



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON

THE 14TH MAY 2025.

Present:

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

Officials Present:

Ms. Leonora Earls, District Manager
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator
Ms. Avril Hill, District Engineer
Ms. Lorraine Hayes ASO

Apologies:

None

Press:

Eoin MacRaghnaill

Presentations:

Water Safety at the Cove Arklow

Robert Kelly (Environment)

Tinahask and Pre Part 8 proposal Barndarrig Housing Presentation

Helena Fallon (Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery, WCC)
Aideen Klauer (Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery, WCC)
Kerrie Beacom (Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery, WCC)
Sean Wildes (Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery, WCC)
Sean Keane (Capital Projects – Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery, WCC)

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 9th April 2025 were proposed by Cllr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr. Leonard.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

None

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

Presentation on water safety at the Cove Arklow.

Robert Kelly cited that with the new facilities in place in the Cove as a result of the Outdoor Recreation Scheme the Cove has become extra busy. The life guard hut has been moved to The Cove as a result and it is a safer place to swim. June July and August are the main bathing season and extra services are supplied for the duration. Extra signage will be positioned at South Beach to notify bathers of the dangers of the shelf in the water.

There has been some vandalism from the Bridge Hotel and down by the River walk, life buoys have been removed and damaged. A full refurbishment is due to start next Thursday; there is a lot of work and repair to be carried out as a result of this vandalism.

The following concerns were raised:

- Will the boy scouts use of the Cove be impacted with the life guard hut in place? There will be no impact.
- The new designated bathing area could not have happened without Roadstone.
- There will be weekly checks during bathing season of all safety equipment.
- The issue of toilets being placed at the Cove was rose however Robert said it was a matter for the Environment Department and he would pass the request over to them.

Housing – Tinahask Briefing.

Helena Fallon and Aideen Klauer delivered presentation on Tinahask.

The following concerns were raised:

- The team were thanked by the members for listening to them at the December meeting and in doing so increased the number of two bedroom units as requested. There has also been extra parking spaces allocated.

- Car parking is still seen as an issue however as the scheme is Government funded it is not possible for extra parking.
- There are now 6 disabled parking bays in this scheme.
- New relief road could take up to ten years to completion as it is quite complex with different landowners/consultants etc.

Pre-part 8 proposal Barndarrig.

Helena Fallon and Aideen Klauer delivered presentation on Pre-part 8 proposal for Barndarrig.

The following concerns were raised:

- What was the time frame between phase 1 and phase 2.
- One bedroom units are not adequate for people's needs.
- Plans for the one bedroom units should go back to SPC.
- All Elected Members agreed to move forward with Part 8 for ten units and after two years proceed with a second part 8 for the remaining ten units.
- The scheme will be advertised within the next two to three months.

District Engineers Report.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

6th May 2025

Restoration Improvement

Proposed Works	Status
R-752 Ballybeg to Rathnew	Tendered
R-754 Avoca Village	Tendered
L-29013 Laffin's Lane	Tendered
L-29013 Castlepark	Tendered
L-7137 Ballymanus-Reddenagh	Tendered
L-2143 Aughrim-Ballinglen	Tendered
L-6147 Ballymorris Lower	Tendered
L-6644 Ballinaclesh-Ballard	Tendered
L-5665 Kilmacrea Pass	Tendered
L-5163 Templelyon	Tendered

Restoration Improvement

Proposed Works	Status
R-753 Aughrim to Ballinaclesh	Tendered
L-97532-0 Tinakilly to Three Wells	Tendered

L-97531-0 Tinakilly Lower to R-753	Tendered
L-97533-5 Tinakilly to Cloneen	Tendered
L-2140-0 Ballyshane to Greenan	Tendered
L-7136-0 Cappagh-Coolballintaggart	Tendered
L-97552-0 Knockrath	Tendered
L-2120-0 Garryduff to Rathdrum	Tendered
L-2116-0 Drumdangan - Barnbawn	Tendered
L-5118-0 Drumdangan-Kilcandra	Tendered
L-6117-0 Ballinakill-Bahana	Tendered
L-2190 Coolgreany Rd to Curranstown	Tendered
L-6187 Moneylane to Kish	Tendered

Safety Improvement Works

Proposed Works	Project	Status
Johnstown Village, Arklow	Installation of Safety Signage	Foundations & poles installed
R-772 near rugby club	Installation of Safety Signage	Poles to be installed
L-1113 Carrigmore Bridge	Installation of Safety Signage	Poles to be installed
R-747 Woodenbridge to Aughrim	Installation of safety barrier	Tendered
R-752 Rathdrum to Glenealy	Installation of safety barrier	Tendered

Discretionary Funding 2024

Proposed Works	Status
Heritage Signage for Villages	Installation Commenced - 80% Complete, final locations to be agreed on site
Footpath Repair - Ferrybank	Complete. Further request for bollards
Pottery Cross	Tarmac to be completed
Infill Lighting Annacurra	Quotation received for €22,675
Public Lighting at the Birches, Ballinaclesh	Quotation received and budget confirmed.
Tree Management	Arborist is working through areas and completing reports.
2024 Footpath Repair Riverwalk	Some drainage works required in advance, some works done.
Repair of Footpath at Currans Corner	
Pedestrian Crossing - Rathdrum	Considered in Wider Scheme
Public Realm - Arklow	
Public Realm Furniture Upgrade - AMD	
Public Realm - Rathdrum	
Footpath - Conary	
Educational Signage - Beaches	Liaised with the Biodiversity Officer - Awaiting Further Information
Bus Shelter in Annacurra	NTA are looking at this location
Footpath - Arklow Bearing Services	

Community Involvement Scheme

Proposed Works	Status
Ballinclea	Contractor to Confirm Dates

Footpath Renewal

Starting on Main Street 12th May. Washing street initially with a view to assessing repairs. Works have commenced in Avalon and seeking prices for works in Avoca and Aughrim areas.

Other works

Commissioned Topographical survey of Rathdrum Main Street to progress next stage of the traffic study. Extended the scope of works for the Consultant to progress to the next stage of the study.

Requested quotations for Masterplan of Seaview Avenue.

The DA added that works on the running track will commence week beginning 9th June, there will be closures for these remedial and drainage works.

The following requests/matters were raised by Elected Members.

- Roads in Kilcarra need attention, DE said this area is on the three year programme but is scheduled for maintenance, drainage and pot hole filling.
- Can plastic bollards throughout the town be replaced?
- No formal approval on the Pump track as yet as this is part of The Seaview Masterplan.
- Can DE look at the road out past Halpins.
- Can DE look at road at the leisure centre.
- Speeding an issue on Rory O'Connor place – last survey had no speeding violations however DE will organise another traffic survey.
- Protocol with regards to speeding is available on County Council website.
- Footpaths in Heatherside. The estate has not been taken in charge. Pedestrian crossing outside of the estate on the Vale Road falls under the remit of the NTA.
- Ferrybank works were done with little disturbance to retail units and it is a huge improvement to that area.
- Pathway at Clogga. This is outside AMD remit, erosion issues should be directed to the Environment section.
- Traffic study is to start the end of May in Rathdrum.
- Road markings at Ballygannon Road, the tender is out at present once awarded it will be done.
- DE will investigate if it is possible to install a safety barrier at Wheelie gates.
- No decision as yet on Community Recognition funding.
- The Pride Crossing will not be re-freshed, as per previous discussions at County Level, these markings are not in accordance with signs regulations or directions of the Minister. The MD is exploring different options.
- DE will check gullies in Ballinaclash.
- DE will also look at the issue near the Old Valley Hotel.

Discretionary Fund 2025

Correspondence received from the Michael Dwyer 200 Committee in relation to the upcoming Bi-Centenary of Michael Dwyer in August. The Committee requested the Elected Members consider an allocation of discretionary funding.

There was a request for payment to fund self-close gates on two playgrounds in the area for security reasons. The gates are €4000.00 per gate.

Cllr. Leonard explained she felt discretionary funding decisions were rushed and she thinks it would be much fairer if each Elected Member had their own funding allowance. Cllr O'Toole expressed his support.

Some members felt if the funding is split six ways it would be very difficult to get works done and there would be nothing to show for the money spent.

It was proposed this should go to a vote.

Cllr. Leonard proposed this item should be postponed until the June meeting as she had to leave the meeting. Cllr. O'Toole supported this.

Cllr. Bourke does not agree with this proposal.

Cllr. Pat Kennedy Proposed an extra meeting to discuss the discretionary funding allocation. Cllr. Sylvester Bourke seconded this.

The District Manager suggested a special meeting should be set for Members to discuss this issue at depth.

Estate Grants 2025.

The proposed estate grant funding was proposed by Cllr. Pat Kennedy and seconded by Cllr. Sylvester Bourke.

This funding was agreed on by all members.

PROPOSED ESTATE GRANTS 2025

Name	Supplier No.	Grant Amount
The Pines Arklow	TBC	€200.00
St Martins Drive Aughrim	TBC	€200.00
Viewmount Residents Association Rathdrum	TBC	€525.00
Knockmore Residents Association	TBC	€525.00
Derrybawn Aughrim	TBC	€525.00
Aughrim Hall Residents Association	TBC	€525.00
Cluain Ard Arklow	TBC	€525.00
Our Ladys Drive Croghan View Aughrim	TBC	€825.00
Father Redmond Park	TBC	€825.00
Woodlands Arklow	TBC	€825.00
Ballanagh Crescent Avoca	TBC	€1,050.00
Ard Rua Barndarrig	TBC	€1,050.00
Churchview Arklow	TBC	€1,200.00
Parnell Park Residents Association	TBC	€1,200.00
		€10,000.00

Festival Funding 2025.



Arklow Municipal District
Castlepark
Arklow

Supplier ID	Name	Accelem	Job	Opcode	TC	Grant Amount
113462	Arklow RNLI Lifeboat	72900	43115100	J014	EX	
114143	Rathdrum Christmas Lights	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,200.00
257163	Inbhear Mor Performance Ensemble	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,800.00
114718	Arklow St Patricks Day Parade	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,200.00
257190	Arklow Seabreeze	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,800.00
102401	Ballinaclesh Community Association	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,800.00
115664	Arklow Christmas Festival Committee	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€250.00
116446	Arklow Halloween Festival	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,800.00
TBC	Craic in the Granite Music and Arts Festival	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,500.00
TBC	Arklow Community of Excellence	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€1,000.00
119955	Africa Irish Society of Wicklow (AISW)	72900	43115100	J014	EX	€200.00
	Total Festival Grants AMD 2025					€150.00
						€12,700.00

Grant and payment of the Festival Grants 2025 approved
at the AMD Members meeting on the 14th May 2025

Cllr Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach

Date

Alvina Brehony
Arklow District Administrator

Date

The proposed Festival grant funding was proposed by Cllr. Pat Kennedy and seconded by Cllr. Sylvester Bourke.

This funding was agreed on by all members.

Item 5: Correspondence.

All correspondence was deferred until the next meeting.

Item 6: Any Other Business.

- Last Friday was a historical day for Arklow with the opening of WWTP; compliments go to Irish Water and The Government for this facility.
- The Cathaoirleach's award's is taking place on Thursday, 29th May 2025 with John Keenan being the recipient. The event will be held in Arklow Library.

Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th June 2025.

Signed: Cllr Miriam Murphy

Cllr Miriam Murphy, Cathaoirleach, Arklow Municipal District.

Signed: Alvina Brehony

Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District