

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**COUNCIL MEETING NO 850 – 6th November 2006****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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Ballymoney Borough Council

Minutes of Council Meeting No 850 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 6th November 2006 at 7.30 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: **Councillor**
J Finlay, Mayor

PRESENT: **Aldermen:**
F Campbell
C Cousley, Deputy Mayor
J Simpson

Councillors:
A Cavlan B Kennedy
T McKeown A Patterson
E Robinson I Stevenson
M Storey, MLA R Wilson

APOLOGIES: **Alderman**
H Connolly
Councillors
M McCamphill
P McGuigan
D McKay

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Director of Borough Services
Director of Central & Leisure Services
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Committee Clerk

Press

850.1 CONDOLENCES

The Mayor offered his condolences to the family of Heather Michelle Coutts from Dundonald who was killed in a road traffic accident in Ballymoney on

Saturday 4th November. He also wished those who were injured a speedy recovery.

Calling for urgent action to be taken, Councillor Finlay said that the road has a bad accident history and Council has been campaigning for many years to have this major route upgraded to dual carriageway standard. He acknowledged that schemes to improve road safety have been undertaken by Roads Service in recent years to provide climbing lanes and junction improvements. However, the aim remains to secure the upgrading of the route to dual carriageway.

He said the A26 is the main route for both commercial and domestic vehicles to and from the extreme north of the province, providing essential access to the main towns and villages of the northern parts of counties Antrim and Londonderry. It serves a population of some 100,000 people and this increases by many thousands during the summer season.

It is not that long ago that he had welcomed the inclusion of improvements to the A26 in a package of major road works announced by Roads Minister David Cairns. He called on the Minister to make the necessary funds available now to enable this scheme to be implemented by the earliest possible date.

850.2 MINUTES OF MEETING NO 848 – 2ND OCTOBER 2006

It was proposed by Alderman Campbell, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No 848 on 2nd October 2006, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

850.3 MINUTES OF MEETING NO 849 – 2ND OCTOBER 2006

It was proposed by Alderman Campbell, seconded by Councillor Kennedy and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of meeting No 849 on 2nd October 2006, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

850.4 SEAL DOCUMENTS

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Kennedy and **AGREED:**

that the seal of Council be affixed to Grave Registration Certificate Numbers 1030 and 1032.

850.5 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 174 – 9TH OCTOBER 2006 AND 175 – 30TH OCTOBER 2006

Councillor Stevenson presented the reports.

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Alderman Campbell and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No 174 on 9th October 2006 and Meeting No 175 on 30th October 2006, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

850.6 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 05 – 16TH OCTOBER 2006

Councillor Finlay presented the report.

It was proposed by Councillor Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No 05 – 16th October 2006, as circulated, be adopted.

850.7 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 322 – 4TH OCTOBER 2006 AND 323 – 17TH OCTOBER 2006

Alderman Campbell presented the reports.

Matters Arising

7.1 Community Relations Grant 2006/2007 (323.18)

Councillor Finlay welcomed the additional income from the Community Relations Council and thanked the Director for her work in securing this. Other members added their thanks.

7.2 Power Lifting Championship

Councillor Storey congratulated Mr Sammy Graham on his recent success in the world championship power lifting competition and requested that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to him.

Alderman Campbell associated himself with Councillor Storey's remarks and Councillor Finlay agreed that a letter of congratulations would be sent.

7.3 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Alderman Campbell, seconded by Councillor Wilson and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No 322 – 4th October 2006 and Meeting No 323 – 17th October 2006, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

850.8 HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 322 – 24TH OCTOBER 2006

Councillor Robinson presented the report.

Matters Arising

8.1 Stop it Now (NI Campaign) (322.23)

Councillor Robinson reminded members of the forthcoming workshop to be facilitated by NSPCC Northern Ireland on 15th November and urged attendance.

8.2 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No 322 of 24th October 2006, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

850.9 CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 348 – 23RD OCTOBER 2006

Mrs Patterson presented the report.

Matters Arising

9.1 Council Meetings' Timetable (348.5)

Revised dates for Council and Committee meetings which fall on public/bank holidays during 2007 were circulated and agreed.

9.2 Antrim Senior Hurling Team (348.3)

In response to Councillor Cavlan, Councillor Finlay advised that Alderman Connolly was arranging a date for the reception.

9.3 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Alderman Campbell and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No 348 – 23rd October 2006, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

The Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 7.53 pm

850.10 NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR WILSON

Councillor Wilson proposed the following motion, as set out on the agenda, in respect of which notice had been given.

- (a) *that the motion adopted at Consultative Committee Meeting No. 4 on 18th September 2006 (min 04.10) “that Council support the decision of the RPA to abolish the Housing Council subject to the proviso that the new legislation on community planning gives Councils and local communities effective powers to hold central government departments and agencies to account” be rescinded.*
- (b) *that Council support the retention of the Housing Council and its statutory right to nominate to the NIHE Board and register its objection to the abolition of the Housing Council with the Secretary of State, Peter Hain.”*

Councillor Wilson also circulated a paper in support of the Housing Council's objections to the transfer of the Supporting People function from the Housing Executive to the new Councils.

It was proposed by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

- (1) ***that the motion be adopted and that Council write to the Secretary of State accordingly.***

- (2) ***that Council support the postponement and review of the transfer of Supporting People to Councils and records its opposition to the transfer of the functions to Councils by writing to the Secretary of State, Peter Hain.***

* **Councillor McKeown joined the meeting at 8.00 pm.**

850.11 NOTICE OF MOTION, AS GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MCGUIGAN

Councillor Cavlan withdrew the following motion on behalf of Councillor McGuigan due to his absence from the meeting.

“That this Council, taking account of the consequences of continuing Direct Rule, calls for all parties to support the immediate restoration of the Assembly and the Executive.”

850.12 ROADS SERVICE – AUTUMN CONSULTATION

Roads Service wish to meet with Council between 1st November and 8th December to present an update on the current year’s work and to discuss priorities for next year. It was agreed that a special meeting would be held on either 16th or 30th November at 4.00 pm. The Chief Executive will confirm this date with Roads Service and advise members accordingly.

850.13 NILGA – MODELLING FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

NILGA has been undertaking a process supported by the Improvement and Development Agency to model out future arrangements in the light of the RPA. In parallel with this process, the DoE and other stakeholders have been working with the IdeA to develop robust implementation structures, which ensure there is political leadership at the centre of the process.

NILGA are offering to present to Council on this matter. Presentation will last approximately one hour. It was suggested that a briefing session would take place on 16th or 30th November at 4.00 pm. The Chief Executive will confirm this date and advise members accordingly.

850.14 AUTISM NORTHERN IRELAND – PRESENTATION

Autism Northern Ireland wishes to make a presentation to Council on the Bamford Review and to seek Council’s support for its comments on the Review.

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and
AGREED:

that Autism Northern Ireland be invited to give a presentation to the Consultation Committee.

* Councillor Storey left the meeting at 8.10 pm.

850.15 REVIEW OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Health and Social Services has received representations about the location of Headquarters for the new HPSS bodies to be set up under the RPA. Their letter giving an update on the current position was circulated.

850.16 ROADS SERVICE – GRITTING SCHEDULE

Roads Service has advised that Gracehill Road now qualifies to be included in the schedule of salted roads and will be added to the schedule for the coming season.

850.17 NORTHERN IRELAND CONCESSIONARY FARES SCHEME

The Department of Regional Development has issued advice with regard to renewal of SmartPasses. Their letter of 4th October was circulated.

850.18 ROADS SERVICE – ABANDONMENT ORDER

Roads Service has given notice of its proposal to abandon a section of Road at Eastburn Avenue, Ballymoney, which is no longer necessary for road traffic purposes.

850.19 ROADS SERVICE – PRIVATE STREETS

Roads Service has given notice of the adoption of Mountview, Heagles Road, Ballybogey.

850.20 ROADS SERVICE - DECRIMINALISED PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Responsibility for enforcing on-street parking and waiting restrictions across Northern Ireland transferred from the police service to the Department of

Regional Development, Roads Service, on 30th October. The Department's letter dated 23rd October with an update on the current position and a point of contact for further information was circulated.

850.21 DEVOLVING POLICING AND JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The Northern Ireland office has advised of a revision to their paper on devolving police and justice with regard to firearms and explosives. A copy of their letter dated 19th October giving details of the amendment, together with information on changes to the clause dealing with the devolution of policing and justice was circulated.

850.22 NORTHERN IRELAND'S EUROPEAN STRATEGY

On 16th October, the Government published Northern Ireland's first European Strategy. This strategy maps out a framework for Northern Ireland's engagement with Europe, guiding the work of regional and local government in partnership with civil society. "Taking our Place in Europe" is available to view or download on the departmental website at www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/european-co-operation.

850.23 HOUSING EXECUTIVE – RURAL HOUSING POLICY

The Housing Executive has undertaken a review of its rural housing policy following completion of its 'Places for People' policy. Their reports on 'Places for People' progress and 'Rural Homes for People' proposals were circulated. The consultation document, which is listed in the current Consultation Schedule to members, runs until 12th January 2007.

850.24 CAUSEWAY LOCAL HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE GROUP

The Minister for Health and Public Safety has announced that the Causeway Local Health & Social Care Group will be stood down with effect from 30th September 2006. The standing down of all fifteen LHSCG's in Northern Ireland aims to create way for new health and social care structures to be established under the Review of Public Administration.

850.25 PLANNING INFORMATION LEAFLET - INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAS (INCLUDING SATELLITE DISHES).

A copy of this leaflet provided for the benefit of householders has been circulated to all members.

850.26 RIADA STADIUM

At the request of Alderman Simpson, the Chief Executive agreed to refer to the Director of Borough Services, representations from local residents about the level of lighting at the Riada Stadium.

850.27 REPORTS

A list of reports was circulated for members' information.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 8.15 pm