

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE DHUN NA nGALL**

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe  
Aras an Chontae  
LEIFEAR

28 Samhain 2008,

**FOGRA CRUINNITHE**

Beidh Cruinniú Speisialta den Chomhairle ar siúl Déardaoin 4 Nollaig , 2008 ag 9.30 le plé a dhéanamh ar na hábhair atá sa Chlár leis seo.

**Mise, le meas**

**A. MacSuibhne**  
**Riarthóir Cruinnithe (RÚNAI CHONTAE)**

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**DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

Office of Meetings Administrator  
County House  
LIFFORD.

28 November, 2008

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

A Special Meeting of Donegal County Council will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 at 9.30 am 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**

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## AGENDA

To consider the Three-Year Capital Programme 2009-2011 in accordance with Part 14, Section 135 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY  
COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD ON 4th  
DECEMBER 2008

C/561/08 MEMBERS PRESENT

Clrs. G. Crawford, Mayor, D. Alcorn, A. Bonner, E. Bonner, J. Boyle, C. Brogan, P. Doherty, R. Donaghey, M.T Gallagher, C. Harvey, J. Kennedy, D. Larkin, N. Mc Bride, M. Mc Donald, I. McGarvey, D. Mc Gonagle, P. Mc Gowan, B. Mc Guinness, P. Mac Lochlainn, G. Reid, T. Slowey.

C/562/08 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Clrs. Conaghan, Harte and Kelly, who were unable to attend the meeting.

C/563/08 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Michael McLoone, County Manager, Mr. L. Kelly, Assistant County Manager, Director of Housing, Mr. Sean Sheridan, Director Corporate Services, Mr. Michael Heaney, Director Community Culture and Enterprise, Mr. S. Neely, Director Water, Environment and Emergency Services, Mr. John Mc Laughlin, Director Roads and Transportation, Mr. Francie Coyle, Director Planning and Economic Development, Mr. Aidan Mc Nicholas, Head of Finance, Mr. Brian Boyle, Head of Information Systems, Mr. Paul Kilcoyne, Senior Engineer, Mr. Vincent Lynn, Senior Engineer, Mr. Garry Martin, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Eunan Sweeney, Meetings Administrator, Ms. Anne Marie Crawford, Staff Officer, Corporate. Ms Marie Quinn, Assistant Staff Officer, Finance, Ms Marie Guthrie, Clerical Officer, Finance.

C/564/08 TO CONSIDER THE THREE-YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009-2011 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 14, SECTION 135 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001

The County Manager outlined the main points of his report on the Three-Year Capital Programme 2009-2011. He informed members that over the past 14 years Donegal County Council had spent €1.295m through its capital programme on the improvement of the Council's infrastructure. It was essential, he affirmed, that a similar level of investment was maintained over the next three years. The proposed three year rolling programme reviewed the

2009, 2010 and 2011 priorities and reflected the current status of schemes in construction and planning, whilst analysing the sources of funding available.

The Council, he advised, had to provide co-funding for such projects through the Development Contribution Scheme or the raising of loans. The ability to provide co-funding would determine whether or not various projects could proceed. Mr. Mc Loone informed members that circa €709 million was required to progress the 2009-2011 Capital Programme, with a co-funding requirement of €26.215m for 2009.

The following service breakdown was provided;-

<b>Directorate</b>	<b>3 Years 2009-2011</b>	<b>2009</b>
Housing	171,193,963	52,987,840
Roads and Transportation	149,574,000	47,809,000
Water, Environment, Emergency	327,135,810	104,016,609
Planning and Economic Development	37,171,500	7,697,500
Corporate Community and Enterprise	24,090,000	2,440,000
	<b>€709,165,273</b>	<b>€14,950,949</b>

He proceeded to outline, on a service by service basis, the key targets and issues to be addressed in 2009.

A lengthy debate ensued with members highlighting a range of issues relevant to their own Electoral Areas.

The members of the Stranorlar Electoral Area queried the status of the Ballybofey/Stranorlar Swimming Pool and whether or not monies were earmarked for the progression of the project in 2009, and affirmed that this was a flagship project for the Finn Valley Area and one which needed to go ahead regardless of the current economic climate.

Members queried whether or not the development of this project would have implications for other essential projects such as the Greencastle Harbour Development and the multi purpose Aislann Gaoth Dobhair Centre.

The County Manager reminded members that the Council would be starting into the new year with reduced income

from development levies and a deficit on the loan side, and this would be further compounded by the fact that there was considerable pressure to maintain the status quo in relation to water charges and commercial rates, with only €4.9m available for new projects in 2009.

All of these facts, he indicated, would have far reaching consequences for the 2009 Capital Programme, and the Council as a result would not be in a position to sign contracts for any major scheme requiring co-funding in 2009 unless special arrangements were agreed with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

With regard to the Ballybofey/Stranorlar Swimming Pool, Greencastle Harbour and Aislinn Gweedore the County Manager advised that the long-term realisation of these projects would now most likely necessitate borrowing on the Council's behalf or involve approaching the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for some form of repayable loan.

Responding to earlier comments he confirmed, that there was no Special Development Contribution Scheme and that any monies expended on projects such as Greencastle Harbour would come directly out of the General Development Contribution Scheme.

The Director Water, Environment and Emergency Services informed the Council that there was sufficient provision in the €23,000 allocated under Leisure Centres/Public Facilities to progress the Ballybofey Stranorlar Swimming Pool in 2009.

Clr. Mc Gowan proposed, seconded by Clr. A. Bonne, "That this Council prioritise Stranorlar Swimming Pool as No. 1 Project in the 2009 Major Capital Project List as on page 25 of the Manager's Presentation on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2008".

Members discussed a number of proposed amendments but failed to agree on the appropriate wording.

On the proposal of Clr Crawford, seconded by Clr. Mc Gowan, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting for 30 minutes to allow members deliberate further on the matter.

Upon resumption of the meeting, the following motion in the names of Clr. P. Mc Gowan, A. Bonner, G. Reid, C. Harvey and G. Crawford was proposed by Clr. Mc Gowan and seconded by Clr. Crawford: -

“Given that sufficient funding has been earmarked in 2009 to bring the Ballybofey/Stranorlar Swimming Pool to tender stage, I propose that the project be identified as top priority for funding in years 2 and 3 of the Capital Programme 2009-2011”.

The Head of Finance, in response to a query on the impact of the motion in relation to funding for Greencastle Harbour stated that he had no problem with the proposal as regards 2009 but believed that there would be considerable difficulty in sourcing monies in 2010 & 2011.

A show of hands on the motion was then taken on the motion with 7 voting for and 4 against.  
The Mayor declared the motion carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting.