



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON THE 11th
October 2023**

Present: Cllr. Tommy Annesley, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald, Leas-Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke
Cllr. Pat Kennedy
Cllr. Peir Leonard

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

Apologies:
Cllr. Miriam Murphy

Press: Eoin Mac Raghnaill

Public: None

Comments:

Item 1: Votes of Sympathy.

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

Jim Doyle, Mary Shortall nee Daly, Peter (Pudge) Dunbar, Paul Larkin, Vello Salmre, Paddy Murphy, Harry Foxton, Brenda Dixon(née Harford), Kelly Barnes, Thomas (Tommy)Byrne, Brian Hunter, Emmett Ivers, David Brennan, Moses Hatton, James Doran, (Jim - The Bear), Edward O Toole (Eamonn), Liam Jordan, Sean Jacob, Theresa Gurrin (née Ward)

A minutes silence was held.

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 13TH September were proposed by Cllr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr. Kennedy and Cllr. Bourke.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

AB said there had been no reply from Bus Eireann regarding school transport but had an acknowledgment from Minister Foley's office saying they would investigate and revert in the near future.

Cllr. Leonard proposed to write to Irish Rail to request extra carriages for the train Dublin to Arklow train and Cllr. Bourke agreed.

Cllr. Kennedy asked for an update on the commons land in Rathdrum, it is with CCSD at the moment he said there is a huge need for this land for the people of Rathdrum.

AB confirmed that there was no update with the running track, it is with the Sports Partnership and waiting for final funding approval from the Department.

Item 4: Consideration of reports and recommendations.

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

3rd October 2023

Roads

Restoration Improvement

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Length</i>
L-6137 / L-6183 Ballymorris & Crone Beg	Complete	
L-2140/L-6141 Macreddin to Ballyshane	Completed	
L-2172 Snugborough - Barniskey	Completed	
L-5155 Tullylusk to Kilmacoo	Completed	
L-6154-6155 Tigroney	Completed	
L-6200 Killacloran	TBC with Contractor	
L-6902 St. Mary's Road, Connolly St., Griffith St.	Completed	
R-755 Glasnarget	TBC with Contractor	

Restoration Maintenance – 18.6km

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
R-747 Vale Road	Complete
L-1113 Coolbeg Bridge to Deputy's Pass	Complete
L-5156 Kilcandra to Barndarrig	Complete
L-6203/4 Tomnasklea - Killaveaney	Complete
L-62031/2 Curraghlaw to Toberpatrick	Complete

Former National Roads

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
R772 Arklow North	TBC with Contractor

Local Improvement Schemes

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
Ballinacor, Greenane	Commenced
Drumdangan, Glenealy	Scheduled
Coolahulle, Aughrim	Commenced

Discretionary Funds 2023

<i>Proposed Works</i>	<i>Status</i>
Footpath – Brewery Bends	Scheduled with GSS
Upgrade of footpaths 130-204 Fernhill	TBC with GSS – Prioritising locations
Footpath in Greenane - Completion	Surfacing & Works to back of path to be completed
Bus Shelter in Aughrim	Order Placed
Bus Shelter in Annacurra	Order Placed
Public lighting at The Birches, Ballinaclash	Liaising with lighting designer
Public Realm - Arklow	Putting scope of works together
Public Realm - Rathdrum	Seeking prices for bollards & planters
Repair of footpath at Curran's Corner	TBC with GSS
Footpath at Ferrybank	Contractor in place, confirm ownership with businesses
Footpath at RNLI	TBC with GSS
Tree management	Putting scope of works together
Footpaths at Templeraíney Heights	TBC with GSS

Other Projects

Rathdrum Traffic Study: Scope has been extended to include Junction at Lower Street & Junction at St. Coleman's Hospital.

Further traffic survey took place last week. One camera failed so survey has been rescheduled.

Cllr. Bourke expressed his concern with parking at the Courthouse and also with road markings at the junction at Kish and Clogga junction need to be refreshed.

Cllr. Kennedy asked if there was an issue with the contractor regarding line markings in Rathdrum as it is two years now and the job is still not finished and said the disabled parking space needs to be marked as it is invisible now.

Cllr. Fitzgerald expressed his concern that there are no line markings at the Vale road coming into the town.

Cllr. Bourke said that Ciseain Arain needs a loading bay, Cllr. Annesley agreed with this.

Cllr. Leonard questioned the parking problems on Upper Main Street. She also had a query regarding the bridge to the railway station from Tesco.

AB explained that she had visited two traders and spoke with them in regards to their concerns about all day parking on Upper Main Street. AB stated that residents parking would be difficult to remove in this area for a number of reasons including poor health or age, but that maybe the parking authority could restrict certain permit holders to use car parks instead of on-street parking

LE will follow up on the transport study for Arklow.

Christmas Parking Arklow

AB asked the members to consider the parking arrangements for the Christmas period.

Cllr. Bourke proposed two hours free parking as per last year in County Council owned car parks. Cllr. Leonard seconded this. This was agreed.

5 Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

None.

6 Notice of Motions.

(a) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Peir Leonard received on 17th July 2023

“That Arklow MD replace the portion of cobbled footpath at Abbeyville and fund and carry out an upgrade to the walled footpath at the end of Abbeyville / St. Bridges Tce on behalf of residents of Abbeyville. This area has never received investment and is the Main Entrance to many estates in the area and needs upgrading.”

Motion proposed by Cllr. Leonard however as there was no seconder for the notice of motion, the motion could not be discussed.

A discussion and exchange of views was held.

(b) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Peir Leonard received on 17th July 2023

“That Arklow MD request Wicklow County Council to carry out a feasibility study and include plans for the construction of a second bridge on the River Avoca as part of their 2024/25 Capital Investment Plan to serve the growing population of Arklow as a matter of urgency”

The motion was proposed by Cllr. Leonard, Seconded by Cllr. Bourke.

Cllr. Leonard asked if a second bridge could be on the Development plan for the town. LE is to check if this could be considered as part of the Transport Study for Arklow and will revert.

(c) To consider the Notice of Motion in the names of Cllr Pat Kennedy and Cllr Pat Fitzgerald received on the 24th August 2023

“That Arklow Municipal District provide funding to finish the footpath from the crossing above Kingsbrook Estate in Rathdrum to the Centre Road in Ballygannon, a distance of 150m. There is already a slip form kerb in place along the full 150m distance. With the volume of new houses being built in Rathdrum, this footpath is required in the interest of public and pedestrian safety.”

Motion was proposed by Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald

AH advised that this could be looked at in 2024 and maybe included in discretionary funding in 2024.

(d) To consider the Notice of Motion in the names of Cllr Pat Kennedy and Cllr Pat Fitzgerald received on the 24th August 2023

“That Arklow Municipal District provide funding for Public Realm in both of the towns in the Arklow Municipal District”

Motion was proposed by Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald

AH again requested if this could be considered to be included as part of the 2024 discretionary funding.

(e) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Peir Leonard received on the 7th September 2023

“That Arklow MD fund and construct 2 no speed ramps to mitigate the ongoing issues of speeding which is impacting negatively on the health and safety of residents and children of Woodlands Estate”

The motion was Proposed by Cllr. Leonard and seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald

Cllr. Leonard asked had correspondence been received from Woodlands Residence Association, AB confirmed that no correspondence had been received.

AH confirmed that two traffic surveys had taken place in Woodlands and said there are no incidences of speeding recorded. Having completed the two surveys results show it does not meet the criteria for installation of ramps and AH stated that to install ramps would be in breach of policy. AH agreed to do another survey. The results will determine the next course of action however speed ramps are the least favourite type of traffic calming measurements.

7 Correspondence.

AB confirmed AMD received an acknowledgement from Minister Nora Foley in relation to School transport.

AMD received a letter from the Principal of CBS, Peter Sommers in relation to a twinning exchange programme for both St. Mary's and CBS. He has requested funding for this project.

Cllr. Kennedy requested that all secondary schools in the district receive a letter in relation to the programme and invite them to consider a similar exchange. The Schools could apply to be included in the application for funding.

Cllr. Fitzgerald Proposed a €3000 Grant from the 2024 budget towards the programme, Cllr. Kennedy seconded the proposal subject to further applications.

8 Any other business.

AB confirmed that at the last meeting of Wicklow County Council it was proposed that each Municipal District allocate €1000 from their discretionary for support of disability and inclusion in the district in 2024. This was noted.

Cllr Annesley proposed to send a letter congratulating each Tidy Towns Committee in the District.

AB confirmed that she had received quotes for the proposed light show and they were in excess of €25,000. AB requested that the €1,800 allocated for the light show from Festival funding be reallocated to the purchase of Christmas lights for the District. This was agreed.

The District Administrator informed the Members that there was a recent event held in the district without the correct permission and that this had caused damage to a public space and the MD would now be responsible for rectification of this damage. AB reminded Members of the policy relating to the holding of Events in the District. An application need to be submitted to the District at least 28 days prior to the event with the necessary supporting documents.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.

Signed: _____

Ms. Alvina Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District

