

MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

HELD IN DISTRICT CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

MONDAY 15th September 2025 at 11.30am

Present: Cathaoirleach Cllr Graham Richmond, Cllr Danny Alvey, Cllr Shane Langrell,
Cllr Paul O'Brien
Cllr Gail Dunne joined the meeting online

In Attendance: District Manager, Brian Gleeson
District Engineer, William Halligan
District Administrator, Georgina Franey
Assistant Staff Officer Róisín Carroll
Hugh O'Farrell Walsh, Wicklow People

Apologies: Cllr John Snell

Cathaoirleach Graham Richmond opened the meeting at 11.33am.

Councillor Shane Langrell proposed a vote of sympathy in relation to the recently deceased John Lowe (RIP) and Paul Brady (RIP).

ITEM 1

Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 15th September 2025

It was proposed by Councillor Paul O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Shane Langrell and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of the Wicklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on 15th September 2025.

ITEM 2

Update from Mark Costello, Climate Action Coordinator regarding the Moby Bikes scheme.

Mark Costello, Climate Action Coordinator, presented an update on the Moby Bike Sharing Scheme. He reported 1,240 rides in Wicklow Town during August, covering 1,873 km and saving 0.24 metric tonnes of carbon emissions.

He noted ongoing issues with vandalism but confirmed that a new app will be launched shortly to introduce user history tracking, automatic fines, and improved bike security. Extra bike stands are being installed and the scheme will be extending to Ashford and Glenealy.

He also highlighted the upcoming Climate Action Week (18–28 September) with 26 events planned across the county, including public workshops and community engagement activities.

MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- Cllr Paul O'Brien noted that while there were some teething problems at the beginning of the scheme, it is positive to see the introduction of a new app and locking system. He queried the condition of the bikes in Wicklow compared to those in Bray, which appear to be of a higher standard.
- Cllr Danny Alvey asked how to report a damaged bike. Cllr Paul O'Brien confirmed that reports can be made through the app and users receive credit for doing so. Mark Costello added that reports can also be sent directly to the Climate Section and advised he will circulate the relevant contact details.
- Cllr Shane Langrell queried if locations had been identified in Ashford and Glenealy. Mark Costello advised that discussions will take place with the Municipal District staff to agree suitable locations.
- A query was raised regarding accident reports. Mark Costello advised there have been no reports of accidents to date. Any claims would be processed directly through Moby Bikes insurance.

ITEM 3

To consider a nomination from Wicklow MD for membership of the Local Community Safety Partnership

Cllr Paul O'Brien was proposed by Cathaoirleach Graham Richmond and seconded by Cllr Shane Langrell as the Wicklow Municipal District representative on the Local Community Safety Partnership.

ITEM 4

District Engineers Report

Updates were provided by District Engineer William Halligan as follows:

Housing:

❖ Relets/Prelets

WMD

- 5no. houses currently being worked on, through WCC Housing Framework by MD,
- 3no. house returned to WMD for refurbishment.
- 1no. house returned to Housing for allocation.

Housing Direct Labour:

- 7no. houses are being managed by WCC Direct Labour.

❖ Maintenance and operations

- On-going repairs and maintenance being progressed as required on housing stock within the WMD.
- Significant repair works ongoing to Hillview duplex apartments to address existing defects. General repair requests here are predominantly completed with minor ongoing. 2no. Hillview apartments refurbished and will be utilised to rotate tenants as we complete further apartment works.

DTTAS Roads Programme:

DTTAS Allocations for 2025 Projects on the Restoration Improvement and Maintenance Programme have been reviewed based on pavement condition ratings.

❖ Restoration Improvement

Tenders on Restoration Improvement works commenced in February 2025. Works include a variety of techniques depending on classification and condition of Road.

Advance works such as drainage and verge widening works has started on RI Roads with a mixture of MD staff and sub contactors. Main list of RI 2025 projects below.

Location	Length of Works (m)	Completed to Date
L5099 Rockey Road Specific Improvement Project	1200	Pavement capping layer and base course have been laid, the levels for the drainage inlets are now being set in advance of the laying of the final wearing course. Accommodation works, fencing and crash barrier ongoing. Wearing course to be laid week commencing Monday 15 th September. Opening date 5 th October 2025
L5036 Ballinastoe Rd	1427	Works Complete
R765 Newtown - Roundwood	2650	Works Complete
R750 Dublin Road Wicklow	740	Works Complete
L1096 Ashford-Ballymanus Lower	936	Works Complete
L5070 Ashford-Ballinalea	405	Works Complete
R764 Ashford-Roundwood	80	Works Complete
L1096 Ashford	410	Works Complete
R-751 Marlton Road	262	Works Complete
L5099 Rockey Road (Wicklow Town)	333	Works Complete
Market Street	80	Contract awarded works to commence in the coming weeks

❖ Restoration Maintenance

The Countywide Restoration Maintenance Programme 2025 was submitted in February. Advance works such as drainage and verge widening works all completed before start of RM Roads. Main list of RM 2025 projects below. The road Maintenance programme commenced in Wicklow MD at the L5157 Dunganstown 14th May.

Location	Length of Works (m)	Completed to Date
L1036 Stoneypass	1119	Complete

L5056 Slemaine	2817	Complete
L5056 Baliliam Lane	703	Complete
L5077 Raheen	1069	Complete
L1059 St John's Road	1185	Complete
R764 Knockatemple-Tomcoyle	5362	Complete
L1059 Loughdan-Drummin	4494	Complete
R764 Inchanappa south to Killiskey cross	2588	Complete
L5157 Dunganstown	1421	Complete
L5092 Sleanlough	1500	Complete

❖ **Drainage**

- General works on verge drains, drainage inlets, gullies and road crossings to outlets are ongoing throughout the MD.
- Programme for cleaning of gullies continuing within Wicklow MD. Drain surveys are still being carried out on problem areas as required.
- Installation of drainage pipes/ road crossings along L1091 Moneystown at junction with Knockaphrumpa Lane commenced 19/02/2025.
- Installation of drainage pipes/ road crossings along R764 Ashford-Roundwood road commenced 21/02/2025, advanced works for RI and RM Project.
- Installation of drainage pipes/ road crossings along L5036 Ballinastoe Rd completed in advanced works for RI Project.

❖ **Local Improvement Scheme Projects**

- One LIS project has been allocated to the Wicklow Municipal District for 2025 at Wicklow Gap Road, Glendalough. Works are 100% complete.
- Additional funding for LIS Project has been made available. Request for tender issued for LIS L5061 Road, Knockatemple, Roundwood 2025.

❖ **Safety Projects**

- Works to increase visibility and road safety at Castlekevin, L5087 junction with L1076 and L5087 junction with L5587 complete.
- Pedestrian crossing to be installed as part of a housing development condition in Ashford, at junction with R763 and R764 works complete, awaiting connection.
- Bollards installed at St Joseph's School in Newtownmountkennedy.
- 4 No. Electronic speed signs have been purchased and will be installed at Ashwood Roundwood, St Patricks Road, Wicklow, Greenhills Road and Newtownmountkennedy (delay in order from supplier). All units expected delivery in approx. 2 weeks.
- Speed limit review. Circular RST-04-2024 issued by Department of Transport on Speed Limits Implementation revised date of 7th February 2025. All works Completed.
- Pedestrian crossing civil works completed on the Dunbur Road, issue, ESB to energise after this.

- Solar powered driver feedback signage has been ordered for Ballinahinch, Laragh and Newtownmountkenedy. Poles have been erected in advance of commissioning by WCC at two of the sites. Additional order for feedback sign at Marlton Road, poles to be installed. Order delayed at supplier end. All units expected delivery in approx. 2 weeks.
- Zebra crossing equipment to be installed at Roundwood playground on 18/09/25
- Driver feedback (speed display) sign at the Roundwood AFC for traffic approaching the village to be installed on 19/09/25.

❖ **Former National Road Rehabilitation Works**

- Tender competition completed and contractor appointed for surface restoration project on the R772 Newtown Mount Kennedy works will be completed in both Wicklow Municipal District and Greystones Municipal District. Works commencing September 15th 2025.

Abbey Grounds:

- Project Ongoing. Contractor commenced works on June 10th. Schedule for completion of works for the Coach House Cafe has been moved back to Q2 2025.
- Tiling complete in new toilet block. Main building tiling work to commence this week, followed by final electrical work.
- Paving to front and rear of Coach House to commence this week. All UG services installed to allow works to proceed.
- New sliding gate mechanism installed to front of building on Abbey Street side. Installation of gate to follow once paving is complete.
- Civil Works to install footpaths and ducting for services and drainage in the park area ongoing. Works carried out in cooperation with Local Authority Staff.
- Planting programme for the park has been completed for this season.
- Paving around the coach house is complete.
- Internal tiling complete to Coach House.
- Ducting for services – ESB, Public Lighting, Water, Comms - around the park is practically complete.
- Drainage works and grading of park underway.
- Detailed designs continuing to be progressed for the Amphitheatre and performance area.
- Designs for Public pathway through park and public lighting being completed.
- Paths being formed and kerbs being laid.

Community Recognition Fund/Outdoor Recreation:

- Brittas Bay Blueway funding for accessibility works; Chestnut fencing to be erected in coming months in order to protect the dunes.
- Wicklow Seafront Toilets – Project complete.
- The Assembly Hall facility works are now complete internally. Still waiting for ESB to energise. ESB have connected power, works here completed.
- Repairs to the Handball alley are complete.

Town & Village Renewal:

- Wicklow Town, Connectivity Project – three ornate arches with lanterns are currently being fabricated for installation along the Doctor's Steps. WTT liaising with fabricator to finalise fabrication and install dates.
- Compactor bins have been installed in Glendalough, Laragh and Roundwood to promote a cleaner environment but also to increase efficiency from an operational point of view. These

bins have smart technology built into them and will communicate back to base when full and require our staff resources to empty. Efficiency of big belly bins has increased from 12% at year start (2024) to 38% in 2025, increasing their overall value to the district by over 200%.

- New Big belly bins have been installed at Glenturn car park, Rathnew bus stop and Fitzwilliam square.

NTA Projects:

- Consultants still working on pedestrian and cycle improvement scheme as part of the Pathfinder project, initial survey completed on the Marlton Road and Rocky Road, linking to the train station on Station Road. A topographical survey of roads and footpaths has taken place along entire route. This information is required as part of the detailed design process.
- Working with NTA to look at Market Street junction with respect to turning movements of buses/ larger vehicles.

WCC General Projects/Maintenance:

- On-going maintenance of grass care, weed control and hedge cutting around Wicklow town.

WMD Playgrounds:

- Wicklow MD Playgrounds repairs and inspections ongoing.
 - The Murrough Playground – New Sand Digger at sand pit, completed. Damaged Zipwire cable to be replaced (Should be completed 11/09/25)
 - Ballynerrin Playground – New Cradle Swing installed, all play surfaces have now been cleaned, including industrial hoovering of astro pitch surface.
 - Tender pricing documents issued to playground contractors for the supply and install of two disabled access pieces of play equipment, one for Rathnew and one for the Murrough playgrounds. Type dependant on tender results. Tenders due for return on 30/09/25.
 - Five play areas at the Vartry Trails now handed over to WCC.
 - Vartry Trails Upper Carpark Pump Track – Tender awarded, due to commence end of this month.
 - Three Newtown estate playgrounds added to WMD, Alderway, Haven Green, and Glendarragh.

Additional MD projects:

- Chief Executives Report for the Murrough Part 8 has been finalised. Pump Track contract has been awarded to contractor, project will break ground over summer. Pump Track is underway and proceeding as planned, estimated completion of September. Tarmac surface of pump track to be laid next week.
- Derrybawn Car Park, Laragh to begin Part 8 process to regularise existing use. Ecologist has been brought on to complete environmental screenings for Part 8. New Eco toilet to be installed as part of proposal. Complete. Negotiations to extend lease duration required at request of law agent.
- New Eco toilet to be installed at Magheramore Temp Car Park. Complete.
- New eco Toilet to be installed at Vartry Trails Carpark. Complete.
- Footpath and kerb repairs in Laragh are complete.
- Glendalough Upper Car Park has received new line marking and new Bin Store. New Defib to be installed here in coming weeks. New Defib is installed.

- Moby Mobility bike scheme, bike parking locations works commenced 19th May.
- Brittas Bay footpath. Site meeting held with NNR crew, procurement of consultant to prepare a design and Part 8 planning documents is complete. Site meeting with National School Principal has been held. Land owner engagement commenced.
- Footpath resurfacing works Ballinahinch Ashford (footpath from Ashford to Nun's Cross school). Work being undertaken during school mid-term, complete.
- Footpath resurfacing work at L1096. Complete.
- Footpath resurfacing works Roundwood Village. Complete.
- Footpath repairs in Glenview Park, Kilpedder complete. A number of sections in the estate, of varying length, were identified and replaced by Local Authority outdoor staff.
- WCC have issued payments for the following connections. WMD has received MPRN's to progress completion:
 - Laragh Pedestrian Crossing,
 - Moneystown Pedestrian Crossing,
 Both crossings have been energised and are operational.
- Road markings are being progressed around the MD, some have been carried out around the town, with others refreshed at certain locations. Double yellow lines have been completed at Magheramore. Road markings being progressed around Newtown and on RI and RM projects at present. Extensive road markings completed in Hillview housing estate for safety reasons.
- Historical lighting, all sites have revised design lights and power supply in place. WMD to finalise light adjustment and Bluetooth controls with original lighting designer. Possible modifications required at Stone Bridge to prevent glare for traffic. Lighting designer on site 23/06/25 to arrange finalising controllers and commissioning.
- Footpath to GAA club in Wicklow complete, remaining Eir column removed. Additional resurfacing along this stretch also complete.
- New cross and gates erected at Three Mile Water cemetery.
- Road marking project in Wicklow Town commenced with new markings installed at Wentworth Place/Church Hill junction and Wicklow Gaol among others. Further renewals to be undertaken in the coming weeks.
- Consultations with relevant Contractors for the preparation of proposals for the Aires Park are ongoing, proposals and budgets costs due. Ongoing.

Discretionary Fund projects:

- Footpath Repair project at Heatherbrook Marlton Road commenced 11th September.
- Pedestrian crossings and paving of car parking area at the Roundwood Playground commenced Tuesday 26th August.
- Pedestrian crossings at the Friary, works completed.
- Improvements to footpath at bridge entering Newownmountkenedy. Works completed.
- Footpath at Merrymeeting Hill, Rathnew. Works are complete.
- Wicklow Heights car parking. Works are complete.
- Roundwood – New Paved Parking Area and Pedestrian Crossing at Roundwood Playground. Contract awarded. Works commenced on site.
- Roundwood – Two ramps from Playground to GAA Club. One ramp new has been installed and an existing ramp has been replaced/repared.
- Rathnew – Resurfacing of the Old village has been completed, road line marking has commenced.

- Newtown - Kilmullen traffic calming, new sign has been installed. Site visit to assess possibility of installing anti-skid surface.
- Fund to upgrade footpaths in MD. Footpaths upgrade works at Saint Patricks Road, Wicklow Town is complete. Footpath improvement works taking place in Glenview Park, Kilpedder and Season Park, Newtown Mount Kennedy and will continue over the coming weeks to address severely damaged and hazardous areas in both estates.
- Church Hill Traffic calming – Consultation with National School, Gardai, Fire Service and Church of Ireland completed.
- All salt boxes have been distributed around the District.
- Tender for Defibrillators has been completed and order will be complete within 2-3 weeks.

MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- Members expressed their appreciation to District Engineer William Halligan, who is transferring to another section of the Council, and recognised the valuable work he carried out over the past 11 months. The District Manager also noted that he had done a fantastic job, exceeding expectations with a positive, can-do attitude. The District Engineer said it had been a very enjoyable year working with the six Members, Brian Gleeson and Georgina Franey, from whom he had learned a great deal.
- Concerns were raised regarding pedestrian crossings in Wicklow Town. It was suggested that kerbs be lowered for improved accessibility. Cllr Paul O'Brien also highlighted issues at the pedestrian crossing near Nick's Coffee, where car parking is too close to the crossing.
- Request for a clean-up of the dog park. The District Engineer advised that this will be added to the work schedule.
- Concerns regarding Springfield and Springfield Court, where road markings and signage are causing confusion about right of way. The District Engineer advised he will have a look into the matter.
- Ashford bus shelter, members noted the bike stands were never replaced. The District Engineer advised this will be investigated.
- Bottle banks are occupying car parking spaces - a review of their location was requested.
- Request for signage for the soccer pitch in Roundwood.
- Permission for the installation of a pedestal post box outside the new Post Office location in Newtownmountkenedy has been requested from the MD.
- Public lighting issue in Belmont Close.

ITEM 5

Correspondence

Correspondence was received from residents of the Friary estate expressing their gratitude for the installation of pedestrian crossing (and other works) at the Friary, which were delivered under the Discretionary fund.

ITEM 6

Any Other Business

Thanks were extended to the Town Regeneration Team for hosting the recent public consultation events regarding the Black Castle. It was noted that the public consultation provided reassurance to local residents and a residents committee has been formed which is a positive step.

The Cathaoirleach, Graham Richmond advised that he has written to Oireachtas members seeking a meeting regarding Wicklow Municipal District matters. He noted that all members want to work together for the benefit of the MD and he will continue to keep the members updated.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 12.15pm.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Date: _____