

**MINUTES OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10th MAY 2016 IN DUNGLOE PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

Members Present

Cllr Enda Bonner
Cllr John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh
Cllr Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbaig
Cllr Terence Slowey
Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher
Cllr Seamus Ó Domhnaill

Officials Present

John Gallagher - Senior Executive Engineer, Water & Environment
Brendan McFadden - SEE, Area Manager, Roads & Transportation
Eamonn Brown - A/Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services
Eunan Quinn - Senior Executive Planner
Charles Sweeney - Area Manager, Community Culture & Enterprise
Michael Rowsome - SSO Motor Tax

Apologies

Michael McGarvey - A/Director of Water & Environment Services

Minutes of Glenties MD & Workshop Report 12th April 2016

GMD 142/16 Minutes of Glenties MD & Workshop Report 12th April 2016

On the proposal of Cllr O Fearraigh seconded by Cllr Ó Domhnaill, the minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2016 were confirmed. The Report from the Roads Workshop held on 12th April 2016 was noted.

Water & Environment

GMD 142.1/16 Environment

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the SEE, Water & Environment in relation to the 'Big Donegal Clean Up 16' and the Tidy Towns Seminar hosted by the Council on the 18th April.

GMD 143/16 Pay By Weight

Members discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the SEE, Water & Environment regarding (i) the suite of awareness resources developed for the Council to use at a local level and (ii) the forthcoming media campaign, commencing on the 18th of May.

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Fearraigh regarding the proposed pricing structure, the SEE advised Members that each waste collector will issue a schedule of costs.

GMD 144/16 **Enforcement 2016**

The Committee noted the report circulated previously regarding environmental complaints received and enforcement activity undertaken by the Council.

GMD 145/16 **Coastal Management**

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the SEE in relation to:

- (i) Designated Bathing Areas
- (ii) Coastal Erosion
- (iii) Beach Sea Mammals
- (iv) Beach Lifeguards
- (v) Access for all Pontoon Hoist
- (vi) Public Conveniences

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Fearraigh, the SEE advised the Committee that beach lifeguards are seasonally employed at blue Flag Beaches and that any deviation from this policy will have to be considered in the context of the annual budgetary process.

GMD 146/16 **Campervan Facilities**

Cllr Ó Domhnaill requested the Council to provide an update on the provision of campervan facilities.

Corporate Services

GMD 147/16 **Deputation from The 3 Peninsula Tourism Group**

Members welcomed Sian McCann, Ryan Stewart and John McLaughlin to the meeting. A presentation was made to the Committee outlining the Tourism Groups promotion of 1 day, 3 day and 5 day tours covering the 3 Peninsulas of Malin Head, Fanad Head and Horn Head. The 3 Peninsula Tourism Group outlined their interest in working with local hotels to offer a professional itinerary that can be tailored to meet

the needs of individual groups visiting Donegal, to enhance tourism activity in North West Donegal.

The Deputation also informed Members of their efforts to secure an increased marketing budget.

Members thanked and commended the deputation for their detailed presentation.

The Deputation was requested to liaise with Cllr Gallagher in her role as chairperson of the Social, Community and Cultural SPC given the strategic countywide nature of the project.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill requested the Roads and C & E Services within the Council to liaise with the Deputation and advised the group to liaise with Fáilte Ireland regarding Wild Atlantic Way Funding.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill suggested that the cooperative strategy adopted by the 3 Peninsulas Tourism Group be used as a pilot for implementation by Tourism promotional bodies that could facilitate an extension of the project to Bloody Foreland and the Islands.

Cllr Slowey praised the excellence of the presentation and the literature circulated to the Committee.

Cllr Ó Fearriagh welcomed the additional boost to tourism as a result of imaginative strategies as outlined by the Deputation.

Community and Enterprise

GMD 148/16

Minutes of Workshop 28th April 2016

The Committee discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the C&E Manager regarding the allocation of Development Fund Initiative 2016 funding in the sum of €120,000.

On the proposal of Cllr Ó Domhnaill, seconded by Cllr Ó Fearraigh the Committee agreed the allocations of funding as listed hereunder and to defer allocation of the remaining balance of €9,300.

Project		Allocation
1	Falcarragh Tourism & Traders and DCC	€ 10,000.00
2	Pride of Place 2016	€ 1,500.00
3	Junior Achievement 2016	€ 1,000.00
4	Dunfanaghy Area Community Network & DCC	€ 8,750.00
5	Keadue Rovers FC	€ 2,500.00
6	Cruit Island Golf Club	€ 2,500.00
7	Gweedore Celtic FC Youth Academy	€ 2,500.00
8	The Creeslough View	€ 5,000.00
9	Dunfanaghy Boxing Club	€ 2,500.00
10	The Keadue Band	€ 2,500.00
11	Keadue N.S	€ 3,750.00
12	Rosses Community Dyslexia Group	€ 5,000.00
13	Dungloe GAA Club	€ 5,000.00
14	Swellfest Ltd	€ 2,500.00
15	CLG Naomh Muire	€ 2,500.00
16	Falcarragh Tourism & Traders	€ 6,000.00
17	Pobal Iascarrach, An Falcarrach	€ 3,000.00
18	Coiste Forbartha Phort Arthur	€ 8,200.00
19	Awake Tourism	€ 15,000.00
20	St. Columbas Comm Dev Group Burtonport	€ 5,000.00
21	Dungloe Community Network	€ 10,000.00
22	Mary from Dungloe Festival	€ 6,000.00
Totals		€ 110,700.00

GMD 149/16 **Dunlewey Viewing Area**

Members noted the report from Eamon Boyle, Executive Engineer circulated with the agenda in relation to proposed enhancement works to the viewing area overlooking the Poison Glen, Dunlewey.

GMD 150/16 **Playgrounds**

Members welcomed the report from Eamon Boyle, EE circulated previously regarding ongoing maintenance works at playgrounds throughout the Municipal District.

GMD 151/16 **Aire De Service Points**

The Committee welcomed the proposed provision of Aire De Service points at Maghery and Magheroarty as outlined in the report circulated with the agenda.

GMD 152/16 **Gaeltacht Service Towns**

The Committee noted the report circulated with the agenda.

GMD 153/16 **EU Unit Update**

Members noted the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the C & E Manager, who responded to queries in relation to the Cool Route Project.

Cllr MacGiolla Easbuig left the meeting at this stage.

Roads and Transportation

GMD 154/16

Mulantyboyle Bridge

The Committee welcomed the verbal update from the Roads Manager.

GMD 155/16

Roadworks Programme

The Roads Manager updated Members on the progress of the Roadworks Programme and Cllr Ó Fearraigh commended the Road Service on the high standard of work carried out.

GMD 156/16

Road Safety - Muckish Dunlewey Junction

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Domhnaill, regarding the lack of progress in relation to road safety concerns, the Roads manager advised that he will revert to Road Design in this regard for a progress update.

GMD 157/16

Drainage

The Roads Manager requested Members to submit a list of roads that they are aware of, on which there are drainage problems.

GMD 158/16

Maintenance

The Committee highlighted the following issues for the attention of the Roads Service:

- Hedge cutting at Breaghy, Marblehill
- Falcarragh Footpath - tripping hazards
- Glengesh Lay Bys
- Loughcrillen Road, Nairn side of Glenties
- Hillhead Road, Ardara
- Roadway near Dom Byrnes Cycyle Shop, Ardara
- Chapel Road, Dungloe

Planning Service

GMD 159/16 **Planning Applications**

The Committee noted the statistical report circulated with the agenda in relation to the volume and status of applications submitted during the period from 1st January to 31st March 2016.

GMD 160/16 **Appeals**

Members noted the 4 no. Appeals received in the Glenties MD during the period from 2nd April to 22nd April 2016 as circulated previously.

GMD 161/16 **Refusals**

Members noted the 2 no. Refusals issued during the period from 2nd April to 22nd April 2016 as circulated with the agenda.

GMD 162/16 **County Development Plan**

The Senior Executive Planner updated Members on

- (i) Timelines in relation to the review of the County Development Plan
- (ii) Local Area Plans
- (iii) Planning involvement in both the Hericoast and Improve EU Projects.

GMD 163/16 **MD Planning Service**

Cllr Bonner expressed frustration at the ongoing difficulty in arranging a site visit with the local planner.

Cllr Ó Domhnaill highlighted his concern at the increasing number of refusals in the Glenties MD, difficulty in communicating with planners and an apparent lack of decision making consistency in terms of applications.

The Senior Executive Planner outlined ongoing recruitment in the context of the workforce plan, operational constraints as a consequence of short term absences and the prioritisation of statutory functions. Members were advised that on completion of the recruitment process, that the planning service proposes the scheduling of dedicated resources for Members and the public locally.

GMD 164/16

Local Area Plans

Cllr Gallagher complemented Mary McBride, Executive Planner for the level of interaction with local communities in the compilation of local area plans.

Corporate & Housing

GMD 165/16

Deputation Coiste Forbairt Dhún Lúiche

The Committee welcomed the following Members of the deputation from Coiste Forbairt Dhún Lúiche to the meeting; Grace Doherty, Josephine Kelly, Dermot Gallagher, Paddy Gallagher, Neil Roarty & Paul Roarty.

The Deputation made a detailed informative presentation and circulated a report to Members outlining the work carried out to date and progress on Errigal Path.

The Coiste thanked Charles Sweeney and Roisin McBride for their efforts and assistance with the Ascent Project, and their leadership of the Errigal Stakeholders Group.

The Deputation highlighted a number of issues requiring assistance as detailed hereunder:

- Invasive Species and the necessity to halt the spread of rhododendron
- Lack of lighting infrastructure

- Road Safety, speed limits, hedge cutting, signage and footpath requirements in Dunlewey.
- Lack of a safe viewing area
- Environmental clean up requirements.

The Committee detailed their vision for development of a Visitor Hub in conjunction with the preparation of a long-term sustainable local area plan.

Members commended the excellence of the presentation. On the proposal of Cllr Slowey, second by Cllr Ó Domhnaill the Committee recommended that the relevant services liaise and respond to the Deputation in respect of Environmental, Roads and Planning issues highlighted in the presentation.

GMD 166/16

Social Housing Programme

The Committee noted the reports on Housing Aid for Older People, Housing Adaptations and Mobility Aids Grants circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager. Cllr Slowey commended the additional information provided with the progress report on Social housing as at the 3rd May 2016, and also requested the addition of the SI at Carrickatlieve to the report.

The Housing Manger undertook to investigate issues raised by Members regarding:

- (i) Cottage Row - Dunfanaghy
- (ii) Muckish Terrace - Creeslough
- (iii) Back Lane - Ballina Estate

GMD 167/16

Casual Vacancies

Members discussed the report circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing Manager in relation to Casual Vacancies as at the 3rd May 2016.

In response to a query from Cllr Ó Fearraigh regarding a casual vacancy in Dunfanaghy the Housing Manager informed Members that a Workshop will be convened to discuss long term voids and derelict vacancies.

GMD 168/16

Land Purchase

The Housing Manager updated the Committee in relation to the Councils recent public advertisement regarding land purchase in the Glenties MD.

GMD 169/16

Capital Acquisition Scheme

The Housing Manager updated Members in relation to the Group scheme at Meenmore, Dungloe. It is anticipated that the County Donegal Parents and Friends group will appoint architects in early June to progress the design and planning application for the scheme.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING