

Clonmany Festival – Clonmany Village Residents

Meeting Requests

I am writing to the local community to share details of several attempts to arrange meetings between the charity, Clonmany Enterprise Development Limited By Guarantee (**CEDLtd**) and Clonmany Village Residents. This is also a public call for CEDLtd to arrange a meeting with the Village Residents.

Four written formal requests have been sent to CEDLtd, to have meetings with Village Residents regarding various issues/concerns/matters in relation to the Clonmany Festival and local development plans. These requests were sent on

- 31 May 2025** “Clonmany Festival – Village Residents Meeting Request”
- 9 July 2025** “Final Request – ‘Clonmany Festival – Village Residents Meeting’(31st May, 2025)”
- 6 October 2025** “Clonmany Festival – Village Residents Meeting – Post Festival”
- 19 January 2026** “2025 Clonmany Festival”

The initial request, in May, resulted in CEDLtd getting in contact to arrange an alternative meeting; with just one person, John Bradley, as opposed to a village residents meeting. This resulted in 3 failed attempts to have a meeting.

21st June 2025

This meeting was deferred by myself, John Bradley, 4 hours prior to the arranged meeting, as the request to have all CEDLtd Directors/Trustees invited and ideally present was not agreed to, nor responded to.

As health and safety, risk management, and compliance are collective duties of the entire CEDLtd board, it is important for all Directors/Trustees to attend. Full attendance ensures that all legal obligations are fully understood and that any resulting decisions carry the formal authorisation of the complete board. Provisions were suggested in the case that CEDLtd Directors/Trustees could not attend, such as being on holiday, that a catch up could be arranged with the affected Director/Trustee(s) at a later date.

As a consequence of this deferred meeting, I reached out to a Clonmany village business representative asking for a meeting with members of the village business community to discuss the issue. This was promptly responded to and arranged. A well-attended, comprehensive meeting took place on the 25th June 2025. It was agreed that the business community would contact CEDLtd and try to facilitate the deferred meeting/village residents meeting.

5th July 2025

A new meeting was proposed by CEDLtd for the 5th July 2025 with an independent chairperson present; Agenda, chairperson, time and location pending. Communications from CEDLtd fell silent, even though suggestions were sent regarding a meeting agenda and an independent chairperson. CEDLtd had previously stated *‘We are happy to discuss an independent chairperson’* via WhatsApp. With the help of a local business representative, a call was received from a CEDLtd Director/Trustee

on the morning of the proposed meeting, detailing the time, location and that CEDLtd could not provide an independent chairperson. I proposed to attend if I could record the meeting, "so that a true and accurate account is available". The recording could then be shared with absent Directors/Trustees, family and village residents. This meeting was deferred by CEDLtd via email at 3:57pm, approximately an hour before the meeting was due to take place, stating 'we are in full disagreement to the recording and consequent transcribing of a meeting for distribution'. The email stated, 'As a result we will defer the meeting until we find a suitable agreed chairperson'.

14th July 2025

Via email on the 9th July 2025, without any prior consultation, CEDLtd organised a meeting on the 14th July 2025. It also named a joint chair, again without any prior consultation.

We have organised a joint chair, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Both of these [REDACTED] are members of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. They have agreed to chair a meeting this Monday July 14th at 7pm in St Marys Hall Clonmany.

Yours Sincerely
Clonmany Enterprise Development.

The proposed joint chair arrangement was not feasible due to multiple potential overlaps of interest. This decision was due to a procedural issue and carries no negative implication regarding the professional integrity of either individual. There was no further communication exchanged after that prior to the 2025 Clonmany Festival with regard to arranging a meeting between CEDLtd and Village Residents. In addition, no attempts were made by CEDLtd to arrange meetings with Village Residents as formally requested on the 31st May 2025 and 9th July 2025.

The village businesses representative was kept informed of the ongoing from the initial contact on the 21st June 2025 to the 15th July 2025.

The additional pre festival (9th July 2025) and 2 post festival (6th October 2025 & 19th January 2026) Village Residents meeting requests were neither acknowledged nor replied to.



A comprehensive record (36 pages) substantiates the aforementioned happenings. It includes chronological communications including WhatsApp's messages, emails, and call logs sent and received by all parties.

It also includes the reasons and details for

- an independent chair and requested permission to record the proposed meeting.
- multiple, publicly documented, potential overlaps of interest for the proposed joint chair.
- independent chairperson and meeting agenda proposals forwarded to CEDLtd.

This document can be made available to view on request, to village residents and officers of local clubs/associations/organisations within Clonmany Parish.

On Friday, 8th August 2025, entering the last weekend of the Clonmany Festival, an impromptu on-street meeting with the CEDLtd Chairman resulted in a lengthy discussion, during which I put forward a request for a post festival meeting between Village Residents and CEDLtd. It was proposed that I meet some Directors/Trustees informally. I declined, stating that the way forward now, was for all CEDLtd Directors/Trustees to meet with the Village Residents, not one individual, so that their voice, concerns and feedback could have the opportunity to be heard.

The necessity for a pre festival meeting was to discuss and agree a way forward for the 8-day 2025 Clonmany Festival and other issues impacting on village residents. Key topics for discussion included:

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Property Damage
- Noise & Light Pollution
- Environmental Issues
- Street Cleaning
- Security & Policing
- Crowd Management
- Access to Event Permit & Insurance
- Binion Road Emergency Vehicle Access
- Portaloo's Placement
- Development Plans
- Clonmany Festival Community Defibrillators
- Access to event officers during the festival, primarily for emergency situations
 - Coordinator
 - Health & Safety Officer
 - Environmental Officer
 - Security Liaison Officer
 - Community Liaison Officer
 - Operations Manager / Site Manager
 - Licensing & Compliance Officer
 - Volunteer/Staff Coordinator
 - Medical Liaison Officer
 - Accessibility & Inclusion Officer

Best practice event planning means learning from past events, not only to improve future events but to try to prevent any troubling or Anti-Social issues from happening again. Learning from past events is an important practice to keep the attendees, residents and all safe. Improving security and crowd management based on real experience protects everyone. Annual post-festival meetings would be a constructive and valuable collaboration for all.

The lack of engagement and dialogue with Village Residents fails to adhere to the **charitable principles** by which CEDLtd is bound, and contradicts its legally binding **constitution** as registered with the Charities Regulator.

The Charities Act 2009 obliges all charities to **operate for the public benefit** (Section 14) and be accountable to the public via the Charities Regulator.

The Charities Governance Code (2018) requires that charities:

- **"Be accountable and transparent"** (Principle 6)
- **"Act with integrity"** (Principle 1)
- **"Work effectively with stakeholders"** (Principle 5)

CEDLtd's Constitution mandates that the company:

- **"Encourage public awareness in the good appearance of the village/parish and generally to inspire a sense of civic pride"** (Clause 3(c))
- **"Provide informed and constructive participation in planning matters"** (Clause 3(d))
- **Act "for the benefit of the community"** (Clauses 3(a), 3(e), 5(a))

This is a public call for Clonmany Enterprise Development Limited By Guarantee to convene a public meeting with Clonmany Village Residents to discuss all issues/concerns/matters/feedback without restrictions, at a time and place that suits all parties involved. In line with charity Trustee duties and obligations, all CEDLtd Directors/Trustees are asked to attend.

In the interest of a productive CEDLtd AGM, it would be beneficial for the Village Residents meeting to happen first. As no date has yet been set for the pending AGM, where a 21-day notice is mandatory, it leaves ample time for a meeting between Village Residents and CEDLtd. It is anticipated that the community will be updated regarding the AGM via CEDLtd's Clonmany Festival Facebook page, with specific care taken to ensure that village residents or community members with visual impairments are suitably notified.

Clonmany Enterprise Development Limited By Guarantee can be contacted by email at info@clonmanyfestival.com or via their [Clonmany Festival | Facebook](#) account.

It is essential that Village Residents concerns are fully heard and proactively addressed, helping to ensure that the Clonmany Festival is safe and secure for all. An annual pre and post Clonmany Festival meeting between Village Residents and CEDLtd would be a fitting collaboration and positive path forward, helping to deliver continued successful Clonmany Festivals.

John Bradley
ClonmanyResidents.com