

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE DHUN NA nGALL

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Aras an Chontae
LEIFEAR
18 Meitheamh 2013

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú Bliantúil de Chomhairle Chontae Dhún na nGall ar siúl Dé Luain, 24 Meitheamh, 2013, **ag 5.00 i.n. in Áras an Chontae, Leifear.**

DO GACH BHALL DEN CHOMHAIRLE

A Chara

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú seo den Chomhairle. Tá Clar an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

Liam Mac a' Bhaird
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Office of Meetings Administrator
County House
Lifford
18th June, 2013

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Donegal County Council will be held on Monday 24th June, 2013 **at 5.00pm in the County House, Lifford.**

TO EACH MEMBER OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend this meeting of the Council. The Agenda is attached.

Yours sincerely

Liam Ward
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Election of Méara/Mayor
2. Election of Leas Mhéara/Deputy Mayor.
3. Obligations on Elected Members under Part 15 Local Government Act, 2001 (Ethics Framework) and Code of Conduct for Elected Members.
4. (a) Section 141 of the Local Government Act, 2001 – Duty of Members appointed to other bodies to present a report to the Council on the activities and operation of that body annually or at any time, if so requested by resolution or by the Mayor.

(b) Section 142 of the Local Government Act, 2001 – Duty of Members to submit to Council reports on Conferences or events they attend.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DONEGAL
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON 24TH JUNE, 2013 IN THE COUNTY
HOUSE LIFFORD.

C/366/13 MEMBERS PRESENT

Clrs. Frank McBrearty, Mayor, D. Alcorn, J. Boyle, C. Brogan, B. Byrne, J. Campbell, P. Canning, G. Crawford, M. Doherty, P. Doherty, R. Donaghey, M. Farren, M.T. Gallagher, M. Harley, C. Harvey, D. Larkin, M. McBride, N. Mc Bride, S. Mc Eniff, I. McGarvey, P. McGowan, B. Mc Guinness, S. O'Domhnaill, M. Quinn, J. Ryan, and T. Slowey.

C/367/13 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Clr. Liam Blaney, who was unable to attend the meeting.

C/368/13 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Seamus Neely, County Manager, Mr Liam Ward, Director of Housing and Corporate, Meetings Administrator, Mr John McLaughlin, Director of Roads & Transportation, Mr Garry Martin, Head of Finance & Director of Emergency Services, Mr Joe Peoples, A/Director of Water & Environment, Mr Michael Heaney, Director of Community Culture & Planning, Ms. Ann Marie Conlon, Communications Officer, Ms Annemarie Crawford, Staff Officer, Corporate Services.

C/369/3 FILMING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

In accordance with Standing Order No. 29, on the proposal of Clr. Harley, seconded by Clr. Boyle it was resolved to suspend Standing Order No. 83 so as to allow Members of the Media present to film in the Council Chamber.

C/370/13 ELECTION OF MÉARA/MAYOR

The outgoing Mayor, Clr. Mc Brearty advised that he had been ably assisted over the past year by the Deputy Mayor, Clr. Martin Farren and he thanked Clr. Farren for his support and assistance.

The Mayor confirmed that he had undertaken a wide and varied range of engagements: during the year, during which a

concerted effort had been made to foster lasting links between Derry and Donegal.

Particular highlights of his term in office had included the following:-

- The hosting of the FAI Delegation on their visit to the County in July, 2013.
- Being present in Croke Park, when Donegal won the All Ireland Football Championship in September, 2012.
- Meeting with the Canadian and Indian Ambassadors on official visits to the County.
- Attendance at the Senator Tip O' Neill Diaspora Awards in Buncrana.
- Visit to Boston for the Golden Bridge Awards in November, 2012.
- Attendance at the Tip O' Neill Centenary Celebrations in Boston – December, 2012.
- Visit to the USA in March, 2013 for the St. Patrick's Day Celebrations.
- Attendance at the Donegal Rehab people of the Year Awards.
- Hosting of Civic Receptions to honour the following:
 - Donegal Hurlers*
 - Donegal Olympians*
 - Donegal Senior Football Team*
 - Natalie Mc Carron*
 - Sadie Docherty- Lord Provost of Glasgow*
 - Paddy Crerand*
 - Patsy Mc Gonagle*
- Sport Aiding Mental Health Conference held in Ballybofey at the end of May, 2013. This, he confirmed, would not have been possible without the assistance of a number of Donegal County Council Staff who had worked extremely hard to ensure the success of the event.

Clr. Mc Brearty thanked the Members of the Senior Management Team and acknowledged in particular the assistance of Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Housing & Corporate. He thanked the County Manager for his guidance

and friendship over the last number of months. A concerted effort, it was acknowledged, had been made over past number of years to forge and maintain lasting links with the Donegal Diaspora, a feature which the Mayor noted had been received considerable attention during his term in office.

Concluding his address, Clr. Mc Brearty paid tribute to all who had shown faith in him and voted him into office in June 2012. He thanked the Fianna Fail Grouping for their support on a number of issues over the past year.

He had, he confirmed, at all times strived to bring the Chamber together, despite a number of difficult situations , and none more so than the Marathon Budget Meeting in January 2013. It had been, he said, an honour and a privilege to serve as First Citizen of Donegal, something he acknowledged would not have been possible without the support of his entire family circle. Sincere thanks was extended also to his wife Patricia whose assistance and support had made it possible to carry out the comprehensive workload.

He had, he said, committed at the beginning of the year to prioritising and promoting the issue of positive mental health and was extremely happy with the initiatives undertaken to date.

Regarding his own success in overcoming a number of personal adversities, he said, he hoped these would serve as reminder to all that justice could be achieved with hard work and tenacity.

Members from the various political groupings thanked the outgoing Mayor for his dedication and hard work over the past year, acknowledging the impressive litany of duties which he had carried out in such an able manner. They noted that he had served the people of Donegal well and congratulated him on his excellent work to date in promoting and highlighting the issue of positive mental health.

Clr. Farren said that it had been a privilege to serve as Deputy Mayor alongside Clr. Mc Brearty and paid tribute to his tremendous work ethic.

The County Manager alluding also to the impressive workload undertaken by the Mayor thanked him for his co-operation and

constant availability to deal with the issues at hand. His applauded the excellent work carried out by the Mayor particularly in the field of Sport and Mental Health and the genuine and open manner in which he approached the subject. On behalf of the Senior Management Team and the Staff of Donegal County Council, he thanked the Mayor for his commitment and dedication over the past year.

Clr. Mc Brearty proceeded to invite nominations for the Office of Mayor.

Clr. Ian Mc Garvey was proposed by Clr. Campbell and seconded by Clr. Slowey.

Clr. Campbell stated that Clr. Mc Garvey was a man of integrity and tenacity as well as a long time political activist features, he acknowledged which would serve him well in the role of Mayor. If elected, he added, it would be the first time the office could have been said to have been truly reflective of all the political groupings in the Chamber.

Clr. Slowey acknowledged Clr. Mc Garvey's involvement over the years in a wide range of community based activities.

Clr. Mc Garvey informed the Mayor that he would be happy to accept the nomination for the office of Mayor.

Clr. Mc Eniff was proposed by Clr. Brogan and seconded by Clr. Byrne.

Clr. Brogan said that Clr. Mc Eniff was a successful businessman who could bring a vast amount of experience to the Office of Mayor. He was, he stated, someone who understood the needs of the people particularly in these difficult times.

Clr. Mc Eniff declared his intention to accept the nomination.

In the absence of any other nominations and on the proposal of Clr. Brogan, seconded by Clr. Mc Eniff it was resolved to determine the matter by way of a recorded vote.

A recorded vote taken by the Meetings Administrator resulted in 10 votes for Clr. Mc Eniff and 16 votes for Clr. Mc Garvey.

Those voting in favour of Clr. Mc Eniff were:-

Clrs Alcorn, Brogan, Byrne, Canning, Crawford, Donaghey, Larkin, Mc Eniff, Mc Gowan, and O' Domhnaill. (10)

Those voting in favour of Clr. Mc Garvey were:-

Clrs Boyle, Campbell, M. Doherty, P. Doherty, Farren, Gallagher, Harley, Harvey, Mc Brearty, M. Mc Bride, N. Mc Bride, Mc Garvey, Mc Guinness, Quinn, Ryan and Slowey. (16)

As the majority of Members present had voted for Clr. Mc Garvey, he was declared elected Méara Chontae Dhún na nGall/Mayor of the County of Donegal for 2013/2014.

Clr. Mc Brearty handed the chain of office to the incoming Mayor who took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Clr. Mc Garvey addressing the meeting thanked his proposer and seconder. He paid tribute to the excellent work carried out by the outgoing Mayor and in particular his efforts to promote positive mental health.

Looking forward to the year ahead, he acknowledged that there would be many difficulties to overcome but much could be achieved once society in general learned to live within its means.

He pledged during his term in office to work with all Councillors for the betterment of the County.

Members from the various political groupings congratulated Clr. Mc Garvey on his election and wished him well for the

coming year. They assured him of the full co-operation of all the Members.

It was acknowledged that it was indeed an historical occasion with all groupings recognised over the five year term of the Council.

Members praised his energy and enthusiasm and noted that he would be a great ambassador for both young and old.

The Mayor at this juncture welcomed Deputy Thomas Pringle to the Chamber.

The County Manager extended congratulations on behalf of the Management and Staff of Donegal County Council. He was, he said, looking forward to working with Clr. Mc Garvey and assured him of his co-operation and support.

C/371/13

ELECTION OF LEAS MHÉARA/DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor invited nominations for the Office of Leas Mhéara/ Deputy Mayor.

Clr. M. Mc Bride was proposed by Clr. Slowey and seconded by Clr. P. Doherty.

Clr. Mc Bride it was acknowledged was a young man of excellent character whose ongoing commitment to local and community affairs made him an excellent candidate for the position of Leas Mhéara/Deputy Mayor.

Responding to a query from the Mayor, he confirmed that he was happy to accept the nomination.

Clr. S. O' Domhnaill was proposed by Clr. Alcorn and seconded by Clr. Crawford.

Clr O' Domhnaill it was noted was an extremely able Councillor who worked tirelessly to serve the people of the Donegal Gaeltacht . His work ethic and track record it was acknowledged made him well suited for the position of Leas Mhéara/Deputy Mayor.

Clr. O' Domhnaill declared his intention to accept the nomination.

In the absence of any further nominations it was resolved to determine the matter by way of a recorded vote.

A recorded vote taken by the Meetings Administrator resulted in 10 votes for Clr. O' Domhnaill and 16 votes for Clr. M. Mc Bride.

Those voting in favour of Clr. O' Domhnaill were:-

Clrs Alcorn, Brogan, Byrne, Canning, Crawford, Donaghey, Larkin, Mc Eniff, Mc Gowan, and O' Domhnaill. (10)

Those voting in favour of Clr. M. Mc Bride were:-

Clrs Boyle, Campbell, M. Doherty, P. Doherty, Farren, Gallagher, Harley, Harvey, Mc Brearty, M. Mc Bride, N. Mc Bride, Mc Garvey, Mc Guinness, Quinn, Ryan and Slowey. (16)

As the majority of Members present had voted for Clr. Mc Bride he was declared elected Leas Mhéara/Deputy Mayor of Donegal County Council for 2013/2014.

Clr. Mc Bride advised that he was looking forward to serving all the people of Donegal. Tribute was paid also to Clr. Mc Eniff whom it was recognised had made an enormous contribution to politics in Donegal over the years.

He acknowledged the support provided by his own family circle and pledged to assist Mayor Mc Garvey to the best of his ability over the coming year. He acknowledged also the phenomenal workload undertaken during Clr Mc Brearty's term as Mayor and the able assistance provided by the Deputy Mayor, Clr. Farren.

Members from the various political grouping congratulated him on his election and extended best wishes for the year ahead.

The County Manager extended congratulation on behalf of the Senior Management Team and the Staff of Donegal County Council.

C/372/13 OBLIGATIONS ON ELECTED MEMBERS UNDER PART 15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 – ETHICS FRAMEWORK AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The Meetings Administrator drew Members attention to their obligations under Part 15 of the Local Government Act, 2001, and specifically in relation to Sections 176 and 177. He also reminded them of the obligations contained in the Code of Conduct for Elected Members.

C/373/13 SECTION 141 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001- DUTY OF MEMBERS APPOINTED TO OTHER BODIES TO PRESENT A REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES AND OPERATION OF THAT BODY –

The Meetings Administrator drew Members attention to their obligations under Section 141 of the Local Government Act, 2001. It was, he advised, the duty of members appointed to other bodies to present a report on the activities and operation of that body annually or at any other time if so requested by resolution or by the Mayor.

This concluded the business of the meeting.