

***Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,
1st April, 2026 at 2:00pm at Ferrybank Library Meeting Room***

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

Recording at Meetings

At the outset of the meeting, Cllr Dunphy referred to an issue raised at the last meeting with regard to recording at MD meetings. It was noted that the Standing Orders for Piltown MD Meetings requires the press to request permission to record at meetings and Cllr Dunphy advised that, following discussions held by Piltown MD members, it has been agreed not to allow recording at meetings. He acknowledged the incredible job being done and the coverage of meetings provided by all members of the press present, which is very much appreciated. Cllr Dunphy advised that elected members are available after all MD meetings to provide clarification on any matters discussed and that all reports circulated will be made available to the press following each meeting. This was noted and agreed.

Votes of Sympathy

Cllr Dunphy proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of the late Johnny Maher, former elected member who served on Kilkenny County Council for a long number of years and who held the position of Chairman in 1994. He was well known to all in the area and served the people of Piltown very well. Cllr Dunphy proposed that a vote of sympathy be extended to Johnny's family on his sad passing and to honour his time in public service. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Breathnach and agreed by all. Condolences were extended by each of the members, who remembered Johnny as warm and sociable and who will be sadly missed by all who knew him, they conveyed deepest sympathy to his family and many friends.

All the members joined with Cllr Dunphy in passing a vote of sympathy to Lar Power and family on the passing of his mother Kate Power.

- 1. Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 4th March, 2026** – proposed by Cllr Frisby, seconded by Cllr Catt Slattery and agreed.

Matters arising

N25/N24 Funding – Cllr Doherty welcomed funding allocations to progress both N24 and N25 Schemes to phase 3 design and environmental evaluation and also the allocation for safety improvement works on the N25 and she praised the local committee and all those involved in securing the necessary funding to address safety concerns.

Glenmore Bus Stop – in response to Cllr Doherty, J. Tennyson confirmed that a preliminary design was available for the proposed bus stop and agreed to circulate information after the meeting, along with map and details of location. He also confirmed that the existing bus stop/weighbridge on the N25 will be decommissioned as part of the new bus stop development.

R704 Deputation – Cllr Dunphy advised that the Deputation due to be received at the Piltown MD meeting regarding the R704 will be deferred until the May or June meeting, this was noted.

- 2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

(a) Monthly Roadworks Update

J. Tennyson circulated report outlining details of paving maintenance, discretionary maintenance and other works progressed and completed over the period since the last meeting, including updates on the N25 Glenmore Bus Stop, N24 Rathkieran to Aglish HD28 Scheme, N24 Carrick Road Safety Scheme, North-South Link Road, Abbey Road/Belmont Road upgrades, N29 Port Road upgrade, Piltown RRDF, Urban Speed Limit Review and Ferrybank/Slieverue boundary fencing.

The following was raised and discussed:-

N24 Carrick Road Safety Scheme – Cllr Dunphy noted accidents continuing to happen at this location and the continuing delays in progressing this Scheme. He asked that An Coimisiún Pleanála be contacted seeking an update and requesting that this scheme be progressed as a matter of urgency. I. Gardner advised

that he would refer this to the Road Design Office, who are in regular contact with An Coimisiún Pleanála on this matter.

Listerlin Improvement Design – Cllr Doherty welcomed progress on this scheme, which will address some safety concerns in the village.

N25 Speed Camera and Signage – Cllr Doherty raised concern regarding the positioning of speed limit signage and lack of clear warning signage on approaching the new 80km/h speed limit and speed camera on the N25, travelling from the New Ross direction. She acknowledged that the reduction of the speed limit and installation of the camera are necessary and welcome and have been very effective in slowing traffic and improving safety, however there is inadequate warning signage to alert motorists in good time that they are entering the 80km/h zone and she called for an urgent review to be carried out on the regulatory signage currently in place. All the members spoke in support of Cllr Doherty's call to seek a review of warning signage in place, while also acknowledging the necessity for and effectiveness of these vital safety measures.

J. Tennyson advised that overall responsibility for signage on national roads lies with TII and requires their consent, noting that TII have previously confirmed they were satisfied with the signage currently in place. He agreed to refer the members request to the Road Design Office to look at the current signage layout, with a view to making a formal submission to TII seeking a review of same.

(b) Killonerry Bridge Update

Cllr Dunphy urged that works on replacing the bridge needed to be progressed, noting the many steps involved in the process and its importance as part of the South Leinster Way route.

J. Tennyson gave the following update report from the Capital Delivery Office and Parks Department:

The River Lingaun pedestrian bridge at Killonerry on the Kilkenny/Tipperary border was significantly damaged by a recent flood event and is no longer fit for purpose. This bridge is the joint responsibility of the local authorities of Kilkenny and Tipperary. Since the bridge was damaged discussions have been ongoing with the respective LA's and the following course of action has been agreed:

- To protect public safety Kilkenny County Council has removed the damaged section of bridge on the Kilkenny side and Tipperary County Council has fenced off access to the bridge on the Tipperary side.
- Funding to replace the bridge will be sought under the next call for the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS), which is expected in the coming months and we are currently assessing which ORIS funding measure is the most appropriate to expediate these works in the shortest timeframe.
- Both local authorities will continue to work in tandem to advance a resolution.

Cllr Dunphy queried if works will be undertaken as a joint venture, J. Tennyson advised that both local authorities are liaising on the most practical approach, perhaps by way of Section 85.

(c) Greenway Update

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

Mainline Works

- Minor finishing out works are being finalised on this 6km section of greenway since substantial completion to ready same for opening.
- The photos show tarmac, road markings and a bike repair station having been installed at the temporary Car Park at Curraghmore
- The opening date is dependent on the completion of an area within North Quay's development. Once available - the southern end of the greenway can be accessed via the North Quay's / Abbey Road intersection, and a small temporary greenway trailhead car park will also be made available within the North Quay's development.
- The Greenway team continue to engage with Waterford City & County Council in relation to a completion date for the above and the most recent advice is that works are now substantially complete with snagging and finishing works on track for completion in late-April 2026.

Remaining Lots

Kilkenny

- Detailed design of the remaining section of Greenway between Curraghmore and Ballyverneen (approximately 9km) continues to be progressed by consultants.
- The landowner liaison team continues to engage with affected landowners along this section to agree final design layouts and accommodation works.

Wexford

- The acquisition of land from CIE at the Rosbercon Trailhead is progressing.
- The masterplan for the Rosbercon Trailhead was submitted for Part 8 planning on Wednesday February 18th, 2026.

Related Schemes

South North Access Road, Ferrybank

The design team have completed the detail design for both the South – North Link Road and Greenway Trailhead Carpark. Contract documents for construction works are expected to be advertised in the coming weeks.

Greenway Link to Glenmore

- The Design Team have commenced work on the detailed design including procurement of various surveys.
- As the detailed design progresses, discussions with the affected landowners will continue regarding the acquisition of land.

Greenway Link to Slieverue

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

Woodstock to South East Greenway Link

A 2nd Public Consultation on Proposed Route Corridors is provisionally scheduled for the 13th of April in Inistioge.

- Landowner engagement is continuing.
- Following consultation and landowner engagement, a Preferred Route Corridor Option will be proposed.
- On completion of the above, a further public consultation will be held on the Preferred Route.

The following items were raised and discussed:

Curraghmore Temporary Car Park – Cllr Doherty asked if the car park at Curraghmore would remain in situ once the Greenway was fully completed. I. Gardner noted previous advice regarding this facility which had been envisaged as a temporary measure only, but he agreed to follow up with Greenway team.

Funding for Greenway Maintenance – in response to query from Cllr Doherty, I. Gardner advised that funding will most likely be allocated from Council's own resources, however he will clarify and revert to members.

Part 8, Greenway Trailhead at Rosbercon – in response to Cllr Doherty, I. Gardner agreed to circulate plans to members in relation to the Part 8 development of the greenway trailhead at Rosbercon.

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

M. Phelan confirmed that the next joint meeting with Waterford Metro has been scheduled for 1st July.

It was noted that the next joint meeting with Carrick-on-Suir MD scheduled for 23rd April will clash with the AILG conference, which members will be attending. She agreed to liaise with Carrick-on-Suir MD and revert to members with an alternative date.

7. **AOB:**

TIC Abbeylands – Cllr Dunphy noted continuing issues with parking and traffic in the vicinity of the GAA club at Ferrybank and asked for update with regard to the taking in charge of Abbeylands. J. Tennyson advised that works were ongoing and agreed to seek status update from WCCC. Cllr Frisby asked that KCC write to WCCC to expedite matters, as there are severe queues of traffic and congestion at times of matches and a solution to the problem is urgently needed. He also asked that KCC engage with Dunnes to seek permission to use their car parking facilities at weekends for matches in order to ease the problem.

Bus Eireann, Waterford-Dublin Service – Cllr Catt Slattery noted the recent decision by Bus Eireann to cut some Expressway services, including Route 4, the Waterford to Dublin/Dublin Airport route. She asked that the Council write to the Minister for Transport to express concerns at the impact the loss of this service will have on local villages. She urged government, who have an obligation to people of rural Ireland, to do something to prevent what will be a massive issue for many. Cllrs Dunphy, Doherty and Frisby all spoke in support of Cllr Catt Slattery, with Cllr Doherty noting the loss of the Rosslare to Waterford service, which will also have a very negative impact for the south east.

Cllr Breathnach quoted Bus Eireann's website, which praised Route 4 as a great way for those in Dublin to visit the sunny south east and those from the Copper Coast to visit the capital. He noted the intention under Connecting Ireland to provide major investment to improve rural transport services, Kilkenny included, and as this is the last year of that capital investment programme, it is important to keep pressure on to meet all objectives in the plan, the key thing being to maintain services for rural areas.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Piltown MD is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 6th May at 2pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: Pat Dunphy
Cathaoirleach

Dated: 6/5/26