

MIONTUAIRISCÍ BHORD FORBARTHA CHONTAE DHÚN NA NGALL A BHÍ AR SIÚL I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, IONAD SEIRBHÍSÍ POBAIL, LEITIR CEANAINN, AR AN CHÉADAOIN, 15ú MEITHEAMH 2010

I Láthair

Clr. Deasún Ó Lorcáin	Comhairle Chontae DHún na nGall
Clr. Ciarán Ó Brógain	Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
Clr. Tomás Ó Priongail	Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
Clr Daithí Alcorn	Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
An tUas Gearóid Ó Smoláin	Údarás na Gaeltachta
An tUas Máire Nic Gabhainn	Fóram Pobail Dhún na nGall
An tUas Séamus Mac Ruairí	ICTU
An tUas Pólín De Faoite	Comisiún Forbartha an Iarthair
An tUas Mura Mac Lochlainn	Fóram Pobail Dhún na nGall
An tUas Úna Ní Chrónáin	Crann Taca um Comhshaoil
An tUas Pól Ó Sceinadar	Pobal
An tUas Séamus Ó Domhnaill	ICMSA
An tUas Mícheál Mac Giolla Uain	Bainisteoir Contae, Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
Clr Proinsias Mac an Treabhair	Comhairle Bhaile Bhéal Átha Seanaidh
An tUas Mairtín Ó Gormliath	Coiste Cúraim Leanaí Chontae Dhún na nGall
An tUas Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh	Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
An tUas Seán Andy Ó Cnámhsí	LYIT
An tUas. Paula Nic Giolla Fhinnéin	Fóram Pobail Dhún na nGall
An tUas Mícheál Mac Giolla Chartha	FÁS
An tUas Séamus Mac Suibh	Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teo
An tUas Séamus Ó Sléibhín	DLDC
Clr Pádraig Mac Lochlainn	Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
An tUas Mícheál Ó Tonnaigh	Bord Fiontar Dhún na nGall

Leithscéalta

An tUas Tomás Ó Dubhuir	Teagasc
An tUas Maire Ní Laoire	FSS
An tUas Máire Áine Ní Chadhain	Coiste Gairmoideachais Dhún na nGall
An tUas Eoghan Ó Dúghaill	BIM
An tUas Méabh Ní Chonnacháin	Fiontraíocht Éireann
An tUas Seoamh Mac Aoidh	IDA
An tUas Máire Ní Mháille	FÁS
An tUas Seona Nic Leineacháin	Comhpháirtíocht Forbartha Inis Eoghain
An tUas Pádraig Ó Grádaigh	IBEC
An tUas Pól Ó hAnnagain	LYIT
Clr Nodhlaig Mac Giolla Bhríde	Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall
Clr Mícheál Mac Maoileoin	Comhairle Baile Bhun Dobhráin

Oifigigh ag Freastal

An tUas Maria Nic Fhearghais	Bainisteoir Beartais Straitéiseach
An tUas Róisín Nic Giolla Bhríde	Oifigeach Taighde
An tUas. Caoimhín Ó Conaire	Oifigeach Forbartha Turasóireachta
An tUas Rosita Ní Mhathúna	Oifigeach Taighde
An tUas Loretta Nic Niocláis	Bainisteoir Taighde
An tUas Gearóid Mac Risteaird	Príomh Aonad Pleanála
An tUas Carol Ní Mhargaidh	Aonad Beartais agus Ciste um AE
An tUas Eilín Ní Bhrugha	Seirbhísí Cultúrtha
An tUas Cathal Mac Suibhne	Bainisteoir Ceantair
An tUas Donna Mac Rabhartaigh	Oifigeach Cúnta Cuimsiú Sóisialta

Chuir an Cathaoirleach, Clr Deasún Ó Lorcáin, fáilte roimh na mbaill BFC i láthair, go hairithe an tUas, Mícheál Mac Giolla Chearra, ionadaí FÁS, an tUas Seán Andy Ó Cnámhsí, ionadaí LYIT, agus and an tUas Gearóid Ó Smoláin, ionadaí Údarás na Gaeltachta. Chuir an Cathaoirleach fáilte roim dhá bhall nua den BFC ag freastal, an tUas Máire Nic Gabhann agus an tUas Mura Mac Lochlainn, ionadaithe ó Fóram Pobail an Chontae. Dúirt an Cathaoirleach go bhfreagródh sé comhfhreagras thar cheann an BFC ó Mháire Nic Gabhann thar cheann an Fhóram Pobail gan mhoill.

BFC 27/10 Miontuairiscí Cruinniú BFC ar 24ú Márta 2010

Glacadh leis na miontuairiscí don 24ú Márta 2010 a dáileadh ar an mBord, a moladh ag an tUas Tomas Ó Priongail agus cuidithe leo ag an tUas Póilin De Faoite.

Thagair an tUas Séamus Mac Ruairi na baill do mhír BFC 14/10, maidir leis an ghá d'oibreacha feabhsúcháin ar na háiseanna turasóireachta / ionad feithimh ar Oilean Árann Mhóir agus go gcaithfidh an Comhairle Contae aird láithreach a tabhairt ar an cheist seo. Mar fhreagra, d'iarr an Cathaoirleach cóip den chomhfhreagras a fuair an tUas Mac Ruairí, mar thagairt, maidir leis an cheist seo chun go n-ardófar é.

BFC28/10 Nithe ag eirí ó na Miontuairiscí

***“Léarscáiliú Bonneagar Geilleagrach Eochrach i gContae Dhún na nGall”
Tosaíocht Eacnamaíoch BFC (Fiontar agus Scileanna)***

Thug an Cathaoirleach cuireadh don Uas Loretta Nic Niocláis nuashonrú don mBord.

Thagair an tUas Nic Niocláis na baill don dréacht-tuarascáil a cuireadh thart agus thug nuashonrú ar fhorbairt Paipéir Earnála Prófil Contae – “Léarscáiliú Bonneagar Geilleagrach Eochrach i gContae Dhún na nGall” – Tosaíocht Eacnamaíoch BFC (Fiontar agus Scileanna). Thug sí forbhreathnú don mBord ar an dréachtphaipéar ag airdiú na príomh thorthaí go dáta agus sholáthraigh sí sonraí ar an léarscáil chomh maith. Ghabh an tUas Nic Niocláis buíochas leis an Uas Rosita Nic Mhathúna ar an chuidiú ar fhorbairt an phaipéir seo agus go hairithe ar a hoillteacht i gcruthanas léarscáilíochta.

Ghabh an Clr Tomás Ó Priongail buíochas leis an Uas Nic Niocláis ar an chur i láthair shuimiúil. Thug sé le hinse go raibh an calafort domhain sa Chontae fágtha amuigh as an phaipéar agus gur cheart é a bheith áirithe do fhorbairt gheilleagrach an Chontae san todhchaí.

Dúirt Paula Nic Leineacháin go bhfuil gá le tuilleadh scrúdú ar acmhainní gáis i gContae Dhún na nGall chomh maith le fuinneamh gaoithe, chun an fíor fhéidearthacht eacnamaíochta atá ins an cheantar a aithint.

Scaip an tUas Póilin De Faoite gearrnóta ar an mBord ar athbhreithniú a rinne Gaslinks ar bhailte nach bhfuil ceangailte leis an líonra gáis náisiúnta. Thug sí le hinse gur fhoillsigh Gaslink “Anailís Bhailte Nua Céim 111: Tuarascáil Dheiridh”, ar 9ú Aibreán 2010 agus tá torthaí ar 39 bailte ar fáil ann, 12 acu i Réigiún an Iarthair, le 5 i gContae Dhún na nGall. Dúirt sí go raibh na torthaí diúltach, le 4 bhaile as 39 i dteideal do cheangailt agus níl aon cheann de na bailte sin i Réigiúin an Iarthair. Thug an tUas De Faoite le hinse gur dearnadh anailís ar rachairt reatha agus faistíneach, ar fhás an dhaonra reatha agus cosanta. Dúirt sí go raibh an neamhchálíocht ceangaltas ina cheist inmíoch do Chontae Dhún na nGall agus go scrúdóidh Comisiún Forbartha an Iarthair an tuarascáil athbhreithnithe Gaslink a thuilleadh de bharr tábhachtacht gás nádúrtha do fhorbairt an réigiúin.

Mhol an Clr Pádraig Mac Lochlainn an tUas Nic Niocláis ar an dea obair úsáideach atá déanta aici agus bhéimigh sé tábhacht leis an BFC léarscáiliú bonneagrach a dhéanamh i gContae Dhún na nGall agus féidearthachtaí ar dhul chun cinn gheilleagraí. Bhéimigh sé an tábhacht do Contae Dhún na nGall a bheith margaithe mar pháirt de Réigiún an Iar Thuaisceart nuair atá na príomh bhonneagair riachtanach a fhorbairt, agus bhéimigh sé an comhthaobú atá déanta ag Rialtais Éireann agus Rialtas na Breataine. Thagair an Clr Mac Lochlainn don mhais chriticiúil don Réigiún Thiar Thuaidh, agus thagair sé do chontaethe Dhún na nGall, Doire, Tír Eoghain, Fear Manach, Sligeach agus Liathdroim. Thug an Clr Mac Lochlainn le hinse don mBord go mbeadh Grúpa Sinsearach Infheistíochta ag fógrú á bpleananna infheistíochta ins an Réigiún Thiar Thuaidh gan mhoill de bharr leibhéil céimithe (LYIT), bonneagar, féidearthachtaí fáis agus rí.

Bhéimigh Bainsteoir an Chontae, an tUas Mícheál Mac Giolla Uain, an tábhacht le húsáid léarscáiliú chun na srianta ar fhorbairt fiontair san chontae a nascú. Dúirt an tUas Mac Giolla Uain go gcaithfear infheistíocht réamh-mheastaithe do Chontae Dhún na nGall a chuir isteach ins na léarscáil chun oibreacha caipitil agus maoiniú riartha gníomhaireachtaí forbartha fiontair a shoiléiriú. Dúirt sé chomh maith go raibh gá le bonneagar agus forbairt a thaispeáint mar a bheidh sé i 2014. Dúirt an tUasal Mac Giolla Uain go gcaithfidh an Rannóg Beartais agus Taighde na comhlachtaí atá lonnaithe i gContae Dhún na nGall san am i láthair a aithint tríd na gníomhaireachtaí fiontair (CEB, EI, IDA agus Údarás na Gaeltachta) ins an chontae agus na féidearthachtaí maidir lena bhforbairt chomh maith. Dúirt sé go gcaithfear na riachtanais do ghnólachtaí nua-thionscanta a aithint maidir le nascadh leis an ngréille, teilechumarsáide, agus rí. Dúirt sé go raibh gá leis an anailís seo do Chontae Dhún na nGall chun geilleagar nua a chothú le forbairt fiontair agus postchrúthcháin a bheith mar chuspóir. D'iarr an tUas Mac Giolla Uain go gcuideodh na gníomhaireachtaí forbartha leis an mhéid seo oibre.

D'fhiafraigh an Cathaoirleach faoi anailís ar cheadúnais chun ceangailt le píblínte mar Alba de bharr gaireachta. Mar fhreagra dúirt an tUas Póilin De Faoite gur áirigh an t-anailís ceangailt leis an an líne gais agus nár scrúdaíodh ceangailt le háiteanna nua, áit ar bith eile.

Leirigh an tUas Séamus Ó Sléibhín an méid deiseanna atá ann tré amharc ar Chontae Dhún na nGall mar pháirt de réigiún (le Doire, Tír Eoghain, Fear Manach, Sligeach agus Liathdroim) agus gan mar sheasamh aonair.

D'ardaigh an tUas Loretta Nic Niocláis an gá do gach gníomhaireacht den BFC comhoibriú leis an t-Aonad Beartais agus Taighde i soláthrú eolais ábhartha chun an paipéar seo a fhorbairt. Mhol an tUas Mac Giolla Uain go gcuirfidh litir chuig na gníomhaireachtaí fiontair den BFC (Fiontar Éireann, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Bord Fiontar an Chontae agus IDA) agus eolas a iarraidh ar na comhlachtaí reatha atá lonnaithe i gContae Dhún na nGall amidir leis na riactanais bonneagrach agus na srianta.

Ghabh an tUas Séamus Mac Ruairí buíochas le Loretta ar an léargas chuimsitheach ar an phaipéar gheilleagrach agus léirigh sé an gá atá le gáslinte agus gréasáin iarnróid a bheith ar fáil i gContae Dhún na nGall. Dúirt an tUas Mac Ruairí go raibh gá le deisiú bóithre go hAerfort Charraig Fhinne.

Mhol an tUas Mícheál Ó Tonnaigh obair an Uasal Nic Niocláis ar an phaipéar seo, agus cé go bhfuil riachtanais bonneagrach tábhachtach, tá gá le daoine le smaointe gnó a aithint. Dúirt an tUas Ó Tonnaigh gur an fíor cheist ná bunú chun fostaíocht a chruthú.

Dúirt an tUas Mac Giolla Uain go gcaithfimid theacht fhad leis an stáid ina dtig le comhlachtaí lonnaithe i nDún na nGall agus daoine a mian leo á ngnóanna a mhéadú, nó gnó nua a bhunú nó a lonnadh i nDún na nGall, a bheith a bheith ábalta sin a dhéanamh gan srianta bonneagrach nó seirbhísí ar fáil i gContae Dhún na nGall. Dúirt sé nuair a shroichfidís an stáid seo go dtig an teachtaireacht nach bhfuil srianta le gnóanna a bhunú i nDún na nGall a chur amach tríd na caineáil chearta. Dúirt sé gurbh é an chéad chéim eile nó na naisc a chruthú idir thionscnóirí fiontair agus soláthróirí bonneagrach. Dúirt sé go molfadh se do Fiontar Éireann an cur chuige seo a thionscnadh ag leibhéal contae agus réigiúnach.

Dúirt an Clr Ciaran Ó Brógain go gcaithfidh gach páirtneir den BFC ról a imirt agus glacadh le coincheap an BFC, agus tá sé tábhachtach go bhfreastalaíonn na gníomhaireachtaí forbartha fiontair ar chruinnithe an BFC maidir leis an cheist seo. Dúirt sé go raibh gá do na gníomhaireachtaí an t-eolas a chur an tUas Nic Niocláis os a gcomhair a úsaid. Dúirt an Clr Ó Brógain chomh maith nach dtig linn dearmad a dhéanamh de na tréithe dearfach atá ag Contae Dhún na nGall, agus caighdeán saoil ard ann. Dúirt an Clr Ó Brógain go bhfuil go leor gnóanna ag strachailt i gContae Dhún na nGall a bhfuil tacaíocht ag teastáil uathu, agus nár cheart don fhócas a bheith ar fhiontair nua amháin. Dúirt an Clr Ó Brógain gur cheart do pháirtneirí an BFC go léir feidhmiú go cuspórach mar bhaill den BFC.

D'aontaigh an Clr Daithí Alcorn go bhfuil ceist forbairt fiontraíochta an-thábhachtach agus mhol se obair Údarás na Gaeltachta ar fhorbairt na Gaeltacht anuas trí na blianta. Thagair sé do thábhacht Fiontar Éireann agus do cruinnithe an IDA agus BFC. D'aontaigh an Clr Alcorn leis an méid a dúirt an tUas Séamus Mac Ruairí maidir le le tuilleadh maoiniú don bhóthar rochtana go hAerfort

Charraig Fhinne. Dúirt sé gur tarraingíodh aníos na pleanana don bhóthar seo agus cuireadh ar agaidh go dtí an Roinn iad, ach easpa maoiniú a bheith ar fáil an cheist anois.

Dúirt Cathaoirleach an Bhoird go scríofaídh sé chuig ionadaí an BFC ó Fiontar Éireann agus an IDA ag iarraidh orthu freastal agus ionchur a bheith acu ar na cruinnithe, thar cheann an BFC, mar go bhfuil ról thábhachtach acu maidir le forbairt fiontraíochta

BFC 29/10 Nithe ag éirí ó na Miontuairiscí

Nuashonrú ó Lá Straitéise an BFC, 5ú Bealtaine 2010

Thug an Cathaoirleach cuireadh don Uas Maria Nic Fheargusa chun nuashonrú don mBord.

Ghabh an tUas Nic Fheargusa buíochas leis na baill a d'fhreastal agus a bhí páirteach ins an Lá Staitéise Bhliantúil BFC ar 5ú Bealtaine 2010. Ghabh sí buíochas leis an Uas Róisín Nic Giolla Bhríde ar shon eagrúcháin na hócáide. Mholadh sí na sárchainteoirí a labhair ar ábhair ag leibhéal náisiúnta agus áitiúil. Thagair sí na baill do Cheangaltán 3 ag leiriú achoimhre agus aischothú ó na freastálaithe ag an ócáid agus mhol sí do na fóra earnála an t-eolas seo a úsáid nuair a bheidh siad ag pleanáil straitéis ins na míonna amach romhainn i gcúrsaí cultúrtha, geilleagar ghlas, Plean Forbartha an Chontae, inathnuacháin, neamhúsáid talúin, agus rí. Ghabh sí buíochas leis na cainteoirí uilig ag an ócáid.

Léirigh an tUas Nic Fheargusa do bhaill an Bhoird go mbeidh Laithreán Gréasáin an BFC a athfhorbairt thar na míonna amach romhainn. Dúirt sí go bhfuil obair ar siúl chun súiomh BFC eile a aithint agus dóigheanna ina dtig le BFC Dhún na nGall feabhsú agus a bheith dea-chleachtaithe.

Ghabh an Cathaoirleach buíochas leis na baill a d'fhreastáil ar an Lá Straitéise Bhliantúil den BFC agus do Róisín Nic Giolla Bhríde ar eagrú na hócáide.

BFC 30/10 Nithe ag éirí as na Miontuairiscí.

Grúpa Oibre Bhord Forbartha Chontae Dhún na nGall ar Thalamhúsaid

Léirigh an Cathaoirleach don mBord go bhfuil an tUas Tomas Ó Dubhuir, Cathaoirleach BFC Grúpa Oibre ar Thalamhúsaid, ag obair le TEAGASC i gCorcaigh anois agus thug aitheantas dó ar an dea obair a rinne sé mar Chathaoirleach ar Grúpa Oibre ar Thalamhúsaid agus mar ionadaí TEAGASC ar an BFC. Dúirt sé go scríobhfaidh sé chuig an Uas Ó Dubhuir, thar cheann an BFC, chun aitheantas agus buíochas a ghabháil leis ar a chuid oibre ar an BFC agus dea ghuí ina phost nua.

Thug an Cathaoirleach cuireadh don Uas Cathal Mac Suibhne nuashonrú don mBord ar Ghrúpa Oibre Talamhúsaid ar Úsáid Talún. Thug an tUas Mac Suibhne le

hinse don mBord gur bunaíodh an Grúpa Oibre ar Talamhúsaid i mí Mhárta leis na cuspóirí seo leanas:

1. An talamhúsaid a scrúdú agus an úsáid is fearr a bhaint as an acmhainn sin san todhchaí; agus
2. Na tionscnaimh a chaithfear a ghlacadh chun féidearthachtaí úsáid talúin a bhaint amach, a aithint.

D'ínis an tUas Mac Suibhne don mBord go raibh ceithre chruinniú ag an ngrúpa agus go bfuil na páirtí leasmhara ábhartha aitheanta chun a bheith pairteach san ngrúpa mar ionadaithe ó TEAGASC, LYIT, EI, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall, IFA, ICSA, ICMSA, Uachtarlainn Dhún na nGall, Cuideachta Forbartha Áitiúil, An tSeirbhís um Fhaoiseamh Feirmeoireachta, An Taisce, An tSeirbhís um Fhaoiseachta, agus rí. Dúirt an tUas Mac Suibhne gur aontaigh an tUas Mac Dubhuir tuarascáil ar thorthaí taighde a chríochnú ar an nGrúpa agus cuirfear iad seo os comhair an BFC i mí Mheán Fhómhair. Clúdeoidh an tuarascáil: Talamhúsaid Reatha, Talamhúsaid Thraidisiúnta, Déirí, Stoc Tirim, (eallach agus caorach), Curaíocht, Fhaoiseacht, Talamhúsaid Malartach (Fuinneamh Gaoithe, Táirgeadh Bíthmhaise), Comhshaoil agus Bíthéagsúlacht, Turasóireacht agus Talamhúsaid, agus Acmhainní ar fáil. Dúirt an tUas Mac Suibhne go gcuideoidh an tuarascáil seo le hathbhreithniú an Phlean Forbartha an Chontae

BFC 31/10 Nithe ag éirí as na Miontuairiscí

Grúpa Fócais Tionscnamh Kelvin

Thug an Cathaoirleach cuireadh don Uas Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh chun nuashonrú don mBord.

Thug an tUas Ó hÉanaigh le hinse don mBord go raibh ceardlann eagraithe chun amharc ar phóitéinseáil an ICT agus Tionscnamh Kelvin go hairithe, ó bhí an cruinniú dheireannach den BFC ar siúl ar 2ú Feabhra 2010. Ag tagairt do Cheangaltán 4, thug an tUas Ó hÉanaigh léargas ar an chéad chruinniú den ghrúpa fócais a bhí ar siúl ar 13ú Bealtaine 2010. Dúirt sé go raibh ár gcomharsan i dTuaisceart Éireann an-ghníomhach i bhféidearthachtaí an Tionscnamh Kelvin, agus tá duine fostaithe go lán-aimseartha acu chun an obair a fhorbairt. Thug an tUas Ó hÉanaigh le hinse don mBord go mbeidh ERNACT ag déanamh iarratas ar mhaoiniú Interreg 1Va ar bhun tras teorainn chun tógail ar ghníomhaíochtaí ceangálta, thar cheann Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall agus Comhairle Cathrach Dhoire, le hionchur agus comhairle ó na gníomhaireachtaí forbartha. Thug an tUas Ó hÉanaigh le hinse go bhfuil Réamheolaire Dhún na nGall a fhorbairt chun gnóanna agus daoine nua a mhealladh isteach go Contae Dhún na nGall agus chun an chontae a thaispeáint mar réigiún chomórtasach de bharr an Tionscnamh Kelvin.

BFC 32/10 “Athbhreithniú Plean Forbartha Chontae Dhún na nGall” – Cur i láthair le Gearóid mac Risteard, Pleanálaí Sinsearach, Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall

Thug an Cathaoirleach cuireadh don Uas Gearóid Mac Risteard cur i láthair a chur os comhair an Bhoird ar “Athbhreithniú Plean Forbartha Chontae Dhún na nGall”. Scaip an tUas Mac Risteard cóipeanna den chur i láthair ar an mBord mar eolas. Thug se le hinse don mBord go bhfuil an Tréimse Comhairliúcháin Phoiblí chun aighneachtaí a dhéanamh ar Athbhreithniú den Plean Forbartha Chontae ag tosnú ar 9ú Iúil 2010 go 24ú Meán Fómhair 2010 (11 seachtainí). Bhéimigh sé an tábhacht leis an Aonad Pleanáil Chun Cinn Dhún na nGall agus an ceangailt le BFC ag an stáid chomhairliúchán seo den phróiséas athbhreithnithe an Plean Forbartha. Dúirt sé go mbeidh siad ag ceangailt le contrapháirteanna ar leibhéal tras teorainn, réigiúnda agus náisiúnta. Dhírigh an tUas Mac Risteard ar na hábhair seo leanas: Cúlra Plean Forbartha an Chontae, Pleanáil Ordlatas, An Chéad Tréimhse Comhairliúcháin, Idirghníomaíocht leis an BFC agus an Cur Chuige do Shaoránaigh ar Pleanáil Spáis.

Ghabh an Cathaoirleach buíochas leis an Uas Mac Risteard ar an chur i láthair cuimsitheach agus ar an chomhairle don BFC ar athbhreithniúcháin an Plean Forbartha Contae.

BFC 33/10 Nuashonrú ar Athbhreithniú BFC 2009 agus Spriocthosaíochta 2009 – 2012

D'iarr an Cathaoirleach nuashonrú ar na sé Spriocthosaíochta.

An Rochtanacht ar Sheirbhísí is fearr a chinntiú do phobal Dhún na nGall (Ceangaltán 5)

Tugadh cuireadh don Uas Donna Nic Rabhartaigh chun nuashonrú don mBord. Ag tagairt do Cheangaltán 5, thug an tUas Nic Rabhartaigh léiriú den mBord faoi thaighde atá faoi bhun ag an Aonad Beartas agus Taighde san am i láthair chun an leibhéal agus méid dífhostaíocht atá i gContae Dhún na nGall a fháil amach. D'inis an Uas Mac Rabhartaigh don mBord go n-inseofar an t-eolas atá cruinnithe ag chomhdháil ar dífhostaíocht a bhéas ar siúl i rith Seachtain Cuimsiú Sóisialta 2010 chun impleachtaí dífhostaíochta agus deiseanna a aithint dóibh siúd atá dífhostaithe ins an chontae. Dúirt Uas Nic Rabhartaigh chomh maith go bhfuil an comhdháil seo a reachtáil i gcomhar le Fó-Ghrúpa Eacnamaíochta an BFC.

Dúirt an tUas Nic Rabhartaigh go bhfuil ullmhúcháin ar bun do Seachtain Cuimsiú Sóisialta 2010 agus go bhfuil imeachtaí na seachtaine seo a reachtáil i gcomhar le himeachtaí náisiúnta chun An Bliain Eorpach um Cuimsiú Sóisialta agus Eisiamh Sóisialta a cheiliúradh, agus beidh sé ar siúl ón 18ú go dtí 22ú Deireadh Fómhair. Thug sí le hinse go mbeidh bróisiúr a fhoillsiú ag léiriú sonraí na n-imeachtaí agus go scaipfear é san Mheán Fhómhair.

Léirigh an Uas Nic Rabhartaigh réimse seirbhísí agus tacaíocht atá a sholáthrú do phobail mhionlaigh eitneacha ins an chontae, agus tá an tionscnamh seo a reachtáil laistigh de chomhthéacs Comhpháirtíocht um Shíocháin agus Athmhuintearas BFC Dhún na nGall. Tá cur chun cinn suntasach déanta ar gach ceann de na tionscnaimh seo mar:

- Oscailt ionad Fáilte isteach 'Port na Failte' i Leitir Ceanainn
- Bunú Scéim Tuairiscithe Eachtraí Neamhspléach
- Soláthar tacaíochta do sholáthraithe seirbhíse mar seirbhísí leirmhíniú agus aistriúcháin
- Bunú Grúpa Stiúrtha um Ilchíneálacht Chultúrtha Idirghníomhaíochta chun gach tionscnamh a stiúradh

Léirigh an tUas Nic Rabhartaigh an bhaint atá ag an Aonad Cuimsiú Sóisialta le hathbhreithniú Plean Forbartha an Chontae, agus go raibh cruinniú leis an Príomh Aonad Pleanála le goirid chun modhanna comhairliúcháin feabhsaithe a aithint chun a theacht ar éisteacht níos leithne. Dúirt sí go raibh an t-Aonad Cuimsiú Sóisialta ag cur ceardlann ar siúl le hionadaithe ón Earnáil Phobal agus Deonach ar 25ú Meitheamh, agus s'éen aidhm atá leis an cheardlann seo nó iad a bheith ábalta comhairliú ina dtimpeallacht féin, lena ngrúpaí féin, agus aighneachtaí a dhéanamh chun glórtha nach gcloistear ró-mhinic a chloisteáil.

Thagair an tUas Nic Rabhartaigh aird na mbaill ar litir a scaipeadh thar an Uas Séan Ó hÁodha, FSS, maidir le Maoiniú Cuntais Dímhaoin do iarratais Caifé Óige agus dhá iarrthóir a ainmniú chun maoiniú a fháil ó na Cuntais Dímhaoin. Léirigh an tUas Nic Rabhartaigh don mBord go bhfuil an obair seo déanta anois ag Coiste Seirbhísí Leanaí agus d'ainmnigh siad Club Óige Dhún na nGall agus Ionad Fáilte-Isteach ins na Cealla Beaga faoi Mír 1 agus Club Óige Chaisleán na Finne faoi Mír 2. Beidh na hainmniúcháin sin anois i gcomórtas ar bhun náisiúnta le hainmniúcháin ó chontaethe eile.

Gabh an tUas Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh aitheantas leis an Uas Séan Ó hÁodha, FSS, agus le Áine Nic a'tSaoir, FSS, ar mheasúnacht na n-iarratais do mhaoiniú ar Caifé Óige. Bhéimigh an tUas Ó hÉanaigh gur ról tábhachtach de chuid an BFC é. Mhol an Cathaoirleach an dea obair a rinneadh ar an phróiseas measúnachta agus ghabh sé gach rath ar Club Óige Dhún na nGall agus Ionad Fáilte Isteach na gCealla Beaga agus Club Óige Chaisleán na Finne ins an chomórtas náisiúnta.

Ag tagairt do Cheangaltán 5, mhol an tUas Séamus Ó Sléibhín Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall ar shon an dul chun cinn le saorálaíochas.

Ag tagairt do Ceangaltán 5, d'fhiafraigh an Clr Tomás Ó Priongail faoi dul chun cinn maidir le athbhreithniú ar an Scéim Náisiúnta um Saorthaisteál tar éis an cur i láthair a thug an tUas Brian Mac Lochlainn ag an chruinniú den BFC i mí Mhárta. Mar fhreagra, tagraíodh an Clr Ó Priongail do Ceangaltán 13 ina bhfuil na litreacha a cuireadh chuig an Aire Éamonn Ó Cuív, TD, Aire an Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí, agus chuig Noel Dempsey TD, an tAire Iompair, ag iarraidh cruinniú chun an cheist athbhreithnithe ar an Scéim Náisiúnta Saorthaisteál a phlé agus mar a oibríonn sé i gContae Dhún na nGall.

Ag tagairt do Ceangaltán 5, léirigh an Clr Pádraig Mac Lochlainn an tábhacht le hIonaid Eolais do Shaoránaigh i ngach Ionad Seirbhís Poiblí agus an gá leis an tseirbhís seo a thacú, agus a bhfuil mór-éileamh orthu san aimsir seo. D'aontaigh an Cathaoirleach leis an méid seo.

Mhol an tUas Pól Ó Sceineadar an obair atá ar siúl ag an Aonad Beartais agus Taighde, agus go hairithe an ról tábhachtach atá le himirt acu i bhfeabhsúcháin na gcleachtais comhairliúcháin san Plean Forbartha Contae.

Mhol an Cathaoirleach go ndéanfadh an t-Aonad Beartas agus Taighde cur i láthair don Chomhairle iomlán chun an réimse agus éagsúlacht na hoibre a chur in iúl dóibh.

Ag tagairt do chleachtas comhairliúcháin, d'fhiafraigh an tUas Paula Nic Leineacháin faoin dóigh is fearr chun comhairliúcháin a dhéanamh, na ceisteanna ag baint leo and an dóigh leis na ceisteanna a mheasúnú roimh ré. Dúirt sí go raibh gá le bheith bainteach leis na comhairliúcháin chun sainordú Fóram Pobail an Chontae a bhaint amach. Mhol sí don mBord go gcaithfear an teanga a úsáidfear a bheith soiléir.

D'aontaigh an tUas Mícheál Mac Giolla Uain gur cheart don Aonad Beartas agus Taighde cur i láthair a thabhairt don Chomhairle iomlán. Mhol sé go n-úsáideodh na hIonaid Eolais do Shaoránaigh (CIC) an t-eolas a gheibhtear ar fhadhbanna áitiúla ó na daoine a úsáideann an tseirbhís, a chur á ar fáil do na soláthraithe chun na fadhbanna sin a thuiscint. Thug an tUas mac Giolla Uain le hinse go bhfuil dualgas ar na CICanna a léitheid d'eolas a chur ar aghaidh go dtí an Bord CIC i mBaile Átha Cliath agus gur cheart an t-eolas a úsáid go háitiúil.

BFC 34/10 Acmhainní Cultúrtha an Chontae a fhorbairt go hiomlán (Ceangaltán 4)

Tugadh cuireadh den Uas Máirtín Ó Gormliath nuashonrú ar an tuarascáil scaipthe ar an mBord. Thug an tUas Ó Gormliath léargas ar na hAcmhainní Cultúrtha agus thagair sé go hairithe ar an ócáid *Dún na nGall Beo* a bhí ar siúl ar 5ú Bealtaine, agus ar ar iarratas Chathair Dhoire ar ghradam Cathair Cultúrtha Eorpach agus an toradh le fógairt i gceann seachtaine. Bhéimigh an Clr Deasún Ó Lorcáin na buntaistí le hainmniúcháin an Chathair Eorpaigh agus an infheistíocht don chathair agus do mhuintir Dhoire. Tá seo aitheanta ins an athrú dhearfach a tháinig ar Léarpholl nuair a fuair siad onóir an stádais Cathair Cultúrtha Eorpach 2008. Dúirt an Clr Ó Lorcáin go scríobhfadh sé, thar cheann an BFC, chuig na moltóirí chun comhghairdeas a ghabháil le Cathair Dhoire mar Cathair Cultúrtha Eorpach.

Mhol an tUas Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh eagrúcháin Féile an Earagail agus an nasc leis an earnáil turasoíreachta. Mhol an tUas Ó Gormliath an dea cur chuige i n-úsáid an foscríhinn "Déanta i nDún na nGall" i gcuideachta Féile an Earagail. Ghabh an Clr Deasún Ó Lorcáin buíochas leis an gcoiste ar cheiliuraithe 400 bliana i Leitir Ceanainn.

BFC 35/10 Forbairt FIONTAR agus SCILEANNA a chur chun cinn sa réigiún

Tugadh cuireadh don Uas Mícheál Ó Tonnaigh nuashonrú don mBord. Thug an tUas Ó Tonnaigh le hinse don mBord go raibh an chéad cruinniú den Fóra Earnála Forbairt Fiontar agus Scileanna ar siúl i mí Bhealtaine agus go raibh droch fhreastal ó thaobh Forbairt Scileanna de. Scaip an tUas Ó Tonnaigh teimpléid dul

chun cinn ar Forbairt Fiontar agus Scileanna ar an mBord agus go raibh an léargas seo teorannaithe d'obair Bord Fiontar an Chontae. Mhol an Cathaoirleach go ndéanfaidís samplaí fochoistí eacnamaíochta i gcontaethe eile a aithint agus feiceáil cen dóigh a n-oibríonn siad sin. D'aontaigh an tUas Ó hÉanaigh an obair seo a dhéanamh agus na moltaí a thabhairt ar ais go dtí an chéad chruinniú eile den BFC.

**BFC 35/10 BRANDA DHÚN NA NGALL a Fhorbairt trasna na hEarnáil go léir (Ceangaltán 7)
TURASÓIREACHT AGUS ACMHAINNÍ NÁDÚRTHA an réigiúin a fhorbairt (Ceangaltán 8)**

“Forbhreathnú ar Forbairt Turasóireachta i gContae Dhún na nGall” – Cur i Láthair le Uas Caoimhín Ó Conaire, Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall

Thug an Cathaoirleach cuireadh don Uas Caoimhín Ó Conaire chun cur i láthair don mBord ar “Forbhreathnú ar Forbairt Turasóireacht i gContae Dhún na nGall”. Thug an tUas Ó Conaire le hinse don mBord go bhfuil sé ag obair mar Oifigeach Turasóireacht le Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall le sé mbliana anuas, le fócas faoi leith ar fhorbairt táirgí turasóireachta le dhá bhliain anois. Dúirt an tUas Ó Conaire go gclúdeoidh an cur i láthair nuashonrú ar Branda Dhún na nGall agus ar Acmhainní Turasóireachta agus Nádurtha i gCeangaltán 7 agus 8 ins an phaca BFC. Scaipeadh cóipeanna den chur i láthair ar an mBord mar eolas.

Rinné an tUas Ó Conaire a chur i láthair don mBord agus chur fócas ar na míreanna seo leanas: Fís Straitéiseach; Cion Tairbhe Eacnamaíochta de Thurasóireacht; Feidhmíocht Turasóireachta – Eochairtháscairí; An fáth go dtagann turasóirí go Dún na nGall; Eochairtharraingtí; Rochtanacht go Contae Dhún na nGall; Gníomhaíochtaí Feachtais Turasóireachta; Forbairt Táirgí agus Turasóireacht Chultúrtha.

Ghabh an Cathaoirleach buíochas leis an Uas Ó Conaire ar an chur i láthair.

Ghabh an Clr Tomás Ó Priongail comhghairdeas leis an Uas an Ó Conaire ar an chur i láthair cuimsitheach. Dúirt an Clr Ó Priongail go dtáinig 37% de thurasóirí ó thar lear go Contae Dhún na nGall, ach nár caitheadh ach 30% de chaiteachas i gContae Dhún na nGall. D'fhiafraigh sé cen dóigh a dtiocfadh le turasóirí tuilleadh a chaitheadh. Dúirt an Clr Ó Priongail go cheart impleachtaí tuirbíní/feirmeacha gaoithe a scrúdú.

Bhéimigh an tUas Séamus Mac Ruairí an tábhacht le caomhnú ár n-acmhainní nádúrtha agus fiadhúlra agus d'fháiltigh sé an fógra faoin uisce mhaith ar thránna Dhún na nGall. Dúirt an tUas Mac Ruairí gur cheart dúinn a bheith eolach faoi na buntaistí a fhaightear ón tionscal turasóireachta mar iompar, Coláistí Gaeilge agus rí. Dúirt sé gur chóir amharc ar fhorbairt abhainn Ghleann Ghaoth Bearra mar cheantar turasóireachta.

Ghabh an tUas Ó Sléibhín comhghairdeas leis an Uas Ó Conaire ar a chur i láthair agus an tábhacht le turasóireacht i gCo Dhún na nGall. Bhéimigh sé an gá leis an

mhéid oícheanta saoire a mhéadú ins an chontae, agus go hairithe dá m'fhéidir seo a dhéanamh i gceantair cosúil Sliabh Liag, Gleann Cholmcille, na Cealla Beaga agus pacáiste margaíochta a chur le chéile. Dúirt sé go gcaithfear an bealach go dtí na Cealla Beaga a chóiriú.

Mhol an tUas Mac Giolla Uain an dea obair atá a chur chun cinn maidir le táirgeadh turasóireachta i gCo Dhún na nGall. Léirigh sé chomh rathúil agus a bhí an tionscnamh *Dún na nGall Beo* a chomhordaigh eagraisí ábhartha éagsúla, agus an gá le heagraíochtaí eile le theacht chun boird chun costais margaíochta a roinnt agus rí. Bhéimigh sé an tábhacht le tionscnóirí imeachtaí mar fhéiltí comhordú a dhéanamh ar a ndialainn san dóigh agus nach mbeidh a lán imeachtaí ar siúl ag an am amháin, mar shampla Scoil Shamhraidh Mhic a'Ghoill agus Féile an Earagail.

Ghabh an tUas Séamus Ó Domhnaill buíochas leis an Uas Ó Conaire agus d'ardaigh sé ceist praghasanna agus go gcaithfear déaláil le seo mar nach bhfuil turasóirí ag iarraidh níos mó a dhíol níos mó.

Mhol an tUas Ó Tonnaigh an obair atá a fhorbairt ar Shliabh Liag agus ar Cheann Mhálainne. Dúirt sé go raibh sé tábhachtach Dún Ghrianán an Ailigh a fhorbairt i mBeart. Ag labhairt faoina bhaint leis an earnáil bidh ins an Bhord Fiontar Contae, dúirt an tUas Ó Tonnaigh gur mhaith leis an earnail bidh a bheith páirteach leis an earnáil turasóireachta. Dúirt sé go bhfuil turasóirí ann a mian leo díol ar shon taithe mhaith bidh agus nach gcaithfear an praghas a íslíú i gcónaí. Dúirt sé go gcaithfear eolas a thabhairt ar tháirgeadh bidh i gCo Dhún na nGall agus go dtig nascadh leis an earnáil turasóireachta nó cultúrtha.

Ghabh an tUas Mac Lochlainn buíochas leis an Uas Ó Conaire agus léirigh sé na buntáistí do Thurasóireacht Inis Eoghain a bheith lonnaithe san Ionad Seirbhís Pobail i gCarn Domhnaigh. Dúirt sé go dtig le gach duine a fhreastalaíonn ar an Ionad Seirbhísí na seirbhísí / táirgí turasóireachta atá ar fáil a fheiceáil.

Léirigh an tUas Mícheál Mac Giolla Chearra an gá le riachtanais iompair a anailísiú agus d'fhiafraigh sé faoin dóigh a dtig le duine aonarach fáil ó shuíomh go suíomh. Thug an Cathaoirleach le hinse don mBord go bhfuil Turais Úí Mhongáin ag amharc ar an cheist seo san am i láthair agus go mbeidh siad ag oibriú leis an earnáil lóistín. Dúirt an Cathaoirleach chomh maith go mbeidh costaisí áiseanna áirithinte busanna ar-líne daor. Léirigh sé an tábhacht le pacáiste turasóra cuimsitheach a chur le chéile do thurasóirí go Contae Dhún na nGall.

Ag tagairt do Plean Forbartha an Chontae, dúirt an tUas Úna Ní Chrónáin cur cheart uirlis monatóireachta a chur in áit ins an Phlean maidir le forbairt inmharthanachta de. Bhéimigh sí an tábhacht le caomhnú an timpeallacht nádúrtha agus éiceolaíoch.

Dúirt an tUas Paula Nic Giola Fhinnéin go raibh an Surbhé Seandálaíochta Éireann as dáta. Mhol sí muintearas straitéiseach a fhorbairt le rannóga seandálaíochta na n-institiúid tríú leibhéal ar fud na hÉireann agus Tuaisceart Éireann, chun go dtiocfaidh scolairí seandálaíochta go Contae Dhún na nGall chun staidéar a

dhéanamh. D'aontaigh an Cathaoirleach Ikeis an Uas Nic Giolla Fhinnéin agus mhol sé go ndéanfaidh seo tríd Oifig Oidhreachta Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall. Thug an tUas Ó Sléibhín le hinse don mBord go dtéann scolairí seandálaíochta Ollscoil na Banríona go Sligeach ar na turais allamuighe.

Thug an Clr Pádraig Mac Lochlainn le hinse do bhaill an BFC go raibh Seosamh Ó Gallachóir, Oifigeach Oidhreachta an Chomhairle Contae, ag ullmhú tuairisc ar comharthaíocht oidhreachta in Inis Eoghain, agus d'iarr sé nuashonrú don chéad chruinniú eile den BFC san Mheán Fómhair.

Thug an Cathaoirleach le hinse don mBord go mbeidh an y-Oifigeach Oidhreachta do Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall, an tUas Seosamh Ó Gallachóir, ag cruinniú le eochairpháirtithe leasmhara faoi fhorbairt Dún Grianán an Ailigh i mBeart gan mhoill. Dúirt an Cathaoirleach go mbeidh tuarascáil ullmhaithe don chéad chruinniú eile den BFC maidir leis an cheist seo.

Thug an tUas Ó hÉanaigh le hinse don mBord go bhfuil obair ar chomharthaíocht na suíomh oidhreachta ar bun san am i láthair

BFC 37/10 Dún na nGall a fhorbairt mar phríomh réigiún do EACNAMAÍOCHT GLAS (Ceangaltán 7)

Tugadh cuireadh don Uas Cathal Mac Suibhne nuashonrú don mBord. Thug an tUas Mac Suibhne le hinse don mBord go bhfuil roinnt grúpai oibre bunaithe chun an clár Eacnamaíocht Glas a stiúradh, agus go bhfuil Fóram Eacnamaíocht Glas, Cuibhreannas Oilíúna In-athnuáite, Grúpa Idirghníomhaíochta Fuinneamh agus Grúpa Oibre an BFC ina measc. Dúirt an tUas Mac Suibhne go bhfuil taighde leanúnach siúl ar fad faoi úsáid bhreosla an earnáil chomh maith le samhail deachleachtas ins an earnáil phoiblí ar úsáid acmhainní gaoithe agus in-athnuáite. Dúirt sé go bhfuil fuinneamh gaoithe, fuinneamh adhmaid, eolas a roinnt ar bhun Eorpach, Crios Éifeachtúlacht Fuinnimh an SEI agus córais éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh ina measc. Dúirt sé gur glacadh le hiarratas an BFC chun a bheith mar cheantar píolótach faoin chlár WDC RASLRES agus go bhfeicfear measúnú innealltóireachta a dhéanamh ar fhoirgnimh ghníomhaíochtaí an earnáil phoiblí chun athrú go córais fuinnimh adhmaid. Dúirt sé go bhfuil obair ar siúl ar fad i bhforbairt an earnáil forbartha gaoithe.

BFC 38/10 Coiste Cúraim Leanaí Dhún na nGall – Nuashonrú (Ceangaltán 11).

D'inis an tUas Máirtín Ó Gormliath don mBord go raibh comhdháil *Páistí Saorain: Cumasúcháin Foghlamtha Ghníomhach Luath-Óige*, ar siúl ag Coiste Cúraim Leanaí Contae Dhún na nGall ins an Silver Tassie ar 8ú Bealtaine 2010. Thug sé le hinse gur fhreastal 450 duine ón earnail cúraim leanaí ar an ócáid seo agus go raibh an-rath air.

Mhol an tUas Ó Gormliath go gcuirfidh litir chuig gach baill den BFC maidir le freastal ar chruinnithe agus iad a chur ar an eolas faoi na dátaí den chuid eile den bhliain.

BFC 39/10 Eagrán 7 – Ríomhíris Pobal Dhún na nGall i dTeagmháil (Ceangaltan 14)

Thug an Cathaoirleach le hinse go bhfuil Eagrán 7 den Ríomhíris Pobal Dhún na nGall i dTeagmháil scaipthe anois agus ghabh sé buíochas leis an Uas Róisín Nic Giolla Bhríde ar shon é a chomhordú.

BFC 40/10 Aon Gnó Eile

Ghabh an Cathaoirleach aitheantas leis na baill a chuaigh ar scoir ón BFC ar shon luach a gcuid oibre, iad sin: An tUas Tomás Mac Dubhuir, ionadaí TEAGASC, agus Cathal Mac Suibhne, Údarás na Gaeltachta, agus ghuí sé gach rath orthu ina saoil.

Léirigh an Cathaoirleach don mBord gurbh é seo cruinniú dheireannach suí ar chruinniú an BFC don Uas Mícheál Mac Giolla Uain, Bainisteoir Chontae Dhún na nGall, mar go bhfuil sé ag dul ar scoir i mí Iúil. Thar cheann an BFC, ghabh an Cathaoirleach ómós leis an an Uas mac Giolla Uain ar shon a dhílseacht, fuinneamh, intleacht, fadcheann, ina ról ar Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall agus ar Bord Forbartha Chontae Dhún na nGall. Mhol sé a chuid oibre ar BLG agus ar Trasfhoirmiú na Seirbhísí Pobail agus an méid a rinne sé don earnáil phoiblí ag leibhéal contae agus an BFC. Ghabh an Cathaoirleach buíochas leis an Uas Mac Giolla Uain thar fhéin agus thar na hIar-Chathaoirligh den BFC.

Ghabh an tUas Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh buíochas leis an Uas Mac Giolla Uain, thar cheann Stiúrthóireacht Pobail, Cultúr agus Pleanáil Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall, ar shon a a thacaíocht leanúnach don BFC. Ní thiocfaidh an obair a rinne sé a mheas faoina chumas agus tá seo aitheanta, ach go hairithe, i gContae Dhún na nGall. Dúirt an tUas Ó hÉanaigh go raibh súil aige go mbeadh an BFC ag comhoibriú leis an Uas Mac Giolla Uain san todhcháí.

Mhol an tUas Séamus Mac Ruairí an méid oibre a chur an tUas Mac Giolla Uain isteach i bhforbairt Chontae Dhún na nGall agus ghuí sé gach rath air don todhcháí.

Léirigh an tUas Mícheál Ó Tonnaigh an leagaid atá fágtha ag an Uas Mac Giolla Uain i dtarraingt na ngníomhaireachtaí le chéile i gcomhpháirtíocht tuairim sé nó seacht mbliana déag ó shoin tríd an Grúpa Straitéise Contae agus atá ag gabháil go dtí an lá atá inniú ann.

Mhol an tUas Pól Ó Sceineadar an ról a d'imir an tUas Mac Giolla Uain san Chuimsiú Sóisialta agus an cur chuige pobaldhírithé do fhorbairt an Chontae. Ghuí sé gach rath air don todhcháí.

Thug an tUas Máirtín Ó Gormliath aitheantas don Uas Mac Giolla Uain ar shon nithe ábhartha don Chontae agus ar a chuid smaointe straitéiseach. Ghuí sé gach rath air don todhcháí.

Dúirt an tUas Pádraig Mac Lochlainn go raibh tuairimí dearfacha faoi leagáid an Bhainisteoir Contae do Chontae Dhún na nGall agus dúirt sé chomh maith go raibh fíis iontach aige don earnail phoiblí.

Dúirt an Bainisteoir Contae, Mícheál Mac Giolla Uain, go gcreideann sé san phróiséas compháirtíochta agus gur bhain sé sult as bheith ag obair leis an choincheap comhpháirtíochta. Bhéimigh an tUas Mac Giolla Uain an tábhacht le forbairt eacnamaíoch, sóisialta agus cultúrtha i gContae Dhún na nGall agus ghabh sé buíochas le baill Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall ar shon aontú lena mholadh ar bhunú an Rannóg Pobal agus Fiontar le hacmhainní bunúsacha. Mhol an tUas Mac Giolla Uain an foireann proifisiúnta agus ardchaighdeánach ins an Rannóg Pobal agus Fiontar a chuidigh le forbairt na stuchtúir earnála. Dúirt sé go raibh sé tábhachtach smaoineadh go hearnálach agus gníomhú go comhoibreach. Thagair an tUas Mac Giolla Uain den tsuim atá aige san Cuimsiú Sóisialta agus éisteacht le daoine nach gcluintear ró-mhínic. Bhain an tUas Mac Giolla Uain sult as a chuid oibre le Bord Forbartha an Chontae agus dúirt sé go raibh an taithí taitneamhach agus luachmhar.

Chuir seo críoch leis an chruinniú.

Sínithe: _____ Dáta: _____

Molta ag: _____ Cuidithe ag: _____

Dáta an chéad chruinniú eile den BFC ar 7ú Meán Fómhair 2010

**MINUTES OF THE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING HELD ON 15th JUNE 2010
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, LETTERKENNY PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE.**

Attendance/I Láthair

Cllr. Dessie Larkin	Donegal County Council
Cllr. Ciaran Brogan	Donegal County Council
Cllr. David Alcorn	Údarás na Gaeltachta
Cllr. Thomas Pringle	Donegal County Council
Mr Gearóid O'Smoláin	Údarás na Gaeltachta
Ms Mary McGowan	County Community Forum
Mr Mura McLaughlin	County Community Forum
Mr Seamus Rodgers	ICTU
Ms. Pauline White	Western Development Commission
Mr Seamus Mac Suibhne	Meitheal Forbatha na Gaeltachta Teo
Mr Paul Skinnader	Pobail
Mr James O'Donnell	ICMSA
Mr Michael McLoone	County Manager, Donegal County Council
Cllr. Phonsie Travers	Ballyshannon Town Council
Mr Michael O'hEanaigh	Donegal County Council
Ms. Paula Leonard	County Community Forum
Mr Jim Slevin	DLDC
Cllr. Pádraig MacLochlainn	Donegal County Council
Mr Michael Tunney	Donegal County Enterprise Board
Mr Michael Carr	FAS
Ms Una Cronin	Environmental Pillar
Mr Martin Gormley	Donegal County Childcare Committee
Mr John Andy Bonar	LYIT

Apologies/Leithscealta

Mr Tom O'Dwyer	Teagasc
Ms Maire O'Leary	HSE
Ms MaryAnn Kane	Donegal VEC
Mr Owen Doyle	BIM
Ms Méabh Conaghan	Enterprise Ireland
Mr Joe McHugh	IDA
Ms Mary O'Malley	FÁS
Ms Shauna McClenaghan	Inishowen Development Partnership
Mr Pdraig O'Grady	IBEC
Mr Paul Hannigan	LYIT
Cllr Noel McBride	Donegal County Council
Cllr. Michael McMullen	Bundoran Town Council

Officials in Attendance/Oifigigh ag Freastal

Ms. Maria Ferguson	Strategic Policy Manager
Ms. Roisin McBride	Research Officer
Ms Rosita Mahony	Research Officer
Ms. Loretta McNicholas	Research Manager
Mr Kevin O'Connor	Tourism Development Officer
Mr Gerry Richards	Central Planning Unit, Donegal County Council
Ms Carol Margey	EU Policy and Funding Unit
Ms Eileen Burgess	Cultural Services
Mr Charles Sweeney	Area Manager
Ms Donna McGroarty	Assistant Social Inclusion Officer

The Chairperson, Cllr Dessie Larkin, welcomed all CDB members to the meeting, and in particular Mr Michael Carr representing FAS, Mr John Andy Bonar representing LYIT and Mr Gearóid O'Smoláin representing Údarás na Gaeltachta. The Chairperson also welcomed the new two CDB members in attendance, Ms Mary McGowan and Mr Mura McLaughlin representing the County Community Forum. The Chairperson noted he had received correspondence, from Ms Mary McGowan on behalf of the County Community Forum, and will respond to the contents in this letter in the near future on behalf of the CDB.

Apologies for the meeting were noted.

CDB 27/10 Minutes of the CDB Meeting of 24th March 2010

The minutes of the CDB meeting held on the 24th March 2010, having been circulated, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Thomas Pringle and seconded by Ms Pauline White.

Mr Seamus Rodger referred members to minute reference CDB 14/10, regarding the improvement works needed on the visitor facilities / waiting room facilities on Aranmore Island, and advised that this matter needs immediate attention by Donegal County Council. In response, the Chairperson advised that the will be raised and requested a copy of the correspondence received by Mr Rodgers for reference.

CDB 28/10 Matters Arising from Minutes

Mapping Key Economic Infrastructure in County Donegal'' CDB Economic (Enterprise and Skills) Priority

The Chairperson invited Ms Loretta McNicholas to give an update to the Board.

Ms McNicholas, referring members to the draft report which was circulated, gave an update on the development of the County Profile Sectoral Papers – Mapping Key Economic Infrastructure in County Donegal'' CDB Economic (Enterprise and Skills) Priority. Ms McNicholas gave members an overview of the draft paper highlighting the key findings to date and provided detail on the maps included. Ms McNicholas thanked Ms Rosita Mahony for her assistance in developing this paper, and, in particular, for her expertise in creating the maps.

Cllr Thomas Pringle thanked Ms McNicholas for a very interesting presentation. Cllr Pringle advised that the deep-water port in the County had been omitted from the paper and that it should be included for the future economic development of the County.

Ms Paula Leonard advised that further examination is needed into the gas resources in County Donegal as well as wind resources, to identify the true economic potential that exists in this area.

Ms Pauline White, circulated a summary note to the board on the review that was undertaken by Gaslink of towns that are currently not connected to the national gas network. Ms White informed the board that this "New Towns Analysis Phase III: Final Report" was published by Gaslink on 9th April, 2010 and it contains the results for 39 towns, 12 of which are in the Western Region, with 5 in County Donegal. Ms White advised the board that the results were negative, with only 4 out of the 39 towns qualifying for connections, and none of these towns are in the Western Region. Ms White advised that each town was analysed by current and future demand, and current and protected population growth. Ms White stressed that this non-eligibility for connection was an issue of concern for County Donegal, and over the next number of months the Western Development Commission will examine this Gaslink Review further due to the importance of natural gas to the development of the region.

Cllr. Pádraig MacLochlainn commented Ms McNicholas on this useful body of work and highlighted the importance of the CDB in mapping key infrastructure in County Donegal and its potential for economic progress. Cllr MacLochainn stressed the importance of County Donegal marketing itself as part of the North West Region when developing its key infrastructural needs, and highlighted the joint investment that has been made to date by both the Irish and British governments. Cllr MacLochainn noted the critical mass of the NW Region, and referred to the counties of Donegal, Derry, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Sligo and Leitrim. Cllr MacLochainn informed the board that a Senior Investment Group would soon be announcing their plans to invest in the North West Region due to its graduate levels (LYIT), infrastructure, potential for growth etc.

The County Manager, Mr Michael McLoone, stressed the importance of using this mapping to link to the constraints to enterprise development in the county. Mr McLoone advised that projected investment in County Donegal needs be added to the maps to include funds for capital works and funds allocated by the enterprise development agencies. Mr McLoone stated that it is necessary to project what infrastructure / development is likely to exist in 2014. Mr McLoone advised that the Research and Policy Unit needs to identify through the enterprise agencies that exist in the county (CEB, EI, IDA & Udaras), the companies that are located in Donegal at present and also identify the potential for future expansion of these companies. Mr McLoone stressed that the needs of new start-ups should be identified in terms of grid connection, telecommunications etc. Mr McLoone concluded by commenting that this analysis is needed for County Donegal to cultivate a new economy with the objective of enterprise development and job creation. Mr McLoone asked that the development agencies assist with this piece of work.

The Chairperson questioned if there is an analysis for new licences for connection to new gas pipelines such as Scotland, due to close proximity. In response, Ms

Pauline White noted that the analysis only considered connection to the existing gas line and did not examine new connections elsewhere.

Mr Jim Slevin noted the significant opportunities that exist by looking at County Donegal as part of a region (with Derry, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Sligo and Leitrim) and not standalone.

Ms Loretta McNicholas highlighted the need for each of the CDB agencies to work along with the Research and Policy Unit in the development of this paper by providing the relevant information. Mr McLoone recommended that a letter be sent to the enterprise agencies of the CDB (Enterprise Ireland, Udaras, County Enterprise Board and the IDA) and request information on the current companies located in County Donegal, infrastructural requirements and constraints.

Mr Seamus Rodgers thanked Loretta for a comprehensive overview of the economic paper and noted the need for gas lines and rail networks to be available in County Donegal. Mr Rodgers noted that the access road to Carrickfinn Airport is in need of repair.

Mr Michael Tunney commended Ms McNicholas on the paper, and stressed that while infrastructural needs are important, the need to find people with business ideas is essential. Mr Tunney stated that the real issue was to identify more business set-ups in order to create employment.

Mr McLoone stressed that we need to get to the stage where companies that are already located in County Donegal and people who would like to expand their current business, or set up new businesses or locate their existing business in County Donegal agree that there are no infrastructural or service constraints to locating their business in County Donegal. Mr McLoone highlighted that when we have reached this stage, the message that there are no constraints to operating business in County Donegal can be communicated through the right channels. Mr McLoone advised that the next step is to establish links between enterprise promoters and infrastructure providers. Mr McLoone noted that he would encourage Enterprise Ireland to promote this approach at both county and regional level.

Cllr Ciaran Brogan noted that all of the CDB partners needs to play a role and buy into the CDB concept, and in relation to this particular matter it is very important that the enterprise development agencies such as Enterprise Ireland and the IDA attend the CDB meetings. Cllr Brogan stressed the need for the agencies to be using the information that Ms McNicholas has presented. Cllr Brogan also noted that it is very important that we do not lose sight of the positive attributes of County Donegal has, and high quality of life it has to offer. Cllr Brogan stressed that there are a significant number of struggling business in County Donegal who need support, and all of our attention should not focus on new enterprise alone. Cllr Brogan concluded by noting that all CDB partners should share a sense of purpose by sitting on the CDB.

Cllr David Alcorn agreed that enterprise development is a very important issue and praised the work of Údarás na Gaeltachta in the development of the Gaeltacht areas of County Donegal, who could not have managed without their assistance over the years. Cllr Alcorn noted the importance of Enterprise Ireland and the IDA attending CDB meetings. Cllr Alcorn agreed with the comment made by Mr Seamus Rodgers that further funding is needed to improve the road access route to Carrickfinn Airport. Cllr Alcorn advised the board that plans for such road improvements had been drawn up and sent to the department, however, lack of available funding is now the issue.

The Chairperson advised the board that he would write a letter to the CDB representatives of Enterprise Ireland and the IDA on behalf of the CDB, to request their attendance and input at meetings as they play an integral role in enterprise development.

CDB 29/10 Matters Arising from Minutes

Update from CDB Strategy Day, 5th May 2010

The Chairperson invited Ms Maria Ferguson to give an update to the Board

Referring the members to Attachment 3, Ms Ferguson thanked all those members for attended and participating in the Annual CDB Strategy Day on the 5th May 2010. Ms Ferguson thanked Ms Roisin McBride for her assistance in organising the event. Ms Ferguson acknowledged the excellent speakers at the event who spoke from both national and local perspectives. Ms Ferguson informed members that the Attachment 3 includes a summary of commentary and feedback from attendees at the event and recommended that the sectoral fora take on board this feedback when planning strategies over the next number of months in areas such as culture, the green economy, County Development Plan, renewables, non use of land etc. Ms Ferguson thanked all the speakers who presented at the event.

Ms Ferguson advised members of the board that the CDB Website would be redeveloped over the next number of months. Ms Ferguson highlighted that work is ongoing in identifying other successful CDB websites and how Donegal CDB can replicate this into a success model to cater for our needs.

The Chairperson thanked members for attending the Annual CDB Strategy Day and acknowledged the work of Ms Roisin McBride in organising the event.

CDB 30/10 Matters Arising from Minutes

Donegal County Development Board Working Group on Land Use

The Chairperson informed the Board, that Mr Tom O'Dwyer, Chair of the CDB Working Group on Land Use, has moved to a new role in Teagasc in Cork, and acknowledged the great work that Mr O'Dwyer had undertaken as both Chair of

the Land Use Working Group and representative for Teagasc on the CDB. The Chairperson advised the board that he would write to Mr O'Dwyer on behalf of the CDB to acknowledge his contribution of the CDB and wish him well in his new job.

The Chairperson invited Mr Charles Sweeney to give an update to the Board on the CDB Working Group on Land Use. Mr Sweeney advised the board that the land use working group was set up in March with the following objectives:

1. to examine the land use resource and make recommendations as to the best use to be made of that resource into the future; and
2. to identify the initiatives, which need to be taken to ensure that the land use potential is realised.

Mr Sweeney informed the board that to date four meetings of the group had taken place and key stakeholders were identified to participate in the group such as representatives from Teagasc, LYIT, CEB, EI, Udaras, Donegal County Council, IFA, ICSA, ICMSA, Donegal Creameries, Farm Relief Services, Local Development Companies, An Taisce, Forestry Sector etc. Mr Sweeney advised the board that Mr O'Dwyer has agreed to complete a report on the findings of the working group to date and this will be presented at the CDB meeting in September. Mr Sweeney commented that areas the report will cover includes: Current Land Usage, Traditional Land Uses: Dairy, Drystock (Cattle and Sheep) and Tillage, Forestry, Alternative Land Uses (Wind Energy, Biomass Production), Environment and Biodiversity, Tourism and Land Use, and Available Resources. Mr Sweeney noted that this report will assist in the review of the County Development Plan.

CDB 31/10 Matters Arising from Minutes

Project Kelvin Focus Group Update

The Chairperson invited Mr Michael O'hEanaigh to give an update to the Board.

Mr O'hEanaigh advised the board, that following on from the CDB meeting of 2nd February 2010, it was agreed to form a Project Kelvin Focus Group. This group was set up due to the importance of Project Kelvin to County Donegal in the areas of inward investment and job creation. Referring members of Attachment 4, Mr O'hEanaigh gave an overview of the inaugural meeting of the focus group, which took place on the 13th May 2010. Mr O'hEanaigh advised the board that our neighbours in Northern Ireland are very active in realising the full potential of Project Kelvin, and have recently employed a person to work on the development of this on a full time basis. Mr O'hEanaigh informed the board that Ernact will be applying for Interreg IVA funding on a cross border basis for actions to build on the Project Kelvin connectivity, on behalf of Donegal County Council and Derry City Council with input and guidance from the development agencies. Mr O'hEanaigh noted that a Donegal Prospectus was being developed to attract new businesses and people into County Donegal and also to present the county as part of a region with a competitive advantage due to Project Kelvin. Mr O'hEanaigh agreed to report on progress as this initiative develops.

CDB 32/10 "Review of the Donegal County Development Plan", Presentation by Mr. Gerry Richards, Senior Planner, Donegal County Council

The Chairperson invited Mr Gerry Richards to make his presentation on the "Review of the Donegal County Development Plan". Mr Richards circulated copies of the presentation to the board for their information. Mr Richards advised the board that the Public Consultation Period to make submissions into the review of the County Development Plan will commence on the 9th July to 24th September 2010 (11 weeks). Mr Richards highlighted the importance of the Forward Planning Unit of Donegal engaging with members of the CDB at this initial consultation stage of the County Development Plan Review Process and noted that they will also be engaging with counterparts on a cross border, regional and national level. Mr Richards presentation focused on the following areas: Background of the County Development Plan; Planning Hierarchy; The Initial Consultation Period; Fundamental Changes Since 2006; Content - Statutory Objectives; The Role of the CDB; Interaction with the CDB and the Citizen-Focused Approach To Spatial Planning.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Richards for his comprehensive presentation and for advising the CDB on how the current County Development Plan will be reviewed.

CDB 33/10 Update on CDB Review 2009 and Priority Goals 2009-2012

The Chairperson invited updates on each of the six priority goals.

To ensure best ACCESS TO SERVICES for the community of Donegal (Attachment 3)

Ms Donna McGroarty was invited to give an update to the Board. Referring the members to Attachment 5, Ms McGroarty advised the board of the research which is currently being undertaken by the Research & Policy Unit to ascertain the level and extent of unemployment in Donegal. Ms McGroarty informed the board that the information collated will inform a conference on unemployment which will be held during Social Inclusion Week 2010 to examine the impact of unemployment and to identify opportunities to support those who are unemployed in the county. Ms McGroarty added that this conference will also be held in conjunction with the CDB Economic Sub Group.

Ms McGroarty informed the board that the planning of Social Inclusion Week is well underway, and this week of events is being held in conjunction with national events to mark the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion and is being run from the 18th to the 22nd of October. Ms McGroarty advised the board that a brochure will be published and circulated in September detailing all the events.

Ms McGroarty outlined the range of services and supports being delivered to ethnic minority communities in the county, and this project is being delivered within the context of the Donegal CDB Peace & Reconciliation Partnership. Significant progress has been made in each of these projects including:

- The opening of 'Port na Failte' Drop in centre in Letterkenny
- Setting up of an Independent Incident Reporting Scheme
- The delivery of supports to service providers such as interpretation and translation services
- The setting up of an interagency Cultural Diversity Steering Group to guide the work of each of the projects.

Ms McGroarty informed the board of the Social Inclusion Unit's involvement in the review of the County Development Plan, and recently met with the Central Planning Unit to identify ways of improving our consultation methods thus reaching a wider audience. Ms McGroarty highlighted that the Social Inclusion Unit are holding a workshop with representatives from the Community & Voluntary sector on the 25th June, and the aim of this workshop is to equip them with the tools to hold consultations in their own environment with their own target group(s) and to make submissions which will result in the voices of the seldom heard, being heard.

Ms McGroarty referred the members to the letter circulated on behalf of John Hayes, HSE regarding Dormant Account Funding for Youth Cafes and advised that the Chairperson of the CDB requested the Children's Services Committee to undertake the assessment of applications for funding for Youth Cafes and to nominate two applicants to receive funding from the Dormant Accounts. Ms McGroarty advised the board that the Children's Services Committee has now completed this work and has nominated the South Donegal Youth and Drop-in Centre in Killybegs under Strand 1 and Castlefin Youth Club under Strand 2. These nominations will now compete in a national basis against nominations from other counties.

Mr Michael O'hEanaigh acknowledged the role undertaken by Mr John Hayes, HSE, and Ms Mary McAteer, HSE, in the evaluation of the applications received seeking funding for youth cafes. Mr O'hEanaigh stressed that this is a very important role of the CDB. The Chairperson commended the work all of those involved in the evaluation process and wished South Donegal Youth Club and Drop-in Centre in Killybegs and Castlefin Youth Club success in the national competition.

Mr Jim Slevin referring to Attachment 5 commended Donegal County Council involvement in promoting volunteerism.

Cllr Thomas Pringle, referring to Attachment 5, enquired if any progress had been made in relation to the review of the National Free Travel Scheme following the presentation made by Mr Barney McLaughlin at the last CDB meeting held in March. In response, Cllr Pringle was referred to Attachment 13, which contained

the letters that were sent to Mr Eamon O Cuiv TD, Minister for Social Protection and Mr Noel Dempsey TD, Minister of Transport requesting a meeting to discuss the possibility of reviewing the Free Travel Pass Scheme and its operation in County Donegal.

Referring to Attachment 5, Cllr Padraig MacLochlainn highlighted the importance of the Citizens Information Centres in each of the Public Service Centres and the need to continue to support this critical service, which is experiencing overwhelming demand in the present climate. The Chairperson concurred with this comment.

Mr Paul Skinnader acknowledged the work of the Social Inclusion Unit, and in particular the significant role it will play in the improvement of consultation practices in the review of the County Development Plan.

The Chairperson recommended that the Social Inclusion Unit make a presentation to the full Council on the wide variety of work they are involved in.

Ms Paula Leonard referring to consultation practices questioned what is the best way to do consultations, what are the issues and how do we ascertain the issues in advance. Ms Leonard advised that involvement in these consultations is necessary in achieving the mandate of the County Community Forum, as their role is to represent the views of the community and voluntary sector. Ms Leonard advised the board that our use of language needs to be clear.

Mr McLoone agreed that the Social Inclusion Unit should make a presentation to the full Council. Mr McLoone recommended that the Citizen Information Centres (CICs) use the information that is available locally on the problems that people who use the centres are experiencing and share this information with service providers in order for them to gain an understanding of these problems. Mr. McLoone advised the board that the CICs are required to send such information to the CIC Board in Dublin, and suggested that this data should also be used locally.

CDB 34/10 To fully develop the County's CULTURAL RESOURCES (Attachment 4)

Mr Martin Gormley was invited to give an update to the Board on the report as circulated. Mr Gormley gave an overview of the Cultural Resources and made particular reference to the Donegal Live Event that was held on the 5th May, and Derry City's bid for City of Culture, with the successful city being announced in the coming week. Cllr Dessie Larkin stressed the benefits of being named City of Culture, it would be a great investment to both the city and people of Derry, and this is evident in the positive transformation that Liverpool underwent when they were honoured with European City of Culture status in 2008. Cllr Larkin advised the board that he will write to judges on behalf of the CDB to congratulate Derry as a City of Culture.

Mr Michael O'hEanaigh commended the organisation of the Earagail Arts Festival and it's linking in with the tourism sector. Mr Gormley acknowledged the great

approach in using the "Made in Donegal" caption in association with the Earagail Arts Festival. Cllr Dessie Larkin congratulated the organising committee of the 400th Anniversary of Letterkenny celebrations.

CDB 35/10 To Promote ENTERPRISE & SKILLS development in the region

Mr Michael Tunney was invited to give an update to the Board. Mr Tunney advised the board that the first meeting of the Enterprise and Skills Development Sectoral Fora was held in May and was poorly attended by the Skills Development side. Mr Tunney circulated the progress template for Enterprise and Skills Development to the board and advised that this update was limited to the work of the County Enterprise Board. The chairman proposed that other models of economic sub committees in other counties would be identified and examined to see how they operate. Mr O'hEanaigh agreed to carry out this piece of work and bring recommendations to the next CDB meeting.

**CDB 36/10 To develop a DONEGAL BRAND across all sectors (Attachment 7)
To develop the region's TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCES
(Attachment 8)**

**"Overview of Tourism Development in County Donegal" Presentation by
Mr Kevin O'Connor, Donegal County Council.**

The Chairperson invited Mr Kevin O'Connor to make his presentation on the "Overview of Tourism Development in County Donegal". Mr O'Connor informed the board that he has been working as Tourism Development Officer in Donegal County Council for the last six years, with particular focus in the area of tourism product development for the last two years. Mr O'Connor outlined that his presentation will also cover the Donegal Brand Update and Tourism & Natural Resources Update as included in the CDB Pack as Attachment 7 and 8 respectively. Copies of Mr O'Connor's presentation were circulated to the board for their information.

Mr O'Connor made this presentation to the members and it focused on the following areas: Strategic Vision; Economic Contribution of Tourism; Tourism Performance – Key indicators; Why Visitors Come to Donegal?; Key Attractions; Access to County Donegal; Tourism Promotion Activities; Product Development and Cultural Tourism.

The Chairperson thanked Mr O'Connor for his informative presentation.

Cllr Thomas Pringle congratulated Mr O'Connor on his comprehensive presentation. Referring to the presentation, Cllr Pringle highlighted that 37% of overseas visitors who visited the NW Region came to County Donegal, however, only 30% of the visitor spend took place in County Donegal. Cllr Pringle questioned how could visitors in County Donegal be encouraged to spend more. Cllr Pringle referring to the green economy and the objective to promote the

expansion of wind energy in Donegal, advised that the impact of wind turbines / farms on the tourism sector should be examined.

Mr Seamus Rodgers stressed the importance of protecting our natural resources and wildlife, and welcomed the announcement of the good rating of water quality on Donegal beaches. Mr Rodgers advised that we should be aware of the spin offs of tourism to industries such as transport, Irish colleges etc. Mr Rodgers advised that it would be a worthwhile exercise to examine the Gweebarra River Valley as an area for development with a tourism focus.

Mr Jim Slevin congratulated Mr Kevin O'Connor on his presentation, and highlighted the importance of the tourism industry to County Donegal. Mr Slevin stressed the need to increase the number of overnight visitors to the county, and if possible, areas such as Slieve League, Glencolmcille and Killybegs should be marketed together as a package. Mr Slevin noted that the road to Killybegs needs to be improved.

Mr McLoone commended the great work that is progressed in the area of tourism product development in County Donegal. Mr McLoone highlighted the success of the Donegal Live Initiative, which was co-ordinated by key agencies, and stressed the need for other bodies to come on board to share the costs of marketing e.g. public and private sector. Mr McLoone recommended that a cost analysis be conducted of visitor costs in the North West Region compared to our South East competitors. Mr McLoone noted the importance of organisers of events and festivals to co-ordinate their diaries and share information in advance in order to prevent the dates of events clashing (e.g. MacGill Summer School and Earagails Arts Festival).

Mr James O'Donnell thanked Mr O'Connor for his presentation and highlighted that price sensitivity is an issue that needs to be tackled, as visitors are not willing to pay more any longer.

Mr Michael Tunney commended the great work that is being developed in Slieve League and Malin Head. Mr Tunney highlighted the importance of developing the Grianan Aileach Ring Fort in Burt. Mr Tunney, speaking through his involvement with the food sector in the County Enterprise Board, stated that the food sector would like to become involved in the tourism sector. Mr Tunney noted that there is a segment of visitor who would be willing to pay extra for a good food experience, and reducing prices is not always essential. Mr Tunney commented the food and visitors experience with food can add to their cultural experience of County Donegal. Mr Tunney highlighted that awareness needs to be raised on food production in County Donegal and, if appropriate, how this can be linked to the tourism or cultural sector.

Cllr Pdraig MacLochlainn thanked Mr O'Connor for his presentation and highlighted the benefits of Inishowen Tourism recently relocating to Carndonagh Public Service Centre. Cllr MacLochlainn noted that all those persons who visit

the public service centre for whatever reason, will be able to see the local tourism services / products that are available.

Mr Michael Carr highlighted that the transportation needs of standalone visitors needs to be analysed, and queried how to develop a product to get visitors who do not have cars from site to site. The Chairperson informed the board that Mangan Bus Tours are currently looking at this matter and will be working with the accommodation sector. The Chairperson advised the set up costs for online bookings facilities and the cost of buses etc. will be quite significant. The Chairperson noted the importance of offering a full visitor package for visitors to County Donegal.

Ms Una Cronin, referring to the review of the County Development Plan, advised that a monitoring tool should be incorporated into the Plan from a sustainable development perspective. Ms Cronin highlighted the importance of protecting the natural and ecological environment.

Ms Paula Leonard highlighted that the Archaeological Survey of Ireland is outdated. Ms Leonard suggested that strategic relationships be developed with archaeological departments in the various third level institutions through Ireland and Northern Ireland, to encourage students carrying out academic surveys in the field of archaeology to visit County Donegal to do these studies. The Chairperson agreed with Ms Leonard and advised that this could be explored further through the Heritage Office of Donegal County Council. Mr Slevin informed the board the archaeological students from Queens University in Belfast are sent to Sligo to complete their field trips.

Cllr. Pdraig Mac Lochlainn advised CDB members that Mr. Joe Gallagher, Heritage Officer is currently preparing a report on heritage signage in Inishowen and requested that an update be brought to the next CDB meeting in September.

The Chairperson advised the board that Mr Joe Gallagher, Heritage Officer, Donegal County Council will be convening a meeting in the near future with the key stakeholders involved in the development of the Grianan Aileach Ring Fort in Burt. The Chairperson noted that following this meeting; a report will be prepared for the next CDB meeting.

Mr O'hEanaigh informed the board that the signposting of heritage sites is work in progress.

CDB 37/10 To develop Donegal as a lead region for the GREEN ECONOMY (Attachment 9)

Mr Charles Sweeney was invited to give an update to the Board. Mr Sweeney informed the board that a number of working groups had been set up in order to drive the agenda of the Green Economy, these include the Green Economy Forum, the Renewables Training Consortium, the Interagency Energy Group and the CDB Working Group on Land Use. Mr Sweeney noted that research is

ongoing on public sector fuel usage and models of good practice in public sector use of wind resources and other renewables. Mr Sweeney highlighted that projects being assessed include wind energy, wood fuel, information sharing on a European basis, SEI Energy Efficiency Zone application and energy efficiency systems. Mr Sweeney informed the board that the application on behalf of the CDB to be a pilot area under the WDC RASLRES programme has been accepted, this will see engineering assessments being carried out on buildings owned by public sector agencies to assess suitability for conversion to wood energy systems. Mr Sweeney noted that work in ongoing in the development of the wind energy sector.

Mr Michael O'hEanaigh updated the board on the establishment of a Renewable Energy Centre Of Excellence in Killybegs and advised that this centre could be used for broader offshore support to both renewable energy initiatives and other offshore sectors. Mr O'hEanaigh advised that LYIT are looking into running programmes in Killybegs. Mr O'hEanaigh informed the board that Ideagen, Enterprise Ireland held a very successful event on Wind Energy and Associated Sub-Sectors in Donegal Town on the 25th May.

CDB 38/10 Donegal County Childcare Committee Update (Attachment 11)

Mr Martin Gormley informed the board that Donegal County Childcare Committee hosted a conference on the 8th May in the Silver Tassie entitled Free Range Children: Enabling Active Learning in Early Childhood. Mr Gormley noted that 450 persons from the childcare sector attended this event and it was a great success.

Mr Gormley recommended that a letter to sent to CDB members regarding attendance at meetings, and inform them of the dates of the remaining meetings in 2010.

CDB 39/10 Issue 7 – Donegal Community In Touch E-zine (Attachment 14)

The Chairperson advised the board that Issue 7 of the Donegal Community In Touch E-zine had been circulated and thanked Ms Roisin McBride for her role in putting the e-zine together.

CDB 40/10 AOB

The Chairperson acknowledged the contribution made by the retiring members of CDB, Mr Tom O'Dwyer representing Teagasc and Mr Cathal Mc Suibhne representing Údarás na Gaeltachta and wished them well in the future endeavours.

The Chairperson informed the board that this was Mr Michael McLoone, County Manager of Donegal County Council's last CDB meeting as he is due to retire in July. On behalf of the CDB, the Chairperson paid tribute to Mr McLoone for his energy, intellect and foresight in both this role in Donegal County Council and

Donegal County Development Board. The Chairperson commended Mr McLoone for his role in BLG and Transforming Public Services, and highlighted his huge contribution to the public sector at a county and CDB level. The Chairperson concluded by thanking Mr McLoone on behalf of himself and previous Chairs of the CDB.

Mr Michael O'hEanaigh thanked Mr McLoone on behalf of the Community, Culture and Planning Directorate of Donegal County Council for his ongoing support to the CDB. Mr O'hEanaigh noted that Mr McLoone's input could not be underestimated and this was particularly evident in County Donegal. Mr O'hEanaigh hoped the CDB find other ways of co-operating with Mr McLoone in the future.

Mr Seamus Rodgers commended the huge contribution that Mr McLoone had made in the development of County Donegal and wished him well in the future.

Mr Michael Tunney highlighted the legacy that Mr McLoone has left in bringing agencies together in partnership for the first time sixteen or seventeen years ago through the County Strategy Group and this partnership has continued to the current day.

Mr Paul Skinnader commended the role of Mr McLoone and particularly for his role in social inclusion and this community orientated approach to the development of County Donegal. Mr Skinnader wished Mr McLoone best wishes for the future.

Mr Martin Gormley acknowledged the role the County Manager had in making matters relevant to County Donegal and for his strategic thinking. Mr Gormley wished Mr McLoone best wishes for the future.

Cllr Pdraig MacLochlainn highlighted that he held very positive views of the County Managers legacy to County Donegal and noted that his contribution to the public sector has been visionary and remarkable.

In response to the comments above the County Manager, Mr McLoone noted his belief in the process of partnership and enjoyed working through the concept of partnership. Mr McLoone stressed the importance of economic, social and cultural development in County Donegal and thanked the members of Donegal County Council for backing his proposal to set up the Community and Enterprise Division with significant resources. Mr McLoone noted the professional and the high quality staff of the Community and Enterprise Division, who have helped in the development of the sectoral structures. Mr McLoone highlighted that it is important to think sectorally and act co-operatively. Mr McLoone noted his interest in social inclusion and listening to the seldom heard. Mr McLoone noted that his work in the CDB has been very rewarding and engaging with the board and its partners has been an enriching experience.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Proposed by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Date of next CDB meeting: 7th September 2010