

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES,
MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2025 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

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor M. Barry, seconded by Councillor L. Fenelon Gaskin and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 28th October 2025, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. DEPUTATION FROM WHALE THEATRE GROUP

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Aideen Walton, Ms. Alice O'Donnell and Ms. Ann Nolan to the meeting. They made a Powerpoint presentation that gave a short background to the group's set up and its goals, details of the committee and working groups, their challenges, costs and facts, financial management and fundraising, benefits to the community and the locality, community needs and expanding their vision. They requested that the members allocate some funding from their discretionary budget and lobby Wicklow County Council to recognise and fund the theatre as a vital amenity in the district.

Ms. A. Walton stated that it cost €3,500 per week to operate the theatre for rent, rates, insurance, electricity, heating, staff, etc. and she pointed out that the theatre group received no public funding. She stated that while the Whale Theatre originally had five permanent staff, there was currently only one permanent staff member and a large number of volunteers. She stated that the group hoped to secure commitments and funding from local businesses and the Plaza Market and she pointed out that any income from events held only covered the artists' expenses. She stated that if the theatre was designated as a community facility they would be able to apply for other funding streams and grants.

All the members thanked the group for their presentation and for stepping up to the challenge of keeping the Whale Theatre in operation in the town. They requested that they be circulated with a copy of the presentation and relevant financial data. They stated that there was very little discretionary funding available and that they would need to reflect and see how they could help. They all expressed support for the group and acknowledged the challenges they faced and they agreed to provide letters of support for any grant funding applications and to lobby Wicklow County Council on behalf of the group. It was also agreed that the Cathaoirleach act as a liaison between the Whale Theatre and the Council.

3. DATE FOR DECEMBER MEETING

Following discussion it was agreed to hold the December meeting on Wednesday 17th December 2025 at 11.30 a.m.

4. REPORT FROM MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER

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 advised the members that the banks at the black walk at Kindlestown would be cut back and that the proposed works at St. Brigid's Park and Hillside Road in Greystones would include resurfacing of the roads together with drainage works and road markings. He stated that the ESB works had now been completed at the pedestrian lights on the Charlesland dual carriageway and that the contractor now needed to turn them on and he advised that the Public Lighting team was following up on public lighting that was blocked by trees there. He stated that required parts were ordered for the swing in Charlesland and that the swing would be repaired as soon as the parts were received. He agreed to look at issues with the L3 bus route on Chapel Road and at the Irish translation on the new Bellevue Park sign. He stated that potholes in Redford Cemetery would be filled in and that the footpaths in Hillside estate would be repaired. He agreed to check up on clearing of drains in Redford Park and to follow up on the public lighting out in the alleyway near St. Kevin's school. He stated that footpaths on Church Lane, Greystones would be repaired but that a bigger job was required there.

The District Engineer agreed to have the noisy manhole cover outside the Thrift Shop in Kilcoole repaired and to look at the possibility of having a pedestrian crossing provided at Main Street, Kilcoole. He agreed to look at the need for re-surfacing at the cul-de-sac in Beachdale/Meadowbrook, Kilcoole and he pointed out that the bus stop at Kilcoole National School was placed to slow down traffic at that location. He stated that he would follow up with the contractor in relation to having works at Crowe Abbey completed and he added that he would look at options for including lights at Newcastle in future plans for the area.

In relation to proposed works at Hillside Road, the District Engineer stated that he was meeting the contractor in the coming days and would look at dishing the footpath kerbs and additional line markings there. He informed the members that the safety audit on the road in Archers Wood had now been completed and would be reviewed by the Planning Section and he stated that there was an issue with sightlines caused by some of the trees at the entrance to Kilquade Hill estate that would be dealt with in due course. He agreed to look at the need for improved lighting and road markings at the pedestrian crossing at Seagreen Park, Blacklion with the Active Travel Team.

Members thanked the District Engineer for his report and for works carried out in the district.

Following discussion in relation to responses to emails sent by members to the GMD email address, the District Administrator stated that all emails received an automatic response and were then followed up on a priority basis. She informed the members to email her directly in relation to any urgent issues that required escalation

CLIFF WALK

The District Manager informed the members that the Task Force for the Cliff Walk would meet during the coming week and would move quickly on proposals for the Cliff Walk as outlined in the RPS report. She stated that it was hoped to go to tendering before Christmas and that proposals for funding any works would be considered at the December meeting of Wicklow County Council.

5. HOUSING UPDATE REPORT (TO INCLUDE FARRANKELLY CLOSE)

The District Administrator had circulated a report earlier and the members welcomed this and the notification that eleven houses in Farrankelly Close had new windows and doors installed. They requested that the site at

the back of Burnaby Mill be included in future Housing reports and they thanked the officials for the information on the protocol on the sale of Council owned stock.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Motion in the name of Councillor S. Stokes:

"The Greystones Municipal District requests that at the next timetable update, Irish Rail and the National Transport Authority should seek to have trains to/from Greystones every thirty minutes on weekends and bank holidays. This would greatly improve connectivity and encourage more public transport use".

This motion was seconded by Councillor O. Finn and it was agreed to write to Irish Rail and the NTA in relation to same.

(b) Motion in the name of Councillor S. Stokes:

"The Greystones Municipal District should seek to add a ramp at the Cove, Greystones. This would help to facilitate easier access in and out of the Irish Sea for those with disabilities and less mobility. It should ideally have a handrail."

Councillor S. Stokes stated that a new concrete ramp with a handrail, to curve around close to the wall, was required at this location where the existing ramp ends so that wheelchair users could be pushed into the sea.

Councillor O. Finn stated that residents would welcome the provision of a handrail here.

The Cathaoirleach enquired about the possibility of having a beach buggy available at the south beach, similar to that provided at Brittas Bay.

The District Engineer stated that there was no Life Guard on the beach at the cove so it would not be advisable to encourage disabled access there. He stated that if a ramp was to be provided it would require public consultation and funding. He agreed to look at the possibility of providing a handrail and to refer the motion to the Environment Section for consideration.

(c) Motion in the name of Councillor O. Finn:

"That Greystones Municipal District request that a School Traffic Warden (lollipop lady) be provided at Blacklion, Greystones to ensure that the primary school children who attend both Greystones Educate Together National School and Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath are able to cross this very busy road safely in the morning and at lunch time. With over 500 children attending both of these Primary Schools the provision of a Traffic School Warden on this road is now imperative".

Councillor O. Finn stated that while much money had been spent at this location, there was an additional need for a School Warden too as large numbers of school kids used the schools daily.

The District Engineer stated that two new pedestrian crossings had been provided at this location and that he was in discussions with one of the schools to re-route their access closer to the crossing.

The District Administrator stated that the motion could be referred to the Council's Road Safety Officer for consideration. She pointed out that it was difficult to recruit School Wardens because of the nature of the employment.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator advised the members that the Greystones Cricket Club had sought to make a presentation to the members at a GMD meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed to invite them to make their presentation early in the New Year, depending on availability of space on the agenda.

2. The District Administrator advised the members that the Greystones Sharks Basketball Club had sought to make a presentation to the members at a GMD meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed to invite them to make their presentation early in the New Year, depending on availability of space on the agenda.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The District Administrator thanked everyone involved in the recent visit by approximately fifty people from Holyhead Town Council, Holyhead Twinning Committee, Holyhead Santa Group and the Holyhead Male Voice Choir for the switching on of the Christmas lights in Greystones and the official naming of the Holyhead room in the Civic Offices. She also thanked the Greystones Town Team, Local Gardai, Civil Defence, businesses and everyone involved on the day.

The members stated that this year's event was one of the best ever and they also thanked the MD staff and the Town Team, and everyone involved, for all their work, much of which took place behind the scenes.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

CERTIFIED: _____ **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

DATED THIS: _____ **DAY OF** _____ **2025**