

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE DHUN NA nGALL

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Aras an Chontae
LEIFEAR

21 Meán Fómhair, 2004

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú Speisialta den Chomhairle ar siúl ar a 27 Meán Fómhair, 2004 ag 10 am le plé a dhéanamh ar na hábhair atá sa Chlár leis seo.

Mise, le meas

A. MacSuibhne
Riarthóir Cruinniu (RÚNAI CONTAE)

DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Office of Meetings Administrator
County House
LIFFORD.

21st September, 2004

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Special Meeting of Donegal County Council will be held at 10 am on Monday 27TH September, 2004 in the County House, Lifford.

TO EACH MEMBER OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend this meeting of the Council. The Agenda is attached.

Yours sincerely

E. Sweeney
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. To agree Priority List for EU Co-Financed Projects.
2. To review and agree Draft Speed Limit locations.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNTY HOUSE LIFFORD, ON THE 27th
SEPTEMBER, 2004.

C/410/04 MEMBERS PRESENT

Clrs. P. McGowan, Cathaoirleach, D. Alcorn, L. Blaney, A. Bonner, E. Bonner, J. Boyle, C. Brogan, B. Byrne, F. Conaghan, G. Crawford, Padraig Doherty, Pearse Doherty, R. Donaghey, J. Harte, P. Kennedy, D. Larkin, N. McBride, T. McDaid, M. McDonald, I. McGarvey, D. McGonagle, B. McGuinness, P. MacLochlainn, B. O'Domhnaill, B. O'Neill, T. Pringle, J.J. Reid and T. Slowey.

C/411/04 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Clr. McEniff, who was unable to attend the meeting.

C/412/04 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. John McLaughlin, Director of Service, Roads & Transportation, Mr. James Boyle, Senior Engineer, Mr. Michael McGarvey, Senior Engineer, Mr. Peadar Thomas, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Pat Gillespie, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Charlie Kerr, Executive Engineer, Mr. Vincent Lynn, Senior Engineer, Mr. David Hall, Executive Engineer, Mr. Eunan Sweeney, Meetings Administrator, Ms. Ann Marie Crawford, S.O. Corporate.

C/413/04 AMENDMENT OF MINUTE NO. C/339/04 – MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 26TH JULY, 2004.

Clr. Pearse Doherty advised that minute no C/339/04 did not fully document his request that the County Manager amend the Housing Report submitted in relation to the Action Plan for Social and Affordable Housing 2004-2008, thus leaving no one on the waiting list at the end of the year.

The County Manager affirmed that a review on numbers on the waiting list was requested before any attempts were made to bridge the gap between the number of housing starts and the numbers on the waiting list.

C/414/04 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Votes of sympathy were extended to the following:-

- Ms. Ann Howe on the death of her mother Lena, and father James
- Ms. Virginia McLoone on the death of her Uncle William Doherty
- Ms. Michelle McNamee on the death of her Grandfather William Doherty
- Mr. Hugh Kerr on the death of his brother John Kerr.
- Mr. Hugh B. Kerr on the death of his Uncle John Kerr
- Mr. Charlie Kerr on the death of his Uncle John Kerr
- Ms. Maureen Kerr on the death of her Uncle John Kerr

C/415/04 ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT OFFICIAL.

Mr. John McLaughlin, Director of Roads & Transportation, referred to the members request at the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 13th September, 2004 that an official from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government attend today's Special Meeting. This he advised could not be arranged; however, a Department official had agreed to meet with members of the Council in the Public Services Centre, Donegal Town at 4.30pm on the 28th September.

It was agreed that the Council be represented by Clrs. McGowan, Larkin, McGuinness and Pringle.

C/416/04 TO AGREE PRIORITY LIST FOR EU CO-FINANCED PROJECTS.

Members considered the report, circulated with the agenda, in relation to the above, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

On the proposal of Clr. Kennedy, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, the priority list for the 2005 EU Co-Financed Projects for Non National Roads in the Donegal Electoral Area was agreed as follows:-

1. L1295 Water Street Bridge

2. R263 Killybegs to Malinbeg
3. Rossnowlagh Link Road
4. Killybegs Industry Road
5. R232 Laghey to Pettigo

Clr. Kennedy queried the inclusion of an extra allocation for the completion of the Water Street Bridge Project. Mr. John McLaughlin confirmed that €50,000 included for this project was in respect of lagging costs. Mr. Michael McGarvey, Senior Engineer, stated it was unlikely that the entire sum would be used as there were no additional costs over and above the original contract price. A more comprehensive breakdown would, he added, be available at the next Donegal Electoral Area Committee Meeting.

Members in the Donegal Electoral Area requested that if additional monies were received over and above the base €7.1million that the proportion available to the Donegal Electoral Area be spread equally over the existing projects.

On the proposal of Clr. Pdraig Doherty, seconded by Clr. Pearse Doherty, the priority list of the 2005 EU Co-Financed Scheme for Non National Roads in the Glenties Electoral Area was agreed as follows:-

1. R251 Glenveagh to Dunlewey
2. R262 Frosses to Glenties
3. R252 Millwheel to Ballybofey
4. R257 Dore to Derrybeg to Magheraroarty to Gortahork

Clr. O'Domhnaill voiced concern that the back of Muckish Road had been left out and queried the availability of Gaeltacht funding for the project.

On the proposal of Clr. McGonagle, seconded by Clr. Conaghan, the priority list for the 2005 EU Co-Financed Schemes for Non National Roads in the Inishowen Electoral Area was agreed as follows:-

1. R238 Bridgend to Bunrana
2. Carndonagh Inner Relief Road
3. Bunrana Inner Relief Road

4. R238 Redcastle to Moville

Clr. MacLochlainn advised that this was not what had been agreed at the Inishowen Electoral Area Meeting, and stated that he was of the opinion that monies were being sought for all the schemes on the list.

Clr. McGonagle affirmed that it had been agreed at the last Inishowen Electoral Area Meeting to send the four schemes to the Department on the understanding that any monies received and not spent on the first and second priorities would then be allocated to the remaining two projects. Clr. Conaghan requested that cross border funding be sought for the two regional roads leading from Derry.

On the proposal of Clr. Larkin, seconded by Clr. Brogan, the priority list for the 2005 EU Co-Financed Scheme for Non National Roads in the Letterkenny Electoral Area was agreed as follows:-

1. Letterkenny Industry Access Road
2. LP1137 Leck Road
3. R245 Letterkenny to Ramelton
4. R264 Coolaghey

Clr. Larkin advised that members in the Letterkenny Electoral Area were not aware that the allocation being sought was at 120% of the 2004 allocation.

On the proposal of Clr. Blaney, seconded by Clr. McBride, the priority list for the 2005 EU Co-Financed Schemes for Non National Roads in the Milford Electoral Area was agreed as follows:-

1. R251 Foxhall to Churchill
2. R243 Keerykeel to Elburn
3. R245 Milford to Carrigart
4. R235 Milford to Letterkenny

On the proposal of Clr. Reid, seconded by Clr. A. Bonner, the priority list for 2005 EU Co-Financed Schemes for Non National roads in the Stranorlar Electoral Area was agreed as follows:-

1. L3004 Dreenan Bridge
2. R252 Ballybofey to Brockagh (Dooish)
3. Link Road (Donegal Road to Glenfin Road)
4. R235 Castlefin to Kilclean Road

Thus, tables 1 to 6 in relation to the EU Co-Financed application 2005 were approved with members in agreement that Table 3 was the application which was to be forwarded to the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. (Appendix 1)

Members agreed that funding for roads projects was of extreme importance and requested that every effort be made to secure all available funding for roads in the county. Mr. John McLaughlin, Director of Roads & Transportation advised that he would write to the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government requesting that Donegal be given its share pro rata of any monies available above the 120% EU Co-Financed Specific Improvement Grant Allocation.

C/417/04 NATIONAL SPEED LIMIT METRICATION AND COUNTYWIDE SPEED LIMITS

Members considered the report and draft maps, circulated with the agenda, in relation to the above.

Mr. John McLaughlin informed members that the metrication of national speed limits would take place on the 20th January, 2005. The review of all speed limits countywide, together with the erection of new speed signs had to be completed, he added, within the confines of this deadline. It was essential that the matter be put forward for public consultation to enable the amended byelaws to come forward for ratification by December, 2004.

Mr. Michael McGarvey, Senior Engineer outlined the implications that speed limit metrication would have for Motorways, National Roads and Non National Roads. He informed members of the work carried out to date in ensuring that current locations and speed limits were appropriate to the volume and level of traffic in any given area.

He stated that recommendations from the Roads Department had been marked on aerial photographs, which were now available to facilitate an input from the Gardai, the general

public and the elected members. The maps were, he stated also available on the Donegal County Council website together with a specifically dedicated e-mail address. A public consultation area had, he confirmed, been set up in each Electoral Area Office to deal with public submissions. Mr. Michael McGarvey added that amendments could be dealt with at the Electoral Area Meetings.

A number of members were of the opinion that there had been a general lack of consultation at Electoral Area level, and that there was a need to bring specific information on the proposed speed limit changes out to each particular location affected by the review.

Clr. E. Bonner noted that there had been a number of reductions in speed limits on the Glenties Electoral Area map. He queried the general criteria for the erection of speed limit signs.

Clr. A. Bonner indicated that a number of the recommendations made by members had not been adhered to.

A lengthy discussion ensued during which members raised the following issues:-

- The boundary of the Burnfoot Town Plan was not clearly marked on the draft map.
- There was a need to extend the speed limit on the Coxstown Road, Carrigans out to the town boundary
- More discussion was required in relation to speed limits in the Tooban area.
- Further briefing and explanations were needed as to why speed limits had been amended or removed at specific locations in the county.
- In areas of high population density, residents groups should be included in the public consultation process.
- Maps relating to the Derrybeg area would be left in the Derrybeg Post Office.

Clr. McGuinness expressed concern in relation to the accuracy of the maps and stated that the control points highlighted in many instances were not correct. He requested that planning officials also attend the relevant area meetings. Clr. Pearse Doherty queried the situation in relation to speed

limits on non national roads. Mr. John McLaughlin advised that he would take members views on board, and confirmed that the inclusion of the various town boundaries would be updated, where appropriate. He stated that a Senior Roads Engineer would also attend the area meetings and that there would be consultation with the Planning Department. Mr. McLaughlin stated that he would consult with the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to the members role in increasing speed limits on non national roads.

Every effort would, he agreed, be made to keep the public informed and maps would be placed in a number of Post Offices and Sub Post Offices throughout the county. Mr. McLaughlin concluded by informing members that meetings would take place in each Electoral Area within two weeks so that a draft document could be made available for public consultation from 13th October, 2004 to 12th November, 2004, inclusive.

This concluded the business of the meeting.