

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES, MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 28TH JULY 2026 AT 7.30 P.M.

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

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

Apologies from: Councillor T. Fortune

At the outset the Cathaoirleach proposed a suspension of standing orders to allow consideration of the following notice of motion:

"That standing orders be suspended to discuss the future of the IDA lands at Greystones Business Park, and that this Council:

- 1. Calls on the Government to transfer the remaining 27 acres of the IDA site at Greystones Business Park to Wicklow County Council, to enable a community-led master planning process that prioritises affordable housing, recreation facilities, and public open space;*
- 2. Requests a meeting with the IDA to discuss the return of 27 acres currently held by Hackman Limited;*
- 3. Requests a meeting with Hackman Limited to discuss the IDA land and development in Greystones;*
- 4. Requests that Chief Executive Emer O'Gorman attend the September meeting of Greystones Municipal District to provide a detailed update on the IDA land in Greystones and the 27 acres returning to Council ownership from IDA/Hackman."*

This motion was supported by all six members, and it was agreed to discuss the motion after item 3 on the agenda.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- (a) It was proposed by Councillor S. Stokes, seconded by Councillor L. Scott and agreed that the minutes of the annual meeting held on 30th June 2026, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
- (b) It was proposed by Councillor S. Stokes, seconded by Councillor O. Finn and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 30th June 2026, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. DEPUTATION FROM JIGSAW GROUP

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Adam Burke, Youth and Community Engagement Worker; Ms. Ciara O'Shea Collins, Senior Jigsaw Clinician; Mr. Ceoladh Fenelon, Jigsaw Youth Advocate and Ms. Hannah Boden, Jigsaw Youth Advocate to the meeting.

The Jigsaw representatives spoke about their work and gave a Powerpoint presentation that outlined details of their services, community workshops, youth advocacy, schools' programmes, fundraising events, partnerships and health promotion initiatives. They stressed the need for improved access to timely mental health care, increased funding, active involvement of young people and better integration. They answered any queries from the members and agreed to circulate a copy of their presentation.

The members thanked the group for their presentation and expressed their support for the work they carry out. They all agreed that national mental health services were greatly lacking and they commended Jigsaw on the various services they provide. They agreed to support a Dip for Jigsaw if one was organised in Greystones.

3. PRE-PART 8 PRESENTATION ON PATHFINDER ACTIVE TRAVEL SCHEME

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Conor Page, Senior Executive Engineer, Wicklow County Council and Mr. Nicholas Van der Berg from AtkinsRéalis to the meeting. They gave a Powerpoint presentation on the proposals for the Pathfinder Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme in Greystones that will go out for public consultation in the coming weeks.

Mr. C. Page pointed out that the aim of the proposed scheme was to provide cycle and pedestrian links to the train station, and they stated that the works would be funded by the NTA, the Wicklow County Council Active Travel Scheme and grants.

Mr. N. Van der Berg went through the proposed route and highlighted the proposed changes, and he answered any queries from the members in relation to same.

Members thanked the representatives for the presentation and agreed that Greystones needed investment in pedestrian and cycling facilities. They expressed some concern about the proposed changes to the Bellevue Road/Church Road junction and how the proposed stop/go system at Victoria Road would affect vehicles entering and exiting The Bawn. Some members suggested that the planters should be removed from Church Road to make the town centre more accessible and age friendly. They also expressed concern about the proposal to remove bus bays as they suggested that this would lead to traffic delays and they enquired about environmental issues with the footbridge at Burnaby Lawns and about how the proposals would interact with the Town Team's proposed works.

Mr. C. Page informed the members that the proposals tied in with the Town Team's initiatives. He stated that road collisions had been reduced by one-third and material damage by seventy per cent since the planters were installed on Church Road and that it was considered that additional age friendly parking was more suitable in the car parks. He pointed out that it was not intended to reduce the current parking spaces on Church Road

Mr. N. Van der Berg informed the members that concerns in relation to environmental issues associated with the proposed pedestrian bridge at Burnaby Lawns had been taken on board and that all submissions received during public consultation would be categorised. He agreed to look again at the removal of bus lay-bys at the train station.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Page and Mr. Van der Berg for attending the meeting and requested that the members be circulated with all details of submissions received in relation to the scheme rather than just a synopsis.

It was indicated to the members that all submissions would be available to view online.

Generally, the members present indicated support for the scheme but made comments in relation to some aspects of same such as Church Road parking, especially for vulnerable car users, the lack of a layby outside the train station for buses to pull in, and finishes to any SUDS schemes along the route.

Mr. C. Page agreed to arrange for an update on the Convent Road Active Travel Scheme to be circulated to the members.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Members suspended standing orders to consider the following notice of motion which was supported by all the members:

"That standing orders be suspended to discuss the future of the IDA lands at Greystones Business Park, and that this Council:

- 1. Calls on the Government to transfer the remaining 27 acres of the IDA site at Greystones Business Park to Wicklow County Council, to enable a community-led master planning process that prioritises affordable housing, recreation facilities, and public open space;*
- 2. Requests a meeting with the IDA to discuss the return of 27 acres currently held by Hackman Limited;*
- 3. Requests a meeting with Hackman Limited to discuss the IDA land and development in Greystones;*
- 4. Requests that Chief Executive Emer O'Gorman attend the September meeting of Greystones Municipal District to provide a detailed update on the IDA land in Greystones and the 27 acres returning to Council ownership from IDA/Hackman."*

Following discussion, it was agreed that the District Administrator would write to the various groups on behalf of the members as requested.

The District Manager stated that the Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council had met recently with Hackman Limited, as had several other groups, and that the WCC press statement issued after that meeting contained all the information that was available. She advised the members that the Chief Executive would meet with them in September but would not be available to attend the September GMD meeting.

4. 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 this was taken as read.

In response to queries from the members, the District Engineer stated that specialist contractors were engaged in dealing with the issue of horsetail weed at Dr. Ryan Park and that the dog poo bin at Charlesland Dog Park would be replaced. He stated that grass would be cut at the dog park and at the Knockroe roundabout and that a pothole at the Knockroe Fruit Farm would be repaired. He pointed out that a missing speed sign at Newcastle would be replaced and that landowners on Sea Road, Newcastle had been requested to cut back verges after the nesting season ended.

The District Engineer informed the members that contractors for Archers Wood had been requested to carry out work before the estate is taken in charge and that the provision of campervan parking could be considered in conjunction with the upcoming review of parking regulations or at the IDA lands. He stated that contractors would be requested to clear the drains in Redford Park and that flood works funding would be used in Redford Park and other problem areas. He pointed out that an update on the Cliff Walk would not be included in the monthly District Engineer's report going forward as the members were kept updated directly by the Cliff Walk Management Committee.

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

The Cathaoirleach proposed that the meeting be extended by thirty minutes if necessary to complete the agenda and this was agreed.

5. HOUSING UPDATE REPORT (TO INCLUDE FARRANKELLY CLOSE)

The District Administrator had circulated a report outlining progress on various housing projects in the district.

Members expressed concern about the fact that the PPP process had been discontinued for the Burnaby land and they requested further information and timeframes for progressing development of this land.

The District Manager informed the members that the Department had advised Wicklow County Council last year that the PPP funding option would not be sanctioned for a number of sites, including the Burnaby one. She stated that alternative options to progress site development were under consideration.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Motion in the names of Councillors L. Scott and L. Fenelon Gaskin:

"In light of ongoing maintenance issues raised regarding Darcy's Park, Wicklow County Council carry out a formal inspection of the park and its infrastructure; seek clarification from SISPAR or relevant entity, on the maintenance regime, inspection schedules and budgets allocated to the park, ensure that necessary repairs, vegetation management (including invasive species removal) and replacement planting are undertaken without delay."

The District Administrator informed the members of the contents of correspondence received from Wicklow County Council in relation to this motion. The report stated that Darcy's Park was scheduled to be handed over to Sispar one year after it opened but that this did not happen as there were several issues, not just with the park but also with other works carried out by the developer, some of which have since been addressed. Sispar has appointed an engineering firm to snag all the works, and the CERA section of Wicklow County Council would request an update on the status of the snags specific to the park and revert to the members.

Members stated that the park that was delivered was not what was promised and they sought clarity on who was responsible for the park and the dog park which they said was unacceptable. They pointed out that residents paid maintenance charges and deserved better and that all the issues needed to be resolved before the park was eventually taken in charge by Wicklow County Council.

The District Manager informed the members that they could raise any issues with the CERA section of the Council and that the CERA Director would likely meet the members if requested.

(b) Motion in the names of Councillors L. Scott and S. Stokes:

"With recent funding allocation unsuccessful for Dr. Ryan Park, a meeting is sought with the Director of Climate, Environment, Recreation and Amenity to discuss reconvening the Dr Ryan Park Committee and the plans for future development of the parklands."

The District Administrator informed the members of the contents of correspondence received from Wicklow County Council in relation to this motion. The report stated that the Wicklow County Council Director of Climate, Environment, Recreation and Amenity will meet with the members of GMD and understands that a fresh approach is required to progress the re-establishment of a Dr. Ryan Park Committee. In this regard, Expression of Interest will be advertised in the coming weeks to reach out to the surrounding community, noting the increased residential development that has been delivered in recent years. The report also stated that while it was disappointing that a funding application for natural play was unsuccessful, CERA would continue to work with GMD to explore opportunities for play in the park.

The District Administrator stated that she would arrange a meeting with the CERA Director at a suitable date in early September.

(c) Motion in the names of Councillors M. Barry, L. Fenelon Gaskin, O. Finn, T. Fortune, L. Scott and S. Stokes:

"That the Councillors of the Greystones Municipal District request this office to write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to express our concerns regarding the Call for Sites process.

We note that 76 hectares of land in this district is already zoned, with active planning permission on most of this land. We ask the Minister to confirm whether he will ensure this land is developed before further land is zoned, or, if further land is to be zoned, whether he will put in place whatever measures are necessary to ensure that this pre-existing zoned land, and land with planning permission, is delivered, along with all associated community gain, before other sites identified through the "Call for Sites" process are commenced.

We further note that the most recent Local Area Plan for this district zoned 36 hectares of land. We ask what the Department is doing to ensure this land is delivered in a timely fashion and is not shelved in favour of new sites being zoned under the "Call for Sites" process.

We also require a commitment that the infrastructure needed to support this scale of housing development, including school places, healthcare facilities, additional DART capacity, playing facilities, community resource centres and other social infrastructure, will be delivered at the same pace as the housing itself, to ensure the area does not suffer from excess congestion or shortfalls in these services.

We raise this in light of the current housing crisis, and the need to prioritise delivery of housing and community infrastructure on land already zoned and permitted, rather than continuing to zone new land while existing capacity remains undelivered."

The District Administrator agreed to write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to this motion as requested.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator informed the members of an update on the twinning partnership with Holyhead submitted by Kathleen Kelleher.

Members requested that a meeting of the GMD Tourism and Twinning Committee be arranged in the coming weeks and this was agreed.

2. The District Administrator reminded the members of the details of the Wicklow County Council Community Based Environmental Fund, details of which had been circulated to the members.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. K. Kelleher and Ms. B. Stokes for the mugs from Holyhead given to the members.
2. Councillor O. Finn stated that she had been contacted by the local Art Group who wished to make a presentation to a GMD meeting.

The District Administrator advised her that an official request should be made in writing and that the request could be considered at the next meeting.

3. The Cathaoirleach, on behalf of all the members, made a presentation to Mr. G. Cullen to mark his departure as District Engineer in Greystones Municipal District. All the members wished Mr. Cullen well in his new position with Bray Municipal District and thanked him for his support and work during his months in Greystones.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

CERTIFIED: _____ **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

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