



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON

THE 13th May 2026

Present:

Cllr. Miriam Murphy, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke, Leas-Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Pat Kennedy (on-line)
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Peir Leonard
Cllr. Warren O'Toole

Officials Present:

Ms. Leonora Earls, District Manager
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator
Mr. Damien Byrne, Executive Engineer
Ms. Monika Fox, CO (minutes)

Guest Speaker:

Cllr. Tom Fortune, Chair of the Local Community Safety Partnership
Trish Carmody; Community Safety Coordination Team
Mr. Tom Steck; CSR Land Planning and Design
Ms. Maria Pinhasov; CSR Land Planning and Design
Ms. Tina Varela; CSR Land Planning and Design

Press:

Hugh O'Farrell-Walsh

Item 1: Votes of Sympathy.

It was agreed to defer this to the June meeting.

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 15th April were proposed by Cllr. S Bourke and seconded by Cllr. P Leonard. Agreed.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

Cllr. Leonard requested an update on the green spaces that are down for grass cutting. LE said she will follow-up on this with the DE.

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

Local Community Safety Partnership Presentation and Consultation

Following on from the Local Community Safety Partnership Presentation and Consultation, the following points were raised:

- Cllr. Murphy welcomed Cllr. Tom Fortune and Ms Trish Carmody from the LCSP
- Cllr. Fortune described the purpose of Local Community Safety Partnership. He also asked for support and input from the Elected Members.
- Cllr. Fortune commented that the partnership element is very important.
- Cllr. Fortune also advised that it is proposed that the Steering Group would meet once a month to gather information.
- Cllr. Bourke, Cllr. Murphy and Cllr. Fitzgerald were looking to confirm next meeting date in Arklow which is 10th June 2026.
- Cllr. Murphy thanked the team for the presentation and hoped it will be successful.
- Ms Carmody asked that the Elected Members encourage people to attend public presentation.
- Cllr. Leonard expressed it is great idea and acknowledged that people might be reluctant to contribute.
- Cllr. Murphy agreed with Cllr. Leonard, she advised Local Community Safety Partnership could reach out to groups such as Active Retirement Group.
- Cllr. Bourke wished the committee luck and hoped for full cooperation from the community.
- Ms. Carmody confirmed the working group will also reach to online communities through local Facebook and WhatsApp groups.
- Cllr. Kennedy thanks for all the work put behind the scenes.
- Ms. Carmody confirmed that the committee would like the opportunity to meet with the Elected Members from time to time to provide updates.

Seaview Area Masterplan – Presentation

Following on from the Seaview Area Masterplan Pre-Part 8 presentation, the following points were raised:

- This is great project for the Town.
- Successful Public consultation and submission.
- Cllr. Murphy enquired if there are good scope of submissions and if they are similar.
- Mr. Tom Steck advised that it was mostly organisations representatives and confirmed good scope and referred to stats in presentation for more detailed information.
- The site masterplan includes 3 different zones – Lower, Middle and Upper.
- Master plan on the Lower side includes raised viewing areas overseeing track/field area.
- Cllr. O'Toole, Cllr. Leonard and Cllr. Murphy looking to confirm if view will be suitable and accessible to everyone and expressed it shouldn't be left on one level.
- The design includes a promenade which could be multi use for events, markets or enhanced walkway. It also includes an area suitable for use as an Aires park.
- Cllr. Leonard enquired if there was no proposal for upgrade of the Community Centre included in design. Mr. Tom Steck informed that this was not included in the scope.
- Mr. Tom Steck advised project also include multi-use ball courts and shelters in parallel to sports centre.
- Mr. Tom Steck wishes to formalize vehicular access with the addition of more car park spaces.
- Cllr. Murphy and Cllr. O'Toole expressed car park spaces are needed.
- Mr. Tom Steck advised following consultation that the colour court would be moved to a more suitable area, in keeping with the overall project.
- Mr. Tom Steck advised project includes Kynoch granite to be incorporated as a part of furniture and site features.
- Cllr. Murphy said it is fabulous presentation and it is great to see it and hear it.
- LE thanked for all the work put on masterplan and advised it would be finalised to go forward for Part 8 planning.
- Cllr. Kennedy thanked all the team and CSR Land Planning and Design for presentation.
- Cllr Kennedy enquires re upgrading Pump Track to 8 lanes to be able to be held National competition.
- AB advised it was previously enquired with expert, and it was advised that it can be up to 6 lanes, but this can be checked again.
- Cllr. O'Toole thanked for all the work and to listen to people with their submissions.
- Cllr. Bourke thanked for all the work and commended the work so far.
- Cllr. Leonard thanked for presentation. She said visuals are lovely and masterplan incorporate place for everyone.
- LE enquired if it was agreeable by members that it should move forward to the next stage. All members agreed

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

5th May 2026

Restoration Improvement

Proposed Works	Status
R-747 Vale Road	Liase with NTA team
R-753 Aughrim	Drainage surveys commenced
R-754 Knockanree to Kilmacoo	

Restoration Maintenance

Proposed Works	Status
L-5664-0 Ballinameesda Lwr -Ballinacor East	Scheduled w/e 15th May
L-5157-0 Ballinameesda Lwr- Dunganstown East	Scheduled w/e 15th May
L-5159-0 Ballymurrin Lwr-Ballard Lwr	Scheduled w/e 15th May
L-5160-0 Ballyvaltron-Bonagrew	Scheduled w/e 15th May
L-97501-0 Sallymount	Complete
L-5151-0 Balleese Upper-Rockstown Lwr	Complete
L-6125-1 Tanseyclose - Kirikee	Scheduled w/e 8th May
L-6180-0 Pollaphuca - Ballinakill	Complete
L-6177-0 Tonlegee - Scratenagh	Complete
L-21671-0 Sroughmore - Connary Upr	Complete
L-6144-0 Ballinatone Upr - Ballinaclash	Complete
L-2083-0 Derrybawn - Ballyboy	Scheduled w/e 8th May

Discretionary Funding

Proposed Works	Status
Johnstown / Ballycoog Signage	Quotations sought
L-6125 & L-6124 Junction Improvement	Reviewed, need to contact landowners
Footpath at Fairgreen	Reviewed with Contractor
Footpath at Aughrim	Reviewed with Contractor
Footpaths at St. Peter's Place	TO be reviewed with GSS
Footpaths at Lower Main Street	Reviewed with Contractor
Tree Management	Tree surgeon undertaking works
Footpath at Barndarrig NS	Waiting on response from Board of Management
Duck Pond	Review of Maintenance Requirements
Public Lighting in Greenane	Waiting on ESB connection
Heritage Signage for Villages	One sign to be installed in Greenane
Infill Lighting Annacurra	Civil works complete. ESB connection to be completed
Public Lighting at the Birches, Ballinaclash	Waiting on ESB connection
2024 Footpath Repair Riverwalk	Some drainage works required in advance
Educational Signage - Beaches	Liaised with the Biodiversity Officer - Awaiting Further Information
Pedestrian Crossing - Rathdrum	Considered as part of Traffic Study
Repair of Footpath at Currans Corner	

Climate Adaptation

Proposed Works	Status
Beech Road	Drainage & Road rehabilitation
Stump of the Castle	Drainage Works

Other works

Rathdrum Traffic Study – Commissioning QS to run tender

The following matters were raised and discussed:

Cllr. Murphy thanked for detailed report.

LE wish to send one of AMD Outdoor Staff Members health wishes. Everyone agreed.

Cllr. Kennedy enquired when tender will be ready for the one way system.

DB advised that he expect start mid-June/July to run tenders.

Cllr. Kennedy enquired re safety barriers funding.

DB advised that he is awaiting confirmation on funding.

Cllr. Bourke raised concerned about potholes at Beech Road become dangerous.

DB is aware of that, and team will assess this issue during planned drainage works.

Cllr. Leonard gave her thanks for works completed, she requested an update on the trees in the river at the 19 arches and also works on the L113.

DB will flag it to Bridge Section in Wicklow County Council.

LE and AB will follow up re previous query re L113.

Cllr. Bourke asked if bollards in St. Mary’s Parked can be removed for Seabreeze Festival.

LE referred to bollards in St. Mary’s Park and explained purpose of it, it is to protect pedestrians. She also referred to previous query if bollards are permanent and advised they are designed in a way that can be removed. AB said removal can be considered when an event form was received from Committee.

Cllr. O’Toole enquired if bollards need to be there.

DB provided the members with a detailed explanation.

Cllr. Leonard enquired if the heritage water taps could be repainted.

DB confirmed we can put them on the list for the MD crew.

It was proposed by Cllr Murphy, seconded by Cllr O'Toole to extend the meeting as per standing orders. This was agreed.

Cllr. O'Toole enquired re speed ramps in Barndarrig and Redcross and asked for Traffic Survey.

DB confirmed that line markings are pretty good in these areas, but speed survey can be done.

AB advised that AMD have traffic policy that we have to adhere to in relation to speed ramps.

Item 5: Correspondence

AB read correspondence received from Leanne Whyte in relation to her son who has now qualified to represent Ireland at the Wako World Kickboxing Championships in Jesolo, Italy in September. They are seeking financial help to fund this trip.

It was proposed to €200 to award in line with discretionary funding as per the agreed guidelines. This was proposed by Cllr. O'Toole and seconded by Cllr. Bourke

Item 6: Any Other Business

Cllr. Leonard sought an update on ESB and Housing development progress. She wishes to know what situation with construction is.

Cllr. Bourke enquired if there is a way to track Housing Development progress.

LE advised that nothing has been raised with District or Planning Department and that she will check commencement notices.

Cllr. Leonard proposed that ESB should be invited to attend meeting. LE confirmed that they had been invited to attend meetings previously at County Level.

Cllr. Leonard enquired when Parking Laws will be reviewed.

LE advised that a new SEO had been appointed and this was one of their new roles. Parking by-laws will be reviewed in Bray MD, where Parking Section is located.

Cllr. Leonard raised concerns re lack of parking space and asked if we can approach APCOA if they can give a part of parking located at train station for the use of Public. AB advised that she would discuss with Parking Section to encourage Parking Wardens to enforce permit parking along the Main Street.

Cllr. O'Toole asked if the Cove Beach could be designated as a safe swim zone as there were issues with an increase of boats, people to the area. AB confirmed this can be referred to Environment in Wicklow County Council.

Cllr. O'Toole questioned if anything can be done in relation to dumping and littering in green areas located around Brooks flats, Asgard Close and corner of John Paul Avenue and Marian Villas. This will be referred to the Environment section for their investigation.

Cllr. O'Toole asked if anything can be done to adjust hight of swings in St Peter's Place Playground. AB advised one new swing was ordered for St. Peter's Playground through the Town Team and CRF funding. Currently there was no other funding available.

Cllr. O'Toole was looking to follow up re missing nest swing in Aughrim Playground. DB advised we weren't aware of that and he will check that.

Cllr. O'Toole provided the meeting with a visual representation for a Commemoration Stone as previously agreed under Discretionary funding. It was agreed that the MD would gather some further information on planning requirements and costs associated with the proposal and present to the Members for further consideration.

Cllr. Kennedy advised that a piece of sports equipment in Rathdrum was badly damaged. AB advised she checked if it's covered under insurance and unfortunately it isn't. It must be removed for safety.

Cllr. Bourke enquired about flood relief funding received and why Ballinaclesh was not included.

Cllr. Kennedy enquired how much of funding and what on it will be spent on flood relief in Ballinaclesh. DB advised substantial amount of funding will be allocated towards Glen Road, Aughrim including drainage works.

Cllr. Leonard seeks for update re Playground in Meadowvale. AB Advised she will follow up on this.

LE advised that The Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) has been replaced by a new initiative called the Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund. An application had been submitted by Wicklow County Council for the Harbour Area to include the north and south quay. This funding is for the engagement of consultants.

AB advised that following the agreement at the May meeting for Estate Grants that further information has come in about one grant which needed clarification. AB requested that the other grants could be paid so as not to delay. This was proposed by Cllr. Bourke and seconded by Cllr. O'Toole, with all agreed.

Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th June 2026.

Signed:  _____

Cllr Peir Leonard, Cathaoirleach, Arklow Municipal District

Signed:  _____
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District