

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES,
MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 31ST MARCH 2026 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Councillor L. Scott, Cathaoirleach
Councillors M. Barry, L. Fenelon-Gaskin, O. Finn, T. Fortune & S. Stokes

Also Present: Ms. H. Dennehy, Greystones Municipal District Manager
Mr. G. Cullen, Greystones Municipal District Engineer
Ms. T. Kearns, Greystones Municipal District Administrator
Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

At the outset it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to discuss the following notice of motion at Item 8 on the agenda:

“Following the adoption of Variation No. 6 to the County Development Plan, which revises the Core Strategy and housing targets for Wicklow, to consider requesting a meeting with the Tanaiste to discuss how essential infrastructure will be delivered alongside housing growth, especially with regard to providing adequate school accommodation in the Greystones District”.

Votes of sympathy were passed to the Cranley family, Windgates, Greystones on the death of Ray Cranley and to the Delaney Family on the death of Ronnie Delaney and his wife Joan.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor O. Finn, seconded by Councillor L. Fenelon Gaskin and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 24th February 2026, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. DEPUTATION FROM GREYSTONES TRILATERAL STUDENT GROUP

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Alfie O’Reilly and Miss Matilda Gustafsson from the Greystones Trilateral Student Group to the meeting. They made a Powerpoint presentation, a hard copy of which had been circulated to the members. Their report dealt with Mental Health, Climate Action, Public Transport and Funding for Facilities, all issues that had been raised by students at the recent Student Congress, and outlined proposals to deal with these issues.

All the members thanked the delegation for their impressive and thorough presentation. They stated that the issues raised affected everyone, not just students, and they suggested that regular meetings should take place with students to ensure that their voices were heard. They offered to assist in any way possible, especially on mental health initiatives, and while they agreed that there was a need for more litter bins in some areas, they suggested that more emphasis should be placed on personal responsibility for recycling and bringing rubbish home. They requested that they be circulated with a soft copy of the report so that they could send feedback to the group and they enquired if any data was available on the use of the youth café in Greystones. They pointed out that funding was generally the issue in the shortfall in facilities. They stressed the importance of young people participating in public consultation about issues in the district.

Mr. O’Reilly stated that they would carry out a survey on the use of the Youth Café and that the best point of contact for students was through the student councils in the schools. He thanked the members for inviting them to present at the meeting and looked forward to all working together going forward.

3. REPRESENTATIVES FROM WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL RE E-BIKE SCHEME

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Mark Costello, Wicklow County Council to the meeting. He gave a Powerpoint presentation which gave some background information and details of the current e-bike scheme (MOBY) operating in the area as well as information in relation to the new e-bike scheme (BOLT) which will be introduced when the contract with MOBY terminates at the end of April. He also informed the members about a new Pilot Project for Transport Mobility Hubs that would operate in Carlow Town, Cork City, Sligo Town and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown.

Members thanked Mr. Costello for his presentation and welcomed the information on use of e-bikes in the area. They enquired if Wexford County Council, where the BOLT scheme has been operating for some time, had recorded any decrease in the use of private car use since the scheme was introduced. They also enquired if there were any statistics available on abandoned bikes and on the process of returning them to the hubs provided and they asked if the hub sites could be extended to include new estates. They welcomed the NTA funding for mobility hubs and enquired if there were any plans to have a mobility hub in Wicklow.

Mr. M. Costello informed the members that while e-cargo bikes had been included in the BOLT tender, these would not be included initially but may be in the future. He pointed out that the scheme would be subsidised by Wicklow County Council and that the management, responsibility and speed regulation of the e-bikes would lie with BOLT. He pointed out that their insurance cover would be checked out and that they could block use of the e-bikes in certain areas if necessary. He stated that BOLT operated all over Europe and were good at managing issues with the scheme and he stated that it was possible to extend the hub sites with the agreement of the company and the District Engineer. He stated that Wicklow County Council had written to the NTA to request that a Mobility Hub be located in Wicklow and he pointed out that he did not have any data on car use in Wexford since the introduction of the scheme there.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Costello for his presentation and looked forward to the introduction of the new BOLT scheme.

4. ALLOCATIONS FROM 2026 GMD MEMBERS DISCRETIONARY BUDGET

The members had been circulated with details of discretionary funding allocations in 2025 and the District Administrator stated that a sum of €2,500 had already been agreed for the 2026 St. Patrick's Day Parade. She stated that an application had been received from the Whale Theatre Group for a sum of €4,000 and she pointed out that monies would need to be set aside for Christmas lights, People of the Year Awards, Kilcoole Music Festival and Twinning events later in the year. In response to queries from the members she stated that any money not spent in any year carried forward to the following year but that it was generally very small amounts. She stated that the LPT Discretionary Funding was separate to this fund and that it was generally spent on capital works in the district and would be agreed at a later date.

The members were critical of the small amount of discretionary funding available for such a large population and following discussion it was agreed to allocate €1,500 to the Whale Theatre Group; €5,000 to Greystones Tidy Towns; €3,000 to Kilcoole Tidy Towns; €3,000 to Delgany Tidy Towns and €3,000 to Newcastle Tidy Towns.

5. ALLOCATION OF 2026 GMD ESTATE DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Members had been circulated with a report that outlined the number of Estate Development Grant applications received, the total number of social houses in those housing estates and the recommended grant in each case.

The District Administrator informed the members that the total grant for the district was €10,000 and that this was allocated based on the number of social houses in each estate after a basic grant of €100 for estates with less than ten social houses and a basic grant of €200 for estates with ten or more social houses was deducted.

The members were critical of the paltry amount available but agreed with the way the money was allocated and following further discussion it was agreed that the following grants be allocated:- Ard na Mara, Kilcoole - €548; Beechcourt Avenue/Corrig Drive, Kilcoole - €374; Beechwood Park, Kilcoole - €163; Bullford Crescent, Kilcoole - €596; Burnaby Court/Avenue/Lawn/Millbrook, Greystones - €1,102; Cedarwood Crescent, Kilcoole - €501; Delgany Park, Killincarrig - €116; Druids Brook, Kilcoole - €785; Farrankelly Close, Delgany - €1,007; Grattan Park Upper & Lower, Greystones - €374; Hazelwood Crescent, Kilcoole - €227; Kenmare Heights, Greystones - €1,023; Kindlestown Park/Rivendell Grove, Greystones - €2,051; Seamount Drive, Newcastle - €675; Redford Saint Crispins, Greystones - €163; The Willows, Kilcoole - €116 and Wellfield, Kilcoole - €179.

6. REPORT FROM MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER INCLUDING UPDATE ON CLIFF WALK

The District Engineer had circulated the members with a report that outlined proposed works and works carried out in the district and he answered any queries from the members in relation to same. He informed the members that works would be carried out on the rain gardens outside Kilcoole NS and that the road there would be patched and resurfaced where possible as soon as the contractors had completed all road cuttings and service connections. He pointed out that roadworks at the site of the new St. Catherine's School building would not commence until November 2026. He agreed to look at the problem area of road at Sea Road, Kilcoole and he stated that he had already met with the bus company in relation to bus stops in Kilcoole and would contact them again in relation to issues with speeding and driver behaviour.

The District Engineer informed the members that the area between Killincarrig and Delgany, and the broken verge on Mill Road beside the doctor's surgery, would be included for improvements in the proposed Pathfinder Scheme and he stated that he would have a look at the road issues at Delgany NS with a view to repairing same. He stated that the cobble-lock paving at the roundabouts on the Charlesland dual carriageway was being sprayed at present and that he would check out what other works the staff could carry out and he agreed to have an abandoned oil tank and other litter removed from the Three Trout stream. He advised the members that an arborist had now been appointed to survey problem trees in the district once the GMD technician had assessed them first. He stated that a traffic survey had been carried out in Archers Wood but that he had not yet received a report on same and he pointed out that pothole repairs were carried out based on the worst road ratings in the district.

In relation to the maintenance of roundabouts in the district the District Administrator informed the members that it was intended to introduce a sponsorship scheme for this work but that the details had not yet been agreed with the District Engineer who was currently focused on getting the roads programme to tender.

Members welcomed the report and thanked the GMD staff for works carried out in the district. They requested that the Council let the public know what's happening with road works as there was a lot of frustration. They requested that the rain gardens at Kilcoole NS, Church Road, Greystones and between Kenmare Heights and Rivendell Grove be tidied up as they were all in a deplorable state and they requested that the sponsorship scheme for roundabouts be agreed as soon as possible.

7. HOUSING UPDATE REPORT (TO INCLUDE FARRANKELLY CLOSE)

The District Administrator had circulated the members with an updated report on housing matters prior to the meeting and this was taken as read.

The Cathaoirleach noted that while it had been reported some eighteen months ago that roof assessments were carried out on all properties in Farrankelly Close, the Housing Section had clarified recently that only eight properties were assessed and that works were carried out on those roofs in 2024.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion on the agenda but as agreed at the outset, Standing Orders were suspended to consider the following motion which was proposed by the Cathaoirleach, Councillor L. Scott:

“Following the adoption of Variation No. 6 to the County Development Plan, which revises the Core Strategy and housing targets for Wicklow, to consider requesting a meeting with the Tanaiste to discuss how essential infrastructure will be delivered alongside housing growth, especially with regard to providing adequate school accommodation in the Greystones District”.

This motion was seconded by Councillor S. Stokes and following discussion it was agreed to write to the Tanaiste to request a meeting.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator reminded the members of the details of the Pride of Place Awards for which nominations were currently being accepted.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Councillor S. Stokes paid tribute to the delegation from Holyhead that had travelled over for the Greystones St. Patrick’s Day Parade and he thanked them for their support.
2. The Cathaoirleach, Councillor L. Scott, reminded members that a meeting of the Greystones Municipal District Policing Plan Committee would take place prior to the April meeting on 28th April 2026.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

CERTIFIED: _____ **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

DATED THIS: _____ **DAY OF** _____ **2026**