

## MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

HELD IN DISTRICT CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025 at 15.05pm

**Present:** Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr Graham Richmond, Cllr Danny Alvey, Cllr Shane Langrell, Cllr Paul O'Brien, Cllr John Snell

**Apologies:** Cllr Gail Dunne

**In Attendance:** District Manager, Brian Gleeson  
District Engineer, William Halligan  
District Administrator, Georgina Franey  
Myles Buchanan, Wicklow People

Leas Cathaoirleach Graham Richmond opened the meeting at 15.05 pm.

### ITEM 1

#### **Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

It was proposed by Councillor Paul O'Brien, seconded by Councillor John Snell and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of the Wicklow Municipal District Monthly Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### ITEM 2

#### **To receive a presentation on the Draft Chief Executive's Report in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, for a Bus Based Park & Ride facility located to the west of M11 Junction 16 at Ashford**

The Leas Cathaoirleach welcomed John Bowes, Senior Executive Engineer, and Brendan Doyle, Executive Engineer, Transportation and Infrastructure Delivery. John presented a summary of the Chief Executives's report based on the outcome of the public consultation as follows:

#### **Nature and extent of the Proposed Development**

Development of a strategic Park & Ride facility located to the west of M11 Junction 16 at Rossana Upper in the village of Ashford. The proposed development comprises a car park with a capacity of 210 parking spaces, including 13 spaces for mobility impaired users and 21 spaces for charging of electric vehicles. The project includes the construction of a new bus area that consists of two bus bays, two passenger shelters, and a designated turning circle. A new junction is proposed on the R772, incorporating a dedicated lane for right-turning traffic. The development also plans to incorporate paved areas for bike shelters and lockers, facilitating connections for active travel and ancillary works.

### **Site location/Description**

The proposed Park & Ride facility is situated in the north-western quadrant of Junction 16 on the N11. The site is approximately 180 metres from the motorway and can be accessed via the R772 from M11 Junction 16. It lies outside the boundaries of Ashford, as defined in the Ashford Town Plan 2022–2028, and is currently used for agricultural purposes and occasionally Circus use

### **EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

Evaluation of proposed development is described in following sections with respect to whether or not this would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the development plan and giving the reasons and the considerations for the evaluation.

### **Background**

The site is located outside of the development boundary of Ashford, on un-zoned lands identified as Corridor Landscape. The proposal will provide for a Park & Ride facility, which will allow commuters to link in with bus services and reduce traffic movements on the M11.

### **Policy Context**

Sustainable Transport Objective CPO 12.21 in the Wicklow County Development Plan aims to promote transport ‘nodes’ where different transport types can interchange including Park and Ride facilities along strategic corridors, identified through plan led studies in consultation with the relevant transport agencies and authorities. The Wicklow County Development Plan also refers to the provision of a Park and Ride at specific junction locations along the N11/M11. The Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy 2022-2024 states that it is the intention of the NTA to develop a network of regional level bus and rail-based Park and Ride facilities in the Greater Dublin Area at appropriate locations where the national road network meets or is in close proximity to high capacity bus and rail services. The strategy includes a plan for a bus-based Park and Ride facility at Ashford near Junction 16 with circa 200 spaces. The submitted documentation demonstrates that the facility would facilitate good public transport connectivity from the site to Dublin City Centre. The proposed development will provide a new car parking area with set down area, bike shelters and bus standing area. This subject proposal is in accordance with the Wicklow County Development Plan objectives and NTA strategy. The proposed facility will be developed on un-zoned land. The utilisation of this land for Park & Ride facility does not contravene any zoning objective.

### **Impact on the M11**

The results from the submitted Traffic and Transport Assessment report show that the interchange at M11 Junction 16 will continue to operate at a Level of Service A, both with and without the proposed development. The proposed Park and Ride facility aims to intercept national road car traffic that originates further south and to transfer these journeys to bus from this location to Dublin city centre. It is anticipated that the facility could become operational by 2026. The overarching aim of the facility is to remove private cars from the motorway. It is considered that the proposed facility would not compromise the function of the national road network and would be in accordance with objectives to reduce carbon emissions and to promote greater use of sustainable transport. The facility is expected to be served by existing bus services, such as Private Service Operators, Bus Éireann 133 and/or commercial bus operators, which currently operate relatively close to the site. Preliminary assessments have been conducted by the NTA PRDO regarding service frequency,

available 2 passenger capacity, and anticipated passenger demand at the proposed location. Further work is required to clarify the optimal bus service.

### **Pedestrian and cyclist connectivity**

An interurban cycle route is proposed within the GDA Transport Strategy 2022-2042. This proposed route extends west from the junction of the R761 and R772 along the R772, past the proposed Park and Ride facility, through Ashford, and will continue north of Ashford Town. Delivery of this cycle route in the future will further enhance active travel connectivity with the Park and Ride facility. This aligns with the objectives set out in the Wicklow County Development Plan, which require Park & Ride facilities and public transport hubs to be connected to pedestrian and cycle routes.

### **Traffic safety**

A section of R772 in front of the proposed development will be upgraded to provide a new priority junction where both left and right turn movements will be allowed to access the Park and Ride and only left turn movements to exit. A new 50m long and 3m wide right turning lane will be constructed on R772 as part of the proposed junction. The new access junction has been designed for a 2.4m x 160m visibility splay and will require the removal of vegetation within the splay zone.

### **Car Parking**

The proposed development provides 210 car parking spaces, of which 13 will be designated for people with mobility impairments, and 21 will be reserved for electric vehicle charging, with an additional 21 spaces planned for future electric charging. Wicklow County Development Plan outlines goals to encourage electric charging. The highest EV charging space provision rate specified in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022–2028 applies to residential properties, requiring one EV charging space for every ten standard parking spaces. The proposed development adheres to this rate and includes ducting to facilitate an additional 10% EV charging spaces in the future, subject to demand. This provision is therefore considered appropriate.

### **Cycle parking**

The Wicklow County Development Plan sets out the following standards:

- Multi storey car parks – 10% of total car spaces / minimum provision of 50 spaces; and
- Public transport pick-up points/interchanges – 10% of number of daily borders at the point/station, minimum of 10 spaces.

The proposed development includes 20 no. bicycle parking Sheffield stands and 20 no. bike lockers.

### **Flood risk assessment**

The Flood Risk Assessment within the Engineering Report, included as part of the submission, has determined that the development is not considered to be at risk of river or coastal flooding.

### **Residential amenity**

A noise impact assessment report, included as part of the application, has concluded that the operational impact would be negligible and imperceptible. The Ecological Impact Assessment screening report, included as part of the application, has concluded that the site is of low ecological

value. It is considered that the development would not significantly adversely impact biodiversity on the site.

### **Archaeology**

The Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Report, included as part of the application, concluded that there are no recorded archaeological sites or monuments within the Proposed Development lands, as listed in the Record of Monuments and Places for Co. Wicklow. However, due to previous findings in the immediate vicinity / adjacent lands (M11 excavation) and given the high archaeological potential of the proposed development site, a geophysical survey and subsequent archaeological test-trenching have been conducted at the subject field. No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the trench testing. Hence, it is deemed that the site contains a moderate to low potential for the survival of archaeological features and material on the site. However, given the archaeological potential of the surrounding landscape and the scale of the site, the Test Excavation Report recommends that construction groundworks for the proposed Park and Ride facility be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Should any archaeological remains be discovered during monitoring, work should be halted in the vicinity of the find, and the appropriate authorities should be contacted to agree on a suitable mitigation strategy. This will involve either preservation in situ or preservation by record, such as archaeological excavation.

### **Landscaping**

A landscaping plan has been provided, indicating a modest physical impact on the receiving landscape. The impact on the local landscape character is found to be limited to the immediate surroundings of the site due to the high degree of intervening vegetation, which restricts clear visibility of the proposed development to a brief section of the R772 regional road corridor south of the site. The existing vegetation within the intervening landscape is proposed to be reinforced by the landscape strategy to screen the development from all surrounding viewpoints.

### **Appropriate Assessment Screening Report**

The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report, included as part of the application, concluded that an Appropriate Assessment (Stage II) is not required. It is considered that the Proposed Development alone or in combination with other developments will have no likelihood of direct or indirect effects on European sites. The AA Screening Determination is included in Appendix 3 of this report.

### **Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report**

The Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report, part of the application, finds no likely significant environmental effects on the receiving environment for the Proposed Development, hence an Environmental Impact Assessment Report is not required. The EIA Screening Determination is included in Appendix 3 of this report.

### **Micro Generation (Solar PV Panel)**

The use of solar PV panels at numerous sites, has been reviewed, including car parking facilities both here and in other jurisdictions, there has been consultations with industry specialists and assessments have also been carried out to understand the site-specific needs. We note the limited use of power on site for operation of the Park and Ride facility and that the majority of power use on

site is anticipated to be for the charging of the private cars. In most efficient applications of solar PV there is an existing reasonably steady demand for power on site, such as providing power to an office or other building. This is not the case at this location and therefore the returns on the investment would be limited. In the case of investment by others and integration into the Park & Ride facility there would be a body of work required to ensure the power generated through solar PV systems on site is efficiently managed, stored, and utilised on site or transferred back to the grid. This intricate operational model would require procurement of a delivery, operation and maintenance partner and thereby delaying delivery of the facility. The NTA's Park & Ride Development Office will further engage with industry specialists from an early stage at other proposed Park & Ride sites to see if there is a viable model for inclusion of solar PV elsewhere. This could in time lead to the retrofitting of a similar system at the proposed site in Ashford

## **CONSULTATION PROCESS**

### **General Presentation on the proposed Park & Ride Facilities**

Members of the NTA Park & Ride Development Office (PRDO) gave a presentation on 3rd October 2022 to the Monthly Meeting of Wicklow County Council on the preferred location and suitable options for bus-based strategic Park and Ride facilities along the N11/M11.

### **Presentation on the proposed Ashford Park & Ride Facility**

WCC officials gave a presentation to the Wicklow Municipal District Councillors at the Wicklow Municipal District Meeting held on 21st October 2024 in advance of the Statutory Consultation Process. NTA Park & Ride Development Office subsequently gave a presentation to the Councillors of Wicklow County Council on 4th November 2024 in advance of the Statutory Consultation Process.

### **Advertising**

Newspaper advertisements were published in the Irish Independent on 6th and 12th November 2024, the Wicklow People on the 6th November 2024 and the Wicklow Times on the 5th November 2024.

### **Statutory Consultation Process**

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were available for inspection at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, for a period between Wednesday 6th November 2024 to Wednesday 11th December 2024. Plans and particulars were also available to view on the Council's Online Consultation Hub at [www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub](http://www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub) Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development relates, were accepted on or before noon Friday 10th January 2025

The plans and details of the proposed development (listed with Appendix 1) were accessible for statutory public consultation from Wednesday, 6th November 2024 with the last date for submitting comments or observations set for noon on Friday, 10th January 2025. Seven submissions were received from interested parties in advance of the 10th January 2025 deadline.

## **CONCLUSION**

Having regard to the location of the development for a Bus Park and Ride at M11 Junction 16 Interchange on the M11 strategic transport corridor, being appropriately located in respect to the existing populations of Wicklow Town-Rathnew and Ashford, which will allow for the transfer of car users to public transport, and the objectives of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 to facilitate the development of park and ride facilities at appropriate locations along strategic transport corridors, it is considered that the proposed development would support a modal shift from the car to public transport, thereby reducing congestion and promoting public transport, would accord with the Objectives of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028, and would therefore be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates.

This development is therefore recommended, subject to the following recommendations:

- Works are to be supervised by a qualified archaeologist. If any archaeological remains are uncovered during the monitoring process, activities in the immediate area of the discovery must be paused, and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage should be notified to determine an appropriate mitigation strategy.
- Works are to be carried out in line with the appropriate standards and procedures for works on and around Gas Networks Ireland, Uisce Éireann and TII infrastructure.
- A comprehensive Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed prior to the commencement of the works.
- Subject to the landowners requirements, a relocated field access to the landowners adjacent lands will be constructed at a location to be agreed with the landowner.

The Chief Executive's report recommends that the proposed Bus Park and Ride should proceed.

## **MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS**

The members thanked John and Brendan for the presentation and made the following comments:

- The proposal was welcomed by members.
- The best site has been identified and it is a great design.
- People of the surrounding areas are very enthusiastic about the project.
- More services would be required. At present the 133 Bus Eireann service is at capacity.
- The proposal would represent a major investment in key infrastructure which will be a game changer for many people.
- The necessity for installation of a footpath for pedestrians and cyclists.

The proposal is due before the elected members of the full Council on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March for vote.

## **ITEM 3**

### **District Engineers Report**

Updates were provided by District Engineer William Halligan as follows:

#### **Housing:**

❖ **Relets/Prelets**

- 7no. houses currently being worked on, through WCC Housing Framework by MD,
- 10no. houses are being managed by WCC Direct Labour,
- 3no. houses returned to WMD for refurbishment – To Be Tendered.

❖ **Maintenance and operations**

- On-going repairs and maintenance being progressed as required on housing stock within the WMD.

**DTTAS Roads Programme:**

DTTAS Allocations for 2025 Projects on the Restoration Improvement and Maintenance Programme have been reviewed based on pavement condition ratings.

❖ **Restoration Improvement**

Tenders on Restoration Improvement works will commence in February 2025. Works will include a variety of techniques depending on classification and condition of Road.

Advance works such as drainage and verge widening works has started on RI Roads with a mixture of MD staff and sub contactors. Main list of RI 2025 projects below.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Length of Works (m)</b>	<b>Completed to Date</b>
L5099 Rocky Road Improvement Project	1200	Road Closure implemented from 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 to 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2025. Works being carried out by WCC NNR (Non-National Roads) Team.
L5036 Ballinastoe Rd	1427	Advanced drainage works commencing 24/02/2024
L5597 Milltown Lane	659	-
R765 Newtown - Roundwood	2038	Site meeting for advance work 24/01/2025
R750 Dublin Road Wicklow	740	Tender Document in preparation
L1096 Ashford-Ballymanus Lower	936	Requested for tender uploaded to SupplyGov platform, tenders due 28/02/2025
R772 Ashford	97	-
R764 Ashford-Roundwood	80	Requested for tender uploaded to SupplyGov platform, tenders due 28/02/2025
R-751 Marlton Road	222	-

❖ **Restoration Maintenance**

The Countywide Restoration Maintenance Programme 2025 was submitted in February. Advance works such as drainage and verge widening works all completed before start of RM Roads. Main list of RM 2025 projects below.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Length of Works (m)</b>	<b>Completed to Date</b>
L1036 Stoneypass	1119	-
L5056 Slemaine	2817	-
L5056 Baliliam Lane	703	-
L1060 Malones Lane	803	-
L5077 Raheen	1069	-
L1059 St John's Road	1185	-
R764 Knockatemple-Tomcoyle	5362	-
L1059 Loughdan-Drummin	4494	-
R764 Inchanappa south to Killiskey Cross	2588	-

#### ❖ **Drainage**

- General works on verge drains, drainage inlets, gullies and road crossings to outlets are ongoing throughout the MD.
- Programme for cleaning of gullies continuing within Wicklow MD. Drain surveys are still being carried out on problem areas as required.
- Installation of drainage pipes/ road crossings along L1091 Moneystown at junction with Knockaphrumpa Lane commencing 19/02/2025.
- Installation of drainage pipes/ road crossings along R764 Ashford-Roundwood Rd commencing 21/02/2025, advanced works for RI and RM Project
- Installation of drainage pipes/ road crossings along L5036 Ballinastoe Road commencing 24/02/2025, advanced works for RI Project

#### ❖ **Local Improvement Scheme Projects**

- As of yet No LIS projects have been allocated to the Wicklow Municipal District for 2025.

#### ❖ **Safety Projects**

- Works to increase visibility and road safety at Castlekevin, L5087 junction with L1076 and L5087 junction with L5587.
- Pedestrian crossing to be installed as part of a housing development condition in Ashford, at junction with R763 and R764 within coming weeks.
- Bollards installed at St Joseph's School in Newtownmountkennedy.
- 4 No. Electronic speed signs have been purchased and will be installed at Ashwood Roundwood, St Patricks Road, Wicklow, Greenhills Road and Newtownmountkennedy (feedback heads likely fitted in next two weeks).
- Speed limit review. Circular RST-04-2024 issued by Department of Transport on Speed Limits Implementation revised date of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025. All works Complete.

- Pedestrian crossing civil works completed on the Dunbur Road, issue with cranked pole which is delaying install. Installation to be completed on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. ESB to energise after this.
- Solar powered driver feedback signage has been ordered for Ballinahinch, Laragh and Newtownmountkennedy. Poles have been erected in advance of commissioning by WCC at two of the sites. Expected commissioning in approx. 1 week.

#### **Abbey Grounds:**

- Project Ongoing. Contractor commenced works on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Schedule for completion of works for the Coach House Cafe has been moved back to April 2025. This is due to prolonged period of poor weather and difficulty in securing dates for ESB Connection.
- Second-fix electrical work to commence on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.
- Detailed designs still progressing for the Amphitheatre and performance area.
- Siberian Larch finish for new buildings now installed.
- Works for new entrance to Parochial House now complete. We would like to thank Fr Duffy for his cooperation throughout this process.
- Conservation and restoration works to existing footbridge at Abbey grounds completed at the end of September. Similar works for Pedestrian Entrance and ramp to Wentworth Place access completed in December 2024.
- Civil Works to install footpaths and ducting for services and drainage in the park area to commence on the 27<sup>th</sup> February following the appointment of Clonerkin as contractor. Works will be carried out in cooperation with Local Authority Staff.

#### **Community Recognition Fund/Outdoor Recreation:**

- Brittas Bay Blueway funding for accessibility works; Chestnut fencing to be erected in coming months in order to protect the dunes.
- Wicklow Seafront Toilets – Project complete
- The Assembly Hall facility works are now complete internally. Still waiting for ESB to energise.
- Repairs to the Handball alley have commenced.

#### **Town & Village Renewal:**

- Wicklow Town, Connectivity Project – three ornate arches with lanterns are currently being fabricated for installation along the Doctor's Steps. WTT liaising with fabricator to finalise fabrication and install dates.
- Compactor bins have been installed in Glendalough, Laragh and Roundwood to promote a cleaner environment but also to increase efficiency from an operational point of view. These bins have smart technology built into them and will communicate back to base when full and require emptying. Efficiency of big belly bins has increased from 12% at year start (2024) to 38% presently.

#### **NTA Projects:**

- Consultants still working on pedestrian and cycle improvement scheme as part of the Pathfinder project, initial survey completed on the Marlton Road and Rocky Road, linking to the train station on Station Road. A topographical survey of roads and footpaths has taken place along entire route. This information is required as part of the detailed design process.
- Working with NTA to look at Market Street junction with respect to turning movements of buses/ larger vehicles.

### **WCC General Projects/Maintenance:**

- On-going maintenance of grass care, weed control and hedge cutting around Wicklow town.

### **WMD Playgrounds:**

- Wicklow MD Playgrounds repairs and inspections ongoing. Certified bark mulch has been installed at the following Brockagh, Wicklow Hills, Newtownmountkennedy Community playground and Rathnew playgrounds. Wet pour repairs completed at Roundwood with minor repairs at other playgrounds completed also. Level access carousel at Roundwood playground will be repaired upon receipt of required spare parts have been sourced. New equipment ordered– Delivered to installer.
  - The Murrough Playground – New Sand Digger at sand pit, - Installation to commence in two weeks.
  - Ballynerrin Playground – New Cradle Swing set to replace the old broken unit, - Installation to commence in two weeks.
  - Roundwood Playground – New ‘Wobble Bridge’ (to be located in green area adjacent to the Zip Wire). - Installation to commence in two weeks.
  - Laragh Playground (Brockagh) – New accessibility swing seat has been Installed

### **Additional MD projects:**

- Footpath repairs in Glenview Park, Kilpedder complete. A number of sections in the estate, of varying length, were identified and replaced by Local Authority outdoor staff.
- WCC have issued payments for the following connections. WMD has received MPRN’s to progress completion:
  - Laragh Pedestrian Crossing,
  - Moneystown Pedestrian Crossing,Both crossing have been energised and are operational.
- Road markings are being progressed around the MD, some have been carried out around the town, with others refreshed at certain locations. Double yellow lines have been completed at Magheramore. Road markings being progressed around Newtown and on RI and RM projects at present. Extensive road markings completed in Hillview housing estate for safety reasons.
- Historical lighting mini pillars have been energised. Completion of lights in coming weeks. Lights at Stone Bridge require to be aligned and colour controller fitted, currently switched off – road user/pedestrian protection from glare. Lighting designer to visit site within next two weeks.
- Murrough Masterplan Part 8 is currently on public display.
- Footpath to GAA club in Wicklow 95% complete, one remaining Eir column to be removed and footpath can be completed. Additional resurfacing along this stretch also complete.
- New cross being manufactured for Three Mile Water cemetery has been erected.
- Road marking project in Wicklow Town to commence in the coming weeks.

### **Discretionary Fund projects:**

- Roundwood – Two ramps from Playground to GAA Club. One ramp new has been installed and an existing ramp has been replaced/repaired.

- Roundwood – Length of footpath Playground to GAA Club. All cables are now under ground. Pedestrian crossing will be progressed.
- Rathnew – Resurfacing of the Old village has been completed, road line marking has commenced.
- Newtown – Killmullen traffic calming, new sign has been installed. Site visit to assess possibility of installing anti-skid surface.
- Fund to upgrade footpaths in MD. Footpaths upgrade works at Saint Patricks Road, Wicklow Town is complete. Footpath improvement works taking place in Glenview Park, Kilpedder and Season Park, Newtown Mount Kennedy and will continue over the coming weeks to address severely damaged and hazardous areas in both estates.
- Church Hill Traffic calming – Consultation with National School, Gardai, Fire Service and Church of Ireland completed.
- All salt boxes have been distributed around the District.

## MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- An update on footpath repairs was requested.  
District Engineer advised that the footpath in Season Park will be completed by Eir as a high volume of cable was found in the concrete. Glenview Park in Kilpedder is now complete.
- Kilpedder: update sought on speed management solution and the possibility of erecting a 'Local Access Only' sign. District Engineer advised that this will be examined.
- Kilpedder: road markings require repainting, no numbers on new streetlights so residents are unable to report broken lamps. Some footpaths are very overgrown.  
District Engineer advised that line marking at this location will be reviewed. Public Lighting Department should be contacted regarding street lights. Land ownership of overgrown hedges to be investigated.
- Newtown: request for dog waste bin at Monalin Road and replacement of bin opposite Woodstock Road junction.  
District Engineer advised that additional dog waste bins have been ordered and suggested locations will be assessed.
- Newtown: ensure the old stone wall through the village is retained as development commences. District Engineer advised that this is a matter for the Planning Department.
- Roundwood: update requested regarding works on Ballinastoe Road, L5036.  
District Engineer advised that advanced works have commenced with Council resources installing extension drainage. The project will entail a combination of road recycling and overlaying of the existing surface.
- Wicklow: issue of increased traffic on Friars Hill and feasibility of providing an exit onto Hawkstown Road from the Burkeen estate.  
District Engineer advised that this matter would be best dealt with by the Roads Department.
- Water lodging at the speed ramp near school in Glenealy. District Engineer advised this will be examined.
- Request for update on discretionary projects – existing commitments, funds available.  
District Engineer is currently working on same.
- Some estates in urgent need of footpath works. To be examined.
- Pedestrian Crossing and Pencil Bollards in Ashford. District Engineer advised that a road opening licence is awaited and he will follow up on the flashing beacons.
- Request for reinstatement of green area at Djouce Meadows.  
District Engineer advised he will check this out.
- Graffiti in Newtown.

- Re-opening of Roundwood trails. District Engineer advised that Uisce Éireann are employing a contractor to clear routes following storm damage. Works are ongoing.
- Concern regarding dog attacks on sheep. Request for signs to be erected advising that dogs should be kept on leads.
- Provision of a swing with safety harness in playgrounds for children with additional needs. To be examined.
- Public lights out for a year and a half in 5 or 6 prominent locations in Rathnew. This is a matter for the Public Lighting Section of WCC.
- Query if Council has equipment for cleaning road signs. It was stated that there should be a zero tolerance policy in relation to graffiti. District Engineer advised that the Harbour crew have a machine and he will examine the possibility of borrowing it.
- Town Relief Road / Road to Marlton – difficulty experienced by motorists crossing road. District Engineer advised that an assessment for traffic lights would be required. The area is zoned for a new secondary school, residential development, sports facility.
- Provision of bus shelter in Rathnew at Meadow Haven. To be followed up with Bus Eireann/TFI.
- Port Road:
  - not used to full potential, can possibility of erecting further signage be examined.
  - dog waste bins have lead to improvement. District Engineer advised that more dog bins have been ordered.
  - hedge cutting has made a huge difference.
- Fix manhole covers  
District Engineer advised that one cover has been fixed, unsure which utility the other relates to, will follow up.

#### **ITEM 4**

##### **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

#### **ITEM 5**

##### **Any Other Business**

Members wished to convey congratulations to the new St. Patricks Day Committee and stated it was good news that the parade will go ahead and that the new committee has done trojan work. They requested that their thanks be passed on to the committee and wished them well.

The District Administrator advised that the new committee is very small, but very willing. She stated that the accounts had not been handed over yet and that the Council would cover road closure and insurance costs and give any support required. She said she would pass on their congratulations. Members also acknowledged the work carried out by the District Administrator.

Members passed a vote of sympathy in relation to recently deceased Brendan Stone RIP and said his death had a huge impact on the community.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 15.58pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Date: \_\_\_\_\_