



13ú Iúil 2021

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

A Chara

Beidh an chéad cruinniú eile de choiste na nOileán ar 20^ú lá de mí Iúil 2021, ar líne ag 11.00 r.n.

The next meeting of the Islands Committee is scheduled for July 20th 2021 online, commencing at 11.00 am.

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

Éamonn de Brún
Bainisteoir Ceantair
Seirbhísí Corparáideacha
Ar son Riarthóir Cruinniú

CLÁR AGENDA

(1) Miontuairiscí Cruinniú 22ú Meitheamh 2021.
Miontuairiscí Cruinniú 29ú Meitheamh 2021

- (a) Consideration of Minutes of Meeting held on 20th June 2021
- (b) Consideration of Minutes of Meeting held on 29th June 2021

- (c) Néithe ag éirí.
Matters arising from the Minutes.

(2) Tógraí Oileán -Island Projects & Priorities

- 2.1 Arranmore
- 2.2 Tory
- 2.3 Small Islands

(3) Aon Gnó Eile - Any Other Business

MINUTES OF ISLANDS COMMITTEE

HELD REMOTELY ON June 22nd 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr. Noreen McGarvey
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh
Cllr Anthony Molloy
Cllr. Michéal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig
Cllr Michael McClafferty
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher
Séamus Mac Ruairí
Eamonn S. Mac Aoidh
William Boyle
Mairín Uí Fhearraigh
Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh
John McCafferty
Bríd Ní Chonghaile (An Roinn)
Marjorie Uí Chearbhall
Máire Uí Dhochartaigh
Cllr. Ian McGarvey

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Michael McGarvey - Director of Water & Environment Service
Eamonn Brown-Area Manager, Housing & Corporate
Cathal Mac Suibhne - Marine Engineer
Anne Marie McCole - Community Development, Staff Officer
Brendan McFadden - SEE, Roads Manager
David Friel - Coastal Officer
Michael Rowsome - SSO, Corporate & Housing

APOLOGIES:

Éamonn S. Mac Aoidh
F. Laird Dinsmore

IC 09/21

Remote Meeting Regulation

Cllr.N.McGarvey outlined the protocol for remote Member's participation and carried out a roll call of participating Members.

IC 10/21

Election of Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach

Cllr. N.McGarvey invited nominations for both of the above positions.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, seconded by Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig the Committee elected Cllr. Gallagher as Cathaoirleach of Coiste na nOileáin.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, seconded by Cllr. Gallagher, the Committee elected John McCafferty as Leas Cathaoirleach of Coiste na nOileáin.

Cllr. Gallagher acknowledged the necessity to convene a meeting on an Island at the earliest opportunity following easing of restrictions and Cllr. N.McGarvey supported this recommendation.

IC 11/21

Minutes of Meeting held on 16th February 2021

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the minutes of the meeting held on 16th February 2021 were confirmed.

IC 12/21

Takeover of Non County Island Roads

The Island representatives highlighted their frustration at the lack of progress in relation to the takeover of Island roads.

Cllr. Gallagher informed the meeting of work in progress to develop a specific takeover policy for Island non

county roads. The Area Roads Manager updated Members in relation to the current status of the formulation of the policy:

- Discussions held at Roads Strategic Policy Committee and cross party support for this policy.
- Currently an initial policy is being drafted to include all non county Island roads of a strategic nature.
- Roads Service will liaise with An Roinn to ensure that the final policy will be compatible with An Roinn funding streams.
- Anticipated that policy will be complete by end of 2021.

Bríd Ní Chonghaile emphasised the importance of prioritising roads where there are permanent residents, and further stated that goodwill from An Roinn and the Council should advance a solution to any obstacles to progress.

The Director also informed the Committee that a meeting of relevant Council and An Roinn personnel will be held during July to continue progress in relation to funding of Island non county roads.

IC 13/21

ROADS SERVICE

13.1

Owey

In response to a query from William Boyle, the Roads Manager clarified that works will be carried out on Owey and agreed that it is always more efficient to carry out works earlier in the year to take advantage of favourable weather conditions.

13.2

Arranmore

Seamus Roadgers reiterated previous requests to take over the Doctors Road and also recommended the takeover of the Upper Illion road, which was supported by Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh. The Roads Manager advised of ongoing difficulties with the takeover of Roads on the mainland due to Covid restrictions impacting on the ability of residents on the specified roads confirming the existence of a public right of way.

In response to a query from Seamus Rodgers, the Roads Manager also confirmed that local improvement schemes have been carried out on Arranmore.

John McCafferty expressed disappointment that a response has yet to issue following a request to address road safety concerns at Campbells Corner and he requested provision of a traffic mirror at this locus.

John McCafferty also highlighted the absence of road lining on the road from the ferry pier to the National School and parking difficulties arising from the commencement of construction works in this area.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig highlighted the increasing number of motor home visitors to Arranmore Island and requested an urgent meeting with all stakeholders on the Island, An Roinn and the Council's Senior Management Team to develop a plan to look at traffic management on the pier.

13.3

Tory Roads

The Roads Manager advised that the roadworks on Tory will be programmed during the Summer.

13.4

Island Roy

The Roads Manager advised that tenders have been returned and that works will be programmed in conjunction with mainland works.

IC 14/21

ENVIRONMENT SERVICE

14.1

Inishboffin Public Convenience

The Coastal Officer informed the Committee of the commencement of construction works on Inishboffin.

14.2

Ringbuoys

The Coastal Officer updated the Committee on the status of the Council's ringbuoy provision programme. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the provision of ringbuoys at Trá an Bháid in Carrickfinn.

14.3

Portaloos

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh requested the provision of an additional facility on Gola in light of the increasing number of visitors.

The Environment Director informed the Committee of an increase in staycation funding and undertook to liaise with the Coastal Officer to provide an additional portaloos on Gola. John McCafferty requested the provision of portaloos on Aphort and at the lighthouse to accommodate visitors availing of the bicycle hire service on Arranmore.

14.4

Recycling Facilities

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the provision of recycling facilities on all Islands & the removal of scrapped cars from Inishboffin. Mairín Uí Fhearraigh commended the provision of recycling facilities on Gola.

14.5

Beach Access

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to address congestion at Trá Dhearg, Magheragallen and Braade, Carrickfinn.

14.6

Illegal dumping

John McCafferty advised the Council to install cameras to deter unauthorised dumping at locations on Arranmore.

14.7

Public Convenience Arranmore

Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh requested the Council to erect more prominent signage alerting the public to the availability of a public convenience on Arranmore.

14.8

Boat Removal

John McCafferty requested the Council & Harbour Master to engage with relevant stakeholders to remove old cars & lobster pots from the pier at Leabgarrow.

IC 15/21

MARINE SERVICE

The Marine Engineer updated the Committee on the:

- status of ongoing pier works at Portnoo, Bunaninver, Magheragallen and Portnablagh.
- development of proposals in conjunction with Roads and Road Design Service for car parking

management at Portnoo, Bunbeg, Magheragallen, Carrickfinn, Cruit and Arramore Ferry Piers.

- funding application to the Department of Rural and Community Development for various projects throughout the Municipal District.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig highlighted the following issues for the attention of the Marine Service:

- issues arising from 'unregistered' piers not in Council ownership.
- lighting at Magheragallon.
- ladder at Inishmeane.
- Tory slipway repairs.
- feasibility study - power points and parking at Magheroarty. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council, An Roinn and Údarás to convene a meeting including all stakeholders to produce a plan for the development of Magheroarty shorefront/pier.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the provision of a crane on Inishboffin and the urgent necessity for dredging at Magheroarty. Cllr. Ó Fearraigh recommended the application for a 5 year licence to expedite the carrying out of necessary dredging.

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh requested the Marine Service to resolve issues in relation to the repair of the sea walls on Gola and Inishboffin.

Cllr. McClafferty welcomed the carrying out of works at Port na Blagh pier.

William Boyle reminded the Marine Service that lighting at Owey, provision of rungs on ladder at

Bunbeg and carpark at Kitty Archies all require resolution.

Marjorie Uí Chearbhall requested a meeting involving fishermen, the boat operator and all relevant stakeholders to resolve increasing congestion & access difficulties at Magheroarty Pier.

IC 16/21

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Staff Officer updated the Committee on the status of the National Policy for the future development and sustainability of communities on offshore Islands and the intention of the Council to follow up on agreed recommendations.

In response to a query from Marjorie Uí Chearbhall, the Community Development Staff Officer undertook to revert to her with information regarding the Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2021. The necessity for Playground repairs on Tory was also highlighted by Marjorie Uí Chearbhall due to corrosion of fencing & damage to flooring.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh requested the Council to provide wheelchair access to the walkway at Bunaninver.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and Mairín Uí Fhearraigh requested the provision of a small ferry service on a couple of occasions annually who wish to take materials to and from smaller Islands.

IC 17/21

Funding of Islands Programme

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed his frustration at the lack of funding of Islands in light of their cultural and historical importance to the nation and stated that

it was 'soul destroying' having to continually raise the same issues with authorities.

Cllr. I.McGarvey requested that Islanders received the same facilities and funding to that afforded to residents on the mainland.

Bríd Ní Chonghaile informed the Committee that a 2nd tranche of Island funding was in the process of being sanctioned following receipt of further information and that further requests for funding would be facilitated.

IC 18/21

Coiste na nOileáin Membership

Cllr. Gallagher informed Members of the forthcoming Council AGM and the necessity to approve Committee membership. Details of current membership were submitted and the following nominations were recommended:

- Johnny Rodgers (Iniscaorach)
- Laird Dinsmore (Rutland)
- Dinny McCullagh (Inis Oirthear)
- Michéal Mac Giolla Easbuig (Udarás na Gaeltachta)

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig (1) queried if a Committee existed in respect of Roaninish Island & (2) highlighted the absence of representation from a number of Islands at Coiste na nOileáin meetings.

IC 19/21

Comhar na nOileáin

Cllr. Molloy provided an update on funding provided by this body and Members were advised of the funding approval of further 2 projects at this morning's LCDC meeting.

IC 20/21

Votes of Sympathy

Seamus Rodgers expressed sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved on Arranmore:
Eamonn Boyle, Manus Boyle, Frank Boyle, John McDonagh and James Ward.

IC 21/21

Date for Adjourned Meeting

It was unanimously agreed to defer the remaining business on the agenda to an adjourned meeting of Coiste na nOileáin on Tuesday, 29th June at 11 a.m. online.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

MINUTES OF ADJOURNED ISLANDS COMMITTEE

HELD REMOTELY ON June 29th 2021

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh
Cllr Anthony Molloy
Cllr. Michéal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig
Cllr Michael McClafferty
Cllr. Ian McGarvey
Mairín Uí Fhearraigh
Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh
John McCafferty
Marjorie Uí Chearbhall
F. Laird Dinsmore
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director of Water & Environment Service
Eamonn Brown-Area Manager, Housing & Corporate
Anne Marie McCole - Community Development, Staff Officer
Brendan McFadden - SEE, Roads Manager
Jamie Gallagher - Roads Engineer
David Friel - Coastal Officer
Michael Rowsome - SSO, Corporate & Housing
- APOLOGIES:** Cathal Mac Suibhne - Marine Engineer
Bríd Ní Chonghaile - An Roinn
Michéal Mac Giolla Easbuig - Udarás na Gaeltachta
William Boyle
Máire Uí Dhochartaigh

IC 22/21

Service Reports

The Committee welcomed the reports circulated in advance of the meeting from the Roads, Marine and Environment Services.

In response to a query from Mairín Uí Fhearraigh, the Roads Manager advised that a priority list agreed in 2019 can be revisited on completion of the Island Non county Road Policy. John McCafferty requested the Roads Service to liaise with Arranmore representatives regarding any potential traffic management solutions between the pier and Campbell's corner.

IC 23/21

Rutland Island

Laird Dinsmore highlighted the build up of effluent in Burtonport harbour and the negative impact on smaller Islands. The Cathaoirleach informed the meeting of the proposed development of a new Waste Water system & the Environment Director undertook to liaise with Irish Water regarding this issue.

Laird Dinsmore recommended the provision of Wifi to retain and encourage full time residents on smaller Islands. The Cathaoirleach requested that contact be made with the Council's Information System Unit in this regard.

Cllr. Molloy updated the Committee on the status of ongoing works by Imagine.ie to provide high speed broadband in rural areas and referred to positive impact of this company's mast on Arranmore.

IC 24/21

Tory Island

Marjorie Uí Chearbhall outlined the following issues:

- Congestion on Magheroarty Pier and closure of public toilets.

- Responsibility for extension of breakwater.
- Inability of larger boats to access Pier and also essential maintenance at the pier.
- Playground repairs.

The Coastal Officer undertook to liaise with Udarás regarding responsibility for re-opening of public conveniences at Magheroarty and with Roads Service regarding responsibility for the Sea Wall/breakwater extension.

Marjorie Uí Chearbhaill commended the litter warden for the provision of waste disposal facilities on Tory.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to arrange a meeting with Udarás and An Roinn to initiate a feasibility study for the development of Magheroarty Pier and carpark area.

Cllr. Mc Clafferty requested the provision of additional waste disposal facilities in Magheroarty.

IC 25/21

Arranmore Island

In response to the provision of additional toilet facilities, The Environment Director informed the meeting that the Coastal Officer will liaise with both Arranmore representatives to expedite a solution to the provision of additional toilet facilities on the Island. Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh welcomed the delivery of signage in respect of raising awareness of the availability of a public convenience.

Noirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh informed the Committee of positive developments on Arranmore, including the shorefront development, holiday village landscaping, blueway project and the valued contribution of Council/Udarás collaboration in respect of the Leader

Rural Development Programme. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig repeated calls for a meeting of Council SMT, Udarás, An Roinn and Island stakeholders to address traffic management and congestion at Leabgarrow Pier.

IC 26/21

Gola Island

In response to a query from Mairín Uí Fhearraigh, the Coastal Officer informed the Committee of the agreement to provide a further portaloos at Port a Chruinn notwithstanding difficulties in relation to servicing arrangements.

IC 27/21

Inishboffin

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to urgently liaise with BIM to expedite the agreed installation of a crane on Inishboffin.

IC 28/21

Smaller Islands

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh informed the Committee of a 2009 pilot project which provided a cargo service to the smaller islands and Cllr O Fearraigh's recommendation to provide a similar service a number of times annually was unanimously supported by the Committee.

IC 29/21

Environment

The Environment Director welcomed the decarbonisation submissions from Tory and Arranmore and updated the Committee on energy management, air and water quality programmes for Island communities.

IC 30/21

Minister of Rural and Community Development

In response to a query from Mairín Uí Fhearraigh, the Corporate Manager informed the Committee that

correspondence and reminders have issued to Minister Humphries requesting a meeting and that a response is awaited.

IC 31/21

Agenda

Cllr. Gallagher informed Members that each Island will be listed on future agendas to facilitate each Island representative to air any issues pertaining to their Island and that the Executive and Councillors can make their contribution thereafter. This proposal was unanimously supported by the Committee.

Cllr. McClafferty recommended that the Council organise a public meeting on Islands to listen to the concerns of Islanders and Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig asked that meetings of Coiste na nOileáin be streamed live.

IC 32/21

Next Meeting

Cllr. Gallagher recommended that the next Island meeting be held on Arranmore if restrictions are eased.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.