

## Ballymoney Borough Council

### Table of Contents

<b>885.1</b>	Presentation Regional Reviews HMRC Coleraine Offices	<i>Supported</i>
<b>885.2</b>	Statement by Mayor - Translink	
<b>885.3</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 880 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.4</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 881 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.5</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 882 – 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.6</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 883 – 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2008 5.1 Addendum Appointments to Standing Committees & Other Bodies	<i>Adopted (inc addendum)</i>
<b>885.7</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 884 – 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.8</b>	Seal Documents	<i>Agreed</i>
<b>885.9</b>	Consultation Committee No 28– 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.10</b>	Development Committee No 195 – 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2008 10.1 Sister Cities Conference 08 & 09 10.2 Adoption of minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.11</b>	Leisure & Amenities Committee No 344 – 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.12</b>	Leisure & Amenities Committee No 345 – 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2008 12.1 Addendum Provision of Sand Mattress Pitch at Riada Playing Fields 12.2 Addendum Community Support Grant 12.3 Community Support Programme 12.4 Adoption of Minutes	<i>Adopted (inc addenda)</i>
<b>885.13</b>	Leisure & Amenities Committee No 346 – 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2008 13.1 Ballymoney Museum Security Works 13.2 Adoption of minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.14</b>	Health & Environmental Services Committee No 341 – 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	

	14.1 Proposed legislation to replace Forestry Act (NI) 1953 (341.9)	<i>Agreed</i>
<b>885.15</b>	Corporate & Central Services Committee No 367 – 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.16</b>	Audit Committee No 4 – 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>885.17</b>	Review of Public Administration Transition Arrangements and early co-operation between merging councils	<i>Referred CRCS</i>
<b>885.18</b>	Vehicle Tenders – 1 medium panel van	<i>Agreed</i>
<b>885.19</b>	NWRWM Group Joint Committee	<i>Nominations agreed</i>
<b>885.20</b>	Waste Haulage Contract	<i>Noted</i>
<b>885.21</b>	Statement on possible strike action	
<b>885.22</b>	Management Board Referral D/2006/04990 25-35 Ballymena Road	
<b>885.23</b>	Roads Service – Waiting restrictions – Newal Road	
<b>885.24</b>	Translink – Railway Service – Dunloy Halt	
<b>885.25</b>	Planning application 64 Market Street Ballymoney	
<b>885.26</b>	Strategic Review of Parading in Northern Ireland	<i>Deferred</i>
<b>885.27</b>	Post Office Closures	
<b>885.28</b>	Quarry Products Association	
<b>885.29</b>	Island of Ireland Partnership Armistice Day Visit	<i>Reserve 2 places</i>
<b>885.30</b>	Somme Association – Service of Dedication of Church Pews & Remembrance	<i>Reserve 2 places</i>
<b>885.31</b>	Bamford Review	
<b>885.32</b>	Victims and Survivors	
<b>885.33</b>	Reports	

## Ballymoney Borough Council

Minutes of Council Meeting No 885 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 7.00pm.

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

**PRESENT:**

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

**Councillors**  
 M McCamphill  
 P McGuigan  
 T McKeown  
 A Patterson  
 E Robinson  
 I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES:**

A Cavlan  
 B Kennedy  
 M Storey, MLA  
 R Wilson

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive  
 Head of Corporate & Development Services  
 Deputy Director Borough Services (Item 1 – 20)  
 Head of Human Resources (Item 1 – 20)  
 Head of Leisure Services (Item 1 – 20)  
 Corporate Project Officer

Angela Greene, Public & Commercial Services Union (Item 1)  
 Ian McCafferty, Public & Commercial Services Union (Item 1)

Members of public 6

Press 2

### 885.1 PRESENTATION – REGIONAL REVIEWS HMRC COLERAINE OFFICE

The Mayor welcomed the delegation from Public and Commercial Services Union to make their presentation to Council on potential job losses in the Coleraine Revenue & Customs offices.

Mr McCafferty advised members that on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2008 HMRC issued an Equality Impact Assessment on its Review of HMRC Offices in Northern Ireland outside of Belfast Urban Centre for consultation. The document is part of the series of reviews on the future shape and direction of HMRC across the UK.

As part of the review HMRC proposes to reduce the number of offices in Coleraine, withdrawing from Mill House, Coleraine and retaining Fern House, Coleraine. Mr McCafferty explained that under the proposals of the 79 existing

staff in the two locations 40 would remain in Coleraine and 39 would transfer to other locations in NI.

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

Mr McCafferty outlined for members the advantages of retaining all 79 staff in the Coleraine office referring to other recent job losses in the area, adverse impact on local economy, potential hardship to staff having to travel further distance to work, impact on work/life balance, accessibility of HMRC services to elderly and other minority groups.

**Councillor McGuigan joined the meeting at 7.11pm.**

In conclusion Mr McCafferty sought Council's support in responding to the Equality Impact Assessment collectively opposing HMRC's proposal to close Mill House, Coleraine and move staff to Fern House, Coleraine and relocate processing staff and also for each member to respond to the EQIA on an individual basis. Responses to be submitted by 20<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

The Mayor thanked Mr McCafferty for the presentation and invited questions from members.

Members thanked Mr McCafferty for his informative presentation and voiced support for the position he had outlined.

**Mr McCafferty, Ms Greene and members of the public (6) left the meeting at 7.25pm.**

After discussion it was proposed by Alderman Campbell, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

***that Council respond to HMRC's Equality Impact Assessment on its Review of HMRC Offices in Northern Ireland outside of Belfast Urban Centre indicating its support for the retention of Mill House and for the retention of 79 jobs in the Coleraine offices.***

Individual members agreed to respond to the EQIA expressing their individual support for the retention of Mill House and the 79 jobs in the Coleraine offices, by the closing date of 20<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

**885.2 STATEMENT BY MAYOR – TRANSLINK**

The Mayor made the following statement:

“On Friday last I was delighted to hear at first hand from Translink at Ballymoney Railway Station of further investment of £17 million on re-laying the line north of Ballymena and also improvement works to Ballymoney Station, resurfacing of platforms, including new tactile paving, new lighting, repainting, street furniture, new signage, refurbishment of toilets and provision of new disabled toilets.

The works to the line will necessitate a period of closure, but a bus substitution service will be available for travellers.

I welcome this further phase of works and new investment in rail services in this part of the Province. The works, providing enhanced facilities for customers,

particularly disabled customers, sends out a very positive message about the future of the railway.

I hope, however, that the powers that be don't rest on their laurels. We want to see continuing improvement and a move towards, earlier trains and an hourly service on this line between our two main cities."

### 885.3 MINUTES – MEETING NO 880 – 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2008

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 880 on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

### 885.4 MINUTES - MEETING NO 881 – 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2008

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 881 on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

### 885.5 MINUTES – MEETING NO 882 – 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 882 on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

### 885.6 MINUTES – MEETING NO 883 – 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008

#### 5.1 Addendum - Appointments to Standing Committees & Other Bodies

- ❑ The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are ex-officio members of all standing committees. Following the change in Deputy Mayor at the AGM **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Alderman Connolly take up the places on committees vacated by the Alderman Cousley.
- ❑ Sinn Féin have indicated that it wishes to substitute members on committees and other bodies as follows:

Committee/Body	Existing member	New member
Leisure & Amenities Ctee	Councillor McKay	Councillor McGuigan
Health & Env. Services Ctee	Councillor McKay	Councillor Cavlan
Development	Councillor McGuigan	Councillor McKay
Audit	Councillor McGuigan	Councillor Cavlan
LSP	Councillor McGuigan	Councillor Cavlan
North Antrim Community Network	Councillor McGuigan	Councillor Cavlan
NILGA	Councillor McGuigan	Councillor Cavlan

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council endorse the revised appointments as set out above.

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 883 on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted, including the recommendations contained in the addendum set out at 5.1 above.*

#### **885.7 MINUTES – MEETING NO 884 – 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2008**

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 884 on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

#### **885.8 SEAL DOCUMENTS**

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

*that the seal of Council be affixed to Grave Registration Certificate numbers 1104, 1105 and 1106, 1107 (Ballymoney) and Certificate number 0013 (Rasharkin).*

#### **885.9 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 28 – 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

The Mayor presented the report.

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

*that the minutes of Meeting No 28 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted.*

#### **885.10 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 195 – 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

The report was presented by Councillor Stevenson.

##### **Matters arising:**

##### **10.1 Sister Cities Conference 2008 & 2009 (195.9)**

Alderman Simpson sought clarification on the Mayor's planned address to Benbrook City Council during his visit to Texas for the Sister Cities Conference later in the month. The Chief Executive explained that the Mayor would address Benbrook Council to express the wish that the formal link between Benbrook and Ballymoney be reinstated.

##### **10.2 Adoption of minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 195 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **885.11 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 344 – 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

Alderman Campbell presented the report.

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 344 – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **885.12 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 345 – 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

Alderman Campbell presented the report including the addenda as set below:

##### **12.1 Addendum Provision of Sand Mattress Pitch at Riada Playing Fields**

Tenders were invited for the above scheme by 12.00 noon, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008 from the Council's select list of 5 no. contractors. The Committee Chair (Alderman Campbell), together with the Head of Amenities, opened the five tenders received as undernoted on 23<sup>rd</sup> June and the documentation was passed to the Council's consultants: R. Robinson & Sons for evaluation –

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Price</u>
KPF Contracts Ltd., 75a Greencastle Road, Omagh	£140,735.05
Whitemountain Quarries Ltd., 1 Letterloan Road, Macosquin	£120,748.00
Tony Patterson Shortsgrounds, 49 Ballynahinch Road, Saintfield	£115,774.30
Clive Richardson Ltd., 54 Derrycoose Road, Portadown	£101,452.75
Fox Building & Engineering Ltd., 250 Drumnakilly Road, Omagh	£93,812.75

The three lowest tenders were examined in detail by the Council's consultants, who reported that the corrected tender figure in respect of Clive Richardson Limited was £101,450.75. The Council's consultants comment as follows:-

“As this contract was issued to a select list we are confident that all the contractors who have tendered are competent and would be able to complete the contract to a high standard and in the agreed time.

We would therefore **RECOMMEND** that the tender of Fox Building & Engineering Limited in the sum of £93,812.75 be accepted.

We believe that he has both the resources and the experience to undertake this contract in accordance with all the Contract Documentation.”

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED** that Council accept the lowest tender received for the provision of a sand mattress pitch at the Riada Playing Fields, that from Fox Building & Engineering Limited, 250 Drumnakilly Road, Omagh, in the sum of £93,812.75 excluding vat.

## 12.2 Community Support Programme

An application has been received from Druckendult District Community Association for assistance towards a trip to Bangor Co. Down for young and old from their community and neighbouring communities.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council grants £100 towards the cost of the above trip from the community support programme budget.

### Matters arising:

## 12.3 Community Sports Programme (345.9)

In response to Alderman Simpson’s query the Mayor confirmed committee’s recommendation was only to give further consideration to the making the post of Community Sports Project Officer permanent when further details are supplied by the Director, at a future meeting. Any proposal to establish the post would have to be addressed by the Resources Task Group.

## 12.4 Adoption of minutes

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

*that the minutes of Meeting No 345 – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved, including the addenda set out at 12.1 and 12.2 above.*

## 885.13 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 346 – 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008

Alderman Campbell presented the report.

### Matters arising:

## 13.1 Ballymoney Museum Security Works

In response to a query from Councillor Robinson, the Deputy Director of Borough Services confirmed that security works have commenced at the Town Hall.

## 13.2 Adoption of minutes

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



***that the minutes of Meeting No 346 – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **885.14 HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 341 – 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

Councillor Robinson presented the report.

##### **Matters arising**

##### **14.1 Proposed Legislation to Replace the Forestry Act (NI) 1953 (341.9)**

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

***that the Deputy Director of Borough Services consult with Alderman Connolly and issue a response, on behalf of Council to DARD's Policy & Legislation Branch's request for comments on a new Forestry Bill.***

##### **14.2 Adoption of minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 341 – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **885.15CENTRAL & CORPORATE SERVICES MEETING NO 367 – 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2008**

Alderman Simpson presented the report.

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 367 – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008, as circulated be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

#### **885.16AUDIT COMMITTEE NO 4 – 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

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

***that the minutes of Meeting No 4 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008, as circulated be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

**Members of the press and Councillor Stevenson left the meeting at 8.05pm.**

### **885.17 REVIEW OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (RPA) – TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS AND EARLY CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MERGING COUNCILS**

The Chief Executive advised members that the Environment Minister, Sammy Wilson, MP, MLA, has written to Mayors and Chief Executives, inviting Council, on behalf of the Strategic Leadership Board, to fully support the work of policy development and implementation to build strong and effective local government for the future.

#### **Transition Arrangements:**

The Strategic Leadership Board (SLA) has agreed to set up a working group to develop proposals for the transition. The working group will be led by a Council Chief Executive and have NILGA and Departmental representation. The purpose of this group will be to set out the options for transition and the legal requirements. As part of this work, the Department is already seeking legal advice on what work can be carried out through the current powers available under the Local Government (NI) Act 1972 and the need for any additional legal powers. In parallel, the SLA is also working with SOLACE and PWC to identify the operational resource requirements to support implementation. The intention is to bring a preliminary report to the next SLB meeting, which it is anticipated will be held in June, and subsequently write to councils informing them of the emerging findings.

#### **Co-operation between Councils:**

The SLB would like to encourage Councils, as many are already doing, to begin to work together with their partnering Council(s) on issues which support convergence. Detailed guidance on how to move forward with the implementation process will be issued by SLB to councils as soon as possible. It is anticipated that the following functions will be areas of co-operation.

Human Resources	Financial systems	Capital projects	I.T.
Good Relations/Equality	Corporate Planning	Performance management	Legal issues
Policy	Estates	Governance	Communications
Transition arrangements	Cultural / value issues		

It is important to note that councils should avoid activity which may compromise any sector-wide strategic initiatives which may be taken forward as part of the modernisation agenda. This would include initiatives such as eGovernment, Shared Services, IS Strategy and Customer Relationship Management.

#### **Policy Development Panels (PDPs):**

NILGA hopes to finalise the political nominations to the PDPs shortly and is working with SOLACE and LGSC to identify lead Chief Executives for each panel. It is intended that the PDPs will hold their first meetings in June, primarily to agree on their terms of reference, review position papers and agree work programmes.

Council is invited to consider the issues. **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council note the correspondence on this subject and refer to Corporate & Central Services Committee for consideration.

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

***that Council note the correspondence on this subject and refer to the Corporate & Central Services Committee for consideration. The Chair of Committee to decide the date of the next committee meeting.***

#### **885.18 VEHICLE TENDERS – SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF 1 MEDIUM PANEL VAN**

In accordance with European/National procurement legislation fixed price tenders were sought for the supply and delivery of 1 no. Medium Panel Van by 12.00 noon, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2008.

The tenders received were opened by the Committee Chair and Head of Environmental Services on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008 and a schedule detailing the tenderers and products offered is to be found as Appendix 1.

***IT IS RECOMMENDED*** that the Borough Council accept the tender from TBF Thompson Ltd in the sum of £12,064 for a LDV Maxus SWB LR Medium Panel Van.

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

***that the Borough Council accept the tender from TBF Thompson Ltd in the sum of £12,064 for a LDV Maxus SWB LR Medium Panel Van.***

#### **885.19 NWRWM GROUP JOINT COMMITTEE**

Further to the Councils' AGM held on 19<sup>th</sup> June there is need to clarify the Councils member appointments to the North West Region Waste Management Group bodies, namely the NWRWM Group Sub-Committee and the NWRWM Group Joint Committee.

At its recent AGM, Council re-appointed both Councillor J. Finlay and Councillor E. Robinson to the NWRWM Group Sub-Committee.

On 7<sup>th</sup> January and 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 Council confirmed that the aforementioned Members would also be its representatives on the more recent NWRWM Group body – the NWRWM Group Joint Committee.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council –

1. clarify that at this year's AGM, Councillor J. Finlay and Councillor E. Robinson were its appointees to the NWRWM Group Sub-Committee; and
2. appoint Councillor J. Finlay and Councillor E. Robinson as its representatives on the NWRWM Group Joint Committee.

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

***that Council***

- 1. clarify that at this year's AGM, Councillor J. Finlay and Councillor E. Robinson were its appointees to the NWRWM Group Sub-Committee; and**
- 2. appoint Councillor J. Finlay and Councillor E. Robinson as its representatives on the NWRWM Group Joint Committee.**

#### **885.20 WASTE HAULAGE CONTRACT**

It was noted that the Director of Borough Services will make a report to Council on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008 following notice from the contractor, as required by the contract (3 months) of his intention to withdraw from the contract.

The Chair of Health & Environmental Services indicated she would liaise with the Director to decide whether a meeting of committee should be called in July to discuss this matter in advance of Council's meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

**The Head of Human Resources, the Head of Leisure Services and the Deputy Director Borough Services left the meeting at 8.20pm.**

#### **885.21 STATEMENT TO COUNCIL ON POSSIBLE STRIKE ACTION – 16 & 17 JULY, 2008**

The Chief Executive advised members that three of the four main trades unions representing local government staff have called a 2-day strike on Wednesday and Thursday of next week, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July. Their action is part of the response to a pay offer of 2.45% by the Local Government Employers, which includes NI Local Government. The fourth union, GMB, which is the largest has voted to accept the offer.

Council has received official notice of the strike from the three unions and staff have been given information on the offer and on the implications of taking strike action for their pay and pensions. Management is trying to establish the likely effect of the strike call on services. Arrangements have been made to monitor the response to the strike and to notify the Employers' side of the degree of support.

#### **885.22 MANAGEMENT BOARD REFERRAL - Application D/2006/0499/0 Housing Development at 25 – 35 Ballymena Road [to replace existing industrial units and associated outbuildings)**

Planning Service advise that this application fails to meet the criteria outlined in the Guidance for Councils on the operation of the Management Board Referral Procedure, in that as an outline application it is not categorized as significant development.

The proposal has been assessed against all the relevant policies, other material considerations, including all representations made in respect of the proposal, and on balance is considered to be unacceptable. A reassessment of the proposal by the Management Board is not considered either appropriate or necessary.

**885.23 ROADS SERVICE - PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – NEWAL ROAD, BALLYMONEY**

Roads Service advised that, as a result of complaints received from motorists regarding parked cars on Newal Road obscuring visibility for traffic exiting from Robinson Avenue, it has been agreed with the PSNI to introduce a section of double yellow lines to prohibit this parking and resolve the visibility issue. Those cars that are parked would appear to belong to residents of Newal Road, all of which can be parked off-road in driveways and/or garages. A plan detailing the area and the extent of the proposed double yellow lines can be supplied on request.

**885.24 TRANSLINK - RAILWAY SERVICE – DUNLOY HALT**

Translink have responded to Council's representations on this matter:

"This issue has been raised in recent months and we have already completed an initial analysis. The population of Dunloy in the 2001 census was 1,071 and while it may have grown somewhat since that time, it still falls considerably short of the catchment population necessary to justify provision of a rail halt.

Inclusion of an additional halt on the line without the justification of sufficient additional patronage would disadvantage those travellers already on the train by increasing their journey time by some three to five minutes. The economic cost to those travellers is likely to be much greater than the potential economic benefit to passengers boarding at Dunloy. On that basis therefore, I regret to advise that we do not consider a rail halt at Dunloy as a viable option at this time."

**885.25 PLANNING APPLICATION – HOUSING DEVELOPMENT (4 DWELLINGS) AT 64 MARKET STREET, BALLYMONEY.**

Planning Service has considered Council's representations on the above proposed development and has decided to grant planning permission. The department state that the issues raised by Council were carefully considered as part of the balanced judgement in reaching the decision in the overall public interest.

**885.26 STRATEGIC REVIEW OF PARADING IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Council's attention is drawn to the publication of the interim consultation report on the strategic review of parading in Northern Ireland. The full report can be viewed on [www.srpb.org.uk](http://www.srpb.org.uk). Under the review it is proposed that The Office of the Chief Executive within local councils should be given legislative responsibility for administering the process of notification and local contact for dialogue. It is also proposed that in the context of their responsibilities to promote good relations, councils should support the development of skills in dispute resolution both within the council and its staff and within the wider community.

In considering its attitude to the recommendations in respect of the new role proposed for councils in this interim report, Council may wish to consider the following statistics taken from the Parades Commission's annual report 2006/07.

In 2006/07 the Parades Commission had a budget of £1.725 million. Staff costs were £0.728 million and there were 23 staff & 7 commissioners.

Of the 3911 parades which took place that year, 267 needed detailed consideration and conditions were imposed on 155 parades. The total of 3911 was broken down as follows: -

- Loyal Orders and broad Unionist tradition parades - 2755 (70%)
- Nationalist parades - 186 (5%)
- Others\* - 970 (25%)

\*All public processions other than funerals and Salvation Army parades are covered by the legislation.

In 2006/07 there was an increase in the number of "contentious" parades from 220 in 2005/06, to 267 (7% of the total of all parades). Of the 267, 52 were weekly requests for a parade along Garvaghy Rd, Portadown. The breakdown of the 267 parades was: -

- Loyalist parades 97%
- Nationalist parades 2%
- Others 1%

### **New proposals**

The review envisages the Office of the Chief Executive in each council being "given legislative responsibility for administering the processes of notification and local contact for dialogue." Where there are no objections or where discussions lead to local agreement, the parade would take place; where that is not the case the Council would refer the matter to OFMDFM to adjudicate.

This would bring councils into the process of resolving disputed parades for the first time and could lead to aggrieved parties to a local dispute blaming the Council for failure to allow or prevent a contentious parade. This could happen even though Council would have no power to adjudicate, merely to administer the process and facilitate local discussion and agreement. This potentially negative outcome needs to be weighed against the likelihood that the council's involvement is more likely to secure local agreement than current arrangements.

In section 2.3 vi, the review envisages that there would be redeployment of, and possibly some increase in, resources needed to implement these proposals. The details of how staff and finance would be transferred to councils will have to be carefully examined to ensure that an increased burden does not fall on local ratepayers and that the transfer is fair to each council at the point of transfer and also over time.

Timing of implementation is also important, as it is likely to be more expensive to transfer the role to 26 councils (if done before May 2011) than to 11 (if done after that date). In addition to cost there also needs to be recognition that the work of combining four councils into one in this area, absorbing Planning and some other central government functions and moving to new models of centralised service delivery will inevitably create severe pressure on the existing councils over the next three years.

Bearing these matters in mind members were asked to consider if this is the right time to transfer responsibility for such a politically sensitive issue as parading to local councils and whether the possible benefits are greater than the risks.

The deadline for comments is 8<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

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

***that this matter be deferred to Council's meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008 in order to give members more time to consider the matter.***

### **885.27 POST OFFICE CLOSURES**

Post Office has provided a copy of their Network Change Programme Area Plan Decision Booklet. A copy is available from the Office of the Chief Executive.

### **885.28 QUARRY PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION**

Quarry Products Association has produced a Strategy to Conserve and Enhance Biodiversity and Geodiversity for the Aggregates and Quarry Products Industry in Northern Ireland.

The nature with Aggregates is a five-year Strategy focusing on the themes of awareness, action, involvement and partnership to conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity. QPANI has taken the lead role by being the first industry sector in Northern Ireland to produce a strategy to champion biodiversity and geodiversity action.

The Strategy document is available from the Office of the Chief Executive.

### **885.29 ISLAND OF IRELAND PARTNERSHIP JOURNEY OF REMEMBERING ARMISTICE DAY VISIT**

The Partnership have extended an invitation to Lord Mayors/Mayors and Chief Executives of local authorities to the above visit, 9 –12 November, to mark the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the opening of the Island of Ireland Peace park, Messines Ridge, Flanders, Belgium. Cost 490 euros to cover air travel, coach travel in France & Belgium, B&B (sharing) mid-day and evening meals.

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

***that the Office of the Chief Executive reserve two places with the organisers of the event above, names of those attending to be decided by Council at its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008.***

### **885.30 SOMME ASSOCIATION – SERVICE OF DEDICATION OF CHURCH PEWS AND REMEMBRANCE SERVICE TO THE 16<sup>TH</sup> (Irish) DIVISION.**

The Mayor of Guillemont has extended an invitation to all Councils to attend the Service of Dedication of Church pews and a Remembrance Service to the 16<sup>th</sup> (Irish) Division. The village has recently renovated its Chapel and the Somme Association have contributed towards this. A number of churches throughout the Province have donated pews and they are being dedicated on the 6<sup>th</sup> September followed by a gala evening of dinner and music. The Somme Association are

holding their Remembrance Service on 7<sup>th</sup> September followed by lunch. Prov. Price £320 (excl insurance) (£60 single room supplement)

The Mayor indicated that Councillor Storey and the Chief Executive had not been able to attend the annual event in July and suggested that they should attend the September event.

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

***that the Office of the Chief Executive reserve two places with the organisers of the event above, names of those attending to be confirmed by Council at its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008.***

#### **885.31 BAMFORD REVIEW**

The NI Executive's response to the Bamford review of mental health and learning disability has now been issued for consultation. The response document recognises the need for a programme of modernisation over the next 10-15 years. It is not a detailed response to every recommendation made by the Review, but gives broad strategic endorsement to the service and legislative reforms advocated by the Bamford Review. The document, together with a summary document, and consultation questionnaire, which can be completed online, can be found on the Department's website [www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

#### **885.32 VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS**

A copy of the initial work programme for the Commissioner for Victims and Survivors, 2008 was circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

#### **885.33 REPORTS**

A schedule of reports was tabled for members' attention.

#### **The meeting closed at 8.50pm**

Appendix 1 – Vehicle Tenders



**Medium Panel Van (June 2008)**

Tenders were invited inclusive of vehicle registration and 12 months road fund licence. Number of tenders received : 5

**Compliant Tenders ( 4 )**

<b>Tenderer</b>	<b>Product Offered</b>	<b>Vehicle (£)</b>	<b>Painting (£)</b>	<b>Road Fund Licence (£)</b>	<b>Total Price (£)</b>	<b>Warranty</b>	<b>Delivery (weeks)</b>
TBF Thompson Ltd 6-10 Killyvalley Road Garvagh	LDV Maxus SWB LR	11,029	800	235	12,064	4 years / 120,000 miles	8
Eakin Bros Ltd 48 Main Street Claudy	LDV Maxus SWB LR	10,925	1,000	235	12,160	4 years / 120,000 miles	7 - 8
NI Trucks Ltd 3 Mallusk Road Newtownabbey	Fiat Ducato 30 SWB	11,856	850	235	12,941	3 years / 100,000 miles	12 - 16
J E Coulter Ltd Commercial Way Mallusk	Renault Master 100.33 L1 H1	13,015	800	235	14,050	3 years / 60,000 miles	14

**Non-compliant tender ( 1 )**

<b>Tenderer</b>	<b>Product Offered</b>	<b>Vehicle (£)</b>	<b>Painting (£)</b>	<b>Road Fund Licence (£)</b>	<b>Total Price (£)</b>	<b>Warranty</b>	<b>Delivery (weeks)</b>
Mercedes Benz 45-47 Mallusk Road Newtownabbey	Mercedes Benz Sprinter 209 cdi	14,750	1,300	235	16,285	3 years	12

**Reason(s) for non-compliance.**

1. The Sprinter 209 cdi van offered by Mercedes Benz has a payload of 958kg versus a minimum specified payload of 975kg.
2. The Sprinter 209 cdi van offered by Mercedes Benz delivers 88 bhp versus a minimum specified 90 bhp.