

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING NO 883– 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

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**Ballymoney Borough Council**

Minutes of Council Meeting No. 883 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Thursday 19th June 2008 at 7.00 pm.

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

**PRESENT:** **Aldermen:**

F Campbell

H Connolly

C Cousley

J Simpson

**Councillors:**

A Cavlan

B Kennedy

M McCamphill

P McGuigan

D McKay, MLA

T McKeown

A Patterson

E Robinson

I Stevenson

M Storey, MLA

R Wilson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive  
Head of Corporate & Development Services  
Committee Clerk

**Press**

**883.1 CONGRATULATIONS**

The Mayor extended congratulations to Ms A Morrison, Secretary of the North Antrim Agricultural Association and Reserve Constable T Linton who have been awarded the MBE for their services to Agriculture and Policing. The Mayor said that the awards were well deserved and letters of congratulations have been sent. Councillor Kennedy, Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Robinson associated themselves with the Mayor's comments.

\* **Councillor McKeown joined the meeting at 7.05 pm.**

## 883.2 MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Mayor welcomed members to the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of Ballymoney Borough Council, stating "I want to take a few minutes to reflect on the activities and achievements of Council during the past 12 months.

During the year I was honoured, as Mayor, to represent the Borough at a variety of events, presentations, and functions and to add my support to the excellent work and achievements of many people and organisations.

I was pleased to support and host events to raise money for charity. £1371 was raised to support the work of Drop In Ministeries in Rwanda and the Kenyan School Project. I was also pleased to lend support to the fundraising efforts of the Twinning Association which raised £2375 towards its work.

I was overwhelmed by the magnificent public response from sports clubs, schools and individuals to my public appeal for sports shirts for children in Rwanda. We were able to ship out, through Drop Inn Ministeries, hundreds of sports shirts.

We were saddened earlier this year to learn of the passing of former colleague and long serving town Councillor, Bob McComb. Bob, who had 40+ years service when he retired from the Council in 2001, had a strong interest in the welfare of his local community. We record with gratitude his service.

It is with sorrow that we learned of the shock death of an honorary freeman, Dr. Robert Dunlop at the North West 200 practice this year. Robert was a road racing legend, a great ambassador for the sport and for his hometown. A much loved and highly respected son. He will be sadly missed.

The development of the Borough and improvement of services to citizens engaged our attention. Following a member workshop we adopted a new corporate plan. This sets out our vision, core values and business objectives for the period 2008-2011. As an employer we are working towards resolution of the single status issues to achieve fair and equitable treatment to all those we employ.

We had a number of achievements. The community as a whole shared in the success of the Sustrans Connect 2 Project in the Big Lottery Public Competition. Work is advancing on this and we look forward to celebrating its completion.

The Borough Services Directorate achieved considerable success in the fields of Home Safety, Fuel Poverty and Community Safety. £33,500 was secured for the delivery of a home safety equipment scheme and almost £60,000 devoted to increasing awareness and tackling fuel poverty. To date over £57,500 of fuel stamps have been sold through an innovative scheme and a number of other Councils are now following in the footsteps of Ballymoney.

In Community Safety there has been significant youth involvement and contribution to community life where young people engaged in a variety of activities, including the Peer Leadership programme, the Get BART Active Project and the Youth Intergenerational Drugs and Alcohol Project.

Recycling remains at the top of the agenda. During the year Council added brown bins to the range of options for recycling of waste. Environmental Services distributed brown bins to 7.000 households for the collection of garden waste.

To date, the scheme has been highly successful and well received by householders. Additional recycling centres were provided in Rasharkin village and at Drumaheglis Marina & Caravan Park. Up to 70% of waste in grey bins can now be diverted from landfill using blue bins, brown bins, civic amenity sites and community recycling centres. Our citizens deserve thanks for their contribution to achieving this target.

A number of Amenities projects were completed during the year:

- Play Areas at Bendooragh, Dunloy, Dunaghy
- Refurbishment of community centre at Killyrammer
- CCTV at Riada Stadium and Council Depot
- Paths and Car Park improvements at Riada Stadium
- The cycle link from Riverside Park to Leisure Centre and Riada Playing Fields
- Bus Shelters at Castle Street and Bendooragh
- 2 grass pitches at Riada Playing Fields
- The Lower Bann Canoe Trail was launched, providing a unique way to experience the River Bann.

The last year also saw service improvements completed at our Leisure Centre, with the commissioning of the new Health Suite. Energy saving projects were undertaken in the Leisure Centre during the year which included upgrading of sports hall lighting and the connection to natural gas.

As well as our local focus our Borough is outward looking and has continued to develop its international links. The Twinning Association continued its good work in support of our work in this area.

We had exchange visits between this Borough and Benbrook, Vanves and Douglas. These programmes develop our people, and their awareness, through experience and knowledge of other cultures.

I was also very pleased to welcome, recently, a civic delegation from South Africa and facilitate meetings with Dervock Community Association to explore the further development of the bond between the two communities through one of Dervock's famous sons, Kennedy McArthur.

On the development front we have been working with a cluster of Councils to develop strategies and action plans for the new European Programmes for Peace and Rural Development and progressing projects under the EU Interreg Programme. We continued to implement town centre marketing initiatives for both residents and visitors. During the year a new directory of town businesses and street map was added to our visitor website – [www.visitballymoney.com](http://www.visitballymoney.com)

We had devastating news during the year with the TYCO announcement that its Ballymoney plant is to close with the loss of over 200 jobs. And the loss of a further 200 jobs when Reid Transport in Cloughmills went into liquidation.

We continue to lobby relevant agencies to secure new investment and jobs in our borough. We are committed also to ensure that where people lose their jobs they

receive support from the relevant agencies on job opportunities, retaining and self-employment options and redundancy packages.

We also addressed a range of issues affecting our citizens.

- Proposed amendments to planning policies
- The post office closure programme
- Development of the rail network
- Natural gas pipeline investment
- We continue to keep a watching brief on applications for mineral prospecting licences and any attempts to progress lignite development

Looking forward to the year ahead, new projects planned include:

- Fit out of the museum
- New play areas at Derrykeighan and Druckendult
- Additional sand mattress pitch and extra car parking at Riada Playing Fields
- New computer software systems in environmental health and building control aimed at improving delivery of service
- upgrading of Council website to allow people to do business with us on-line.
- the Fitness suite at the leisure centre will be refurbished and equipment upgraded.

We continue to actively pursue the implementation of a major community facility in Cloughmills village. Our plans have hit the buffers recently but I intend to actively pursue the land and planning issues with renewed vigor. We must ensure that the needs of this village are addressed and that it is at least on a par with our other large village communities.

There are many other challenges ahead. Through our Borough Services Directorate we will continue work to combat the issue of fuel poverty with the promotion of the fuel stamp scheme, energy efficiency measures and the reduction of home accidents through the delivery of the home safety equipment scheme. The Community Safety Partnership will build on its success over the past three years to tackle anti social behaviour issues following the development of a new strategy and action plan.

There has been developments on RPA. In March the Environment Minister announced that the Stormont Executive agreed to reduce the number of Councils from 26 to 11. For us this means merging with Coleraine, Moyle and Limavady into a new super council. Elections to the new Councils are planned for 2011. This is a time of huge change in local government – for councilors as well as staff.

I hope that the changes will give the new councils a leading role in the shaping and development of local communities, and, at the same time, provide ratepayers with a modern and efficient service. This council's work will continue as the changes are implemented. The challenge for us is to ensure that the interests of citizens of the borough are kept to the fore in the negotiations and that the interests of councillors and staff are also given due regard.

In conclusion I want to thank my Deputy, Alderman Connolly, and my fellow councillors for their support during my term as Mayor. I also record thanks to the Chief Executive and his staff for their service to the Council. Thanks are due to the

press for their regular attendance at our meetings and communicating our plans and activities to our citizens”.

In concluding, the Mayor paid special thanks to the Office of the Chief Executive for their support.

### **883.3 ELECTION OF MAYOR**

Councillor Finlay submitted a letter of resignation from the office of Mayor to the Chief Executive and left the Chair.

The Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair, thanking the Mayor, members of Council and the Staff of the Chief Executive for their support throughout his period of office.

It was proposed by Alderman Cousley, seconded by Alderman Campbell

***that Councillor Finlay be re-elected to the office of Mayor for the ensuing year.***

It was proposed by Councillor McKay, seconded by Councillor McGuigan

***that Councillor Cavlan be elected to the office of Mayor for the ensuing year***

A Vote was taken with Councillor Cavlan receiving 3 votes and Councillor Finlay receiving 11 votes.

**Councillor Finlay was declared elected Mayor for the ensuing year.**

Councillor Finlay took the Chair and signed the declaration of acceptance of office. He thanked all for re-electing him as Mayor and said that he would carry out his duties to the best of his ability for the benefit of Council and the people of the Borough.

### **883.4 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

The Mayor invited nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor.

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Councillor Kennedy

***that Alderman Connolly be re-elected as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year***

It was proposed by Alderman Campbell, seconded by Councillor Stevenson

***that Alderman Cousley be elected as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year***

Speaking in support of Councillor McCamphill's motion, Councillor Kennedy urged members to consider Alderman Connolly's long-serving membership to Council and his good work within the Borough during his term in office. He expressed the view

that re-election of Alderman Connolly as Deputy Mayor would promote good relations and send out a positive message to residents in the borough.

A vote was taken with Alderman Connolly receiving 6 votes and Alderman Cousley receiving 10 votes.

**Alderman Cousley was declared elected Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.**

#### **883.5 ELECTION OF STANDING COMMITTEES, APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS TO BOARDS, MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER BODIES.**

A list of existing membership of Standing Committees and Outside Bodies (attached as Appendix 1) was circulated.

The Chief Executive advised members that whilst almost all positions are existing, North East Peace III Joint Committee and Partnership are new organisations. Council has been asked to appoint two members to each organisation and it is recommended that Council consider nominations on a cross-party basis and address gender, based on SEUPB guidance. Whilst not mandatory, it is further recommended by SEUPB that those nominated serve on both organisations.

The Chief Executive also clarified that the North West Regional Waste Management Group/SwaMP was no longer in existence and Council had representation as an observer on NILGA's Executive Committee, the current representative being Councillor Robinson. He advised that should party members wish to switch representatives on Council standing committees, changes should be notified to the Chief Executive.

Alderman Simpson expressed the view that elected members should make every effort to attend bodies which they are appointed to.

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

***that appointments to Standing Committees be elected en-bloc for the following year in accordance with the details set out in appendix 1.***

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Cousley

***that Councillor McCamphill be nominated to the North East Peace III Joint Committee and North East Peace III Partnership.***

It was proposed by Councillor McGuigan, seconded by Councillor McKay:

***that Councillor Cavlan and Councillor Robinson be nominated to the North East Peace III Joint Committee and North East Peace III Partnership.***

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Stevenson:

***that Alderman Simpson be nominated to the North East Peace III Joint Committee and North East Peace III Partnership.***

Whilst thanking Councillor McGuigan and Councillor McKay for their proposal, Councillor Robinson, in view of her commitments to other organisations, declined her nomination. Councillor McGuigan withdrew his nomination of Councillor Robinson.

A ballot was taken with voting as follows:

Councillor Cavlan	8 votes
Councillor McCamphill	11 Votes
Alderman Simpson	11 votes

**The Mayor declared Councillor McCamphill and Alderman Simpson as Council's representatives on the North East Peace III Joint Committee and North East Peace III Partnership.**

**This being all the business, the meeting closed 7.50 pm**



**COMMITTEES 2008/09****APPENDIX 1**

<b>Development</b>			<b>Leisure &amp; Amenities</b>		
Alderman Campbell		DUP	Alderman Campbell		DUP
Alderman Cousley		DUP	Alderman Cousley		DUP
Councillor Robinson		DUP	Councillor Robinson		DUP
Councillor Stevenson		DUP	Councillor Stevenson		DUP
Councillor Wilson		DUP	Councillor Wilson		DUP
Councillor Cavlan		SF	Councillor Cavlan		SF
Councillor McGuigan		SF	Councillor McKay		SF
Councillor McKeown		UUP	Councillor McKeown		UUP
Alderman Simpson		UUP	Alderman Simpson		UUP
Councillor McCamphill		SDLP	Councillor McCamphill		SDLP
Councillor Patterson		TUV	Councillor Patterson		TUV
Councillor Kennedy		Independent			

<b>Corporate &amp; Central Services</b>			<b>Health &amp; Environmental Services</b>		
Alderman Campbell		DUP	Alderman Campbell		DUP
Alderman Cousley		DUP	Alderman Cousley		DUP
Councillor Robinson		DUP	Councillor Robinson		DUP
Councillor Stevenson		DUP	Councillor Stevenson		DUP
Councillor Storey		DUP	Councillor Wilson		DUP
Councillor Wilson		DUP	Councillor McGuigan		SF
Councillor Cavlan		SF	Councillor McKay		SF
Councillor McGuigan		SF	Councillor McKeown		UUP
Councillor McKay		SF	Councillor McCamphill		SDLP
Alderman Simpson		UUP	Councillor Patterson		TUV
Councillor McCamphill		SDLP	Councillor Kennedy		Independent
Councillor Kennedy		Independent			

**Consultation****All members of Council****Lignite & Power Generation****All members of Council**

<b>Audit</b>		
Alderman Campbell		DUP
Councillor Robinson		DUP
Councillor Wilson		DUP
Councillor McGuigan		SF
Alderman Simpson		UUP
Councillor McCamphill		SDLP
Councillor Patterson		TUV
Councillor Kennedy		Independent

## Outside Bodies – 2008/09

### Companies

<b>Acorn the Business Centre</b>			
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
<b>Ballymoney Borough Local Strategy Partnership</b>			
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
	Councillor	McGuigan	SF
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>Ballymoney Regeneration Company</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
	Councillor	Cavlan	SF
<b>Ballymoney Town Centre Management</b>			
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
	Head of Corporate & Development Services		
<b>Causeway Coast &amp; Glens Heritage Trust</b>			
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
<b>Coleraine Citizens Advice Bureau</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
<b>Lower Bann Partnership</b>			
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
<b>North Antrim Leader+</b>			
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
	Councillor	Kennedy	Independent

### Other Committees 2008/09

<b>Ballymoney Borough Arts Committee</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Councillor	Kennedy	Independent
<b>Ballymoney Borough Community Safety Partnership</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	Wilson	DUP
	Councillor	Cavlan	SF

	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>Ballymoney Borough Fuel Poverty Steering Group</b>			
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	Wilson	DUP
	Councillor	Cavlan	SF
<b>Ballymoney Borough Home Accident Prevention Group</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	Wilson	DUP
	Councillor	Cavlan	SF
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
<b>Ballymoney Borough Roads Safety Committee</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	Cavlan	SF
	Councillor	McKeown	UUP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
<b>Ballymoney Borough Sports Advisory Committee</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	McGuigan	SF
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
	Councillor	Kennedy	Independent
<b>Ballymoney Borough Twinning Association</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>North East Partnership</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Head of Corporate & Development Services		
<b>North East Peace III Steering Group</b>			
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP

<b>North East Peace III Joint Committee</b>			
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
<b>North East Peace III Partnership</b>			
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
<b>North East Rural Development Steering Group</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
<b>North East Rural Development Joint Committee</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>North East Rural Development Partnership (LAG)</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
<b>Regional Museum Services Committee</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV

## Community Associations 2008/09

<b>Ballybogy Community Association</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	Kennedy	Independent
<b>Balnamore &amp; District Community Association</b>			
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
<b>Carnary Community Association</b>			
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
<b>Castle Community Association</b>			
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
<b>Cloughmills Community Action Team</b>			

	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
<b>Drunkendult &amp; District Community Association</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
<b>Dunloy Development Association</b>			
	Councillor	McGuigan	SF
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>Glebeside Community Association</b>			
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
<b>Killyrammer &amp; Dunaghy Community Association</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
<b>Stranocum &amp; District Community Association</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP

## Community Centre Management Committees 2008/09

<b>Community Resource Centre Management Committee</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
<b>Killyrammer Community Centre Management Committee</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
<b>Rasharkin Community Centre Management Committee</b>			
	Councillor	Wilson	DUP
	Councillor	McKay	SF
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV

## Other Bodies 2008/09

<b>Antrim Coast &amp; Glens AONB Management Committee</b>			
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
<b>Forum for Local Government &amp; the Arts</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
<b>Lower Bann Advisory Committee</b>			
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>National Association of Councillors</b>			
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP

	Councillor	Cavlan	SF
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
<b>North Antrim Community Network</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	McGuigan	SF
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
<b>North West Regional Waste Management Group</b>			
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
<b>Northern Corridor Railways Group</b>			
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Finlay	DUP
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
<b>Northern Group Building Control Committee</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
	Councillor	McCamphill	SDLP
	Councillor	Kennedy (Sub)	
<b>Northern Group Environmental Health Committee</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
	Alderman	Cousley (Sub)	DUP
<b>Northern Ireland Amenity Council</b>			
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV
<b>Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
	Alderman	Cousley	DUP
	Councillor	Stevenson	DUP
	Councillor	McGuigan	SF
<b>NILGA Executive Committee (observer)</b>			
	Councillor	Robinson	DUP
<b>Reserve Forces &amp; Cadets Association for NI</b>			
	Alderman	Simpson	UUP
<b>Royal Forestry Society</b>			
	Alderman	Connolly	SDLP
<b>Rural Community Network</b>			
	Alderman	Campbell	DUP
<b>Somme Association Advisory Committee</b>			
	Councillor	Storey	DUP
<b>William Keown Trust</b>			
	Councillor	Patterson	TUV

