

**MINUTES OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 IN DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

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**Members Present**

Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr Enda Bonner  
Cllr John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr Terence Slowey  
Cllr Seamus Ó Domhnaill

**Officials Present**

Michael McGarvey - A/Director of Water & Environment Services  
John Gallagher - Senior Executive Engineer, Water & Environment  
Brendan McFadden - SEE, Area Manager, Roads & Transportation  
Eamonn Brown - A/Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services  
Frank Sweeney - Area Manager, Planning Enforcement  
Eamon Boyle - Executive Engineer, Town & Village Programme  
Michael Rowsome - SSO Motor Tax

**Apologies**

Cllr Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbaig  
Charles Sweeney - Area Manager, Community Culture & Enterprise  
Damien McDermott - NRDO Engineer  
Paddy Doherty - Divisional Manager, Community Culture & Planning

**GMD 170/16      MINUTES OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016**

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the minutes of the Glenties Municipal District A.G.M held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were agreed.

**GMD 171/16**      **MINUTES OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING - 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016**

On the proposal of Cllr. Bonner, seconded by Cllr. Ó Domhnaill, the minutes of the Glenties Municipal District Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were confirmed.

**GMD 172/16**      **REPORT FROM WORKSHOP - 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016**

The Committee noted the report from the Workshop held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in relation to the 2016 Development Fund Initiative Allocation.

**GMD 173/16**      **CATHAOIRLEACH - DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Committee made a presentation to Cllr. Slowey on the occasion of his election as Cathaoirleach of the Council and Members expressed their congratulations and best wishes to Cllr Slowey.

**GMD 174/16**      **RECEPTION OF DEPUTATIONS**

On the proposal of Cllr. Slowey seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh the Committee agreed to receive deputations from both the Dolmen Centre Group and Coiste Poll an tSnámh at the next MD meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2016.

<b>Water &amp; Environment</b>
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**GMD 175/16**      **Big Donegal Clean Up**

The Committee welcomed the report circulated at the meeting and presented by the SEE regarding the success of the 'Big Donegal Clean Up' 2016.

Cllr Slowey praised the recycling centre facilities in the County and recommended that the Council initiate an 'open

day' at the Dungloe Recycling Centre in conjunction with Brysons to highlight their excellent facilities.

In response to a request from Cllr Ó Fearraigh to engage with the litter warden regarding any additional supports required to enhance his role throughout the MD & offshore Islands, the DOS Water & Environment undertook to obtain a report for the next meeting.

**GMD 176/16**      **Stop Food Waste Challenge**

Members noted the report circulated at the meeting regarding Council interaction with the Mevagh Family Resource Centre and the Inishowen Development Partnership in relation to Food Waste Awareness.

**GMD 177/16**      **Green Schools 2016 Donegal Awards**

Cllr Ó Fearraigh commended the awarding of Green Flags to schools in the County and the promotion of litter and waste minimisation strategies. Cllr Gallagher congratulated work undertaken by the Council at primary school level to encourage recycling and Environmental awareness.

**GMD 178/16**      **Pay By Weight**

The Committee highlighted the many problems posed by the introduction of Pay by Weight waste disposal regulations. Members criticised the lack of information regarding the new charging regime, the anomalies arising from the introduction of annual standing charges and the knock on effect on illegal dumping.

**GMD 179/16**      **Enforcement 2016**

Members noted the statistics in relation to (1)Fixed Penalty Notices served under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and (2) the submission of environmental complaints.

**GMD 180/16**

**Beach Awards**

The Committee welcomed the report circulated at the meeting and presented by the SEE, Water & Environment regarding the Councils retention of 13 Blue Flag and 5 Green Coast Beach Awards.

Cllr Bonner requested the Council to apply for an additional Blue Flag Beach and to prioritise Dooley for consideration and submission.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill congratulated the Environment Service on achieving the joint highest number of Blue Flag Beach Awards and requested the Council to apply for Blue Flag status for Dooley and Magheraroarty Beaches.

Cllr Slowey recommended the completion of an audit of Green Flag beaches to determine the most cost effective beach to be submitted for Blue Flag consideration.

**GMD 181/16**

**Water Safety**

Members discussed the report circulated at the meeting in relation to the provision of a full time lifeguard service at 14 beaches in the County.

Cllr Ó Fearraigh requested the Council to initiate a pilot project for the employment of Lifeguards at Magheraroarty beach.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill requested the employment of lifeguards at all Green Flag Beaches.

**GMD 182/16**

**Beach Maintenance**

Cllr Ó Domhnaill welcomed the beach maintenance report and commended the work undertaken at Killahoey.

**GMD 183/16**

**Bathing Water Quality**

Members noted the report circulated at the meeting and presented by the SEE, Water & Environment.

**GMD 184/16**      **Progress Reports - Grants**

The Committee commended the newly developed Housing reports circulated with the agenda and presented by the A/Housing Manager in relation to:

- (i)            Housing Aid for Older People Grants
- (ii)          Housing Adaptation Grants
- (iii)         Mobility Aids Grants

**GMD 185/16**      **Casual Vacancies**

The Committee discussed the progress report on casual vacancies as at 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016, circulated previously and presented by the A/Housing Manager. Members commended the enhanced detail provided in the report.

Cllr Slowey requested the Council to dispose of an SI at Maghera, Ardara on economic grounds in light of the remoteness of the property and to avoid the unit falling into disrepair.

**GMD 186/16**      **CAS Project**

The Housing Manager updated Members on the status of this project. The Committee were advised that the Donegal Parents and Friends Group are meeting the architect and that Members will be updated with a timescale of project delivery in due course.

**GMD 187/16**      **Disposal of 45 Horn Head Cottage, Dunfanaghy**

On the proposal of Cllr Ó Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Ó Fearraigh the Committee agreed to the disposal of 45 Horn Head Cottage, Dunfanaghy.

**GMD 188/16**      **Land Purchase - Social Housing**

The Housing Manager informed the Committee that submissions received in response to the Council's invitation for expressions of interest for provision of parcels of land for social housing are currently being assessed.

Cllr Ó Fearraigh & Cllr Bonner recommended that land also be sought for social housing in the Gweedore & Dungloe areas.

The Housing Manager undertook to liaise with the Senior Housing Engineer in this regard.

**GMD 189/16**      **Tenant Purchase Scheme**

In response to a query from Cllr Bonner, the Housing Manager advised the Committee that 14 no. applications have been received from Local authority tenants to buy their homes. The validation stage of the TP Scheme has been completed and the eligibility stage will commence on appointment of an approved Valuer.

**GMD 190/16**      **Housing List**

Cllr Bonner requested an updated Housing List and the Area Manager undertook to provide same.

**GMD 191/16**      **MICA**

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Domhnaill, the Housing Manager undertook to liaise with the Divisional Housing Manager regarding confirmation that Council Housing in the Glenties MD is unaffected by the presence of Mica.

Cllr Slowey requested the Council to ensure that any Housing Units sold by the Council are similarly unaffected by Mica.

**GMD 192/16**      **Voluntary Housing Creeslough**

Cllr Ó Domhnaill requested the Council to liaise with the relevant agencies to ensure that bus stop markings are clearly defined in proximity to this housing scheme.

**GMD 193/16**

**Extensions to Social Housing Units**

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Fearraigh the Housing Manager informed Members that:

- an extension has been completed at a unit in Bunbeg
- Housing Service are commencing an extension in Burtonport
- Housing Service has 2 applications on hand for consideration in 2017.

<b>Community and Enterprise</b>
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**GMD 194/16**

**Community & Enterprise Activity Report**

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda in relation to:

- (i) Donegal PPN Representation
- (ii) Donegal Age Friendly Strategy
- (iii) Ladder Project
- (iv) Joint Policing Committee

**GMD 195/16**

**Camper Facilities Provision**

The Executive Engineer (Eamon Boyle) updated the Committee and responded to Members queries regarding provision of Aire De Service points at Magheraroarty & Maghery.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill requested the tarring of the road onto the Údarás site in Magheraroarty from the end of the County Road.

Members recommended:

1. Development of a necklace of further service points extending from Falcarragh, Gweedore, Dungloe to Ardara.
2. Promotion of the service points on Irish Campervan Association Literature.

Cllr Gallagher informed the Members of a privately operated Campervan Facility in Dungloe and that a visit can be arranged if desired by the Committee.

<b>Roads and Transportation</b>
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**GMD 196/16**      **Workshop - Speed Limit Review**

The Roads Manager updated Members on the Workshop scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.

**GMD 197/16**      **Roadworks Programme 2016**

The Committee welcomed the new reporting template circulated with the agenda and presented by the Roads Manager in relation to the status of all projects on the Roadworks Programme at 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016. Cllr Ó Fearraigh highlighted additional drainage requirements in Derryconnor & an edge/step remaining at a number of entrances to houses in Ards following recent roadworks.

**GMD 198/16**      **Mulantyboyle Bridge**

The Roads Manager informed Members that this project will be substantially completed within a month.

**GMD 199/16**      **Bridges - Meenaroy**

In response to concerns expressed by the Committee, the Roads Manager undertook to liaise with the Letterkenny Roads Service regarding the necessity for warning signage.

**GMD 200/16**      **Footpaths**

In response to queries from Cllr Slowey & Cllr Ó Domhnaill regarding footpath improvements in Glenties & Falcarragh, the Roads Manager undertook to liaise with the TII.



<b>Planning &amp; Economic Development</b>
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**GMD 201/16**      **Planning Applications**

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Planning Manager regarding the increasing number of applications received in respect of the Glenties MD.

**GMD 202/16**      **Bórd Pleanála**

Members noted the notification of decisions by An Bórd Pleanála in relation to 3 no. Appeals, as circulated previously.

**GMD 203/16**      **Refusals**

Members noted the 4 no. Refusals during the period from 23th April to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016 as circulated with the agenda.

**GMD 204/16**      **Unfinished Estates**

In response to a query from Cllr Slowey regarding the malfunctioning of a pumping station at Ard Na Gréine, Ardara, the Planning Manager undertook to liaise with the Developer and to obtain an update for Members.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill also requested the Council to liaise with the Developers of unfinished estates as a matter of urgency to address outstanding health and safety concerns.

**GMD 205/16**      **Site Meetings**

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Fearraigh regarding the number of site meetings accommodated by the Planning Service since the start of the year, the Planning Manager undertook to obtain relevant statistics.

## Corporate Services

### **GMD 206/16**      **Dungloe Community Network**

Cllr Gallagher congratulated all those involved in the hosting of an Enterprise and Tourism Fair held at the Dungloe PSC and envisaged the hosting of similar events in the PSC on a regular basis.

Cllr Gallagher also highlighted the lack of transport in the Glenties MD for people engaging with the services of People First, who made a presentation at the event.

### **GMD 207/16**      **Údarás Na Gaeltachta**

Cllr Gallagher updated Members on a meeting held in Oifig an Údarás on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 between Glenties MD & Council officials to promote closer co-operation between both bodies.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill recommended that all Members attend future meetings with Údarás.

### **GMD 208/16**      **Mental Health**

Cllr Ó Fearraigh requested the Council to increase participation in the promotion of positive mental health and the dissemination of relevant contact information to sporting and voluntary organisations.

### **GMD 209/16**      **Community Groups**

Cllr Gallagher updated Members on proposals for increasing engagement with Community Groups throughout the Glenties MD and undertook to liaise with groups in Ardara and the Lower Rosses prior to the July meeting.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill recommended that meetings be held in local hotels and local venues.

**GMD 210/16**

**Workshops - Strategic Issues**

Cllr Gallagher updated the Committee on proposals to invite Senior Management and outside agencies to attend Workshops in relation to major strategic deficits in the areas of Tourism Development, Housing, Economic Development, Environmental Protection, Transportation & Infrastructural Development.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**