

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Corporate & Central Services Committee
Meeting No: 348 – 23rd October 2006

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- 348.9** **Accounts for Payment - *to recommend to Council that accounts to the value of £478,087.94 from the Revenue Account and £63,190.10 from the Capital Account be approved for payment.***
- 348.10** **Review of Councillors’ Remuneration in Northern Ireland –
*recommendations of working group.***

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Minutes of Corporate & Central Services Meeting No 348 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House on Tuesday, 23rd October 2006 at 7:30 pm**

IN THE CHAIR: A Patterson

PRESENT

Aldermen
F Campbell
H Connolly
C Cousley
J Simpson

Councillors

A Cavlan
J Finlay
B Kennedy
P McGuigan
D McKay
E Robinson
I Stevenson
M Storey
R Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Central and Leisure Services
[Items 1-10]
Head of Corporate and Development Services
[Items 1-8]
Committee Clerk

348.1 MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 347 – 25th SEPTEMBER 2006

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

that the minutes of the committee's last meeting No. 347, on 25th September 2006, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

CORPORATE SERVICES

348.2 MARKETING SUB-COMMITTEE

Head of Corporate & Development Services advised that Members of the Marketing Group and Heads of Service had been invited to submit issues for inclusion in the bulletin. The following articles had been included in the draft bulletin.

Opening of Riada Stadium, Affordable Fuel Scheme, Smoking Policy, Fairtrade Policy, Hazard House, Town Consumer Survey, Macmillan Cancer – Mayoress' Coffee Morning, Safer Christmas Eating, Christmas & New Year Refuse Collection Arrangements, Christmas Events.

Members were invited to review these at a meeting on Monday 16th October at 6.30pm. Alderman Simpson and the Deputy Mayor reviewed the Bulletin and expressed their satisfaction with same. The bulletin will be issued in early November.

348.3 RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT – ANTRIM SENIOR HURLING TEAM

Committee was informed by Alderman Connolly that arrangements were in hand for a reception to take place in Ballymoney on their return from Boston where they had won the Ulster Championship following on their success in the Christy Ring Cup.

348.4 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The EQIA on Street Naming Policy has been published. The consultation period runs to 8th November 2006.

The EQIAs on Election of Office Bearers and Council Representation on Committees and External Bodies Policies have been published. The consultation period runs to 13th December 2006

The comments received will be compiled and presented to Committee to assist in its deliberations on the policies.

The Head of Corporate & Development Services advised that a gap in available data had been identified in relation to the EQIA on flags and emblems. This had delayed the completion of the EQIA, but it was still intended that it be listed for consideration at the November meeting.

348.5 COUNCIL MEETINGS' TIMETABLE

The meeting considered alternative dates for Council and Committee Meetings, which would fall on public/bank holidays during 2007. Details to be circulated to members.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that committee confirm meetings timetable for 2007 at its meeting on 6th November 2006.

348.6 THE SOMME ASSOCIATION

Head of Corporate and Development Services informed committee that application had been received from the Somme Association for renewal of annual subscription, £360-00 plus VAT. She advised that budget provision had been made.

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

to recommend that Council renew their annual subscription to the Somme Association (360.00 plus VAT).

(Councillor Finlay left the room at 7.50pm)

348.7 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

Head of Corporate and Development Services informed committee that an invitation had been received to attend the International School of Peace Studies event to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Mesen/Messines Ridge in Belgium on 7 June 2007, during the Island of Ireland Week from 3-10th June 2007. No information was available yet on costs.

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

to recommend in principle that Council be represented at the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Mesen/Messines Ridge in Belgium on 7th June 2007, the matter to be considered when details of programme and costs are available.

348.8 COUNTY ANTRIM WAR MEMORIAL

Head of Corporate and Development Services informed committee that Council were invited to attend the County Antrim War Memorial event on Monday 5th November 2006 at 11.30am at Knockagh War memorial, towards which Council had contributed.

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

to recommend to Council that members attend the County Antrim War Memorial event on 5th November 2006.

(Alderman Storey left the meeting at 7.50pm)

(Councillor Finlay returned at 7.55pm)

(Head of Corporate and Development Services left the meeting at 7.56pm)

(Councillor Bill Kennedy arrived 8.00pm)

CENTRAL SERVICES

348.9 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Director of Central and Leisure Services circulated the Treasury advice schedules detailing payments for Period 7 2006/07 drawn on the Councils Capital & Revenue Bank Accounts.

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

to recommend to Council that accounts to the value of £478,087.94 from the Revenue Account and £63,190.10 from the Capital Account be approved for payment.

348.10 REVIEW OF COUNCILLORS' REMUNERATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Director of Central and Leisure Services presented the main recommendations in The Report by the Councillors' Remuneration Working Group:

- I. The attendance allowance should be abolished and replaced by an enhanced Basic Allowance.
- II. The Basic Allowance should be the same for all Councillors in Northern Ireland.
- III. The Basic Allowance should be at an amount that remunerates half of a full-time equivalent councillor.
- IV. The amount of the Special Responsibility Allowance should continue to be banded by the size of the council population and no more than 50% of councillors (excluding chairman and vice-chairman) should receive Special Responsibility Allowance.
- V. A Dependants' Carers' Allowance should be introduced as it could contribute to removing barriers to becoming and remaining a councillor.
- VI. There should be legislative support to enable councils to provide members support.
- VII. The Travel & Subsistence arrangements for councillors should continue to be similar to those of officers.
- VIII. Pension provision should be open to all councillors.
- IX. Severance awards should be made to councillors who have served more than one term and who do not put their name forward for the 2008 local government elections.

She advised that the Department was not holding a formal consultation on the Working Groups recommendations but that it would be happy to receive any comments the council may wish to make.

The Director further advised that the values of the allowances were not yet agreed.

(This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.10pm)