

NUACHTLITIR CHILL CHOMÁIN

Fáilte go dtí an tríú eagrán de Nuachtlitir Chomhar Dún Chaocháin Teo.

Táimid ar thairseach ceann de na tréimhsí is cinniúnaí i leith na Gaeilge mar theanga teaghlaigh agus phobail sa Ghaeltacht. Ba shin ceann de na rudaí a sheas amach ag cruinniú poiblí a d'eagraigh Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh sa tSeanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg ar an 19ú Aibreán seo caite mar chuid den staidéar ar úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht. Ocht nduine fhichead de bhunadh na háite a bhí i láthair ag an gcrúinniú inár léiríodh go leor tuairimí ar céard atá i ndán don Ghaeilge mar theanga phobail amach anseo. Creimeadh leanúnach agus brú ar an nGaeilge ó chuile thaobh, easpa seirbhísí le fáil trí Ghaeilge ó roinnt eagraíochtaí stáit, easpa tacaíochta don Ghaeilge i réimsí áirithe den phobal, laghdú suntasach i measc na ndaoine óga a labhraíonn Gaeilge mar ghnáth-theanga cumarsáide – ba shin cuid de na tuairimí a nochtadh. Tá tuilleadh faoi seo ar leathanach 9 den Nuachtlitir. Beidh plean forbartha Chill Chomáin 2006-2010 le fáil go luath sna siopaí agus sna hoifigí phoist áitiúla nó is féidir é a fháil tríd an ríomhphoist ach teangmháil a dhéanamh le dunchaochainl@eircom.net. Coinnigh súil amach dó.

We are on the threshold of a critical point in relation to the survival of Irish as a household and community language in the Gaeltacht. This was one of the main points that emerged from a public meeting which was organised by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, University College Galway in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg on on 19th April last as part of a study it is undertaking on the use of the Irish use of the Irish language in the Gaeltacht. Twenty eight local people were in attendance who gave their views on what they believe the future holds for Irish as a community language. Further details are available on page nine of this newsletter.

The Cill Chomáin Development Plan 2006-2010 will soon be available in local shops and post offices or alternatively can be obtained via e-mail by contacting dunchaochainl@eircom.net. The plan outlines a strategy for the development of the parish as we approach the second half of the decade. Keep an eye out for it.

* Nuachtlitir Áitiúil

* A Community Newsletter

* Guth an phobail ar mhaithe leis an bpobal

* Provides a voice for the local community and an update on development issues

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Foilsithe ag Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo (i gcomhar le fo-choiste Ghlor na nGael)

**Coiste Bainistíochta an Chomharchumainn /
The Management Committee**

Cathaoirleach : Séamus Ó Murchú
Rúnaí : Seán Mac Aindriú
Cisteoir : Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú
Na baill eile : Micheál Ó Seighin
Uinsíonn Mac Graith
Micheál de Búrca
Caitlín Uí Sheighin
Micheál Ó Murchú
Bríd Ni Sheighin

GUTH AN PHOBAIL – HAVE YOUR SAY

Má tá aon tuairimí agat ar ábhar an nuachtlitir seo nó moltaí le haghaidh an chéad eagrán eile ba bhreá linn cloisteáil uait.

We welcome your comments on the items covered in this newsletter and/or any ideas you may have for the next edition.

Déan teangmháil le:-

Treasa Ní Ghearraigh,
Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo,
An tSeanscoil,
Ceathrú Thaidhg,
Béal an Átha,
Co. Mhaigh Eo

Guthán: 097 88082

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IONAD EOLAIS / INFORMATION OFFICE

Tá oifig na heagraíochta lonnaithe sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg, áit a bhfuil eolas agus foirmeacha iarratais ar fáil faoi scéimeanna éagsúla mar shampla feabhsú tithíochta, bóithre portaigh, scéim feabhsúcháin áitiúil an Chomhairle Chondae, deiseanna traenála &rl. Tá seirbhísí cóipéala, laminating agus facs le fáil ann chomh maith.

The organisation's office is located in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg, where information and application forms are available on various schemes including home improvement grants, repair of bog roads, training opportunities etc. Photocopying, laminating and fax services are also available here.

BAILL NUA – NEW MEMBERS

Má tá spéis agat a bheith i do bhall ar an gcomharchumann agus ionchar níos mó a bheith agat ar chúrsaí forbartha na háite déan teangmháil le Treasa le haghaidh tuilleadh eolais.

If you would like to become a member of the comharchumann and have a greater input into the overall development of the area please contact Treasa for further information.

PLEAN FORBARTHA CHILL CHOMÁIN

Leagann Plean Forbartha Chill Chomáin, atá ullmhaithe ag Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo i gcomhar leis an bpobal áitiúil, amach straitéis forbartha don pharóiste le haghaidh an tréimhse cúig bliana 2006-2010.

I dtaobh pleanáil náisiúnta de leagann Plean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2000-2006 amach an comhthéacs iomláine i leith polasaithe le béim ar fhorbairt cothrom réigiúnach a chur chun cinn. Tógann Plean Forbartha Chill Chomáin san áireamh pleanáil straitéiseach áitiúil, réigiúnach agus náisiúnta le béim ar fhorbairt chothrom, chomhtháite agus ar an gcaoi seo tá sé mar aidhm aige pobal bríomhar muiníneach le todcháil inbhuaíneach a chur chun cinn.

An Modh Oibre

Aithníonn an plean forbartha seo an gá atá le forbairt pobail 'ón mbonn aníos' áit a gcuireann ionchur phobail na háite agus eolas áitiúil borradh le cumas forbartha na háite. Áirítear sa cháipéis próifíl cheantair den pharóiste agus d'acmhainní áitiúla, próifíl déimeagrafach agus socheachnamaíoch, anailís ar láidreachtaí, laigí, deiseanna agus bagairtí faoi na cúig mór-rannóga forbartha agus na gníomhaíochtaí molta a eascraíonn as sin. Áirítear sna gníomhaíochtaí uilig critéir mar chomhionannas, inbhuaíneacht, a dtionchar ar an timpeallacht agus ar shlí bheatha an phobail áitiúil agus mar sin déanann an straitéis iarracht cothromaíocht a aimsiú idir fhorbairt eacnamaíochta/bhonneagartha agus riachtanaisí sóisialta/cultúrtha. Chuaigh an coiste i gcomhairle leis an bpobal áitiúil ag an staid ullmhúcháin i bhfoirm ceistneoirí, ceardlanna oibre agus lá oscailte inar tugadh cuireadh don phobal freastal le scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an ndréachtphlean agus a dtuairimí a léiriú. Cuireadh an dréachtphlean chuig eagraisí éagsúla forbartha le haghaidh a gcuid ionchur agus moltaí chomh maith.

Na Mór-Rannóga Forbartha

Ag cloí le ráiteas misin an tionscnóra Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo beidh (a) caomhnú agus cur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus cultúr na háite (b) forbairt acmhainní nádúrtha agus daonna an cheantair ar bhealach comhtháthach, inbhuaíneach agus (c) forbairt bhonneagair, áiseanna agus seirbhísí cuí ar mhaithe leis an bpobal ina ghnéithe tabhachtacha den phlean. Cuirfear an misin seo i bhfeidhm tré dhíriú isteach ar na cúig mór-

rannóga forbartha seo leanas, a bhfuil gníomhaíochtaí sainiúla ceangailte leo:-

- * Pobal, Fiontar agus Fostaíocht
- * Oideachas agus Oiliúint
- * Timpeallacht agus Bonneagar
- * Teanga, Cultúr agus Turasóireacht
- * Seirbhísí agus Áiseanna

Anailís ar Láidreachtaí, Laigí, Deiseanna agus Bagairtí (LLDB), Gníomhaíochtaí agus Cur i bhFeidhm

Is iad an tírdhreach nádúrtha neamhmillte, an saibhreas oidhreachta cultúrtha agus spiorad bríomhar pobail na láidreachtaí is mó atá ag paróiste Chill Chomáin. Mar gheall ar athraithe agus éiginnteacht sna hearnálacha traidisiúnta mar thalmhaíocht agus iascaireacht caithfidh an pobal dearcadh ar na feidearthachtaí atá ann táirgí/seirbhísí nua a fhorbairt mar thurasóireacht éiceolaíochta, fheirmeireacht orgánach, acmhainní mara agus fiontair beaga eile bunaithe ar acmhainní na háite. Is laigeacht sainiúil forbartha é an t-easpa infheistíochta cuí i mbonneagar agus i seirbhísí riachtanacha agus caithfear dul i ngleic leis seo. Aimsíonn an anailís LLDB deiseanna forbartha i dtreo inbhuaíneacht fad-théarmach an phobail tuaithe áitiúil agus is iad seo bunchloch an phlean gníomhaíochta.

Leagann an plean amach clár oibre soiléir praiticiúil agus na 57 gníomh atá sé i gceist a chur i bhfeidhm thar an tréimhse cúig bliana agus torthaí intomhaiste. Déanfar athbhreithniú leanúnach ar an bplean maidir leis an dul chun cinn atá déanta i leith chuile ghníomh. D'fhéadfadh gníomhaíochtaí eile teacht chun cinn idir an dá linn de réir mar a athraíonn an comhthéacs forbartha pobail. Tá tréimhse ama ceangailte le cuir i bhfeidhm na ngníomhaíochtaí mar ghearr-, meán- nó fad-théarma agus leanúnach i roinnt cásanna. Tá cur i bhfeidhm an phlean ag brath go mór ar thacaíocht ó réimse leathan eagraisí agus eagraíochtaí ag obair i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an bpobal áitiúil.

Mar fhocal scoir tá sé mar aidhm ag an bplean seo acmhainní nádúrtha agus daonna, bonneagar, áiseanna agus seirbhísí cuí a fhorbairt ar bhealach comhtháthach, inbhuaíneach i dtreo pobal bríomhar muiníneach a chur chun cinn.

NA GNÍOMHAÍOCHTA MOLTA

Pobal, Fiontar agus Fostaíocht

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar na féidearthachtaí atá ann tionscnaimh úra a fhorbairt mar shampla feirmeoireacht orgánach, táirgí bia/mara agus táirgí eile breisluacha mar mhalairt ar fheirmeoireacht, iascaireacht agus thionscail traidisiúnta

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar na féidearthachtaí atá ann fiontair teileachumarsáide agus teicneolaíochta faisnéise agus cumarsáide a fhorbairt - áit nach dtagann iargúlacht i gceist

Brú a chur ar Údarás na Gaeltachta fiontar a bhunú san iar-mhonarchan cniotála Hackett & Turpin i gCeathrú Thaidhg

Oiliúint chuí a eagrú i scileanna fiontair/gnó le cur ar chumas dhaoine fiontair áitiúla a bhunú agus a riaradh

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar na féidearthachtaí atá ann seirbhís aistriúcháin Gaeilge a bhunú bunaithe ar threoirínite úra na Roinne GPT&G go gcaithfear cáipéisí dhá-theangacha a sholáthar

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí na bóithre réigiúnacha, an R314 ó Bhéal an Átha agus an R312 ó Chaisleán a' Bharraigh, bóithre straitéiseacha forbartha/turasóireachta, a uasghrádú

Oideachas agus Oiliúint

Cláranna oiliúna cuí a eagrú le freastal ar riachtanaisí áitiúla agus foghlaim feadhsoil a ngríosú

Iarracht a dhéanamh ealaín, drámaíocht, damhsa agus ceol a fhorbairt

Timpeallacht agus Bonneagar

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí, bóithre an pharóiste a fheabhsú

Oibreacha feabhsúcháin agus chothbhála a chur i gcrích ar na bóithre portaigh seo leanas i gcomhar le scéimeanna FÁS:- An Bóthar Thuas (Gort Breac), An Bóthar Thíos (Gort Breac), Bóthar Vandaleur (Ros Dumhach) agus bóithre eile le cinntiú

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí Céibh na Rinne Rua a fhorbairt agus a fhadú

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí céibh Phort Durlainne a uasghrádú agus marina a fhorbairt a bhéas dá úsáid ag grúpaí iascaireachta, mara, siamsaíochta agus turasóireachta

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí Céibh a' Chalaidh i Ros Dumhach a fhorbairt (sleamhnán, mullarda &rl.)

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht atá ann fuinneamh in-athnuaite a fhorbairt (bio-mass, gaoth, uisce, griain, geothermal agus taoide)

Iarracht a dhéanamh an pobal a chur ar an eolas maidir le bainistiú agus caomhnú fuinnimh

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí an gréasán teileachumarsáide a fheabhsú agus leathanbhanda a chur ar fáil ar chostas réasúnta

An pobal a chur ar an eolas maidir le bainistiú dramhaíola (mar shampla íoc de réir meáchain) agus athchúrsáil

Feachtais bailiú bruscair a eagrú ar thránna agus reiligí áitiúla go rialta

Tuilleadh áiseanna athchúrsála mar bhancanna buidéil a sholáthar ag Gleann na Muaidhe agus Barr na Trá

Iarracht a dhéanamh tuilleadh scéimeanna athnuachana baile a fhorbairt

Brú a chur ar na heagraisí cuí an caighdeán uisce a fheabhsú ar scéim uisce Ghleann na Muaidhe

Teanga, Cultúr agus Turasóireacht

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar na féidearthachtaí atá ann táirgí breise agus pacáistí saoire cuimsitheacha a fhorbairt bunaithe ar éicthurasóireachta na háite

Comhphairtíocht oibre a lorg leis na heagraisí cuí margáíochta chun an áit a chur ar an mapa agus a chur chun cinn

Iarracht a dhéanamh an soláthar lóistín cláraithe a mhéadú agus aitheantas speisialta a lorg le haghaidh Mná Tí na Gaeltachta

Imeachtaí mar rothaíocht, ailleadóireacht, slatiascaireacht carriage agus mara, breathnóireacht ar mhíolta móra agus deilfeanna, peinteáil tírdhreachta, grianghrafadóireacht, éaneolaíocht, spórt uisce, ceardlanna ceirdeanna traidisiúnta &rl. a fhorbairt

Scrúdú a dhéanamh ar na féidearthachtaí atá ag Achadha Chéide agus Páirc Náisiúnta Bhaile Chruaich a bheith mar bhealaí isteach san áit

Na siúlóidí atá ann a fheabhsú agus tuilleadh siúlóidí a fhorbairt

Conair seandálaíochta/staire a fhorbairt

Áird a dhíriú ar laithreáin tabhachtacha áitiúla (cláranna eolais)

Deileáil le fiosriúcháin i leith suíomh idirlíne www.gaeltacht.info

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht atá ann Ros Dumhach a fhorbairt mar ainm branda arbh ionann é agus caomhnú tírdhreacha sainiúil agus saol pobal tuaithe agus é a cheangail isteach le turasóireachta spioradálta - ealú ó stríosanna an tsaoil

Scrúdú a dhéanamh ar fhéidearthachtaí an Straitéis Náisiúnta um Áineas Tuaithe i dtaobh forbairt polasaí d'imeachtaí tuaithe

Oiliúint chuí a chur ar fáil i leith seirbhísí turasóireachta a bhainistiú ar bhonn proifisiúnta

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht atá ann stádas Brat Gorm a fháil le haghaidh tránna áitiúla – tógann an stádas san áireamh soláthar áiteanna páirceála, leithris poiblí, binsí picnice, boscaí bruscair agus cláranna eolais

Iarrataisí a ullmhú ar scéimeanna aitheantais mar Pride of Place, An Baile Beo &rl.

Moltaí a chur isteach sa Phlean Oidhreachta Chondae – Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an fhéidearthacht atá ann Teacháin a' Watch, an sean-teach faire ag Port a' Chlóidh, a athchóiriú

Iarracht a dhéanamh scéim na gcomharthaí cloch a leathnú go dtí na bailte fearainn eile sa pharóiste (taobh amuigh de cheantar Dhún Chaocháin, áit a bhfuil said cheana féin)

Iarracht a dhéanamh inneall ATM a sholáthar ag Barr na Trá

Iarracht a dhéanamh ealaín, dramaíocht, ceol agus damhsa a athbheochan

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht atá ann páirc nádúrtha fhiadhulra a fhorbairt sa pharóiste bunaithe ar ghnáthóga portaigh agus foraoise ina mbeidh siúlóidí nádúrtha (plandaí

agus ainmhithe áitiúla), ceardlanna ceardaíochta, cláranna eolais, áiseanna picnice, ionad eolais/cuardaíochta, siopa tae &rl.

Eolaire a fhoilsiú de sheirbhísí turasóireachta an pharóiste

Féile Oidhreachta Dhún Chaocháin agus seisiún ceoil traidisiúnta a eagrú

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht atá ann ionad il-fheidhmeach cultúrtha a fhorbairt

Seirbhísí agus Áiseanna

Iarracht a dhéanamh áiteanna súgartha pobail do pháistí a fhorbairt ag Ceathrú Thaidhg, Gleann na Muaidhe agus Inbhear/Poll a' tSomáis

Iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bhféidearthacht atá ann halla spóirt il-fheidhmeach agus áiseanna eile siamsaíochta mar cispheil, leadóg arl. a fhorbairt

Fairsingiú a dhéanamh ar na háiseanna óige atá ann cheana féin agus áiseanna úra a fhorbairt

Clár malartú óige a eagrú le Coláiste Mhuire, Baile Átha Cliath

Fairsingiú a dhéanamh ar na háiseanna aosaigh atá ann cheana féin agus áiseanna úra a fhorbairt

An pobal a ghríosú chun sholáthar áiseanna do dhaoine faoi mhí-chumas a chur ar fáil i bhfoirgnimh pobail &rl.

Brú a chur ar an eagrais cuí an t-seirbhís leighis Westdoc a fheabhsú

Na seirbhísí réamhscoile Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin agus Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe a bhainistiú agus a fhorbairt i gcomhar leis an gcoiste áitiúil

Seirbhís Iar-scoile Dhún Chaocháin a bhainistiú agus a fhorbairt i gcomhar leis an gcoiste áitiúil

Campaí samhraidh do pháistí bunscoile a eagrú sa pharóiste

Pairtíocht oibre a chur i bhfeidhm le heagraí an Choláiste Samhraidh Gaeilge

Iarracht a dhéanamh próifíl na háite a ardú sna meáin tré imeachtaí éagsúla a fhógairt sna nuacháin áitiúla (Western People, Mayo News, Mayo Echo), náisiúnta (SAOL, LÁ, Foinse) ar RnaG agus TG4.

Nuachtlitir ceathrú an chomharchumainn a fhoilsiú

Seirbhísí eolais a sholáthar mar shampla ról/scéimeanna eagraisí éagsúla forbartha, foinsí airgeadú, forbairt agus bainistiú tograí, deiseanna oiliúna maraon le seirbhísí cóipeála, facs, laminating agus seirbhísí aistriúcháin Gaeilge

Nóta Breise: Mar gheall ar thabacht na teanga Gaeilge tá plean faoi leith dá chur le chéile ina ndéanfar anailís shainiúil ar staid na Gaeilge sa pharóiste agus ina leagfar amach clár oibre bunaithe ar thorthaí na hanailíse sin.

CILL CHOMÁIN DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Cill Chomáin Development Plan, which was prepared by Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo in consultation with the local community, outlines a strategy for the development of the parish over the five year period 2006-2010.

From a national planning perspective the National Development Plan 2000-2006 and the Border, Midlands and Western Region Operational Programme set out the overall policy context with the emphasis on promoting balanced regional development. The Cill Chomáin Development Plan takes account of local, regional and national strategic planning where the emphasis is on balanced and sustainable development and doing so it aims to promote a vibrant, self-reliant community with a sustainable future.

Methodology

This development plan recognises the need for a 'bottom up approach' to community development where the input of local people and local knowledge drives the developmental potential of the area. The document incorporates an area profile of the parish and its resources, a demographic and socio-economic profile, a SWOT analysis of the five key areas of development and the resulting proposed actions. All actions are considered in terms of equality, sustainability, their impact on the environment and on the way of life of the local community and in so doing the strategy endeavours to strike an appropriate balance between economic/infrastructural development and social/cultural needs. Consultation with the local community in the planning stages took the form of questionnaires, workshops and an open day where individuals were invited to attend to examine the draft plan and make recommendations. The draft plan was also forwarded to various development agencies for comment.

Key Areas of Development

In keeping with the mission statement of the promoter Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, the development plan for the parish of Cill Chomáin will seek to (a) preserve and promote the Irish language and culture (b) develop in an integrated and sustainable way the existing natural and human resources of the area and (c) develop the necessary infrastructure, facilities and services for the benefit of the entire community. This mission will be achieved through the five key areas of development listed below, each with its own specific actions:-

- * Community, Enterprise and Employment
- * Education and Training
- * Environment and Infrastructure
- * Language, Culture and Tourism
- * Services and Facilities

Analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT), Actions and Implementation

The parish of Cill Chomáin's main strengths are its unspoilt natural landscape, rich cultural heritage and vibrant community spirit. Changes and uncertainty in traditional occupations such as farming and fishing mean the community must examine the potential of developing new products/services such as eco-tourism, organic farming, mariculture and other small enterprises based on local resources. Lack of proper investment in infrastructure and facilities is a significant weakness in terms of future development and this needs to be addressed. The SWOT analysis identifies opportunities for the development and long-term sustainability of this rural community and forms the basis for the proceeding action plan.

The implementation plan sets out a clear, practical programme of work, with 57 associated actions to be carried out over the five year period and measurable outcomes. The plan will be subject to ongoing review to report progress made in respect of each action and new actions may be necessary during its lifetime as the context of community development changes. The timeframe by which it is hoped to achieve the actions is designated as either short-, medium- or long-term and in some instances as ongoing. The successful implementation of this development plan is dependent on the commitment and support of a wide range of agencies and organisations, working in partnership with the local community.

In summary this plan aims to harness and maximise the potential of the natural and human resources and develop the necessary infrastructure, facilities and services in an integrated and sustainable manner towards the promotion of a self-reliant vibrant community.

THE PROPOSED ACTIONS

Community, Enterprise and Employment

Examine the feasibility of developing new initiatives such as organic farming, local food products, aquaculture and other value added products as an alternative to traditional farming, fishing and industry

Examine the feasibility of developing telecommunications and ICT (information and communications technology) enterprises where peripherality is not an issue

Lobby Údarás na Gaeltachta in relation to setting up an enterprise in the former Hackett & Turpin knitting factory in Ceathrú Thaidhg

Organise relevant training in entrepreneurial skills to equip people to set up and manage locally-based enterprises

Examine the feasibility of setting up an Irish translation service in light of new legislation from An Roinn GPT&G in relation to the availability of bi-lingual documentation

Lobby the relevant bodies/agencies to upgrade the regional roads R314 from Ballina and R312 from Castlebar which are strategic roads from a development/tourism perspective

Education and Training

Aim to organise appropriate training programmes that are relevant to local requirements and encourage lifelong learning

Aim to develop art, drama, dance, music and other forms of self-expression

Environment and Infrastructure

Lobby the relevant departments/agencies to improve roads within the parish

Carry out improvement and maintenance works on the following bog roads in conjunction with local FÁS schemes:- An Bóthar Thuas (Gort Breac), An

Bóthar Thíos (Gort Breac), Bóthar Vandaleur (Ros Dumhach) and others to be decided

Lobby the relevant departments/agencies to develop and extend the pier at Rinn Rua

Lobby the relevant departments/agencies to upgrade the existing pier and to develop a marina at Port Durlainne which can be shared by fishing, aquaculture, leisure and tourism groups

Lobby the relevant departments/agencies to upgrade Céibh a' Chalaigh at Ros Dumhach (slipway, bollards etc.)

Examine the feasibility of developing alternative and renewable energy (bio-mass, wind, hydro, solar, geothermal and tidal)

Aim to develop awareness in relation to energy management and conservation

Lobby the relevant departments/agencies to improve the telecommunications network and provide affordable broadband access

Aim to increase public awareness in relation to waste minimisation (e.g. pay by weight) and recycling

Organise regular refuse clean ups at local beaches and graveyards

Aim to provide additional recycling facilities such as bottle banks at Glenamoy and Barr na Trá

Aim to develop additional village enhancement initiatives

Lobby the relevant departments/agencies to improve the water quality of the Glenamoy water scheme

Language, Culture and Tourism

Examine the feasibility of developing additional products and all-inclusive package holidays based on the eco-tourism potential of the area

Work in partnership with the relevant marketing agencies to create an awareness of and promote the area

Aim to increase the provision of registered accommodation and aim for special status within Bord Fáilte that recognises the role of Mná Tí sa Gaeltacht

Aim to develop and market activities such as cycling, abseiling, rock climbing, rock and deep sea angling, whale and dolphin watching, landscape painting, photography, birdwatching, watersports, traditional craft workshops, pitch and putt etc.

Examine the potential of Céide Fields and Ballycroy National Park to act as gateways to the area

Aim to enhance existing and develop further walking routes

Develop an archaeological / historical trail

Highlight local sites of importance (information panels)

Monitor and process enquiries generated by website www.gaeltacht.info

Aim to establish Rossport as a brandname synonymous with protecting a unique landscape and small community way of life and tie in with spiritual tourism potential - 'get away from it all'

Examine the potential of the National Countryside Recreation Strategy in terms of developing a policy for countryside recreation

Provide training to operate professional tourism ventures

Examine the potential of obtaining Blue Flag status for the beaches at an Rinn Rua and Port a' Chlóidh - the criteria includes the provision of carparking, toilets, picnic benches, refuse bins and information panels

Prepare applications for award schemes such as Pride of Place, An Baile Beo etc.

Submit proposals to the County Heritage Plan – Examine the feasibility of restoring Teachain a' Watch, the abandoned lookout station at Port a' Chlóidh

Aim to erect stone signage in the remaining townlands in the parish (apart from the Dún Chaocháin area where they are already in place)

Examine the feasibility of installing an ATM cash machine at Barr na Trá

Aim to revitalise drama, art and traditional music

Examine the feasibility of developing a nature and wildlife theme park in the parish based on peat and

forest habitats to include nature walks (local flora and fauna), craft demonstrations, information panels, picnic areas, an information/visitor centre, tea-room etc.

Compile a directory of tourism services in the parish

Organise Dún Chaocháin Heritage Festival and traditional music sessions

Examine feasibility of developing a multi-purpose cultural centre

Services and Facilities

Aim to develop community playgrounds for children at Ceathrú Thaidhg, Gleann na Muaidhe and Inbhear/Poll a' tSomáis

Investigate the feasibility of developing a multi-activity indoor sports hall and other leisure activities such as basketball, tennis etc.

Aim to build on existing and establish additional youth activities

Organise youth exchange programme with Coláiste Mhuire, Dublin

Aim to build on existing and provide additional activities for the elderly

Encourage provision of disabled access in public buildings etc.

Lobby the relevant agency to improve the medical service Westdoc

Manage and develop the pre-schools Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin and Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe in conjunction with local committee

Manage and develop the after-school service Seirbhís Iar-scoile Dhún Chaocháin in conjunction with local committee

Organise summer camps in the parish for local primary school children

Work in co-operation with organiser of Irish Summer College

Aim to increase the profile of the area in the media by publicising various events in local newspapers (Western People, Mayo News, Mayo Echo), national newspapers (SAOL, LÁ, Foinse), RnaG and TG4.

Publish Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo's quarterly newsletter

Provide public information services e.g. the role/schemes of various development agencies, sources of funding, project development and management, availability of training opportunities as well as photocopy, fax, laminating and Irish translation services

N.B. *Due to the importance of the Irish language and its continued survival, a separate language plan is being developed with its own specific analysis and programme of action.*

SCÉALTA EILE / OTHER NEWS

Cúrsa Ullmhú Bia - Food Preparation Course

Tá sé i gceist cúrsa ullmhú bia a reáchtáil i mí Meán Fómhair 06, a chlúdaíonn cócaireacht phraiticiúil, pleanáil biachlár, freastal ar ghrúpaí, roghanna sláintiúla, glaineacht, smachtú buiséid agus costasú bídh. Cuireann an cúrsa seo deis ar fáil do mhná agus d'fhir araon cáilíochtaí FETAC Leibhéal 5 a bhaint amach in ullmhúcháin bia, rud a rachfas chun tairbhe do dhaoine a bhíonn ag plé le Coláistí Samhraidh Gaeilge, le turasóireacht nó leis an dtionscail bia go ginearálta. Tá an clár á riaradh ó oifig réigiúnach Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta i dTír Chonaill agus á maoiniú ag FÁS, MFG agus Údarás na Gaeltachta. Is é Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo atá ag déanamh riaracháin air go háitiúil.

It is proposed to organise a food preparation course in September 06, which will include modules such as practical cookery, menu planning, cooking for groups, healthy options, hygiene, budget control and food costing. The course offers an opportunity for both men and women to attain a FETAC Level 5 qualification in food preparation, which will be beneficial to those involved in Irish Summer Colleges, tourism or the food/ hospitality sector in general. The course is being administered through Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta's regional office in Donegal and funded by FÁS, MFG and Údarás na Gaeltachta. Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo is administering the project at local level.

Daffodil Day

Ba mhaith le Bantracht Dhún Chaocháin buíochas mór a ghlacadh le chuile dhuine a thacaigh leis an 'coffee morning' a eagraíodh sa Seanscoil i mí Márta. €255 a bailíodh ar shon na cúise aille.

Bantracht Dún Chaocháin would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee morning which was organised in the Seanscoil in March. A total of €255 was collected towards this worthwhile cause.

Staidéar Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh

Táimid ar thairseach ceann de na tréimhsí is cinniúnaí i leith na Gaeilge mar theanga teaghlaigh agus phobail sa Ghaeltacht. Ba shin ceann de na rudaí a sheas amach ag cruinniú poiblí a d'eagraigh Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann Gaillimh sa tSeanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg ar an 19ú Aibreán seo caite mar chuid den staidéar ar úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht. Ocht nduine fhichead de bhunadh na háite a bhí i láthair ag an gcrúinniú inár léiríodh go leor tuairimí ar céard atá i ndán don Ghaeilge mar theanga phobail amach anseo. Creimeadh leanúnach agus brú ar an nGaeilge ó chuile thaobh mar shampla sna meáin, easpa seirbhísí le fáil trí Ghaeilge ó roinnt eagraíochtaí stáit, easpa tacaíochta don Ghaeilge i réimsí áirithe den phobal, go leor grúpaí agus eagraisí ag obair go neamhspléach gan aon iarracht comhpháirtíochta eatarthu, laghdú suntasach i measc na ndaoine óga a labhraíonn Gaeilge mar ghnáth-theanga cumarsáide – ba shin cuid de na tuairimí a nochtadh.

Is léir go bhfuil ról fíor-thabachtach ag tuismitheoirí sa bpróiseas aistriú teangan agus chuige sin ceann de na moltaí atá curtha ar aghaidh ná go mbeadh scéim cuairteoirí teanga a bhunú d'fhonn spreagadh a thabhairt do thuismitheoirí agus múinteoirí an Ghaeilge seachas an Béarla a roghnú. Tá go leor taighde den chineál seo déanta sa mBreatain Bhig le blianta beaga anuas a léiríonn gur sa tumoideachais atá réiteach na faidhbe ó thaobh múineadh agus foghlaim na Gaeilge. B'féidir go mba chóir dúinn díriu isteach ar an múnla sin, atá dá chur i bhfeidhm sna naíonraí cheana féin.

We are on the threshold of a critical point in relation to the survival of Irish as a household and community language in the Gaeltacht. This was one of the main points that emerged from a public meeting which was organised by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, University College Galway in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg on 19th April last as part of a study it is undertaking on the use of the Irish language in the Gaeltacht. Twenty eight local people were in attendance who gave their views on what they believe the future holds for Irish as a community language. The ongoing erosion of the Irish language from outside influences such as the

media, lack of provision of services through Irish from many state bodies, lack of support for the Irish language in some sections of the community, lack of a co-ordinated effort between groups and organisations, a noticeable decline in the number of young people who speak Irish as their main language of communication – these were among the viewpoints put forward.

Clearly parents have an important role to play in the transferral of language and one of the recommendations put forward was that a scheme of language assistants be established to liaise with parents and teachers and encourage them to choose Irish instead of English. Much research in this area has been undertaken in Wales in recent years which illustrates that complete immersion in a language is the key to its survival. Perhaps we should focus on this model, which is already being implemented in the naíonraí (Irish pre-schools), as the way forward.

An R312 – Bóthar Chaisleáin a' Bharraigh

Ábhar mór díoma, feirge agus lagbhri do phobal Iorrais i gcoitinne is ea an drochchuma atá ar an R312, an príomhbhóthar a ritheann idir cheantar Iorrais agus Caisleán a' Bharraigh. Bhí cruinniú torthúil ag an ngrúpa nua-bunaithe gníomhaíochta R312 in Óstán an Broadhaven Bay i mBéal an Mhuirthead ar an 12ú Aibreán seo caite chun an ábhar a phlé. Tugadh fianaise ag an gcruinniú ar na contúirtí atá ann do thiomanáithe a mbaineann úsáid as an mbóthar seo go laethúil, go mórmhór seandaoine agus daoine tinn atá ag taisteal ón gceantar chomh fada le hoispidéal an Chondae. Anuas ar sin tá trucanna móra troma ag baint úsáid as an mbóthar go rialta agus tá cúpla ceann tar éis sciorradh isteach sa díog mar gheall ar na taobhanna boga. Cé go bhfuil gearán á dhéanamh ag muintir na háite agus ag tiománaithe le fada faoi is beag airde atá orthu.

Aontaíodh d'aonghuth nach raibh drochchuma an bhóthair inghlactha níos mó agus go gcuirfi feachtas gníomhaíochta i bhfeidhm láithreach bonn chun brú a chur ar na heagraisí chuí maoiniú a chur ar fáil chun uasghradú a dhéanamh air. Tugadh le fios ag an gcruinniú nach bhfuil ciste airgeadais ag Comhairle Chondae Mhaigh Eo le dul i ngleic leis an bhfadhb agus go gcaithfear díriú ar chistí náisiúnta ina leith. Tá an bóthar lonnaithe i gceantar aitheanta mí-bhuntaíste a bhfuil stadas CLÁR aige agus anuas ar sin déanann sé freastal ar cheantar imeallach Gaeltachta. Tá cóip de thuairisc innealtóra le fáil a leagann amach go soiléir an obair riachtanach atá le déanamh idir leathnú, dhíriú agus laidriú an

dromchla. Rinneadh cinneadh go neagrófaí **cruinniú poiblí in Óstán an Broadhaven Bay ar an 19ú Bealtaine 06 ag 9.00 i.n.** ag tabhairt cuireadh do na hionadaithe tofa uilig freastal air. Beidh an grúpa ag súil le comhoibriú eatarthu ar mhaithe le leighsiú na faidhbe le cinntiú go ndéanfaí an obair chuí sula dtarlóidh droch thimpiste. Moladh chomh maith, ag brath ar thoradh an chruinniú poiblí, go mbualfadh toscaireacht ón gceantar leis an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil chun achainí agus na siníthe uilig atá bailithe a thabhairt dó.

The worsening condition of the main road linking Erris to Castlebar the R312, has become a huge concern in the Erris area. The recently formed R312 Action group had a very productive meeting in The Broadhaven Bay Hotel on the 12th of April last to address the situation. The meeting heard evidence that highlighted the worsening hazards that people have to face on a daily basis when using this road. Particular emphasis was placed on the hardship faced by sick and elderly people from the area having to attend Mayo General Hospital. In addition heavy goods vehicles use the road on a regular basis and some have ended up sliding into the drain due to the soft roadside margins. While numerous complaints have been made by local people in relation to the issue very little has been done.

*In this regard, a consensus was reached that the worsening condition of the road would not be accepted and that a plan of action would be put in place to campaign for the necessary funding needed to upgrade this road. The meeting was informed that Mayo County Council does not have a budget to upgrade this road and therefore attention must be directed towards national funds. The road is situated in a recognised disadvantaged area (with CLÁR status) in the BMW region and also serves a peripheral Gaeltacht area. A copy of an engineer's report is available outlining the essential work that needs to be carried out including widening, straightening and strengthening of surface. It was decided to organise a **public meeting in the Broadhaven Bay Hotel on 19th May 06 at 9.00 p.m.** inviting all elected representatives to attend. The emphasis is on everyone working towards a common goal, regardless of political preferences in order to move the project forward. It was also proposed that a delegation meet with the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to hand in a petition pending the outcome of the public meeting. Hundreds of signatures have been collected to date which will form part of the petition.*