

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Corporate & Central Services Meeting**

Table of Contents

CORPORATE SERVICES

392.1	Minutes Meeting No 391 – 21 st December 2010	<i>Approved.</i>
392.2	Conference Attendance	<i>Request to attend withdrawn.</i>
392.3	Royal British Legion – 90 th Anniversary Celebration event	<i>Information.</i>
392.4	Civic Events	<i>Increased Budget by £2,500.</i>
392.5	Footways – Clearance of Snow and Ice	<i>Information.</i>
392.6	Consultation – Code of Audit Practice for Local Government Bodies in Northern Ireland 2011	<i>Comments invited by 17 February.</i>
392.7	Robert Dunlop Memorial Garden Project	<i>Chief Executive updated members.</i>

CENTRAL SERVICES

392.8	Accounts for payment	<i>£649,028.07 from Revenue Account and £18,743.20 from Capital Account be approved for payment.</i>
392.9	Additional Public Holiday – 29 th April 2011	<i>Information</i>

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee Meeting No 392 held in the McKinley Room, Riada House, on Monday 24th January 2011 at 7.00pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Alderman J Simpson

PRESENT: **Aldermen**
H Connolly
C Cousley, MBE, Deputy Mayor

Councillors
A Cavlan
J Finlay
R Halliday
B Kennedy, Mayor
M McCamphill
C McLaughlin
A Patterson
E Robinson
I Stevenson
M Storey, MLA

APOLOGIES: Alderman F Campbell

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive [Items 1-7]
Director of Central & Leisure Services [Items 8-9]
Head of Corporate Services [Items 1-7]
Committee Clerk

392.1 MINUTES OF MEETING 391 – 21ST DECEMBER 2010

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

to recommend to Council that the Minutes of Meeting No 391 – 21st December 2010, as circulated, be approved.

CORPORATE SERVICES**392.2 CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

An application has been received from Councillor Finlay to attend 2011 Keep Britain Tidy Conference, to be held 14th & 15th March in Bournemouth. The conference, 'Delivering Quality Standards Together' has a number of key themes – decentralisation, community empowerment, encouraging social action, neighbourhood strategies and community ownership. The cost of conference attendance and travel is estimated at £1,000. This can be met from existing budget.

Councillor Cavlan felt that the cost of the Conference was exorbitant. In response to request for breakdown of cost the Head of Corporate and

Development Services advised the conference fee was £695, with the remaining budget covering accommodation and travel.

* **Councillor Kennedy left the meeting at 7.08pm.**

It was proposed by Councillor Cavlan, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin:

that Council do not send anyone to the 2011 Keep Britain Tidy Conference 14th and 15th March in Bournemouth.

Chair put the motion to the meeting, 2 voted in favour and 3 voted against.

Chair declared the motion lost.

Councillor Finlay withdrew his request to attend the conference.

* **Councillor Kennedy returned to the meeting at 7.10pm.**

392.3 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – 90th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENT

The request for participation in this event was tabled at the last meeting when additional information was requested to allow Committee to consider the matter and budget provision. The Royal British Legion are Honorary Freemen of the Borough.

The support requested from Council for the event at the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society Showgrounds Balmoral, Belfast on Saturday 4 June is in the form of grant funding or 'in-kind' support by supplying equipment and services.

The Royal British Legion is also encouraging individuals, groups and councils across the nation to hold poppy parties over the weekend 10th – 12th June, in celebration of the Legion's 90th birthday and supporting the Legion in its work over the next 90 years to help those men and women serving our country at home and abroad and also their families and dependants. A Guide to Planning a Successful Celebration Party has been produced. Fund raising events, which can be held in homes, town or village halls, village greens, market squares, pubs, hotels restaurants etc., might include barbecue, fancy dress event, karaoke night, masked ball, barn dance, games evening, sports event, dress down day at school/ work, or an existing anniversary event or special occasion could have a poppy theme – the more unlikely the ideas the better – the Royal British Legion are running a competition for the most unusual party location – with a prize of £1000 for the winner. Party packs are available.

In response to members' queries, the Chief Executive undertook to ask Director of Central and Leisure Services to advise on whether groups wishing to organise events for this celebration could apply to Community Festival Fund.

392.4 CIVIC EVENTS

Council has decided to confer the Freedom of the Borough on the 152 (Ulster) Transport Regiment of the Royal Logistics Core of the Territorial Army and the Royal Irish Regiment. Budget provision has been made in the current financial year. Given the timelines for the organisation of the event, it is unlikely that it will be delivered by 31st March.

Head of Corporate and Development Services referred to Council's decision to confer the Freedom of the Borough on the *152 (Ulster) Transport Regiment of the Royal Logistics Core of the Territorial Army, and the Royal Irish Regiment*.

The Territorial Army in NI has ten different units in the Province comprising artillery, armour, infantry, signals, logistics, medical, intelligence, officer training corps and a band. The 152 (Ulster) Transport Regiment Royal Logistics Corps (Volunteers) headquarters is based at Palace Barracks Holywood, with sub-units in Londonderry and Coleraine.

The Royal Irish Regiment is the last remaining Irish infantry regiment of the line. The 1st Battalion is based in Tern Hill, Shropshire and forms part of the 16 Air Assault Brigade. The 2nd Battalion is a Territorial Army battalion and its headquarters are in Portadown NI with company locations across the province.

Initial contact has been made with the two organizations to extend Council's offer which has been put in writing and to seek confirmation and a contact person to liaise re. a mutually convenient date and other matters associated with the event.

Given the time required to organise the event and taking account of the local election period it is considered that it would not be possible to deliver the event before 31st March. The budget provision of £5,000 needs to be carried forward to the next financial year and consideration given to increasing to £7,500 given the additional cost associated with delivery of two freedoms including likely associated public events involving military personnel.

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

to recommend that the £5,000 budget 2010/2011 which would go into Reserves be applied as a balance to rates in the next financial year 2011/2012. £7,500 provision for the Freedom event to be included in the 2011/12 official visits budget, an increase in budget of £2,500.

Councillor Cavlan wished to be recorded as disagreeing with the event.

The Marketing sub-committee will meet to consider the event upon receipt of initial advices from the two organisations.

Head of Corporate and Development Services invited Committee to review the Official and Courtesy budget and reported on civic events to be delivered in 2011/12:

- i) Launch of Facilities 2011-2012:
The following facilities are expected to be launched in 2011-12
 - Connect2 Bridge Project
 - Community Buildings
- ii) International Links Events
Additional expenditure will be faced this year with hosting of student exchange group from Vanves.

IT WAS AGREED that proposals be brought forward to the next Rates meeting with tentative suggestions on estimated budget to deliver civic events in 2011/12.

* **Councillor Storey left the meeting at 7.30pm.**

392.5 FOOTWAYS – CLEARANCE OF SNOW AND ICE

With regard to proposals for partnering arrangements for the removal of snow and ice from town centre footways and pedestrian areas, DRD Roads Service Divisional Office has written referring to the Minister's engagement with NILGA to discuss and reaffirm the offer made to councils earlier this year. Under these proposals, Councils, or groups of traders acting on their behalf, will have the same indemnity benefits as Roads Service.

The Minister for Regional Development issued a press statement welcoming the news that the majority of Councils are now proposing to work with Roads service to salt the main footpaths in their respective areas. The press release was copied to all members on 23 December at the Minister's request.

The Divisional Manager hopes that the clarification Council will, by entering into a partnership agreement with Roads Service, now be in a position to come on board to provide this valuable service to their local ratepayers.

Chief Executive suggested that among SOLACE members there was a consensus that the current situation does not offer a permanent solution. It was agreed that NILGA officers would prepare a paper examining a number of options which may provide a more acceptable longer term solution.

Once the paper is finalised the SOLACE Executive will meet with the NILGA office bearers to agree the next steps. This will include further discussion with the Department.

* **Councillor Storey returned to the meeting at 7.40pm.**

392.6 CONSULTATION – CODE OF AUDIT PRACTICE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND 2011

Part II of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 (the 2005 Order), contains provisions for the audit of local government bodies.

Article 4(3) of the 2005 Order enabled the Department to formally designate the Chief Local Government Auditor and Article 5 requires him to prepare a draft Code of Audit Practice (the Code) for local government bodies in Northern Ireland and to have this approved by resolution of the Assembly at intervals of no more than five years. The first such Code was published in 2006.

A draft of the 2011 Code of Audit Practice for Local Government Bodies in Northern Ireland has been published. The draft Code sets out:

- The legislative background which requires me to prepare a Code of Audit Practice. When finalised the Code will replace the existing 2006 Code of Audit Practice.
- The basis for the new Code – primarily based on the equivalent Code of Audit Practice prepared by the Audit Commission with an additional section clarifying the auditors rights of access to third parties.

Copies of the Code are available from the Office of the Chief Executive. Comments are invited by 17 February 2011.

The draft Code has been circulated to the Corporate Management team for consideration and no comments are offered.

392.7 ROBERT DUNLOP MEMORIAL GARDEN PROJECT

Chief Executive updated members advising that the Memorial Garden Path is complete, bases for the spot lights have been installed, mini pillars and arch and some minor landscaping to be completed.

Regarding the Sculpture Project; the clay model is complete, the Piece will go to the foundry when it is signed off with the target date for installation being end March 2011.

The Sculpture Fund committee will organise an event to unveil the sculpture at which and council shall be invited to be represented.

- * **Chief Executive left the meeting at 7.45pm.**
- * **Head of Corporate and Development Services left the meeting at 7.45pm.**
- * **Director of Central and Leisure Services arrived at the meeting at 7.47pm.**
- * **Councillor Finlay left the meeting at 7.47pm.**
- * **Councillor Storey left the meeting at 7.48pm.**
- * **Councillor Kennedy left the meeting at 7.48pm.**

CENTRAL SERVICES

392.8 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Treasury advice schedules detailing payments for Period 10, 2010/11 drawn on the Council's Capital & Revenue Bank Accounts were circulated at the meeting.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that payment is made.

The Director answered members' queries.

* **Councillor Finlay rejoined the meeting at 7.57pm.**

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

to recommend to Council that accounts to the value of £649,028.07 from the Revenue Account and £18,743.20 from the Capital Account for Period 10, 2010/11 be approved for payment.

392.9 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY – 29TH APRIL 2011

The Director advised that the Government has announced that there will be an additional Public Holiday on Friday 29th April 2011 to celebrate the wedding of His Royal Highness, Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton. Employees will be entitled to a holiday with a normal day's pay on this additional Public Holiday.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.07pm.