



7ú Samhain 2023

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

A Chara

*Beidh an chéad cruinniú eile de choiste na nOileán ar 14<sup>ú</sup> lá de mhí na Samhna 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 November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Dungloe PSC, commencing at 10.00am.

*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

Bainisteoir Ceantair

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Ar son Riarthóir Cruinniú

**MINUTES OF ISLANDS COMMITTEE  
HELD ON ARRANMORE ISLAND ON 12th SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey  
Cllr. Micheal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Mairín Uí Fhearraigh  
Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh  
John McCafferty  
William Boyle  
Eddie Joe Mac Aoidh  
Laird Dinsmore

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director of Water & Environment Service  
Michael Rowsome, A/Area Manager, Corporate & Housing  
Jamie Gallagher, Roads Engineer  
Anne Marie McCole - Community Dev. Staff Officer  
Mary Boyle, A/SSO, Housing & Corporate  
Eugene Allan, Ast. Engineer, Marine Engineer  
Paul Kelly - Senior Executive Planner  
Kevin McCloskey - Coastal Officer

**APOLOGIES:** Marjorie Uí Chearbhall  
Séamus Rodgers  
Máire Uí Dhochartaigh  
Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig, Údaras na Gaeltachta

**IC 35/23**    **Election of Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach**

In response to queries from Mairín Ní Fhearraigh and Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, the Director and Corporate Manager advised Members in relation to AGM protocols.

Cllr. Molloy expressed appreciation to everyone connected to the Islands Committee for their support during the year and requested nominations for Cathaoirleach.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh the Committee elected:

- (i)        Cllr. McClafferty as Cathaoirleach of Coiste na nOileán
- (ii)       Mairín Ní Fhearraigh as Leas Cathaoirleach of Coiste na nOileán.

There were no other nominations for the above positions.

**IC 36/23**    **Minutes of Meeting**

On the proposal of William Boyle, seconded by Cllr. Noreen McGarvey, the Committee agreed the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

**IC 37/23**    **Industrial Action**

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig queried the status of the meeting in light of the escalation of Industrial Action by Forsa Trade Union in furtherance of the dispute to achieve job evaluation in the Local Authority Sector.

The Corporate Manager confirmed that Forsa Members are required to attend Plenary Council/MD and other regular Council meetings when requested.

**IC 38/23**    **Arranmore Island**

John McCafferty queried the status of roadworks on the Island and the importance of providing adequate public lighting and a public

convenience on the Island. He also commended the Marine Service for the provision of skips and signage.

Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh welcomed roadworks, marine works and progress with the playground refurbishment.

38.1 The Marine Engineer discussed the report circulated with the Agenda regarding the following projects:

- Completion of Repair of Pollawaddy slipway
- Proposed repair works at the helipad
- Progression of design to refurbish and strengthen Rannagh Pier
- Ongoing works for provision of a crane on Stacamore Pier.

38.2 The Roads Engineer updated the Coiste on the status of all roads projects funded this year. Road lining to take place next month and Road Design have been consulted regarding Campbell's Corner. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig reminded the meeting of the necessity to take over the Doctor's Road.

38.3 The Coiste welcomed the report previously submitted advising that the Council are in the process of appointing a Contractor to replace the fence at the playground.

38.4 The Coastal Officer and Director of Water Services responded to queries regarding the absence of Portaloos this year and agreed to rectify the matter in advance of next year's tourist season.

**IC 39/23 Tory Island**

The Coiste welcomed the report circulated with the agenda regarding the appointment of a Contractor to refurbish the existing playground on Tory.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested an update on the status of the refurbishment of the recycling centre and also requested clarity on the relevant body with responsibility for the Sea Wall.

Cllr. McClafferty requested the Council to liaise with Government Departments and the Office of Public Works to progress completion of the Sea Wall.

The Roads Engineer advised of ongoing assessments in relation to drainage, maintenance and L.I.S. applications.

The Marine Engineer discussed his report circulated previously in relation to the following:

- Bathymetric survey carried out re. slipway
- Ongoing works to replace lights at the helipad
- Repairs carried out to steps and ferry shelter
- Installation of handrail on pier

**IC 40/23**

#### **Inis Mhic a'Doirn**

Laird Dinsmore informed the Coiste that the availability of high-speed broadband on the island has contributed to an increase in population on the island but that drinking water quality is a major problem on the Island.

The Marine Engineer advised that users/stakeholders will be consulted in relation to the pontoon design. The Island representative commended the Arranmore RNLI and the coastguard helicopter for their contribution to the successful medical evacuation following a recent emergency.

Cllr. McClafferty requested the Council to liaise with the HSE in relation to the provision of an additional defibrillator at Duck Street.

Laird Dinsmore requested the provision of a dedicate small Island berthing place at Burtonport Pier and also requested the Council to address sewage concerns at this location.

**IC 41/23**

#### **Owey**

William Boyle requested the Council to repair railings on the pier, repair the Counter and carry out necessary roadworks.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the provision of toilet facilities on the Island and the Coastal Officer undertook to liaise with the Owey Representative.

The Marine Engineer advised that two new lights have been installed at Piers on Owey Island.

IC 42/23

### Gola

Eddie Joe MacAoidh welcomed the provision of fire extinguishers for an increasing island population. He also welcomed the commencement of works at Port a' Chruinn pier and recommended the utilisation of machinery to repair the road to the public toilet.

Public Lighting and a helipad were also sought by the Gola representative.

The Coastal Officer was asked to address missing ring buoys at Bunbeg and Gola.

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh expressed appreciation of toilet facilities on Gola and emphasised the importance of providing a working counter in carrying out work at Cé Tráigh na mBláthán.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh also commended provision of toilets and requested a maintenance plan for the upkeep of same.

IC 43/23

### Inishboffin

The Committee noted the Report previously circulated regarding the completion of the crane installation and the public lighting on the Island.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed appreciation for the provision of a skip on the Island.

**IC 44/23**

**Inis Caorach**

In response to a query from Mairín Uí Fhearraigh, the Roads Engineer advised of a recent meeting on the Island with Philip Rodgers regarding the provision of funding for necessary roadworks.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig and Mairín Uí Fhearraigh also requested the repair of the seawall.

**IC 45/23**

**Inis Meán**

The Coiste welcomed the Report from the Marine Engineer regarding repair of existing steps at the pier and that a further application will be submitted for funding to provide new steps at the head of the pier.

**IC 46/23**

**Inis Fraoch and Inish Coe**

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig highlighted the necessity to advance development of both of these Islands.

In response to a query from Máirín Uí Fhearraigh, the Corporate Manager advised that any nominations to represent Inishfree should be submitted to County House in advance of the Plenary Council AGM in June.

**IC 47/23**

**Village Renewal**

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh informed the Coiste of the 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme and funding available for projects to support vibrant and sustainable Island Communities.

**IC 48/23**

**Croí Conaithe**

The Coiste highlighted restrictions on the ability of Islanders to avail of funding provided by the Croí Conaithe Scheme.

The Corporate Manager advised that Vincent Cranley has been appointed as Vacant Homes Officer with responsibility for administering the Croí Conaithe Scheme.

IC 49/23

Foreshore Licences

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig and Cllr. Ó Fearraigh highlighted obstacles to the development in Burtonport and Bunbeg due to outstanding foreshore licences.

IC 50/23

Cruit Island

In response to a query from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig regarding eligibility of Cruit Island for Membership of Coiste na nOileán., the Corporate Manager advised that an application in this regard will be unsuccessful due to the bridge connection to the mainland.

IC 51/23

Masterplans and Tourism

In response to a query by Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, the Director advised that further clarity in relation to the development of Magheraroarty is awaited from the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Cllr. McGarvey commended all the positive tourism experiences provided by Island Committees on offshore Islands.

IC 52/23

Island Programme

Cllr. Gallagher recommended that the Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach of Coiste na nOileán along with senior officials meet with An Roinn to secure funding for 2024.



IC 53/23

Any other business

Cllr. McGarvey and Cllr. McClafferty requested that best wishes for a speedy recovery be conveyed to Seamus Mac Ruairí.

IC 54/23

Date of next Meeting

The Committee agreed to schedule the next meeting at 10 a.m. on the 14<sup>th</sup> November in Dungleo PSC.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**