

**Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall**

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,  
Aras an Chontae,  
Leifear.

19ú Bealtaine, 2020

**Fógra Cruinnithe**

Beidh Cruinniú Speisiúlta de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt 26ú Bealtaine, 2020, ag 11.30 r.n. in Ionad Serbhísí Pobail, Bhaile Dhún na nGall.**

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS DÚN NA nGALL

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú speisiúlta seo Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall. Tá Clar an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

Padraig O'Sirin  
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

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**Municipal District of Donegal**

Office of Meetings Administrator,  
County House,  
Lifford.

19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

A Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2020, at 11.30 a.m. in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal Public Services Centre, Donegal Town.**

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend this special meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal. The Agenda is attached.

Yours sincerely,

Pauric Sheerin  
Meetings Administrator

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## AGENDA

1. Consideration of Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.
2. Consideration of Minutes of Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020.
3. **Consideration of Date and Venue for Annual General Meeting**  
**Proposed Date: Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 11.30 am**  
**Proposed Venue: St. John Bosco Centre, Donegal Town.**
4. **Consideration of Proposed Agenda for Annual General Meeting:**
  - 4.1 Election of Cathaoirleach of Municipal District of Donegal
  - 4.2 Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach of Municipal District of Donegal
  - 4.3 Consideration of dates and venue for further MD meetings up to the end of 2020

**From:** NOEL JORDAN (COUNCILLOR)  
**Sent:** Tuesday 19 May 2020 14:50  
**To:** PAURIC SHEERIN (DONEGAL)  
**Subject:** Re: Request for a Special Meeting

Mr P Sheerin,  
Meetings Administrator & Area Manager,  
Donegal Municipal District.

19/5/2020

Re Request for Special MD meeting

Dear Mr. Sheerin,

In line with Standing Order No 4, I wish to request a Special meeting of the Donegal MD, to deal with statutory business and to agree a date and venue for our AGM in June 2020 and subsequent MD meetings that are scheduled up to the end of 2020. Due to the ongoing restrictions in terms of meetings etc, this meeting will only be attended by a number of Members, to achieve a quorum on the day.

I would be grateful if you could facilitate this meeting on Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 11.30am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber at the Donegal Public Services Centre. Can you make arrangements to issue the agenda and notifications in line with the requirements of Standing Orders.

Cllr Noel Jordan.

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD AT  
11.30 A. M. ON TUESDAY THE 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020 IN THE PETER KENNEDY  
CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE, DONEGAL**

**MDD/036/20 MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr Noel Jordan, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr Michéal Naughton  
Cllr Niamh Kennedy  
Cllr Tom Conaghan  
Cllr Michael McMahon  
Cllr Barry Sweeny

**MDD/037/20 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal  
Mr. Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal  
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation  
Ms. Gillian Dempsey, Assistant Engineer, Road Design  
Ms. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer, Environment  
Section  
Mr. Cahal Moss, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design  
Ms. Aideen Quinn, Executive Planner, Planning  
Ms. Brenda Hegarty, Assistant Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise  
Office  
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate  
Services  
Ms. Caroline Britton, A/Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

**MDD/038/20 Votes of Sympathy**

A vote of sympathy was passed in respect of the following recent deaths:-

The late Mary Rose Gallagher, Ballycashel, Ardara (Mother of Gerry Gallagher, Water and Environment Section, Donegal PSC and mother in law of Jacqueline Gallagher Water and Environment Section, Donegal PSC)

The late Terry O' Doherty, Conneyburrow Road, Lifford (Father of Aidan O'Doherty retired Colleague, National Roads Office, Donegal PSC)

The late Hughie Gallagher, Curraghmore, Ballybofey, father of John Gallagher, Waterworks Caretaker, Ballyshannon

The late Patrick (Patsy) Cassidy, Main Street, Ballyshannon

The late Eilish Conlon, Townparks, Raphoe (sister of Anne Marie Conlon, Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services, Lifford)

**MDD/039/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**

Subject to the following amendments under:-

**Section MDD/026/20** – Footpath Works – amend the sentence ‘Cllr Sweeny advised a review of the (“footpath” – delete) (replace with “road”) repair works outside the Local Hands Shop in Ballyshannon’

**Section MDD/031/20** – Discussion on investigating the junction known local as Cunningham’s in Killybegs – amend the sentence ‘M Sweeney informed Members that the matter (“had been” – delete) (replace with “would be) referred to the Road Design Office for review as the wider situation at this location needs to be taken into account due to gradient, parking and a desirable one-way-system’

**Section MDD/032/20** – Discussion on call for Irish Water to justify connection fees – amend the sentence ‘On the proposal of Cllr (“Kennedy” – delete) (replace with “Sweeny”), seconded by Cllr (“Jordan” – delete) (replace with “Naughton”) the following motion was adopted’

On the proposal of Cllr Conaghan, seconded by Cllr Sweeny, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were confirmed.

**MDD/040/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP (1<sup>ST</sup>) OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy seconded by Cllr McMahon, the Minutes of the Workshop (1<sup>st</sup>) of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were confirmed.

**MDD/041/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP (2<sup>ND</sup>) OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**

On the proposal of Cllr Naughton seconded by Cllr Conaghan, the Minutes of the Workshop (2<sup>nd</sup>) of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were confirmed.

**MDD/042/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**

On the proposal of Cllr Conaghan seconded by Cllr McMahon, the Minutes of the Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were confirmed.

## **MDD/043/20 LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

On behalf of the Donegal MD, the Cathaoirleach congratulated Cllr Naughton on his recent election to the role of President of the Ladies Gaelic Football Association. Cllr Jordan acknowledged the achievement and wished him well in the new position.

## **MDD/044/20 HOUSING CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT**

### **HOUSING SERVICES**

#### **Progress reports on Casual Vacancies, Grants, Loans, Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016, Housing Capital Programme, Approved Housing Bodies Development, Housing Assistance Payments/Private Rented Inspections, Housing Need and Lease & Repair Scheme**

Members noted the update reports as presented by Mr Sheerin. Mr Sheerin advised that in terms of the casual vacancies; vacant properties in Donegal Town, Killybegs and Ballyshannon have been batched together and tender documents are currently being prepared to obtain quotations for fabric upgrade works. Other properties within this list will require further review. Also during 2019, 3 additional properties were procured in Donegal Town, Killybegs and Bundoran and these houses will be available for allocation in the near future.

Mr Sheerin alluded to previous discussions regarding changes to the housing grants process and advised that a new standardised costing document has been prepared, which is in line with market costs. This document will go to the plenary meeting in March for approval. Additionally, the Department requires each local authority to publicise a list of contractors available to carry out works under the Grant Schemes.

Mr P Sheerin further advised that the 9 new houses in Killybegs comprising of 4 x 3 bed and 5 x 2 bed are nearing completion. Works are progressing well on water and utilities. It is anticipated that within the next 2 weeks the snagging process will commence and thereafter allocations will be carried out. It is projected that the new Donegal Town houses are due for completion in quarter 3 of 2020.

Over the coming months, Mr P Sheerin informed the Members that the number of private rented inspections will increase as additional technical staff have been appointed to assist with the process.

Under the Lease & Repair and Buy and Renew Schemes, initiatives are being considered to combat dereliction and create regeneration in the centre of towns and villages.

### **Killybegs Housing Scheme**

Cllr Kennedy commended the standard of new houses being developed in Killybegs and queried if the houses adjacent to the new development could be washed and, if possible, painted. Mr Sheerin advised that the Housing Department are conscious of this and advised there is currently an ongoing painting programme.

## **MDD/045/20 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT**

### **Fintra Bridge & Approach Road Realignment**

Ms Dempsey delivered an update presentation on the Fintra Bridge and approach road realignment project. Ms Dempsey advised that four options were originally proposed and scored using a multi-criteria analysis, with Option No. 1 with the addition of the cycle path and footway identified as the most favourable route. As the Department has provided funding to progress the scheme to the publication of tender documents, it is anticipated the Part VIII will be published in April 2020.

The members thanked Ms Dempsey for the presentation and noted the importance of this project. On the proposal of Cllr Conaghan seconded by Cllr Sweeny, it was agreed to commence the Part VIII process.

### **2020 Road Works Programme Status Report**

Members noted the update report on the 2020 Road Works Programme circulated with the Agenda as presented by Mr M Sweeney. Mr Sweeney advised that due to the very wet conditions during February, the outdoor staff have been busy with drainage works.

### **Follow up Issues from previous meeting**

Mr M Sweeney provided an update, which had been previously circulated by e-mail, on the follow up issues from the February meeting and were dealt with as follows:-

- In order to discuss the Parking Byelaws for Donegal Town and in particular the Bosco Car Park, the Parking Section have asked if a workshop could be arranged with the Members to consider and review the paid parking operations within Donegal County Council i.e. Parking Bye-Laws. It was agreed a workshop will be arranged for 9am on 14th April 2020 in advance of the next MD meeting.
- Road Design confirmed that they intend to install traffic counters within Drumrooske Estate to determine the traffic volume and speed. The results will assist with the design of any traffic calming measures.

## Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Donegal on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- The signage at Cavangarden has been reviewed with the National Roads Office and all the advanced junction ahead signage is in place but it was noted that one of the junction delineation posts is missing at the junction so arrangements are being made to have this replaced.
- The Mullinasole junction has been referred to Road Design on 21.02.20 to consider and advise.
- Litter on the N15 was referred to the litter warden on 21.02.20 who has followed up on the matter.
- The Area Engineer will liaise with Cllr Jordan prior to commencing further footpath repair works in Mountcharles. It was noted that as the footpath repair funding is limited it is primarily used to remove tripping hazards.
- Where possible, the repairs to footpaths in Bundoran will be piped rather than 'channelled'.
- The area outside the Local Hands Shop in Ballyshannon referred to Water Services / Irish Water on 21.02.20 as the repair works that were carried out were as a result of a water main burst.
- The Ballyshannon pothole repair requests have been passed on to the Area Engineer.
- Land searches are currently underway to identify the various landowners along High Road in Kilcar.
- Contact has been made with the landowners on Cassansound Road. One landowner has responded and we are in discussions with the final landowner regarding the dedication form.
- The National Roads Office has indicated that they expect the resurfacing works on Killaghtee Road to commence in June 2020.
- The National Roads Office has advised that lining at the Doonan and Tullyearl Roundabouts are on the list of works to be done along with many other locations on the national routes within the County. The National Roads Office are currently waiting on a programme from the lining contractor for the delivery of these works, however, lining works are not expected to commence until April.
- Contact was recently made with the Roads Office in Leitrim County Council regarding the Lennox Bridge. They have



advised that in October 2019 Specific Grant Funding was sought from the Department of Transport to replace the bridge with an off-line bridge structure and 380m of road realignment, however, this funding request was not approved. Other options are currently being considered to help address the number of accidents at this location.

- An email has been sent to Road Design on the 06.03.20 asking them to review Cunningham's Junction, Killybegs with regard to vehicular and pedestrian movements and advise on possible improvement works.

### **Sminver Bridge**

Having reviewed the criteria for the type of works that are eligible to be carried out under a Community Involvement Schemes (CIS), Mr Sweeney advised the proposal to realign the road adjacent to Sminver Bridge could be done as a CIS project if an application was received and all the affected landowners were willing to donate the land necessary to facilitate the road realignment works and meet the criteria regarding monetary contribution and or works in lieu. Mr Sweeney further advised that monetary contribution only, is 15% of cost of the works. Works in lieu only, is 30% of the cost of the works. (Land costs can be offset against this amount). A combination of both of monetary and works, a rate is set on a pro rata basis (between 15% and 30%).

### **Emergency Flood Relief Works in Donegal Town**

Mr Sweeney provided an update on the Emergency Flood Relief Works in Donegal Town. Works on the removal of trees along the River Eske between Clareden Drive and Water Street Bridge are at an advanced stage. The culvert replacement works at Brookfield is scheduled to commence in the near future but will be dependent on water levels. In-river works i.e. repairing the wall along Castle Street and installation of non return valves are scheduled for June to August.

### **2020 Bridge Strengthening Priority List**

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the two priority bridges, namely Bridge 65 Beavan / Shalvey Bridge and Bridge 5544 were agreed to be strengthened under the 2020 Bridge Strengthening Programme.

### **Killybegs and Donegal One-Way System**

In relation to the Killybegs and Donegal One-Way Systems, it was agreed to proceed as proposed at the workshop held earlier.

### **Ballyshannon**

Cllr Sweeney sought an update on the progress of the ramps on Tirconnell Street and advised that the area around a number of the manholes and water metres require re-grouting. Cllr Sweeney further

advised that the Rock area is experiencing excess water cascading through the rock. Mr Sweeney agreed to discuss ramp, manholes and the excess water issue at the Rock with the Area Engineer.

### **Higginstown**

Cllr Sweeny commended the work carried out at Higginstown and queried if there was an option to increase the width at a section that is quiet narrow. Mr Sweeney advised the Higginstown scheme is on the 2020 schedule and this can be considered.

### **Slow Zones**

Cllr Sweeny asked to consider erecting slow zones at Ballyure Lane, Knather Road, Abbeylands and Parkhill. In response to same, Mr Sweeney informed Members that 'slow zones' require the introduction of Bye-laws but consideration could be given to erecting 'Go Mall' signage at these locations.

### **Bundoran Bridge**

Cllr McMahon advised that the upstream side of the bridge beside the Tourist Office in Bundoran has ivy and a tree growing out of the structure. Mr Sweeney agreed to discuss same with the Area Engineer.

### **Rossview**

Cllr McMahon asked that signage at Rossview is reviewed and made reference to an accident at the junction recently. Mr Sweeney agreed to discuss same with the Area Engineer.

### **Remedial Works**

Cllr McMahon commended the recent footpath works in Bundoran and the upgrade works adjacent to Finner Graveyard, where a TUS scheme and the Council had completed the works.

### **Pettigo & Drimarone**

Cllr Naughton sought an update on the erection of the safety barrier on the Pettigo Road and the removal of the tree in the River Termon in Pettigo. Cllr Naughton queried if traffic management arrangements will be put in place for the works at Drimarone. Mr Sweeney agreed to seek an update from the Area Engineer regarding the safety barrier and the tree in the River Termon. Mr Sweeney further advised that a traffic management plan is in place for the works at Drimarone.

### **Bosco Centre Car Parking**

Cllr Jordan welcomed the Parking Workshop scheduled to be held in advance of the next MD meeting and queried if there is a possible solution to the car parking issue at the Bosco Centre as cars are currently parking on both sides of the road. It was suggested as an interim measure, the Council provide insurance cover. Cllr Conaghan informed the meeting he had attended the Bosco Centre

AGM last week and has been appointed to the role of Chairperson. A meeting has been arranged to take place tonight and these issues will be discussed. Cllr Conaghan agreed to report back to Cllr Jordan and Mr Sweeney following the meeting. Cllr Jordan congratulated Cllr Conaghan and advised that the Council would look forward to any progress that can be made on this issue.

### **Donegal Pier**

Cllr Jordan referred to a motion he had brought forward in 2017 regarding the Donegal Pier. Cllr Jordan wished to commend the Marine Section on the commencement of the works at Donegal Pier. It was noted that these improvement works will assist all those who use the Pier for various activities.

## **MDD/046/20 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT**

Ms B Hegarty, Local Enterprise Office was in attendance to represent the Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services Directorate. Members noted the reports as circulated with the agenda dealing with the following updates;-

1. Economic Development Unit
2. Tourism Unit
3. Research & Policy Unit
4. Local Enterprise Office
5. Information Systems
6. Emergency Services

A number of comments/queries were dealt with as follows;-

### **Concierge Service**

Cllr Kennedy welcomed the concierge service in Letterkenny as a great initiative and submitted it would be of benefit if same could be brought to the other 4 Municipal Districts.

### **Development Contributions Scheme**

Cllr Kennedy submitted that the Development Contribution Scheme (DCS) is raised as an issue for small businesses seeking to develop and queried if this scheme could be reviewed. In response to same Mr Martin informed Members that the current scheme was adopted by Members in 2016 and runs to the end of 2021. He agreed that a balance needs to be struck which would also include enough incentive for businesses to start up. Members noted that the preparatory work on a new DCS would commence in 2021 and would come to Members for consideration in due course.

### **Emergency Services**

Cllr McMahon paid huge tribute to the Fire Service for their work in Bundoran in the recent storm, who worked in co-operation, with

McGurran Construction to prevent large scale damage to property. He asked that his comments be communicated to the Chief Fire Officer in this regard. He also submitted that the professional work of the crews was a testament to them and a reminder of the importance of separate Fire Stations and Crews for each of the towns of Bundoran and Ballyshannon. Cllr Sweeny concurred with the comments.

#### **Local Enterprise Week**

Cllr Sweeny congratulated all involved in the Local Enterprise Week submitting that a lot of great events were held.

#### **Corona Virus – Covid 19**

Mr Martin referring to the Covid 19 virus advised that the Chief Executive has recently written to Members in respect of the current position. He submitted that Business Continuity is one of the considerations for the Council and in particular that critical services have to be maintained e.g. life saving services. He stressed the importance of all of us listening to and taking heed of the advice. He also submitted it is important to lead by example eg. hand hygiene etc. He also confirmed that further communications would issue as the situation emerges.

### **MDD/047/20 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT**

Ms Bogan presented the update reports for the Environment Section, as circulated with the Agenda dealing with the following matters:-

- Waste and Litter Management
  - #Big Donegal Clean Up '20
  - Environment Grants for Community Groups
  - Waste Recycling Talks
- Coastal Management
  - Coastal Storm Damage
  - Rossnowlagh Marram Grass Planting

#### **Matters arising from previous meeting.**

Ms Bogan briefed Members in relation to the follow ups from the previous meeting as follows;-

**'Yellow Bags'** – Ms Bogan informed Members that the Waste Byelaws are currently being drafted and that the retention of the 'yellow bags' for disposing of waste could be considered by the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

**Closures of Bundoran Beach** – Ms Bogan informed Members that a working group has been established with a view to preventing further closures of Bundoran Beach.

**Pumphouse at Bundoran** – Ms Bogan informed Members that the comments in relation to the pump house at Bundoran had been referred to Irish Water.

**Cameras at Recycling Banks** – Ms Bogan informed Members that there are cameras installed at the 2 recycling sites in Bundoran and also one in Ballyshannon with a view to detecting littering/illegal dumping at these sites.

### **Other Environment Issues**

#### **Grants for Community Groups**

In response to a query from Cllr Naughton regarding grants for Tidy Towns/Community Groups Ms Bogan briefed Members in relation to the grants available and also in relation to the 'grants pack'. She also confirmed she would e-mail the application forms to Members.

#### **Hazardous Waste Collections**

Cllr M Naughton queried if there would be collection days for Waste Paint etc. as previously requested. In response to same Ms Bogan informed Members that these collections will be finalised in the coming weeks and that dates and locations will be confirmed in due course.

#### **WEE Collections**

In response to a request from Cllr McMahon for a WEE collection to be arranged for Bundoran, Ms Bogan agreed to note same for consideration when the collections are being arranged for 2020.

#### **Road Side Litter**

Cllr Kennedy referred to road side litter and noted that a lot of the litter is food trays and drinks containers. She requested that the Environment Section write to the Road Hauliers Association to bring to the attention of truck drivers the effect of this litter. In response to same Ms Bogan advised Members that the section would explore issuing a letter but noted the difficulty with targeting a particular group for same.

#### **Request to invite the Director of Water & Environment Services to attend the next MD meeting.**

Cllr Naughton referred to previous discussion in relation to their request for a representative of Irish Water to attend MD meetings and expressed his frustration that this matter has not progressed since. He referred to ongoing issues that Members want to engage with Irish Water on including issues at Laghey. He proposed that the Director of Water & Environment Services be invited to attend the next MD meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr McMahon. Members noted that the discussion from previous meetings that the attendance of a representative of Irish Water at

meetings with Members had been raised. Cllr Jordan confirmed that he had raised this issue at the last meeting of the Water & Environment SPC with the Director who advised that he would revert to Members in relation to the request at the next meeting of the SPC.

### **Bottle and Can Recycling in Co Monaghan**

In response to a request from Cllr McMahon to explore the provision of a similar system of encouraging recycling as has been introduced by Supervalu in Monaghan, Ms Bogan advised she would investigate same, noting that the Department are looking at this nationally.

Cllr McMahon submitted that the large companies who produce the products that are contributing to litter should be picking up the costs of dealing with same. In response to same, Ms S Bogan submitted that it is the individual who litters that ultimately responsible.

### **Retirement of Charlie Travers, Water Inspector**

Cllr McMahon paid tribute to Mr Charlie Travers, Water Inspector, Bundoran who is due to retire and who has given over 40 years of hard work and dedication to the Water Service. He submitted that Mr Travers needs to be commended for his great service. In response to same Ms Bogan informed Members that she would pass this onto Mr Travers.

## **MDD/048/20 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SERVICES**

### **Community Development**

Ms A Quinn, Executive Planner, Community Development & Planning Services was in attendance to represent the Community Development and Planning Services. Members welcomed Ms. Quinn to the meeting. Members noted the Community Development reports as circulated with the agenda dealing with the following;-

- Development Fund Initiative 2020 – Adoption of Allocations  
On the proposal of Cllr Naughton, seconded by Cllr Sweeny the DFI Allocations for 2020 as circulated with the Agenda and discussed at the Workshop on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 was adopted.
- Town & Village Renewal – Donegal MD
  - Mountcharles
  - Killybegs
  - Donegal Town
- Sliabh Liag Development Project
- Playground Maintenance 2019/2020
- Peace IV Projects

- Bruckless
- Rossnowlagh
- Leader/RDP Programme 2014-2020
- PPN Network
- Yours Project

### **Village Renewal**

In response to a query from Cllr Naughton if funding will become available for Town & Village renewal in the smaller towns such as Ballintra, Laghey, Frosses and Inver, Ms Quinn informed Members that she would refer this to Mr Doherty, Divisional Manager, Community Development for clarification.

### **Planning Services**

Ms Quinn presented the Planning Service Reports as circulated with the Agenda dealing with the following:-

- Development Applications
- Enforcement
- Planning Clinics – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020.
- Central Planning Unit
  - Letterkenny Local Area Plan
  - Buncrana Local Area Plan
  - Bundoran
- County Development Plan 2018-2024
  - Wind Energy;and Ten-T Priority Roads Project
  - Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy; and Two-Year Review
  - Plenary Workshop on Foot of Councillor C Brogan Motion
  - Town & Village Renewal Programme (2016) projects
- Regeneration & Development Team
- Planning Services Update
- Further Information

Ms Quinn drew particular attention to the new staffing arrangements for Planning as set out in the Planning Services Update circulated to Members. Ms Quinn informed Members that while there are a number of reassignments within the planning service, there would be a handover of files cases between staff to ensure continuity.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with as follows;-

### **Planning Enforcement**

Cllr Naughton submitted that in circumstances where there is engagement with the Planning Service to try to deal with compliance

issues and in particular for businesses that are trying to survive, that, enforcement actions should not be pursued.

**MDD/049/20 Schedule of Municipal District Works 2020**

Mr Sheerin briefed Members in relation to the Schedule of Municipal District Works as circulated with the Agenda and referenced the suite of documents sent to Members in advance of the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Conaghan seconded by Cllr McMahon, Members resolved “that the Municipal District of Donegal hereby adopts for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, the Schedule of Municipal District Works as set out in the schedules presented at the Municipal District meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 as required by Section 103A of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and in line with requirements of Circular LG27/2014/Fin21/2014.”

**MDD/050/20 DISCUSSION ON REQUEST TO WRITE TO NCT TO COMPLAIN AT THE LENGTH OF TIME FOR A NEW LIFT CAUSING DELAYS**

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan the following motion was adopted;-

*" That this MD write to the National Car Tests Centre to complain at the length of time for a new lift for the Donegal Town testing centre, this is causing a backlog and a massive inconvenience to the public and frustration on the test centre personnel."*

Members were given a response to the motion by the Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services.

In speaking to her motion, Cllr Kennedy referred to ongoing issue with the car lifts in the NCT Centres and the serious frustration, inconvenience and cost it is causing for the public. She submitted that the NCT had known about the issue with the lifts for some time and that car owners are expected to pay the fee of €55.00 for an NCT test which cannot be fully completed by the test centres due to the lifts not being operable. She also queried implications for insurance and other legal requirements for not having a valid NCT test. She further referred to the lack of action by the Road Safety Authority who is in charge of this service but who have remained silent on this issue. She submitted that the urgency of this matter being remedied must be communicated to the NCT.

Cllr Jordan in seconding the motion submitted he was happy to support the motion and noted that not only was there an issue with the waiting time to get a test completed but also the additional costs this is putting on motorists by having to come back a second time to complete a test.



Mr Sheerin confirmed that a letter would issue to the NCT on behalf of the Municipal District.

**MDD/051/20 DISCUSSION ON REQUEST TO INVITE DSP REPRESENTATIVE TO A WORKSHOP**

On the proposal of Cllr McMahon, seconded by Cllr Sweeny the following motion was adopted;-

*"That this Municipal District invites a representative of the Dept of Employment Affairs and Social Protection to a workshop to discuss the operation of Community Employment Schemes in this Municipal District."*

Members were given a response to the motion by the Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services.

In speaking to his motion, Cllr McMahon submitted that the TUS and RSS schemes are of great importance to towns and areas and are not adequately recognised for the works that they undertake on behalf of groups/communities. He submitted that the purpose of these schemes was to get participants back to work and also noted the importance of the schemes from a mental health point of view. He referred to the training requirements that participants must undertake in particular from a Health & Safety perspective. He submitted that as participants may only stay on a TUS Scheme for a 12 month period, when the training and induction time is taken into account it would make more sense to extend these schemes for a longer period with his personal view being that a minimum period of 2 years would be much more suitable. He further submitted that participants should be paid a higher remuneration to reflect the significant contribution that they make to clubs and towns etc. This he submitted would make it more attractive for participants and increase participation in these important schemes. He also expressed concern that Supervisors on these schemes are only allowed a monthly site visit and that this leaves much more onus on volunteers in clubs and groups to assist with the schemes. He asked that a representative of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection be invited to a workshop of the MD of Donegal in order to discuss these matters.

Cllr Sweeny in seconding the motion submitted he was happy to support the motion and felt that the TUS and RSS schemes are very important for both participants and also the communities. He submitted that he felt the schemes are undervalued and that schemes should not be used to do core work and that a review nationally should be undertaken to make the schemes more attractive for participants and also that there is adequate support for volunteers who are assisting with keeping schemes going.

Cllr Jordan expressed his support for the motion agreeing that participants are only bedding into their roles when their participation comes to an end. He submitted that he has already raised this matter in respect of RSS and TUS schemes.

Cllr Kennedy also expressed her support for the motion noting that the schemes both RSS and TUS are keeping clubs and various groups together.

Mr Sheerin informed Members that while the schemes are governed nationally he would check who in the Department would be the most appropriate representative to invite to a workshop for a discussion on the schemes.

**MDD/052/20 Date of next Meeting/Workshops**

**Members noted the next meeting would be held at 11.30 am on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020 as per Standing Orders.**

**Members also noted that a workshop had been agreed on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 commencing at 10.00 am to discuss the Sliabh Liag Bye-laws.**

**Members further agreed that a Roads workshop on Parking Bye-laws would be held at 9.00 am on the 14th April 2020.**

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

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**Area Manager**  
**Municipal District of Donegal**

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**Cathaoirleach**  
**Municipal District of Donegal**

**Minutes of Workshop of Municipal District of Donegal held on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal Public Services Centre, Donegal commencing at 9.00 a.m.**

**Members Present:**

Cllr Noel Jordan, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr Barry Sweeny  
Cllr Micháel Naughton  
Cllr Tom Conaghan,  
Cllr Niamh Kennedy  
Cllr Michael McMahon

**Officials in Attendance:**

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal  
Mr. Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal  
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal  
Mr. Paddy Mullen, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Building Control & Taking in Charge  
Ms. Aideen Quinn, Executive Planner, Planning Section  
Mr. Michael Canning, Executive Engineer, Road Design  
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services  
Ms. Caroline Britton, A/Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

**Minutes**

**Community Development & Planning Services**

**1. Building Control and Taking in Charge**

Mr. Paddy Mullen, A/Senior Executive Engineer , Building Control & Taking in Charge presented in detail the report circulated with the Agenda dealing with the following;-

- Building Control Activity
  - Commencement Notices and types of Commencement Notices
  - Disability Access certificates
  - Dispensation/Relaxation applications
- Taking in Charge/Unfinished Estates
  - Number of estates
  - Multi-Annual Developer Provided Waters Services Infrastructure Resolution Programme 2019-2021
  - Donegal MD Estates with Taking in Charge Applications – Advertised (16)
  - Donegal MD Estates with Taking in Charge Application – not yet advertised (24)

A number of comments/queries in relation to the Building Control and Taking in Charge/Unfinished Estates were dealt with at the workshop. Mr. Mullen confirmed that he would send the application form to Cllr McMahon so that same could be completed and submitted for the estate at Sea Road, Bundoran. Members also noted that he would come back at a later stage to discuss a priority list of take overs subject to funding being allocated for same.

## **Roads / Transportation**

### **2. Bridge Street, Killybegs One-Way System**

Mr. Michael Canning, Executive Engineer, Road Design made a detailed presentation to Members in relation to the Bridge Street, Killybegs proposed one-way system. The presentation dealt with the reasons for the one-way system, maps and drawings of same, and submissions received in respect of the Part VIII public consultation. A number of comments/queries were dealt with at the workshop. In conclusion it was recommended that the Road Design Office consider the implications of the one-way going in the opposite direction than what had been proposed. It was also recommended that consideration be given to the one-way system proceeding on the condition that a car park is provided at the Council Yard in Killybegs in advance of same proceeding to alleviate the concerns of the businesses/locals. The matter is to be discussed again at the April 2020 MD meeting. It was noted that Members are in favour of a one-way system for Bridge Street in the interests of safety and traffic flow.

### **3. Donegal Town One-Way System**

Mr. Michael Canning made a detailed presentation to Members in relation to the proposed one-way system for Donegal Town as discussed at a previous workshop. A number of comments/queries were dealt with at the workshop. It was proposed that a public information meeting be held in Donegal Town in the coming weeks to provide clarity to interested parties prior to bringing the matter to a Municipal District meeting for consideration. It was noted that the information meeting would be arranged in the coming weeks.

### **4. Proposed bridge strengthening priority list 2020 for MD Donegal**

Mr. M Sweeney circulated a report on the proposed 2020 bridge strengthening priority list for the Municipal District of Donegal. Members noted that there is a limited budget of €46,500.00 for these works and submitted that the top two bridges on the priority list could be completed in 2020. Members noted the top five bridges are prioritised as follows;

1. Bridge 65 Beavan / Shalvey Bridge
2. Bridge 5544 Bridge
3. Bridge 5974 Seesharkey
4. Bridge 258 Coolum
5. Bridge 137 Ballymacahill

A number of comments / queries in relation to bridges were dealt with at the workshop. It was noted that the priority list would be considered at the MD meeting immediately following the workshop for formal approval.

**This concluded the business of the Workshop.**

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**Area Manager,  
Municipal District of Donegal**

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**Cathaoirleach,  
Municipal District of Donegal**