

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES, MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 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

At the outset the Cathaoirleach welcomed the new District Manager, Ms. Helena Dennehy, to the meeting and looked forward to working with her.

The District Manager thanked the Cathaoirleach and looked forward to working with, and getting to know, the members over the coming months.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Councillor S. Stokes requested that an 'e' be added to Crow Abbey on page 3 of the draft minutes and this was agreed.

It was then proposed by Councillor S. Stokes, seconded by Councillor L. Fenelon-Gaskin and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 29th July, 2025, as amended, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. DEPUTATION FROM ST. ANTHONY'S FOOTBALL CLUB, KILCOOLE

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Willie Doyle and Ms. Maria Cody from St. Anthony's FC to the meeting. Mr. W. Doyle gave a short background to the club in advance of their giving a slide show presentation to the members. The slide show gave details of the origins and foundations, development and growth of the club as well as notable achievements, memorable moments, community involvement, youth development and future plans and aspirations.

In response to queries from the members Mr. W. Doyle stated that the club needed one full size pitch with lighting and a training pitch. He pointed out that one of their current pitches was formerly used as a dump and that this caused specific and costly maintenance issues every ten to twelve years. He stated that if the club got an additional pitch, they could use the existing pitch for training as it would never be perfect for matches. He pointed out that the club lost one ladies team to Greystones in order that they could participate in the Dublin league as they could not cater for the numbers to provide the two teams that the Dublin League requires. He stated that they had a long waiting list for membership that they could not facilitate due to lack of space and facilities. He pointed out that they trained younger members early in the evenings which meant that older players had to train later at night which wasn't ideal as many had to go to work or college early in the mornings.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. Cody and Mr. Doyle for their presentation and stated that the Council had received many similar requests for additional space from many other local clubs also.

All the members supported the club's request for additional space and agreed to do whatever they could to achieve that.

3. NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

The District Administrator informed the members that it had been agreed at the July meeting of Wicklow County Council that this item would be included on the agenda for the September MD meeting to nominate one member for membership of the Local Community Safety Partnership.

Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor L. Scott, seconded by Councillor L. Fenelon Gaskin and agreed that Councillor T. Fortune would represent the Greystones Municipal District on this Partnership.

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.

In response to queries from the members he stated that he would request the Public Lighting team to check on low lying trees in Charlesland that were allegedly blocking lights and he agreed to follow up on the issue at the Charlesland playground and the provision of a litter bin at Newcastle. He pointed out that he had submitted proposals for a crossing between Applewood Heights and Church Lane in Greystones, and for the Sea Road in Kilcoole near the Treetops Crèche, to the Roads Section and that he would inspect the bollards at Kenmare Heights to see what could be done there. He stated that proposed resurfacing works at Bellevue Hill would be from the junction to up past the Easton estate.

The District Engineer informed the members that officials from Wicklow County Council had met with residents from Archers Wood and the Management Company for Eden Gate and he pointed out that the roads in Archers Wood had not yet been taken in charge as the Council was awaiting a quality audit. He stated that road resurfacing works on Main Street, Kilcoole would commence when the Newcastle road works were completed and he pointed out that the engineer in charge of the Chapel Road scheme had confirmed that the road at the Delgany end of the works could only be opened to residents while the works were ongoing. He pointed out that in response to a request from the Gardai, double yellow lines and single yellow lines would be placed, as required, at the entrance to Applewood Heights.

CLIFF WALK

Councillor S. Stokes referred to the report from RPS (Consultants) that had been circulated and that recommended that the Greystones side of the Cliff Walk should be moved inland while the Bray end could be made safe by the use of netting and concrete. He advised that a meeting of the Cliff Walk Management Committee was due to take place on Friday 3rd October and he requested feedback from the members in advance of that meeting.

Councillor T. Fortune acknowledged that while the RPS report outlined that re-routing the walk at the Greystones end was the best course of action, he suggested that options to make safe the circa 400 m stretch at the Greystones end that posed a severe risk to the public be looked at. He asked that more information and follow up on Option 4 in the report, as well as timelines for proposals, be provided as it seemed that things were now starting again from scratch. He sought improved communications between all the stake holders and he proposed that all of the GMD members should be included on the Cliff Walk Management Committee.

Councillor L. Fenelon-Gaskin agreed that all members should be part of the Cliff Walk Management Committee and she stated that the Task Force needed to step up and push for action rather than meetings. She was critical of the fact that members had not been circulated with minutes of the Cliff Walk Management Committee meetings to date.

Councillor O. Finn agreed and enquired about the planned meeting between the Tanaiste and the Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor L. Scott, stated that the key issue for her was the cost, which was estimated at €10 million for the northern end, and she questioned where this funding would be sourced and when. She pointed out that having the Cliff Walk re-opened was a priority and she stated that expanding the membership of the Cliff Walk Management Committee would be a matter for the full Council.

The District Manager stated that the possibility of including all members from Greystones MD and Bray MD on the Cliff Walk Management Committee may be too much but could be reviewed, and that the issue of circulating minutes of the committee meetings could be looked at. She agreed to get clarification on the status of the committee and on its Terms of Reference. She pointed out that all Council members from Bray and Greystones were asked to make their views known to the committee for the onward submission to executive and Task Force and she stated that she was not aware of any

meeting request having taken place between the Tanaiste and the Chief Executive of the Council. In conclusion she confirmed that until the committee made their input, there was no next step.

5. HOUSING UPDATE REPORT (TO INCLUDE FARRANKELLY CLOSE)

The District Administrator stated that while she did not have any report to circulate this month, she did receive an update from the Housing Section to confirm that the Department had agreed in principle to utilising some of the funding available for Farrankelly Close works under the Planned Maintenance Budget but that the exact amount of funding was yet to be finalised. She stated that this would be stage one of the works and that houses would be prioritised as per the recent inspections carried out which were currently being reviewed by Housing staff to ascertain that priority. She also stated that tenants' rent accounts would be reviewed for accounts that may be in arrears.

Members were pleased to have finally had a positive and constructive meeting with Housing Officials recently and welcomed the fact that all houses in Farrankelly Close had now been inspected though no report on the level of faults, or on funding, was available. They suggested that the Residents Association be advised of progress and they expressed the view that where tenants were in arrears with their rent, their houses should still be repaired if necessary. They enquired about the timeline for disposal of a Council property on Mill Road that would part-fund the works.

Councillor M. Barry, who is a member of the WCC Housing SPC, confirmed that it had been agreed that the income from that disposal would be ring-fenced for housing maintenance in Greystones Municipal District rather than for Farrankelly Close specifically.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

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

"The Greystones Municipal District thanks the local Garda team for their outstanding service to the community. However we express concern that no Gardaí were appointed to the Greystones District following the attestation of 154 Gardaí in August 2025. The low Garda numbers in Greystones remains a significant issue. The Greystones Municipal District would urge the Chief Superintendent for Wexford/Wicklow to seek multiple recruits for Greystones in the next round of appointments. This is critical to a rapidly growing community."

This motion was seconded by Councillor O. Finn and following discussion it was agreed to write to the Garda Chief Superintendent to seek additional personnel.

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

"Greystones Municipal District should place a yellow box at the junction of Killincarrig Road and Mill Road, Greystones. This is to allow cars to emerge from Killincarrig Road when turning right on to Mill Road".

This motion was seconded by Councillor T. Fortune and during discussion the District Engineer stated that the current road surface at this location was coloured for a sense of space so it would not be good to paint a box junction on it. However, he agreed to discuss options with the design team for the Pathfinder scheme that included this section of road.

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

"I would like to propose that Greystones needs proper accessible toilets for people with disabilities and complex care needs. These facilities should provide the necessary space, equipment, and safety features, such as hoists and changing benches, to enable safe and dignified personal care for a wider range of individuals who cannot use standard accessible toilets. These toilets are essential for promoting social inclusion and independence and without them many people face isolation, inconvenience, and even health risks, hindering their ability to enjoy everyday activities".

This motion was seconded by the Cathaoirleach, Councillor L. Scott and agreed and following discussion it was agreed that the District Administrator and District Engineer would look at what resources might be available to fund such a facility.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator advised the members of the details of the Holyhead delegation to visit Greystones for the Christmas Lights event in November. She pointed out that the Municipal District would fund the accommodation for the Town Council and Santa Group out of the Twinning allocation already agreed and that further details of proposals would be provided closer to the date.
1. The District Administrator informed the members that a request had been received from Mr. Viv Collins, Irish United Nations Veterans Association and from the Whale Theatre Group seeking to make a presentation at a meeting of Greystones Municipal District.

In response to a query from the members, the District Administrator stated that the Greystones Cardiac First Responders would be invited to make a presentation at the October GMD meeting while making it clear to them that GMD were not in a position to fund the provision of AED's in housing estates.

It was further agreed to invite the Irish UN Veteran's Group and the Whale Theatre Group to attend the November meeting and to invite the operators of the Moby Bike scheme to a meeting in the new year.

2. The District Administrator informed the members that the Greystones Town Team had sought a contribution of €5,000 towards the organisation of this year's Christmas Lights event and this was proposed by Councillor M. Barry, seconded by Councillor O. Finn and agreed.
3. The District Administrator informed the members that Ms. Sue Williams, a member of the Holyhead Twinning Committee, had recently retired from the Holyhead Sea Cadets after forty-two years and it was agreed to send a letter from Greystones Municipal District to congratulate her.
4. The District Administrator informed the members that Sporting Greystones, following their recent deputation, had confirmed that the football pitch at Dr. Ryan Park was not a standard sized 11 a side pitch.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Councillor O. Finn suggested that Dr. Margaret Kennedy should be invited to present her 'Make Way' report to the members and in the new year and this was agreed.
2. In response to a query from Councillor L. Fenelon Gaskin the District Administrator stated that she had requested that minutes of meetings of Shoreline Leisure be circulated to the members and that she would follow up on this.
3. Councillor T. Fortune proposed that the GMD should write to the NTA to get a report on why Kilcoole was removed from the Pathfinder scheme and when it would be re-instated and this proposal was seconded by the Cathaoirleach, Councillor L. Scott.

The District Manager suggested that this matter should be taken up with the Wicklow County Council Senior Engineer in the Roads Section instead who could take the matter up with the NTA and this was agreed.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

CERTIFIED: _____ **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

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