

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

Cathaoirleach: Cllr J. Catt Slattery
Present: Cllrs 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
Apologies: Cllr G. Frisby

Cllr Catt Slattery chaired the meeting in the absence of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr G. Frisby.

1. Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 7th July, 2026 – proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Breathnach and agreed.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Speed Limit Review Update

Cllr Catt Slattery welcomed Mr Paul Byrne, Executive Engineer, Roads Section to the meeting and invited him to commence his presentation.

P. Byrne outlined the background to the Urban Speed Limit Review, stating that a working group was formed as part of the Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030, to assess and review speed limits nationally. This group created the National Speed Limit Review 2023, which recommended implementing the following:

- Rural Speed Limits default at 60km/hr – completed February 2025
- Urban Speed Limits at 30km/hr – currently in progress
- National Secondary Roads default to 80km/hr – to be completed by TII later in 2026

P. Byrne provided further background, stating that following direction from the Minister for Transport in October 2025, local authorities must set Urban Speed Limits as Special Speed Limits rather than a default speed limit of 30km/hr. He advised that four formal national roads in Kilkenny also formed part of the review including the R723 Old N25 Glenmore to New Ross.

It was noted that the Pre-Draft Consultation Phase took place in March 2026, Draft Bye-Laws have been prepared and consultation has taken place with An Garda Síochána.

Details of the public consultation were outlined to members, which took place from 17th July to the 1st September 2026. A total of 15 submissions were received, which are contained in the Report. Some observations made in the submissions will be incorporated into the final plans.

P. Byrne advised that application for formal approval has been sent to TII in relation to the former National Roads and that it is proposed to have the Bye-Laws adopted by the elected members by 30th October 2026, for implementation by 31st March, 2027.

It was agreed that the Presentation and Report will be circulated to members following the meeting.

P. Byrne responded to questions and provided clarification to members. It was noted that the public consultation was now closed, but that all drawings and documentation are still available on consult.ie.

Cllr Catt Slattery thanked Mr. Byrne for his presentation and he withdrew from the meeting.

(b) Monthly Roadworks Update

J. Tennyson circulated report outlining details of paving works, surface dressing, 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 Carrick Road Safety Scheme, North-South Link Road, Abbey Road/Belmont Road upgrades, N29 Port Road upgrade, Piltown RRDF and Killonerry Pedestrian Bridge.

The following was raised and discussed:

Cllr Catt Slattery welcomed the inclusion of the Wood Road, Tullogher on the roadworks programme.

Sweeper Rota – J. Tennyson confirmed to Cllr Catt Slattery that the sweeper is deployed in the Ferrybank environs each Wednesday, which includes Mullinavat Village.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – J. Tennyson confirmed to Cllr Dunphy that LIS are included on the pavement schedule for September.

N24 Carrick Road – Cllr Dunphy again raised the ongoing delays with this scheme and the difficulty for residents living on this stretch of road. He proposed writing to An Coimisiún Pleanála in this regard.

Killonerry Bridge – Cllr Dunphy noted local concern and asked that every effort be made to push this forward, noting its importance as part of the South Leinster Way and an access route locally. I. Gardner

confirmed that the matter is being progressed, utilising the ORIS which is the only funding stream available. J. Tennyson confirmed again that the capital projects section are preparing the funding application for the next round of ORIS submissions, with announcements expected in spring 2027.

N25 Safety Improvement Works – Cllr Doherty queried the delay on these works, J. Tennyson advised that the procurement process has been complete and a feasibility report is now with TII for review. A response is expected this month, with programme of works to follow.

Wood Road, Tullogher – Cllr Doherty welcomed proposed works on this road, which links the Piltown and Callan/Thomastown MD.

M9 – Cllr Doherty noted a number of weak points on the road M9 to Kilkenny and asked for this to be investigated. J. Tennyson confirmed that works have been carried out by Southlink at Grannagh Interchange and asked for specific locations of other issues to be referred to the District Office so that these can be raised with TII.

(c) Winter Service Plan 2026-2027 – Priority 3 Routes

J. Tennyson advised members that approval is required from Piltown MD members on the Priority 3 Routes and outlined details, which are essentially the same as last year including junction on N25, local primary roads and around school networks. He confirmed that during extreme weather events, additional resources can be deployed if and when the situation arises.

The Winter Service Plan 2026-2027 Priority 3 Routes for Piltown MD was proposed by Cllr Dunphy, seconded by Cllr Doherty and agreed.

(d) Section 38, Bus Stop Enhancement Programme

At the outset of discussion on this item, Cllr Breathnach declared that he chaired one of the groups who made a submission to the public consultation. This was noted.

J. Tennyson outlined progress since the presentation provided at July MD meeting, confirming that the Section 38 process has now concluded. He advised that during the process, Kilmacow Cross was identified as not being part of the route and is being dealt with under the next phase of works. Details of the locations included were noted. The scheme will improve the safety and comfort of bus passengers using public transport services at the locations referenced above and is part of a programme to upgrade all bus stops in the County to a minimum standard to include hardstanding, appropriate tactile kerbing, bus information and in some cases seating and/or bus shelters. J. Tennyson outlined submissions received and responses to same.

Discussion followed, J. Tennyson provided clarification to members in relation to bus stops improvements being provided and locations. Members welcomed the proposed improvements and enhanced services for local communities. J. Tennyson advised that design is awaited, it is envisaged that same will be delivered by the end of the year. I. Gardner noted restrictions with regard to provision of shelters, which is not possible at all bus stops, it was noted that a minimum of 5 stops per day is the threshold for provision of a shelter.

Cllr Breathnach noted the amount of work that has been undertaken in relation to rural transport in the county of the last number of years and outlined the various services running through the Piltown District and ongoing work to further improve services.

Cllr Catt Slattery felt enough was not being done for rural areas, noting lack of services from Mullianvat for workers and college students who want to travel to Waterford.

(e) Greenway Update

I Gardner outlined the following update to members:

Kilkenny

- Detailed design of the 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 detailed design of Lot 4 is now being finalised and is awaiting TII approval to progress to tender stage.

- As reported at the July Piltown MD Meeting, the masterplan for the Rosbercon Trailhead was 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 shortly.

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.
- As part of this project, a Section 38 planning application will be made for the Pink Rock Loop, which will offer users a scenic alternative to the Greenway following the banks of the River Barrow and crossing under the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge.

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, a further public consultation will be held on the Preferred Route.

Response to Queries raised at the July Piltown MD Meeting

(1) Provision of additional signage

The provision of additional signage at the Ferrybank end of the greenway is not feasible at present due to planning conditions under the Part 8 planning for the access ramp. Concerns were raised from local businesses in relation to people parking in the area and it was agreed that signage would not be provided until the trailhead car park is completed.

(2) Letter drop suggestion

This is not considered in line with Kilkenny County Council sustainability principles. However, the potential to complete a guide to greenway access that can be uploaded on social media is being considered.

(3) Signposting of trailhead at Curraghmore

It was agreed with TII that access to the temporary trailhead would not be signposted. This trailhead is temporary until the completion of the remaining section of greenway. The trailhead is intended to facilitate local access to the greenway and is signed on google maps.

(4) Connectivity to greenway at Castle Annaghs

A ramp from the greenway to the Pink Rock Road in the vicinity of Castle Annaghs is part of the Pink Rock Loop proposals which are currently at detailed design stage.

Cllr Doherty raised queries in relation to Greenway users being asked to keep dogs on leads and also the provision of toilet facilities and the possibility of making an application for ORIS funding for same.

I Gardner advised that he will bring these matters to the Greenway Team, but noted that dogs should be kept on a lead at all times in public spaces, unless designated otherwise.

(f) Ferrybank Shopping Centre

I Gardner advised that following withdrawal of objections by WCCC at judicial review as reported at the July meeting, KCC have since written to Dunnes Stores acknowledging the positive outcome of the judicial review, to offer assistance if required with regard to the opening of the Centre and noting the retirement of Senior Planner, Denis Malone. No response has been received as yet.

Cllr Dunphy noted the possibility of continuing delays with the opening of the Centre and asked that further contact be made with Dunnes Stores. I. Gardner agreed to bring this request to the Planning Department.

Cllr Catt Slattery took the opportunity on behalf of the Piltown MD Members, to wish Denis Malone all the very best in his retirement, noting his great work in the Piltown MD, particularly in relation to the Ferrybank Shopping Centre.

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 the North Quays site visit planned for 4th September has been postponed due to low numbers. She noted two alternative dates have been offered via email – 29th September at 2pm or 10th December, time to be confirmed. She encouraged members to respond to that email.

Cllr Dunphy noted a number of occasions where meeting dates can clash for members and asked if all meetings can be noted on Members calendar to avoid this happening. M. Phelan noted that Corporate Services have introduced a Corporate Calendar, on which all Councillors meetings can be noted and can be checked by staff to avoid conflicts.

M. Phelan reminded members that the next joint meeting with Carrick-on-Suir MD is scheduled for Wednesday, 7th October at 11:30am in the Rhu Glenn Hotel, Slieverue and any agenda items for that meeting should be submitted.

J. Tennyson advised that the Ferrybank Office has been in contact with NTA regarding the Bus Connects Programme, which includes a number of stops in this area and will require a Section 38 to be delivered on behalf of the NTA. In this regard, he advised that it is proposed to arrange an online presentation for members late September, date and time to be confirmed in the coming days.

7. AOB:

Glenmore Village Bus Stop – J. Tennyson confirmed to Cllr Doherty that this will form part of the Greenway link to Glenmore currently in progress and will be included in the Part 8 for same. It was noted that the location will be in the vicinity of the Glenmore Roundabout at Cappagh.

Policy, Local Road Maintenance – Cllr Dunphy enquired if there is a policy for bi-annual works on local secondary roads. J. Tennyson advised on the patching and drainage maintenance programmes, which are assessed and dealt with based on need and where issues arise. Cllr Dunphy expressed his dissatisfaction with this policy, noting a number of issues not being dealt with in a timely manner which is not satisfactory for local residents on local secondary roads. Discussion followed, J. Tennyson advised that each GSS will undertake winter maintenance, looking at problem areas, addressing issues within the resources available.

Speed Limit Signage, Local Roads – J. Tennyson confirmed to Cllr Doherty that rural speed limit signs of 60km are erected at intersections of speed limits, however on longer stretches of rural roads repeater signs can be considered.

Next Meeting

As agreed, the next meeting of the Piltown MD will take place on Wednesday, 7th October at 2:00pm, in the Rhu Glenn Hotel.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:

07/10/26