



Éire Community Council and Co-Op

Date:	Saturday 27th September 2025	
Rock Hall, Ballyshannon, Donegal, Éire		
Attendees		
John-Declan F (Chair)	Colm-Mary G. (V.C.)	Howard-Michael H (Sec.)
John G. B. (Treas.)	John-Brian C. (PRO)	Maria-Louise P.
Orla M.	Tom W.	Caroline B.
Samantha B.	Liam-John C.	Veronica-Mary F.
Colin-Declan H.	Anna-Marie S.R.	Barra-Séamus dR

Proxies: John-Brian C. holds a proxy for Tom Walsh. Colm Granahan holds a proxy for Caroline Burke. John D. Flanagan holds proxies for Veronica Flanagan and John Barrett.

Meeting opens at 15:20 hrs IRT / 15:45 hrs GMT

1. Reporting

There's a bit of confusion in the dynamics of how the Community Co-Ops and the Community Court system are going to work for this country going forward because people are built in the mindset that you go to the council because the council has the power. That's the way it works in the corporate world.

Not in this world. It's the people who have the power. So, where there are members of the Co-Op and encounter an issue or a problem, it is not enough, and we won't get anywhere with it, if two or three people bring that problem or that concern to the Board. So how do we make it matter?

So we make it matter by ensuring that we have sufficient numbers of critical mass to activate the council into action, to perhaps call an EGM, define the issue, call an EGM and to hold and decide in the court of record. So, the resolution is proposed in order to better secure the sovereign peoples' rights for the protection, management and development of their community in allegiance with the Will and Wish of the People of the Community. Following the successful establishment in Crossmolina, County Mayo, of the first Community Court in Éire, it is proposed that a reporting mechanism be put in place, bringing local issues to the attention of the Community Co-Op Council.



Éire Community Council and Co-Op

The proposal is as follows:

"In Order to better secure Sovereign Peoples' Rights for the Protection, Management and Development of their Community in allegiance with the will, and wish of the People of the Community' - it is Proposed :

1. A Community Co-Op Member (the "Reporter") may report a Community Concern to the attention of a Member of the Community Council Board.
2. The Member of the Community Council Board will bring the Community Concern to the Community Council Board to Define the Community Concern as a Defined Community Issue.
3. The Defined Community Issue may be then taken by the Reporter to other members of the Community Co-Op to obtain at least 100 signatures in favour of addressing the Defined Community Issue at an EGM of the Community Council Co- Op.
4. Once the Community Council is furnished with the confirmation of at least 100 Community Co-Op Member signatures, the Community Council will call an EGM for the Community Co-Op Members to Decide by Visible Votes (Deeds of Acknowledgement & Confirmation and Proxy) on the Defined Community Issue.
5. Where there are at least 300 Community Co-Op Member Visible Votes at the EGM, the Decision of the Community Co-Op may be Declared in the Community Court of Record.

So when something happens in a community, the community themselves have the power to address it, but it must be addressed by way of the critical mass: 100 your own council, 300 your own court, and eventually 600 your own county or country.

Resolution is passed unanimously without objection.

2. New Board Member

Anna-Marie Stack-Rivas has been proposed and unanimously voted in on the seat of the Éire Board by the sitting members.

3. Department of Fisheries

Colum Boyle, having agreed on the 11th of September and that he would be suitable to take up the position of the Office of Fisheries, given his work, progressing the mapping of the community councils and those coastal community councils, is officially ratified and is presented with his seal.

Meeting ends 15:25 IRT. 15:50 GMT



Éire Community Council and Co-Op

Donegal Town, Ballyshannon, Ballybofey, Inishowen South and Letterkenny E.C.O.

Secretaries present are Edward - Ballybofey, Angela - Ballyshannon, and Louise - Donegal Town.

1. Community Council Membership, Deeds of Acknowledgement & Confirmation and Proxy for E.G.M.

Donegal Town total membership 232. Of those, 224 have their Deed of A&C. Proxies - 152 at Principle 13 proxies and 27 Principle 14 proxies.

Ballyshannon total membership 110 with Deed of A&C. Proxies 104 between principles 13 and 14.

Ballybofey total membership 194 with Deeds of A&C for all. Proxies 36 on Principle 13 and 158 on Principle 14.

All paperwork is present in Rock Hall. It is noted with disappointment that the Executive and Secretaries for the Inishowen South and Letterkenny Councils are not present.

2. County Court.

Having successfully established the first Community Court in Crossmolina, the Éire Community Co-Op is looking to eventually establish a County Court in Éire. Given that there are a number of community councils in Donegal, Donegal seems to be the place to bring this about.

In the absence of the paperwork and the Executive from the Inishowen and Letterkenny Councils, a concern is raised about the delivery of the County Court as was originally envisaged. This concern is aired by all at the table. It is also brought to the attention of the table that WhatsApp may not be the best method of communicating with members as they 'drop off' despite repeated requests. It is pointed out that, at this time, it is the best platform on which to communicate and we should learn to work with it for the time being. WhatsApp is the medium for voting on resolutions. It is a record, a voice for the member to have their say.

The three (3) resolutions that affect the members, the ordinary co-op members of Donegal Town, Ballyshannon and Ballybofey are:

1. That the Donegal County Supreme Council and Co-op acknowledge, accept and assert the Donegal County by-laws as sovereign and indefeasible rights for the people of Donegal.
2. That the Donegal County Supreme Council and Co-op stand with the disqualification of the Planning and Development Act for the Donegal community areas and



Éire Community Council and Co-Op

3. That Resolutions 1 and 2 be ratified in the Donegal County Court of Record in consonance with the Éire Courts Constitution and the Constitution of the Republic of Ireland.

The constitution of the Éire Courts, in alignment with the Constitution of the Irish Republic, provides that where we have three (3) Community Courts, they can align to form the County Court. It's five (5) communities with 100 or more members and three (3) Community Courts. If, for the incoming members, it's very clear what they're becoming a member for, is to pass those resolutions. We don't run into the difficulty with the thumbs up or thumbs down in the WhatsApp group chat.

It is proposed that a fresh approach be taken to the establishment of the County Court by working with the three (3) Community Councils that are doing the most work and are most effective. When we establish the Donegal County Court, we get those numbers up to 300, and we will establish, in tandem with that, the Donegal Town Community Court, the Ballyshannon Community Court and the Ballybofey Community Court as well as the Donegal County Board.

A date of 22nd November 2025 is set to reconvene on this matter with the aspiration to have 300 members or more in each of the Communities of Ballyshannon, Donegal Town and Ballybofey.

Meeting ends 15:37 IRT. 16:2 GMT



Éire Community Council and Co-Op

Donegal County Supreme Council

1. Donegal County Court.

Having spoken to the present secretaries and members of Donegal Town, Ballyshannon and Ballybofey, and being aware of the difficulties that Inishowen South and Letterkenny are currently facing, we have amended our tactic whereby Donegal Town, Ballyshannon and Ballybofey are going to increase efforts to get the members, the Co-Op members up to 300 in each place.

Then, when we do reconvene, when we are in a position where there are 300 co-op members and visible votes, we will not only be seeking to establish the Donegal County Court of Record, but we will also be seeking to establish the Donegal Town, Ballybofey and Ballyshannon Community Courts.

Proposal to be put to the Ballybofey Community Co-Op Members: that Michael McGee as Community Justice for the Ballybofey Community Court.

Proposal Louise Price as Vice-Chair of Ballyshannon Community Co-Op Council. Passed.

In light of the lack of representation from the Inishowen South and Letterkenny Community Co-Op Councils, we cannot push forward any further with those resolutions at today's meeting.

Meeting ends 15:43 IRT. 16:08 GMT

