

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Development Committee Meeting No 188 - 19th November 2007****Table of Contents**

188.1	Condolences	<i>Condolences expressed to Chief Executive</i>
188.2	Minutes – Meeting No 187 – 8 th October 2007	<i>Adopted</i>
188.3	Tender Support Programme Conference	<i>Noted</i>
188.4	Assembly Committee Inquiry into Town Centre Regeneration	<i>No comments offered</i>
188.5	Rural Development Programme 2007-2013	<i>Noted</i>
188.6	Progress Report	<i>Noted</i>
188.7	Future Plans/EU Funding	<i>Noted</i>
188.8	International Links	<i>Mayor to attend civic function in Isle of Man</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting No. 188 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney, on Monday 19th November 2007 at 4.07 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Councillor I Stevenson

PRESENT:

Aldermen
F Campbell
H Connolly, Deputy Mayor
J Simpson

Councillors
A Cavlan
J Finlay, Mayor
B Kennedy
M McCamphill
A Patterson
E Robinson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Committee Clerk

188.1 CONDOLENCES

The Chair expressed condolences to the Chief Executive on the recent death of his mother. The Chief Executive thanked members and staff for their kind thoughts and support at this sad time.

188.2 MINUTES OF MEETING NO 187 – 8TH OCTOBER 2007

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

that the minutes of Meeting No 187 – 8TH October 2007, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

188.3 TENDER SUPPORT PROGRAMME CONFERENCE

Council agreed to contribute £1500 to subsidize the attendance of up to 20 participants from Ballymoney. 10-12 companies from Ballymoney have registered to date. In addition, a detailed directory of companies who have participated in tender programmes throughout the province and ROI will be published. This will assist our companies in continuing and growing their tendering opportunities. Council will receive a copy of the publication and a report on the outcome of the conference.

188.4 ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

The Committee for Social Development is to carry out an Inquiry to examine the current approach to town centre regeneration and evidence may be submitted by 29th November. Terms of reference have been set and the committee will report to the assembly by March 2008. No comments are offered

188.5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2007-2013

The Rural Development Council has published a new strategic framework for advancing rural development over the next six-year period. They are currently in the process of reviewing their corporate structure to ensure representatives of all those with an interest in the countryside are part of the new rural affairs forum and will contact Council in the next couple of months to discuss their thinking further and obtain Council's views.

188.5 PROGRESS REPORT

A copy of project progress report and unemployment statistics was circulated together with notes on Claimant Count for September 2007.

The Head of Corporate & Development Services expressed disappointment at the damage caused to town wayfinder signs at Riverside Park through vandalism. This has been reported to PSNI. It was reported that all BSP projects were now substantially complete.

188.6 FUTURE PLANS/EU FUNDING

The Head of Corporate & Development Services delivered a presentation on programmes and projects delivered and future plans / EU funding, attached as Appendix 1. A report on the outcomes of the BSP and other programmes would be presented in due course.

* **Alderman Simpson arrived at 4.17 pm and apologised for his late arrival**

During discussion, the Head of Corporate & Development Services responded to members' questions.

* **Councillor McCamphill left the meeting at 4.21 pm**

With regard to Interreg, she explained those projects Council had agreed to participate in and that various other projects were being worked up at present and will form a second bid.

* **Councillor Patterson left the meeting at 4.30 pm**

At the request of Councillor Finlay, the Head of Corporate & Development Services commented on town regeneration initiatives regarding vacant premises in the town, plans to pitch for new investment and the Town Centre Living Initiative. She also outlined DSD support to assist with regeneration and funding made available for a marketing programme.

At the request of Alderman Campbell, the Head of Corporate & Development Services gave an update on outcomes from the recently undertaken Hotel Feasibility Study.

188.7 INTERNATIONAL LINKS

The Mayor has received an invitation from Douglas Borough Council to attend a Civic Function to confer the Freedom of the Borough on Councillor George Robert Chatel, MBE and Mr Alfred Duggan on 27th November 2007.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Mayor represent Council at this event.

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

that the Mayor represent Council at the Civic Function in Douglas, Isle of Man, as detailed above, on 27th November 2007 and that the cost be met from International Links budget.

The meeting closed at 4.45 pm.

Appendices attached:

Appendix 1 Economic Development Programme Review 2007 and Future Plans

APPENDIX 1

**Economic Development Programme Review 2007
and Future Plans**



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