

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Leisure and Amenities Committee
Meeting No: 326 – 16th January 2007**

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Fields Working Group (9th Jan 2007) adopted

326.12 Bus Shelters

to recommend to Council that bus shelters be provided at Castle Street, Ballymoney and Bendooragh, Ballymoney

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Leisure & Amenities Committee**

Minutes of Meeting No 326 held in Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, Ballymoney on Tuesday, 16th January 2007 at 7.00 pm

IN THE CHAIR: F Campbell

PRESENT **Aldermen**
H Connolly
C Cousley

Councillors
A Cavlan
J Finlay
M McCamphill
D McKay
A Patterson
E Robinson
M Storey
R Wilson

APOLOGIES I Stevenson
J Simpson

IN ATTENDANCE Director of Borough Services
[Items 1 & 6 - 12]
Director of Central and Leisure Services
[Items 2 - 5]
David McKeown } Dervock Community
Frank Cunningham } Association
[Item 1]
Ivan Murdock } Given Architects
Mark Lennox }
[Item 1]
Head of Leisure Services
[Item 3]
Committee Clerk

**326.1 PRESENTATION BY DERVOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTATIVES RE. PROPOSED VILLAGE SPORTS FACILITY**

Representatives from Dervock Community Association and Given Architects made a presentation to Members on the Association's proposed village Sports Facility. The representatives answered Members' questions.

In his introduction Mr McKeown stated that very useful discussions had taken place with both the Council's Director of Borough Services and the Chief Executive of the NE Education & Library Board, facilitated by Councillor Storey, as it was considered by the Association that a partnership approach would be essential to the successful delivery of the ambitious project for which funding was being sought. It was noted that the proposed facility could be built on NEELB land and that the initial

estimated cost was £1.4 million. It was also noted that the Principal of the primary school was very supportive of the initiative as it would provide valuable accommodation for many extended school activities. Members were advised that the proposed facility could incorporate the upgraded changing facilities for Dervock Recreation Grounds identified as a priority by Council and that this might be one way Council could make a tangible contribution to the project. Members congratulated the Association for both its vision and the excellent presentation.

[Concept drawings regarding the proposed facility are to be found as Appendix 1 to these Minutes.]

326.2 MINUTES

Meeting No. 325 – 19th December 2006.

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

that the minutes of the committee's meeting No. 325, on 19th December 2006, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

The Director referred to minute 325.16 (19th December 2006) and informed members that information would be available for the February meeting (20th February 2007).

LEISURE

326.3 CHILDREN'S SOFT PLAY AREA AT JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE

The Director updated Members on the progress of the Soft Play Area project. She advised that it was due for completion within the next week.

The Director gave details of a planned open evening on Wednesday 24th January 2007 at 6.00pm to which children and grandchildren of councillors and children of council employees would be invited. A second open day is planned for Thursday 25th January 2007 at 4.30pm, to which a boy and girl from all the primary schools will be invited. She advised that the name for the Play Area is "Treasure Island".

It was **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that the dates of the soft play area open days would be Wednesday 24th January 2007 and Thursday 25th January 2007 and that the name of the play area would be, "Treasure Island".

Members then visited the Soft Play Area, they were very pleased with the new facility.

326.4 THE ULSTER SPORTS & RECREATION TRUST

The Ulster Sports & Recreation Trust has written to the Council requesting a financial contribution for the year 2007/2008. In 2005/2006 the Trust disbursed £36,825 to 110 young people representing over 29 sports. Awards were made to 2 young people within the Borough.

In 2005/2006 the Council made a contribution of £100.

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

to recommend to Council to grant The Ulster Sports and Recreation Trust £100.

326.5BALLYMONEY CREDIT UNION SCHOOLS QUIZ

Ballymoney Credit Union have requested the use of the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre to host the local stage of the Credit Union Schools Quiz which is open to all schools in the council area.

The Director advised that the cost was in the region of £60.

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

to recommend that Council make a contribution to Ballymoney Credit Union to cover the cost of hiring the venue for the Schools' Quiz.

Councillor Connolly left the meeting at 8.05pm.

Councillor Cousley left the meeting at 8.05pm.

Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 8.05pm.

Head of Leisure Services left the meeting at 8.05pm

AMENITIES

326.6 BALLYMONEY RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Further to Minute LAC325.7 (19th December 2006) the undernoted items considered to have the highest priority are as follows:

	<u>item</u>	<u>cost estimate</u>
1	Create footpath from Bravallen Road to existing car park including pedestrian crossing point (PCP) and installation of steel gates	£5,300
2	Create 1.8m wide asphalt surfaced path from car park to footbridge 1 including line to Riverview Park	£17,000

3	Re deck existing footbridge 1 with steel deck and non slip surface	£4,650
4	Demolish and remove off site existing concrete slabs and millennium monument adjacent to car park	£750
5	Re deck existing footbridge 2	£4,650
6	Replace footbridge 3	£25,000
7	Re deck existing footbridge	£4,650
8	Re deck existing footbridge 5	£4,650
9	Move fencing and create wider cycle track from Ballymena Road along Armour Avenue to existing entrance to 'Park Central'	£11,000
10	Re deck existing footbridges 6, 7 & 8	£13,950
11	Form new widened footbridge (footbridge 9)	£15,000
12	Re deck existing footbridge 10	£4,650

		£111,250

As regards enhancing planting and bio-diversity at Riverside Park the following items ought to be included in the Council's plan for submission to ENTRUST via Arena Network in order to draw down landfill tax credit –

	<u>item</u>	<u>cost estimate</u>
1	Create nature area adjacent to railway line	£3,000
2	Create marshland area alongside river	£2,250
3	Create willow copse	£3,750
4	Create marshland area adjacent to footbridge 1	£2,500
5	Create community planting area	£7,500
6	Create meadow area	£5,500
7	Create formal planting area with picnic areas adjacent to footbridge 4	£7,500
8	Create daffodil garden	£4,000
9	Create picnic area adjacent footbridge 11	£5,000

		£41,000

It is proposed that the enhanced planting and bio diversity work at Ballymoney Riverside Park be entirely funded via landfill tax credit.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council progress in 2007-2008 both the improvement scheme priority elements and the planting/bio diversity scheme elements detailed above.

After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that Members meet on Wednesday 24th January 2007 at 10.30am at Riverside Park Central to walk through the Ballymoney Riverside Park and be shown the improvement work detailed by the Director.

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

to recommend to Council that it progress in 2007-2008 the planting/bio diversity scheme elements detailed above regarding Ballymoney Riverside Park.

326.7 RIADA PLAYING FIELDS

Correspondence has been received from Ballymoney Royal Black District Chapter No. 5 advising that the 2007 Annual Demonstration of the County Antrim Black Chapter will be held D.V. in Ballymoney on Saturday, 25th August 2007 and requesting use of car parking and lands at Riada Playing Fields as the demonstration venue.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council accommodate the demonstration on the same basis as in 1995 and 2001.

Motion 1

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson and seconded by Councillor Finlay;

to recommend that Council accommodate the demonstration on the same basis as in 1995 and 2001.

Motion 2

It was proposed by Councillor McKay and seconded by Councillor Cavlan;

to recommend to Council to set out a policy/criteria on organisations which apply to use Ballymoney Borough Council facilities.

The Chairman put Motion 2 to the vote with two voting in favour of the proposal and five against. The motion was therefore lost.

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

to recommend that Council accommodate the 2007 Annual Demonstration of the County Antrim Black Chapter on Saturday 25th August 2007 on the same basis as in 1995 and 2001.

326.8 TRADING APPLICATION

Further to minute LAC 324.23 the interim arrangement in respect of trading at Riada Stadium was to be reviewed in January 2007. Since the Council's decision in December trading has only occurred on one occasion with the applicant fully complying with the Council's terms.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the present interim arrangement be extended to the end of the present Association Football season and the matter again be reviewed by Committee at its June meeting this year.

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

to recommend to Council that the present interim arrangement be extended to the end of the present Association Football season and the matter again be reviewed by Committee at its June meeting this year.

326.9 USE of TOWN HALL

Council has agreed that where the use of the Town Hall is granted as a contribution in kind towards an event as in the case with the Drama Festival the value of this should be recorded in the Minutes and that the matter be considered further by its Leisure & Amenities Committee.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee consider –

- 1 applying the same arrangement to all Council property available for let; and
- 2 re visiting the issue when a report has been prepared by officers as regards loss of income arising from such decisions and from in-house use of Council premises.

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

to recommend to Council that Committee would revisit this business when a report had been prepared by officers on both issues.

326.10 KILRAUGHTS ROAD ROUNDABOUT

Members have expressed concern at the continuing neglected appearance of the new roundabout constructed by DRD Roads Service on the Ballymoney bypass at its Kilraughts Road junction. It is the case that the structure remains entirely the responsibility of Roads Service.

For members' information in order to alleviate concerns it is proposed to meet with DRD officials in the near future and report on the outcome of such discussion to Council via its Leisure & Amenities Committee.

During discussion Members expressed the view that it was the responsibility of DRD Roads Service to ensure that the appearance of the roundabout

provided at Kilraughts Road was dealt with satisfactorily and that this was not a responsibility that Council ought to assume at cost to local ratepayers.

326.11 AMENITIES WORKING GROUP MINUTES

It was **AGREED**:

that the Minutes of Riada Playing Fields Working Group Meeting no. 4, Tuesday 9th January 2007 (Appendix 2) and the Minutes of Town Hall Working Group Meeting no 16, Wednesday 10th January 2007 as circulated be confirmed as a correct record (Appendix 3).

326.12 BUS SHELTERS

The Director advised Members that planning permission had now been obtained for two of four proposed locations for the erection of bus shelters this year namely the sites at Castle Street, Ballymoney and Bendooragh. He further advised that Planning Service has indicated that there were difficulties approving in relation to the other two locations, that is Towhead Street, Ballymoney and Churchill Crescent, Rasharkin.

He **RECOMMENDED** that, in the present circumstances, that Council now proceed to provide bus shelters at Castle Street, Ballymoney and Bendooragh.

In response to The Mayor, the Director clarified the location of the proposed bus shelter at Bendooragh.

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

to recommend to Council that bus shelters be provided at Castle Street, Ballymoney and Bendooragh, Ballymoney.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Appendix 1: Concept drawings for proposed Community Hall and Resource Centre, Dervock.

Appendix 2: Minutes Meeting No. 4, Riada Playing Fields Working Group

Appendix 3: Minutes Meeting No. 16, Town Hall Working Group

APPENDIX 1

2012 The Case for Dervock

Dervock's Olympic Legend

On 14 July 1912, Kennedy Kane McArthur (1881-1969) won the gold medal in the marathon at the Olympic Games in Stockholm. Born in Dervock, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland, McArthur was one of the first Irishmen to gain such an accolade and became a national hero.



For the last 20 years, an annual race at McArthur's birthplace has attracted competitors from across Ireland and beyond. The "McArthur Half Marathon" commemorates the victory of the local sporting icon and attracts a huge crowd of spectators. It has become a truly cross community event.

K. K. McArthur's success is also proudly remembered in South Africa. As a young man he emigrated from Dervock to South Africa and he competed at the 1912 Olympics under the colours of his adopted country. Nevertheless, after his triumph, he insisted on returning to Dervock to celebrate with his family and friends before sailing for Cape Town.

Honouring McArthur – promoting sporting excellence and community spirit

The 2012 Olympic Games in London provide a unique opportunity to commemorate the centenary of the achievements of this sporting legend. The Dervock & District Community Association (DDCA) has formed a sub committee to move this initiative forward. The DDCA, and the community it represents, regards the 2012 commemoration of McArthur's victory as a pivotal event on

which to focus the social improvement and sustainable development of the village.

It can be demonstrated that there are widely recognised indicators of social dereliction within the Dervock community. Over the past 5 years the DDCA has worked tirelessly to co-ordinate a number of regeneration schemes. A Community Regeneration and Improvement Special Programme (CRISP) project has resulted in a small business unit operating successfully from a restored historic building in the village centre. Village centre landscaping has added new vitality to the village.



There are only limited facilities for youth activities and those available are greatly over subscribed. Local church halls are dated and ill equipped for the needs of a demanding programme of youth work and inappropriate for cross community events. There is a poor provision of public transport to avail of sporting facilities in larger towns

The Dervock Olympic Committee has proposed that the commemoration operates on a series of levels. Links already exist between Potchefstroom,

McArthur's home and resting place in South Africa, and Stockholm, Sweden. It is hoped that Dervock will be able to contribute to this established relationship by possibly developing some of the following initiatives:

Education – Links have already been established via the South African High Commission to identify a school of similar size to the William Pinkerton Memorial Primary School in Dervock. School exchanges are envisaged. Web based interactions are planned to develop Education for Mutual Understanding and citizenship objectives. Also feasible are environmental/cultural projects – all linking to 'The World Around us' area of the Revised Curriculum

Culture – The opportunity exists for dialogue between differing cultures - Scandinavian, Ulster-Scots, Irish and South African. Links between Ballymonee Museum (the local authority museum with which Dervock is associated) and the Potchefstroom Museum are established and, with possible support from museums in Stockholm and London, an international touring exhibition on the life of McArthur could be planned.

Society – Both Northern Ireland and South Africa have experienced, to varying degrees, the tragedy of civil unrest and the grief and hardship it can bring to local communities. There are some parallels between S.Africa's post-apartheid struggle to establish peace and democracy and N.Ireland's emergence from decades of sectarian conflict. To some extent we have common problems which may have common solutions. Reinforcing the natural bond (the McArthur's legacy) between the 2 communities (Dervock and Potchefstroom) could, therefore, have lasting benefits. It is a wonderful opportunity to foster, amongst the younger generations in particular, greater tolerance and understanding of other cultures and religions and, above all, to help them face the future with confidence and pride. Broadening these young people's perspective in a global sense has to produce real long term benefit.

Environment – We must aim for a tourist-friendly environment. We want people to stop in Dervock and want to return. This can be achieved by:

- Highlighting through the media, local signage around the entrances and exits to the village, Dervock's historical links.
- Creating an aesthetically-pleasing environment in and around the village (i.e. absence of litter, no paramilitary murals, no ugly bonfire stacks in the park, more floral displays, etc).

Sport – In the build up to the centenary celebration of McArthur's sporting achievement, the firmly established Dervock Summer Festival (which includes the annual McArthur Half Marathon) could be developed into the Dervock Youth Games. Teams of school children from other Education Boards in Northern Ireland could compete alongside teams from our South African 'twin' school every other year.

The aim would be for this to build into a larger event, with the 2012 Dervock Youth Games coinciding with the Olympic torch passing through the town.

If the torch was retained in the village overnight, it would be an ideal opportunity to host an international street party, with food, fireworks and street entertainers.



In the years preceding the 2012 commemoration, South Africa will be hosting the soccer World Cup in 2010. To further promote sport among young people, funding could be sought to send pupils from a school in Stockholm and Dervock to a 'Mini-World Cup' in Potchefstroom. This would help to build on partnership between schools in Northern Ireland and, importantly, schools invited from Potchefstroom and Stockholm.

Partnership - a foundation for 2012

To develop the partnerships we envisage growing over the coming years, representatives from all the participated communities and from the South African, British and Irish Olympic teams, and organising committees, would be invited to contribute at every stage of this initiative.

The core themes of this project - Education, Culture, Society, Environment & Sport – are inter-linked, like the five rings of the Olympic symbol.

Each of the communities - in Dervock and in partnership abroad - will gain a collective experience that will honour K.K. McArthur and promote the spirit of the Olympic Games.

It would be the wish of the Committee that representatives from William Pinkerton Memorial Primary School, Dervock, and its South African counterpart would be afforded the opportunity to complete the celebration by attending some part of the Olympic opening or closing ceremony. This would provide an excellent media opportunity worthy of national publicity, potentially featuring as a facet of the total celebration.

McArthur's Centenary – a legacy in Dervock

As a lasting legacy to K.K. McArthur's achievement, funding needs to be secured to build a permanent village sports facility in the near future, ensuring that it is established focus for the events of 2012. According to our initial research, this facility would cost a minimum of £700k. Existing playing field changing rooms are in need of updating. It might be possible to incorporate them into this new facility in partnership with our Local Authority.

Within our proposal we would strive to establish a McArthur Foundation enabling a scholarship to be presented annually to a sportsman or woman from Dervock District to facilitate their personal development.

Through all of the above and through sport in particular, a lasting positive improvement will have been created to provide a continuing focus for the youth of this area.

MISSION STATEMENT

The 2012 Committee aims to develop and subsequently undertake a programme of social, cultural and environmental improvements within the Dervock community that will act as a lasting tribute to the memory of Kennedy K McArthur.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY HALL & RESOURCE CENT DERVOCK

NEE
Developers People

- outdoor sports changing (93sqm)
- main entrance, library, meeting room, & internet cafe (209sqm)
- community hall 20mx12m (240sqm)
- daycare centre (113sqm)
- school changing indoor/outdoor (96sqm)
- hall storage(30sqm)



DERVOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Total Building footprint 781sqm



Established 18

BERESFORD HOUSE, 2 Beresford Road, Coleraine BT52 1

Tel: 028 7035 1111

Fax: 028 7035 1115

PROPOSED SITE PLAN



APPENDIX 2

RIADA PLAYING FIELDS WORKING GROUP Meeting No. 4
Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday 9th January 2007, McKinley Room

Present: Alderman Frank Campbell (Chair)
Alderman H Connolly
Councillor E Robinson

In Attendance: Director of Borough Services

1. Stadium Contract

The Director provided an update with regard to the stadium contract and responded to Members questions. It was noted that the contract was substantially complete with the exception of the tennis courts. He indicated that users of the facilities spoke very highly of the stadium changing facilities and both the Stadium and Training pitches, with the latter being well used. The contractor had accepted that remedial work was necessary to the tennis courts and as this was weather dependant it was anticipated that the carpet would be replaced and relaid in the Spring of the year.

2. Riada Playing Fields Development

The Director, by means of a plan updated Members concerning the development which had taken place and also that to be undertaken this year at the site. He explained that this year a sand mattress multi-use pitch or pitches was being provided, with a further area being worked on to create another pitch. This latter 'temporary' pitch it was hoped would be available by the Summer. Members noted that there was sufficient land then remaining to provide a further two sand mattress soccer pitches at Riada Playing Fields.

3. Ballymoney GAC

Members noted that correspondence had been received from the above club in respect of Council facilities at Riada Playing Fields and the needs of the club with regard to a suitable playing pitch and that the club was to be assisted by Council in pursuing its own facilities.

This being all the business, the meeting ended at 3.00pm.

APPENDIX 3

TOWN HALL WORKING GROUP Meeting No. 16
Minutes of Meeting, Wednesday 10th January 2007, Dalriada Room

Present: Alderman Frank Campbell (Chair)
Alderman H Connolly
Alderman C Cousley
Alderman J Simpson
Councillor J Finlay

In Attendance: Director of Borough Services

1. Town Hall Contract

The Director provided an update with regard to the town hall contract and responded to Members questions. He advised that the only substantive issue outstanding from the respective project phases snagging lists, raised by the Council's consultants, was the exterior paintwork discolouration to the original building which was currently under investigation. Members were advised that work had been carried out at the former entrance to provide a necessary emergency exit. It was also the case that initial heating and ventilation issues had been addressed and these systems together with the performance of the main entrance door continued to be monitored.

2. Town Hall Tower

The Director reported that at the behest of a Member the Council's consultants had costed the illumination of the existing town hall tower by means of 2 x 35w metal halide floodlights with a blue filter. The estimate was £3,290. Members agreed that this work be considered at a future date when other necessary work was being progressed.

3. Town Hall Acoustics

Members considered the issues raised in this regard at a recent rates estimates workshop. The Director mentioned that under the contract rock wool slabs had been inserted within the floor of the main auditorium and advised that the fact that the building was listed with double height windows meant that remediation of the problem of sound penetration would be both difficult and expensive. Members asked that the Director obtain further advice.

4. Future Work

The Director advised that as Members were aware additional security measures would be required as regards the Museum and that extension of the town hall CCTV system ought be prioritised along with that future work. This was accepted by Members.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 3.00pm.

