

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES,
MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Councillor L. Scott, Cathaoirleach
Councillors 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

Apologies from: Councillor M. Barry

At the outset, Councillor L. Fenelon Gaskin objected to the amended agenda which issued on 23rd February 2026 that had excluded the notice of motion proposed by her and seconded by Councillor S. Stokes and she requested that the original agenda which issued on 16th February 2026 be reverted to.

Councillor S. Stokes agreed and suggested that this motion was a completely different motion from the one discussed at the October meeting although it did have some overlapping issues. He suggested that the motion could be considered under Standing Order No. 16 as no decision had been taken by the members.

The District Administrator read out the two notices of motion as follows:

Motion submitted for meeting on 28th October 2025:

(a) Motion in the name of Councillor L. Fenelon-Gaskin:

"That Greystones Municipal District Council agrees to remove the temporary planters (on the side of Bank of Ireland) which were installed along Greystones Main Street during the Covid-19 pandemic and to replace these with properly designated parking spaces for elderly, age-friendly and disabled users in order to improve access to local shops and services"

Motion submitted for meeting on 24th February 2026:

(a) Motion in the names of Councillors L. Fenelon-Gaskin & S. Stokes:

"Wicklow County Council should remove all remaining planter boxes from the western side of Church Road. We believe that this would support local businesses. Additionally, at least two more age friendly spaces should be considered in this area."

The District Manager informed the members that the two motions were the same and had been discussed in detail at the October meeting and again at the January meeting. She stated that Standing Order 19 prevented a motion already decided on from being re-opened within six months. She stated that the members could revert to the original agenda but that there would not be any further discussion on the matter by the Council officials.

The Cathaoirleach agreed that the two motions were the same and pointed out that the members had agreed last month to await the details of the Pathfinder Scheme and the review of the Parking Regulations.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor O. Finn, seconded by Councillor T. Fortune and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 27th January 2026, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. DEPUTATION FROM GREYSTONES SHARKS BASKETBALL CLUB

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Deborah Murphy, Chairperson and Mr. Marvin Hanke, Sports Development Officer, from Greystones Sharks Basketball Club to the meeting. They made a Powerpoint presentation that gave details of the background to the club, their mission, committee make-up and membership, coaching teams, training and games courts, boys and girls, men's and ladies' teams as well as the all-stars teams for people with special needs. The presentation included details of community and fund-raising events and their vision for the future. They stressed the need to have their own facilities to cater for their growing numbers and to ensure full participation in national competitions and they pointed out that they currently used facilities at local schools though some of these were not competition size. They stated that while the facilities at Shoreline were excellent, they were unable to secure any regular or weekend slots.

All the members supported the club in their efforts and agreed to do whatever they could to assist. They pointed out that most clubs in the district were in a similar position and they were hopeful that the recently adopted Local Planning Framework would identify sites and possibly means to progress.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the group for their presentation and agreed to discuss this matter with her fellow Councillors and to revert to the club in due course.

3. 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 he answered any queries from the members in relation to same. He advised the members that while he was aware of the issue, the provision of a footpath on Church Lane in Greystones would require land acquisition for which there was no funding at present. He agreed to have potholes at Delgany NS and Kilcoole NS filled in and he stated that a new scheme was planned by Irish Water between Delgany and Killincarrig. He agreed to have a look at the footpaths and the blind spot at the junction in Newcastle village and to follow up with the ESB to have lights connected at the new pedestrian crossing at Sea Road, Kilcoole.

In relation to the works on Church Road Greystones, he stated that the rain gardens provided there were designed to take water and to stop chemicals from road water going into the drainage systems and ultimately into the sea. He stated that it was not intended to let them grow wild and that the trees would be maintained by Council staff. He pointed out that some rain gardens only had stones instead of grass and that they were planted with specific plants that could tolerate both droughts and heavy rainfall. He was not aware of any damaged kerbs at the Church Road location.

In response to a query about the road at the cove, the District Engineer stated that the Council was currently looking at funding streams for a survey of this by a Structural Engineer. He agreed to investigate ways to improve the pedestrian crossing at Kilcoole NS and he stated that he would meet with the contractors for the Kilcoole school works to get them all to work together in having road works associated with the development finalised as soon as possible. He stated that the south beach archways were the property of Irish Rail but that he would check the need for additional lighting there and he pointed out that a tender process for an arborist to check on trees in the district, including at Grattan Park and St. Crispins, was being progressed currently.

The District Administrator informed the members that nitrous oxide cannisters should be disposed of at hazardous waste collections that are organised by the Council periodically. She stated that nationally, a return scheme for the cannisters was being looked at.

Members stated that SUDS rain gardens generally worked well but that people got annoyed when they were left to grow wild and they welcomed the fact that Council staff would maintain them going forward. They suggested that the Council should organise an awareness campaign to explain their purpose and how they worked to the public. They thanked the District Engineer for his report and for works carried out in the district.

4. HOUSING UPDATE REPORT (TO INCLUDE FARRANKELLY CLOSE)

The District Administrator had circulated the members with an updated report on housing matters prior to the meeting and this was taken as read.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the District Administrator for organising a recent meeting with residents of Farrankelly Close and Council staff and for arranging a meeting between members and Wicklow County Council Housing Officials for 11th March 2026.

5. NOTICES OF MOTION

(a) Motion in the names of Councillors L. Fenelon-Gaskin & S. Stokes:

"Wicklow County Council should remove all remaining planter boxes from the western side of Church Road. We believe that this would support local businesses. Additionally, at least two more age friendly spaces should be considered in this area."

The District Manager stated that the context of this motion was the same as the motion considered at the October 2025 meeting and only had slightly different wording so should not be discussed again as per the Standing Orders. She stated that the response to the original motion was that the removal of the planters was not recommended in the Heritage Plan and that the width of the spaces was not enough to provide age-friendly parking. She pointed out that the Pathfinder Scheme and the review of the parking regulations would both cover this area and would involve public consultation. She stated that full discussion had been given to the issues.

The Cathaoirleach agreed and proposed that the agenda be moved on. She stated that the matter could be revisited again in due course and while some members were unhappy with her decision, she agreed to proceed with the agenda as per the Standing Orders.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator advised the members that a request had been received from the Whale Theatre Group for funding in the sum of €4,000 for Open Mic and Ceol events. She stated that this was a substantial amount and she pointed out that there were several requests from various groups for discretionary funding each year from the limited discretionary budget.

Following discussion it was agreed to circulate details of the groups that normally received funding each year and to consider allocations at the March meeting.

2. The District Administrator informed the members that a request had been submitted by the Principal of St. David's School to make a presentation to the members at a monthly meeting. Members suggested that this was in relation to parking, which they could not assist with other than to push for the review of the parking regulations.

Following discussion it was agreed to contact the principal to enquire about his requirements and to suggest that the members could meet him in the school at an agreed date and time.

3. The District Administrator stated that there were also requests for presentations from Dr. Margaret Kennedy and from the E-bike Group and that these would be considered in conjunction with other requirements for agendas in the coming months.
4. The District Administrator informed the members of the contents of an email received from Kathleen Kelleher which confirmed that members from the Holyhead Twinning Committee would participate in the Greystones St. Patrick's Day Parade next month.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. In response to a query from Councillor O. Finn, the District Administrator informed the members that the Part 8 Scheme for the Convent Road in Delgany would be advertised on 25th February 2026 and that members of the Council's Active Travel Team would be available to answer any questions as required.
2. Councillor S. Stokes informed the members that funding in the sum of €500,000 had been secured by the Council for bus stops and that proposals for bus stop enhancements should be circulated to all Councillors.
3. Councillor S. Stokes informed the members that funding in the sum of €200,000 per Municipal District had been secured by the Council for crossings and the District Engineer stated that he would draw up a list of proposals and come back to the members.
4. The Cathaoirleach stated that €500,000 allocated in 2025 for bus stop/shelters had not all been spent and she requested details of works actually carried out from this funding. She stated that the bus stop at Lidl in Greystones badly needed shelter.
5. The District Administrator informed the members that awards would be presented to the winners of the Greystones St. Patrick's Day Parade in the Council Chamber on a date to be confirmed, details of which would be circulated when available.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

CERTIFIED: _____ **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

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