

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
COMMITTEE**

HELD ON 10th APRIL 2018 IN DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh (Leas Chathaoirleach)
Cllr. Terence Slowey
Cllr. Seamus Ó Domhnaill
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher
Cllr. Enda Bonner

APOLOGY:

Cllr. Michéal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Michael McGarvey, A/Director Water & Environment
Brendan McFadden - S.E.E. Area Manager, Roads &
Transportation
Charles Sweeney - Area Manager, Community
Development
Collette Beattie - Conservation Planner
David Friel - Coastal Officer
Michael Rowsome, S.S.O. Motor Tax/Corporate

GMD 27/2018

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Slowey, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting until completion of DFI Workshop.

GMD 28/18

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF
THE GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 13TH MARCH 2018**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Bonner, the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Glenties held on the 13th March 2018 were confirmed.

GMD 29/18

REPORTS FROM WORKSHOPS

The Committee noted the reports from the following Workshops:

- Housing Workshop held on 13th March 2018 and
- Development Fund Initiative Workshop adjourned on 23rd March 2018.

GMD 30/18

FALCARRAGH PARISH COUNCIL - DEPUTATION

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr. Gallagher, the Committee agreed to receive a deputation from the Falcarragh Parish Council at the Municipal District Meeting scheduled for the 12th of June 2018.

GMD 31/18

PLANNING

31.1

Development Applications

Members noted the planning statistics to the end of February 2018, circulated with the agenda and presented by Colette Beattie, Planner.

31.2

Planning Clinic

The Committee welcomed the scheduling of a planning clinic on the 18th of April 2018 in the Dungloe PSC.

31.3

County Development Plan Review

The Committee discussed the report previously circulated and presented by the Planner. Members were advised that a Plenary Workshop will be held at 2 p.m. on the 16th of April and a special Plenary Council meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on the 9th of May in relation to the County Development Plan Review.

31.4

Local Area Plans

Members noted the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Planner informing the Committee that the Chief Executive's Report on the proposed material alterations will be considered at the Plenary Council meeting of 23rd July 2018.

31.5

Proposed Additions to the Record of Protected Structures

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Conservation Planner, regarding the following 3 no. proposed additions to the Record of Protected Structures in the Glenties Municipal District:

- St. Mary's Church, Derrybeg
- Termon house, Maghery
- Kiltorish Farm House, Glenties

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Ó Domhnaill, the Committee recommended that the 3 proposed structures for which the Council is in receipt of requests for said structures to be added to the Record of Protected Structures should be published for the purposes of consultation under Section 55 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 (as amended).

31.6

Conservation Grant Schemes

Members noted the report on Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht allocations to the Council to facilitate submissions under the 'Built Heritage at Risk' and 'Structures at Risk' schemes.

31.7

Hericoast Project

The Committee noted the report on the status of the Hericoast project previously circulated.

National Planning Framework 2040

Cllr. Ó Domhnaill expressed disappointment that his request at the March Municipal District Meeting, for a seminar to be convened and a briefing document to be prepared in relation to the impact of the above framework, particularly on rural housing in Donegal, had not been acknowledged. Cllr. Ó Domhnaill requested both the Central Planning Unit and the Senior Management Team to address Members concerns in this regard. Cllr. Slowey updated Members on similar concerns expressed at a recent LAMA meeting in Donegal Town.

32.1

Development Fund Initiative

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr. Bonner, the Committee agreed the allocation of funding in the sum of €120,000 as follows:

	APPLICANT	
	Donegal County Council – Roads	€20000.00
	Dungloe Senior Band	€ 2500.00
	Cloughaneely Junior Marching Band	€ 3000.00
	Curam Cloich Cheannfhaola	€ 2500.00
	Tir Chonaill GAP Cycling Club	€ 2500.00
	Awake Tourism	€16000.00
	Maghery Christmas Lights	€ 2500.00
	Burtonport Summer Festival	€ 2500.00
	Coiste Forbartha Chnoc Fola	€ 8400.00
	Forbairt Dhún Lúiche	€ 2500.00
	SULT	€ 2500.00
	Creeslough & District Angling Association	€ 3000.00
	Tógra Óige Mhuire	€ 2500.00
	Forbairt na Rosann	€ 2500.00
	Courses@Cluain na dTor	€ 4000.00
	The Creeslough View	€ 2500.00
	Coiste Siúlóid Sean Iarnoid Ailt an Chorráin	€ 2500.00
	Errigal Cycling Club	€ 1000.00
	Larionad Acmhainní Nadúrtha Ctr (LAN)	€ 2500.00
	Coiste Forbartha Phort Arthur	€ 3750.00
	Rosses Community Dyslexia Branch	€ 2500.00
	Crickamore Fife and Drum Marching Band	€ 2500.00
	Dungloe GAA Club	€ 2600.00
	Coiste Forbartha Rann na Feirste	€ 2750.00
	CLG Dún na nGall	€ 3250.00
	Arranmore Country Fest	€ 3250.00
	Coiste Sheáin Bháin, Baile na Finne	€ 3500.00
	Cumann Treanagh	€ 5000.00
	St. Connell's Museum & Heritage Centre Co Ltd	€ 2500.00
	Dungloe Community Network	€ 3000.00
	Total	€120,000.00

32.2

Proposed Greenway from Letterkenny to Burtonport

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Community Development Manager regarding the completion of the feasibility report and recommendations by Sustrans.

Cllr. Ó Domhnaill and Cllr. Gallagher expressed their frustration at the apparent lack of Council urgency to deploy necessary resources to advance this strategic project, and to build on local momentum and community goodwill. Cllr. Ó Domhnaill recommended high specification finishes to greenways in Donegal comparable to other nationwide projects. Cllr. Gallagher requested attendance of relevant officials to update Members on progress at the next meeting.

32.3

Tourism

Members discussed the report circulated previously and presented by the Community Development Manager regarding the promotion of Donegal via an advertising campaign in Ireland West Airport. Cllr. Ó Domhnaill and Cllr. Bonner expressed concern at the lack of investment of Fáilte Ireland in the Wild Atlantic Way within Donegal.

Cllr. Gallagher advised the Committee that Fáilte Ireland have a role to play in the development of Burtonport as a tourist location.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Bonner, the Committee nominated Cllr. Ó Domhnaill to represent the Glenties Municipal District on the Donegal Tourism Sectoral Forum.

32.4

Droichead na nDeor - Bridge of Tears

Cllr. Ó Domhnaill commended the recent upgrade to this monument.

32.5 **Community Needs Assessment**

The Community Development Manager scheduled a meeting with Members on Monday, April 30th at 11 a.m. to discuss advancement proposals, following completion of a report on Community Needs within the Glenties Municipal District.

GMD 33/18 **HOUSING**

33.1 **Housing Aid for Older People**

The Committee discussed the reports circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager regarding the status of applications submitted for funding under this scheme. In response to a query from Cllr. Bonner regarding the non approval of 11 pending applications, the Housing Manager undertook to liaise with the Housing Engineer in this regard.

33.2 **Housing Adaptation Grants**

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager regarding the status of Housing Adaptation Grants.

33.3 **Mobility Aids Grants**

Members noted the report circulated previously and presented by the Housing Manager regarding Mobility Aids Grants.

33.4 **Casual Vacancies**

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager regarding the status of casual vacancies as at the 3rd of April 2018. The Housing Manager informed the Committee of ongoing progress in relation to the turn around time for letting of casual vacancies and also the increasing availability of registered contractors to assist in this regard.

33.5

Acquisitions

Members welcomed the report on the 4 no. acquisitions at the 3rd of April 2018 listing 2 houses as being 'ready to offer' and 2 properties due to undergo remedial works. The Committee were also informed that the 11th of April is the closing date for submission of Turnkey proposals.

33.6

Approved Housing Bodies

The Housing Manager updated the Committee on current negotiations with Clúid and Respond to increase the number of tenancies available in AHB properties in Dungloe.

Cllr. Gallagher commended the efforts of the Housing Manager to increase the availability of tenancies in both locations. However, Cllr. Gallagher expressed concern that the Council were increasing dependency on Approved Housing Bodies to perform Housing functions that should be the primary focus of local authorities to create sustainable rural communities via social and affordable Housing policy.

33.7

Old Courthouse Glenties

In response to a query from Cllr. Slowey, the Housing Manager undertook to liaise with John Gallagher, Senior Housing Engineer to definitively determine ownership of the old Courthouse in Glenties.

33.8

SI Housing

Cllr. Bonner expressed frustration at the slow pace of progress in relation to the SI programme.

The Housing Manager advised Members that:

- (i) 4 applications have undergone initial site investigation and detailed site assessment
- (ii) 2 applications have been determined to be uneconomical to develop due to adverse ground conditions and
- (iii) 2 applications will move onto the Part 8 planning process.

33.9

Tenant Purchase Scheme

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Housing Service to provide statistics in relation to the following:

- No. of Tenant Purchase applications
- No. of queries submitted to Housing staff
- No. of potential applications disqualified due to stringent criteria.

The Housing Manager agreed to circulate updated information to the Committee.

33.10

St. Peter's Terrace - Older Persons Dwellings

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Council to upgrade OPD's at this location.

GMD 34/10

ENVIRONMENT

34.1

Big Donegal Clean Up

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Coastal Officer regarding the launch of the campaign by the Cathaoirleach of the Council on 23rd March 2018. The Council (1) provides bags, gloves and litter pickers, (2) arranges for the collection of the rubbish once it has been bagged and (3) supports individuals, groups, businesses and organisations in organising their own clean-ups.

34.2

Dog Fouling Awareness

Members noted that a campaign is being organised by the Litter Warden to raise awareness of the problems associated with dog fouling.

34.3 Litter Enforcement

The Committee noted litter fixed penalty notice statistics for the first quarter of 2018.

34.4 Coastal Management

Members welcomed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Coastal Officer, in relation to 'Clean Coasts Roadshows', 'Dune Awareness Roadshows' and a special Roadshow on the 14th April at the Letterkenny Central Library. The Environmental Director and Coastal Officer updated Members on the status of coastal protection issues at Magheroarty and Maghery and also regarding the OPW request to carry out further investigative studies at both locations. The Coastal Officer informed the Committee that additional studies are required to give an enhanced picture of the influences of a dynamic coastline.

Cllr. Ó Domhnaill commended the Council for works carried out at Magheroarty and Ballyness Bay. Cllr. Ó Domhnaill and Cllr. Gallagher asked the Council to request a meeting with Minister Moran (OPW and Flood Relief) to obtain correspondence from the OPW regarding the status of coastal protection applications at both Magheroarty and Maghery to facilitate local consultation with stakeholders.

34.5 Fly Posting

Cllr. Ó Domhnaill highlighted the increasing prevalence of circus posters affixed to telegraph poles with sellotape/cable ties and requested an update on the regulations/bye laws pertaining to this matter.

34.6 Japanese Knotweed

Cllr. Gallagher requested an update on the eradication programme and the schedule for a repeat treatment programme. Cllr. Ó Domhnaill asked that the Glenea river be included in any future programme.

34.7

Public Conveniences

The Coastal Officer responded to Members queries regarding the status of the improvement programme. In response to a query from Cllr. Ó Domhnaill regarding the provision of portaloos on Portnablagh Pier, the Coastal Officer undertook to liaise with the Marine Engineer in this regard.

GMD 35/18

ROADS

35.1

NRDO Update

The Committee discussed the report circulated at the meeting from Fergus Towey, SEE regarding:

- N56 Boyoughter to Kilkenny
- N56 Kilkenny to Letterilly
- N56 Letterilly to Glenties (Kilraine)
- N56 Dungloe to Cloghbolie
- N56 Dungloe to Glenties Land Acquisitions

Cllr. Gallagher requested a meeting with relevant engineers in relation to completion of the footpath on the Carnmore Road in Dungloe.

The Roads Manager undertook to liaise with the NRA Engineer regarding clarification on issues raised by Cllr. Gallagher as follows:

- Resurfacing proposals on N56 Boyoughter to Kilkenny cycleway and
- Extension of street lighting at Lettermacaward.

35.2

Community Involvement Scheme

In response to a query from Cllr. Gallagher, the Roads Manager informed the Committee that a substantial volume of applications have been submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport but that a funding decision is awaited.

35.3

Speed Limit Signs - Cronashallog, Dungloe

Cllr. Bonner requested the Roads Service to examine the location of the speed limit signage to ensure that they are in the correct position at the end of the public lighting poles.

35.4

Roads Maintenance Issues

The Roads Manager acknowledged the following issues highlighted by the Committee and agreed to liaise with relevant officials:

- Bunbeg footbridge
- Lunniagh footpath
- Corcreggan Mill Section of N56
- Coshclady Bridge
- Magheroarty Pier Road

This concluded the Business of the Meeting.