

Ballymoney Borough Council

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Ballymoney Borough Council

Minutes of Council Meeting No 900 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 2nd March 2009 at 7.00 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Councillor J Finlay, Mayor

PRESENT:

Aldermen
F Campbell
C Cousley, MBE, Deputy Mayor
H Connolly
J Simpson

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

APOLOGIES:

Councillors
B Kennedy
R Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive
Director of Borough Services (**Items 1-12 inc**)
Director of Central & Leisure Services (**Items 1-12 inc**)
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Committee Clerk

Press

900.1 MINUTES - MEETING NO 896 – 2ND FEBRUARY 2009

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

that the minutes of Meeting No 896 on 2nd February 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

900.2 MINUTES - MEETING NO 897 – 3RD & 5TH FEBRUARY 2009

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

that the minutes of Meeting No 897 on 3rd & 5th February 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

* **Councillor Patterson and Councillor McKeown arrived at 7.07 pm.**

900.3 MINUTES - MEETING NO 898 – 9TH & 11TH FEBRUARY 2009

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

that the minutes of Meeting No 898 on 9th & 11th February 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

900.4 MINUTES - MEETING NO 899 – 11TH FEBRUARY 2009

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

that the minutes of Meeting No 899 on 11th February 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

900.5 SEAL DOCUMENTS

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

that the Seal of the Council be affixed to Grave Registration Certificate numbers 1139, 1140, 1141, and 1142.

* **Councillor McGuigan arrived at 7.10 pm.**

900.6 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 35 – 16TH FEBRUARY 2009

The Mayor, Councillor Finlay presented the report in the absence of the Chair and the Vice Chair.

Matters Arising:**6.1 Draft Planning Policy Statement 21 (PPS21)**

Council's response to the PPS21 proposals had been deferred to enable members to further consider the draft.

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

that the draft response to the PPS21 proposals be adopted by Council.

6.2 Minutes

The minutes of meeting No 35 on 16th February 2009, as circulated were received.

900.7 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 201 – 16TH FEBRUARY 2009

Councillor Stevenson presented the report including the addendum as set out at 7.1

7.1 Revision and Publication of Tourism Product Literature

Quotations have been invited for revision and publication of tourism product literature. These are currently being evaluated for report to the Committee's next meeting. It is **RECOMMENDED** that authority be granted to the Development Committee to process the quotations. The cost of the projects will be met from existing budgets.

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

that the minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 201 on 16th February 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved, including the addendum as set out at 7.1 above.

900.8 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 357 – 17TH FEBRUARY 2009

Alderman Campbell presented the report.

8.1 Draft Strategy for Community Relations

At the request of Councillor Finlay, the Director of Central & Leisure Services advised that the workshop taking place on 3rd March would provide an opportunity for members to discuss further. An awareness session is also being held for community groups. The draft strategy will then be tabled for consideration at Committee at a later date.

8.2 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 357 on 17TH February 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

900.9 HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 347 – 24TH FEBRUARY 2009

Councillor Robinson presented the report.

Matters Arising:

9.1 Environmental Service Charges 2009-10 (347.2)

The schedule of Environmental Service Charges 2009-10, as circulated at the Committee meeting, will be re-issued to members at the request of Councillor Robinson and will be appended to the minutes.

9.2 Waste Awareness Campaign using Refuse Collection Vehicles

Councillor Robinson referred to the new campaign on the sides of refuse collection vehicles stating that this is an excellent idea in continuing to promote recycling within the Borough.

9.3 Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations (NI) 2004 (347.20)

The Director of Borough Services agreed to respond directly to Alderman Campbell and Councillor McCamphill on questions raised relating to gas detection systems.

9.4 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Health & Environmental Services Meeting No 347 on 24th February 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

900.10 CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 373 – 23RD FEBRUARY 2009

Alderman Simpson presented the report including an addendum as set out at 10.1. The Chief Executive presented an addendum as set out at 10.2.

10.1 Review Of Local Government Boundaries

The Boundaries Commissioner will publish his revised recommendations on 27th February and Public Notice will be given in the three main daily newspapers – Irish News, News Letter and Belfast Telegraph – and in provincial newspapers.

Copies of the revised recommendations, including maps, will be available for public inspection at the Council Offices, the Electoral Office, Area Electoral

Offices, all public libraries, the Office of the Electoral Commission and the Boundary Commissioner's Office. The report will also be published on the Boundary Commission website – www.lgbc-ni.org

The revised recommendations take account of written representations received in relation to the provisional recommendations and of the recommendations of the eleven Assistant commissioners who held public hearings last November. The reports of the Assistant Commissioners will be published on the Boundary Commission website.

The publication of the report begins a consultation period inviting written representations on the revised recommendations by **Thursday 9th April**. On the closure of the consultation period the Boundary Commissioner will consider the representations received and any further revisions, if required, and these will be reflected in the final report to be submitted to the Department of Environment by 30th June 2009.

10.2 Northern Ireland Joint Council for Local Government Services

The Chief Executive advised members of correspondence received from the Northern Ireland Joint Council for Local Government Services. A Northern Ireland regional pay briefing relating to pay rounds and settlements will be held on Thursday 26th March in Castlereagh Borough Council at 10.00 am. An invitation has been extended to the Chief Executive or nominee and the Mayor, or elected representative for employment policy matters.

The Mayor, Councillor Finlay, nominated the Deputy Mayor to attend. This was agreed, with the Chief Executive or his nominee, also attending.

10.3 Vacancy Control Guidance (Local Government Staff Commission) (373.11)

The Chief Executive advised that, with the agreement of the Staff Commission, the deadline for comments had been extended thus enabling further consideration of the Guidance at the March meeting of Committee.

10.4 NI Local Government Association – Membership (373.16)

At the request of Alderman Simpson, the Chief Executive clarified that to be valid, a motion required a proposer and seconder and only valid motions would be recorded. No decision had been made in that instance.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor McGuigan

that Council retains its membership of Northern Ireland Local Government Association.

The Mayor put the motion to the meeting with 10 members voting in favour and one member voting against and two abstentions.

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

10.5 Staff Matters (373.9.2)

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

that Council 'move into Committee' to discuss staff matters.

Council accordingly moved 'into Committee' and the press left the meeting at 7.35 pm.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central & Leisure Services declared an interest in item 373.9.2 as post holders and left the meeting at 7.35 pm.

During a discussion, the Chief Executive clarified Council's decision to evaluate these two posts after one year following desktop exercises and the proposal to utilise the services of the Hay Group to carry out the evaluation and likely costs. A discussion ensued during which the Chief Executive responded to questions from members.

It was proposed by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Councillor Stevenson

to defer any consideration of this matter until the next rates round in 2010/2011.

The Mayor put the motion to the meeting with seven members voting in favour and three members voting against the motion.

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Campbell

that Council 'move out of Committee' to continue the business of the meeting.

The Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central & Leisure Services and the press returned to the meeting at 7.53 pm.

10.6 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee Meeting No 373 on 23rd February 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved including addendums as set out in 10.1 and 10.2, with the exception of minute 373.9.2 as referred to at 10.5 above.

900.11 AUDIT COMMITTEE NO 11 – 10TH FEBRUARY 2009

The Mayor, Councillor Finlay presented the report requesting members to note that the next meeting will now take place on 10th March and not 5th March.

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

that the minutes of Audit Committee No 11 on 10th February 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

900.12 ANNUAL TENDERS FOR GOODS & SERVICES 2009/2010 & 2010/2011

The Director of Central & Leisure Services circulated details of annual tenders received for supplies of goods and services 2009/10 & 2010/2011 (attached as Appendix 1), which are **RECOMMENDED** for acceptance. She advised that quotations would be considered where no tenders have been received. The tenders will be subject to no more than an inflationary increase, based on RPI, for 2010/11 and will alleviate the additional cost of the tendering process for that period.

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

that Council accepts the suppliers recommended for goods and services in 2009/10 and 2010/2011.

- * **The Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central & Leisure Services left the meeting at 8.05 pm.**

900.13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Storey, on behalf of the Mayor, Councillor J Finlay, proposed the following motion, notice of which had been given.

“This Council recognises the importance of meeting the needs of victims and regrets that the Consultative Group on the Past has failed to produce recommendations capable of commanding broad consensus and condemns proposals which equate perpetrators of violence with innocent victims”.

The motion was seconded by the Mayor.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Storey said it was regrettable that Council had to deal with such a matter. He said “History is marked by the milestones and headstones of those who have been innocent victims of campaigns over the last 40 years. There was never an alleged social injustice that justified in any way, the murders which took place in Northern Ireland.” He cited a number of atrocities to illustrate the pain and suffering caused by the terrorist campaign. Referring to the recommendations of the Eames-Bradley Consultative Group on the Past’s report, which sought to equate

perpetrators of violence with innocent victims, he said that his party (DUP) or no one in this community would allow this to happen. He welcomed the fact that since his motion had been tabled, the proposed £12,000 payment to the families of each person killed in the conflict has been scrapped.

Responding to Councillor Storey, Councillor McGuigan said that he agreed with the first line of the motion and wanted to see the issue of victims addressed but there should be no hierarchy of victims stating that the grief to family members of a loved one was the same regardless of how they met their death. He contended that the British Government should not have a say, rather the issue should be addressed by an international, independent group.

Councillor Patterson expressed the view that she would have no difficulty supporting the motion and said it was a disgrace that it is even considered to have perpetrators of violence on a par with innocent victims and it also a disgrace that we have terrorists in our Government today.

Concurring, Councillor Stevenson expressed the view that this Council should not equate perpetrators of violence with innocent victims.

Following the ensuing debate during which Councillor Storey responded to comments made by others, and made his closing arguments, the Mayor put the motion to the meeting. Nine members voted in favour and two members voted against.

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

* **Councillor McGuigan left the meeting at 8.30 pm.**

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Alderman Cousley and Alderman Campbell declared an interest in item 900.14 as investors and left the meeting at 8.30 pm.

900.14 NOTICE OF MOTION

Alderman J Simpson proposed the following motion, notice of which had been given.

"This Council calls upon the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown MP, to take immediate steps to ensure that members of and investors in the Presbyterian Mutual society are covered by the same financial guarantee scheme as those savers with deposits in UK banks".

This was seconded by Councillor Cavlan.

Councillor Storey stated that he welcomed and supported the motion and recorded appreciation to those members of the Society who have borne the situation in a way that many people would have reacted to differently in the same circumstances. Councillor McCamphill expressed sympathy at the position of the Society but indicated the view that culpability of those at the head of the organisation should be considered.

It was unanimously **AGREED:**

that Council support the motion to call upon the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown MP, to take immediate steps to ensure that members of and investors in the Presbyterian Mutual society are covered by the same financial guarantee scheme as those savers with deposits in UK banks”.

- * **Alderman Campbell and Alderman Cousley rejoined the meeting at 8.35 pm.**
- * **Councillor Cavlan, Alderman Connolly and Councillor McKeown left the meeting at 8.35**

900.15 PROPOSED RUNWAY EXTENSION AT GEORGE BEST BELFAST CITY AIRPORT

Correspondence has been received from George Best Belfast City Airport referring to Antrim Borough Council's recommendation *“that an appropriate Public Inquiry be held at the earliest convenience to fully examine the implications of this project.”*

If Council decides to make a formal response on this matter the airport management would appreciate being given the opportunity to discuss the details of the runway extension proposals.

Councillor Stevenson expressed the view that Council should support Belfast International Airport as the main airport in the Province.

900.16 NORTHERN IRELAND WATER

At the NIW presentation of the Capital Works Programme to Council on 15th December 2008, a number of issues were raised which required further investigation. NI Water have commented on these issues as follows:

Q. Alderman Harry Connolly asked if the contractor working on Coolkeeran Road would reinstate the road to a satisfactory standard, as there are tracks on the road?

A. There are still some minor items of work to be carried out on Coolkeeran Road. Some customers are still to be transferred to the new water main and two hydrants are to be fitted. There are also two water main connections to be carried out, but this work will not require a road closure.

All work carried out on Coolkeeran Road has been permanently reinstated and there are no defects requiring attention. Preparations are being made for a possible mains rehabilitation package from Ballycastle to Holleran. If this work goes ahead it will include further mains laying on the Coolkeeran Road, running south from Pharis Road for approximately 500 metres. The construction technique and programming for this scheme will be determined in due course.

Q Councillor John Finlay asked about road reinstatement in general following capital schemes?

A. On completion of works, Roads Service will inspect the permanent reinstatement and any defects will be made good. This is standard procedure.

Q Councillor Malachy McCamphill asked when would the new sewerage scheme be completed at Carrowdoon Road, Anticur Road and Bridge Road Phase 2?

A. This scheme is not included within the current Capital Works Programme. We will reassess and update the brief and estimate a tender cost. The scheme can then be reconsidered for inclusion within future Capital Works Programmes.

900.17 ROADS SERVICE - THE PRIVATE STREETS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1980 DEVELOPMENT AT CASTLEHILL, BALLYMONEY STAGE 10 DEVELOPER ARMOY HOMES LTD

The streets at the above development have now been adopted by Roads Service.

900.18 OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

At the February meeting of Omagh District Council, the following Motion was unanimously adopted:

“That this Council calls upon the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, MP, and the Taoiseach, Brian Cowen TD, to take immediate steps to ensure that members of and investors in the Presbyterian Mutual Society are covered by the same financial guarantee scheme as those savers with deposits in UK banks.”

Members asked that this be copied to all other Councils urging them to make similar representations.

900.19 REPORTS

A list of reports was circulated for members' information.

900.20 NILGA REPORTS & UPDATES

Councillor Robinson presented a report from NILGA's Annual Conference, which took place on 26th/27th February, a copy of which will be circulated for members' information.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Appendices attached:

Appendix 1 Annual Tenders for Goods & Services 2009/10 & 2010/2011

APPENDIX 1**ANNUAL TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES AND SERVICES 2009/2010 & 2010/2011**

Tender No.	Description	Notes	Items	Supplier recommended for acceptance
1.	Building Supplies			
	(a) General			Christies Ltd
	(b) Timber			Christies Ltd
	(c) Homegrown Timber	1		Christies Ltd
	(d) Concrete			No Tender
	(e) Electrical			No Tender
2.	Paint			PPG Architectural Coating
3.	Sand, screenings		Items 1 - 7	George Peden
	(a) Bitumen etc		Items 8 - 9	Kelly Landscape & Stone Northstone
4.	Cleaning Materials			Bunzl McLaughlin
5.	Ground Maintenance Materials			John Irwin Contracts
6.	Street Nameplates			PWS Ireland
7.	Maintenance			
	(a) Electrical			Trevor Ramage
	(b) Plumbing			A McDonald
	(c) Tradesmen/Labourers			WS Dunlop
	(d) Painter			Brian Lamont
	(e) Grass cutting machinery	4		No Tender
8.	Hire of Plant	4	Items 1,4,9,11,12	George Peden
		5	Items 3,5,7,8	Brown Bros
			Item 2	Taggart & Sons Ltd
9.	Chemicals			No Tender
10.	Catering Supplies			
	Confectionery	2		Courtney & Nelson
	Vending (Hot Drinks)			Aghadowey Food Services
	Foodstuffs			Aghadowey Food Services
	Catering Utensils			Aghadowey Food Services
12.	Batteries			Paints & Components

13.	Protective Clothing		Safetycare
14.	Industrial Cleaning Products	3	TRB NI
15.	Waste Containers	1	Craemer UK Ltd
17.	Oils		Lubricant Distribution
18.	Stationery/Office Supplies		Office Stationery Coleraine Office Equipment Printer Consumables Supplies Team