



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON

THE 10th December 2025.

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

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

Guest Speaker: Ms. Jenny Sherwin, Arts Officer

Apologies: Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator

Press: Hugh O'Farrell-Walsh

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 12th November were proposed by Cllr. Kennedy and seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

PL requested an update on the An Taisce report.

LE stated 18 buildings had been visited and the report stated 5 need further action under the derelict site action plan. Owners of 56,57,58 and 59 had been in contact. The review of all properties will be in the full report in 2026.

PF has concerns regarding the back of the four buildings he stated they are dangerous and action needs to be taken.

PL enquired if anything was to happen who is liable, the Elected Members need to see the inspection report and also need a timeline.

MM said there are 6 very dissatisfied Councillors, this item has been brought up at County Meetings also and it looks like the Elected Members are doing nothing.

SB asked can we not CPO the buildings, he heard one owner wants to sell his building to The County Council.

LE will bring all these queries back to The CEO and revert, she is not aware of any offer to County Council for sale of any buildings.

MM asked if we could come back to this in the New Year.

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

Presentation on new proposed Arklow Laneways Project was delivered.

The following points were raised:

MM said this is a great project which will bring communities together.

PL stated it is a lovely way to combine biodiversity, community spirit, the arts and children. This project is great and will incorporate natural flora and fauna, we need to support this project and look at discretionary funding if necessary. Jim Rees has a study done on laneways in the Town it would be great if we can link QR codes to help educate people about the history of the laneways.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

3rd December 2025

Restoration Improvement

Proposed Works	Status
R-752 Ballybeg to Rathnew	Date TBC
R-754 Avoca Village	Complete (some line marking outstanding)
L-29013 Laffin's Lane	Complete
L-6147 Ballymorris Lower	Complete
L-29013 Castlepark	Complete
L-7137 Ballymanus-Reddenagh	Complete
L-2143 Aughrim-Ballinglen	Complete
L-6644 Ballinaclesh-Ballard	Complete
L-5665 Kilmacree Pass	Complete
L-5163 Templelyon	Complete

Restoration Maintenance

Complete

Safety Improvement Works

Complete

Community Involvement Scheme

Proposed Works	Status
L-66441 Whaley Abbey, Ballinaclesh	Pre. Works complete, date TBC with Contractor

Local Improvement Scheme

Proposed Works	Status
Kilcassell, Aughrim	Complete
Toberpatrick, Tinahely	Complete
Westaston, Kilmacurra	Complete
Ballymorris, Aughrim	Complete
Ballard Upper	Complete
Ballard Ballinaclesh	Complete
Aughavannagh	Complete
Ballycapple	Complete

Discretionary Funding

Proposed Works	Status
Footpath at Barndarrig NS	Waiting on response from Board of Management
Castlemacadam Cemetery	TBC by RI contractor
Duck Pond	Review of Maintenance Requirements
Public Lighting in Greenane	Waiting on ESB connection
Heritage Signage for Villages	One sign to be installed in Greenane
Infill Lighting Annacurra	Civil works complete. ESB connection to be completed
Public Lighting at the Birches, Ballinaclesh	Waiting on ESB connection
Public Realm Furniture Upgrade - AMD	Some benches installed in St. Mary's Park
Tree Management	Arborist reports received, tendering for tree surgeon
Footpath - Conary	Complete
2024 Footpath Repair Riverwalk	Some drainage works required in advance
Public Realm - Arklow	
Public Realm - Rathdrum	
Educational Signage - Beaches	Liaised with the Biodiversity Officer - Awaiting Further Information
Pedestrian Crossing - Rathdrum	Considered as part of Traffic Study
Repair of Footpath at Currans Corner	
Footpath - Arklow Bearing Services	

Footpath Renewal

Croghan View, Aughrim – complete

Main St. Arklow Resurfacing at laneways complete
Re-setting of cobbles complete

Other works

Seaview Avenue, Mini driving school – Signage to be installed.

St. Mary's Park – Upgrading lighting in bandstand ongoing

Upgrade of Pedestrian Crossing – NTA funding received to upgrade crossings in Avoca and Rathdrum, both commenced.

The following matters were raised and discussed:

AH there were two storms since the last Meeting and the outdoor crews kept the disruption to a minimum.

MM praised the commitment of GSS, the two engineers and all in-house staff and expressed her gratitude to all.

PL mirrored MM's gratitude and thanked all AMD staff. A boat is sinking in the dock and needs urgent attention. Some ring buoys have been uprooted during the storm. Can we get an update on coastal erosion at Clogga. Can the NTA look at the bollards at the Main Street car park. When are footpaths at Vale Road being installed. A lay-by is needed on the Vale Road for local residents. We are not being kept in the loop with NTA works.

LE has spoken with T.O'Brien and a meeting with Clogga residents is being organised.

PK cited that many ditches are not being cut back and causing problems for motorists and pedestrians. Has there been an application entered for safety barrier funding? Did we look at joining the cycle lane from Arklow to Gorey. Can the double line markings in Avoca be checked also.

AH will check on line markings in Avoca. Letters have gone to landowners regarding hedge and ditch maintenance. No application has been made for funding. We will talk to NTA regarding the cycle lane.

SB expressed how difficult it is to cut ditches with traffic. Some yellow road markings have yet to be done. Abbey Lane is a problem with illegal dumping and rodents. Roads at Kilcarra need attention as there are potholes there. Barniskey Church Committee requested muck outside Church be tidied up. Residents in Mountain View Drive have taken to filling potholes with cement can someone take a look at this please.

PF stated the Vale Road is in a bad way and potholes need attention.

AH said Vale Road is on the restoration plan 2026.

PL there is an issue with ESB, yellow lines are faded and need to be re-done. 20minute set down parking should be put in place at the restaurant, Sue Ryder shop, Joe's bike shop and the Art Gallery. There was an issue with signage for Christmas free parking and the fines should be waived as a result of this.

SB attended the planning SPC work is on-going with ATP and a report will be ready mid-January.

Item 5 Correspondence:

LE read an email received from National Transport Ireland, she has spoken to staff in the office and will send on the information she received to the Members.

Arklow Silver Band email, Alvina had directed them to the Community and Arts funding.

LE read letter received from SVP. She explained the staff of CoCo have a staff charity fund of which SVP is a main recipient while it is a very worthy cause it does not fit into policy.

MM asked for the letter be replied to.

Item 6 AOB:

LE suggested writing to ESB and invite them to a meeting as previous correspondence has failed with them.

MM wished all present and their families a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

LE wished all a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

PL Thanked all the staff involved in the Christmas Festival as it was a great success, she also thanked ACE for the award night and the work they do she requested a letter of gratitude be sent to ACE.

PK wished MM a Happy Christmas and also a very Happy Christmas to all the staff who work together to make the place a better place to live.

Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2025.

Signed:

Miriam Murphy

Clr Miriam Murphy, Cathaoirleach, Arklow Municipal District.

Signed:

Alvina Brehony

Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District