

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL****Table of Contents**

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| 340.25 Derrykeighan Stone                                   | <i>Request return of stone to Ballymoney Museum</i>                           |
| 340.26 Sports Council Retirement Dinner                     | <i>Acknowledge Professor Saunders contribution to Sports Development</i>      |

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 340 held in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, Ballymoney on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008 7.00 pm.**

**IN THE CHAIR:** Alderman F Campbell

**PRESENT:** **Aldermen**  
H Connolly  
C Cousley  
J Simpson

**Councillors**  
M McCamphill  
A Patterson  
E Robinson  
I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor A Cavlan  
Councillor J Finlay  
Councillor R Wilson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Director of Borough Services  
Director of Central & Leisure Services  
Head of Amenities  
Head of Leisure Services  
Chief PA

**340.1 MINUTES MEETING NO 339 – 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2008**

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

*to recommend that the minutes of Meeting No 339 – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.*

**AMENITIES**

**340.2 MATTERS ARISING**

**LOUGH NEAGH & LOWER BANN MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

The Director of Borough Services noted that correspondence has been received clarifying that CAAN [Countryside Access and Activities Network] will provide the employer service for this function.

### **340.3 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

Councillor Stevenson sought clarification as to why the lights had remained up longer this year than other years. The Director of Borough Services stated that the Councils contractor had encountered both a resource difficulty and had to make additional safety arrangements. He pointed out that no additional cost had accrued as the lights had been switched off. Councillor Stevenson also pointed out that at times the lights had not been working in every location. The Head of Amenities stated that the functioning of the lights was closely monitored and compared favourably with previous years. Defects were drawn to the contractors attention quickly and were fixed promptly. He advised that adverse weather conditions, both high winds and heavy rain, were a contributing factor causing the lights not to function due to their sensitivity.

### **340.4 CARNANY ISSUES**

Councillor Stevenson explained that in conjunction with Carnany Community Association and residents he was concerned about a number of amenity infrastructure matters, as detailed below, which he had mentioned to the Director:-

- i) The surface at the Quinn Memorial play park was 'greening'.
- ii) The paths at the kickabout area.
- iii) The condition of the kickabout pitch.
- iv) The upgrade of the play areas at the kickabout pitch.

The Director of Borough Services confirmed that he had met with Councillor Stevenson and Community Association representatives recently and as a result he had included a sum within the Rates Estimates proposals for 2008-2009 to fund in part improvement work as mentioned at items (i) to (iii) above. He also indicated that the continuation of the play area upgrade programme was also a matter that had been listed for consideration during the Rates Estimates process recently concluded. The Director congratulated Carnany Community Association for their willingness to undertake the same survey of local homes undertaken by Council staff elsewhere to establish need as regards the provision of play area facilities. He indicated that when available the play area need survey results would probably be tabled at the next Committee meeting. He also advised that an estimate of £2,400 had been obtained to treat the surface of Quinn Memorial play area; that work was being undertaken to improve paths at the kickabout area and that the possible re-location of the kickabout pitch was being considered and this could resolve the problem of water logging at the low end at a minimal cost. He affirmed that in 2008-2009 no budget had been provided to upgrade the second play area at Carnany. In response to further representations by Councillor Stevenson the Director explained that any further work at Carnany facilities this year or indeed next would depend on the whether any money was available given both spend commitments and priorities.

**340.5 ROUNDABOUT AT KILRAUGHTS ROAD**

The Director of Borough Services stated that the landscaping work undertaken at the Kilraughts Road roundabout on behalf of Roads Service had been completed. Members expressed their satisfaction with a job well done and wished those involved to be thanked. The Director of Borough Services assured members that this message would be passed on to the staff concerned.

\*Alderman Simpson and Councillor Stevenson left the meeting after this item the time being 7.40 pm.

**340.6 PURCHASE OF LANDS AT CASTLE/SEYMOUR STREET**

As members will be aware, in order to provide the Joey Dunlop Memorial Garden Council had to obtain land from both the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and the Department of Regional Development. The DRD Solicitor's Office has now intimated to the Council's solicitors that it will sell Council the strip of land still owned by the Department for £250.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council purchase the land identified from DRD for £250.

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

***to recommend that Council purchase the land identified from DRD for £250***

**340.7 ANIMAL WELFARE FEDERATION PRESENTATION**

The Animal Welfare Federation Northern Ireland made a presentation "A call for a ban on circuses that use animals (especially wild animals)" at the Council's Consultation Committee meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008.

It would appear that the Animal Welfare Federation Northern Ireland had as its objective in making a presentation to Council a desire to urge Council to adopt a policy of banning circuses with wild animals from performing anywhere on Council owned property.

That being the case it is considered that the most appropriate Council Committee to deal with the referral from the Council's Consultation Committee is Leisure & Amenities.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Committee gives consideration to the business referred by the Council's Consultation Committee.

Following discussion, during which the Director outlined the Councils present policy regarding the use of its land, that each application when received is dealt with, it was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Patterson and **AGREED:**

*to recommend that the Councils present policy be continued.*

### **340.8 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY – MEMORIALS**

#### **Section I3 No. 45**

Mrs Kathleen Wilson, 70 Killagh Road, Glarryford, Ballymoney  
Black Granite All Polished with Gold Lettering

#### **Section I3 No. 47**

Mr. T Burns, 3 Beckett Drive, Ballymoney  
All Polished Black Granite

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council grant permission to the above applicants to erect memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to usual requirements.

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

*to recommend that Council grant permission to the above applicants to erect memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to usual requirements.*

### **340.9 SCALLY PARK**

Council on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2007 accepted a recommendation from its Leisure & Amenities Committee as follows:-

“.....that further work be undertaken with the Council’s consultants to devise options for the Scally Park site.”

This work has been undertaken and a copy of the proposals will be available at the meeting.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council seek planning permission for its proposals in respect of its land at Scally Park.

During the time it will take to obtain planning approval **IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED** that the Committee give consideration as to how the proposals for Scally Park might be realised.

Members examined the proposals tabled by the Director at the meeting regarding the proposals for development at its land at Scally Park to include both housing and a toddler play park.

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

***to recommend that Council seek planning permission for its proposals in respect of its land at Scally Park and that during that process the Committee would give further consideration as to how those proposals might be realised.***

#### **340.10 LOWER BANN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY PROJECTS**

The latest update on projects being delivered by or through the Lower Bann Partnership is to be found as Appendix 1 to this report for members' information.

#### **340.11 LOWER BANN CANOE TRAIL LAUNCH**

Members are informed that that the launch of The Lower Bann Canoe Trail will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2008. The trail stretches some 58 km from Lough Neagh to the Atlantic Ocean offering a range of canoeing experiences along the River Bann. The trail comprises two key pieces of interpretation. Firstly, a high quality leaflet detailing the sixteen access/egress points from Toome in Antrim to Ballywoolen in Coleraine including points of interest en-route and essential information and hazards to avoid. Secondly, fifteen interpretation panels situated on land close to the canoe access points, which outline the site-specific details of the location. Within Ballymoney panels are in the process of being erected at Movanagher, Carnroe, Agivey Bridge and Drumaheglis Marina. The project has been a little over two years in planning and Council agreed on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2005 to contribute £2,719.00 towards the cost of establishing the trail. On the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2006 Council agreed to install, maintain and insure the interpretative panel at Drumaheglis Marina. Also, following a very successful Lower Bann Canoe Challenge in September 2006, Council agreed to sponsor a trophy annually for the mini-marathon section from Drumaheglis to Christie Park in Coleraine. The canoe trail has already been welcomed by canoe enthusiasts all over Great Britain and Ireland and will be a tremendous asset for tourism and recreational activity within the Borough and beyond.

#### **340.12 AMENITIES CAPITAL PROJECTS 2008-2009**

The Director of Borough Services informed members, as undernoted, as to the delivery of the Amenities Capital Programme 2008-2009 as agreed on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

1. The purchase of Amenities vehicles/plant will be combined with those under the Environmental Services remit, with procurement being commenced in March under EU rules.
2. Work will also commence in March to seek select lists and then tender both (a) Dunloy Changing Facilities and (b) Cycle/Pedestrian Path at Riverside Park Phase 1.

3. Again work would commence in March using an existing select list to invite tenders regarding the additional sand mattress pitch at Riada Playing Fields.
4. The Director advised that as land had yet to be secured for the proposed play areas at both Derrykeighan and Drunkendult, it was probable the work if indeed commenced this year, would be unlikely to commence before 2009. Were the necessary land to be secured, again an existing select list would be used to invite tenders.

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

**that Council note the proposed timetable and methodology for the delivery of the 2008-2009 Amenities Capital Programme.**

### **340.13 KICKABOUT AREA AT DRUMBOLCAN PARK, RASHARKIN**

**At the Rates Estimates Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008 it was resolved that the correspondence received from Rasharkin Community Association regarding a proposed kick about area at Drumbolcan Park, Rasharkin be re-considered at the February Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting.**

**Minute LAC 337.2.3 reproduced below sets out the business when last discussed.**

#### **“LAC 337.2.3 KICK ABOUT AREA AT DRUMBOLCAN PARK, RASHARKIN (336.12)**

Members were reminded that this matter was deferred to enable further information to be obtained on the level of contribution envisaged by Rasharkin Community Association and to provide an opportunity for Members to visit the site. The Director advised that a letter had been received on behalf of Rasharkin CA as follows –

...”Before we can think about finding funding we have to have an appraisal done and there is no point in doing an appraisal if the council is not going to agree to the site being used.

Our prime concerns and what we require agreement are as follows:

- The designated area being used as a ‘kick-about’ area
- Future upkeep and maintenance being undertaken by the council
- Insurance cover undertaken by the council

When we reach the stage of looking for funding, the council may be approached for a contribution. They can decide to contribute as much or as little or nothing as they see fit. It was never intended that anything but a small percentage would be asked from the council for the project.”



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

***to recommend deferral until Rates for 2008/09 have been set by Council***

The Director of Borough Services to write to the Association advising that their request remains under consideration.”

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Councillor Patterson and **AGREED:**

that the matter be deferred for one month to facilitate a site visit which will be scheduled to take place before the next Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting.

\*The Director of Borough Services left the meeting after this item the time being 8.15pm

\*The Director of Central & Leisure Services joined the meeting after this item the time being 8.15 pm.

## **LEISURE SERVICES**

### **340.14 COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMME: GRANT FOR 2007-2008**

The Department of Social Development has written to the Council confirming the grant allocation for 2007/08 Community Support Programme in the amount of £34,943. This amount includes the additional amount of £4,029 specifically for local advice services, which is to be matched by the council. Council has already contributed the additional amount to Citizens Advice Bureau

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council accept the grant of £34,943 for 2007/08

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

***that Council accept the grant of £34,943 for 2007/08.***

### **340.15 MUSEUM PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**

Minutes of the above Project Management Team meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008 10.30am in Ballymoney Town Hall are attached as Appendix 2.

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

**to recommend that minutes of Project Management Team meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008 be approved.**

### **340.16 GOOD RELATIONS GRANTS**

The following applications for Grants were considered –

- (i) Stranocum Ulster Scots Cultural & Heritage Society for assistance to hold an alternative St Patrick's night on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2008.
- (ii) Eden Accordion Band for assistance with an Educational Development Project and a social event on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 08. Open to all groups and includes an evening of talks on history and culture, music and Irish dancing in Drumreagh Church Hall.
- (iii) Ballymoney Hockey Club for assistance with a cross codes coaching event on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 08. This is an invite to Camogie Teams to interact with Hockey players and transfer skills between the two sports as well as improving community relations.

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

***to recommend that the above 3 applicants receive a grant of £300 each.***

### **340.17 COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT**

The Director advised that the Council had allocated an additional £2500 to the Community Support Grant Scheme budget of £3000. To date grants totalling £5,200 have been paid resulting in only £300 remaining.

The following applications for grants were considered -

- (i) Ulster Defence Regiment Association, Ballymoney Branch for assistance with a bus trip to the Somme Heritage Centre on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008.
- (ii) Link House for assistance with an ongoing project to give support and advice to individuals and their families affected by substance misuse.
- (iii) Eden Accordion Band for assistance with an open night on 21<sup>st</sup> April in Eden Hall with music and fun for the whole community.
- (iv) Ballymoney Hockey Club for assistance with an open evening for young people to try a new sport.

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- (v) Loughgiel Community Association for assistance with Baby Yoga Activities beginning 4<sup>th</sup> April for babies, parents, carers and grandparents.
  
- (vi) Cloughmills Bowling Club for assistance towards Armchair Aerobics classes in March/April 2008.

In the light of the limited budget remaining it was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor McCamphill and **AGREED:**

***to recommend that £100 each be granted to Eden Accordion Band, Ballymoney Hockey Club and Cloughmills Bowling Club and that the other three applications be deferred and considered under next years budget.***

### **340.18.RIADA PRE-1950 CAR CLUB**

The Riada Pre –1950 Car Club have written to the Council advising that they are having a display of vintage Cars at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> April 2008. A contribution of £350 was made by Council last year towards the cost of hiring the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre.

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

***to recommend that a contribution of £400 be made to Riada Pre-1950 Car Club towards the cost of hiring the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre facilities.***

### **340.19 BALLYMONEY ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

The Ballymoney Ornithological Association has written to the Council advising that it is holding its Annual Open Show on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2008 in St James Church Hall and is requesting financial support. Council granted the above association £200 towards its Annual Open Show last year.

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

***to recommend that the Ornithological Association are advised to apply for assistance under the Community Support Grant Scheme as their show is not being held on Council facilities.***

Alderman Campbell wishes it to be recorded that he was not in agreement with the decision.

**340.20 ISRM & IQL REGIONAL POOL LIFEGUARD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2008**

It has been confirmed that the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre has been chosen as one of seven Leisure centres to host the regional heat of the above National competition to be held between 2<sup>nd</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

The top three teams from each regional heat will win a place at the National Final to be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November in Birmingham at Stechford Cascades.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council accept the offer to host the Regional heat of the above National Lifeguard Competition in June 2008.

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

*to recommend that Council accept the offer to host the Regional heat of the National Lifeguard Competition in June 2008.*

**340.21 NORTHERN IRELAND MUSEUMS COUNCIL**

The Director of Northern Ireland Museums Council has written to Council requesting the opportunity to make a formal presentation to the Leisure and Amenities Committee. This presentation is with regard to the proposed transfer of functions of the Northern Ireland Museum Service to local government under the Review of Public Administration.

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

*to recommend that the Northern Ireland Museums Council be invited to make a presentation at the May committee meeting.*

**340.22 LETTER OF THANKS**

Letter of thanks has been received from the Secretary of Ballymoney Drama Festival for the recent council support of their Annual Drama festival.

**340.23 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

The Council currently has a 3 year service level agreement for financial support with the Citizens Advice Bureau. This agreement ends in March 2008.

The Committee is asked to consider continuing financial support for a further term to the Citizens Advice Bureau. The committee may wish to invite representatives from the Citizens Advice Bureau to a meeting of the committee, to outline their future plans and commitments.

The Director of Central & Leisure Services advised that a budget was included in the 2008/09 Rates Estimates.

\*Councillor Stevenson rejoined the meeting at 9.10 pm.

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

***to recommend that Council support the Citizens Advice Bureau for a further 3 year period in the amounts of £18,500, £19,000 and £19,500 per year and invite representatives to Leisure & Amenities committee meeting later in the year to make a presentation on the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau and future plans.***

#### **340.24 IRISH POWER LIFTING COMPETITION**

The organiser of the Power Lifting Competition has written to the Chair of Committee detailing the event and requesting financial support for it.

The Power Lifting competition is being held in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2008 and will have entrants from UK, Southern Ireland, Poland, Slovakia and the USA. A world record is also being attempted at the competition.

In 2006 the Council contributed £200 towards a similar power lifting competition.

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

***to recommend that Council contribute £250 towards the cost of hiring the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre facilities for the event.***

#### **340.25 DERRYKEIGHAN STONE**

The Derrykeighan stone was discovered in 1977 when restoration work was being carried out on the old Derrykeighan Church.

The stone was identified as an example of Iron Age art, possibly dating from the first century AD and is decorated on two of its four faces with a unique carved pattern.

In December 1984 the Council agreed to loan the Derrykeighan Stone to the Ulster Museum where it was placed on display.

It is recommended that the Derrykeighan Stone is returned to Ballymoney for inclusion in the Museum exhibition space.

The Head of Leisure Services showed members a fibre glass replica of the stone at the committee meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

***to recommend that Council requests the return of the Derrykeighan Stone, from the Ulster Museum for inclusion in the Council's new Museum Exhibition Space.***

\*Councillor Robinson joined the meeting during this item the time being 9.20 pm.

\*Alderman Connolly left the meeting during this item the time being 9.35 pm.

#### **340.26 SPORTS COUNCIL RETIREMENT DINNER**

The Director advised of an invitation received from Sports Northern Ireland for a retirement dinner for Professor Eric Saunders. Tickets are priced at £40 each.

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

***to recommend that Council do not purchase tickets for the Dinner but that the Director of Central & Leisure Services write to Sport Northern Ireland acknowledging his considerable contribution to Sports Development and wishing Professor Saunders a long and happy retirement.***

\*This being all the business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.



**APPENDIX 1**

**LOWER BANN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY PROJECT**





**Project: Lower Bann Advisory Committee – Biodiversity Action Plan**

**Project Description** - Development and implementation of a biodiversity action plan for the Lower Bann & its hinterland. The plan will highlight action plan for the Lower Bann & its hinterland. The plan will highlight projects that can be put in place to improve the biodiversity of the river & during the process, delivery agents incl. local communities, private sector, local authorities etc will be engaged in delivering the projects.

**Update/Issues** – Project will now be carried out by appropriate appointed individual or organisations. Tender will appear in the Belfast Telegraph in the next two weeks.

**Concerns** – None.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Mar 08 – Sept 08.

**Project: Lower Bann Advisory Committee – Sustainable Management Strategy**

**Project Description** - This project will result in the provision of strategic integrated advice on the management and sustainable development of the Lower Bann River. It will result in a 'blue print' for the integrated & sustainable development & management of the resources the river has to offer.

**Update/Issues** – Project will now be carried out by appropriate appointed individual or organisations. Tender will appear in the Belfast Telegraph in the next two weeks.

**Concerns** – None.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Mar 08 – Sept 08.

**Project: Christopher Madden – Gone Canoeing**

**Project Description** – The project involves the development and implementation of the “Gone Canoeing on the Lower Bann” project that aims to provide tuition, equipment, transport and general logistics for canoe trips from Toomebridge to the Bar mouth. The tuition provided will range from training for beginners to advanced canoe skills development. The project will also include opportunities for canoe camping trips along the full distance of the river and will incorporate training and education on local natural history.

**Update/Issues** – The promoters are now in the process of purchasing equipment and sourcing the most appropriate training opportunities.

**Concerns** – None. Project progressing well and a number of claims have been submitted. Insurance concerns had been alleviated.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – First 5 claims received. Various other stage payments are expected over the next few months.

**Project: Con Law – Lower Bann / Lough Neagh Cruises**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development and implementation of the “Lower Bann / Lough Neagh Cruises” project that aims to provide and supply a passenger vessel registered for up to 100 passengers to operate on Lough Neagh and the Lower Bann. Phase 1 of the project involved refurbishing the Maid of Antrim. Phase 2 involves developing and implementing a coherent marketing strategy for the introduction of the boat back into use in May 2007

**Update/Issues** – The marketing plan for the business is now complete and the promoter is now considering ways to implement the recommendations. LBP has given him a number of contacts for website design, design and printing of publicity material etc. The business is now operational.

**Concerns** – Timeframe with new tourist season approaching.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Feb 2008

**Project: Cranagh Projects – Cranagh Marina**

**Project Description** - This project involves the erection of pontoons which will be large enough to accommodate 40 serviced moorings to current EU standards, including full disabled access. It is Phase 1 of a proposed 3 phase project, which will culminate in a marina with restaurant, accommodation and other stop-off facilities.

**Update/Issues** – No updates since previous Board meeting. Mike Forde is in the process of addressing each of the letter of offer conditions before progressing the project. He is aware of the DARD requirements in terms of procurement and will adhere to these when it comes to contracting works.

**Concerns** – Article 6 assessment needed for this project. This will be addressed through the Planning process. Update meeting with Mike on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – May 2008

**Project: Kilrea Angling Club - Kilrea Hatchery Development**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development of Kilrea Fish Hatchery and Angling Centre as a facility for fishery education and angling improvement skills. This is Phase 2 of the Hatchery Development project which was previously funded by DCAL and which is now complete. The project will involve construction of visitor facilities, provision of safety fencing, signage and purchase of equipment for the centre.

**Update/Issues** – Delayed due to confirmation finally being received that a planning application was necessary. Planning has been approved and the project has started. It should be completed by the end of February 2008.

**Concerns** – None      **Profiled Expenditure Date** – Nov 07/Feb 08

**Project: Lower Bann Partnership – Riverfest 2007**

**Project Description** - Lower Bann River Festival at Coleraine to be held in June 2007. It will provide an opportunity to show case and raise awareness of the land and water based recreational opportunities and the natural and build heritage significance of the Lower Bann corridor, it will target local people, tourists, families and special interest groups and individuals.

**Update/Issues** – The event took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June and the weather added to the event which attracted around 12,000 people over the two days. It is hoped that the success of this year can be built upon and the organisers are considering expanding the festivities to include other towns and villages along the Lower Bann.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Complete.

**Project: Ulster Seaplanes Association – Ulster Seaplanes Project**

**Project Description** - The project envisages the provision of a training seaplane and a moveable pontoon to facilitate operations on different sections of the river. The association also needs funding to assist with the provision of a slipway to facilitate the transfer of the aircraft to its land base for storage and maintenance. Hangarage and workshop facilities are also required.

**Update/Issues**

A Planning application had been made, rejected and re-submitted and the group are hopeful that the revised application will be approved. A decision is expected towards the end of February. Issues between the group and the landowner regarding the lease are with Solicitors at present.

**Concerns** – Planning, Environmental consents, Issue over land lease.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – May and Aug 2008

**Project: CAAN – Lower Bann Canoe Trail**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development of the “Lower Bann Canoe Trail” as part of the overall strategic development of canoeing throughout N. Ireland and involves five main components: 1. The development of a camp facility at Portneal Lodge, Kilrea. 2. The design, production and installation of 15 interpretation panels along the river. 3. The production of a detailed guide map. 4. Updating of existing web site to include the Bann route. 5. The promotion of a paddlers code for the river system.

**Update/Issues** – Panels are being installed. The trail will be officially launched on the 21<sup>st</sup> February in Cutts House.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Nov 07 / Feb 08

**Project: LBAC / LBP – River Bank Enhancement Project**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development and implementation of the “River Bank Enhancement Project” along the Lower River Bann and involves three main components:

- i) Work and negotiations with landowners whose property runs up to the river bank
- ii) Fencing, re-profiling and planting indigenous native species in order to recreate semi-natural river bank especially in areas that have suffered from erosion caused by agricultural practice and uncontrolled recreational activities
- iii) Production of an information leaflet on best practice river bank management

**Update/Issues** – Awaiting costings from Rivers Agency before moving forward. Recycled Christmas trees will be used to pack the river bank in some areas to provide reinforcement. A waste exemption licence has been granted by EHS. The use of the trees will be well publicised in the local press.

**Concerns** – Costings will determine the number of areas which can be improved.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – July 2008.

**Project: Sustrans – Lower Bann Cycleway**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development and implementation of the “Lower Bann Cycleway” project that involves the establishment of a new cycleway between Toome on the edge of Lough Neagh and the North Coast. The cycleway will be a vital link in the National Cycle Network joining two highly used trails along the scenic River corridor. The project will also involve the development of a marketing programme to provide information materials, signage provision and cycling events. The new cycleway will provide for the social and recreational needs of both the local community and visiting tourists and will improve the quality of life for those who use it.

**Update/Issues** – Works almost complete at the Frocess Road in Ballymoney and will be a great addition to the works to be developed as part of the Sustrans Connect 2 scheme which recently won the peoples millions vote. Coleraine works are being revised in light of the Councils plans for Christie Park.

**Concerns** – Very tight timeframe. Coleraine works are due for completion around July 2008. As final BSP payments must be completed by September 2008 there is little space for error. Sustrans and Coleraine BC aware of this and are confident project will complete on time. LBP manager will be kept up to date.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Nov/Dec 2007 and August 2008.

**Project: Bann Systems – Game Angling Infrastructure**

**Project Description** – The aim of the project is to erect angling huts and toilet facilities at Carnroe, Movanagher and Portna. In-river works will also be completed at Movanagher and Portna.

**Update/Issues** – Project is on track. The organisation is meeting the pre-conditions before they start to source equipment and materials for the works.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – July 2008 although some part claims could be submitted before this.

**Project: Bann Systems – River Watch Educational Project**

**Project Description** – The project involves a structured cross community educational initiative on salmon including the provision of mini hatcheries, field work equipment and associated published materials. 10 local schools will participate in the project.

**Update/Issues** – The project has been successfully implemented on a pilot basis at two schools in Kilrea and plans are now being made for introducing the educational programme to 8 other schools in the Lower Bann area.

**Concerns** – None    **Profiled Expenditure Date** – July 2008

**Project: Bann Systems – Training Angling Guides**

**Project Description** – The project involves the purchase of boats and training of five guides to become specialists in the local beats of the river. This will allow anglers to access parts of the river and its tributaries which were difficult to access before.

**Update/Issues** – Bann Systems are currently implementing the project and have made some changes lately which will represent better value for money for the project which have been approved by DARD. First claim has been processed.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Nov 07 / July 2008

**Project: Robert Anderson – River Bann Waterbus**

**Project Description** – The project involves the development and implementation of the River Bann Waterbus project that currently operates a 60 seater scenic cruise vessel on the Lower River Bann. The vessel provides short public cruises along various stretches of the river. The project has been running since June 2006 and has received financial assistance to implement a promotional programme and to carry out minor refurbishment works to the vessel.

**Update/Issues** – DARD have agreed to amend Robert's letter of offer schedule which will allow him to claim for 50% of the costs he incurred when his engine broke down in July. The claim for this has now been submitted and is being processed by DARD. The original expenditure items such as marketing and training will now be covered by the business itself.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Fully Claimed.

**Project: Lower Bann Partnership – History of the Local Industry**

**Project Description** - The project involves researching, collecting and collating information, anecdotal and photographic evidence, on the industries indigenous to the River Bann. The data will be compiled in a heritage trail book that will be available to local educational establishments, libraries, and other outlets. The book will also be available in electronic form on the web. Local community groups and schools will be heavily involved in the delivery of the project.

**Update/Issues** – The HLF application had to be revised to present a more educational focused project and despite competition for the remaining funding pot the project was approved on the 28<sup>th</sup> January. A Steering Group will be formed over the coming weeks and the terms of reference for the appointment of an individual or organisation to carry out the research and produce the booklet will be finalised shortly.

**Concerns** – Timeframe.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – September 2008 although part claims will be possible as soon as associates are appointed.

#### **Project: LBAC / LBP – Baseline Study**

**Project Description** - The project involves the preparation of the “Lower Bann Baseline Information Project”. This will involve collecting and collating information, statistics and trends relating to the environmental, recreational and economic attributes of the Lower Bann corridor mainly through desk research study. The project will provide a snap-shot of the areas resources in 2006/07 and again in 2008 which will be made available to all interested parties through the web and an interactive Geographical Information System. The follow up data collection exercise will help in the evaluation of the Lower Bann Sustainable Development Initiative.

**Update/Issues** – Marenco are progressing the project and have had three meetings to date with the steering group. Project has been delayed due to problems sourcing some of the information required. LBP are being kept up to date on progress.

**Concerns** – None. First two claims processed.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Nov 07, Dec 07, Jan 08.

#### **Project: Coleraine Borough Council – Kilrea Riverside Walk**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development of the “Kilrea Riverside Walk”, a 1 Km long riverside pathway on the western bank of the Lower River Bann linking Portneal and Portna and involves five main components: i) Pathway construction, fencing, bridges and drainage. ii) Land acquisition. iii) Erection of Interpretation panels. iv) Production of walk leaflets. v) Professional fees

**Update/Issues** – A revised pathway has been agreed in principle and will be surveyed in the next few weeks before firm costs can be submitted to DARD to consider the revised scheme. Planning has been applied for and all paperwork is expected to be in place by Christmas. Coleraine Borough Council expect works to start at the beginning of 2008 and predict that it will take approximately 2 months to complete – which falls within the LBP expenditure profile. Meeting with Mark Strong on the 31<sup>st</sup> January for an update.

**Concerns** – Any delays in planning could cause problems however CBC are confident the project will be ready to move soon.



**Profiled Expenditure Date** – April and August 2008.

**Project: Lower Bann Partnership – Marketing Analysis and Marketing Plan**

**Project Description** - The project involves the development and implementation of the “Marketing Analysis and Implementation” project for the Lower River Bann corridor and has two distinct phases.

*Phase 1: Market Analysis and Preparation of a Marketing Plan*

The Marketing Plan will inform the Partnership of the most suitable promotional options, identify market gaps, provide information on promoter needs and identify tourism development opportunities along the river. It will complement marketing strategies which have been created for the Lough Neagh Wetlands and the North Coast.

*Phase 2: Implementation of the findings of the Marketing Plan*

**Update/Issues** – The new Marketing Officer is now in post and is spending two days per week delivering Lower Bann Marketing Initiatives. A two page advertorial has been placed in the new RTP guide. Website and a number of the publications will be produced at the start of 2008. [www.riverbannireland.com](http://www.riverbannireland.com). Grants programme aimed at new packages, events and website improvement will be announced in February 08. Tony Pleavin has been appointed to produce the land based marketing images. An Activity guide and a fishing guide are currently being drafted.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Phase 1 complete. – Phase 2 ongoing.

**Project: Mast Lowering at Toome**

**Project Description** - The project involves manufacturing a device, which is upside-down “L” shape, the top of which will act as a hook to be used for lowering the mast. The device will not require manning, ie the sailors of the boats would be able to lower their own mast. The device will be erected at one of the locks near the old Toome bridge.

**Update/Issues** – Mr John Skuce is now the main contact for the project.

**Concerns** – Location for the device has yet to be agreed. Ongoing discussion between the relevant organisations.

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Feb 2008

**Project: LBP – Photographic Survey**

**Project Description** - The project involves the provision of a “ Photographic Survey of the Lower Bann”. This will involve taking aerial based photographs of the River corridor from Toome in the south to the Barmouth in the north. The photographs will then be catalogued and presented in a form suitable for use by key stakeholders. Attention will focus on strategic recreation zones and on important natural heritage areas including Lough Beg. The library will be accessible to members of the LBP, LBAC, special interest groups, students and others via managed web site access.

**Update/Issues** – Chris Hill has completed the first aerial survey. Another flight will take place next year to obtain images during a different season.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – November 2007

**Project: LBAC – Water Based Activity Leaflet**

**Project Description** – The project will involve the preparation and publication of water based activity leaflets that will include information on safety, code of conduct, navigation, respecting heritage and respecting other users of the river. The publication will be made of semi- waterproof paper and will be in a format that is user- friendly for those on boats, etc.

**Update/Issues** – Complete. New leaflet has been printed and distributed.

**Concerns** – None

**Profiled Expenditure Date** – Feb 2008

**APPENDIX 2**

**MINUTES OF MUSEUM PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING  
MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2008, 10.30 AM, BALLYMONEY TOWN HALL**

**Minutes of Museum Project Management Team Meeting**  
**Monday 14 January 2008, 10.30am, Ballymoney Town Hall**

Present                   Ald F Campbell  
                              Ald H Connolly  
                              Ald J Simpson  
                              Cllr A Patterson  
                              Cllr E Robinson

In Attendance:        Head of Leisure Services (HLS)  
                              Cultural Services Officer (CSO)  
                              Museum Manager (MM)  
                              Causeway Museum Service Officer (CMSO)

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr J Finlay and from the Director of Borough Services, who had been invited to attend the meeting.

### **2. Minutes of Meeting 10.12.07**

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2007 had already been adopted by the Leisure Committee on 19 December and ratified by Council on 7 January.

### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

### **4. Project Update**

The CSO reported that a meeting of the Town Hall Working Group had taken place and that Council had agreed to undertake work regarding the security, disability and other issues raised. This is to be completed within the current financial year by the main contractor at the contract rates.

The CSO can now write to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) confirming that Council will improve security at the museums as per HLF's special conditions.

Haley Sharpe Design (HSD) has been asked to revise the original timetable to take account of the 4-month delay. As soon as HLF have agreed that the project can commence, a meeting will be arranged with HSD.

**5. Budgets**

The CMSO reported that she had sought advice from HSD on costings for mounts to display the objects. Unfortunately HSD are unable to provide this information until the final list of objects for display has been drawn up.

However on the recent study visit to Down County Museum, the CMSO had learned that Down had allocated £30,000 for this work. As Ballymoney has fewer artefacts, it was felt that it would be appropriate to budget £20,000. The possibility of including this in the capital budget was discussed and it was agreed that the CSO speak to the Head of Finance on this matter.

**6. Study Tours**

On 10 January, a group of five councillors and three officers visited Down County Museum and Bagenals Castle Newry. Members felt that this had been very useful commenting in particular on the different approaches to interpretation and the clever use of the space where a wide variety of artefacts were displayed without appearing cluttered. The efficient use of mounts and the opportunities for hands on and interactive activities were also noted.

It was agreed to organise a further study tour to the new City of Derry Exhibition at the Tower Museum in early February.

**7. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be arranged once HLF have confirmed that the project can commence.



