



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON

8th October 2025.

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

Officials Present: Ms. Leonora Earls, District Manager (LE)
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator (AB)
Ms. Avril Hill, District Engineer (AH)
Ms. Lorraine Hayes ASO

Apologies: None

Press: Hugh O'Farrell-Walsh

Presentations: Proposed development at Barndarrig Part 8 Housing Presentation
Helena Fallon, SE, Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery (HF)
Sean Wildes, EE, Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery (SW)

Cllr Bourke opened the meeting, as Leas- Cathaoirleach, he confirmed he would chair the meeting to assist Cllr. Murphy who attended online.

Item 1: Votes of Sympathy.

The members expressed votes of sympathy to all families who have recently lost a loved one. A minutes silence was observed.

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 10th September were proposed by Cllr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr. Kennedy.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

- An update on the coastal erosion at Clogga was requested. The DE has no update at present, will follow up with the Environment Section.
- Cllr. Kennedy requested further information on two houses of which deposits were made two year ago and now the Council have revoked their decision to sell, Cllr Bourke and Cllr Murphy also supported this request. The District Manager will ask Housing to provide an update.

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

- ❖ **To receive report on Part 8 for Proposed Development: 20 no. Residential units at Barndarrig, Ballinacor East, Co. Wicklow.**

Helena Fallon, Senior Engineer presented the Chief Executives report on the proposed scheme.

The following matters were discussed:

Cllr. O'Toole raised the provision of natural species on the boundary of the development. He also asked that a footpath be brought up to the village in the future to a community centre.

Cllr. Leonard referred to the breakdown of units being inadequate. She proposed this should be changed to 6 x 3 bedroom units on the development.

Cllr. Murphy agreed that more 3 three bedroom units are needed and that WCC also need to consider larger parking spaces.

HF stated the Detail Design Process started immediately, if the development is passed by the Members. She stated the housing make-up is based on housing needs in the area. Group housing will be situated on the West side of the site.

Sean Wildes said parking spaces requirements are set by local government.

LE provided clarification on the former HSE building. A disposal notice has been processed for the building. LE also confirmed there will be no restrictions should tenants wish to consider the future purchase of these houses.

Following the discussion, the following motions were put forward.

Motion 1.

It was proposed a change two x 2 bedroom units to a further two x 3 bedroom units.

Proposed by: Cllr. Leonard
Seconded by: Cllr. Fitzgerald
Agreed by all Elected Members.

Motion 2

It was proposed that funding for the playground should be included in the submission to the Department; the green space should also be landscaped before the houses are occupied.

Proposed by: Cllr Kennedy
Seconded by: Cllr Leonard.
Agreed by all Elected Members.

Motion 3.

In the event that funding for the playground is not provided by the Department, that a commitment to provide a playground will be given by Wicklow County Council.

Proposed by: Cllr Kennedy
 Seconded by: Cllr. Fitzgerald
 Agreed by all Elected Members

Motion 4.

It was proposed that larger parking spaces should be provided as part of the development.

Proposed by: Cllr. Murphy
 Seconded by: Cllr. Bourke
 Agreed by all Elected Members.

The Part 8 for the proposed development of 20 residential units at Barndarrig, Co Wicklow was proposed by Cllr. Leonard and seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald and agreed by all Elected Members.

- ❖ To receive a report from The District Engineer.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

2nd October 2025

Restoration Improvement

Proposed Works	Status
R-752 Ballybeg to Rathnew	Date TBC
R-754 Avoca Village	Works on-going
L-29013 Laffin's Lane	TBC – Night works
L-6147 Ballymorris Lower	Complete
L-29013 Castlepark	Complete
L-7137 Ballymanus-Reddenagh	Complete
L-2143 Aughrim-Ballinglen	Complete
L-6644 Ballinaclash-Ballard	Complete
L-5665 Kilmacrea Pass	Complete
L-5163 Templeyon	Complete

Restoration Maintenance

Complete

Safety Improvement Works

Proposed Works	Project	Status
R-772 near rugby club	Installation of Safety Signage	Complete
L-1113 Carrigmore Bridge	Installation of Safety Signage	
R-747 Woodenbridge to Aughrim	Installation of safety barrier	Complete
R-752 Rathdrum to Glenealy	Installation of safety barrier	

Community Involvement Scheme

Proposed Works	Status
L-66441 Whaley Abbey, Ballinaclash	Pre. Works complete, date TBC with Contractor

Local Improvement Scheme

Proposed Works	Status
Kilcashel, Aughrim	Contractor to confirm dates
Toberpatrick, Tinahely	Contractor to confirm dates
Westaston, Kilmacurra	Complete
Ballymorris, Aughrim	Contractor to confirm dates
Ballard Upper	Prep Work Ongoing
Ballard Ballinaclash	Contractor to confirm dates
Aughavannagh	Prep Work Ongoing
Ballycapple	Prep Work Ongoing

Other Projects:

The new driving school is almost ready, a small event will be organised for the opening with some school children and members of AGS invited to the opening.

Rathdrum traffic study for Main st and Lr. Main st. The scheme will start at Brewery Lane, the footpath will be improved and there will be more parking available. A pedestrian crossing is also part of this design. The consultants are gone to tweak the plan once it is finalised the aim is to go to part 8 before Christmas.

Cllr. Kennedy said this needs to be done ASAP and the District Manager should make a business case to fund this. He also thanked staff for works done at Wheelie gates which has made the road safer.

The following matters were raised:

- Cllr. Leonard enquired regarding a Traffic Study at Ballycoog School. DE said this has been referred to AGS as there were speeding violations reported.
- Cllr. Fitzgerald said the Vale Road is a disgrace. DE said she will get the patching unit out in the short term but the road is on next year's road plan.
- Cllr. Bourke asked if Redcross/Barniskey Road is on the plan, DE will get back to the members on that.
- Cllr. Kennedy asked that the hole in the wall at Jacob's ladder be filled and the weed-eater be brought in to tidy the area up.
- Cllr. Leonard asked for an update on a proposed Harbour bench and dog fouling bin, DE will get back on this.
- Cllr. O'Toole suggested involving the Gaelscoil for translation of Street names into Irish for the new Heritage signs. He also said Jim Rees has all the history on Local Lane ways and if we could put QR codes on the signs linking to this History.
- DM said Wicklow County Council have to use official Translators for all translations. She will discuss the QR codes with the Arts office and revert back to the Members.

❖ **To discuss the arrangements for Christmas parking in Arklow.**

The Elected Members discussed the pay parking arrangements for the Christmas period. Members agreed that two hours free parking in the car parks from 22nd November until 2nd January 2026 in line with previous years arrangements.

Cllr. Kennedy proposed the two hours free parking in Council owned Car parks in Arklow and Cllr. Fitzgerald seconded the motion.

Item 5: Notice of Motions

(a) To consider the Notice of Motion in the names of Cllrs W O'Toole and P. Leonard received on the 11th June 2025

"That this Municipal District prioritises the extension of key footpath infrastructure in areas experiencing increased residential, pedestrian, and vehicular activity, with particular attention to road safety and access to public amenities.

Specifically, that this Council supports and seeks the necessary design work and funding to extend footpaths at the following locations:

- 1. Along the L-2190 (Coolgreany Road) from the end of the existing footpath out to McGrath's Cross, including a continuation along the L-6187, to ensure safe pedestrian access along this increasingly trafficked rural corridor.*
- 2. From Emyvale on the Johnstown Road to the entrance of Glenart (via Ballyduff North), supporting safer walking routes for residents, schoolchildren, and visitors accessing Glenart Woods and surrounding residential areas.*
- 3. From the halting site on the Vale Road (R747) to the Glenart entrance, closing a critical gap in pedestrian infrastructure and improving accessibility for families, children, and those without access to transport.*

These extensions would support road safety, inclusive mobility, and active travel goals, and align with the wider commitments in the Active Travel Programme and Town & Village Renewal schemes"

Cllr. Bourke said there is quite a lot in the motion.

DE said as there are a lot outside the Town and land take will be required. For one footpath alone it would use up the full discretionary funding. She will get a costing and revert.

Cllr. Bourke said Development charges and schemes are being negotiated at present, we should request funding from Capital funding stream for the running track.

Cllr. O'Toole stated investment for the future is what is needed.

All members agreed that a costing on this proposal was required before further discussion to take place.

Item 9: Correspondence

None.

Item 10: Any Other Business

Cllr. Bourke proposed €3000 from discretionary funding could be used for Christmas lights for Ferrybank. He said volunteers were needed to put up the lights and a power source sought. Cllr. O'Toole offered to help with installation of lights.

Leonora Earls stated the technician should inspect the site with the electrician to see if there are options for a power supply.

The elected Members are in favour of supplying funding for this, Cllr. Leonard asked that these lights will be used again and not just a one off.

The DA explained that all Christmas lighting purchased is interchangeable so these lights will be the same as they are the most cost effective.

Cllr Bourke proposed €3,000 euro from discretionary funding, it was seconded by Cllr. Kennedy and all members agreed,

Cllr. Leonard asked could we match the funding to include the Wexford Road, however as currently it was businesses from Ferrybank who had engaged with the Town Team and Elected members, it was agreed to consider Ferrybank first. Cllr. Leonard will engage with businesses on the Wexford road with regards to Christmas lights

Cllr. Fitzgerald thanked everyone involved in repairing the Public lighting in the Town.

Cllr. Leonard asked if there is anything we can do regarding scooters in the Town. We need awareness as it is so dangerous. Perhaps the Garda could get involved with the schools.
The DM will liaise with the RSA Officer, Linda Healy.

Cllr. Leonard thanked Eve Lynch and Deirdre Burns for their involvement in the In hand Festival held in Greenan recently.

Cllr. Leonard said with the LAP going live there is a lot of work to be done over the next few weeks.
The DM encouraged the Members to engage with Sorcha Walsh and team on the LAP.

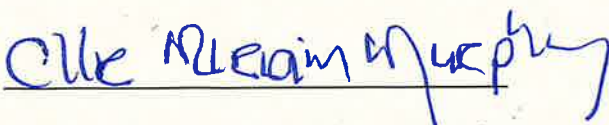
Cllr. Kennedy wants to invite members of the Local Link to Chamber to make a presentation.

It was also agreed to contact Echelon and invite them to make a presentation to the Elected Members.

The DA notified the Elected Members that AMD and the Michael Dwyer 200 Heritage Event was short listed for an award for National Heritage week.

The DM explained videos of the event are being edited and will be on the Heritage web site soon.
Cllr. Kennedy thanked all staff involved in this event.

Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12th November 2025.

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

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