

## Ballymoney Borough Council

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## Ballymoney Borough Council

Minutes of Council Meeting No 881 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 at 6.45 pm.

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

**PRESENT:**

**Aldermen**  
F Campbell  
H Connolly  
C Cousley  
J Simpson

**Councillors**  
A Cavlan  
M McCamphill  
P McGuigan  
D McKay, MLA  
T McKeown  
A Patterson  
E Robinson  
I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES:**

**Councillors**  
B Kennedy  
M Storey, MLA

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive  
Director of Borough Services (Items 1-16)  
Director of Central & Leisure Services (Items 1-16)  
Head of Corporate & Development Services  
Committee Clerk

**Roads Service (Items 1-2)**  
Mr K Beattie – Divisional Roads Manager  
Mr A Hunter – Section Engineer

**Press**

### 881.1 CONDOLENCES

The Mayor expressed condolences to the families of those who recently lost their lives in the Borough. Sympathies were extended to the families of Timothy Stewart, Colin Glass and Lottie Lawrence who all died in tragic circumstances during the month of May.

## **881.2 ROADS SERVICE - REPORT 2008/09**

Thanking Roads Service for the good work carried out by the team in Ballymoney, the Mayor welcomed representatives to the meeting to present their Annual Road Report 2008/09, a copy of which was circulated to members.

Mr Beattie, the Divisional Manager, advised members that the report comprised two sections – work completed in the area in the current financial year and proposals for 2008/09. Mr Beattie stated that, although an increase in finances for capital improvement schemes is welcomed, work will continue to be carried out on a priority basis. He referred to the programme of work delivered during the period 2007/08 and stated that a similar programme is proposed for the current year. Operation of major works continues, allowing the Division to take forward major schemes when funding becomes available. Trunk work improvements will take place over the next 10 years at a cost of £3B. Roads Service has noted the decision on the reform of RPA and is considering the revised working arrangements and structural changes that will be needed by 2011. Mr Beattie advised that the Department continues to concentrate on the local area and delivery of local programmes and to provide a high priority to the maintenance of its existing network, despite funding restraints.

### **Mr Beattie highlighted the following issues in the report.**

- Re surfacing - Funds became available last year which have been used in re-surfacing programme.
- Surface dressing - Some delay in commencement of the work. Roads Service is inviting tenders and hopes to be able to commence work within the next two weeks.
- Surface treatment work to commence in July.
- Minor works - Scheme on Kirk Road remains in abeyance pending outcome of land acquisition issues.
- Traffic schemes - Work has been carried out at a number of schools within the borough with improved signage and integrated flashing lights.
- Completion of cycle route from Knock Road to Semicock Road

Mr Beattie referred to Roads Service major works programme and strategic road improvements, advising that improvements to the M2 Ballymena bypass and the link under Larne roundabout schemes are progressing and it is hoped that contracts will be in place by January/February 2009. Design work is progressing on the proposed duelling scheme on the A26 from Glarryford to the Ballycastle fork and an announcement will be made shortly as to the preferred route following consultation with landowners, residents and members of the Frosses Road Association. Proposed duelling between Ballymoney and Coleraine has been included in the Strategic plan for the latter half of the 2008/09 year.

**Following the presentation, Mr Beattie and Mr Hunter responded to questions put forward by members, which included:**

- Work currently being undertaken at Frosses Road from Kilraughts roundabout, Southbound.
- Extension of 40 mph speed limited from Loughgiel, Southbound.
- Location of proposed Pelican Crossing at Queen Street and consultation with local shopkeepers
- Installation of traffic lights or roundabouts at Dervock Road and Kirk Road.
- Installation of fixed grit boxes at Castlehill and inclusion of Castlehill in gritting schedule.
- Replacement and new paving at Semicock Road.
- Roundabout or one-way system in Rasharkin – update on improvements requested.
- Drainage issues in Rasharkin.
- Traffic congestion and traffic calming at Eastermeade.
- Enforcement of speed restrictions at Stranocum school.
- Flooding at Garryduff Road.
- Traffic calming measures at North Road

Members thanked Road Service for the various works carried out.

The Chairman thanked Mr Beattie and Mr Hunter for their report and the representatives left the meeting at 7.30 pm.

- \* **The Head of Corporate & Development Service and Councillor McKeown arrived during the discussion at 7.10 pm and 7.20 pm respectively.**

### **881.3 MINUTES – MEETING NO 878 – 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008**

#### **Matters Arising:**

#### **3.1 Rose Energy Biomass Power Plant Proposal (878.18)**

At the request of Councillor Robinson, the Chief Executive will confirm the date for Rose Energy to provide a presentation to Council on its Biomass Power Plant proposal.

#### **3.2 Adoption of Minutes**

It was proposed by Alderman Cousley, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

***that the minutes of meeting No 878 on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008, as circulated, be adopted.***

**881.4 MINUTES – MEETING NO 879 – 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008**

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 879 on 19th May 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

**881.5 SEAL DOCUMENTS**

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

*that the seal of Council be affixed to Grave Registration Certificate numbers 1102 and 1103 (Ballymoney) and Certificate number 12 (Rasharkin).*

**881.6 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 27 – 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2008**

Councillor Cavlan presented the report.

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

*that the minutes of Meeting No 27 – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

**881.7 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 194 – 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2008**

The report was presented by Councillor Stevenson.

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

*that the minutes of Meeting No 194 – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

**881.8 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 342 – 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008**

Alderman Campbell presented the report including the addendum as set out below:

**8.1 Community Support Grants**

1. Rasharkin & District Senior Citizens for assistance towards a summer outing.
2. Cloughmills Senior Citizens Bowling Club for assistance towards an outing in June.

Recommend that both applicants be granted £100 each.

### **Good Relations Grants**

1. Philip Scott seeking support to participate in the Spirit of Enniskillen Trust Project in July 2008.

Recommend that £75.00 is granted.

### **8.2 Contributions to Outside Bodies for Capital Purposes (343.8)**

Councillor McKay expressed disappointment that Council has taken a decision to devise a policy not to contribute to outside bodies for capital purposes.

It was proposed by Councillor McKay, seconded by Councillor Cavlan

***that the matter be referred back to Committee for further discussion.***

The Director of Central & Leisure Services clarified the requirement for screening of new policies for EQIA purposes. Councillor McGuigan pointed out that the GAA was the largest sporting organisation in the Borough and Council should have in place a policy to consider applications from outside bodies for contributions towards capital facilities. Alderman Simpson expressed his agreement with the recommendation not to financially contribute to outside bodies. The Chief Executive clarified the equality impact assessment process, stating that if Council decides not to have a policy, then it cannot equality impact assess it. However, if Council receives a request and has no policy, the application of the EQIA process to the decision must be considered. If Council develops a policy, then equality impacts will be explored as a statutory requirement.

The Mayor put the motion to refer back to the Committee. Voting was as follows:

**FOR (6)                      AGAINST (6)**

**The Mayor, having used his casting vote to vote against the motion, declared the motion lost.**

### **8.3 Remedial Work at Cherry Gardens (343.30)**

At the request of Councillor Stevenson, the Director of Borough Services advised that an electrical supplier has been nominated and subject to contract, the work will be brought to a conclusion as soon as possible, weather conditions permitting.

### **8.4 Adoption of Minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting 343 – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008, as circulated, including addendum as set out in 8.1 be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

- \* **Councillor McGuigan left the meeting at 8.05 pm.**

#### **881.9 HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 340 – 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008**

Councillor Robinson presented the report.

- \* **Councillor Cavlan left the meeting at 8.10 pm.**

#### **Matters Arising:**

##### **9.1 Local Government Action on Climate Change (340.6)**

Councillor Robinson reported that she had obtained more accurate information relating to current trends in the United Kingdom compared to such countries as India and China where emissions were lower, and the impact of climate change worldwide.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Stevenson

***that the issue be returned to Committee for further consideration.***

**The Mayor put the motion to the meeting. Eight members voted in favour and no members voted against.**

**The Chair declared the motion carried.**

##### **9.2 Planning Consultation Responses (340.38)**

At the request of Councillor McCamphill, the Director advised that responses to Planning Service are provided to keep members informed as to the type of comments Council are sending back to Planning Service relating to applications, which might impact on Council.

##### **9.3 Adoption of Minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 340 – 27<sup>TH</sup> May 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **881.10 CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES MEETING NO 366 – 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008**

Alderman Simpson presented the report including an addendum as set out.

##### **10.1 Arrangements for Committee Meetings – July/August (366.2)**

The Chief Executive pointed out that the recommendation did not include the Consultation Committee, as a response was awaited from Planning



Service on what arrangements they could offer if Council wished to suspend meetings of that committee during July and August. Planning Service has now responded and propose the following arrangements: -

*“Council consultation arrangements for the months of July and August.*

*Non-contentious list will be sent to Council on 4th July and 4th August. The list will contain planning approvals only, where no representations have been received by Planning Service. We will hold issue of the decisions for 7 days to facilitate Councillors who wish to object to any recommendation to approve. Councillors should channel their objection through a Council official, who in turn should contact this office to have the application deferred. In such circumstances the application will be returned to Council when formal meetings resume in September. Where no contact is made, the decisions will issue from day eight onwards.”*

Council is invited to consider if it wishes to suspend meetings of the Consultation Committee during July and August.

If it decides to adopt the non-contentious list procedure, objections to any recommendation to approve should be made to the Office of the Chief Executive before expiry of the deadline set by Planning Service.

Following discussion, the general consensus from members was that adjournment for two months would disadvantage applicants.

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

1. ***No meeting of the Consultation Committee be held in July but Committee reconvene in August.***
2. ***that the arrangements for handling applications in July, as put forward by Planning Service, be approved.***

## **10.2 Shadow Council – Compass (366.3)**

It was proposed by Councillor McKay, seconded by Councillor Stevenson

***That Council approve the request from Compass for support for establishment of a shadow Council and permit them to use the Cramsie Room in the Town Hall and forgo any expenses incurred.***

The Chairman put the motion to the vote with three members voting in favour and 4 members voting against.

**The Chair declared the motion lost.**

## **10.3 Honorarium – Head of Finance & IT (366.4.2)**

The Mayor drew attention to a typographical error in the minute circulated, stating that Councillor Storey rather than himself seconded the motion. The record copy was correct.

Councillor Robinson expressed disappointment that her contrary proposal had not been recorded and thus, the minute did not reflect the level of discussion. The Chief Executive explained Council's practice not to include a proposal, which does not find a seconder, as it is not a valid motion.

Councillor Robinson requested that her disagreement with the recommendation be recorded.

#### **10.4 Accounts for Payments**

Alderman Simpson queried Council's participation in the Sister Cities Exhibition, stating that Ballymoney Borough should co-operate with other councils rather than instigate separate marketing activity. The Chief Executive confirmed that Council is working in collaboration with constituent members of Causeway Coast & Glens Tourism, who are also attending the event.

#### **10.6 Adoption of Minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 366 – 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008, as circulated and subject to amendments noted, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **881.11 RESOURCES TASK GROUP – 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2008-06-02**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting on 22nd May 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **881.12 THE WILLIAM KEOWN TRUST**

The Trust has produced a wheelchair guide for the benefit of carers and helpers and wheelchair users. A copy of the guide is available from The William Keown Trust [www.wkeowntrust.co.uk](http://www.wkeowntrust.co.uk)

The shortlisting process for this year's Personal Achievement Awards is underway. Official invitations to Mayors and Council chairmen to attend the presentation ceremony on 12<sup>th</sup> June will be issued soon.

#### **881.13 POLICE STATION, BALLYMONEY**

Chief Superintendent Kerr has written to give assurance that the current strategic estate review will not impact on the new build of Ballymoney Police Station at Charlotte Street and the new build will commence in the 2009/10 financial year.

**881.14 NORTHERN IRELAND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE BOARD – INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008/09**

Following a period of consultation the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) Board has presented its integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2008/09. A copy of the plan can be found on [www.nifrs.org](http://www.nifrs.org), click on Publications.

**881.15 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL**

The Housing Council has expressed concern at the unsatisfactory situation, which has transpired in relation to Co-Ownership applications and funding availability. It has queried the adequacy of financial planning and management within Co-Ownership organization and, the seemingly lack of controls and checks in place within the Department for Social Development to ensure the effective and efficient use of public funds. The Housing Council has asked representatives of both Co-Ownership and DSD to attend its next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

The Housing Council also feels that the matter warrants consideration by local Councils.

**881.16 POSTAL SERVICES – NILGA RESPONSE**

NILGA's response to the Northern Ireland Assembly's Ad Hoc Committee on Local Postal Services, request for written evidence was circulated for members' information.

- \* **The Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central & Leisure Services left the meeting at 8.30 pm.**

**881.17 CONFERENCE - CORPORATE MANSLAUGHTER & CORPORATE HOMICIDE ACT 2007**

The Chief Executive drew members' attention to the above conference which is taking place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June at Castlereagh Hills Golf Club, details of which were circulated. The conference is recommended by the Chief Executive and anyone wishing to attend should contact the Office of the Chief Executive.

**881.18 PLANNING SERVICE PILOT SCHEME – STREAMLINED APPLICATIONS**

The Chief Executive advised members of correspondence received from Planning Service indicating that, due to Council's summer recess on Planning Service presentation of applications to Council and the subsequent operation of non-contentious applications during the recess period, the agreed pilot of the streamlined consultation process will now commence in September 2008. Members expressed their agreement with this approach.

**881.19 REPORTS**

A schedule of reports was tabled for members' information.

**881.20 NILGA REPORTS & UPDATES**

Councillor Robinson reported on issues considered at recent meetings of NILGA and undertook to circulate her report to members for their information.

**This being all the business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.**