

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING (HYBRID) OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2025, COMMENCING 2.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS M. CORRIGAN CATHAOIRLEACH, D. ALVEY, M. BARRY, J. BEHAN, S. BOURKE, A. CRONIN, E. DOYLE, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, M. MURPHY, I. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES, N. WHELAN AND C. WINSTANLEY (32)

APOLOGIES

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MS. E. O'GORMAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. L. EARLS, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. H. PURCELL, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. M. CAHILL, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. B. GLEESON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. DEVEREUX, T/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. A. DEMPSEY, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
MR. M. COSTELLO, CLIMATE ACTION CO-ORDINATOR
MS. T. BYRNE, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER
MR. C. LYNCH, IARNRÓD ÉIREANN
MR. D. KENEGHAN, SENIOR ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, JACOBS**

At the commencement of the meeting a roll call was taken. The Meetings Administrator advised of meetings etiquette for online meetings and that the press and some members of the public were also present.

Votes of Sympathy

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Ms. Nancy O'Brien, Ms. Lola Kavanagh, Ms. Madeline Casey, Mr. Liam Lott, Mr. Jack Murtagh, Mr. Jimmy Kavanagh, Mr. Mick McNerney, Ms. Shirley Byrne, Mr. Tom Vickers, Mr. Patrick Leonard, Mr. Pat Killilea, Ms. Maureen Briggs, Ms. Mary Carey, Fr. Brendan Scully, Mr. Thomas

Manley, Mr. Peter Byrne, and Mr. Nigel Willis. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

Congratulations were extended to Kevin Venkatesan on his success in the Irish Chess Championships 2025.

Request for Suspension of Standing Orders:- The Meetings Administrator advised that a request for suspension of standing orders had been submitted in advance of the meeting. In accordance with the protocol adopted the request was read to the meeting as proposed and seconded:-

1. Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the following motion:

‘That this Council is deeply concerned at the impact of the current industrial action by school secretaries and caretakers in our schools across the county.

Furthermore, this Council wishes to express its total support for the secretaries and caretakers in their legitimate request for parity with other similar school employees regarding pension entitlement, critical illness and bereavement leave.

The Council agrees to write to the Taoiseach, Tánaiste, Minister for Education, and the Minister for Public Expenditure requesting that this issue be resolved by the Government as a matter of urgency’.

It was agreed by all to have a discussion on the topic at 4.30 p.m.

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 7th July 2025.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Cronin, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 7th July 2025.

ITEM NO. 2

To consider the disposal of 49 square meters for thereabouts in the townland of Newrath, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow situated at Clermont House, Wicklow County Campus originally acquired from Kathleen Bourne, Mary Kate Shannon, Rosemary Alexander, Elizabeth McCormack and Rosemary Magnier by way of a 5-year lease commencing 1st October 2025 to Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 49 square meters for thereabouts in the townland of Newrath, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow situated at Clermont House, Wicklow County Campus originally acquired from Kathleen Bourne, Mary Kate Shannon, Rosemary Alexander, Elizabeth McCormack and Rosemary Magnier by way of a 5-year lease commencing 1st October 2025 to Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG, as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 3

To consider the disposal of 0.0127Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Kilcoole Td. being the property known as land at rear of Silversprings, New Road, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Anthony Foley.

It was proposed by Cllr. O. Finn, seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0127Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Kilcoole Td. being the property known as land at rear of Silversprings, New Road, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Anthony Foley as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 4

To consider the disposal of 0.01645Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Knockanrahan Lower Td. being the property known as 43 Liam Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Elizabeth McDonald.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.01645Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Knockanrahan Lower Td. being the property known as 43 Liam Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Elizabeth McDonald, as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the disposal of 0.0106Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Corporation Murrough Td. being the property known as 1A Bond Street, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow to The Wire Ropes Ltd.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0106Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Corporation Murrough Td. being the property known as 1A Bond Street, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow to The Wire Ropes Ltd., as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 6

To consider the disposal of 0.0214Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Merrymeeing Td. being the property known as 12 Seaview Heights, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow to Audrey Doherty and Siobhan Teevan as personal representatives of Peter Doherty deceased.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0214Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Merrymeeing Td. being the property known as 12 Seaview Heights, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow to Audrey Doherty and Siobhan Teevan as personal representatives of Peter Doherty deceased., as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 7

To consider the disposal of 0.0382Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Ballynerrin Lower Td. being the property known as 1 Glenview Road, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow to Laurence & Breda McAsey.

This item did not proceed.

ITEM NO. 8

To consider the disposal of 0.0171Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Kilcoole Td. being the property known as 19 Sylvan Lawns, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Stephen Belton.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. O. Finn and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0171Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Kilcoole Td. being the property known as 19 Sylvan Lawns, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Stephen Belton, as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 9

To consider the disposal of 0.0509Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Ballynerrin Lower Td. being the property known as 29 St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow to Michael Duffy & Ann Boyce.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0509Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Ballynerrin Lower Td. being the property known as 29 St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow to Michael Duffy & Ann Boyce. as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 10

To consider the disposal of 0.0124Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Kilmartin Td. Ashford, Co. Wicklow being the property known as Kilmartin, Ashford, Co. Wicklow to Dermot Hickey as Executor in the estate of Thomas McHugh deceased.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0124Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Kilmartin Td. Ashford, Co. Wicklow being the property known as Kilmartin, Ashford, Co. Wicklow to Dermot Hickey as Executor in the estate of Thomas McHugh deceased, as set out in statutory notice previously circulated.

ITEM NO. 11

To consider passing a resolution that Wicklow County Council sanction the borrowing of the sum of €17.72m in respect of Local Authority Mortgage Lending Schemes in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all to consider passing a resolution that Wicklow County Council sanction the borrowing of the sum of €17.72m in respect of Local Authority Mortgage Lending Schemes in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

ITEM NO. 12

To consider the nomination of 1 Elected Member to the Dublin and Midlands Regional Health Forum

Cllr. G. O'Neill was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. P. Glennon and agreed by all.

ITEM NO.13

To consider the nomination of 3 Elected Members to the Dublin and South East Regional Health Forum

Cllr. J. Behan, Cllr. C. Winstanley and Cllr. P. Glennon were proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

ITEM NO. 14

To consider the procedure for Presidential Election 2025

Ms. H. Purcell advised the Elected Members of the following:

- Presidential Order not received yet.
- Election has to be before the 10th November.
- Elected members were circulated with the procedure for Presidential Elections.
- 11 requests received for nomination by Wicklow County Council.

The procedure for the Presidential Election 2025 was agreed by all as circulated. It was agreed by all to hold a special meeting on Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 2.00 p.m. to receive potential candidates for the Presidential election.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. S. Stokes and agreed by all to move to Item no. 16 and Item no. 17.

ITEM NO. 16

To receive a presentation: The East Coast Railway Infrastructure Protection Project (ECRIPP) Public Consultation 2.

Mr. C. Lynch, Iarnród Éireann and Mr. D. Keneghan, Senior Associate Director, Jacobs gave a presentation outlining the following:

- 5 key locations identified and assessed as particularly exposed to coastal erosion and climate change effects.
- Project objectives.
- Project benefits.
- Preliminary design – Bray Head to Greystones North Beach.
- Preferred scheme – Bray Head to Greystones North Beach.
- Preliminary design – Kilcoole to Newcastle.
- Preferred scheme – Kilcoole to Newcastle.
- Newcastle to Wicklow Murrough.
- Preferred scheme – Newcastle to Wicklow Murrough.
- Programme.

There followed a broad discussion in which the Elected Members raised queries and concerns which were responded to by Mr. Keneghan and Mr. Lynch. Some of the queries raised were as follows:

- Concerns around timeline of project.
- Coastal erosion on the North Beach, Greystones.

- Bray/ Greystones Cliff Walk.
- Coastal erosion, The Murrough, Wicklow.
- Possibility of DART coming to Wicklow.
- Beach access for people with disability and mobility issues.
- Concerns around rock revetments.
- Any nature based solutions being considered?
- Commitment from government and other partners.

ITEM NO. 17

To receive a presentation: Fire Service

Mr. A. Dempsey, Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation outlining the following:

- County Wicklow Fire Services statistics 2024.
- 2024 mobilisations.
- WRC agreement – Wicklow first and quickest to implement.
- WRC agreement implementation.
- Headquarters organisation chart.
- Statutory fire safety 2024.
- Community fire safety 2024.
- New fire stations – Baltinglass and Dunlavin.
- MODEX Ireland March 2025.
- Wicklow Gap – Firefighting sector.
- Other achievements in 2024.
- Future work/events.

There followed a short discussion in which the Elected Members raised queries which were responded to by Mr. Dempsey. The Elected Members thanked Mr. Dempsey for his presentation and the staff of the Fire Service for their dedication and commitment.

ITEM NO. 15

To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, August 2025.

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, August 2025.

Some of the issues raised included the following:

- Housing rent increases.
- Update on vacant house figures.
- Update on Baltinglass RRDF.
- Odour, Pump House on the Murrough, Wicklow Town.

- Road safety – extra ramps Greenhills Road and Ushers Glen.
- Former Garda Station, Ashford.
- Uisce Éireann - concerns over fouls smells, greystones
- Request for Uisce Éireann to attend meeting.
- Farrankelly Estate.
- Derelict houses.
- Burnaby Park, Greystones.
- Farrankelly Estate – request final survey and costing be made available.
- Bathing restrictions.
- Update on 132 bus route.
- Health Centre, Donard.
- Noise mitigation measures, Kilmacanogue.
- Herbert Road Junction/Bus corridor.
- Arklow/Shillelagh Greenway.
- Arklow Arts Centre.
- Michael Dwyer event, Glenmalure.
- Hillview Estate, Wicklow.
- One-off housing Blessington area.
- School bus situation.

Elected Members raised questions which were responded to by the Chief Executive and the relevant Director of Services.

Suspension of Standing Orders

Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the following motion:

‘That this Council is deeply concerned at the impact of the current industrial action by school secretaries and caretakers in our schools across the county.

Furthermore, this Council wishes to express its total support for the secretaries and caretakers in their legitimate request for parity with other similar school employees regarding pension entitlement, critical illness and bereavement leave.

The Council agrees to write to the Taoiseach, Tánaiste, Minister for Education, and the Minister for Public Expenditure requesting that this issue be resolved by the Government as a matter of urgency’.

Following a short discussion it was agreed by all to write to the Taoiseach, Tánaiste, Minister for Education, and the Minister for Public Expenditure.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**CLLR. MELANIE CORRIGAN
CATHAOIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MS. HELEN PURCELL
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 6th October 2025