#### Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe, Aras an Chontae, Leifear.

3ú Bealtaine, 2016

#### Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl <u>De Máirt 10ú Bealtaine, 2016</u>, <u>ag 11.30 r.n. in</u> Ionad Serbhísí Pobail, Bhaile Dhún na nGall.

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS DÚN NA nGALL

A Chara,

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

Mise, le meas

Seosamh O'Piopla p.p. Riarthóir Cruinnithe

#### Municipal District of Donegal

Office of Meetings Administrator, County House, Lifford.

3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2016

#### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on <u>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016, at 11.30</u> <u>a.m. in the Donegal Public Services Centre.</u>

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL

Dear Councillor,

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

Yours sincerely,

for Joe Peoples Meetings Administrator

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Consideration of Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.
- 2. Consideration of Minutes of Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.
- 3. Update Reports from Council Services:
  - 3.1 Housing & Corporate Services
  - 3.2 Roads / Transportation
  - 3.3 Planning & Economic Development
  - 3.4 Community, Enterprise and Cultural Services
  - 3.5 Environment Services

#### 4. Motions

4.1 Cllr Noel Jordan

"That this Municipal District calls on Irish Water to include Cashelcummin road to the new sewer works project in Killybegs".

4.2 Cllr Barry O'Neill

"That this Municipal District discuss the impact of works being carried out by both national utility companies and by Council sub contractors is having on footpaths, roads and public spaces in our towns".

4.3 Cllr Niamh Kennedy

"That the executive of this municipal district open up discussions with the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine for the term lease of lands adjacent to the fire station in Killybegs to secure the future tourism development of South West Donegal."

#### 5. Questions

5.1 Cllr Barry O'Neill

"Can the Roads Department carry out essential / urgent placing of secure fencing at Rossnowlagh to the area opposite the Gaslight Restaurant, as the embankment / cliff has became very unsafe and immediate fencing is required in the interest of public safety?"

#### 5.2 Cllr Barry O'Neill

"What is the up to date position on the abolishment of Car Parking charges in Ballyshannon following the recent majority decision in favour of same by this Municipal District Council?"

6. Date of Next Meeting (AGM) - Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 at 11.30 A. M.

#### MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD AT 11.30 A. M. ON TUESDAY THE 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016 IN THE PETER KENNEDY CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE, DONEGAL

#### MDD/047/16 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Barry O'Neill Cllr Noel Jordan Cllr Tom Conaghan Cllr John Campbell Cllr Niamh Kennedy

#### MDD/048/16 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Mr. Barney McLaughlin, Administrative Officer, Community & Enterprise
Mr. Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development
Ms. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate
Services

#### MDD/049/16 APOLOGIES

Cllr Sean McEniff Mr. Killian Smith, Executive Planner

#### MDD/050/16 MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING TO 12.00 NOON.

On the Proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Campbell, Members agreed to adjourn the meeting to 12 noon.

#### MDD/051/16 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Votes of sympathy were passed in respect of the following recent deaths:

The late Mary Quinn, Mother in Law of Martin Burke, Litter Warden, MD Donegal

The late Colm Gallagher, Currin, Termon, father of Jamie Gallagher, Roads, Dungloe PSC and father-in-law of Damien McDermott, NRDO

#### MDD/052/16 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Conaghan the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were confirmed.

#### MDD/053/16 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Kennedy the Minutes of the Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were confirmed.

#### MDD/054/16 HOUSING AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

#### Corporate Services

## Request for a Deputation from Donegal Camping and Caravan Parks Association

Ms. B McBrearty confirmed to Members this matter had been referred to the Plenary Council. It was noted the Chief Executive is due to meet with the Donegal Campervan and Caravan Parks Association.

#### Housing Services

# Progress reports on Grants, Loans, Casual Vacancies, and Social Housing Support Programme

Members noted the update reports on Grants, Loans, and Casual Vacancies, Housing Assistance Payments and Social Housing Support Programme as circulated with the Agenda and presented by Ms. B McBrearty.

#### **Casual Vacancies**

In relation to long term voids, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that funding for same is awaited.

She also informed Members that Choice Based Lettings would be advertised in the next round of such advertisements where there are properties in this District in areas of low need.

#### Loans

Ms. McBrearty informed Members that no loan applications had been received to-date this year and although there have been some enquiries, potential applicants did not meet the minimum income requirements. She also advised that with the new Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme it is anticipated there will be more activity in this area.

#### **Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme**

In relation to the new Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme, Ms. B McBrearty advised that tenants would receive information in the post in relation to the scheme by the end of the week. Any queries should be directed to the Housing Office.

#### **Social Housing Support Programme**

In relation to the Building Programme for Donegal Town Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that Part VIII for planning permission had now been advertised.

In relation to the 22 Units in Ballyshannon, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that an Approved Housing Body is working with a developer in the area and is hopeful that the project will go ahead.

#### **Housing Assistance Payments**

In relation to HAP, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that there over 800 payments being made under the HAP scheme in the County at present.

In relation to the property inspections, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that inspections had commenced and any due have been completed. She also advised the relevant correspondences arising from the inspections have issued to the Landlords. The issues arising to-date are largely in relation to Fire Blankets and smoke alarms and this is being addressed by the Landlords with appropriate follow up.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if persons who avail of HAP Tenancies are regarded as having their housing need met, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that over 90% of HAP Applicants opt to remain on the Council's Housing Waiting list as this option is available to them. She further advised that to-date four HAP recipients in this Municipal District have been allocated Social Housing.

#### **Homeless Statistics**

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if it would be possible for Homeless Statistics to be circulated for this Municipal District, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members these would be circulated to Members.

#### MDD/055/16 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

#### 2016 Roads Programme

Mr. M Sweeney presented the update reports circulated with the Agenda on the 2016 Road Works Programme. Members noted that

a large number of works are started and that the surface dressing is weather dependent.

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

#### Dunkineely

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy regarding progress on works at Dunkineely, Mr. M Sweeney advised that the design of traffic lights including traffic calming / hatching etc. is currently being prepared by Road Design and once finalised the works will be carried out by contract.

#### **Crossing in Killybegs**

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy regarding progressing on the proposed crossing in Killybegs, Mr. M Sweeney advised that this matter is currently being worked on by Road Design in Lifford.

#### Road at back of Cluain Barron Ballyshannon

In response to a query from Cllr O'Neill regarding the back lane at Cluain Barron, Ballyshannon, as previously raised, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that this road is not currently on the County Roads Schedule and that this matter is being looked at on a county wide basis as there are other similar roads in other areas of the County.

#### Public Lighting at the Mall Car Park

In response to a request from Cllr O'Neill that lights be installed in the Mall Car Park, Ballyshannon where he understands that ducting etc. is already in place, Mr. M Sweeney advised he would investigate with a view to having the lights installed.

#### Signs on Approach Roads to Towns

Cllr O'Neill made a lengthy submission in relation to signs appearing on the approach roads to Towns in this Municipal District and in particular in Bundoran and Ballyshannon. He submitted that with such a number of signs appearing, particularly in the summer season, and also with the Tidy Towns competition imminent, these are a form of litter and need to be addressed.

He requested that the Council take action to address this matter together with the issue of 'cars for sale' on the approach roads. He further suggested that perhaps a small designated area could be set aside for erecting signs, that the Council could charge a fee for and on a first come first served basis.

In response to same Mr. M Sweeney advised that the Council Roads Department does actively remove signs at roundabouts and if Members are in agreement, the Roads Department can remove all the unauthorised signs. However there would be complaints regarding this. In response to the request for a designated area for signs, Mr. Sweeney informed Members he would investigate this and revert to Members at a later meeting of the District.

#### HD15 Leghowney and Harveys Point Junctions

In response to a request for an update on progress in relation to the HD15 – Leghowney and Harveys Point Junctions, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that these are being reviewed at present and explained the process of how such junctions are reviewed for HD15. He also confirmed that if a budget is allocated for the two junctions this year the works will be completed before year end.

# Retirement of Mr. Vincent Callaghan, Roads Services Supervisor.

Cllr Jordan acknowledged the contribution of Mr. Vincent Callaghan, Roads Services Supervisor to the roads service and wished his well on his retirement.

#### MDD/056/16 PLANNING CONTROL REPORT

Members noted apologies from Killian Smith who was unable to attend today's meeting. Mr. Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner was in attendance to represent the planning service.

Members noted the update reports circulated with the Agenda on the following matters:

- Statistics
- Appeals
- Significant Cases (incl. Transboundary applications)
- Other cases (Part 8's etc.)

Other Planning Matters

#### Local Area Plans (Tier 2 Towns)

Mr. E Quinn circulated and presented a report in relation to Local Area Plans (Tier 2 Towns). He also informed Members that Mr. Paul Christie, Senior Executive Planner had been assigned to the Central Planning Unit to replace Mr. Denis Kelly. Members noted a date is being sought for a Workshop in relation to the Local Area Plans. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that the workshop would be held at 10.00 am on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 (immediately prior to the next District meeting).

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if there would be discussions on zoning in the Local Area Plans, Mr. E Quinn informed Members this would be a topic at the workshop in May.

Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Donegal on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

#### An Board Pleanala

In response to a request from Cllr Kennedy for a request to go to An Board Pleanala for a workshop / presentation to Members on how the An Board Pleanala process works, Mr. E Quinn informed Members he would convey same to An Board Pleanala. However he believed that it would be unlikely they would be in a position to do this. He advised Members he would be happy to do a small presentation to them in relation to where An Board Pleanala fits into the planning system if they wished.

#### **Casual Trading**

In response to a request for an update in relation to Casual Trading review from Cllr O'Neill who submitted he was not happy with the length of time the process is taking, Mr. E Quinn informed Members that the matter will be before the Plenary Council in June 2016 and noted the concerns expressed at the length of time the process is taking.

#### MDD/057/16 COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND PLANNING DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Members noted the Activity Report circulated with the Agenda and presented by Mr. B McLaughlin in relation to the following activities:

- 1. Bundoran Tourism Officer Update
- 2. Marine Tourism Update
  - A) Sail West Activity
  - B) Cool Route Activity
- 3. Donegal Gathering
- 4. Go Visit Donegal Website
- 5. PPN

#### **Development Fund Initiative**

Mr. B McLaughlin referred to the earlier workshop at which the Development Fund Initiative allocations in the amount of €120,000.00 for 2016 were discussed for this Municipal District. On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Campbell the following allocations were agreed;-

		AGREED
	NAME	ALLOCATION
1	St John Bosco Club	3000.00
2	Donegal Town Rugby Football Club	5000.00
4	St Patricks Centre	2500.00
5	Four Masters GAA Club	4085.00
6	Laghey Parish Church (Church of Ireland)	2500.00
11	Tidy Towns Kilcar	5000.00
12	Foresters Communtiy Hall Company Limited	3000.00
13	Bundoran Surf Industry	2500.00
15	St Francis NS Barnesmore BOM	5000.00
17	Mountcharles Heritage & Walking Group	2500.00
18	Comhairle Paroiste Ghleann Cholm Cille	5791.50
21	Allingham Arts Association	5083.00
23	Junior Achievement 2016	1250.00
24	Pride of Place 2016	1250.00
28	The Abbey Centre Management Company ADOPT - Association for Development of Pettigo &	3500.00
32	Tullyhommon	2500.00
33	Donegal Bay Rowing Club	26666.00
35	Inver Community Development Co-Op Society Ltd	2500.00
36	Aobh Ruadh GAA Club	8583.00
37	Killybegs Community Council	2500.00
38	Killybegs Tidy Towns	2500.00
39	CLG Naomh Ultan	5791.50
10	Sea Sessions Bundoran	2500.00
1	Rory Gallagher International Tribute Festival	12000.00
12	Ballyshannon Folk & Traditional Festival	2500.00
		120000.00

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

#### **Donegal Gathering Website**

Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members that the Donegal Gathering Website can be used to advertise events.

#### Playgounds in Bundoran

Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members the works to the playgrounds in Bundoran are being investigated as requested at the previous meeting of the District.

#### Tourism

Cllr O'Neill recognised the work which is being done in respect of tourism which is paying dividends to the District.

Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Donegal on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

#### Mall Park Playground

Cllr O'Neill advised the Mall Park Playground Committee will be seeking permission to develop more facilities at this area. He advised there are more than 2000 visitors to the park each week in Ballyshannon and they are proposing to develop multi-surface playing areas to cater for the demand.

#### **Teelin Pier**

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy for an update in relation to the requested disabled access for Teelin Pier, Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members there had been no success in securing funding in respect of this.

#### Signage at Largy

In response to a request from Cllr Kennedy for the signage at the Picnic Area at Largy, Killybegs to be reviewed and for some advance signage for the picnic area to be erected, Mr. B McLaughlin undertook to investigate this matter.

#### Advertising Accommodation on Websites

Cllr O'Neill referred to the 'Stay and Discover Bundoran' website and advised that a lot of Bed & Breakfasts are not listed on same. He submitted when events such as 'Sea Sessions' and Rory Gallagher' festival are advertised online the B & B's in the area should be listed on the websites.

In response Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members that Donegal County Council works as a partner to Fáilte Ireland when promoting events and that it is a matter for these businesses to ensure they are registered with Fáilte Ireland in order to be promoted on the websites. He also confirmed that this matter is being pursued by the Bundoran Tourism Officer with the businesses.

#### MDD/058/16 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

Members welcomed Mr. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer to the meeting. She noted the report circulated to Members dealing with the following updates:

- Bid Donegal Clean Up'16
- Spring Anti Litter awareness campaign
- Dog Fowling
- Home Composting
- Recycling
- Waste & Litter Enforcement
- Coastal Management
  - Priority Beach Works
  - Designated Bathing Areas
  - Coastal Erosion Beach Sea Mammals

- Beach Lifeguards
- Access for All
- Public Conveniences

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows

#### **Tidy Towns Seminar**

Ms. S Bogan drew Members attention to a Tidy Towns Seminar which is taking place in the Radisson Hotel in Letterkenny at 1.30 pm on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and encouraged local groups to attend. She confirmed that applications for the Tidy Towns had to be in for May 2016 with the adjudications taking place in June.

#### Sea Mammals

In response to a query from ClIr Campbell regarding the procedure for dealing with sea mammals, Ms. S Bogan informed Members the procedure would be issued to Members from Headquarters.

#### Road Side Litter and Road Side Safety

Cllr Kennedy submitted that the clean ups were going good but expressed concern in relation to the amount of litter on the road sides and the safety aspect of groups cleaning up same in particular with regard to traffic. She requested if possible for the Council to provide road signage that groups could erect when doing clean ups for road safety. She also submitted it was very disheartening for groups carrying out clean ups with the recurrence of litter along roads and 'fly tipping' and emphasised the need for enforcement. In response to the matters raised, Ms. S Bogan informed Members she would take advice from the Council's Safety Officer with respect to signage for groups and revert to Members at the next meeting. She also confirmed to Members that with respect to road side litter, there has been local and social media campaigning and there are ongoing efforts with respect to enforcement.

#### **Designated bathing waters**

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the criteria for the 21 designated bathing waters in Donegal, Ms. S Bogan informed Members a number of these have been there for years in Donegal and part of the process is to submit water samples to the Environmental Protection Agency. She also confirmed she would arrange for the criteria to be sent out to Members.

#### **Beach Management**

Cllr O'Neill made a lengthy submission with regard to beach management and the role of the lifeguards. He queried what their functions were outside of life saving e.g. had they any enforcement role with respect to beaches e.g. litter, trading etc. He also made reference to the activities that take place every year on the beach at Rossnowlagh which contribute to litter and also impact on the local rate payers. He submitted there should be 'no littering' and 'no trading' signs erected on the beaches and also that the beach byelaws should be enforced.

In response to the concerns raised, Ms S Bogan informed Members that the main focus of the Beach Lifeguards is in respect of water safety, however they would contact An Garda Siochana in some instances where they feel it is warranted in respect of safety matters. She confirmed she would convey the matters which had been raised to Headquarters.

#### **Bottle Banks**

Cllr Kennedy submitted that there are issues with respect to household rubbish being dumped at bottle banks, which is unacceptable and that there is a need for cameras for detection and enforcement at the bottle banks. In response to the matter raised, Ms. Suzanne Bogan informed Members that there are facts and figures in relation to recent enforcement actions taken by the Council including prosecution. She also confirmed she would engage with enforcement staff to get cameras at particular locations.

# MDD/059/16 DISCUSSION ON MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE IN GLENCOLMCILLE

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

"That this MD of Donegal County Council contacts the mobile network providers and requests that mobile phone coverage is prioritised and immediately dealt with as a matter of urgency in Glencolmcille particularly in relation to Malinbeg".

Members were advised;-

"Subject to the motion being adopted, a letter will issue to mobile phone providers in the area to bring the matter to their attention."

Cllr Kennedy in speaking to her motion made a lengthy submission with regard to the poor mobile phone coverage in the Glencolmcille area. She submitted it is of great inconvenience to residents and visitors to the area. She advised it is of concern when trying to contact emergency services, to workers trying to contact their employers, First Responders, Tourists and Visitors and also the fact that there is no longer a telephone box in the area. She also referred to the lack of Broadband or Wifi in the Area.

Cllrs Campbell and Jordan also spoke in favour of the motion supporting the sentiments expressed by Cllr Kennedy.

Mr. G Martin informed Members that this matter has been previously raised at a county level and that there is a broad band scheme which would offer a solution but this could be a few years into the future. He advised that with respect to the emergency services, they Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Donegal on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

are not dependent on the mobile networks for communication as they have their own system. He also advised with the increase in data usage, this has impacted on the capacity of mobile networks in some areas. He suggested with the agreement of Members, follow up in relation to this matter could be channelled through Mr. Brian Boyle, Head of Information Systems and this was agreed.

In conclusion Cllr Kennedy asked that the matter be pursued as a high priority.

# MDD/060/16 DISCUSSION ON SAFE WALKING ACCESS AT COOLCHOLLY, BALLYSHANNON

On the proposal of Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Kennedy the following motion was adopted;-

"That this Municipal District and the NRA jointly provide a safe access for the public who walk as an activity at Coolcholly, Ballyshannon in the vicinity of the main roundabout that has the 'Morning Star' boat sculpture. The provision of a footpath needs to be assessed along the link road from main roundabout to the Abbey River Bridge on Rossnowlagh Road."

Members were advised;-

"NRA/TII response - The TII(NRA) will not provide funding for Works on Regional Roads.

As noted above, the NRA/TII do not fund works on Regional Roads, therefore if the MD wishes to advance the provision of a footpath along this section of road, funding in the region of €275,000.00 will need to be secured. The works would entail the provision of 1000m of 2 m wide footpath, installation of road gullies and public lighting."

Cllr O'Neill thanked the Roads Service for the response to the motion. In speaking to his motion, Cllr O'Neill submitted this is a busy walking route and requires safe access for the public. He submitted that TII/NRA should re-consider funding or at least part funding works to provide a safe walkway, in particular given that works some years ago by the NRA had taken away the safe access and the matter could be jointly pursued with Donegal County Council. He also submitted that the Council should be pursuing a more realistic allocation for footpath and walkway provision and that Central Government needs to be pursued in the regard.

In conclusion, Mr. M Sweeney advised that he would revert TII/NRO, given the submission made and revert to Members at a later date.

#### MEMBERS NOTED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-

#### MDD/061/16 WAW at Kilcar

The following question was submitted by Cllr Kennedy;-

"Has there been any progress made with Failte Ireland in relation to the WAW route at Kilcar?"-

Cllr Kennedy was informed that:-

"Discussions have commenced with Fáilte Ireland in this regard and a route inspection has also taken place. The Council will revert to Members in due course."

#### MDD/062/16 Works on Main street, Killybegs

The following question was submitted by Cllr Kennedy;-

"How much money was retained from the contractors who did the work in Killybegs main street?"-

Cllr Kennedy was informed that:-

"The works on Killybegs Streets took place between July 2009 - Nov. 2009

DPH Groundworks Ltd, Lisfannon, Fahan, Co. Donegal was the Contractor employed to out the works. carry The value of the contract was  $\in$  181,600.00 (incl. VAT@ 13.5%). The retention amount of €10,476.05 (excl. VAT) was retained from the Contractor for the 12 month defects period. This amount was released to the Contractor in December 2010 after the expiry of the defects period"

#### MDD/06316 Date of next meeting

Members agreed the date of the next meeting on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 commencing of 11.30 am as per standing orders.

Members also agreed that a Workshop would also be held on on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 commencing at 10.00 am (immediately prior to the MD meeting) as per discussion under Planning Reports. Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Donegal on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Area Manager Municipal District of Donegal Cathaoirleach Municipal District of Donegal

# Minutes of Municipal District of Donegal Workshop held on 12<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal PSC.

#### Members present:

Cllr Barry O Neill Cllr John Campbell Cllr Niamh Kennedy Cllr Noel Jordan Cllr Tom Conaghan

#### **Apologies:**

Cllr Sean McEniff

#### Officials in Attendance:

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Mr. Barney McLaughlin, Administrative Officer, Community & Enterprise
Ms. Eibhlin McGuinness, Clerical Officer, Community & Enterprise
Mr. Cathal Moss, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design
Mr. Peader Espey, Assistant Engineer, Road Design
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing / Corporate Services

#### Minutes

#### **Slow Zone Scheme**

Mr. Mark Sweeney circulated and presented the up to date report on the proposal to introduce Slow Zones at Housing Estates that are in charge of Donegal County Council including their current status. He also introduced Mr. Peader Espey, Assistant Engineer, Road Design and Mr. Cathal Moss, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design who were in attendance to deal with queries in respect of its review.

A number of queries were dealt with as follows;-

In response to a query from Cllr O'Neill as to the inclusion of private estates that have been taken in charge by Donegal County Council in the Slow Zone Scheme, Mr. Peader Espey confirmed that any estate is taken in charge will be included.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy in relation to the Pilot Slow Zones, Mr. P Espey informed Members that out of the 30 which had been piloted, 11 have had traffic counters installed but that this is to be expanded to monitor speed and the results of this monitoring will be available for review. He informed Members that in general the slow zone speed limits are being adhered to, but that in some cases where they are not, engineering solutions will be examined.

In response to a query from Cllr Jordan as to the success of the pilots, Mr. Cathal Moss informed Members of the steps involved in the Slow Zoning process i.e., Monitoring, Signage and where necessary engineering solutions. He informed Members that if the results show non-compliance, applications for funding would be submitted to fund any measures required.

In response to a queries from Cllrs Jordan and Kennedy regarding the installation of ramps as a method to reduce speed, Mr. Cathal Moss informed Members that the Council is discouraging installing ramps due to the noise complaints etc. these give rise to.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell as to feedback from the pilot estates, Mr. P Espey informed Members that there are submissions and other recorded feedback from the pilot estates with the residents in the estates in favour of the slow sones.

Cllr Campbell submitted that there should be more of an emphasis on education / promotion of the slow zones, Mr. C Moss advised that the Council, through the Road Safety Working Group, had ran a successful awareness campaign in Liscooley.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if funding would be available for awareness/education, Mr. C Moss informed Members that at present there is funding available to introduce the slow zones for signage, monitoring and engineering methods and that the awareness would normally be dealt with through the Road Safety Working Group. However, he submitted that if awareness is a more successful method of achieving compliance funding can be applied for same.

Following a request from Cllr Jordan in relation to inclusion of Forge Road, Mountcharles, Mr. Cathal Moss agreed that this would be reconsidered.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy in relation to the starting point for the 30 kmph limit at Gleann Aoibhinn, Killybegs, Mr. Peader Espey informed Members it starts at the entrance to the estate and that the road outside the estate is being included in the submission for speed limits under public roads.

#### Speed Limit Review 2015-2017

Mr. M Sweeney circulated and presented an update report on Speed Limit Review 2015-2017. Mr. C Moss informed Members that Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) is undertaking a full speed limit review of national roads which would be sent to the Districts for comment prior to the public consultation. Local Road Speed limits would also be reviewed during this period. He advised that in the new review, it will be the condition of the road that will determine the proposed speed limit and anticipated a lot of changes in the limits.

In conclusion in response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the process for making submissions, Mr. P Espey informed Members he would forward the designated e-mail address to Members for making submissions.

#### **1916 Commemoration – MD Donegal**

Mr. Garry Martin briefed Members in relation to the discussion that took place at Corporate Policy Group where it was agreed to allocate a maximum amount of €2500 to each Municipal District for an appropriate 1916 Commemoration. He also advised in relation to the arrangements that some of the other District had made.

A discussion took place in relation to this matter and a number of suggestions were made. In conclusion, Members agreed that the matter should be referred to the Youth Councillors of this Municipal District in order to seek their suggestions as to what might be an appropriate 1916 Commemoration for the District and that any suggestions would be subject to the approval of the Municipal District of Donegal. Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members he would arrange to refer this matter to the Youth Councillors for the MD of Donegal.

#### **Development Fund Initiative Allocations 2016**

Mr. B McLaughlin presented the list of applications for DFI received for the MD of Donegal. He also sought Members agreement to obtain a contribution of €416 from each Member to fund the Junior Achievers and Pride of Place for 2016.

	DEVELOPMENT FUND INITIATIVE DONEGAL MD 2016					
		AGREED				
	NAME	ALLOCATION				
1	St John Bosco Club	3000.00				
2	Donegal Town Rugby Football Club	5000.00				
4	St Patricks Centre	2500.00				
5	Four Masters GAA Club	4085.00				
6	Laghey Parish Church (Church of Ireland)	2500.00				
11	Tidy Towns Kilcar	5000.00				
12	Foresters Communtiy Hall Company Limited	3000.00				
13	Bundoran Surf Industry	2500.00				
15	St Francis NS Barnesmore BOM	5000.00				
17	Mountcharles Heritage & Walking Group	2500.00				
18	Comhairle Paroiste Ghleann Cholm Cille	5791.50				
21	Allingham Arts Association	5083.00				
23	Junior Achievement 2016	1250.00				
24	Pride of Place 2016	1250.00				
28	The Abbey Centre Management Company	3500.00				
32	ADOPT - Association for Development of Pettigo & Tullyhommon	2500.00				
33	Donegal Bay Rowing Club	26666.00				
35	Inver Community Development Co-Op Society Ltd	2500.00				
36	Aobh Ruadh GAA Club	8583.00				
37	Killybegs Community Council	2500.00				
38	Killybegs Tidy Towns	2500.00				

Following a discussion the DFI Allocation (as set out hereunder) for the MD of Donegal was agreed to go to the MD Meeting for formal adoption.

39	CLG Naomh Ultan	5791.50
40	Sea Sessions Bundoran	2500.00
41	Rory Gallagher International Tribute Festival	12000.00
42	Ballyshannon Folk & Traditional Festival	2500.00
		120000.00

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal Cathaoirleach, Municipal District of Donegal

# **Municipal District of Donegal**

# Housing/Corporate Update as at 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016

## Casual Vacancies as at 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Location of Vacancy	Area	BED	Dwelling Vacated	Repairs Completed
SI Cottage at Ballinacarrick	BALLINTRA	3	24th March, 2013 (Tenant Deceased)	Possession Order Granted 25/6/15
60 St Benildus Avenue	BALLYSHANNON	2	Repossessed on 28/04/2010	For Sale
30 Cluain Barron	BALLYSHANNON	3	11 October 2013	LTV Fund
6 Erne Street	BALLYSHANNON	2	16 January 2016	Major Refurbishment required
29 Saimer Drive	BALLYSHANNON	2	16 January 2016	Ready for Letting
25 Benwhisken	Bundoran	3	23 February 2016	Ready for Letting
73 Slieve League Avenue	CARRICK	3	16-Jun-2015	No need
11 St Marys Park	DONEGAL	2	Tenant deceased Jan 2016	Tenders out
16 O'Cleirigh Avenue	DONEGAL	1	18-Aug-2015	Tenders out
21 O'Cleirigh Avenue	DONEGAL	3	22-Sep-2015	LTV Fund
201 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	3	27-Jun-2014	LTV Fund
224 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	1	30-Dec-2015	No need
226 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	1	14/12/2015 (Tenant Deceased)	No need
SI Cottage at Stragar North	KILLYBEGS	2	17th Aug 2012	LTV Fund
2 Bircog Cottages	Pettigo	1	4th March 2016	Works ongoing
29 Termon Villas	PETTIGO	3	30 March 2015	No immediate demand

#### Position at 29th April 2016

## HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL	APPROVED	<b>REFUSED</b> \	FURTHER	PENDING
		RECEIVED		CANCELLED	INFO	
HO	2015	12	5	3	0	4
HO	2016	8	2	0	3	3

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	FURTHER INFO.	REFERRED TO OT	REFERRED TO ENGINEER	PENDING
HD	2015	36	9	13	0	0	0	14
HD	2016	4	0	1	0	0	0	3

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2015	1	0	1	0	0
HM	2016	1	0	0	0	1

## HOUSING LOANS

There are no housing loan applications to date in 2016 and no outstanding applications to be dealt with.

#### SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAMME

#### Position at 29th April 2016

Scheme	2 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	Total		Status	-		
	apts (own door)	2 storey	2 storey	2 storey	bungalow		Design	Planning	Tender	Under Con	Comp
									<b>I</b>		
Building Programme 2015 - 2017								planning advertised			
Donegal Town	8	8	6	2		24	24	to 27/05/2016			
							_				
Purchases 2015 and 2016											
Killybegs*		1	2			3	awaiting	keys for 2 and One wor	ks complet	e and let	
Carrick*				1		1	awaiting	keys			
Donegal Town*	1		2	1		4	Complet	e and let			
Bundoran			1			1	awaiting	keys			
CAS 2015								Being built in conjunction	n with Dor	legal Town	
2 Com Group Homes*					2	2	2				

#### Other Supply

Proposals for provision of 25 no. units in Donegal Town and 22 no. units in Ballyshannon have been supported by Council and the AHB is currently seeking to supply these through either purchasing units or having units built in the towns

HAP Tenancies		
Municipal District	Number	
Donegal	101	
Letterkenny	422	
Glenties	88	
Stranorlar	117	
Inishowen	139	
Total	867	

HAP Inspections carried out at 28th April 2016	
Total	97



#### Municipal District: ALL

## Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	19 <sup>th</sup> . annual <b>Bealtaine Festival</b> c/o <b>Donegal County Council Cultural Services</b>
Project Description/Activity	2016 is the 19 <sup>th</sup> year of the national Bealtaine Festival in County Donegal. Presented nationally by Age and Opportunity Ireland and co-ordinated in Donegal by <b>Donegal County Council</b> <b>Cultural Services</b> – primarily the <b>County Library</b> and the <b>Regional Cultural Centre</b> – it takes place throughout this month of May and has over 170 events to attract and entertain its audience.
	Bealtaine 2016 is once again all about celebrating creativity in old age, with events taking place throughout all the Municipal Districts of County Donegal - in libraries, Taobh Tíre Centres, arts and community venues, community hospitals and day care centres. Highlights of this year's packed programme of talks, workshops, exhibitions, films, concerts and plays include three original dramas, 'The Lad from Laghey', 'Across the Water' and 'I Would Walk These Fields Again' as well as the Donegal Master Fiddlers concert, the very embodiment of creativity in older age.
	The theme for 2016 continues with Bealtaine's three-year exploration of Nationhood and Citizenship and specifically reflects on the first generation of citizens inhabiting the new Irish State.
	The Festival was opened at the Regional Cultural Centre by Councillor Ciaran Brogan, Cathaoirleach, Comhairle Contae

	Dhún na nGall, followed by Active Ireland speaker Grainne Haines.
	Information on all Depleting quanta is now widely available in
	Information on all Bealtaine events is now widely available in
	libraries and Taobh Tíre centres where you can pick up a copy
	of festival programme. Programmes may also be downloaded at
	www.donegallibrary.ie and at www.donegalcoco.ie
Budget (if applicable)	€
Progress to date within the	
last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status	
inclusive of current status	
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	
Project Targets for the next	
bi-monthly/quarterly*	
reporting period	
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	
Contact Person	Shaun Hannigan, Director, Regional Cultural Centre.
(to include telephone	T: 074 9129186 E: rcc@donegalcoco.ie
number & e-mail address)	



Municipal District: ALL

## Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Cultúr: new Strategic Plan for Donegal County Council Cultural Services
Project Description/Activity	Cultural Services is required by legislation to produce a 5-year strategic plan which is now due. As the LECP and the Corporate Plan are now agreed, the Cultural Services plan can be progressed.
Budget (if applicable)	Annual revenue budget, Capital budget, Project funding as opportunities arise.
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status	Early notice of the developing plan was brought to SPC in 2015 with the proposal for Cultúr intended to dovetail with the emerging LECP and Corporate Plan. The Age Friendly strategy for Donegal, the Creative Entrepreneurship Strategy, Connecting Donegal, the County Donegal Heritage Plan, and other local strategies and plans also inform the draft of Cultúr.
	The strategy also takes account of developments in terms of the national policy for public libraries Opportunities for All, Arts Council policies, Heritage Council policies and the emerging Culture 2025 national policy for culture.
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	Staff have examined the current plan Cultural Connections and have drafted up new actions and goals following discussions with relevant stakeholders.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	The draft plan, entitled Cultúr, was presented to the Community, Culture & Social SPC on April 25 <sup>th</sup> .
	<ul> <li>The draft goals for the new plan will cover:</li> <li>1.Public participation</li> <li>2. Education, lifelong learning, socially engaged work</li> <li>3. Supporting arts &amp; arts organisations</li> <li>4. Conserve and promote cultural inheritance</li> <li>5. Building relationships with stakeholders and partners</li> <li>6. Sustainable, high quality services</li> </ul>
Contact Person (to include telephone	Eileen Burgess Divisional Manager Cultural Services
number & e-mail address)	<u>eburgess@donegalcoco.ie</u> 074 91 21968

Donegal Municipal District 2016 Roadworks Programme Status Report - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016

## Surface Dressing 2016

## **Regional Road Surface Dressing**

No	Road No.	Road Name and /or Townland Name	Engineering Area	Length (m)	Area (sq.m)	Estimated cost (€)	Status	Percentage complete
1	R-263-9	Carrick Bogagh	Killybegs	400	3000	€16,500		
2	R-262-3	Glenlee - Supers corner	Killybegs	814	5291	€29,005		
3	R-263-4/5	Kitty Kellys - Largy	Killybegs	400	2400	€13,200		0%
4	R262/3	Drumbeagh Ballybrollaghan	Dunkineely	1000	3500	€12,416		0%
5	R231-1	Rossnowlagh Rd	Ballyshannon	900	5400	€29,584		0%
6	R232-3	Pettigoe Rd	Laghey	1050	7350	€39,436		0%

Total Budget €140,141

## Local Road Surface Dressing

No	Road No.	Road Name and /or Townland Name	Engineering Area	Length (m)	Area (sq.m)	Estimated cost (€)	Status	Percentage complete
1	L-5035-1	Straid - Garveross	Killybegs	700	2240	€10,080	Started	
2	L-5065-2	Drim - Cloghan	Killybegs	700	2240	€10,080	Started	
3	L-1035-2	Curreen - Glencolmcille	Killybegs	600	1920	€8,640	Started	
4	L-1245-2	Fintra	Killybegs	850	3187.5	€14,344		
5	L-5365-1	Ballyara Upper	Killybegs	700	2100	€9,450		
6	L-5475 & L-1345	Carricknagore - Harbour Lights	Killybegs	250	1250	€5,625	Started	
7	L-1335-1	Carricknagore - 5Pts Jnc	Killybegs	700	2,450	€11,025	Started	
8	L-5465-2	Aghayeevoge (Glashey)	Killybegs	340	1,530	€6,885	Started	
9	L-1325/1	Commons (Dohertys Rd) Patching	Killybegs	250	938	€4,219		
10	L-12151	Tawney Cottages (Patching)	Killybegs	350	1312.5	€5,906	Started	
11	L-5565	Gilbertstown	Killybegs	800	2400	€9,478		7%
12	L-6135-1	Bartaws - Drumgorman Barr	Dunkineely	1000	3500	€14,700		
13	L-1825-3	Ogherbeg - Lackrom	Dunkineely	1000	3500	€14,700		
14	L-1915-1	Drumgornan - Killymard Chapel	Dunkineely	1000	3500	€14,700		
15	L-1855-1	Ballyweal - Ballyboyle	Dunkineely	1000	4000	€15,770	Started	
16	L-6395-2	Eddrim Glebe - DromoreDunkineely10003500		€14,700				
17	L-1815-6	Ardbane - Meenaguise	Dunkineely	1100	3850	€16,170		1%

18	L-6325-2/1	Meenaguise - Disert	Dunkineely	1100	3850	€16,170		
19	L 2225-6	Belault-Rushen	Ballyshannon	2000	6400	€25,600		
20	L 2365-2	Carricknahorna	Ballyshannon	1600	5120	€20,275	Started	
21	L 7775-1	Tullyhorkey-Behey	Ballyshannon	2200	7040	€28,000		
22	L 24851	Balure Lane	Ballyshannon	1000	3300	€13,200		
23	L 79151	Ardfarna	Ballyshannon	1500	4800	€19,200	Started	2%
24	L6765-2	Cuilly/Copany	Laghey	1200	4800	€21,600.00		
25	L1835-3	Corabber	Laghey	1000	4500	€20,250.00		
26	L6945-1	Raw Hill	Laghey	500	1750	€7,875.00		
27	L2185-2	Rath	Laghey	1000	5000	€22,489.00		
28	L7065-1	Carrickbreeney	Laghey	600	2100	€9,450.00	Started	
29	L22652	Carn	Laghey	1000	3500	€15,600.00	Started	
30	LS6915-2	Lisnapaste - Shannagh	Laghey	1000	3500	€17,225.25	Started	3%

Total Budget €423,407

## **2016 Regional and Local Road Improvement Works**

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (14)	Own Resources / Contractor	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
1	R-262-1	Drumbeagh - Ballybrollaghan	Dunkineely	C&OR	€68,177		
2	L-1445-2	Ballybodonnell	Dunkineely	O R	€36,750	Started	
3	L-5875-1	R-262 - Dibbin School	Dunkineely	OR	€46,200	Started	
4	L-1815-4/5	Letterbarra - Drumboarty	Dunkineely	O R	€40,450	Completed	
5	L-1855-2	Drumark	Dunkineely	O R	€50,150	Started	
6	L-6375-1	Dromore Upper - Eddrim Glebe	Dunkineely	OR	€49,500	Started	
7	L-6395-1	Eddrim Glebe	Dunkineely	O R	€35,000	Completed	_
8	L-6495-1	Altilow - Heney's	Dunkineely	OR	€29,000	Completed	
9	L-1615-1	Tullycumber - Lettermore	Dunkineely	O R	€38,500		
10	L-6425-1	Drumboarty	Dunkineely	O R	€44,000	Completed	
11	L-18451	Revlin (GAA Pitch - Bank Walk)	Dunkineely	O R	€30,000	Completed	
12	L-1875-3	Station Road (Pipe Drain & Widen)	Dunkineely	O R	€12,000		8%

5 €2.00 Road Road Name and/or Engineering Own Budget Percentage Status Number **Townland Name** Area Resources Complete (15) Contractor No R-263 & L Killybegs Streets (Various locations) С €70,000 Killybegs 1 R-263-7 Bavin - Kilcar C&OR €33,600 2 Killybegs R-230-6 Meenaneary - Croweighter €64,400 3 Killybegs ΟR Started 4 R-263-3 Supers Corner C&OR €14,400 Killybegs 5 R-263-5 Largymore (Patch) C&OR €5,000 Killybegs L-5435-1 Roshine School - Drimanoo 6 Killybegs ΟR €48,000 Started 7%

7	L-1315-3	Bungosteen - Stragar	Killybegs	OR	€72,000	Started
8	L-1085-2	Carrick - Teelin	Killybegs	C&OR	€30,800	
9	L-10451	Ummerawirrinan	Killybegs	O R	€28,800	Started
10	L-5195-2	Derrylaghan - Kilbeg	Killybegs	OR	€51,200	Started
11	L-1195-1	Line Road Kilcar	Killybegs	C&OR	€28,160	
12	L-1265-4	Roshine Road	Killybegs	C&OR	€15,311	Started
13	L-1255-1	Letter - Meenyhooghan	Killybegs	O R	€38,196	Started

Na	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (16)	Own Resources /	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
No				Contractor			
1	LP2425-1	Ballyshannon Streets	Ballyshannon	C	€80,000		
2	R231-1	Rossnowlagh RD	Ballyshannon	С	€60,000		
3	LP7245-1	Ballymagoarty Irish	Ballyshannon	C&OR	€15,000		
4	LP2365-1	Cavangarden	Ballyshannon	С	€65,873		
5	LS7335-1	Glaskerragh	Ballyshannon	O R	€40,000	Started	
6	LS7295-1	Big Park	Ballyshannon	O R	€42,240	Started	
7	LS7265-2	Glasbolie	Ballyshannon	OR	€64,800	Started	
8	LS7235-1	Ballymagoarty Scotch	Ballyshannon	O R	€39,600	Started	
9	LS7385-1	Ballinacarrick (old dump rd)	Ballyshannon	OR	€35,000		
10	LP2375-1	Roshin Lough RD-Cashelard	Ballyshannon	O R	€30,000	Started	
11	L7285-1	Ballyhalla	Ballyshannon	OR	€30,000		5%

No	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area (17)	Own Resources / Contractor	Budget	Status	Percentage Complete
1	LT20855	Donegal Streets	Laghey	С	€80,000		
2	R232-9	Pettigo Rd	Laghey	С	€85,000		8%

3	LT22652	Carn	Laghey	O R	€61,600	Started
4	LP1972 -2	Tawnawilly	Laghey	OR	€77,000	Started
5	LS6585-1	Clarcam	Laghey	O R	€21,000	Started
6	LS6565-1	Birchill	Laghey	O R	€35,000	Started
7	LT68152	Druminardagh (Givens)	Laghey	O R	€25,200	Started
8	LT18352	Goladoo	Laghey	OR	€60,000	Started
9	LS6915-1	Listnapaste/Shannagh	Laghey	O R	€40,000	Started
10	LP 1945-2	Lough Eske Demense (Patches)	Laghey	С	€42,557	
11	LT20751	Tullygallon	Laghey	O R	€25,000	Started

 Total

 €2,034,466.00
 Budget

## **Donegal Municipal District**

## Severe Weather Repairs Works

No	Road Number	RSS Area	Road Name and / or Townland Name	Proposed Works (Description)	Cost	Status
1	L-5945-1	Dunkineely	Creevins, Mountcharles.	Creevins bridge replacement.	€ 60,000.00	Part 8 approval
2	L-1855-1	Dunkineely	Summerhill Donegal Town.	Installation of rock armour to the support a short section of the road that has been undermined by wave action.	€ 5,000.00	
3	L-6095-1	Dunkineely	Drumbeigh, Frosses	Repair damage to existing road surface.	€ 2,000.00	
4	L-2525-1	Ballyshannon	Ardfarn, Ballyshannon.	Repair of flood damage to the Four Masters Bridge.	€200,000.00	
5	L-7865-1	Ballyshannon	Ardfarn, Ballyshannon.	Road restoration works.	€ 62,000.00	
6	LS-7075-1	Ballyshannon	Drumholme.	Immediate pothole repair followed by road restoration later in the year	€ 15,000.00	
7	LP-2325-1	Ballyshannon	Ballymagroarty Scotch, Ballintra.	Immediate pothole repair followed by road restoration later in the year. Culvert in roadway needs to be upsized to cater for flooding.	€ 48,000.00	Started
8	LP-23151	Ballyshannon	Coolmore, Rossnowlagh.	Installation of rock armour to repair landslide along road verge.	€ 3,000.00	Completed
9	Footway	Laghey	Bank Walk, Drumrooske, Donegal Town.	Repair of landslide along public footway. Piling required to retain slippage.	€ 26,000.00	Completed
10	L-2165-1	Laghey	Murvagh Upper.	Ongoing pothole repair followed by road restoration works later in the year.	€ 20,000.00	
11	LP-2135-2	Laghey	Drumbristan Glebe, Murvagh.	Patch & surface dress	€ 6,000.00	
12	L6845-1	Laghey	Carrick Lane, Laghey.	Full width road restoration rewuired aswell as increasing the size of teh roadside drainage.	€ 45,000.00	

13	L-8045-1	Laghey	Drumnawark, Pettigo.	Immediate pothole repairs has been completed, additional culverts & road restoration works required later in the year.	€ 25,000.00	
14	R-232-2	Laghey	Lough Derg Road, Pettigo.	Installation of rock armour to the support a short section of the road verge that has been undermined by the nearby Ominey river.	€ 15,000.00	

#### Total Budget Allocation €532,000.00

# **Donegal Municipal District**

### **Severe Weather Preventative Works**

No	Road Number	RSS Area	Road Name and / or Townland Name	Proposed Works (Description)	Cost	Status
1	L-7775-2	Ballyshannon	Parkhill, Ballyshannon	Installation of new drainage network to address flooding.	€ 20,000.00	
2	R231-4 & LS-7175	Ballyshannon	Rossnowlagh Road and Ardeelan Lower junction.	Repairs to existing culvert.	€ 3,612.00	
3	R-232-9	Laghey	Mulnagoad, Pettigo. (Bannus Lough)	Culvert replacement.	€ 20,000.00	
4	LT-65351	Laghey	Clareden Drive, Drumlonagher, Donegal Town	Installation of new drainage network and the reinstatement of road surface damaged due to the flooding.	€ 30,000.00	Started
5	LP-2195-2	Laghey	Rafoarty (Ballintra - Laghey Road)	Installation of new drainage network to address flooding.	€ 25,000.00	

Total Budget Allocation € 98,612.00

# **Donegal Municipal District**

LOW COST REMEDIAL WORKS

#### Programme of works yet to be announced

	Low cost safety measures									
Engineering	Location	Site Location	Road No	Budget	Description of works	Status				
Area				(€)						
15	Killybegs	SAFETY IMP 2016 R-263 DONEGAL ROAD, KILLYBEGS	R263	€20,000.00	B070103-Low Cost Remedial Measures Non National (DOT)	Design stage				

	NRA - HD 28 Works - Management of Skid Resistance								
Engineering	Location	Site Location	Road No	Budget	Description of works	Status			
Area				(€)					

	NRA - HD 15 Works - Network Safety Ranking							
Engineering	Location	Site Location	Road No	Budget	Description of works	Status		
Area				(€)				

### Community, Enterprise & Planning Services

**Planning Services Report** 

### Donegal Municipal District Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016

#### Content:

- 1. Summary of planning applications for each District
- 2. Appeals (Received & Decisions Notified).
- 3. Significant Cases (incl. Transboundary applications)
- 4. Other case types [Part 8's etc]

### Summary of planning applications for each Municipal District (2016)

	Period	Apps Recd	Granted	Refused	Deferred	Decisions < 2 months	Invalid
Donegal	01/01/16-31/03/16	98	76	12	23	38	17
Glenties	01/01/16-31/03/16	79	57	20	35	17	13
Inishowen	01/01/16-31/03/16	94	58	13	20	32	13
Letterkenny	01/01/16-31/03/16	95	54	6	11	38	15
Stranorlar	01/01/16-31/03/16	57	41	6	10	17	9
County Tota	S	423	286	57	99	142	67

Received (02/04/2016 – 22/04/2016) – 6 in total – None in Donegal Municipal District

Decision Notified (02/04/2016 - 22/04/2016) - None

REF NO	APPLICANTS NAME	APP. TYPE	DECISION DATE	L.A. DECISION	DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	BORD PLEANALA RECD DATE
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### Appeal's Received (02/04/2016 – 22/04/2016)

### Decision Notified (02/04/2016 – 22/04/2016) – Donegal Municipal District

REF NO	APPLICANTS NAME	APP. TYPE	DECISION DATE	L.A. DECISION	DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	BORD PLEANALA DEC. DATE	DECISION
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### **Transboundary Applications**

Ref.No:	N.I. Ref.No:	Date Rec'd	App./Contact	Type	Description / Location	Case Officer	Status
TB 12/03	J/2011/0082/F	08/10/2013	D.O.E. N.I.	Further Environmental Information and Revised Plans	Amendment to Windfarm at Crighshane & Crighdenis, Killeter, Castlederg.	P Kelly	Active
TB 13/04	C/2013/0248/F	08/11/2013	D.O.E. N.I	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure	Windfarm at Windy Hill	P Kelly	Active
TB 14/01	J/2013/0287/F	07/01/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure	Windfarm at Meenamullan near Killeter	P Kelly	Active
TB14/03	J/2014/0124/LCB	28/04/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Consultatation	Installation of Street Lighting ballards at Clady Bridge (Listed Building), Urney Road, Clady	P Kelly	Active
TB14/04	J/2011/0433/0	17/04/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Addendum to Environmental Statement & Information	Major mixed use cross border development	P Kelly	Active
TB15/01	J/2014/0624/F	10/02/2015	D.O.E. N.I.	Initial Consultation	Wind Turbine at 290m S.W. of 30 Creevagh Road, Co. Derry	P Kelly	Active
TB15/02	A/2015/0049/F	10/202/2015	D.O.E. N.I.	Initial Consultation	Wind Turbine with a hub height on lands 108m N.W. of 18 Killea Road, Derry.	P Kelly	Active
TB15/03	LA11/2015/0066/F49/F	05/05/2015	Derry City & Strabane Disctrict Council	Initial Consultation	erection of a single wind turbine - 30m hub height with 17.3m blades, associated access and 2 no. electricity cabinets on lands 250m N.W. of 9 Elagh Road, Derry	P Kelly	

### Part 8- Donegal Municipal District - 1 Active at 29/04/2016

M.D.	Ref.No:	Location	Section	Received	Status
Donegal	PG16.02	Railway Park, Drumroosk Middle, Donegal Town	Housing	13/04/2016	Active

Community, Enterprise & Planning Directorate Community & Development Division



# Municipal District of Donegal 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016

### **Community & Development Division**

## REPORT

- 1. Donegal Walks and Trails
- 2. Bundoran Tourism Officer Update
- 3. Playgrounds



Municipal District: Donegal

### Activity / Project Update April 28th 2016

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails
Project Description/Activity	Maintenance, development and promotion of walks & trails in Donegal including cycle routes and Greenways.
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 1 - inclusive of current status	A number of applications / expressions of interest were lodged to the Dept under the Recreation Funding 2015 to initiate some proposed walks and improve some existing ones. While no funding was allocated last year a new call is being opened later this year (2016)
	The EOIs submitted include: Sli Cholmcille (Bealacht na Gaeltachta), Kingfisher Cycle Route incorporating Ballyshannon cycle loops and NW Cycle route.
	Counters have been checked at Sliabh Liag and indicated a 25% increase in visits at Sliabh Liag in 2015 over 2014.
	We were also successful in an EU funded project called Hiking Europe where the Four routes of Bealacht na Gaeltachta and the three Island walks will be marketed along with routes in Catalonia in Spain, Italy and Croatia to support rural tourism in areas of low density population.
	A meeting was held on Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 with the RSS Supervisors from Udaras na Gaeltachta to finalise an order for signs and materials to complete the walks and allow for an inspection from National Trails Office.
	Other proposed projects include: The upgrading of the existing walks and trails to an acceptable standard to meet the requirements of the National Trails Office.
	Ongoing consultation with agencies including National Parks & Wildlife Services, Udaras na Gaeltachta, Donegal Tourism and Donegal Local Development Company.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarter 2 reporting period	An application has been submitted to Interreg VA for funding for Greenway development under the Sustainable Transport measure in conjunction with Derry / Strabane Council however criteria dictates that it must be cross-border therefore initial funding will be for works commencing at the border with Derry.
	Work will be starting on the Hiking Europe project with the preparation of mapping and marketing.
	First quarter readings of the counters will be done in May 2016
	Proposed projects will be assessed for LEADER funding.
Contact Person (to include telephone	Francis Conaghan (Paths & trails Development Officer) 087 2371219
number & e-mail address)	fconaghan@donegaltrailsoffice.com



#### Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update			
Activity / Project Opdate Activity / Project Title Bundoran Tourism Officer Update			
Project Description	Promotional Activities – April 2016		
Current Activities	<ul> <li><u>Information Panels at Fairy Bridges/Wishing Chair Bundoran</u></li> <li>Planning permission process underway. No further action to be taken until permission granted. Planning decision due on May 10<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li><u>Recruitment of new members of Discover Bundoran Tourism Partnership</u></li> <li>Continuous invoicing of members for membership fees.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li><u>Discover Bundoran brochure distribution</u></li> <li>4000 brochures left in stock from initial run of 15000. These brochures to be distributed as required over the season.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li><u>Marketing of Bundoran</u></li> <li>Implementation of marketing plan for 2016</li> <li>Recent activities include major special offers section on website and advertised in national press and via Facebook. Radio promotion to follow on Dublin's Q102 in Mid May. Weeklong promotion in RTE Guide edition of May 2<sup>nd</sup>.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Events for 2016</li> <li>Assistance to Bundoran RNLI with Soapbox Race event on June 1<sup>st</sup></li> <li>Assistance to Magh Ene Historical Society with 1916 Centenary Events</li> <li>Organisation of 2016 Street Party</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li><u>Discover Bundoran website and social media</u></li> <li>Ongoing management of <u>www.discoverbundoran.com</u> and social media channels</li> <li>Meeting with web developer to make some small cosmetic changes to the website following internal audit of links and content.</li> <li>Updating of website with news blogs, photo galleries and event/gig guide listings.</li> <li>May newsletter to be sent out.</li> <li>To improve the content an update more frequently with content that matters to Bundoran target market.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Marketing of Bundoran Waterworld</li> <li>Actioning of marketing plan. Post mortem of initial marketing activity over Easter break. Implementing plan for 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Management and Staffing of Bundoran Tourist Office</li> <li>2 new staff working well.</li> <li>Office open Mon-Sat. Plan to follow for Sunday opening.</li> <li>Visitor numbers to office steadily increasing</li> </ul>		
<b>Contact Person</b> ( <i>to include telephone</i> <i>number &amp; e-mail address</i> )	Shane Smyth – <u>shane@discoverbundoran.com</u> 087 3737817		



#### Municipal District: Donegal

### Activity / Project Update: May 2016

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS	
Project Description/Activity	<ul> <li>Annual Maintenance of Playgrounds 2015/2016</li> <li>1. Glencolmcille</li> <li>2. St John Bosco, Donegal Town</li> <li>3. Mall Park, Ballyshannon &amp; Outdoor Fitness Equipment</li> <li>4. Kilcar</li> </ul>	
Budget (if applicable)	€19,974	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ol> <li>Works consists of:</li> <li>Replacement of broken equipment</li> </ol>	
	<ul> <li>Replace worn safety tiles and remove trip hazards</li> <li>Grease all equipment that contains bushes, bearings , shackles, etc.</li> <li>Fitting of new 'Smoking Cessation' signs</li> <li>Fitting of new 'Rules' signs</li> </ul>	
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	<ul> <li><u>Current Status:</u></li> <li>Rospa Inspections and identification of necessary repairs have been carried out.</li> <li>Tenders assessed December 2015</li> <li>Annual Maintenance Tender awarded to Murphy Playground Services Ltd.</li> <li>Works are ongoing at present.</li> </ul>	
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<ul> <li>Maintenance works have commenced and due for completion by mid May 2016.</li> </ul>	
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	Eamon Poulo	
<b>Contact Person</b> ( <i>to include telephone</i> <i>number &amp; e-mail address</i> )	Eamon Boyle Executive Engineer Three Rivers Centre Tel: 087 1788623	
	eamonb@donegalcoco.ie	



### Activity / Project Update

#### Activity / Project Title DONEGAL YOUTH COUNCIL Progress to date within the **Road Safety** last two months/guarter\* -The group completed another road safety radio with GAA Health & inclusive of current status Wellbeing Committee and Donegal GAA Road Safety Ambassador Ryan McHugh to launch a road safety campaign ahead of St Patricks Day and Easter period Young Carers Week Through involvement in Donegal CYPSC Young Carers Working Group our Youth Councillors had their Young Carers video shown in schools and Youthreach Centres across the county during Donegal Young Carers Week from 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April. Workshop packs were made available also for teachers and tutors. THE LONG RUN \* Delete irrelevant reporting period The Youth Council hosted an event highlighting the issue of Human Trafficking called "In the Long Run". The group from Belgium came to Donegal on March 30<sup>th</sup> and we had a shared workshop with the Donegal Anti Human Trafficking Group and Nordland Youth Council who were here as part of the YEP project. **ANIMATION PROJECT** Youth Councillors voted at their January meeting to make Cyber Bullying one of their main priorities for project work in 2016. They are working alongside new EVS volunteer Marika to develop a series of animated videos which explore different topics and have some really creative ideas. **EUROPEAN EXCHANGE** DYC hosted a youth exchange over the second week of Easter, which has seen us develop a partnership with the Nordland Youth Council. The Norwegian group came to Letterkenny for a week on Easter Monday with the Youth Council now returning to visit them in Bodo Norway on July 4<sup>th</sup>. **MEETINGS –** 3 Youth Councillors attended the Regional Networking Day for Comhairle na nÓg in Sligo on Wednesday 23rd March 2 Youth Councillors attended a National Cyber Crime Consultation in Dublin on April 28<sup>th</sup> The Youth Council were invited to present their election model at the Annual Information and Networking Day for Comhairle na Nóg Coordinators and staff in the Morrison Hotel on Tuesday 19th April **Project Targets for the next** Development of Bullying Project & Poster on Steroid Abuse bi-monthly/quarterly\* Completion of Advanced Planning Visit and Second leg of YEP reporting period Exchange project in Nordland, Norway Planning for recruitment of new Youth Council for 2016 with review of current model **Contact Person** Martin Keeney 0876806676 youthcouncil@donegalyouthservice.ie

**Municipal District: ALL** 

### **ENVIRONMENT SECTION REPORT APRIL 2016.**

### 1. Big Donegal Clean Up'16

This campaign is well underway and has been a great success to date. Lot's of groups are also sending in there photographs and our Communications office is promoting and publicising events where possible.

### 2. Tidy Towns Seminar

Donegal County Council hosted a very successful seminar on the 18th April for Tidy Towns groups on the sustainable waste and resource management category of the competition. Among the guest speaker was Anne O'Leary Tidy Towns National Adjudicator who gave an excellent overview of the Tidy Towns competitions with other presentation focussing on the sustainable waste theme. The Radisson Hotel presented a very interesting case study on the activities of the hotel in the area of waste prevention.

### 3. Pay By Weight

A national and regional awareness campaign on Pay By Weight will be commencing 18th May with an intensive media campaign, a national launch event will take place on May 18th with a print and radio campaign taking place from 22nd - 29th May and again from the 19th - 26th June. A suite of awareness resources has been developed for Donegal County Council to use at a local level.

### 4. Enforcement Figures 2016.

Total number of environment complaints for the year to date, 438 of which 85% were for waste and litter.

Total number of Fixed Penalty Notices served under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 is 58 of which 34% have been paid to date and 13% of the total were served on persons with NI addresses.

### **Coastal Management**

### **Priority Beach Works**

A list of beach priority works has been drafted following direction of An Taisce re Criteria Compliance to retain Blue Flag and Green Coast status and recent Irish Water Safety beach risk assessment recommendations. Immediate works are pending for Dooey, Killahoey and Drumnatinney.

Downings beach access was improved ahead of the Easter holidays as the access path was badly choked with sand.

#### **Designated Bathing Areas**

The EPA has just awarded Donegal County Council two additional Designated Bathing Area status for Dooey and Magheroarty beaches. This brings our total to 21 (or 15%) of the total 140 beaches Nationally.

Local Authority	No. Of Designated
	Bathing Areas
Clare Co Co	11
Cork Co Co	13
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	2
Со Со	
Donegal Co Co	21
Dublin City Co	3
Fingal Co Co	10
Galway City Co	4
Galway Co Co	13
Kerry Co Co	15
Leitrim Co Co	1
Louth Co Co	4
Мауо Со Со	15
Meath Co Co	1
Sligo Co Co	5
Waterford Co Co	6
Westmeath Co Co	3
Wexford Co Co	7
Wicklow Co Co	6
Total	140

### Coastal Erosion

• A very productive meeting was held with An Mhacháire le Chéile Teo to address erosion issues affecting the <u>Maghery</u> area. Coastal

Officer is progressing the issues agreed.

- An application is in Preparation to the NPWS to address the erosion issue on <u>Magherawarden</u> beach by the local river. Work is necessary to divert the river flow toward the sea. The erosion has an obvious impact re land loss but also potential deterioration in water quality.
- A meeting was held with management of <u>Carrickfinn</u> Airport re accretion issues affecting the airport and locality. With their input, an application can be made to the OPW for funding to assess the situation.
- Approval was received from the OPW to progress and seek an appropriate contractor to assess the coastal erosion issues in Inishowen from Clonmany to Malin Head.

Other coastal erosion applications are summarised below.

Ballyliffen/5 Finger Strand/Binbane Hd Road	Application submitted for collective study (as recommended by OPW) for funding.	Funding approved.	Environment & Roads; Environment to investigate addressing impacts on beaches and adjacent dune systems. Roads to investigate addressing impacts on Binbane Road, beach car parks and beach access roads, etc.
Magheroarty	Application submitted for funding.	Pending.	Environment to investigate addressing impacts on this Green Coast beach and dune system.
Narin/Portnoo	Site assessment complete with the Golf Club. Awaiting input from Roads before submitting application to OPW for funding.		Environment & Roads; Environment to investigate addressing impact on this Blue Flag beach and dunes. Roads to investigate addressing impacts on beach car park.

Maghery	Survey complete. Costing for recommended works sought to proceed and request OPW funding for same.		Environment proposes to investigate addressing impacts on this beach and dune system.
Inver	Application submitted for funding.	Pending.	Roads Directorate to investigate addressing impact on locally affected road network.
Drung	Application submitted for funding.	Pending.	Roads Directorate to investigate addressing impact on locally affected road network.

### Beach Sea Mammals

Under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 1976-2005, all cetaceans and seals are protected species listed on the 5th Schedule. There is an obligation to protect these animals should they arrive on our shores (alive or dead). Also, there is a scientific interest to record the details of such events to track and monitor trends. Such recording can allow the introduction of measures to reduce/prevent deaths. Again, this is an obligation under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 1976-2005.

A very productive meeting was held with the County Vet where a draft policy policy on dealing with beached sea mammals (dead or alive) was presented. The Litter Wardens, Mobile Litter Units, etc, were supportive of the policy. This policy is the first developed in the country with input from all relevant agencies.

### **Beach Lifeguards**

Interviews are being held to appoint seasonal beach lifeguards for 14 beaches across the County. Supporting infrastructure (Lifeguard Stations, ringbuoys, toilets, uniforms, etc) is also currently being procured.

### Access for All

A Loughs Agency sponsored beach wheelchair will be delivered this week to Rathmullan Water Sports and Sailing School for use by them over the 2016 season. This will enable access to the water and beach by the group's members of all abilities. This will be a valuable pilot project.

DCC is making arrangements for a long term loan of our Loughs Agency sponsored pontoon hoist to Gartan Outdoor Centre. This hoist is used to transfer disabled water enthusiasts from land to vessel safely. It was previously used in the Greencastle Marina but has been replaced with a permanent hoist.

#### **Public Conveniences**

#### PC Assessment

An assessment is nearing completion on the Public Convenience status at each of the 24 locations county wide. There are additional portaloo services provided both seasonally and annually. These have been excluded from this initial assessment.

These services are being reviewed in consultation with Michael Hanley re the Health and Safety of the facilities as a place of work for our staff.

Initial costs have been sought for improvement works at Bundoran, Dungloe, Arranmore Island, Ballywhoriskey, Dunfanaghy, Downings and Moville.

# Submissions for Donegal Municipal District

Municipal District of Donegal meeting of the 10th May 2016

Agenda No.	Туре		Information
4.1	Motion	Submitted by:	CIr. Noel Andrew Jordan
		Assigned to:	Housing, Corporate & Culture
		Details:	That this Municipal District calls on Irish Water to include Cashelcummin road to the new sewer works project in killybegs
		Signed off by:	Bridie McBrearty
		Response:	Subject to the motion being adopted, the matter will be referred to Irish Water
4.2	Motion	Submitted by:	Clr. Barry O Neill
		Assigned to:	Roads and Housing Capital
		Details:	That this Municipal District discuss the impact of works being carried out by both national utility companies and by Council sub contractors is having on footpaths, roads and public spaces in our towns
		Signed off by:	MARK SWEENEY
		Response:	Any works carried out by utility companies on public roads, footpaths or public spaces can only be done following approval by the Council. A road opening licence is sought by the utility company and is granted by the Council. Attached to the licence is the standard conditions for reinstatement of trenches as set out in the Guidelines for the Opening, Backfilling and Reinstatement of trenches in Public Roads. There is also a 2 year guarantee period called for in the licence to ensure that the temporary reinstatement conforms to the prescribed standards until the permanent reinstatement works are completed and that the permanent reinstatement works conform to the prescribed standard throughout the guarantee period.
			With regard to works on public roads, footpaths or public spaces carried out by sub-contractors on behalf of the Council, the Council's Engineers supervise these works to ensure that the works are being carried out to the required standards.
4.3	Motion	Submitted by:	Clr. Niamh Kennedy
		-	Community, Enterprise & Planning
		Details:	That the executive of this municipal district open up discussions with the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine for the term lease of lands adjacent to the fire station in Killybegs to secure the future tourism development of South West Donegal.
		Signed off	Paddy Doherty

		by:	
		Response:	The Council would have to agree on the need for the site with the right tourism project for the area, There has been previous proposals that could be revisited , these would require significant capital investment. So external funding sources would be required. Initial discussions could be held with the Dept to determine their interest in support this type of initiative .
5.1	Question	Submitted by:	Clr. Barry O Neill
		Assigned to:	Roads and Housing Capital
		Details:	Can the Roads Department carry out essential / urgent placing of secure fencing at Rossnowlagh to the area opposite the Gaslight Restaurant, as the embankment / cliff has became very unsafe and immediate fencing is required in the interest of public safety ?
		Signed off by:	MARK SWEENEY
		Response:	The Roads Department have looked at this slippage and is seeking expert advise as to how best to deal with this matter. Soil pining is one option currently being considered to stabilise the cliff face so as to prevent further slippage which if not addressed could ultimately impact the road and existing services underneath. The existing slippage has occurred on privately owned lands and the landowner has erected fencing on his lands to protect members of the public. An application for funding has been made as part of the second submission from the funding available under the flood damage repair works and it is hoped that the necessary funding can be secured from this source.

5.2	Question	Submitted by:	Clr. Barry O Neill
		Assigned to:	Roads and Housing Capital
		Details:	What is the up to date position on the abolishment of Car Parking charges in Ballyshannon following the recent majority decision in favour of same by this Municipal District Council ?
		Signed off by:	MARK SWEENEY
		Response:	It is acknowledged that the majority of elected members present at the meeting on 9th February were not opposed to abolishing the car parking charges in Ballyshannon.
			However, it must also be acknowledged that there was not a full deliberation and consideration of what the implications of abolishing the long established parking charges in one town would have on other towns in the Municipal District and indeed the whole county.
			In addition, it has to be taken into account here that the local members approved a loan to improve the Ballyshannon car park on the strength of introducing car park charges on the improved 87 spaces after the work was completed at a cost of €248,000. When the new work was completed, they

would not follow-on and introduce the charges and indeed now, not only want the charges on the new spaces not introduced but also want the existing charges in the other areas of the town abolished.

The matter of how the €248,000 will be re-paid must be dealt with in any decision to abolish car parking charges.

The expectation and the agreed plan that charges on the new spaces would ultimately pay-off the loan is still valid even though it is accepted that it is not appropriate to initiate at this point in time. Nevertheless, it is expected that in time, Ballyshannon will turn around economically and have the ability to sustain small car parking charges. As such, it would be a retrograde step, to abolish the existing car parking charges when they need to be expanded in the longer term. The existing system helps with town traffic management even though it is acknowledged that this is only a problem at certain times in the town.

The Council is anxious to assist Ballyshannon in its economic turnaround and the executive is currently examining options on how this could be supported in a proactive way and which would, in the round, contribute a value greater than the cost of the car parking charges in the town.

This is being done in the knowledge that car parking charges are not the contributory problem which caused or which is sustaining the economic downturn currently being experienced in Ballyshannon.

Finally, it should also be noted that the previous Report presented to the local members showed that there are currently 567 free car park spaces against the 97 with charges in Ballyshannon which would point to the ability of shoppers, workers and visitors having a choice to pick a free or paid space in the town.