

***Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,  
5<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 at 2:00pm at Ferrybank Library Meeting Room***

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr P. Dunphy  
**Present:** Cllrs F. Doherty, J. Catt Slattery, G. Frisby and T. Breathnach  
**In attendance:** I. Gardner, A/Director of Services, J. Tennyson, District Engineer and O. Bannon, Staff Officer  
**Apologies:** M. Phelan, Meetings Administrator

1. **Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2025** – proposed by Cllr Frisby, seconded by Cllr Frisby and agreed.  
**Minutes of the Budget Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2025** – proposed by Cllr Frisby, seconded by Cllr Doherty and agreed.

2. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

- (a) ***The Ómós Project***

Cllr Dunphy welcomed Ms Regina Fitzpatrick, Heritage Officer and Ms Mary Butler, Arts Officer to the meeting and invited them to commence their presentation.

Ms Fitzpatrick advised members that the Ómós Project is a process being undertaken to develop a memorial in County Kilkenny for those who sacrificed during the struggle for Irish freedom in Kilkenny during the revolutionary period, the 1916 Rising, War of Independence and Civil War. A review was carried out by the Naming and Commemorative Memorial Committee to establish what exists around the County for those who were affected during that period and a need was identified for a central memorial to build a broader story of this time and act as an enduring reminder and place of reflection. It is envisaged that the memorial will honour not just individuals who made significance sacrifices, but also their family members and the wider community and provide an understanding of the experiences that people had during that period.

Ms. Fitzpatrick noted the importance to relatives that stories from that time are passed on to future generations and this memorial will act as an educational tool providing residents and visitors alike with insight into Kilkennys role in the broader national struggle for independence. It will also instil a sense of community pride, have cultural and historical significance and become a focal point for commemoration. It was noted that many resources were developed and stories gathered during the decade of centenaries, providing huge knowledge and understanding of that period and it is hoped that the memorial developed under this project will link into that broader archive.

Ms Butler outlined the public art process to members, which has been identified as the most appropriate process for this project. She stated that public art is an important aspect of both historic and contemporary Irish Art, where artists are supported to produce work, across all artforms to engage with communities providing opportunities to participate in a process that re-animates, re-defines or re-engages with their physical, social and cultural space. She went on to outline the role of Local Government in the process, being one of the most important commissioners of public art and also Kilkenny County Council's vision for public art in Kilkenny. It was noted that the Public Art Management Group (PAMG), established by KCC, provide oversight and guidance for the Council's public art programme. Ms Butler stated that engaging with communities on public art projects is critical for a number of reasons, which she outlined and to ensure that the public remain at the core of decisions.

Ms Fitzpatrick concluded by outlining the guiding principles in developing the project and noting that a sub-committee will be formed under the PAMG, which will include experts in this area. She outlined the next steps in the project and welcomed feedback from members.

Ms Butler responded to questions from members. Cllr Dunphy thanked Ms Fitzpatrick and Ms Butler for their presentation and wished the project well.

- (b) ***Part 8, Proposed Housing Development at Ashgrove, Slieverue***

Cllr Dunphy welcomed Mr Richard Vaughan, Executive Architect, Housing Capital to the meeting and invited him to commence his presentation.

Mr Vaughan began by noting the housing need within the Slieverue and Ferrybank areas and advised that the units being developed in Slieverue will be allocated via Choice Based Letting and open to all on the housing waiting list to apply. Details of the site and location of same was outlined and previous developments within the Ashgrove estate. Improvement works carried out on existing houses in the Ashgrove estate under the Council's retrofit programme were noted. Mr Vaughan outlined details of the proposed new units, including 8 no. apartments and 5 no. houses. It was noted that a public information

evening would take place in relation to this development in the Parish Hall, Slieverue on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 4-7pm, submissions can be made until 5<sup>th</sup> December and all information and drawings are available online at <https://consult.kilkenny.ie>. Likely timelines for the development were outlined, the Part 8 proposal to go before the Members for approval at the January plenary meeting, followed by the tender process with commencement on site expected in Q3 of 2026 and completion end 2027 or early 2028. Mr Vaughan continued, outlining some of the Turnkey and Part V projects completed and substantially completed, providing a total of 117 units within the Piltown MD.

Cllr Dunphy thanked Mr Vaughan for his presentation and all members welcomed the provision of the 117 units for the Piltown MD, which were badly needed. Cllr Frisby welcomed the proposed new units for Slieverue and expressed delight that this development is finally coming to fruition, which will rejuvenate and bring new life into the village.

Mr Vaughan responded to questions from members regarding units to be delivered, timelines for same and the level of demand in the Piltown MD. Cllr Catt Slattery noted the lack of water and waste water infrastructure which is preventing sufficient housing development in the Mullinavat area. I. Gardner noted a number of schemes progressing currently, which it is hoped will resolve some of the infrastructural issues.

Ms Marie Phelan, Meetings Administrator, joined the meeting.

### ***(c) Waterford Airport***

Cllr Dunphy introduced and welcomed Aidan Power, General Manager of Waterford Airport and asked him to provide an update in relation to the Airport development plans. Mr Power outlined details of the initial proposals for the development of the Airport put forward a number of years ago, which would have involved Government funding being provided under a PPP scheme. However, long delays with this process led to the private investor withdrawing from this proposal. He advised that a new proposal was put to the Board of Waterford Airport, which would not require any Government funding. The Board met to discuss the process and voted in favour of this proposal. Waterford City & County Council, as part owner of lands required, were informed of this new proposal and went through a review process and also voted in favour of supporting the proposal. He outlined the next steps, including an EGM of shareholders to agree and if successful, contracts could be signed and works could commence in April 2026, with works taking approximately 9-12 months to complete. Mr Power noted good progress on what has been a very long journey and felt it will be of great benefit to the South East. He took the opportunity to thank Councillors for their support and representations made in support of the development for the good of the region.

Cllr Dunphy thanked Mr Power and complemented all involved for the work put in over the years in progressing the project. Mr Power responded to questions, including the following:-

- Works required – extending and widening of the runway to accommodate passenger jet type aircraft, the taxi area and aprons will also need to be reformed and widened, along with minor upgrades to the building, lighting and security.
- Flights – depending on a number of factors, the target for passenger flights to commence is summer 2027
- Lands required – newly acquired 10 acres and WCCC licenced areas coming into ownership c.60 acres

All the members welcomed the development, thanked Mr Power for the update and wished the project well.

### ***(d) Monthly Roadworks Update***

J. Tennyson circulated report outlining details of pavement works, discretionary maintenance, drainage and other works progressed and completed over the period since the last meeting, including updates on N24 Waterford to Cahir, N24 Carrick Road, N24 Mooncoin Village EPS, N24 Rathkieran to Aglish HD28 Scheme, N25 Curraghmore to Gaulstown HD28 Scheme, N25 Speed Limit review, North-South Link Road, Abbey Road/Belmont Road upgrades, N29 Port Road upgrade, Piltown RRDF and Glenmore Bus Stop.

The following was raised and discussed:-

Carrick Road – it was noted that An Coimisiún Pleanála conceded the case made and will likely agree to an Oral Hearing, the date for which will be set by them.

N25 Speed Limit Review/Static Camera – J. Tennyson informed Cllr Doherty that An Garda Síochána will be recalibrating the static speed camera to the new speed limit of 80kph. It was noted that VMS signage will be erected during November to advise motorists of the change to the speed limit at this location.

Glenmore Bus Stop – J. Tennyson advised Cllr Doherty that this is a Part 8 statutory planning process, including public consultation.

Mill Road, Mullinavat – J. Tennyson informed Cllr Catt Slattery that the Consultants are looking at options in terms of changing the scope of works to pedestrian only rather than pedestrian and cycleway, an update is expected in the next month.

Urban Speed Limit Review – J. Tennyson advised Cllr Breathnach that advice is awaited and consultation will follow with regard to introduction of byelaws.

***(e) Templeorum Village Improvement Scheme, Section 38***

A report was circulated to members and J. Tennyson advised members of the key objectives of the Scheme, including reduction of vehicle speeds through the village, improved pedestrian safety and accessibility, enhanced visibility at key junctions and provision of improved crossing facilities near the school and village centre. He outlined some of the proposed works including, new footpaths and kerbing, pedestrian crossings, traffic calming measures, road markings, signage, landscaping and accommodation works. These works will be carried out in 2-3 phases, subject to funding.

It was noted that a public consultation was undertaken as part of this scheme, with 14 submissions received. J. Tennyson outlined the issues raised to members and responses to same and sought members approval to the Section 38 Scheme, to allow works to commence as soon as possible.

The Templeorum Village Improvement Scheme, Section 38 was proposed by Cllr Dunphy, seconded by Cllr Catt Slattery and agreed.

***(f) Greenway Update***

Update report was circulated to members, I Gardner advised as follows:-

**Mainline Works**

- At the Abbey Road where the project ties in with the North Quays there are works ongoing to facilitate access from the Greenway onto Abbey Road. The Greenway team are engaging with Waterford City & County Council in relation to a timeline for completion of these works which would allow opening of this section of greenway. This is currently predicted to be early in the new year.

**Remaining Lots**

- Fehily Timoney, project consultants, are progressing the detailed design of the section of Greenway between Curraghmore and Ballyverneen (approximately 9km) which includes the design of any structures. The landowner liaison team is engaging with affected landowners to agree final design layouts and any accommodation works proposals along this section.
- The acquisition of land from CIE at the Rosbercon Trailhead is progressing. The masterplan for the Rosbercon Trailhead is well progressed and will go to Part 8 in November this year.
- A number of surveys have been completed for the Red Bridge Mountelliott Tunnel section which are informing the detailed design.

**Related Schemes**

**South North Access Road, Ferrybank**

- Consultant continues to work on the final design drawings for road and trailhead carpark.
- CPO Deposit Maps have been completed and submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála with public notice period of up to December 3rd 2025.

**Greenway Link to Glenmore**

- Kilgallen & Partners have commenced work on the detail design including procurement of surveys. As the detailed design progresses, discussions with the relevant parties have recommenced regarding the acquisition of lands required to deliver the project.

**Greenway Link to Slieverue**

- Efforts are continuing to identify potential funding streams to advance this project.

**Woodstock to South East Greenway Link**

- This Greenway project has recently received approval from the TII to progress to Phase 2 Option Selection.
- As part of this phase, a second Public Consultation on Proposed Route Corridors will be held.
- Landowner engagement will continue throughout this phase.

- Following consultation and landowner engagement, a Preferred Route Corridor Option will be proposed.
- A Public Consultation will be held on the proposed Preferred Route Corridor Option.

***(g) North Quays SDZ Update***

Update report was circulated to members, I Gardner advised as follows:-

- The sustainable transport bridge has quickly become a significant feature and BAM is continuing to open and close the bascule spans to facilitate navigation along the river. Works are continuing on the bridge, the river pier protection systems and navigation aids with completion expected in early 2026.
- The South Quays Plaza is well developed and incorporates the greenway and a landscaped public realm area. The plaza works are expected to be substantially complete later in the year after which snagging and safety checks will be carried out in advance of opening to the public. However, there will be no public access from the plaza to the sustainable transport bridge until the bridge opens to the public.
- The front elevation of the new train station is now clearly visible following the removal of scaffolding. The northern plaza area that provides bus and car drop off facilities as well as access to the new southeast Greenway is progressing well with the installation of kerbs, paving and walkway canopy. The western railway footbridge and associated ramp that provides a direct link from Dock Road to the Sustainable Transport Bridge is also taking shape. The structural works to the train station will be completed in the coming months, including roofing, glazing, cladding, rendering and internal fitout. However, there will still be significant mechanical and electrical works required before the station is fully completed.
- Recent roadworks focused on Dock Road and Fountain Street to facilitate the final phases of surfacing, lighting, and footpaths. The works took place at night to minimise traffic disruption with details publicised on local radio, to local stakeholders, on variable messaging signs and all WCCC social media channels.
- Permanent lighting and traffic signals have been installed on Abbey Road. The completion of the greenway ramp at Abbey Road will enable the opening of the new section of greenway from Abbey Road to Curraghmore.
- Works are continuing on the railway flood defence scheme. The eastern flood defence works are substantially complete, while the western flood defence works are progressing well. Irish Rail has also commenced the eastern trackside drainage works for completion in Q1 2026 and the western trackside drainage will follow thereafter.
- It is anticipated that Harcourt Developments will commence phase 1 of the approved SDZ mixed use development in the coming months. The integration works required at the interfaces with the transport hub, sustainable transport bridge, Abbey Road and Dock Road will be fast-tracked as part of this construction to facilitate the earliest possible opening of the transport hub and bridge in early 2027.

***(h) Ferrybank Shopping Centre***

Cllr Dunphy expressed his disappointment, which was shared by all the members, at the action of Waterford City & County Council in relation to the Shopping Centre and seeking a Judicial Review, which may delay progress for quite some time.

I. Gardner advised the meeting that WCCC have applied to the High Court for a Judicial Review. KCC are very disappointed with this action and will vehemently defend the decision to grant planning permission. A hearing is expected to take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November, confirmation is awaited.

Discussion on the matter followed with contributions from all members, each expressing their shock and disappointment at the action taken by WCCC, which they felt shows disregard for the people of Ferrybank and south Kilkenny, is a set-back for regional co-operation and the shared prosperity the opening of the Centre could bring to the area and the potential for additional use for community benefit in Ferrybank and the wider area.

The members hoped the matter can be resolved promptly, through communication and cooperation for the benefit of the local community.

3. **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Order or Resolution of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meetings**  
None
4. **Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**  
None
5. **Notice of Motion**  
None
6. **Correspondence**  
None
7. **AOB:**

Cllr Breathnach proposed that members of the Piltown MD bring forward a Notice of Motion to the full Council requesting that a South East Regional Forum be set up, where the five Counties of the Region can come together to discuss and work together on matters of mutual concern. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Dunphy and agreed.

Cllr Breathnach requested that a workshop be arranged to discuss Variation No. 6 of the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021, submissions on which are currently being examined. It was agreed that M. Phelan would liaise with Denis Malone, Senior Planner, in this regard.

It was noted the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 2pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: Pat Dunphy  
Cathaoirleach

Dated: 3/12/25-

