



5ú Aibreán 2022

**GACH BALL DE CHOISTE na nOILEÁN
EACH MEMBER OF THE ISLANDS COMMITTEE**

A Chara

Beidh an chéad cruinniú eile de choiste na nOileán ar 12^ú Aibreán 2022 ar Oileán Arainn Mhór ag 10.30 r.n.

The next meeting of the Islands Committee is scheduled for April 12th 2022 on Arranmore Island, commencing at 10.30 am.

Beidh an bád farantóireachta (Bád Gorm) ag fágail cé Ailt a' Chorráin ag 9.45 r.n. agus ag pilleadh ar ais ag 1.15 i.n. go hAilt a' Chorráin daofa sin nach bhfuil ag freastal ar chruinniú Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí.

The ferry-boat (Blue Ferry) will be departing from Burtonport Pier at 9.45 a.m. and returning to Burtonport at 1.15 p.m. for those not staying for the Glenties MD Meeting.

Tá clár an chruinniú leagtha amach anseo.

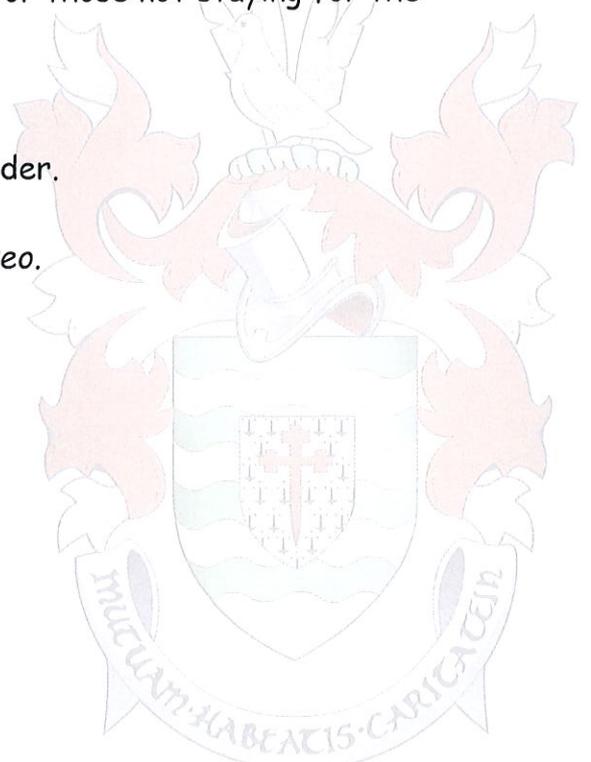
The Agenda for the meeting is set out hereunder.

Iarrtar ort a bheith i láthair ag an chruinniú seo.

Please arrange to be in attendance.

Mise le meas

Micheál Rowsome
A/Bainisteoir Ceantair
Seirbhísí Corparáideacha
Ar son Riarthóir Cruinniú



CLÁR AGENDA

(1) Miontuairiscí Cruinniú 8ú Feabhra 2022.

(a) Néithe ag éirí.
Matters arising from the Minutes.

(2) Tógraí Oileán -Island Projects & Priorities

2.1 Arranmore

2.2 Tory

2.3 Small Islands

(3) Aon Gnó Eile - Any Other Business

MINUTES OF ISLANDS COMMITTEE

HELD REMOTELY ON FEBRUARY 8th 2022

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh
Cllr Anthony Molloy
Cllr Michael McClafferty
Cllr Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig
Cllr. Ian McGarvey
Mairín Uí Fhearraigh
Bríd Ní Chonghaile - An Roinn
Michéal Mac Giolla Easbuig (Udarás na Gaeltachta)
Marjorie Uí Chearbhall
Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh
Séamus Mac Ruairí
F. Laird Dinsmore
William Boyle
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director of Water & Environment Service
Charles Sweeney Community Dev. A.O.
Michael Rowsome, A/Area Manager, Corporate & Housing
Marie Martin - SO, Corporate & Housing
Anne Marie McCole - Community Dev. Staff Officer
Brendan McFadden, SEE, Roads Manager
David Friel - Coastal Officer
Jamie Gallagher - Roads Engineer
Cathal Sweeney - Piers & Harbours Marine Engineer
- OTHERS PRESENT:** John Carey - Project Manager - Corncrake/Traonach Life (Dept. Housing, Local Government & Heritage)
Catriona Ní Cheallaigh
- APOLOGIES:** John McCafferty
Eddie Joe McGee
Máire Uí Dochartaigh

IC 01/22

Minutes of Meeting

On the proposal of William Boyle, seconded by Mairín Uí Fhearraigh, the Committee agreed the minutes of meeting held on 29th October 2021.

IC 02/22

Policy on Takeover of Non-County Roads on Islands

Brid Ní Chonghaile and the Roads Manager updated the committee on meetings between the Council and an Roinn regarding funding of Island roads. Brid Ní Chonghaile advised that an announcement is imminent in relation to the Islands Programme Allocation for 2022 which will facilitate commencement of works earlier in the year. The Committee were also advised that An Roinn will consider further branches of funding later in the year.

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh and Cllr. MacGiolla Easbuig commended the role played by Cllr. Gallagher in the advancement of an Islands Roads Policy. Noirín Úi Mhaoldonaigh also commended the efforts of the officials and Public Representatives for their contribution to the adoption of an Island Roads Policy.

Seamus Rodgers requested that the Council incorporate the Doctors Road and Upper Illion Road into their takeover programme.

IC 03/22

Corncrake/Traonach Life

John Carey, Project Manager and Catriona Ní Cheallaigh, Community Engagement Officer, made a presentation to the Committee in relation to a new project to improve the habitat for corncrakes in the special protection area network and surrounding farmland in conjunction with farmers and

landowners. The specific component objectives of the project are:

- Securing landowner co-operation and local community involvement.
- Improving, targeting and delivery of effective conservation measures.
- Improving management regimes for corncrake in project sites.
- Creation and maintenance of early and late cover.
- Improving knowledge exchange with farmers on project sites.
- Promoting the corncrake as an asset for local areas and communities.

IC 04/22

Arranmore

Nóirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh updated the Committee on the status of the Foreshore and Blue Ways Projects & also highlighted the following:

- Importance of developing a traffic management plan for the harbour area prior to the commencement of the tourism season.
- Requested funding from the Council to enable the Co-op to carry out maintenance work on the Island.
- Provision of wheelchair accessible toilets.

The Roads Engineer informed the Committee that the Road Design Office are engaged in a traffic management plan and that a workshop is scheduled with elected members in relation to an Island Maintenance Programme.

Clr. Mac Giolla Easbuig highlighted the necessity to upgrade access to the beach, extension of the slipway at Leabgarrow and provision of Public Toilets.

The Coastal Officer advised the committee that the Environment Service will review options for the provision of an alternative public convenience in light of the challenging nature of the existing facility.

The Director of the Environment Service advised that Water Safety Ireland have been asked to carry out a risk assessment regarding access to the beach and it is anticipated that a funding application will be submitted to An Roinn thereafter.

IC 05/22

Tory Island

Marjorie Uí Chearbhaill highlighted the following issues:

- Urgent necessity to repair Lighthouse Road
- Improvement works required to the Playground.
- Requirement for storage area on Magheraroarty pier.
- Provision of a pier wall and slipway.
- Status of proposed new boat to service Tory Island.

Cllr. Michéal Choilm expressed frustration at the ongoing delays in respect of the provision of a new boat and requested a meeting of all relevant stakeholders. Bríd Ní Chonghaile undertook to liaise with Marjorie Uí Chearbhaill after the meeting in this regard.

IC 06/22

Owey Island

In response to a query from William Boyle, the Roads Engineer advised that an Roinn have approved the transfer of the roadworks allocation to the end of April 2022 due to unfavourable weather conditions in 2021. William Boyle, also requested the provision of railings on the sea wall, adequate lighting on the pier, repair of the rungs on the ladder at Bunbeg and the provision of a small cargo service to the Island twice a year.

IC 07/22

Rutland Island

Laird Dinsmore informed the Committee:

- Of the broadband upgrade on the Island.
- Absence of a mains water supply.
- Parking difficulties on Burtonport during the Summer and particularly for residents /visitors with boat trailers.

The Director of the Water Service undertook to liaise with the local water services team and Irish Water in relation to provision of water supply, following a recommendation from Cllr. Gallagher.

The Piers & Harbours engineer stated that three new car parks are to be developed in Burtonport and that the long term parking of boat trailers will not be accommodated on piers.

IC 08/22

Inishboffin Island

Máirín Uí Fhearraigh asked the Marine Service to provide a crane on Inishboffin and recommended the provision of a small cargo ferry.

IC 09/22

Gola Island

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh highlighted the following issues:

- Development of roads.
- Visitors statistics.
- Sea Wall.
- Water Pipe.
- Provision of Portalooos and Refuse service in advance of the Tourism season.

The Coastal Officer advised that both the refuse and portaloo services will be rolled out again in 2022 and that the Council are attempting to source land for a suitable public convenience on Gola.

IC 10/22

Magheraroarty

The Piers and Harbours Engineer responded to queries and updated the committee on the status of proposed dredging works.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig repeated his request for a meeting of all relevant stakeholders to develop a masterplan for Magheraroarty. The Director advised that a meeting of relevant Council staff is being organised in this regard.

In response to a request from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig to recognise the efforts of all those involved in the sea rescue at Magheraroarty in 2019, the Coastal Officer advised that, on receipt of the names of all personnel involved, that he will nominate same for National Water Safety Awards.

IC 11/22

Committee Membership

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig recommended the addition of representatives of Cruit Island & Oileán Treora to the Committee.

IC 12/22

Live Streaming

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested that meetings of the Islands Committee be streamed live.

IC 13/22

Any other Business

The Committee expressed sympathy to the Sweeney, McDermott, Kavanagh, Coll and Conlon families, following recent family bereavements.

Members also expressed their good wishes for a speedy recovery to the McCullagh brothers following a work accident in Burtonport.

Seamus Rodgers also commended fundraising efforts of Paddy Connaghan, Arranmore on behalf of "Gemma's Legacy of Hope".

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Water Safety Ireland

Water Safety Ireland is arranging for Swim & Safety courses at our islands' beautiful beaches this summer. In recent seasons Covid 19 has interrupted the roll out of water safety courses but Tory and Gola Islands are being scheduled for inclusion in the upcoming 2022 programme. More details will follow as arrangements are finalised.

Inishbofin Public Convenience

Final details have been addressed for the Inishbofin Public Convenience ahead of the tourist season. Supplies have been arranged for the local caretaking committee and signage arranged to highlight the location of the facility for visitors.

Gola Island Public Convenience

Two sites have been proposed for developing a permanent public convenience on Gola Island to replace the seasonal portaloos arrangement. An inspection of both sites is to be scheduled when they will be appraised for suitability. The inspections will involve the National Parks and Wildlife Service personnel.

Arranmore Public Convenience

A fire at the Arranmore Public Convenience in March caused structural damage but was prevented from destroying the building by the fast action of the fire brigade. Contact is being made with the adjacent landowner to make arrangements for landscaping of the site as there has been an increase in antisocial behaviour recently. The scrub is being set alight and threatens both properties. It is proposed to remove the scrub and erect a fence and improve the area visually.

