



## **Minutes**

### **Transportation, Infrastructure Delivery & Emergency Services**

#### **Strategic Policy Committee Meeting**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 2.30pm, Würzburg Room, County Buildings**

**Present:**

Cllr. Stephen Stokes, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr Pat Fitzgerald  
Cllr Shane Langrell  
Cllr Orla Finn  
Cllr. Danny Alvey  
Mary Catherine Murphy, Agriculture/Farming  
Eanna Gallagher, Environment/ Conservation  
Betty Kelly, Social Inclusion

**Staff:**

Joe Lane, DOS  
Marc Devereux, DOS  
Linda Healy, SEO  
John Bowes, SE  
Michael Flynn, SE  
Mark O'Neil, AO  
Vivienne Killeen, SO

**Apologies:**

Cllr. Joe Behan  
Ian McGahon, Trade Union  
Matthew Hudson, Business and Commercial  
Tomás Peare, Development Construction

The Cathaoirleach Cllr Stephen Stokes, the SPC Committee and staff members of Wicklow County Council welcomed Betty Kelly, Public Partnership Network (PPN) to the role of Social Inclusion representative on the Committee.

**Item No 1. To note the minutes of Meeting held on Monday 25<sup>TH</sup> February, 2025**

Proposed by: Cllr Shane Langrell

Seconded by Cllr Danny Alvey

**Amendments**

Proposed by: Cllr Stephen Stokes

Seconded by: Cllr Shane Langrell

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*Cllr Stephen Stokes informed the Committee that there was an issue where motorists are using a road as a "rat run" and speeding on the R772 Killadreenan to Newtown road and the L5046- N11 slip road to Killpedder. Traffic calming measures need to be looked at. Cllr Shane Langrell responded that this was discussed at the meeting of Wicklow Municipal District.*

**Amended to**

*Cllr Stephen Stokes informed the Committee that there was a speeding issue on the R772 Killadreenan to Newtown and that traffic calming measures need to be looked at. The L5046 - N11 slip road to Kilpedder was being used as a rat run. Cllr Shane Langrell responded that this was also discussed at the meeting of the Wicklow Municipal District.*

**Item No 2 To discuss correspondence received from NTA**

Cllr Stephen Stokes raised the issue about the NTA attending SPC meetings and referred to the transcript of the full Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024, where it was recorded that they would attend, Quote: **"Mr. Creegan: Councillor Stokes then raised the issue about attending the SPC. We have no problem doing that. We can certainly do that."**

Request that another invitation be sent to the NTA to attend an SPC meeting.

Cllr Danny Alvey informed the meeting that no response was received to queries that were submitted to the NTA by Wicklow Municipal District and will forward to Linda Healy to follow up.

**Item No 3. To discuss a Review of Parking Bylaws for County Wicklow**

The Greystones Municipal District looked for a review of the Parking Bylaws; last review was carried out in 2017. Joe Lane, DOS to discuss with Emer O’Gorman, Chief Executive Officer.

#### **Item No. 4 To receive an update on the Bus Shelter Programme**

Michael Flynn informed the Committee that Larry Roe, Senior Executive Engineer would work on a schedule when he has resumed his role in the Active Travel Office, Arklow. Cllr Stephen Stokes shared the elected members submissions on bus shelters required in the Municipal Districts. Arklow Municipal District x 4; Baltinglass Municipal District x 4; Bray Municipal District x 7 Greystones Municipal District x 8; Wicklow Municipal District x 7, a total of 30 altogether.

Eanna Gallagher asked about getting a bus stop reinstated in Newtownmountkennedy after reinstatement works were carried out. Michael Flynn stated that a Former National Road scheme was being prepared for this location and Bus stops would be included.

#### **Item No. 5 Presentations and updates**

##### **(a) Marc Devereux, T/Director of Service, Emergency Response.**

Cllr Stephen Stokes thanked Marc for his presentation, No questions from the Committee followed

##### **(b) John Bowes Senior Engineer, Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery**

- **National Roads / Greenways / Road Projects / Strategic Bus Park & Ride**

Cllr Stephen Stokes thanked John for his presentation

Questions:

Eanna Gallagher asked if Part 8 applications were limited to a certain monetary value.

Joe Lane, DOS, answered the question that Part 8 applications would apply to projects exceeding €125,000.

Cllr Danny Alvey welcomed the Road Safety Improvement Schemes proposed at N11 J12 southbound and N11 Kilpedder northbound, he asked what are the time lines of the works. John Bowes confirmed the time lines were submitted to TII and he would circulate to the Committee.

Cllr Danny Alvey asked about the Greenways and why the Wicklow to Greystones Greenway was not being revised whereas the Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway was.

John Bowes responded the preferred route for the Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway was being revised to avoid Tomnafinogue woodland which is an SAC and adverse impact on same would be a significant risk to the project. The preferred route for Wicklow to Greystones Greenway is currently being assessed. Inland routes on the landward side of the rail line are among these being considered and which avoid direct impacts on the SAC.

Eanna Gallagher also asked about the Kilmacanogue to Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme as the planned route goes through ancient woodland. John Bowes confirmed that appointment of technical consultants would be needed to undertake an EIAR.

Eanna Gallagher also asked about the “rat run” on N11 –Kilpedder and what are the time lines to solve it. John Bowes confirmed he would circulate the timelines and of which were submitted to TII.

Cllr Stephen Stokes asked about the Blessington Greenway if it would be revisited after it was refused by An Coimisiún Pleanála. John Bowes responded that in consideration of the time and resources that would be necessary to prepare a new and/or revised submission and the uncertainty regarding the potential for a successful outcome, WCC is not currently in a position to dedicate resources to the progression of a greenway scheme at this location. WCC would now consider to progress with shorter locally based trails to extend on the existing routes.

Cllr Stephen Stokes also asked for it to be noted in the minutes that since the last SPC Meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 that a notice of Motion was brought to the full Council meeting in relation to the proposed closure of the Herbert Road, Bray.

John Bowes responded that no final decision will be made on this closure until it is submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála, and WCC with the project team are currently moving to Phase 3 of the project which is the design stage. Consultation with the Municipal Districts can be arranged.

**(c) Michael Flynn, Senior Engineer, Transportation& Infrastructure Delivery**

- **Speed Limits and Winter Maintenance briefing**

Cllr Stephen Stokes thanked Michael for his presentation

Questions:

Cllr Shane Langrell asked about the Regional roads from Ashford to Roundwood and Rathnew to Kilcoole which currently have a speed limit of 80km per hour, and if the speed limits can be reduced. Michael Flynn responded that it would have to be agreed by the Elected Members and would check on the procedure, it would also need to be carried out as part of a speed limit review.

Cllr Pat Fitzgerald asked about the Vale Road from Arklow to Woodenbridge, that there is no pedestrian crossing and vehicles were travelling at high speeds. Michael Flynn responded that he would bring it to the attention of the District Engineer, Avril Hill, and the possibility of carrying out a speed count.

A question was also asked how are the Roads projects selected for resurfacing works and the Killadreenan (R772) Road also needs a pedestrian crossing. Cllr Danny Alvey also asked if there would be a cycle lane included on this road.

Michael Flynn responded that the Killadreenan road needs to be narrowed and at present is at design stage and will follow up with an update. There are no plans for a cycle lane to be included but would look at it again and respond.

The resurfacing works are financed by allocations from DTTAS and distributed to the Municipal Districts.; there is a three year programme for works that are prioritised by need.

Eanna Gallagher asked if Agricultural vehicles are considered when Traffic calming measures are being implemented, as it is difficult for vehicles to navigate new tight corners.

- **Winter maintenance briefing**

Cllr Stephen Stokes and Cllr Shane Langrell both acknowledged the work carried out by the winter maintenance teams

Cllr Shane Langrell asked about road sweeping and was there an issue with the road to Glendalough being swept. Michael Flynn responded that he would check with the District Engineer, William Halligan in Wicklow Municipal District.

**(d)Linda Healy, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery**

- **County Wicklow Road Safety Plan 2023-2030**

Cllr Stephen Stokes thanked Linda for her presentation and acknowledged the statistics that no Road fatalities had been recorded so far for 2025.

Eanna Gallagher thanked Linda for her presentation and complimented the recent Motorcyclists campaign.

Cllr Orla Finn thanked Linda for her presentation and complimented the 'Just 1 Life' awareness programme and a great idea to target TY students.

Catherine Mary Murphy asked about the Road Safety event for TY students that took place in Scoil Chonglais Baltinglass on the 14th October 2024; and would there be similar events in other Schools around the county. Linda Healy responded that the event was successful but there were logistical challenges in running such an event and going forward would concentrate on the 'Just 1 Life' awareness programme.

**Item No. 6. To circulate list of Circular Letters received from Department of Transportation.**

**Item No. 7 Correspondence**

No Correspondence

### **Item No. 8 Any other Business**

Cllr Danny Alvey with the support of Cllr Orla Finn and endorsement from Cllr Miriam Murphy wished to put forward a motion on behalf of Ian McGahan who could not attend the meeting.

*Noting a report in the Irish Times newspaper of the 10th February 2025 detailing how disabled people and people with additional medical needs were failed nationally during Storm Éowyn.*

Wicklow County Council Transport and Emergency Services SPC adopts the following motion

- Set up an SPC subcommittee to examine this matter further from a policy perspective in Co Wicklow.
- Seek members from WCC Disability and Inclusion Steering Committee to sit on the subcommittee.
- In line with UN Convention on the Rights of persons with disabilities to seek to have disabled people and other relevant stakeholders also represented at the subcommittee.
- Send this Motion to all Wicklow County Council members at the earliest opportunity of their next council meeting for the approval of all 32 members to begin work on a policy proposal under a Transport/Emergency Services SPC sub committee

Joe Lane, DOS noted that this needed to be brought to the CPG first.

Cllr Shane Langrell queried Public lighting not working at Ashford Downs and Cluana Beg. To be checked with the Public Lighting team for an update.

Cllr Stephen Stokes asked in relation to the bus stop at Kilmacanogue that is to be serviced by Wexford Bus for a service to Dublin Airport, and that the NTA were awaiting approval from Wicklow County Council. It was confirmed that the bus stop was approved for the service and a letter of approval had been sent to the NTA on the 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2025.

### **Note to Minutes:**

Sod turning for the Fassaroe Park & Ride and Chapel Road (Delgany) Pedestrian & Cycle Infrastructure Improvement Scheme will both be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

### **Item No. 9 Date for next meeting**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 at 2.30 p.m. Wurzburg Room, County Buildings

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr Stephen Stokes,  
Cathaoirleach