

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Table of Contents**

334.1	Minutes – Meeting No 332 – 19 th June	<i>Adopted</i>
	1.1 Lower Bann Partnership – Financial Contribution (332.3)	<i>Deferred</i>
	1.2 Kilraughts Road Roundabout (332.20)	
	1.3 Trading at Riada Stadium (332.7)	
	1.4 Adoption of Minutes	
334.2	Minutes – Meeting No 333 – 17 th July	<i>Adopted</i>
334.3	Presentation – Lough Neagh & Lower Bann Advisory Committee	<i>Deferred</i>
334.4	Connect2 Project – Ballymoney Railway Bridge & Links	<i>Recommend that Council set aside £6,000 to assist with marketing the project</i>
334.5	Reparation	<i>Recommend that Council accept the compensation proffered by NI Water</i>
334.6	Ballymoney Cemetery Memorials	<i>Recommend Council grant permission to erect memorials</i>
334.7	Priest’s Well Rasharkin	<i>Deferred</i>
334.8	Proposed Play Area at Derrykeighan	<i>Deferred</i>
334.9	Killyrammer Community Centre	<i>Deferred</i>
334.10	Leisure Project Working Group	<i>Recommend meeting on 11th September at 2.00 pm in JDLC</i>
334.11	Community Support Grants	<i>To recommend that Council grant £100.00 each to</i> <i>1. Ballymoney Badgers for assistance in purchasing additional Sports Equipment.</i> <i>2. Cramsie Court Residents’ Association for assistance with bus trip to Ballintoy.</i> <i>3. Druckendult Community Association for assistance with bus trip to Bangor.</i>

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 334 held in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, Ballymoney on Tuesday, 21st August 2007 at 2.00 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: F Campbell

PRESENT

Aldermen
H Connolly, Deputy Mayor
C Cousley
J Simpson

Councillors
M McCamphill
A Patterson
E Robinson

APOLOGIES

A Cavlan
D McKay

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Borough Services
Head of Leisure Services
Committee Clerk

Lough Neagh & Lower Bann Advisory Committee
(Item 3)

Mr V Hamill – Chairman
Ms C Marshall – Liaison Officer, Lough Neagh & Lower
Bann Advisory Committee

334.1 MINUTES – MEETING NO 332 – 19TH JUNE 2007

* **Councillor Patterson arrived at 2.11 pm**

MATTERS ARISING**1.1 Lower Bann Partnership – Financial Contribution (332.3)**

As a result of Council's decision to discontinue its financial contributions to the Lower Bann Partnership Company, representatives of that organisation made a presentation to Committee in June on the company's work. The matter was deferred

until the next meeting of Committee to provide an opportunity for Members to further reflect on the matter.

The Director of Borough Services, referred to the information that he had furnished to Members following his undertaking to do so at the June Committee meeting, and confirmed that Council had provided funding to the LB Partnership Company, as set out in Committee minute 311.9 of 15th November 2005, which had been adopted by Council on 5th December 2005 (821.6). The contribution had been reconsidered at this years final Rates meeting, it being the Council's decision to withdraw its funding to the LB Partnership Company.

Following further discussion, Members agreed that this matter needed further consideration. The Director agreed to again forward a copy of the relevant minutes [311.9 and 821.6] to Members as they considered the 'value for money' that would accrue to Ballymoney Borough should the contribution be reinstated.

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

to defer the decision on the reinstatement of funding to the Lower Bann Partnership to the September meeting of Committee to enable further consideration to be made relating to the benefits of such funding to Ballymoney Borough.

1.2 Kilraughts Road Roundabout (332.20)

In response to a question from Councillor Stevenson the Director of Borough Services reaffirmed the Council's position regarding the Kilraughts Road roundabout. This structure, he advised, had been provided by Roads Service but left unfinished and was in an unkempt state. He confirmed that discussions had taken place with Roads Service as that Agency had indicated it had not the necessary landscaping expertise and in fact wished Council to undertake the work. The Director pointed out what was involved and also drew attention to the need to ensure a safe system of work. He indicated that further discussion would be necessary with Roads Service officials and that a further report would be made in September concerning the matter.

* **Councillor McCamphill arrived at 2.37**

1.3 Trading at Riada Stadium (332.7)

At the request of Councillor Stevenson, the Director advised concerning the nature of the trading concession at the Council's Riada Stadium.

1.4 Adoption of Minutes

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

to recommend to Council that the minutes of Meeting No 332 – 19th June 2007, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations therein approved.

334.2 MINUTES – MEETING NO 333 – 17TH JULY 2007

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

to recommend to Council that the minutes of Meeting No 333 – 17th July 2007, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations therein approved.

334.3 PRESENTATION - LOUGH NEAGH & LOWER BANN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Chairman welcomed Mr Hamill [Chair] and Ms Marshall [Liaison Officer] to the meeting to give a presentation to Committee on the work of the Lough Neagh and Lower Bann Advisory Committees. Mr Hamill in his introduction thanked Council for its valued contribution and funding during the period 2004-2007 and implored Council to reconsider its position and continue its membership. Ms Marshall looked back at the LNLBAC achievements during 2004-2007 and also gave an overview of the plans for 2007-2010. She indicated the funding commitments, which had been achieved for 2007-2010 [see Appendix 1] and advised that an annual contribution of £5,000 and not the £8,000 sought previously was the levy for the nine district councils on the Lough Neagh and Lower Bann waterway.

Mr Hamill responded to a number of questions relating to such issues as wetlands and the various options available to landowners for flooding relief. An offer was made by Mr Hamill for a Biodiversity expert to make a presentation to Members regarding LNLB wetlands projects.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hamill and Ms Marshall for their presentation and the representatives then left the meeting at 3.00 pm.

Consideration was then given to Lough Neagh & Lower Bann Advisory Committees funding request. The Director of Borough Services queried why Councils irrespective of their size and resources were all simply expected to make the same contribution. He compared this 'leisure' norm with what had been negotiated on behalf of Council regarding its waste management partnership arrangements. He also pointed out that any reinstatement of funding for the period 2007-2008 would be from reserves as no budget had been set for this.

Motion 1

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Alderman Simpson that:

Council fund a contribution of £5,000 for 2007-08 out of reserves but make no commitment for the following year(s) without review of the funding procedures.

Councillor Stevenson expressed the view that the amount contributed should be on a pro-rata basis for the part of the year when Council might be represented. Alderman Campbell drew attention to the fact that this proposal seemed to be out of step with the earlier recommendation to defer a decision on funding for the Lower Bann Partnership Company. Alderman Simpson referred to the advantages of contributing in view of the voice Council had as regards the Lower Bann.

Motion 2

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Campbell that:

the matter be deferred for further discussion at the September meeting of Committee, when further consideration would also be given to the funding of the Lower Bann Partnership Company.

The Chair put the motions to the meeting.

Motion 1

Two members voted in favour with five members voting against.

Motion 2

Five members voted in favour, two members voted against

The Chairman declared **Motion 2** carried.

AMENITIES**334.4 CONNECT2 PROJECT: BALLYMONEY RAILWAY BRIDGE AND LINKS**

At the meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee on 17 April 2007, the Director of Borough Services and the Countryside Access Officer made a presentation concerning the Ballymoney Connect2 Project. The scheme features a proposed new railway bridge and new access connections to Castlecroft, Riverside Park and the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre. The Ballymoney Connect2 project has been chosen as one of the 79 UK wide Sustrans schemes that will receive funding providing Sustrans are successful in the public vote, which will be held in December 2007, by way of an ITV1 Programme featuring the 6 UK Projects competing for a single grant of £50 million from the Big Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks: The People's Millions.

In the event of a Sustrans win, the Ballymoney Connect2 project will receive some £350,000 in funds. The date of the ITV1 Programme in December will not be announced by the Big Lottery until 16 October 2007 and until that time Sustrans have asked that the public be directed to the Sustrans Connect2 website – www.sustransconnect2.org.uk. Here folk can leave their details so they can be informed by text or email of the exact date of the public vote.

A Ballymoney Connect2 Publicity Steering Group has been set up to organise how best to publicise the Ballymoney Connect2 project between now and December. At the Group's first meeting on 18 July 2007, it was proposed that Council be requested to consider setting aside funding to assist with the publicity for the Ballymoney Connect2 project along similar lines to the "No Smoking" campaign recently undertaken in the Borough. The meeting papers, together with the Minutes for the Publicity Steering Group were circulated to members. The aim is to produce printed public literature and posters for dissemination across the Borough and to produce banners, displays, signage for Council vehicles and other promotional literature and items to encourage the whole Borough to join in the public vote in December.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council set aside £6,000 from its reserves to assist with the promotional marketing of the Ballymoney Connect2 Project in order to maximum possible participation in the Big Lottery public vote in December 2007.

An in-house newssheet and sustrans Connect 2 leaflet was also circulated.

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

to recommend that Council set aside £6,000 from its reserves to assist with the promotional marketing of the Ballymoney Connect2 Project.

334.5 REPARATION

Correspondence has been received on behalf of NI Water offering compensation to Council arising from the laying of pipework through Council land at Bendooragh and Riverside Park, Ballymoney as follows:-

1. Balnamore, Bendooragh and Drumahiskey Sewerage Scheme - £900.
2. Ballymoney Sewerage Improvements - £1,500.

The respective sums have been assessed by the District Valuer on behalf of NI Water.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council accept the compensation proffered by NI Water in respect of work undertaken on its land.

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

to recommend that Council accept the compensation proffered by NI Water in respect of work undertaken on its land.

334.6 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS

Applications have been received as undernoted for the erection of memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery.

Section I3 No. 6

Ms. Vera Cameron, 3 Downview Park, Ballymoney
All Polished Black Granite Headstone with Granite Base

Section H2 No. 4

Mr. Norrie McIntyre, 32 Meadow View, Ballymoney
All Polished Black Granite Headstone with Granite Base

Section I2 No. 97

Ms. Ida S M Adams, 17 Eastburn Avenue, Ballymoney
All Polished Black Granite Headstone with Granite Base

Section I1 No. 75

Mrs. Chris Archibald, 17 Ballymena Road, Ballymoney
All Polished Black Granite Headstone with Granite Base

Section E1 No. 80

Mr. William Campbell, 11 Enagh Road, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone and Base

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 Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

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

334.7 PRIEST'S WELL RASHARKIN: ASSERTION AS A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY

When this matter was last before Committee in 2006 a number of issues were raised. These have been considered and the information sought was circulated to members.

It has also been the case that further discussion has been on going with the landowners as regards their agreement to assertion and the implications of this. It is now the case that the landowners, after taking legal advise, advised

on 2nd July 2007 that they agreed that the access to the 'Priest's Well', Rasharkin constituted a public right of way (PROW) and that they were content that Council undertake its statutory duty and assert the laneway as a PROW.

The Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983 Part II, section 3 (I) states "a district council shall assert, protect and keep open and free from obstruction or encroachment any public right of way".

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council assert the Priest's Well path as a Public Right of Way.

At the request of Members the Director explained that it would be necessary to undertake work to open up the lane as a public right of way following its ascertainment by Council.

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

to recommend that the matter be deferred until the September meeting of Committee to enable members to visit the site and consider this matter further.

The Director undertook to provide members with a further copy of the location map [which had previously been supplied] to enable members to locate and visit the site.

334.8 PROPOSED PLAY AREA AT DERRYKEIGHAN

Councillor Robinson advised that she had been told that the Community Association had leased the Orange Hall and was awaiting a letter to this effect. She further advised that having spoken to the Mayor, it was suggested that £80,000 could be made available from Council reserves to finance this proposed project. The Director referred to the previous Minute [332.21] and reiterated advice given recently to the Member concerning his understanding of the proposition before Committee, that Council would provide a play area on land it did not own or control. He indicated the need to further research the vires for such a proposition as part of the process Council would undertake as preliminaries to making a decision as to whether or not this provision would be made. He also advised that it would take a reasonable time to deliver this project, which had first been proposed in June 2007, were Council minded to proceed and that proposition had been put to it. He observed that before work could be undertaken, were Council to so decide, it would be necessary to obtain both planning permission and appoint a contractor in accordance with the Councils procurement policy. Alderman Campbell indicated that other proposals regarding play area provision, such as at Drunkendult had been considered by Council in the recent past and would also have to again be taken into account. It was agreed that the Director be permitted to undertake further research regarding the issues discussed and that the matter would again be considered at the Committee's September meeting.

- * **Alderman Simpson and Councillor Patterson left the meeting at 4.10 pm.**

334.9 KILLYRAMMER COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor Robinson advised that in discussions with Killyrammer Community Association a number of improvements to the Council's property had been suggested which would be of benefit to the Community Association in its use of the property. She reminded Members that some time previously the Association had made a grant application in order to carry out extensive renovations at the premises and that in this regard financial contributions had been obtained from three different sources, including Council which had set aside a contribution of £25,000. As Members were aware that scheme had not been proceeded with. Councillor Robinson indicated that having spoken to the Mayor it was suggested that a further £25,000 could be made available from Council reserves. She stressed the need to have the identified work carried out by Council at the earliest possible date. Alderman Campbell supported Councillor Robinson. The Director advised that he had recently received a costed report which had set out improvements which had been agreed by those present at earlier discussions and in light of what was now being proposed, that Council would itself undertake that work estimated at around £40,000, it would be necessary for a new proposal to be put to Council in order that it might make a decision on the matter. He indicated that it was also important to agree what finance was actually available and what therefore the precise nature of any scheme was. He drew attention to the fact that due to the probable overall cost involved that in his view this project was no different from any other carried out by Council and that normal procedures set out in the Council's procurement policy and the way in which Council engaged contractors would apply. It was agreed that the Director be given further time to review the implications of what was being proposed.

LEISURE SERVICES

334.10 LEISURE PROJECT WORKING GROUP

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the next meeting of the above group would be held on Tuesday 11th September at 2pm in JDLC. Agenda to include presentation from Pulse Fitness, update on Health Suite, Sports Hall lighting project, CCTV, Mat Store, Pool Blankets, Stage Curtains and AOB.

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

to recommend that the Leisure Project Working Group meeting take place on Tuesday 11th September at 2.00 pm in the Joey Dunlop Centre, to be attended by Alderman Campbell, Councillor Cavlan, Alderman Connolly, Alderman Cousley, Councillor Patterson, Councillor Robinson, Alderman Simpson and Councillor Wilson.

334.11 COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS

The following applications for grants have been received.

- 11.1 Ballymoney Badgers for assistance in purchasing additional Sports Equipment.
- 11.2 Cramsie Court Residents' Association for assistance with bus trip to Ballintoy.
- 11.3 Drunkendult Community Association for assistance with bus trip to Bangor.

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

to recommend that Council grant £100.00 each to

- 1. Ballymoney Badgers for assistance in purchasing additional Sports Equipment.***
- 2. Cramsie Court Residents' Association for assistance with bus trip to Ballintoy.***
- 3. Druckendult Community Association for assistance with bus trip to Bangor.***

This being all the business the meeting closed at 4.50 pm.

APPENDIX 1



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