



31ú Eanáir, 2023

GACH BALL DE CHOISTE NA nOILEÁN
EACH MEMBER OF THE ISLANDS COMMITTEE

A Chara,

Beidh an chéad cruinniú de Choiste na nOileán ar siúl ar an 14ú lá de mhí Feabhra, 2023 in oifigí na Comhairle Condae ar an Chlochán Liath ag a 10 a chlog r.n.

The next meeting of the Islands Committee is scheduled for the 14th of February, 2023 in Dungloe PSC, commencing at 10.00 a.m.

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.

Is mise, le meas,

Micheál Rowsome

Bainisteoir Ceantair

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Ar son Riarthóir Cruinniú

CLÁR
AGENDA

1. (a) Miontuairiscí Cruinniú 8u Samhain, 2022
Consideration of Minutes of Meeting held on 8th November, 2022

(b) Néithe ag éirí.
Matters arising from the Minutes.
2. Tógraí Oileán
Island Projects
3. Cur i láthair 'Blueways'
Blueways Presentation
4. Aon Gnó Eile
Any Other Business

**MINUTES OF ISLANDS COMMITTEE
HELD IN DUNGLOE PSC ON 8th November 2022**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr Anthony Molloy Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh
Cllr. Michael McClafferty
Cllr. Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig
Cllr. Marie Theresa Gallagher
Cathal Sweeney – Piers & Harbours Marine Engineer
Mairín Uí Fhearraigh
Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh
Marjorie Uí Chearbhall
William Boyle
Eddie Joe McGee
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director of Water & Environment Service
Michael Rowsome, A/Area Manager, Corporate & Housing
Brendan McFadden, SEE, Roads Manager
Jamie Gallagher - Roads Engineer
Stephen O’Brien – Graduate Planner
Anne Marie McCole – Community Dev. Staff Officer
Mary Boyle, A/SSO, Housing & Corporate
- OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Dónal Mac Giolla Chóill – Aistriúcháin Comhuaineach
- APOLOGIES:** Bríd Ní Chonghaile – An Roinn
F. Laird Dinsmore

IC 42/22 **Creaslough Tragedy**

The Committee observed a minute’s silence in memory of all victims, following the Creaslough tragedy on the 8th October.

Members commended all Council Personnel involved in assisting the community in the aftermath of the tragedy.

IC 43/22 **Minutes of Meeting**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Eddie Joe McGee the Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2022.

IC 44/22

Arranmore

Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh commended the exceptional standard of works carried out by the Roads Service on the Island. The Committee also expressed appreciation to all involved in the adoption of a specific Islands Roads Policy.

The Roads engineer undertook to liaise with Island reps to formulate an application for departmental Roads Funding on 2023.

Cllr. N. McGarvey requested the provision of adequate public toilets on Arranmore.

IC 45/22

Tory

Marjorie Uí Chearbhall commended the roads works on the Island and requested assistance with the following issues:

- status of Magheraroarty Pier Study
- completion of tarmac on Helipad
- necessity to upgrade Magheraroarty Pier storage area
- island play park to be upgraded
- confirmation of appropriate Department with responsibility for the Sea Wall and necessity to extend coastal protection works on Tory
- urgent repair required of steps to the ferry

In response to concerns expressed by Marjorie Uí Chearbhall regarding closure of toilets in Magheraroarty the Director undertook to schedule an online meeting with relevant stakeholders (Údaras, Ferry Owner, Tory Co-op and Council).

Marjorie Uí Chearbhall informed the meeting that 16 refugees are residing in one house on the Island and that a basic fire service is unavailable if any emergencies arose. Cllr. Ó Fearraigh enquired if the fire service would be able to provide a secondhand fire engine at a minimum and requested the fire service representative to liaise with the director of emergency services and the Chief Fire Officer.

The Director undertook to discuss fire service concerns with both An Roinn and relevant Council officials.

IC 46/22

Gola

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh commended both the adoption of an Islands Roads Policy and the quality of road works carried out on Gola.

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh highlighted the following issues requiring input from the Council:

- Provision of an update on site feasibility for public toilets provision.
- Extension of village renewal scheme to include smaller islands to facilitate the repair of older houses.
- Statistics to be provided regarding visitors to the island.

Eddie Joe McGee emphasised the importance of:

- providing a permanent resolution of regular water supply interruptions
- helipad provision
- repair of deteriorating Port a Chruinn Pier

The Marine Engineer advised that a funding application has been submitted to the Department of Marine for the above project.

IC 47/22

Rutland

In response to a query from Mairín Uí Fhearraigh the Director informed the Committee that Pauric McFeely met with Laird Dinsmore and that he will follow up on the outcome of the meeting.

The Marine Engineer updated the Committee regarding the provision of a pontoon in Rutland and advised that an application for a foreshore licence has to be made in advance of submitting a funding application.

IC 48/22

Owey Island

William Boyle commended the recent road works carried out on the island and the recent provision of fire extinguishers. He requested the Marine Service to repair the railings on the pier and referred to the continuing issues of the absence of lighting on the pier.

The Marine Engineer advised that lights are in stock and he will liaise with the ferry operator to progress this matter. The Marine Engineer also undertook to liaise with staff regarding repair of railings.

IC 49/22 **Inis Caorach**

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh requested the roads service to include the repair of the islands road on any future work plan.

IC 50/22 **Inishboffin**

Member requested an update on the status of Coastal Protection Works and referred to necessity for adequate pier lighting.

The Marine Engineer updated the Committee on the provision of a crane on Inishboffin.

IC 51/22 **Ferry Service to Smaller Islands**

The Committee requested the Council to liaise with An Roinn regarding funding of a barge/small ferry to facilitate the transportation of goods to the smaller islands.

Cllr. Ó Fearriagh highlighted the potential availability of EU funding and referred to a recent conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe that he attended.

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh requested that Joy Harron, Councils EU Funding officer be invited to present to the Islands Committee on funding opportunities that may be available to Island Groups.

IC 52/22 **Off Shore Wind Project**

In response to concerns expressed by Mairín Uí Fhearraigh regarding the lack of consultation with stakeholders in relation to major offshore infrastructural projects. Cllr. Gallagher requested that the Council liaise with the planning minister in this regard and also to ascertain if there are any plans for these type developments off the Donegal Coast.

IC 53/22 **2023 Island Programme**

Cllr. Gallagher emphasised the importance of preparing an early application and that an online meeting be scheduled in January 2023.

She further requested that all Council Services liaise with the Island reps regarding the priorities on all the Islands.

IC 54/22

Marine Services

Cllr. Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig repeated his calls for the Council to arrange a meeting of all stakeholders to progress master plans for the development of Arranmore & Magheraroarty.

He also requested the Marine Engineer to meet with the Councils Access Officer to accommodate people of all abilities who are experiencing difficulties in accessing off shore Islands.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh requested an update on potential plans for the development of a pontoon at Bunbeg Pier.

IC 55/22

Fire Service

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised the committee that he will be in contact with Island reps regarding the replacement of all fire extinguishers and provision of training to all households.

IC 56/22

Draft National Islands Strategy

The Director informed the Committee that representatives of the Department of Rural & Community Development will be meeting Senior Council Management on the 10th November 2022.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Please see below update for meeting 14/02/2023

Arranmore

Funding has been approved by Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine for repair of Pollawaddy slipway and these works will be completed by direct labour by early summer

Some repair works are proposed at Helipad including work to wind sock, manhole cover and power box.

Funding is being sought from Dept. of Rural & Community Development for resurfacing of slipway at Rannagh pier. It is hoped that this work will be completed later this year. A design to refurbish and strengthen the main Rannagh pier is being progressed this year with works proposed to be carried out in 2024.

Funding is also being sought from Dept. of Rural & Community Development for refurbishment of the Aphort pier crane.

Funding has been approved by Dept Agriculture, Food and the Marine for provision of a crane on Stacamore pier and the installation will be completed later this year.

Tory Island

A bathymetric survey to determine a solution for the slipway at Tory will be carried out in the coming weeks when weather permits. Funding for this survey has been approved by Dept. of Rural and Community Development

Works to replace the inner lighting at the Helipad will be completed this year. Funding is being sought from Dept. of Rural and Community Development to complete these works.

Magheraarty

Dredging at Magheraarty pier will be completed on week commencing 20th March 2023, weather permitting.

Funding is being sought from Dept. of Rural and Community Development to resurface the existing car park.

Burtonport

Works are ongoing at Burtonport pier with piling works to strenghted the existing quay wall proposed for later on in the year with funding approved by Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Owey Island

Two new lights have been procured for both piers at Owey Island and these are currently at Burtonport and will be delivered to Owey and installed in the coming weeks when weather allows.

Inishmeane

Funding is being sought from Dept. of Rural and Community Development for provision of new steps to replace existing steps at head of pier.

Gola Island

Funding has been approved by Dept Agriculture, Food and the Marine for Undermining of Port a Chruinn pier and these works will be completed in the summer by private contractor.

Inishbofin Island

An ESB connection is awaited to complete installation of the crane and public lighting on Inishboffin.

New Engineer

Eugene Allen has taken over the role of Executive Engineer responsible for piers & harbours from Cathal Sweeney