

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE DHUN NA nGALL

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Aras an Chontae
LEIFEAR
19 Iúil 2011

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú Comhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall ar siúl Dé Luain, 25 Iúil 2011, ag **11.00 r.n. in Áras an Chontae, Leifear**

DO GACH BHALL DEN CHOMHAIRLE

A Chara

Iarrtar ort a bheith i láthair ag an chruinniú seo den Chomhairle. Ta Clár an chruinnithe leis seo.

Beidh Clár Orduithe an Bhainisteora Contae le feiceáil ag an gcruinniú.

Mise, le meas

Liam Mac a’Bhaird
Riarthóir Cruinnithe(RÚNAI CHONTAE)

DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Office of Meetings Administrator
County House
Lifford
19th July, 2011

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Meeting of Donegal County Council will be held on Monday 25th July, 2011, at **11.00am 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.

The Register of County Manager's Orders will be available for inspection at the meeting.

Yours sincerely

Liam Ward
Meetings Administrator (County Secretary)

AGENDA

1. **Confirmation of Minutes**
 - a) Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of Donegal County Council held on the 27th June, 2011.
 - b) Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Donegal County Council held on the 27th June, 2011.

2. To Elect Chair of Water and Environment Strategic Policy Committee arising from the Resignation of Clr. Noel McBride.

3. **Taking of decision pursuant to Planning & Development Act, 2000 (Part XI), and Planning & Development Regulations, 2001 (Part 8).**
 - a) To approve carrying out of works with regard to the construction of facilities associated with the proposed Ballyshannon Water Supply Scheme.
 - b) To approve carrying out of works with regard to the provision of a foot bridge at Umlagh Carrigart, Co. Donegal.
 - c) To approve carrying out of works with regard to the provision of a road bridge replacement at Ballyohagan, Carrigart, Co. Donegal.
 - d) To approve carrying out of works with regard to the construction of N56 Road Realignment and Bridgeworks at Creamery Road Bridge, Bruckless.

4. **Community, Culture and Enterprise**

Ratification of Membership to the Interreg IVA Gobbins/Sliabh Liag Project Board.

5. **Roads and Transportation**
 - a) To approve Donegal County Council's application to the NRA and DoT for low cost safety remedial works funding for 2012.

 - b) To resolve that a One-Way Traffic System be implemented in Lifford to ease traffic congestion.

6. **Housing and Corporate**
 - a) To agree date for the holding of a Special Meeting on a date following the signing of the Presidential Order for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the Presidency.

- b) To agree a date for the holding of a Housing Workshop.
- c) HEG Scheme 2011.
- d) To consider and adopt Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy for Donegal Local Authorities.

7. Endorsement of Confirmed Minutes

- a) Endorsement of the Confirmed Minutes of Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on the 19th January, 2011.
- b) Endorsement of the Confirmed Minutes of Meeting of the Islands Committee held on the 22nd March, 2011.
- c) Endorsement of the Confirmed Minutes of Meeting of the Glenties Electoral Area Committee held on the 19th May, 2011.

8. Authorisation of representation at a Seminar, Meeting or Event

Authorisation of representation at a seminar, meeting or event under Section 142 (5) of Local Government Act, 2001, S.I. No 668 of 2006, Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations 2006, S.I. No 37 of 2010, Guidelines given by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in relation to the Local Government Act, 2001 (Section 142) Regulations 2010:-

- i. Councillor's Training Seminar – The Local Government Planning Service, to be held Friday 12th and Saturday 13th August, 2011 at the West Cork Hotel, Skibereen, Co. Cork.
- ii. Elected Member's Training Seminar – Legislation for the reform of Local Government to be held Friday 12th to Sunday 14th August, 2011 at the Westport Plaza Hotel, Castlebar Street, Westport, Co Mayo.
- iii. Councillor's Training Seminar – The Local Government Arts Service to be held Friday 19th to Saturday 20th August, 2011 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Farnham Estate, Cavan.
- iv. Elected Members Training Seminar – Local Government promoting Renewable Energy “The Advantages of Solar Power” to be held Friday 19th

to Sunday 21st August, 2011 at the Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

- v. Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland 98th Annual Conference to be held Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th September, 2011 at the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co. Meath.
- vi. Professional Development for Councillors – Domestic Water Meters for Ireland “Implications for Irish Consumers and Business” to be held Friday 9th to Sunday 11th September, 2011 in the Ravensdale Suite, Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
- vii. Regional Studies Association Irish Branch – Irish Regions in the Smart Economy to be held Monday 12th September, 2011 at the Renehan Hall, NUI Maynooth.
- viii. Waterford County Council – Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Autumn Seminar 2011 “The Role of Tourism in Economic Recovery” to be held Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September, 2011.

9. Conference Reports

Clr. Frank McBrearty –

Elected Member’s Responsibilities Indemnity from liability of Decisions of the Body Corporate held 10th – 12th June, 2011 in the Kingvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City.

10. Mayor’s Business

11. Manager’s Report

12. Motions from Other Councils/Bodies

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

“That the Litter Act be amended to state that where there is a reasonable doubt that landowners are not penalised for illegal dumping”

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL

“That this Council supports the Justice for Magdalenes (JFM), survivor advocacy group’s calling on the Irish state to offer a formal state apology to all survivors of the Magdalene laundries and that the Government immediately establishes a statutory inquiry into these abuses. To do otherwise is to cause additional pain and suffering to the women and girls thereby bringing further shame on our nation. The women and their children deserve justice now.”

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL

“That this Council acknowledges the 30th anniversary of the death of 10 Irishmen on hunger strike in 1981. This event acted as a catalyst for the Peace Process in the 1990’s and this Council pays tribute to all those from all traditions who have worked so hard to ensure peace in our country in the years since this event.”

BUNDORAN TOWN COUNCIL

“That Donegal County Council install wheelchair ramps at any footpath that doesn’t already have the facility.”

SOUTH TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

“That South Tipperary County Council asks the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government to advise this Council as to what Draft Directives which may affect the operation of Local Authorities are currently before the EU.”

COBH TOWN COUNCIL

“That Cobh Town Council call on the Minister for Justice and the British Home Secretary to issue a posthumous pardon to all those adults and children who were incarcerated as convicts on Spike Island and elsewhere having been convicted of crimes in relation to stealing food, in particular during the Great Famine. And further that all local and County Councils be encouraged to make similar calls.”

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL, HELD
IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD ON 25TH JULY, 2011**

C/292/11 MEMBERS PRESENT

Clrs. Noel McBride, Mayor, D. Alcorn, L. Blaney, J. Boyle, C. Brogan, B. Byrne, J. Campbell, P. Canning, G. Crawford, M. Doherty, P. Doherty, R. Donaghey, M. Farren, M.T. Gallagher, M. Harley, C. Harvey, F. McBrearty, M. McBride, S. Mc Eniff, I. McGarvey, P. McGowan, B. Mc Guinness, J. Murray, S. Ó Domhnaill, B. O'Neill, M. Quinn, J. Ryan, T. Slowey.

C/293/11 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Seamus Neely, County Manager, Mr James Boyle, A/Director of Roads and Transportation, Mr Joe Peoples, A/Director of Water and Environment, Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Housing & Corporate, A/Meetings Administrator, Mr. Michael Heaney, Director of Community, Culture and Planning, Mr Garry Martin, Director of Finance and Emergency Services, Mr Eunan Quinn, A/Senior Planner, Ms. Anne Marie Crawford, Staff Officer.

C/294/11 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Gowan, seconded by Clr. Crawford, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting for a five minute recess.

**C/295/11 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF
DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 27TH
JUNE, 2011**

On the proposal of Clr. Alcorn, seconded by Clr. Donaghey, the Minutes of the Meeting of Donegal County Council, held on 27th June, 2011, were adopted.

**C/296/11 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
THE 27TH JUNE, 2011**

On the proposal of Clr. Alcorn, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Donegal County Council, held on 27th June, 2011, were adopted.

C/297/11 ELECTION OF CHAIR OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE ARISING FROM THE RESIGNATION OF CLR. NOEL MCBRIDE

Clr. Mc Bride clarified that he intended to resign both as chair of the W.E.E Strategic Policy Committee and as a member of the committee in question.

Thus on the proposal of Clr. Boyle, seconded by Clr. Mc Brearty, it was resolved that Clr. Martin Harley replace Clr. Mc Bride as both a member and chair of the Water & Environment, Strategic Policy Committee.

C/298/11 FILMING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

On the proposal of Clr. Alcorn, seconded by Clr. M. Doherty, it was resolved that Mr. Shane Wallace of Wallace Media be permitted to record brief footage of the Council in session between 12 noon and 12.30pm.

C/299/11 TAKING OF DECISION WITH REGARD TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED BALLYSHANNON WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

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

On the proposal of Clr. O' Neill, seconded by Clr. Mc Eniff, the carrying out of works under Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, with regard to the construction of facilities associated with the proposed Ballyshannon Water Supply Scheme was approved.

C/300/11 TAKING OF DECISION WITH REGARD TO THE PROVISION OF A FOOTBRIDGE AT UMLAGH CARRIGART CO DONEGAL

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

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Bride, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, the carrying out of works under Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, with regard to the provision of a footbridge at Umlagh Carrigart was approved.

- C/301/11 TAKING OF DECISION WITH REGARD TO THE PROVISION OF A ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT BALLYOHAGAN CARRIGART CO DONEGAL
Members considered the report, circulated with the agenda, in relation to the above.
On the proposal of Clr. Mc Bride, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, the carrying out of works under Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, with regard to the provision of a road bridge replacement at Ballyohagan Carrigart was approved.
- C/302/11 TAKING OF DECISION WITH REGARD TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF N56 ROAD REALIGNMENT AND BRIDGEWORKS AT CREAMERY ROAD BRIDGE BRUCKLESS
Members considered the report, circulated with the agenda, in relation to the above.
On the proposal of Clr. Boyle, seconded by Clr. Byrne, the carrying out of works under Part XI of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, with regard to the construction of N56 road realignment and bridgeworks at Creamery Road Bridge, Bruckless was approved.
- C/303/11 RATIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE INTERREG IVA GOBBINS/SLIABH LIAG PROJECT BOARD
Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.
Mr. Liam Ward, A/Meetings Administrator alluding to the report advised that two number elected members were to be selected.
Clr. Mc Eniff noted that there had been mention initially of extending the DCC representation to three and enquired as to whether or not this had been taken into consideration. It was noted that Clr. Campbell had declined a position on the board.
On the proposal of Clr. Mc Eniff, seconded by Clr. Campbell, the nomination of Clrs Bryne and Boyle to the IVA Gobbins Sliabh Liag Project Board was approved.

Clr. Mc Brearty advised that there was a need for broad representation, citing the necessity of having adequate representation from the north of the county.

After some debate it was resolved on the proposal of Clr. Mc Gowan, seconded by Clr. Farren that Clr. Mc Brearty be nominated as the third member of the Project Board.

Mr. Michael Heaney, Director of Community, Culture and Planning agreed to liaise with the SEUPB (Managing Authority) in relation to the possible acceptance of a third nominee

C/304/11 APPROVAL OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL'S APPLICATION TO THE NRA AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT FOR LOW COST SAFETY REMEDIAL WORKS FUNDING FOR 2012

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

Clr. Mc Gowan proposed, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, that Donegal County Council's application to the NRA and the DoT for low cost safety remedial works funding for 2012 be approved.

Clr. O' Neill expressed concern that the matter had not been discussed by the Donegal Electoral Area Committee. He had he advised particular issue with one of the projects mentioned. If the application proceeded he said that he would have no option but to write directly to the Minister taking issue with the manner in which the application had been submitted.

Responding, the County Manager advised that the Council were simply taking a proactive approach by having an application ready and waiting for submission.

A number of members were of the opinion that the application should proceed indicating that it was important not to jeopardise funding at this stage.

Mr. James Boyle, A/Director Roads & Transportation cited the importance of submitting applications on time. He advised that the next opportunity available to members to consider the application would be the September Council Meeting which was too late. It would he indicated be possible to meet with members to discuss particular concerns and assess whether or

not a particular project could be included or added as an additional scheme.

In conclusion the County Manager advised that the matter needed to be kept in context as it had simply had been a case of anticipating the call for funding. There was no plan he confirmed to ram through a list of projects, but rather a concerted effort had been made to maximise the opportunities that existed or might become available.

Clr. O'Neill affirmed that it was a sad day for the Council when members had no input into a €600,000 funding application. He would he advised be consulting further with the County Manager in relation to the matter.

C/305/11 RESOLUTION THAT A ONE-WAY TRAFFIC SYSTEM BE IMPLEMENTED IN LIFFORD TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Gowan, seconded by Clr. Crawford, it was resolved to refer the matter to the Stranorlar Electoral Area Committee for consideration.

C/306/11 AGREEMENT OF A DATE TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING ON A DATE FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ORDER FOR THE PURPOSE OF NOMINATING A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY

Mr. Liam Ward, A/Meetings Administrator informed members that the date for the forthcoming presidential election had not yet been confirmed. This he advised was dependent on the signing of the Presidential Order.

Thus on the proposal of Clr. Mc Eniff, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, it was resolved that the nomination of a candidate for the Presidency would be included as an item on the agenda of the September Council Meeting.

C/307/11 AGREEMENT OF A DATE FOR THE HOLDING OF A HOUSING WORKSHOP

On the proposal of Clr. Donaghey, seconded by Clr. Canning, it was resolved to hold a Housing Workshop on Friday 30th

September, 2011 commencing at 10.00am and finishing at 1.00pm to update members in relation to a number of changes, introduced as a result of the enactment of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009.

C/308/11 TO NOTE HEG SCHEME 2011

Mr. Liam Ward, A/Meetings Administrator informed members that the scheme had come down in the form of a Statutory Instrument and was for noting only.

Concern was expressed in relation to the new 45km qualification limit for receipt of a non-adjacent grant. It was widely acknowledged that this would adversely affect a large number of students in Donegal. They requested an update in relation to the number of students affected by this directive. Clr. Alcorn alluded to the excellent service provided by Donegal County Council and Donegal Vocational Education Committee. Members stressed the importance of sending in all supporting documentation with individual grant applications and noted that the early submission of same was essential. Clarity was also requested in relation to the Special Rate of Maintenance Grant and the 391day ruling in respect of Job Seekers Allowance.

On the proposal of Clr. Murray, seconded by Clr. Mc Brearty, it was resolved that correspondence be forwarded to the Department requesting the reinstatement of the Non-Adjacent Rate of Grant for students in the 25km to 45km travel band.

Mr. Liam Ward, A/Meetings Administrator advised that it would be possible to write to the Minister for Education requesting a return to the previous format. He welcomed calls for application forms to be submitted as early as possible.

C/309/11 MOTIONS UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

A request in the names of Clrs. Murray, Harvey, Quinn, Gallagher, Byrne, O' Domhnaill, Alcorn, Mc Eniff, Mc Gowan, Farren, Mc Brearty, M. Mc Bride, Ryan, O' Neill, M. Doherty, Harley, Slowey, Mc Garvey, and Campbell to have the following motion considered under urgent business was placed before the Council:-

“That this Council calls for the erection of a memorial plaque at the scene of the crash which led to the tragic death of Garda Gary Mc Laughlin.”

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Gowan, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, it was unanimously resolved to consider the motion prior to the close of business.

Clr. Brogan asked that it be amended to allow the Council afford the same honour to Garda Mc Laughlin as Garda Mc Callion.

A request in the names of Clrs. Gallagher, Alcorn, O’ Domhnaill, Murray, Campbell, and Slowey to have the following motion discussed as urgent business was placed before the Council:-

“That this Council condemn the HSE’s decision to close 9 beds in Dungloe Hospital and call on the HSE to

- Reverse the bed closures in Dungloe Community Hospital to retain its original 44 bed capacity.
- Allow staff to be replaced who are on long-term sick leave
- Recognise that the catchment area for Dungloe Community Hospital is unique in that it serves an area that included populated off-shore islands and has no public transport service.
- Clarify that if the x-ray service in the hospital will be continued and present a long-term plan for such.
- To furnish the Members of this Council and the “Dungloe Community Hospital Lobby Group with a long-term plan for the future of the hospital in Dungloe,

and that this Council resolve to forward this motion to the Minister for Health James Reilly, Minister Dinny Mc Ginley, The C.E.O of the HSE, and all national politicians who represent Donegal”.

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Brearty, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, it was resolved to consider the motion prior to the closure of the meeting.

C/310/11 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY FOR DONEGAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda in relation to the above.

Clr. Mc Brearty advised that he had concerns in relation to the policy document and the ensuing legal implications for members in general. He said that whilst he did not disagree with much of the material concerned, it was incomprehensible that such a document could have been agreed by the Strategic Policy Group and the Corporate Policy Group, which he affirmed were not representative of all groupings on the Council.

Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Housing & Corporate advised that this policy was no different to previous policies that had come to Council through the SPC/CPG format. The document in question had he acknowledged been referred to staff under the umbrella of Partnership.

A lengthy debate ensued with Clr. Brogan proposing, seconded by Clr. Mc Brearty, that a workshop be held to discuss the legal implications of the document for members as a whole.

A number of members indicated however that they were unhappy with this decision, as it created the impression that matters were not being dealt with in a transparent manner. Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Housing & Corporate advised however that most Local Authorities had to adopt a policy of this nature and that the matter had also been raised by the Local Government Auditor during the 2009 Audit.

The report he confirmed had been presented not as a result of any specific concern but rather from the necessity of having a definitive policy in place.

Clr. Brogan in response advised that if further discussion in the public domain was warranted, then he was prepared to withdraw the proposal for a workshop.

Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Housing and Corporate agreed to take member's concerns on board and requested members to forward any specific concerns to him. He agreed to bring any necessary clarification to the next appropriate meeting.

The County Manager referred to the specific procedures for dealing with policy development all of which he indicated demonstrated "Better Local Government" "in action". It was important he added that the message did not go out that the Council did not value the contribution of non SPC members.

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Bride, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, it was agreed to defer consideration of the matter to the next appropriate Council Meeting.

C/311/11 ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONFIRMED MINUTES OF RURAL WATER MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19TH JANUARY, 2011

On the proposal of Clr. Donaghey, seconded by Clr. Brogan, it was resolved to endorse the Confirmed Minutes of Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on the 19th January, 2011.

C/312/11 ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONFIRMED MINUTES OF MEETING OF ISLANDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 22ND MARCH, 2011

On the proposal of Clr. Alcorn, seconded by Clr. O' Domhnaill, it was resolved to endorse the Confirmed Minutes of Meeting of Islands Committee held on the 22nd March, 2011.

Clr. Gallagher alluded to Minute 03/11 and requested that it be put on record that the use of Members Development Fund monies was not an ideal way of funding Island Projects. A number of members outlined the necessity of making a clear commitment to Islands funding at budget time.

C/313/11 ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONFIRMED MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES ELECTORAL AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON 19TH MAY, 2011

On the proposal of Clr. Slowey, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, it was resolved to endorse the Confirmed Minutes of Meeting of Glenties Electoral Area Committee held on the 19TH May, 2011.

C/314/11 AUTHORISATION OF REPRESENTATION AT A SEMINAR, MEETING OR EVENT

Having noted the revised arrangements under Section 142 5(d) of the Local Government Act, 2001, introduced by the Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations 2006 & 2010 and directives issued by the Minister in that regard, on the proposal of Clr. Alcorn, seconded by Clr. Mc Gowan, it was resolved to authorise the attendance of members at the following conferences/events, subject to the normal procedures:-

1. Individual members not exceeding their annual budget for attendance at conferences.
 2. Payment of expenses for attendance to be conditional on the member furnishing documentary evidence of attendance and complying with the legal requirements.
 3. The submission of a Conference Report by any member attending a conference.
- i. Councillor's Training Seminar – The Local Government Planning Service, to be held Friday 12th and Saturday 13th August, 2011 at the West Cork Hotel, Skibereen, Co. Cork.
 - ii. Elected Member's Training Seminar – Legislation for the reform of Local Government to be held Friday 12th to Sunday 14th August, 2011 at the Westport Plaza Hotel, Castlebar Street, Westport, Co Mayo.
 - iii. Councillor's Training Seminar – The Local Government Arts Service to be held Friday 19th to Saturday 20th August, 2011 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Farnham Estate, Cavan.
 - iv. Elected Members Training Seminar – Local Government promoting Renewable Energy “The Advantages of Solar Power” to be held Friday 19th to Sunday 21st August, 2011 at the Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

- v. Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland 98th Annual Conference to be held Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th September, 2011 at the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co. Meath.
- vi. Professional Development for Councillors – Domestic Water Meters for Ireland “Implications for Irish Consumers and Business” to be held Friday 9th to Sunday 11th September, 2011 in the Ravensdale Suite, Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
- vii. Regional Studies Association Irish Branch – Irish Regions in the Smart Economy to be held Monday 12th September, 2011 at the Renehan Hall, NUI Maynooth.
- viii. Waterford County Council – Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Autumn Seminar 2011 “The Role of Tourism in Economic Recovery” to be held Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September, 2011.

C/315/11 TO NOTE CONFERENCE REPORTS

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Gowan, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, the following Conference Report was noted: -

Clr. Frank McBrearty –

Elected Member’s Responsibilities Indemnity from liability of Decisions of the Body Corporate held 10th – 12th June, 2011 in the Kingvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City.

C/316/11 MAYOR’S BUSINESS

Special Meeting

On the proposal of Clr. N. Mc Bride, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, it was resolved to hold a Special Meeting of the Council on Monday 26th September, 2011 at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, County House to consider the update in relation to the Whole System of Work.

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended to the following:-

- The County Manager on the death of his Uncle, Willie Meehan.
- The family of the late Frank Gallagher.
- The family of the late Michael Curran.
- The family of the late Jason Mc Nair.

- The family of the late Willie Mc Laughlin.
- The family of the late Sean Houston.
- The family of the late Jack Gallagher.
- The family of the late Noel Griffin.
- The family of the late Deirdre Burke, Drimarone, Donegal Town
- Those who perished in the Norwegian Tragedy.
- Clr. Alcorn on the death of his brother in-law, Donal O' Boyle.

Congratulations

Congratulations was extended to the following:-

- Donegal Hurling Team on bringing the Lory Meagher Cup to the County.
- Donegal Special Olympics Team on winning a number of silver medals at the recent Special Olympics Games.
- Best wishes were extended to the Donegal Senior GAA Football Team on winning the Ulster Championship. The Mayor wished them every success in their forthcoming clash with Kildare.
- On the proposal of the Clr. N. Mc Bride, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, it was resolved to extend best wishes to Kyle Mc Fadden on his recent signing to Norwich City.

C/317/11 MANAGER'S REPORT

Specific Improvement Grants 2012

The County Manager advised that the allocation would be on a once off basis and that there would be no provision to carry over to next year. There would be acknowledged specific challenges in relation to the various work programmes. A particular challenge he confirmed existed in that the closing date for submissions was the 23rd September. He thus called on the Area Manager's concerned to contact the Local Electoral Area Committees with a view to holding exceptional meetings early in September to considering the relevant submissions.

Mr. James Boyle, A/Director of Roads and Transportation agreed to contact the Department in relation to an extension of

time and thus allow the application for funding in relation to Specific Improvement Grants 2012 to be presented to Members at the September Council Meeting.

C/318/11 MOTIONS FROM OTHER COUNCILS/BODIES

Members noted the following motions from other councils/bodies:-

On the proposal of Clr. Mc Gowan, seconded by Clr. Murray, the following motion was noted:-

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

“That the Litter Act be amended to state that where there is a reasonable doubt that landowners are not penalised for illegal dumping”

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL

On the proposal of Clr. Quinn, seconded by Clr. Murray the following motion was noted:-

“That this Council supports the Justice for Magdalenes (JFM), survivor advocacy group’s calling on the Irish state to offer a formal state apology to all survivors of the Magdalene laundries and that the Government immediately establishes a statutory inquiry into these abuses. To do otherwise is to cause additional pain and suffering to the women and girls thereby bringing further shame on our nation. The women and their children deserve justice now.”

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL

“That this Council acknowledges the 30th anniversary of the death of 10 Irishmen on hunger strike in 1981. This event acted as a catalyst for the Peace Process in the 1990’s and this Council pays tribute to all those from all traditions who have worked so hard to ensure peace in our country in the years since this event.”

Clr. Quinn stated that it was important that recognition be afforded to the group in light of the extraordinary courage shown by its members.

BUNDORAN TOWN COUNCIL

“That Donegal County Council install wheelchair ramps at any footpath that doesn’t already have the facility.”

Clr. Crawford asked that a report re footpaths in each Electoral Area be made available to each individual EA Committee. Clarity was requested in relation to the overall implication of the motion.

SOUTH TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Members noted the significance of the following motion and the implications for all Local Authorities:-

“That South Tipperary County Council asks the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government to advise this Council as to what Draft Directives which may affect the operation of Local Authorities are currently before the EU.”

COBH TOWN COUNCIL

“That Cobh Town Council call on the Minister for Justice and the British Home Secretary to issue a posthumous pardon to all those adults and children who were incarcerated as convicts on Spike Island and elsewhere having been convicted of crimes in relation to stealing food, in particular during the Great Famine. And further that all local and County Councils be encouraged to make similar calls”.

C/319/11

CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS UNDER URGENT BUSINESS

On the proposal of Clr. Murray, seconded by Clr. Brogan, it was agreed to adopt the following motion with the amendment as agreed earlier in the meeting:-

“That this Council calls for the erection of a memorial plaque at the scene of the crash which led to the tragic death of Garda Gary Mc Laughlin, and that the Council afford the same honour to Garda Mc Laughlin as Garda Mc Callion.

On the proposal of Clr. Gallagher, seconded by Clr. Alcorn, the following motion was adopted:-

“That this Council condemn the HSE’s decision to close 9 beds in Dungloe Hospital and call on the HSE to

- Reverse the bed closures in Dungloe Community Hospital to retain its original 44 bed capacity.
- Allow staff to be replaced who are on long-term sick leave
- Recognise that the catchment area for Dungloe Community Hospital is unique in that it serves an area that included populated off-shore islands and has no public transport service.
- Clarify that if the x-ray service in the hospital will be continued and present a long-term plan for such.
- To furnish the Members of this Council and the “Dungloe Community Hospital Lobby Group with a long-term plan for the future of the hospital in Dungloe.

and that this Council resolve to forward this motion to the Minister for Health James Reilly, Minister Dinny Mc Ginley, The C.E.O of the HSE, and all national politicians who represent Donegal”.

Clr. Gallagher advised that the motion was self explanatory. She presented to the meeting a copy of the HIQUA Inspection Report in respect of Dungloe Community Hospital and stated that nowhere in the report did it indicate that 9 beds had to close. The issues raised, she affirmed had serious implications not only for the Glenties Area but for the County as a whole. She asked members to support this worthy cause. It was generally agreed that the implications were far reaching with Clr. Brogan calling for an urgent meeting with the Minister for Health.

Following considerable debate on the matter Clr. Gallagher thanked all who had supported the motion reiterating the fact that the HIQUA Report was being used by the HSE as the justification for downgrading services in Dungloe.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

