

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Development Committee Meeting No 205 – 15th June 2009****Table of Contents**

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205.10	Hotel Study	<i>Hedges Leisure Complex announced</i>
205.11	Innovation Vouchers Scheme	<i>Tabled</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting No 205 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, on Monday 15th June 2009 at 2.30pm.

IN THE CHAIR Councillor I Stevenson

PRESENT **Aldermen**
F Campbell
C Cousley, MBE
J Simpson

Councillors
J Finlay
M McCamphill
E Robinson
A Patterson
A Cavlan

APOLOGIES H Connolly
R Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE Roberta Donaghy, DEL
Stephen Hillis, TWL
Chief Executive
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Clerical Assistant

205.1 PRESENTATION

A presentation was given by Roberta Donaghy, Employer Contact Manager, Department of Education and Learning (DEL), and Stephen Hillis, TWL, on Government's Welfare to Work Initiative "STEPS to Work – The Current Climate". The presentation was followed by questions.

The presentation concluded with the reiteration that the Steps to Work initiative is about achieving realistic employment goals. Through Bridge to Employment, employment gaps are identified via feedback from employers, and Steps to Work training will target these gaps. Would-be employers can benefit from £75 per week for 26 weeks as a financial incentive, and similarly if employers take on a person under 25, they can get a further £750 paid towards training costs.

Members were advised that raising awareness was one of their biggest issues, and DEL expressed their keenness for any introduction to potential employers.

A copy of presentation slides is attached as Appendix 1

Councillor Cavlan left during the presentation at 2.41pm, returning at 2.45pm
Councillor Finlay left the meeting during the presentation at 3.15pm
The presentation finished at 3.25pm
Councillor Cavlan left the meeting at the end of the presentation, returning 3.28pm

205.2. MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 204 - 18th May 2009

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

that the minutes of Committee meeting, No. 204 on 18TH May 2009, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

205.3 FLOODING SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

that the minutes of the Flooding Sub-Committee meeting on 29th May 2009, as circulated, be adopted.

205.4 BALLYMONEY TOWN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Members were advised that as Main Street is in a Conservation Area, Planning Service consider that asphalt resurfacing of footways is inappropriate and an alternative surface of paving block was proposed following a meeting with Planning Service, Roads Service and DSD. A revised funding bid has been submitted to DSD.

The timescale for the contractor going on site is now likely to be after 12th July holiday period. TCM will meet later this week to review the matter and update businesses affected.

205.5 SISTER CITIES CONFERENCE – NORTHERN IRELAND – 2009

It was **noted** that The Chairman of the Conference host Organising Committee has written encouraging registration for the conference to be held Waterfront Hall, Belfast, July 29th – August 1st.

205.6 SOCIAL ASSETS REPORTS

Estimates of 'Social Assets' across Northern Ireland have been generated by a joint research project undertaken by The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (CFNI) and Community Evaluation (CENI). The CENI/CFNI Social Asset Research LGD Panel Reports has now been published on NINIS/Investing for Health Area Profiles. To access these reports go to Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) website - <http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk/ifh> Area Profile and choose the LGD level for the area of interest. The Social Assets Reports can be found under: Themes 1 and 2 - Working with Communities/Partnership Working.

205.7 Ballymoney Music Centre

An possible expression of interest by a local community based company in the acquisition of the Music Centre building, bringing it back into commercial or community use was discussed.

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

that funding options and their implications for Council be explored and a report brought to a future meeting

205.8 Linenhall Street Re-development Programme

Discussions have taken place with the Developer on the issues raised with Committee, and a further update will be provided at a future meeting.

205.9 Rural Development Programme

A meeting with the Interim Manager took place for an update on operational matters, programmes open for application and uptake on these.

Issues addressed included rural regeneration initiative, and special calls for cluster wide projects on food tourism initiative, conservation and heritage, rural tourism marketing, rural tourism product knowledge, rural transport initiative and research project. A number of schemes are being developed for submission in line with the programmes identified in the development business plan.

The next call for funding under the Rural Development Programme will be in September, and a draft programme should be ready for presentation at the next meeting.

205.10 Hotel Study

A 31 bed hotel for the Hedges Leisure Complex, Stranocum has been announced, realising the aim of our hotel development study.

205.11 Innovation Vouchers Scheme

A meeting with UUC Business School seeking support for promotion of the Innovation Vouchers Scheme, to fund knowledge transfer between small enterprises and approved knowledge providers to deliver an innovative solution, was **noted**.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 4.25pm

Appendices Attached:-

Appendix 1	DEL Presentation
Appendix 2	Flooding Sub Committee Minutes

APPENDIX ONE



DEL Presentation

APPENDIX TWO

Flooding Sub Committee Minutes

Flooding Sub Committee

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|----|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Minutes – Meeting on 5 th December | <i>Deferred to item 3</i> |
| 2. | Consider Agency Responses | |
| | 2.1 Roads Service | <i>Await outcome of report</i> |
| | 2.2 NI Water | <i>Write to NI Water</i> |
| | 2.3 Planning Service | <i>Write to solicitors & Planning Service</i> |
| | | <i>Request condition</i> |
| | 2.4 Adoption of Minutes | <i>Adopted</i> |
| | 2.5 Rivers Agency | <i>Seek update</i> |
| | 2.6 DARD Correspondence | <i>Noted</i> |
| 3. | Residents Update | |
| 4. | Sandbags | |

Flooding Sub Committee

Minutes of the Flooding Sub Committee meeting held on Friday 29th May 2009 at 3.00 pm in the Lanyon Room, Riada House.

CHAIR Chief Executive

PRESENT: Alderman C Cousley - MBE, Deputy Mayor
Alderman J Simpson
Councillor T McKeown
Councillor I Stevenson
B Edgar – Deputy Director of Borough Services
L Johnston – Head of Corporate & Development Services
Committee Clerk

1. MINUTES – MEETING ON 5TH DECEMBER 2009

Consideration of the minutes of the meeting was deferred until later in the meeting.

2. CONSIDER AGENCY RESPONSES

The meeting reviewed the responses from the various agencies on the issues raised arising from flooding on the Meadows Estate, Ballymoney, during summer 2008.

2.1 Roads Services

The meeting considered the suggestion that the Sub Committee meet the Section Engineer from Roads Service to discuss areas within the town liable to flooding. The Deputy Director of Borough Services explained that his Directorate is working with Northern Group systems to put together a protocol for such events, which will include working with Roads Service and Rivers Agency. A template is being produced to identify areas liable to flooding. It was **AGREED:**

to await the outcome of the Northern Group Systems report before arranging a meeting with Roads Service.

* Alderman Simpson and Councillor McKeown arrived during this discussion at 3.10 pm and 3.15 pm respectively.

2.2 NI Water

It was **AGREED**:

that Council write to NI Water advising of Council's discontent with their response regarding diverting outfall from Ballybrakes Sewerage Works and requesting a progress report on work carried out.

2.3 Planning Service

It was **AGREED**:

1. *To alert Solicitors in the area about the liability of flooding in areas of the Borough and the concerns raised about land being zoned which is potentially liable to flooding and check if they satisfy themselves, on behalf of their clients, that the house they are about to buy is not liable to flooding.*

2. *Re Application D2008/0097/F Under Consideration*

Ask Planning Service if they propose to grant planning permission, to place a condition on any approval specifying the floor levels be raised above the flood plain.

2.4 MINUTES – MEETING ON 5TH DECEMBER 2009

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

that the minutes of meeting held on 5th December, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

* Alderman Simpson left the meeting at 3.50 pm.

2.5 Rivers Agency

It was **AGREED**:

to seek an update from the Agency on their investigations as to the impact of the 2008 floods, the hydraulic and structured stability of the flood defences, if any works are proposed and the timescale of same.

2.6 DARD

Correspondence from DARD detailing questions in the Assembly by Councillor Storey and responses from the Minister (29.10.08) were noted.

3. RESIDENTS UPDATE

It was agreed that a copy of the responses received from the Agencies be provided to residents. Assurance will be given that Council continues to represent the views of residents and will keep them updated, and would be prepared to meet with them if there were any concerns which have not been allayed by the further responses sought.

4. SANDBAGS

Arising from discussion on responses to the last flooding incidents, the statutory role of Agencies and Council involvement and issues in relation to contamination and disposal of any sandbags which might be provided by Council was discussed. It was noted that it was Agencies which were charged with providing sandbags.

The meeting closed at 3.55 pm.