

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE DHUN NA nGALL

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Aras an Chontae
LEIFEAR
20 Meán Fómhair 2011

DO: GACH BHALL DEN CHOMHAIRLE

Beidh Cruinniú Speisialta den Chomhairle ar siúl Dé Luain 26 Meán Fómhair, 2011 ag **10.00 r.n. in Áras an Chontae, Leifear** le plé a dhéanamh ar na hábhair atá sa Chlár leis seo.

Mise, le meas

Liam Mac a'Bhaird
Riarthóir Cruinnithe Gníomhach

DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Office of Meetings Administrator
County House
Lifford
20th September, 2011

TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

A Special Meeting of Donegal County Council will be held on Monday 26th September, 2011 at 10.00am in the County House, Lifford to consider the attached agenda.

You are summoned to attend this meeting.

Yours sincerely

Liam Ward
A/Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Update on the Testing of the Whole System of Work.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD ON 26TH SEPTEMBER,
2011

C/320/11 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllrs. N. Mc Bride, Mayor, D. Alcorn, L. Blaney, J. Boyle, C. Brogan, B. Byrne, P. Canning, G. Crawford, M. Doherty, P. Doherty, R. Donaghey, M. Farren, M.T. Gallagher, M. Harley, C. Harvey, D. Larkin, F. McBrearty, M. McBride, S. Mc Eniff, I. Mc Garvey, P. McGowan, J. Murray, B. O' Neill, M. Quinn, J. Ryan, T. Slowey.

C/321/11 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Seamus Neely, County Manager, Mr Liam Ward, Director of Housing and Corporate, A/Meetings Administrator, Mr John McLaughlin, Director of Roads and Transportation, Mr Garry Martin, Head of Finance and Director of Emergency Services, Mr Joe Peoples, A/Director of Water and Environment, Mr Michael Mc Garvey, Divisional Manager, Community Culture & Enterprise, Mr Brain Boyle, Head of Information Services, Ms Annemarie Crawford, Staff Officer, Corporate Services.

C/322/11 UPDATE ON THE TESTING OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM OF WORK

Members considered the report circulated during the meeting. Mr. Seamus Neely, County Manager, outlined the sequence of events that lead to the testing of the Whole System of Work. He advised that there were the six work processes involved, covering Housing Assessment, Procurement, Purchasing, Payroll/Timesheet Processing, Income Collection and Planning Enforcement.

An update on the test processing to date, together with a summary of the Housing Assessment was provided.

It was acknowledged that testing to date had been generally informative, providing an analysis of existing data sets and highlighting customisation challenges.

A formal evaluation it was established would examine the performance of each test, determine system suitability, and

assess the applicability and cost/benefit potential of the framework.

A lengthy debate ensued with a number of issues raised, namely:-

- How much was spent by DCC from the initiation of the project to date?
- Clarification on the Planning Enforcement Test.
- Intellectual property Rights.
- Importance of getting a return for Donegal County Council on their investment.

Clr. Mc Brearty proposed, seconded by Clr. O' Neill, that the meeting continue in committee given the complexity of the issues involved.

A further proposal by Clr. Brogan, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, requested that the meeting proceed as normal in the interests of overall accountability and transparency.

A show of hands taken by the Meetings Administrator resulted in 10 Members voting for the Meeting to proceed in committee, with 9 voting against.

In accordance with Section 45 (3) of the Local Government Act, 2001 the meeting proceeded in committee. The Mayor thus requested the assembled media and members of the public present to vacate the chamber.

On resumption of the Public Meeting, Clr. Brogan proposed, seconded by Clr. Larkin, that as soon as the test phase of the WSW Project was completed a full report on the Evaluation Process be provided to Members, with a detailed report forwarded to the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government for his consideration.

It was imperative he advised that the issue was dealt with in a public forum and a mechanism put in place to ensure that

Donegal County Council received some return on its investment to date.

Members in general were appreciative of the update provided, and agreed that no clear judgement could be made until the test phase was complete, and the evaluation carried out.

C/323/11 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On the proposal of Clr. Gallagher, seconded by Clr. Mc Garvey, it was resolved to briefly adjourn the meeting to allow the September Council Meeting proceed.

C/324/11 UPDATE ON THE TESTING OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM OF WORK

Concluding the debate the County Manager advised that he was grateful for the opportunity to brief members noting that his own involvement had been effectively with the testing of the system.

He advised of the following:-

1. That €2.63m was spent to date on the support of the system.
2. Donegal County Council intended to carry out an independent evaluation of the WSW Framework.
3. The Planning Enforcement Assessment only 40% complete due to the complexity of the process involved.
4. Testing of WSW to be completed by the end of October after which a full evaluation would be carried out and when finalised would be presented to the full Council.

There would he confirmed be no further expenditure on the project at this juncture other than as previously agreed with the Council, and Members would be fully updated on the status of events at the earliest possible opportunity.

This concluded the business of the meeting.