

2nd May, 2006

TO : EACH MEMBER OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

A Special Meeting of Donegal County Council, requisitioned by the Mayor, will be held on *Monday 8th May, 2006* at 12.00 noon in the County House, Lifford, to consider the appended agenda.

You are hereby requested to attend.

J. Peoples
A/Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. To consider proposal for submission to the Social and Community Facility – Capital Scheme 2006.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF DONEGAL
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 8TH MAY 2006 IN THE
COUNTY HOUSE LIFFORD

C/208/06

MEMBERS PRESENT

Clrs. D. Larkin, Mayor. Alcorn, L. Blaney, E. Bonner, J. Boyle, C. Brogan, B. Byrne, F. Conaghan, R. Donaghey, N. McBride, M. McDonald, D. McGonagle, P. McGowan, B. Mc Guinness, P. O' Dochartaigh, B. O' Domhnaill.

C/209/06

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Michael McLoone, County Manager, Mr. Michael Heaney, Director Community, Culture and Enterprise, Mr. Aidan McNicholas, Head of Finance, Mr. Sean Sheridan, Director Corporate Services, Mr. Gary Martin, S.E.O, Mr. Joe Peoples, A/Meetings Administrator, Ms. Anne Marie Crawford, Staff Officer, Corporate Services.

C/210/06

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Clrs. Pearse Doherty, Johnathan Kennedy and Padráig MacLochlainn who were unable to attend the meeting.

C/211/06

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL FOR
SUBMISSION TO THE SOCIAL AND
COMMUNITY FACILITY- CAPITAL SCHEME
2006

A copy of the County Manager's report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Mr. Gary Martin, S.E.O outlined the background to the scheme and advised that the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government had allocated €6 million to finance targeted capital works which would enhance communities, address disadvantage and improve social cohesion at local level. Each County Manager had he confirmed been

invited to submit three projects in priority order as per the requirements of Circular LG 11/06

Mr. Martin affirmed that Capital Works only were eligible, and that the proposed funding had to compliment existing local authority schemes and not duplicate or replicate existing funding. It was also imperative he added that the projects were local authority led and/or driven by the local authority in partnership with local Community Development initiatives. He proceeded to outline the criteria applicable for obtaining such funding and the various procedural directives to be followed.

The three key projects identified in order of priority were he advised:

1. Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny.
2. Fort Dunree.
3. Glenswilly GAA Centre Theatre Stage.

Members were also informed that a reserve list had been drawn up and that it was intended to submit these seven projects to the DOEHLG so as to avail of any extra funding that might become available.

The reserve list had been compiled he added from the remaining priority projects on the Council led Peace 11 Task Force reserve list. These projects he noted had not been funded in March 2006 because of budgetary constraints.

The County Manager acknowledged the work carried out to date in relation to the selection of such projects and commended Mr. Gary Martin, S.E.O and the Community Culture and Enterprise Directorate on their outstanding commitment to this venture. He extolled the merits of the three chosen projects and affirmed that it was intended to rotate the location of projects around the county in the coming years, should funding be available.

Members welcomed the availability of funding under the Social and Community Facilities Capital

Programme 2006 and acknowledged that the projects selected would in the long run benefit the county as a whole.

Clr. McGowan however stated that he was unhappy with the way the matter had been presented to members and that there had been no real opportunity to discuss and assess the suitability of a range of projects, in particular many of those, which had deemed ineligible for peace and reconciliation funding. It was imperative he advised that any future project selection process be carried out in a more transparent manner.

Clr. Pádraig O'Dochartaigh voiced concern at the imbalance in the selection process.

Concern was also expressed that a number of worthwhile projects had been left off the reserve list.

Mr. Gary Martin, S.E.O advised that great care had been taken with the selection process and that the reserve list had been evaluated through the Peace and Reconciliation Task Force. He then responded to a range of queries from members as to why specific projects had not been included on the list.

He reminded those present that the request for project proposals had been received at very short notice and therefore necessitated immediate action. It was hoped he added that future-funding initiatives would be advertised earlier in the year, thus providing sufficient time to develop an appropriate model of selection.

On the proposal of Clr. Larkin, seconded by Clr. Mc Guinness it was agreed that the following projects would be submitted as the Council's application for funding under the Social and Community Facilities Capital Scheme 2006: -

- 1.Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny €200,000
- 2.Fort Dunree €10,000
- 3.Glenswilly GAA Centre Theatre Stage €10,000

It was also agreed that a reserve list consisting of the following seven projects would be submitted to the DOEHLG for consideration in the event that extra funding would become available.

Reference	Project Title	Approved
429/36958	KidsZone, Ballyshannon	€44,175.00
420/36950	Comharchumann Oilean Thorai Teo	€7,500.00
340/34150	Buncrana Youth & Development Co. Ltd	€6,500.00
332/33976	Carrigart Development Association	€7,500.00
391/34578	Dunfanaghy Youth Peace Project/St. Michaels GAA	€6,500.00
347/34273	Castlefin Tidy Towns	€7,500.00
432/36963	Kerrykeel Park Development	€38,000.00

Clr. Conaghan requested that both Buncrana and Letterkenny Town Councils be informed of this decision.

This concluded the business of the meeting.