

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Council Meeting No 908 – 5th October 2009**

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Ballymoney Borough Council

Minutes of Council Meeting No 908 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 5th October 2009 at 7.00 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Alderman F Campbell, Mayor

PRESENT:

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

Councillors
A Cavlan
J Finlay
R Halliday
B Kennedy
M McCamphill
T McKeown
A Patterson
E Robinson
I Stevenson

APOLOGIES: M Storey, MLA

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Borough Services
Director of Central & Leisure Services
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Committee Clerk
Building Control Officer
Chief Building Control Officer – Mr RF White - (Item 4)

Press

901.1 CONGRATULATIONS

Councillor McCamphill expressed congratulations to the Dunloy Senior Hurlers in regaining the County Championship title and wished them every success in the forthcoming Ulster Championship final. Alderman Connolly offered his congratulations to the ladies Camogie Team in their success at the Antrim Camogie Championships and to the minors and under 16's in the County Championship. The Mayor offered his congratulations to both teams.

908.2 MINUTES - MEETING NO 907 – 7TH SEPTEMBER 2009

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

that the minutes of meeting No 907 on 7TH September 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

908.3 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 42 – 21ST SEPTEMBER 2009

Alderman Connolly presented the report.

Matters Arising**3.1 Housing Executive (42.2)**

Councillor Finlay raised concerns following presentation of the Housing Executive's Annual Report that the Minister has set aside £170M for new builds across the province and that no budget has been identified for the renovation and maintenance of existing social housing. Members also discussed the latent need exercise being undertaken in Stranocum. Councillor Kennedy expressed the view that this will be a costly exercise with no commitment to residents to commence a new build in the foreseeable future.

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

that Council write to the Minister outlining its concerns that no budget has been identified for renovation and maintenance of social housing in the Province.

The minutes of meeting No 42 on 21st September 2009, as circulated, were received.

* **Councillor Cavlan joined the meeting during the discussion at 7.10 pm**

908.4 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 207 – 21ST SEPTEMBER 2009

Councillor Finlay presented the report.

4.1 Northern Health & Social Care Trust (207.2)

Councillor Stevenson welcomed the presentation given by the Trust and reiterated the view that public sector jobs remain within the Borough.

4.2 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 207 on 21ST September 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

908.5 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 364 – 15TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Councillor Halliday presented the report. Councillor Stevenson congratulated Councillor Halliday on his election as Vice Chair of the Committee.

The Director of Central & Leisure Services presented an addendum as set out in 5.1

Matters Arising:

5.1 Good Relations Grants

Leisure & Amenities Committee, at its meeting on 15th September, recommended to Council acceptance of a late Good Relations Grant from Bendooragh Apprentice Boys Cultural Society, for assistance towards a Cultural Event. The application meets the required criteria and it is **RECOMMENDED** that Council make a grant of £350 to the Society.

5.2 Drumaheglis Caravan Park (364.9)

Councillor Cavlan thanked the Director of Borough Services for his Directorate's hard work in achieving NITB five star status and AA 4 Pennant status at Drumaheglis Caravan Park

5.3 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor Finlay and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 364 - 16^h September, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved including the addendum as set out at 5.1

At the request of Councillor Kennedy, the Director of Borough Services clarified the recommendation, now adopted by Council, that the festive lighting scheme with the additions described, would be progressed. The matter of the budgetary shortfall would be considered by the Resources Task Group.

Since the minutes were adopted, the Mayor ruled that Council move to the next item of business.

- * **Councillor McKeown joined the meeting during the discussion at 7.25 pm.**

908.6 HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 352 – 22ND SEPTEMBER 2009

Councillor Robinson presented the report

Matters Arising:

6.1 Erection of Street Nameplates in a Language other than English (352.14)

Councillor Cavlan requested an update on this item, deferred for one month. The Director advised that he was not in receipt of any further details but anticipated that further information would be available for the next meeting of Committee. Councillor Cavlan expressed the view that there should be no further delays in dealing with this matter, having regard to Council's policy.

6.2 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Health & Environmental Services Meeting No 352 on 22nd September 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

- * **Councillor Stevenson left the meeting at 7.35 pm.**

908.7 CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 378 – 28TH SETPEMBER 2009

Alderman Simpson presented the report including addendum as set out at 7.1

Matters Arising

7.1 Government's Welfare To Work Initiative – "Steps To Work" Programme

Details of the 'Steps to Work' programme were circulated to members. It is **RECOMMENDED** that Council take account of the Steps to Work programme in considering recruitment options for new and vacant posts

7.2 Transition Committee (378.8)

At the request of Councillor McCamphill, the Chair of the Committee clarified budget provision by DoE relating to funding of posts(s) for transitional work.

7.3 Staff Matters (378.2)

Councillor Robinson welcomed the provision of external funding for Post Entry and NVQ training.

7.4 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee Meeting No 378 on 28TH September 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved including the addendum as set out at 7.1 above.

908.8 RESOURCES TASK GROUP – 28TH SETPEMBER 2009

Alderman Simpson presented the report.

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

that the minutes of Resources Task Group on 28th September 2009, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.

* Councillor Finlay left the meeting at 7.40 pm

908.9 SEAL DOCUMENTS

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

that the Seal of the Council be affixed to Grave Registration Certificate numbers 1173, 1174, & 1175.

* Alderman Connolly left the meeting at 7.45 pm.

908.10 CHIEF BUILDING CONTROL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair welcomed Chief Building Control Officer, Mr RF White, to the meeting to present his Annual Report 2008/09 to members.

In presenting his report, Mr White referred to the introduction of the Building Control Group System in Northern Ireland stating that this is a unique system to Northern Ireland which has been extremely successful.

Mr White advised that fee income, dependent on the level of building activity in Council areas, has again been affected in the current period by the downturn in building control workloads but the service has been delivered within budget. Staff numbers remain constant despite the number of applications received with the development of staff to cater for the increasingly technical complexity of building control regulations. Mr White's report also included information on:

- Group budgets
- Development of the Building Regulations
- Building practices
- Performance indicators
- Main activities during the year
- The future of Building Control services

Referring to RPA and the change this will have on building control services, Mr White expressed his wish for building control to continue to be delivered by Council officers, maintaining the level of service delivered since inception of the Group in 1973.

Mr White stated his intention to retire in the near future and thanked elected members of the Group for their input and the hospitality extended to him by Council over the years. Councillor Kennedy, Councillor McCamphill and Alderman Campbell thanked Mr White for his presentations to Council, congratulating him on his professionalism and extending best wishes to him for the future. The Director of Borough Services and Council's Building Control Officer associated themselves with the remarks made by members.

The presentation concluded at 8.00 pm and Mr White left the meeting at this time.

* **Councillor Cavlan left the meeting during the discussion at 7.50 pm.**

908.11 REMEMBRANCE DAY

An invitation has been received from Ballymoney Royal British Legion for the Chief Executive and Councillors to attend the Remembrance Day wreath laying ceremony which will be held at the War Memorial on Sunday 8th November 2009 at 10.30 am and also to the Church Service which will be held in 1st Ballymoney Presbyterian Church at 3.00 pm.

The Head of Corporate & Development Services advised members that an invitation has also been received from the Dervock Branch of the Royal British Legion. It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Mayor attend the service in Ballymoney and the Deputy Mayor attend the service in Dervock and lay a wreath at the Cenotaph and all members attending the service at Ballymoney 1st Presbyterian Church wear ceremonial regalia.

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

that Council accepts the invitation from Ballymoney Branch and Dervock Branch of the Royal British Legion to attend the Remembrance Day Services at the War Memorials on Sunday 8th November 2009 and the Church service at Ballymoney 1st Presbyterian Church, that Members robe for the Church service and that wreaths be laid at Ballymoney and Dervock.

908.12 NEW DENTAL SERVICES

The Committee for Health, Social Services and Public Safety, on 10th September 2009, considered a letter from the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety regarding the introduction of new dental services to provide health service care and treatment.

The Committee agreed that the Minister's response should be copied to Councils (circulated).

908.13 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY REVIEW - DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

As there are important decisions to make about the nature, content and direction of the revised strategy the Department of Regional Development (DRD) have produced a discussion paper and plan early engagement with the main stakeholders. The discussion document poses a number of questions on which views are invited by 11th December.

The discussion document will be tabled for consideration by the Consultation Committee in November. Copies have been requested for each member. The document can also be viewed on www.drdni.gov.uk.

908.14 VANDALISM IN SCHOOLS

The North East Education and Library Board has provided Council with details of the cost of vandalism in schools in its area. This has been made available to DPP's.

908.15 NI WATER'S APPROACH TO PRICE CONTROL 2010

NI Water has produced a Price Control 2010 Business Plan (PC10), which replaces its Strategic Business Plan which the Company has produced since its establishment on 1 April 2007.

Over the past 5 years, NI Water has reduced its operating expenditure by 26.5% but has some way to go. NI Water is years behind water companies in Great Britain and past under investment continues to be a major challenge.

The Utility Regulator will shortly publish its draft determination on the PC10 Business Plan with a final determination due on 15th December. This final determination will set NI Water's priorities and revenues for the next 3 years. The draft determination will be open to stakeholder consultation until 6th November.

To help promote the importance of the PC10 business Plan, and the importance of the consultation process, NI Water are distributing the leaflets to key stakeholders and public representatives (circulated). They want to create a shared agenda for the next three years. The leaflet explains the PC10 process and encourages interested parties to engage in the consultation process.

908.16 REPORTS

A list of reports was circulated for members' information.

908.17 NILGA REPORTS & UPDATES

A list of reports was circulated for members' information.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.