

***Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Tuesday,
7th July, 2026 at 2:00pm at Ferrybank Library Meeting Room***

Cathaoirleach: Cllr G. Frisby

Present: Cllrs J. Catt Slattery, F. Doherty, T. Breathnach and P. Dunphy

In attendance: I. Gardner, A/Director of Services, J. Tennyson, District Engineer, M. Phelan, Meetings Administrator, O. Bannon, Staff Officer

- 1. Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 3rd June, 2026** – proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Catt Slattery and agreed.

Minutes of Annual Meeting held 3rd June, 2026 – proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Catt Slattery and agreed.

Amendment to Draft Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting 3rd June, 2026

M. Phelan noted an amendment was required to the draft minutes in relation to item (d) Mill Road, Mullinavat, to reflect the fact that the Section 38 Report is not required to go before the Plenary Meeting for formal approval, as this is an Executive function of the Council. This was agreed.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) NTA Bus Stop Enhancement Programme

Cllr Frisby welcomed Mr Jan-Ross Jardaán and Ms Aoidín Curran from Roadplan Consulting to the meeting and invited them to commence their presentation.

Ms Curran outlined the purpose of the presentation, to give an overview of and provide background to the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme (BSEP) in terms of how it is being rolled out in Kilkenny County Council, works completed to date and bus stop works proposed to progress to construction in 2026 and next steps.

Ms. Curran outlined the following;

- NTA's BSEP facilitates the upgrade of bus stops across the County with funding of approximately €500k per annum. Target of approximately 10 bus stops per Municipal District per year, managed by KCC Active Travel Team.
- The funding covers design and construction of features at the bus stop commensurate with the use of the bus stop – minimum standard of hard standing, kassel kerbing, information pole, flag and carousel.
- Eligibility for shelters determined by use. Ancillary infrastructure excluded – footpaths, crossings etc.
- Roadplan Consulting appointed as design consultant with responsibility for liaising with KCC and Local Link to ensure location selection and design are appropriate to the specific needs of each area.
- Package of bus stops identified and designed in 2025 in consultation with KCC, NTA, Local Link – this includes 8 bus stops at 5 locations and is targeted for construction this year.
- Consultations undertaken with KCC Area Engineer, Active Travel Team, Heritage Consultant, Local Link, NTA (if needed), shelter supplier and modifications made where necessary.
- Currently for the Piltown MD – process is at Road Safety Audit stage, with final design to follow.
- 2025 Design Package comprises proposed works for stops at Piltown, Kilmacow Cross, Mullinabro Cross, Newrath Cross and Turkstown – details of each were outlined and noted.
- 2026 Design Package comprises proposed works for stops at Lukeswell, Mullinavat, Kilmacow Cross, Kilmacow and Mooncoin – currently at proposal stage, total of 9 stops across the 5 locations – next steps will be to engage with KCC and Local Link to allow agreement of scope – procurement of topo and design to follow.
- Next steps – finalise 2025 package for construction, consult with KCC/NTA and progress with Consultation and Design for 2026 package.

Discussion and questions from members followed, the following was noted:

Construction 2025 package – J. Tennyson confirmed that this is currently going through public consultation phase and it is hoped to deliver same by end of 2026.

Mullinabro Stop – one bus stop to serve both directions, via the existing looped route.

N25 Glenmore Stop – J. Tennyson confirmed this is a separate stop to the BSEP, part of greenway route to Glenmore village.

Eligibility for Shelters – it was noted that eligibility for shelter is determined by the number of stops/use, minimum of 5 services per day.

Signs indicating Bus Numbers – Ms. Curran agreed to note request from Cllr Dunphy and will raise during consultation with NTA regarding information included on the pole/carousel, with timetables etc.

Consider future potential – Cllr Breathnach asked that consideration be given to the future potential of particular bus stops that currently don't meet eligibility criteria for shelters. It was noted that cost is a factor where provision of shelters is concerned.

J. Tennyson advised that the first tranche of works under the Piltown MD BSEP will go to public consultation this Friday 5th July and will be available to view on consult.kilkenny.ie and to make submissions up to Friday, 24th July. Construction of the 2025 package is expected to be completed by year end 2026.

Cllr Frisby thanked Ms. Curran and Mr. Jardaán for their presentation and they withdrew from the meeting.

(b) Monthly Roadworks Update

J. Tennyson circulated report outlining details of paving works, discretionary maintenance and other works progressed and completed over the period since the last meeting, including updates on the N25 Safety Improvement Works, N29 Slieverue Roundabout, 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 Killonerry Pedestrian Bridge.

J. Tennyson advised members that additional funding has been received from the Department of Transport for remediation of damage caused to regional and local roads. Funding of €3.46 million has been provided to KCC under the Severe Weather grant, with Piltown MD receiving an allocation of €980k, works to be agreed with members and advised to the Department.

The following was raised and discussed:

Pride of Place Nomination, Slieverue – Cllr Frisby took the opportunity to thank J. Tennyson, G. Fogarty, GSS and staff for the huge effort and works undertaken at Slieverue ahead of the Pride of Place nomination, which was very much appreciated.

Killonerry Pedestrian Bridge – Cllr Dunphy asked that this item be kept on the agenda, to ensure progress and funding is secured under ORIS.

LIS Schemes – J. Tennyson confirmed that 3 schemes have been approved for 2026 and that works will proceed on same once the Roadworks Programme is delivered.

Roadworks Schedule – J. Tennyson confirmed that recent weather has aided progress and keeping the roadworks programme on schedule.

(c) Mullinavat Connectivity Loop Walk, Section 38

J. Tennyson outlined the process to date in relation to Mullinavat Connectivity Loop Walk Section 38, outlining proposed improvements under the Scheme, including new footpath link along Mill Road, 2 no. pedestrian crossings at the GAA Complex and Mill Road junction, upgrade and relocation of signage and road markings and full public lighting along the extent of the Scheme. It was noted that the public consultation period ran from 5th to 26th June and a public information evening was also held at Mullinavat Community Hall on 18th June. A total of 13 no. submissions were received, which are outlined in the report circulated to members, together with responses.

J. Tennyson confirmed that the Report will be sent to the Executive of KCC for approval and sign off and it is intended to put this Scheme forward for ORIS funding in Q4 2026.

Cllr Catt Slattery spoke in strong support of this proposed and long-awaited Scheme. She thanked J. Tennyson and all involved in working towards a solution, which will make a huge difference to Mullinavat village in terms of safety for those accessing the school, community centre and hurling pitch and she acknowledged all the hard work and effort put in on reaching a solution.

(d) Greenway Update

I Gardner outlined the following update to members:

Phase 2 Curraghmore to Ferrybank

- This section of greenway opened to the public on Friday 19th June.
- As well as the various railway heritage elements, a particular highlight is the 160m long mural. Funded by Creative Ireland and designed & painted by Street Art Ink, the mural was inspired by input from

local communities and includes many well-known landmarks, including the Ferrybank Grotto, the cross at Carriganurra, Rockville House and the Popes Tower.

- Of the 24kms of greenway, 13kms are now open to the public.

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 has received CIE Board approval.
- The detailed design of Lot 4 is now being finalised, and a peer review has been completed with the intention to progress to tender in the coming weeks subject to TII approval.
- The masterplan for the Rosbercon Trailhead has been approved by Wexford County Council.

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

- The Design Team are progressing various deliverables required under the TII Project Management Guidelines - Phase 2 - Option Selection.
- Engagement with affected landowners and their representatives continues.
- Following consultation and landowner engagement, a Preferred Route Corridor Option will be proposed.
- On completion of the above, further public consultation will be held on the Preferred Route.

Cllr Frisby welcomed the opening of the section from Curraghmore to Ferrybank. He raised an issue regarding directional signage for access points to the Greenway and asked if this matter could be looked at to ensure adequate signage is in place.

Cllr Doherty enquired if an off ramp at Castle Annaghs will form part of the design. I. Gardner agreed to raise with Greenway team, if this will be included in the next phase which is currently at detailed design. Cllr Breathnach took the opportunity to acknowledge the efforts by all involved and the work put into the creation of the mural at Ferrybank, which is a huge addition to the area.

(e) North Quays Update

I Gardner outlined the following update to members:

- Works on the sustainable transport bridge are well progressed with the installation of the edge railings, glass panels and pedestrian barriers. The remaining finishing works will proceed over the summer along with the final commissioning of the automated systems for the opening span, the removal of temporary river piles and the completion of the permanent pier protection system.
- The South Plaza will provide a landscaped public realm area with seating, lighting, green areas and bicycle facilities. Works are complete apart from final paving detailing, cycleway surfacing, snagging checks and audits, in advance of the full area being made open to the public. Public access from the

South Plaza to the sustainable transport bridge will be closed off and secured until the bridge opens to the public in 2027.

- Finishing works are continuing to the train station building including mechanical & electrical fitout, installation of flooring and second fix joinery and finishes to offices, toilets etc. Access lifts have also been installed. The testing & commissioning of the various operational systems in the station will proceed in the coming months. The construction of the southern entrance of the transport hub will also commence in the coming months.
- External works adjacent the train station are also close to completion including public realm, set-down area and layby. It provides facilities for cars, buses, taxis and bicycles.
- Iarnród Éireann will complete the installation of new trackside signalling, electrical and telecoms equipment through 2026 and into 2027. The completion of these works will facilitate the opening of the train station towards the end of 2027. The completion of the railway flood defences is also required before the station can open.
- All infrastructural works on Dock Road, Fountain Street and Abbey Road are complete with snagging and safety audits to be completed shortly for the final certification of the works. The greenway ramp at Abbey Road is open to the public and has facilitated the opening of the section of greenway from Abbey Road to Curraghmore.
- The overall railway flood defence scheme is progressing. The installation of the river sheet pile wall for the western flood defence scheme is now complete, while the eastern flood defence scheme and the eastern trackside drainage scheme are also complete. A contract has been awarded for the western trackside drainage scheme.
- The central flood defence works through Plunkett Station will proceed in late 2026. The project team continues to consult with Iarnród Éireann on the logistics for these works and the best means of reducing impacts and costs. The overall railway flood defence scheme will be completed in 2027 to facilitate the opening of the new transport hub.
- Further information has been sought on Harcourt Developments amended planning application for phase 1 of the SDZ development. Funding has been secured from the Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund for enabling infrastructure works that will help accelerate housing delivery on the North Quays site. It is anticipated that works will commence on site towards the end of 2026, with the public infrastructure integration works being fast-tracked to facilitate opening of the transport hub and sustainable transport bridge in 2027.

The following was raised and discussed:

Shuttle Bus service, Sustainable Transport Bridge – I. Gardner confirmed that a private bus service was part of the planning application made by the original developer of the site, who is no longer on board and no service is being provided at present. However, the bridge has been constructed to accommodate a bus service should it be provided in the future, which would require the approval of the NTA. It was noted that the Bus Connects plans will also provide more services to the transport hub. Discussion followed, with members noting that congestion will continue at Rice Bridge, shortage of car parking spaces and distance from the transport hub. I. Gardner confirmed that the necessary works on the public realm to open the transport hub and bridge will be fast-tracked to open towards the end of 2027. It was agreed to raise this matter for further discussion with WCCC at the next joint meeting in November.

Existing Train Station – I. Gardner confirmed that the train station will remain in the ownership of CIE, for their private use including staff parking.

(f) Ferrybank Shopping Centre

I Gardner advised that Kilkenny County Council is pleased to confirm that at the hearing in the High Court on Monday 6th July, Waterford City and County Council formally withdrew their judicial review with full costs awarded to Kilkenny County Council. After a significant delay this is hugely positive news for the Ferrybank Community, Better Value Limited (Dunnes Stores) and an endorsement of the planning decision made by Kilkenny County Council.

Cllr Frisby welcomed this news on behalf of all the Piltown MD members and looked forward to engaging constructively with Dunnes Stores to progress the opening of the centre, not just for the benefit of Ferrybank but for the benefit of the wider area, which is long overdue and no more than the residents of Ferrybank deserve. The members expressed thanks to the Planners and staff of KCC, noting the

importance of cooperation which is key to success and looked forward to the eventual opening of the centre which will bring major benefits to Ferrybank and the wider region.

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 advised that a site visit to the North Quays is likely to take place between 3rd and 9th September, whichever was most suitable to members. Discussion followed, M. Phelan to revert to members confirming date for same.

It was noted that the next joint meeting with Waterford Metropolitan District will take place on Wednesday 4th November. WCCC have requested a start time of 9:30am. Following discussion it was agreed that the joint meeting be held at the Rhu Glenn at 9:30am, followed by the Piltown MD meeting at 11:30am.

7. AOB:

Treatment of Ragwort – Cllr Doherty raised concern regarding the presence of ragwort, a hugely invasive species and asked for all to take responsibility to address and for the programme to eliminate same to continue. J. Tennyson confirmed that treatment of invasive species is continuing on a bi-annual basis, with improvements evident in the area.

Motorway Signage – Cllr Doherty asked if signage could be provided on the Motorway for sites such as the Poulanssy Waterfall and Kilmogue Dolmen. It was noted that representations can be made to TII in this regard, however I. Gardner advised that TII have a strict policy in relation to same based on proximity to the Motorway and number of visitors and these particular sites would not meet the criteria for such signage.

Speed Camera N25 – Cllr Doherty noted the continuing number of calls to members regarding the camera at Glenmore and the number of fines still being issued to motorists and she asked for a review of the signage to improve this situation, coming from the New Ross direction. J. Tennyson provided the background to the provision of this camera and confirmed that KCC have made a submission to TII requesting a review of the signage on approach from the Glenmore Roundabout direction. Following that request, he confirmed that additional advance notice signage has been erected by TII and their contractors. It was also noted that there is 98.5% compliance with the speed limit at this location, which has been provided by TII and An Garda Síochána.

Next Meeting

As agreed, the next meeting of the Piltown MD will take place on Wednesday, 2nd September at 2:00pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: 
Cathaoirleach

Dated: 2/09/26

