**

Brendan Doyle DE confirmed that AMD were waiting on replies in relation to the issues about the public lighting on the Wexford Road and that there was no timeline given. It was

noted that ESB Networks would be replacing the timber poles and upgrading to LED lighting across the town. A schedule of works will be circulated when available.

Cllr Bourke requested information on cable laying in the town – it was noted that a new contractor was engaged and works would be reviewed at the end of January.

Cllr Kennedy confirmed that contact had been made with Coillte and that the commitment to do the works was there but no timeframe given. Brendan Doyle DE said that they would continue to liaise with them about the works required.

**Item 4: To receive an update on the LA Housing Fabric Upgrade Programme of Works 2018/2019 – Declan Marnane T/Senior Engineer Housing and Corporate Estate.**

Declan Marnane SE Housing gave a report on the works completed to date in phase 1 and confirmed that phase 2 would not begin until phase 1 works were completed. Phase 2 will require departmental approval. Any tenants that were notified of works in 2018 should have works done as part of phase 1 where suitable. Older houses would most likely be part of phase 2. Property surveys are ongoing to determine suitability for pumped insulation; the alternatives would be dry-lining or external insulation. Details of any particular cases of concern can be sent to Housing. Cllr Kennedy asked how many on the original list had works completed and Declan Marnane confirmed that there were small pockets of houses throughout the district that needed works done – approx. 32 left within the district. The cost per unit is between €2000 and €3000. Declan Marnane SE confirmed that houses could be added; Cllr Fitzgerald noted the difficulty in securing contractors.

Housing grants (HAG,MAG,HAOP) were discussed and Declan Marnane re-iterated that prospective applicants should not be put off by delays in getting works started.

Cllr Kennedy asked for the number of properties without heating and Declan Marnane SE confirmed that the number was in the region of 400 and that the elderly tenants would be looked after first. Cllr Annesley asked if a tenant had missed out on the Central Heating Scheme, what could they do – Declan Marnane advised that they contact Housing directly.

**Item 5 : To discuss Kilbride graveyard / Arklow Pyramid – Ms D Burns Heritage Office Wicklow County Council.**

Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer was welcomed to the meeting. The issue has been on the agenda for a long time and her input was needed.

The pyramid is a rare example of its kind and is listed as a protected structure in the County Development Plan. Ownership has been established and WCC own a small area at the roadway. Vandalism to graves and headstones is prevalent on the site. The visual presentation of the site needs to be upgraded and access established as a heritage site. Grants are available and the application should be made by the owners and assistance can be given.

The ongoing vandalism needs to be dealt with – to turn this around will take extreme effort and a formal structure put in place. An approach can be recommended and WCC could provide the expertise.

Cllr Murphy enquired about insurance on the plot as a tourist attraction and the general consensus was that the owner is responsible for insurance cover. Cllr McDonald asked if the onus was on the owner legally to keep the site to a particular standard – D Burns replied that they would not be allowed to change it either by construction or through neglect. Notice could be served but is rarely successful – the structure is the pyramid and does not include the graves.

Cllr Bourke to follow up on meeting with the owner.

**Item 6: to receive a report from Brendan Doyle Senior Executive Engineer on the following works - .**

**2018 Roads Programme**

The 2018 Roads programme is now completed with works completed at the below locations as part of road strengthening and surface dressing;

- **Road Strengthening**

L-6126 – Glenmalure, L-2196 – Moorhill/ Ballinasillogue, L-7136 – Cappagh / Asknagap, R748 – Carnew – Killaveny (Rosnastraw), R752 at Avoca (Tinnahinch), R772 at Ferrybank, L-2188 at Kish.

- **Surface Dressing**

R-754 – Avoca to Conary, L-6126 – Glenmalure, L-2196-0 & L-2196-30 – Moorhill/ Ballinasillogue, L-7136 – Cappagh/Asknagap.

Communication ongoing regarding actioning of snags between AMD and the current contractor for the works sections at L-6197 – Ballycoog to Clone and L-2143 – Annacurragh to Preban.

**Discretionary Projects**

The discretionary projects list of approximately 15 different projects agreed, each of the projects is at a varying stage of progression.

**Footpaths / IPB Remedial Works**

With regard to the Footpaths/IPB Remedial Works projects list of approximately 13 different project locations agreed, each of the projects is at a varying stage of progression.

**Low Cost Safety Schemes**

Civil Works have been completed. Lights installation and ESB connection works are outstanding. Contact with ESB has been made to advance the works as a priority.

### **Other Road Works – Storm Damage and LIS Works**

**Storm Damage Works:-** Works at Greenan, Ballyteige and Toberpatrick are ready to commence. A firm start date is awaited for all projects but is anticipated to be within the next 10 days.

**Local Improvement Scheme Works:-** Works at Cronawinna, Kilmagig Upper and Ballycooleen have commenced and are due for completion by 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Works at Carriglineen are due to commence in the next 5 days.

Cllr Annesley commented that newly laid surfaces should not be dug up so soon after the original works. Brendan Doyle DE said that roads would be protected for the first 5 years.

Cllr Murphy raised the issue about IW looking to access resident's attics – Michael Geaney DM said he would check this out. Cllr Annesley said that residents should always look for ID before letting IW staff in the door.

Members wished Brendan well with his new post.

### **Item 7: To discuss the Discretionary Budget for 2019.**

Mr. Brendan Doyle District Engineer advised the Members that the sum of **€356,250.00** was available from three separate budgets as follows:-

Local Footpath Renewal Scheme	56,250
Public Realm Discretionary Funding	180,750
IPB Capital Redistribution Payment	93,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>€330,750</b>

Following a discussion on this item it was agreed by the Members that the following projects were to proceed for 2019:-

Description	Budget Costs	Budget agreed	Councillor Comments - 16th January 2019
Emoclew road - Resurface Section from Applegreen Roundabout to entrance to AshGrove	€40,000.00	<b>€40,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed



Traffic Calming Fairgreen Rathdrum - Realign entrance to L-61212-0 and install 2 no. Ramps	€17,500.00	<b>€17,500.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Tree Cutting/Pruning/ removal works in Arklow Town Area	€20,000.00	<b>€20,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths between Meetings and Avoca	€20,000.00	<b>€20,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
RECONSTRUCT L2191 ROAD AT BALLYDUFF (Deferred from 2018 List)	€60,000.00	<b>€28,250.00</b>	partial allocation of €28250 agreed
Car park at Mill Road - 2019 Contribution	€20,000.00	<b>€20,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - Fernhill (230m x 1.4m) on RHS at entrance	€20,000.00	<b>€20,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - Marian Villas [(No.38 - No.50) & (No.5 - No.11)]	€35,000.00	<b>€35,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - John Paul Avenue (No.13 - No.20)	€17,500.00	<b>€17,500.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - Wexford Road (Bentley Court )	€7,500.00	<b>€7,500.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - Park Avenue (RHS at entry, past playground)	€15,000.00	<b>€15,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Rory O'Connor Place (Replace Chequered Tiles)	€14,000.00	<b>€14,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - St. Michaels Terrace (No.1 - No.16)	€20,000.00	<b>€20,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - Ashleigh Close	€15,000.00	<b>€15,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Footpaths - Avalon	€15,000.00	<b>€15,000.00</b>	Agreed to proceed
Brook Meadows, Avoca - Footpaths and Tree Pruning	€17,500.00	<b>€17,500.00</b>	Agreed to proceed

Drainage Works at Croghan View Aughrim	€8,500.00	€8,500.00	Agreed to proceed
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>€362,500.00</b>	<b>€330,750.00</b>	

**Item 8: To receive an update on URDF Project for AMD.**

Design works are progressing and tenders documents could be issued February/March 2019, it is hoped that the contract could be awarded by the end of April – the Courthouse hub should be operational by the end of 2019. The public realm project will be a larger project and should finish late 2020.

Parking issues relating to the public realm works was discussed and it was noted that there are a number of parking areas available throughout the town at mass times.

**Item 9: To discuss a maintenance programme for St Gabriel's Graveyard.**

It was noted that the town crew are committed throughout the year to maintain the graveyard as part of their normal work schedule.

The issue will remain on the agenda and be considered on a district basis.

**Item 10: To receive an update on the Arklow Flood Relief Scheme.**

A geomorphology study has been commissioned and work is progressing on preparing the project for planning process. The study will inform the plans for the bend in the river.

Cllr Murphy informed the meeting that the residents are looking for another meeting. Michael Geaney DM advised that the meeting will take place after the study has been completed and a report issued.

**Item 11: To discuss the possibility of holding the AMD March Meeting in Redcross.**

It was agreed to hold the March meeting in Redcross.

**Item 12: Correspondence**

An Oral Hearing chaired by ABP has been scheduled on the 22/1/19 in the Arklow Bay Hotel in relation to the planning application for the Arklow WWTP.

Correspondence has been received from the residents on Sea Road, Arklow requesting ramps be installed on the road. Cllr Fitzgerald asked that this be considered and other options be explored to slow down the traffic.

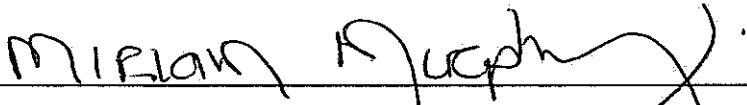
Correspondence has been received from the residents on Blackberry Glade in relation to the speeding traffic through the estate and the condition of the road. Also raised were problems with overgrown trees, manholes and dumping. Rob Mulhall confirmed that the area was on the list for assessment. Linda McDonald DA to reply.

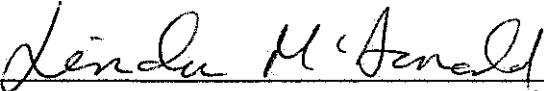
**Item 13: Any Other Business**

Rob Mulhall EE put a proposal to the members for submission of at Part VIII planning application for an upgrade of St Mary's Park. The Members welcomed the proposal and agreed that the Part VIII should go out to public consultation.

Cllr Bourke raised concerns about the works on the Vale Rd and Cllr Murphy said that the contractor is not keeping the road surface clear. Michal Geaney will look into the works in relation to IW and Brendan Doyle will check the road opening licence details.

**Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

Signed:   
Cllr. Miriam Murphy, Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.

Signed:   
Ms. Linda McDonald, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District