



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE McELHERON CHAMBER ON THE 10th
April 2024**

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

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

Apologies: None

Press: Eoin Mac Raghnaill

Public: Nicola Byrne

Item 1: Votes of Sympathy.

The members expressed votes of sympathy to all families who have recently lost a loved one, all of the members acknowledged that it is an especially tough time of year to lose a loved one.

Sheila Kavanagh (nee Clancy) Arklow, Sabrina Hogan Arklow, Lindsay Byrne Arklow, Stephanie O'Toole (nee Greene) Arklow, Sarah (Sadie) Moorehouse Arklow, Helena(Lena)O'Connor (nee O'Gorman), Tony O'Flaherty Arklow, Thomas Patrick (Tommy) Kavanagh Arklow, Justin O'Brien Arklow, Margaret (Patty) Ryan Arklow, Emma-Ann-Lee-Doyle Arklow, John Hudson Arklow, Michael Fitzgerald Arklow, Seamus

(Jimmy) Donegan Arklow, Darren Michael Painter Arklow, Mary Foley (nee Nolan) Arklow, Abdelhamid Khaldi Arklow, Ivan Prestage Arklow, Michael Sheil Arklow, Tommy Kavanagh Arklow, Ivor Fitzpatrick Avoca, Michael (Mick) O'Toole Avoca, Desmond (Dessie) Parsons Avoca, Margaret (Patty) Ryan Rathdrum, Jimmy Kearns Rathdrum, Richard Byrne Rathdrum, Mary Fanning (nee Curran) Redcross.

A minutes silence was observed.

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Arklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on 13th March 2024 were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Murphy.

Item 3: Matters Arising.

It was confirmed that the Part VIII is ready for the 74 houses at Tinahask Upper.

Item 4: Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

- ✚ Estate grant funding allocations were proposed by Cllr. Fitzgerald and Seconded by Cllr. Kennedy.
- ✚ District Engineers Report

Municipal District of Arklow

District Engineer's Report

2nd April 2024

Roads

Restoration Improvement

Tender under evaluation.

Restoration Maintenance

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 (2023 - €400,000)

<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>
Footpath in Greenane - Completion	Minor landscaping to be completed

Bus Shelter in Auhtrim	Ground work for installation commenced
Bus Shelter in Annacurra	Liaising with adjacent landowner
Public lighting at The Birches, Ballinaclash	Liaising with lighting designer
Public Realm - Rathdrum	Seeking prices for bollards & planters
Footpath at Ferrybank	Issues letters to landowners
Footpaths at Templerainey Heights	TBC with GSS
Repair of footpath at Curran's Corner	To be discussed with Roads Department
Public Realm - Arklow	Scope to be reviewed

Other Projects

Works have commenced on the Community Recognition project in Rathdrum.

Met with Contractor for Seaview Avenue

Comments

- The issue with flooding should be put on the agenda for the next meeting and if we can possibly get a member of the climate team to attend.
- Drains are cleared; inlets are open to alleviate water on old drains which are struggling with volumes.
- There is no date for local improvement schemes as yet.
- Bridge Street and South Quay have been completed with the help of Roadstone.
- Castlepark car park will be resurfaced with works to the entrance and 12 new parking spaces.
- Johnstown will have safety signage as funds are no available to carry out this work.
- No replies as yet from letters sent regarding the proposed remediation work at Ferrybank.

Item 5: Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting.

No other business set forth.

Item 6: Notice of Motion/s

- (a) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllrs P. Leonard received 22nd January 2024. (deferred from March)

"That Arklow MD request that WCC undertake to review the parking byelaws for Arklow as soon as possible"

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Murphy.

The matter will be referred to the appropriate Directorate in Wicklow County Council.

- (b) To consider the Notice of Motion in the name of Cllrs P. Leonard received 22nd January 2024. (deferred from March)

"That Arklow MD fund a bus shelter and seat at Arklow Main Street northbound bus stop at the Old Marine Hotel"

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Kennedy.

A brief discussion was held on the matter however the footpath is not wide enough to facilitate the installation of a shelter at this time.

Item 7: Correspondence

The DA read a letter received from Geraldine Wadden on behalf of Dynamic musical choir seeking funding for their forth coming trip to Budapest for a recital and a reception at the Mayor's office.

Cllr. Murphy proposed a donation of €1,000.00 and Cllr. Fitzgerald Seconded the proposal.

Cllr. Leonard also proposed a donation of €1,000.00 to Dave Thomas toward the making of his film in Wicklow. Cllr. Kennedy seconded this proposal.

Item 8: Any Other Business

- Reduced speed limits signage need to be reviewed with some old signage to be removed.
The DE relayed that in Aughrim, the roads department are responsible for the installation of new signage and they will be removing old signs.
- Coastal erosion is a huge issue at Clogga Beach and there no access at the moment.
DM: This issue has been raised with the Enviroment Section. With the poor weather conditions, it is too wet to do any maintenance or remediation in the area at present
- Has there been any contact with the Council regarding proposed airport.
DM: Neither Wicklow County Council or An Bord Pleanala have been contacted.
- The old Road at Glenhaven is collapsing and needs to be addressed.
DE agreed to do an assessment of the area.
- There are issues with the deterioration of some parts of the road at Blackberry Glade, Rory O'Connor and Coolgreaney Roads.
DE agreed to assess these areas also.
- Members asked if the MD had plans to upgrade public toilets at Castle Park.
DE said she will investigate and revert back to the members.
- Members raised concerns with regard to damp and mould in Council owned properties. A report was requested on the condition of houses in Ballanagh in Avoca as they are full of mould.
Members also requested that houses in Conary are also checked.

Members raised concerns about the condition of the road at Caravan Park in Arklow.
The DE responded that these reinstatement works need to be addressed by Uisce Eireann. These defects have been reported to Uisce Eireann.

- Is there any update on the cycle path extension from Arklow to Gorey?
The DM stated the funding for this would be a matter for the NTA.

- Members discussed the proposed changes to the rail network in Wicklow. They raised concerns about the accessibility. They requested that the DA write a letter to the Transport SPC on their behalf to highlight their concerns.
- Members discussed the availability of single bed houses in the district. The members have requested an update on the numbers of stock and requested that Housing provide the members with the numbers of the housing list with one bed need
- Cllr. Kennedy thanked the Alvina, Avril and Damien for all their hard work with the RDA in Rathdrum, it is now a safe zone for small children.
- The DA reminded the members that they had previously agreed to award funding from the Twinning budget to schools that facilitated school exchange programmes. The MD sent correspondence to all secondary schools in the district however only Arklow CBS replied. It was agreed to award €3,000 in funding to Arklow CBS.
- A brief discussion was held with regard to main street parking. Members suggested that the planters on Main Street be removed to gain more car park spaces. The DE reminded members that the planters were in site to discourage long term parking in the area and to aid the flow of traffic along this particular stretch of road.
- The Members requested clarification on the display of election posters in the District.

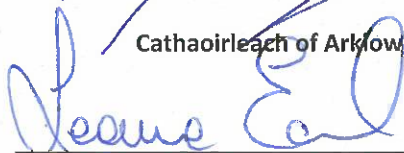
Minutes confirmed at the Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th April 2024.

Signed:



Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.

Signed:



Ms. Alvinna Brehony, District Administrator, Arklow Municipal District

LEONORA EARLS

MANAGER