

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
GLENTIES ELECTORAL AREA COMMITTEE
HELD ON 16th NOVEMBER 2010, IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE,
DUNGLOE**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr David Alcorn
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher
Cllr Pádraig Doherty
Cllr Terence Slowey

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Mc Gill- Area Manager, Housing/Corporate Services
John Gallagher –Area Manager Water & Environment,
S.E.E
Brendan Mc Fadden–Area Manager,Roads & Transportation,
S.E.E
Frank Sweeney –Area Manager, Planning & Economic
Development
Charles Sweeney-Area Manager, Community, Enterprise &
Cultural Service
Eamonn Canney, Senior Engineer, Housing Construction
Michael Rowsome –SSO, Corporate Services

APOLOGIES: Cllr Seamus Ó Domhnaill

GEA 194/10

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
14TH SEPTEMBER 2010**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Slowey, the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th of September 2010 were agreed.

HOUSING AND BUILDING

GEA 195/10

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to the status of the Housing Capital Programme.

The committee were advised that

- i. The 12 no.unit Loughanure turnkey development is complete and letters of allocation will issue within 14 days.
- ii. Remedial works have commenced at the Lettermacaward scheme with a deadline completion date of the 14th March 2011.
- iii. The Dungloe Turnkey scheme (28 no. units) is expected to commence before the month end with a 54 week construction period.

Cllr. Doherty commended the Housing Service for the level of provision of housing in the Derrybeg and Gweedore areas. Cllr. Slowey requested the Council to erect Placename signage at the Radharc an tSeipéal scheme in Doochary.

GEA 196/10

SPECIFIC INSTANCE COTTAGES

The Committee considered the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to progress on SI Cottages as at the 5th November 2010.

Members were advised that the Council are continuing to accept S.I. applications.

Cllr. Doherty highlighted the importance of S.I. housing provision for the survival of rural schools and communities.

GEA 197/10

SOCIAL HOUSING

The Committee considered the reports circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to Loans, Shared Ownership Schemes and Grants. In response to queries from Cllr. Gallagher and Cllr. Doherty, regarding the reduction in the number of loan and grant applications, the Committee were advised of the stringent nature of national qualification criteria.

GEA 198/10

**LONG TERM LEASING SCHEME & RENTAL
ACCOMODATION SCHEME**

Cllr. Gallagher expressed concern at the direction and dilution of housing policy and the suitability of these schemes for rural areas of population.

The Committee were informed that 4 no.houses in Gortahork and 10 no. houses in Dunfanaghy are leased to the Council under the Long Term Leasing Scheme.

GEA 199/10

HOUSING NEED

The Committee welcomed the report circulated at the meeting detailing Housing Need in the Glenties Electoral Area and Memberes requested that the list be updated periodically.

GEA 200/10

CASUAL VACANCIES

The Committee noted the report on Casual Vacancies as at the 5th of November 2010 circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager.

GEA 201/10

PRESENTATION OF TIDY ESTATE AWARDS

The Chairperson of the Glenties Electoral Area, Cllr. Alcorn presented cheques to the representatives of the category winners on behalf of the Area Committee, and commended all participants in the competition for their voluntary dedication to their respective communities.

Category	Winner
Small Estates	Fairhill, Dungloe
Medium Estates	Ard Mc Gill, Glenties
Larger Estates	Ballina, Falcarragh
Best Improved Estate	The Rock, Glenties

GEA 202/10**BEACHED WHALES ON RUTLAND ISLAND**

The Committee discussed the reports circulated with the agenda and at the meeting and presented by the Water and Environment Manager in relation to the mass stranding of 33 long finned pilot whales on Rutland Island.

Members were advised that a consultation meeting was held on the 12th November, attended by community representatives from Rutland Island, National Parks & Wildlife, County Vet and Councillors. An agreement was reached at this meeting to remove the dead whales from the beach.

Members were informed that College Proteins from Co. Meath will send two lorries with roll on, roll off steel containers to Rutland for loading and onward transportation to the category 1 processing plant in Meath.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Slowey, the Committee agreed with the recommendation to remove the dead whales from the beach. The Committee also recommended that the Council apply for funding from National Parks & Wildlife to assist with disposal costs.

GEA 203/10**CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda detailing the status of the Major Capital Programme.

GEA 204/10**GROUP WATER SCHEMES**

Members noted the reports circulated previously in relation to the current status of the group water schemes under construction and private source group water schemes in the electoral area.

GEA 205/10**REMEDIAL ACTION LIST**

The Committee welcomed the approval of funding for small scale remedial works to water supplies as detailed hereunder:

- | | Allocation |
|--|-------------------|
| i. <u>Glenties/Ardara</u>
Provision of UV system as a barrier | €67,500 |
| ii. Gortahork/Falcarragh
Water Treatment Plant upgrade incorporating new clarifier, Clearwater tank, panels and backwash pumps. | €600,000 |
| iii. Gortahork/Falcarragh(Magheraroarty)
4.2km of trunk main to cater for existing pressure regime. | €250,000 |

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
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GEA 206/10

PLANNING STATISTICS

The Planning Manager presented a report previously circulated in relation to planning statistics and responded to Member's queries regarding the current level of planning activity.

GEA 207/10

PLANNING REFUSALS

Members noted the report on planning refusals circulated with the agenda.

GEA 208/10

ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

The Committee noted the report previously circulated and presented by the Planning Manager in relation to the enforcement statistics for the period from 01/01/2010 to 31/10/2010.

GEA 209/10

PRE PLANNING SUBMISSIONS

Cllr. Alcorn expressed concern at the inadequacy of information submitted by architects following pre - planning meetings.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

GEA 210/10

ROADWORK PROGRAMME 2010

The Committee considered the report circulated at the meeting and presented by the Roads Manager outlining the current status of the 2010 Roadworks Programme.

Members were informed that all projects are scheduled to be completed by the end of November 2010 and the Committee unanimously commended the efforts of Roads staff.

The Roads Manager also informed the Committee that additional funding has been secured for the following projects;

- Overlay the N56 from Murroe to Ray
- New crash barrier between Crolly – Loughanure (N56)
- New crash barrier at Maas junction
- Repair of crash barrier at the Nick
- Cutting of growth/growth removal at Meenacarn, Maas Bends, Doochary Junction, Killult, Derryreel and the Log Cabin.

Cllr. Slowey commended the Roads Manager for the preparatory planning of projects to enable the drawdown of funding at short notice.

GEA 211/10

ROAD & WINTER MAINTENACE PROGRAMME

Cllr. Alcorn recommended that the Council:

- i. Engage the services of local contractors to carry out gritting in emergency situations.
- ii. Establish a dedicated pothole repairs crew

The Roads Manager responded to Members concerns in relation to maintenance requirements throughout the Electoral Area.

GEA 212/10

SPEED LIMITS

In response to Members queries in relation to speed limits alterations in respect of Meenacuing, Crolly and the Back of Errigal road, the Roads Manager undertook to communicate recommendations to relevant road officials.

GEA 213/10

WORKSHOP

The Roads Manager undertook to revert to Members regarding the scheduling of a workshop in December to discuss the 2011 Surface Dressing Programme and Road Safety.

GEA 214/10

CHURCH OF IRELAND LEITIRMACAWARD

Cllr. Slowey requested the Roads Manager to liaise with the Church of Ireland Minister in respect of the willingness of a local family to provide land for parking at this locus.

COMMUNITY, ENTERPRISE & CULTURAL SERVICES
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GEA 215/10 FUND MANAGMENT

Member's noted the updated status of the allocations under the 2010 Tourism Development Fund and Development Fund Initiative.

GEA 216/10 SOCIAL INCLUSION

The Community & Enterprise Manager informed Members of the completion of over 50 events Countywide to raise awareness of, and promote social inclusion amongst the staff, management and elected Members of the Council.

GEA 217/10 KEEPING WARM INITIATIVE 2010

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda detailing the benefit of over 1100 households throughout Donegal from the Keeping Warm Initiative.

GEA 218/10 COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Members were informed that the November edition of the Community Bulletin has been circulated to in excess of 600 community and voluntary groups.

GEA 219/10 DONEGAL PRIDE OF PLACE COMPETITION 2010

The Community & Enterprise Manager informed the Committee that the Council was represented by Áislann Rann na Feirste, Glenfinn Area Council, Killybegs Maritime & Heritage Centre, Carnival Ballyshannon and Letterkenny CDP in the All Island Pride of Place Competition.

GEA 220/10 COMMUNITY GARDENS

Members noted the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the Community Gardens Walk and Talk.

GEA 221/10 DONEGAL YOUTH COUNCIL

The Committee welcomed the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the election of 36 new Youth Councillors as part of the 2010 elections.

GEA 222/10

PEACE III GOOD RELATIONS OFFICE

Member's noted the report circulated previously regarding the delivery of models of best practice in relation to volunteerism and also the delivery of an awareness raising campaign.

GEA 223/10

PEACE III CULTURAL DIVERSITY OFFICER

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda and the booklet circulated at the meeting in relation to embracing and celebrating diversity in Donegal.

GEA 224/10

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Doherty informed the Committee of the walkway project aiming to link Bunbeg to Magheraroarty and the Community & Enterprise Manager agreed to meet with Brian Cullen and the sponsor group.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Council to liaise with the Dunlewey Committee to upgrade the car park at the bottom of Errigal and to address the maintenance deficiencies at Doe Castle.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.