

Ballymoney Borough Council
Corporate & Central Services Meeting No 389 – 25th October 2010

Table of Contents

389.1	Chair	<i>Cllr Kennedy</i>
389.2	Minutes of Meeting No 388 – 27 th September 2010	<i>Adopted</i>

CENTRAL SERVICES

389.3	Accounts For Payment	<i>Approved</i>
389.4	Councillors Allowances – Dependants' Carers' Allowance	<i>Pay maximum rate</i>
389.5	Final Actual Penny Product 2009/10	<i>Tabled</i>
389.6	Rates – outstanding Debts at 31 st March 2010	<i>Tabled</i>
389.7	Pay Claim 2011/12	<i>Information</i>

CORPORATE SERVICES

389.8	Memorial Gardens	<i>Establish link</i>
389.9	Somme Association – Annual Subscription	<i>Renew £370 plus VAT</i>

FOR INFORMATION MIN REF 389.9 - 389.11

389.10	Registration of Electors	<i>Tabled</i>
389.11	Transition Committees	<i>Tabled</i>
389.12	Democracy Week 2010	<i>Information</i>
389.13	Staff Matters	
389.14	Community Safety & DPP Joint Working	<i>Comment recorded</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee Meeting No. 389 held in the McKinley Room, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 25th October 2010 at 7.00pm.

IN THE CHAIR Councillor B Kennedy, Mayor

PRESENT **Aldermen**
F Campbell
H Connolly
C Cousley, MBE, Deputy Mayor

Councillors
A Cavlan
J Finlay
R Halliday
A Patterson
E Robinson
I Stevenson
M Storey, MLA

IN ATTENDANCE Director of Central and Leisure Services [Items 1-6]
Head of Corporate and Development Services [Items 6-12]
Committee Clerk

APOLOGIES Alderman J Simpson
Councillor M McCamphill

389.1 CHAIR

The Director of Central and Leisure Services invited members to nominate a Chair for the meeting.

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

to recommend that Councillor Kennedy Chair the proceedings of the meeting.

389.2 MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting No 388 –27th September 2010 were circulated at the meeting.

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

to recommend that the Minutes of Meeting No 388 – 27th September 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

CENTRAL SERVICES

389.3 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Director advised that Treasury advice schedules detailing payments for Period 7, 2010/11 drawn on the Council's Revenue and Capital Bank Accounts were circulated.

The Director responded to a number of members queries.

It is recommended that the payments are made.

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

to recommend to Council that accounts to the value of £610,485.62 from the Revenue Account and £4443.97 from the Capital Account for Period 7, 2010/11 be approved for payment.

389.4 COUNCILLORS ALLOWANCES – DEPENDANTS' CARERS' ALLOWANCE

The Director advised that the Department of the Environment has now determined new maximum rates of dependants' carers' allowance payable under the Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (NI) 1999, as amended. The revised rates effective from 1st October 2010 are attached as Appendix A.

It is recommended that the maximum allowances are paid, as is Councils practice with other Councillors' Allowances.

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

to recommended to Council that the maximum rates of dependants' carers' allowance be paid, effective from 1st October 2010 and attached as Appendix A.

389.5 FINAL ACTUAL PENNY PRODUCT 2009/10

Land & Property Services have advised that the final Actual Penny Product (APP) calculations for 2009/10 are now complete.

The finalisation amount is a positive outturn and the figures remain unchanged to the provisional figures reported to committee in June 2010. (CRCS 387.7) The finalisation amount, to be paid to Council in November 2010, is £118,355.10. This is made up of two elements – an out-turn of £119,307.14 less the deferred monies, £5,558.89 associated with the BT revaluations and a grant compensatory payment of £4,606.85 for the reduction in CAP.

389.6 RATES – OUTSTANDING DEBTS AT 31ST MARCH 2010

A schedule produced by Land & Property Services detailing the outstanding debts per Ward in Ballymoney at 31st March 2010 was circulated.

At 31st March 2010 the debts total £1,328,524. LPS advise that they continue to vigorously collect and recover the outstanding monies.

At 26th July 2010 the debt outstanding was £1,012,170.

The Director enquired, what action, if any Council wished to take.

* **Head of Corporate and Development Services arrived at the meeting at 7.30pm.**

Councillor Storey commented that this was a staggering amount of debt for a borough the size of Ballymoney.

389.7 PAY CLAIM 2011/12

The Director advised that The National Joint Council Trade Union Side has submitted the following pay claim for 2011/12.

- an increase of at least £250 on all spinal column points
- a review of various employment conditions relating to annual leave, maternity leave, adoption leave and a reduction in the standard working week.

The Employers Side will be consulting with Councils in due course.

The Director advised that she will report negotiation developments in due course.

* **Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 7.35pm.**

CORPORATE SERVICES

389.8 MEMORIAL GARDENS

Following on consideration at the committee's last meeting of a request for link path at the Council's memorial gardens to Joey and Robert Dunlop at Castle Street, Ballymoney correspondence has been received from Mrs Linda Dunlop and Family and Mr Bob McMillan, Honda UK, circulated.

- * **Councillor Patterson left the meeting during consideration of the above matter at 7.55pm.**

The committee reviewed all correspondence received and after detailed consideration **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that a link be established between its memorial gardens to Joey and Robert Dunlop, in accordance with plans, prepared by its Architects and previously examined.

- * **Councillor Storey, MLA, left the meeting at 8.05pm.**
- * **Councillor Halliday left the meeting at 8.05pm.**

389.9 SOMME ASSOCIATION – ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

The Friends of the Somme annual subscription 2010, £370.00 plus VAT, is due. Budget provision has been made for this contribution.

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

to recommend that Council renew The Friends of the Somme annual subscription 2010 of £370.00 plus VAT.

389.10 REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS

The Northern Ireland Office has advised that expenditure by the Electoral Office for NI in 2009-10 on the preparation and maintenance of the Electoral Register in NI amounted to £1,983,090. Council is required to pay £2,202-48 to the consolidated fund in respect of the registration expenses.

389.11 TRANSITION COMMITTEES

A letter, 13/10/2010, from the Environment Minister, Edwin Poots advising that in the absence of clarity from the Executive on the way forward with the local government reform programme he had decided to announce the suspension of the funding for Local Government's 11 Voluntary Transition Committee's with effect from 31 October 2010, (copy letter circulated)

389.12 DEMOCRACY WEEK 2010

To mark European Local Democracy Week students from the local secondary schools and a cross-party panel of members from Council took part in a quiz and debate in the Town Hall, organised by the Office of the Chief Executive and supported by the Good Relations Unit and Community Safety Partnership.

The aim of Local Democracy Week is to help increase the knowledge of local democratic institutions and their processes amongst citizens and to create links between populations and their local politicians. Issues which engaged students attention included: climate change, the economy, energy efficiency measures, the use of solar panels, grant incentives for businesses to reduce carbon footprint and the promotion of paperless communication and on the economy, closer working between schools, community associations and the council to develop projects.

Councillor Bill Kennedy commended the staging of the Democracy Week quiz and debate and the contribution that Councillors had made to it. Councillor Robinson agreed with Councillor Kennedy comments, stating that she had been informed that the young students had also thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

389.13 STAFF MATTERS**13.1 Directors of Services' Pay Review**

The Head of Corporate & Development Services referred to Council's agreement that a job evaluation exercise on the two director posts be carried out by the Hay Group, independent expert advisors, with an effective date for any re-grading being 1st March 2009. Committee was advised of the methodology and approach used, that account had been taken of Local Government Auditor guidance on pay of directors and deputy chief executives and current pay policy. The consultants **recommended** that the directors move to a five point scale, £60,432 - £66,057, representing an increase on their current scale, at the maximum point, of £3,103 p.a.

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

to recommend that Council approve and implement the results of the job evaluation exercise of its director posts with effect from 1st March 2009.

Alderman Cousley, Councillor Robinson, Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Finlay asked to be recorded as abstaining from the committee's recommendation.

389.14 COMMUNITY SAFETY & DPP – JOINT WORKING

Councillor Finlay expressed his discontent with the decision by the Chief Executive on relocation of the DPP Manager to office accommodation within Borough Services Directorate, following the consultation exercise on the new proposed arrangements for joint working between CSP and DPP. As a consequence he was opting to deal directly with PSNI on any policing issues. Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Cavlan and Alderman Cousley indicated their agreement with Councillor Finlay and were no longer meeting with DPP Manager. Councillor Robinson indicated that the independent members were unhappy with the management decision.

Head of Corporate and Development Services advised that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the DPP had sent a letter to-day to the Chief Executive on this subject and requesting him to attend a meeting of the DPP on 27th October. This would be brought to his attention on his return from leave that morning. She reminded members of the arrangements put in place to facilitate private meetings in line with those that apply generally across the organization.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.