



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON

Wednesday 8th January 2025

Present: Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Peir Leonard, Leas-Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Miriam Murphy

Officials Present: Ms. Leonora Earls, District Manager
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator
Ms. Avril Hill, District Engineer
Ms. Catherine McCord

Apologies: Cllr. Warren O'Toole

Press: Eoin MacRaghnaill

Public: None

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 11th December 2024 were proposed by Cllr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr. Bourke.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

- Discussion re Proposed Tinahask PPN Development.
- Public Lighting

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

District Engineer's Report.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

2nd January 2025

Roads

Waiting on allocation for 2025

Safety Improvement Works

Proposed Works	Project	Status
Johnstown Village, Arklow	Installation of Safety Signage	Sign to be installed

Discretionary Funding 2024

Proposed Works	Status
Educational Signage - Beaches	Liaised with the Biodiversity Officer - Awaiting Further Information
Tree Management	Scope Finalised
Heritage Signage for Villages	Installation Commenced - 80% Complete, final locations to be agreed on site
Footpath Repair - Ferrybank	Contractor Appointed - Works to Commence 15th January 2025
Pottery Cross	Tenders Received - Contractor Appointed, Start Date TBC - Ongoing
Bus Shelter in Annacurra	NTA are looking at this location
Public Lighting at the Birches, Ballinaclash	Lighting has been installed, Commissioning to be completed
Public Realm, Rathdrum	Bollards and Planters Ordered - Planters Fitted at the Old Mill, R752
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	
Infill Lighting Annacurra	

Footpath - Arklow Bearing Services	
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Community Involvement Scheme

Proposed Works	Status
Ballinlea	Contractor to Confirm Dates

Other Projects

- Multi Use Pitch at Corel Leisure Centre – Construction Completed, Line Marking to be completed but weather dependent
- Beech Road Footpath – Complete.
- St. Peter’s Place Playground – Working with Arklow Town Team to complete upgrades.

The following concerns were discussed:

- Request for Tree Management Report & update.
- Ferrybank – Location & Line of Bollards, concerned parties to be consulted with before layout is confirmed.
- Currans Corner discussed. Trip hazard. Possibility of a pedestrian crossing.
- Public Lights discussed
- Road at South Quay – ledges appearing on parts of road need to be investigated.
- Rathdrum Traffic issues – Request for priority given to Rathdrum Traffic issues.

Item 5: Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting.

No other business set forth.

Item 6: Notice of Motions (for decision)

No Motions proposed.

Item 7: Correspondence

Aughrim WWTP.

Correspondence was read to members informing them of update regarding Preferred Option & Cost. Chair disappointed with Uisce Eireann. Consequences of delay for WWP

- No Planning Permissions for dwellings granted.
- Knock on negative affects to residents & businesses in Aughrim.
- To be brought up at next County Council Meeting. County Council need to lead out regarding Uisce Eireann.

Supported by Cllr Bourke – need to be highlighted to County Council

Item 8: Any Other Business

A) Public Lighting discussed

- particular problem locations named – Oaklands Estate.
- length of time lights are not working, awaiting repair.
- consequences of no lighting – trips and falls, break-ins to property

- comparisons made with other Local Authorities.
- Escalating anger from public.
- School traffic & school walkers in danger.
- Running Track, can repair to lights be prioritised

Correspondence read out to elected members

- Road Department & Public Lighting Section are aware of issues.
- Explanation of Tender Process & Contract.
- Examination of faults – e.g. cable fault or other.
- ESB works delayed since Storm Darragh.
- Contractor fixed 39 faults since New Year.
- Meetings are ongoing
- Delays due to ESB engagement & weather events
- Old infrastructure is affecting lighting. Retrofitting is happening to lanterns. Again need ESB engagement.

Members were encouraged to contact AMD & staff will log the faults on Deadsure App or to contact Public Lighting section directly who will assist fault reporting.

Requests from members

- Timeline of expected repairs
- Details of the repairs already done since Monday 6th January 2025
- Older lamps should be prioritised
- Audit on all the infrastructure – wiring (as well as bollards etc)
- Report of what lighting was fixed, location and timeline of expected repairs going forward
- Public Lighting needs to be itemised on Agenda for next meeting
- Update on ESB engagement

B) Abbey Graveyard – confirmation re Contractor being Bennetts. Works commence on 15th January 2025. District Engineer gave details of what works are being done

C) Arklow Cemetery

- issues with bollards being removed, thrown to side.
- School parking
- Unauthorised works & damage done to graves

Suggestions:

- CCTV– Manager explained this is not possible due to legislation.
- Pedestrian access only similar to Wicklow Town & Rathnew.
- Disabled Parking space inside graveyard – not possible – inside graveyard is not a parking area.

Management will consult with Environment for solutions. Members encouraged to contact AMD & Environment if they have any reports of unauthorised works or damage.

D) Discretionary Projects – finish time queried. Engineer gave timelines. Query as to how €100K was being spent. Confirmed that Arklow Municipal District staff will be undertaking the works.

Request – that GSS's report on locations of works

E) Junction at Navy Bridge queried Engineer waiting on location accident data which will take priority.

F) Tinahask Development – PPN Project.

Request – For a Joint Submission to the Part 8 for 1 bed dwellings to be increased to 2 bed dwellings. Asked for Manager to advise regarding lodgement of such submissions. Management will consult with Director of Service for Housing. An online meeting was suggested to discuss the Tinahask PPN Project before lodging a submission to the Part 8.

G) Focus on Main Street maintenance and Parking in Lr Main Street discussed re possibilities of set down areas. Manager will request an update on the Parking Bye-laws.

H) Tidy Towns

Latest results from IBAL report – Arklow moved from 16th to 10th in “Cleaner than European Norms” Tidy towns & CE staff as well as the MD crew were complimented on hard work & success. Issues highlighted in the first report in 2024 were addressed. Hoping B+ areas can be brought up to A standard in 2025. Elected members agreed & complimented AMD staff & Tidy Town Volunteers.


Requests

- A dog bin on South Quay.
- Funding – Historic Town funding suggested – deadline is 14th February.
- RDF queried – is there a plan?
- Casual Trading – suggestion of a potential Farmers Market since Abbey Lane refurbished. Manager to see information on Casual trading byelaws. Members informed of the Events Procedures which is another avenue that can be explored.

I. LIS Schemes – THE 2 LIS Schemes were done to a very high quality. Compliments to the staff and management.

J. St Patricks Day Parades – Members informed that staff will assist with the completion of forms for Road Closures & Events for St. Patricks Day Parades.

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

Signed:  _____
Cllr Pat Kennedy .Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.

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