

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL****Development Committee Meeting No 208 – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009****Table of Contents**

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**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting No 208 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 3.30pm.

**IN THE CHAIR**                      Councillor M McCamphill, Vice-Chair

**PRESENT**

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

**Councillors**  
A Cavlan  
J Finlay  
R Halliday  
T McKeown  
A Patterson  
E Robinson  
I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES**                      Councillor B Kennedy

**IN ATTENDANCE**                Chief Executive  
Head of Corporate & Development Services  
Clerical Assistant

**208.1 MINUTES – MEETING NO 208 – 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**

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

*that the minutes of meeting No 207 on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 be confirmed  
as a correct record.*

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**208.2 CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Councillor Robinson requested that the time of the Corporate and Central Services Committee meeting (Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009) be changed, possibly to the morning. Alderman Simpson suggested the Committee meeting follow the Resources Task Group meeting that afternoon.

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

***that the Corporate & Central Services Committee meeting commences at 10.00am and the Resources Task Group meeting commences at 11.30am on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009.***

Councillor Robinson thanked members for their co-operation.

### **208.3 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

Proposals for the following projects have now been developed, costed and expressions of interest submitted as follows

- Biker Tourism £9,000
- BunnyFest (at Drumaheglis) £9,425
- Ballymoney Byways – downloadable tourism product guide £12,800
- Celebrating Culture of Rural People (Life and Times of George Shields – Playwright) £12,900

The Head of Corporate and Development Services provided details of projects and the estimated Council contributions.

### **208.4 COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAMME**

Council's application under the EU competitiveness programme for its "Steps to Success for Small Business Programme", has been considered by the selection panel and recommended for approval, subject to positive economic appraisal.

### **208.5 INTERREG PROGRAMME**

A project proposal for Towns and Villages on Our Inland Waterways has been developed for submission under the Interreg IVA Rural Development Measure. The project partner councils area Antrim, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Cavan County Council and Argyll & Bute Council. Development at Drumaheglis and Balnamore would provide economic benefits for the Borough.

### **208.6 TOWN MARKETING PROGRAMME**

#### **6.1 Halloween Festival**

Pubs, Restaurants and Shops in Ballymoney town have joined forces to promote the spirits of Halloween event in the town during the Halloween mid term break 29<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November. The event is being co-ordinated and marketed by Ballymoney Town Centre Management in association with Ballymoney Chamber of Commerce.

There has been an excellent response from the hospitality sector and other event organisers in the town and some 20+ shops have already signed up for late night opening on Friday evening, 30<sup>th</sup> October when Q97.2 big gig rig will be providing non-stop music from 6 – 8 pm from its base in High Street. Many coffee shops and cafes will be opening late to add to the shopping experience and Town restaurants have also entered into the spirit and have menus to appeal to the whole family, some offering themed menus.

The Head of Corporate and Development Services provided details of activities on the programme and highlighted the co-operation and participation of the traders. She also responded to members' questions.

- \* **Alderman Connolly and Councillor Patterson left the meeting at 3.54 pm and 3.55pm respectively.**

## **6.2 Christmas Marketing**

A marketing brochure for the town's Christmas activities and competitions has been produced in association with local business sponsors. This includes the switch on night and various events taking place in the borough during the Christmas season. The publication will be distributed to some 20,000 homes in the borough and beyond.

The Head of Corporate and Development Services provided details of the contents of the marketing brochure and Christmas programme. It was highlighted that the financial contribution from the trade has made the production of the brochure possible.

- \* **Councillor Finlay joined the meeting at 3.58 pm.**

The Head of Corporate and Development Services responded to members' questions. It was decided to write to Logans buses regarding the collection of passengers on the Vow Road, Ballymoney.

## **208.7 BUSINESS BULLETIN**

The new business bulletin, Issue No. 1 has been distributed to local businesses, giving details of programmes available, celebrating success etc.

## **208.8 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT / REDEVELOPMENT SCHEMES**

An update on Ballymoney EI Scheme was given, Appendix A.

- \* **Councillor Cavlan left the meeting at 4.09 pm.**

- \* **Councillor Stevenson left the meeting at 4.09 pm and rejoined during discussions at 4.14pm.**

#### **208.9 DEVELOPMENT AT CASTLECROFT SQUARE**

The Chief Executive referred the planning approval received on 20th August 2009 granting Council permission for the construction of 2 shop units and 4 apartments over, creation of pedestrian link between Main Street and Castlecroft car park. He outlined the development options for the site and updated the meeting on assessment of these.

It was proposed by Councillor Finlay seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

***that the options report be considered at the committee's next meeting and referred to parties for comment.***

#### **208.10 NORTHERN CORRIDOR RAILWAYS GROUP**

The final Study Report was passed to the Minister in late September for his consideration. He will then decide how it will be released (to the Assembly Regional Development Committee perhaps) and what sort of a launch he wants. The Minister wishes to meet the NCRG to discuss the report and the Group plan to host an event to facilitate that. This would secure publicity for the case for continuing investment on the line, especially in the light of the current pressures on public spending. It is expected the meeting will be held late October/early November.

#### **208.11 INVEST NORTHERN IRELAND**

Information regarding economic development activity post RPA by DETI and the Barnett Report will be made available in due course.

Councillor Robinson reported on a recent visit to Brussels by a Local Government Association delegation. Members will be kept informed of any developments.

Councillor Finlay thanked Councillor McCamphill for chairing the meeting.

**This being all the business the meeting closed at 4.35 pm.**

Appendices attached:  
Appendix A: Update on Ballymoney EI Scheme

**APPENDIX A****STREETSCAPE UPDATE**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009New scheme takes shape

Favourable comments continue to be received as the new scheme in Main Street takes shape.

Paving works and street lighting

Work on laying the new paving blocks on footways on both sides of Main Street have been completed. Work continues at the junction of Main Street / Seymour Street and should be completed within the next 2 weeks. Street lighting columns along Main Street will be repainted during week commencing 19th October.

Street furniture and Christmas lighting

The new and refurbished street furniture will be re-installed into the build outs along Main Street during week commencing 26th October. Christmas lighting will also be erected in Main Street during that week. *These works will be completed in time for the towns Halloween Festival (28 Oct - 1 Nov).*

Road Closure

Roads Service has given public notice that Main Street will be closed to vehicular traffic on the following days/times to facilitate the resurfacing of the carriageway:

***Saturday 17th October 2009 from 6pm to 2am***  
***Sunday 18th October 2009 from 7.30am to 3pm***  
***Sunday 25th October 2009 from 7.30am to 5pm***

Diversion signs will be erected prior to the closure dates to inform the public. The Footways will remain open for use during these closures.

Business as usual!

It is important to note that Molly's Bar and Restaurant will remain open for business as usual during these periods of closure. Customers are advised to use the rear entrance to the premises via Church Street car park (signs will be erected to inform customers). Other businesses along Main Street, namely Subway, Young's Newsagent, Country Fried Chicken, The Imperial Bar and The Manor Hotel will also be open as usual with their normal weekend opening times.

Co-operation appreciated

Roads Service and Patrick Bradley appreciate your co-operation during these ongoing works. Every endeavour will be made to carryout the remainder of the Streetscape project with as least disruption to traders, residents, pedestrians and vehicular traffic as possible. Roads Service, Patrick Bradley Ltd, Department for Social Development and Ballymoney Borough Council appreciate the co-operation they have received so far from the traders along Main Street to facilitate the completion of the Streetscape project.