



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON THE 8th MAY
2024**

Present: Cllr. Tommy Annesley, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke
Cllr. Pat Kennedy
Cllr. Miriam Murphy

Officials Present: Ms. Leonora Earls, District Manager
Ms. Avril Hill, District Engineer
Ms. Lorraine Hayes, ASO

Apologies: Cllr. Peir Leonard
Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator

Press: Eoin Mac Raghnaill

Public: Tammy Byrne (ACE)
Viktoria Bodley

Presentations: Mr. John Bowes, Senior Executive Engineer

Item 1: Votes of Sympathy

The members expressed votes of sympathy to all families who have recently lost a loved one, those mentioned were –

Graham Larkin, Elizabeth Ann Letts (Nee Clancy), Brian Penston, William (Bill) Saunders, Alan Furlong, Marie Dempsey (Nee O'Brien), Thomas Pender (Tom), John Patrick Higgins, Kallie McGuigan (née Byrne), Michael Byrne, Arthur Quirke, Noel Byrne, Ned (Edward) Murphy, Philip Doyle, Thomas (Tom) Pender, Noel Byrne, Daniel (Danny) Dowling, Bernard (Bernie) Byrne, Eileen Butler (née Ward), Joseph (Joe) Redmond.

A minutes silence was observed.

Item 2 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 10TH April 2024 were proposed by Cllr Murphy and seconded by Cllr Kennedy.

Item 3 Matters Arising

- Any update on dampness assessment.
- LE replied we are waiting for funding but will follow up with the retro-fit team.
- Houses in Glendale need a permanent solution.
- House in Avoca received new windows and doors there is now huge pressure from other tenants for same. The matter is to be raised with housing.
- We are still waiting for word from The Department regarding Clogga.

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

- ❖ To consider, the Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and notice in accordance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, for a Weighbridge Facility located on the R772 adjacent to Junction 19 of the M11.

John Bowes gave a brief summary of the CE's report. The CE recommends the Weighbridge should proceed.

Cllr Bourke proposed the weighbridge could be used by farmers and locals. Cllr Fitzgerald seconded this proposal.

John Bowes said this would depend on the opening hours or by arrangement subject to "use of weighbridge will be available to farmers on needs basis by arrangement."

In accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, the development of the Weighbridge Facility on the R772 adjacent to M11 Junction 19 may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive's Report.

- ❖ To Adopt the Arklow MD Schedule of Municipal District Works for 2024

The schedule was discussed and agreed. It was proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Bourke.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

2nd May 2024

Roads

Restoration Improvement - €1,674,860

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
R-752 Ballybeg - Rathnew	Planned
L-2190 Coolgreany Road	Planned
L-6139 Ballyshane - Cappagh	Commenced on site 30/04/24
L-5155 Tullylusk to Kilmacoo	Preparation works underway
L-2196 Ballykillageer	Preparation works underway
L-6181 Tigroney to Knockanree	Preparation works underway
L-6168 Cronemore to Coolflake	Preparation works underway

Restoration Maintenance

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
L-6150 & L-6129 Iron Bridge to Aughavannagh	Planned
L-2128 Pidge's Gate to Aughavannagh	Planned
L-6182 Knocknamohill to Ballymorris	Planned
L-6149 Castlehoward to Kingston	Planned
L-5153 Castlehoward to Sroughmore	Planned
L-2144 Mill Road	Planned
L-61983 Tomaniern Lower	Planned
L-61981 Tomaniern Lower	Planned

Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
Retaining wall on at Knockmillar	Contractor appointed.

Safety Improvement Works

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Status</i>
R-755 Rathdrum to Laragh Road	Installation of safety barrier	Tender awarded
R-752 Woodenbridge to Avoca	Installation of safety barrier	Tender awarded
Johnstown Village, Arklow	Installation of safety signage	To be tendered

Former National Roads

€460,000

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
R772 Knockmore to Kish	Liaising with NTA team

Discretionary Funds 2023

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
Educational Signage - Beaches	Liaised with Biodiversity officer
Footpath - Arklow Bearing Services	
Footpath - Kingsbrook to Centre Road	Commenced on site
Public Realm - Arklow	
Public Realm - Rathdrum	
Footpath - Conary	
Pedestrian Crossing - Rathdrum	
Infill Lighting Annacurra	
Public Realm Furniture - Aughrim	Ordered
Tree Management	
Public Realm Furniture Upgrade - AMD	
Heritage Signage for Villages	Survey Commenced
Footpath repair - Ferrybank	Response received. Needs input from Law Agent
Meeting Park - Bridge repair	Completed
Bus Shelter in Aughrim	Groundwork for installation commenced
Bus Shelter in Annacurra	Follow up with landowner
Public lighting at The Birches, Ballinaclash	Liaising with lighting designer
Public Realm - Rathdrum	Bollards & Planters ordered
Footpaths at Templeraíney Heights	TBC with GSS
Repair of footpath at Curran's Corner	To be discussed with Roads Department

Other Projects

Drainage works are planned at Killahurler/Mooreshill.

Drainage works are planned at Johnstown. Have agreement with landowner. Additional application to be made for funding in 2025.

Running Track – Have agreement with ESB, civil works can now be completed.

Abbey Lane – Consultant is undertaking tender assessment.

Comments

Barndarrig to Church footpath, perhaps discretionary funding could be used next year if the Parish give permission and there is currently no funding available at present.

Coolgreaney road is being repaired on a regular basis, if the budget allows it is hoped to do works from Maisie Kelly's to the Graveyard.

Works will commence at the primary and two secondary schools in June/July.

Graveyard is still a problem as it is water logged due to the severe rainfall and the marly soil cannot dry out. A survey on graveyard was requested.

LE explained we are constantly in contact with the Environment department looking for a solution.

❖ To consider the allocation of Festival Funding

Allocation of festival funding as per the draft was discussed and agreed. It was proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Bourke

❖ Climate Action Update

Members requested to list Climate Action on the agenda for next Month's meeting as there was no one available for this meeting.

5. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members.

None

6. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting.

None

7. Notice of Motion

None

Item 8 Correspondence

Email received from Leanne Doyle in relation to sponsorship for her son Reece who has qualified to compete in Hungary in August 2024 at the WAKO World Kickboxing Championships.

Cllr. Fitzgerald proposed a payment of €500.00 and Cllr. Kennedy seconded the proposal.

Email from Tammy Byrne Chairperson of ACE requesting sponsorship for upcoming events. As the current Elected Members do not know their position until after the June election it was agreed a long term financial decision could not be met. However a donation was agreed and it was suggested to go back to this item in July.

Cllr Fitzgerald proposed a donation of €500.00 and Councillor Annesley seconded this.

Email received regarding the condition of Kilcarra – Kilahurler road. DE stated there is no funding available at present. It will be a priority in the three year programme which is being constructed. All drains are open but with the amount of rock present it is difficult to rectify the situation. Patching and repairs to surfacing are carried out regularly.


Letter received from An Taoiseach, Simon Harris TD was read into the minutes.

Item 9 Any Other Business

- Rural roads in a shocking state. It was felt Wicklow County Council is not getting adequate funding from the Department.
- AH stated we are regularly applying for funding to the Department.
- 11 Million euro paid out in claims by IPB is it possible to find out what percentage is paid out for accidents on rural roads in Wicklow.
- It was agreed that a speed test would be carried out on the Ballygannon road.
- Update LIS – Funds allocated currently waiting to see the allocation list as it is done in chronological order. There is a four to six year waiting list.
- The County Council are not refurbishing Riverside Apartments and there is no application from any AHB's either.
- Duck pond can we check with biodiversity officer regarding removing reeds from the pond.
- Footpath at Rock Armour to be looked at as it is not safe at present.
- An event to commemorate the bi-centenary of Michael Dwyer in 2025 was called for. LE cited a special committee should be formed for this and report back to AMD members. The members were in agreement to set up the committee.
- The Elected Members signed off with acknowledgment that the past five years they had served had been pleasurable. Also it was a pleasant chamber to work in. Each wished each other well in the upcoming Election and thanked District Manager, District Administrator, District Engineer and all AMD staff for their hard work.


Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th May 2023.

Signed:



Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.

Signed:



Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District