

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Table of Contents**

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 336 held in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, Ballymoney on Tuesday, 16th October 2007 at 7.30pm.

IN THE CHAIR: F Campbell

PRESENT**Aldermen**

H Connolly
C Cousley
J Simpson

Councillors

J Finlay
D McKay (MLA)
M McCamphill
T McKeown
A Patterson
E Robinson
I Stevenson
R Wilson

APOLOGIES**Councillors**

A Cavlan

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Borough Services (to Item 15)
Head of Corporate and Development Services (Item 1)
Head of Leisure Services (from Item 10)
Committee Clerk

Dervock Community Association (Item 1)
D McKeown, Chairman
F Cunningham, Vice Chairman
M Lennox, Architect

336.1 DERVOCK COMMUNITY PROJECT

Representatives from Dervock Community Association attended the meeting to give an update on the progression of the proposed Dervock Community Project and circulated site and floor plans to members showing the proposed footprint of the building for their information.

The Chairman of the Association advised that a series of meetings had taken place with the Education and Library Board and other partners to move the proposed project forward and good progress had been made. A planning

application had been submitted on 17th September for the project and he indicated that this would open the door to necessary funding sources. It was envisaged that land presently in the control of the NEELB needed for the project would transfer to Council and that it was hoped that the terms of the transfer would be known shortly. He then indicated that the Association is meeting Council officials this week [officers within the Office of the Chief Executive] to discuss its application for funding from the Modernisation Fund and that a meeting with the DCAL Minister had also been arranged.

Responding to questions from members, the Chairman advised that the target time for delivery of the project is 2010 to enable the project to be viable by 2012 when it is envisaged that major events will take place to coincide with the Olympic Games. He confirmed that the building cost was in the order of £2.3M, that business plans are currently being formulated and information sought regarding maintenance costs. He advised that it is intended that the project, when completed, will generate income from external sources such as hire of the hall, crèche facilities and other community initiatives and that the necessary car parking provision for such events was included.

The Committee Chairman thanked the representatives for their report and congratulated the Community Association on its work and initiative in its proposition for a community hall and sports centre in Dervock.

* **Representatives left the meeting at 8.10 pm.**

Discussion continued with the Director of Borough Services referring to Council's decision following presentation of the initial project in January 2007, how Council outdoor recreational needs were being accommodated via the project, the question of land transfer and the possible management model for the facility when built, necessity of a formal business plan and the role of the Community Association in formulating the plan.

The Head of Corporate and Development Services explained that contact had only very recently been made seeking assistance with the completion of a funding application to the DSD Modernisation Fund and that given that the deadline for applications was 19th October it was not clear whether this could be achieved. She advised, however, that every effort would be made to assist the Community Association in making an application by the deadline.

Members commended the Director and Head of Corporate and Development Services for the work undertaken and to be undertaken with the Association and its other partners to bring about a worthwhile and necessary community facility.

* **The Head of Corporate and Development Services left the meeting at 8.35 pm**

336.2 MINUTES – MEETING NO 335 – 18TH SEPTEMBER 2007

2.1 Adoption of Minutes

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

that the minutes of Meeting No 335 – 18th September 2007 be confirmed as a correct record.

2.2 Amenities Matters Arising

Killyrammer Community Centre (335.13.4)

The Director of Borough Services advised that he had discussed with the Council's consultants how best to deliver the proposed scheme and it was preferred that the select list procedure be used. He also advised that in making his recommendation to Committee he was simply trying to expedite the proposed scheme as was the wish of Council and that the recommendation was not at all aimed at bypassing the Committee. The Director then **RECOMMENDED** that the following timetable was achievable –

1. Advertise for a Select List with an evaluation report being considered by Council at its meeting on 5th November; and
2. Invite tenders from the Select List with an evaluation report being considered by Council at its meeting on 3rd December.

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

to recommend that a select list of suitable contractors be agreed at the Council's meeting on 5th November, following which those companies identified be invited to tender for the work and that the tenders received be dealt with by Council at its meeting on 3rd December.

AMENITIES

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

This matter was deferred from the Council's meeting, held on 1st October 2007.

As was previously reported to members, the landowners, after taking legal advice, advised on 2nd July 2007 that they agreed that the access (laneway) to the 'Priest's Well', Rasharkin, was 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, article 3(1) 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.

A discussion ensued with Alderman Simpson emphasizing that it was important for Council to make it clear that were it to assert the PROW it was not accepting any responsibility for the subsequent maintenance of the laneway as allowed by virtue of article 3(2) of the Access to the Countryside Order.

* **Councillor Stevenson joined the meeting at 8.50 pm**

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

to recommend that Council assert the Priest’s Well path as a public right of way but does not maintain it as permitted by Article 3(2) of the Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983.

336.4 LANDS AT ROCKEND, CORKEY AND SCALLY PARK, LOUGHGIEL

Council at its meeting on 5th March 2007 agreed that the question of whether alternative use of surplus land at Rockend and Scally Park was an option be investigated.

This work has been undertaken facilitated by the Council’s consultants R Robinson & Sons. On the basis of the appraisal undertaken, it would appear that there would be a reasonable prospect of obtaining planning permission for at least part, if not all, of the Scally Park site. Prospects for obtaining planning permission for the Rockend site are very poor.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the advice obtained be noted and further consideration be given to how Council might proceed in light of same.

Alderman Connolly requested that the Director consider again with the Council’s consultants options for the Scally Park site, to include use of part of the land for a toddler play area.

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

to recommend that the advice obtained relating to lands at Rockend be noted and that further work be undertaken with the Council’s consultants to devise options for the Scally Park site.

* **Alderman Connolly left the meeting at 9.25 pm.**

336.5 PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

By the end of the present financial year Council will have upgraded its play areas at the following locations (14 in total) – Ballybogey, Balnamore, Bendooragh, Clintyfinnan, Dervock, Dunaghy, Dunloy, Killyrammer, Macfin, Magherahoney, Rasharkin, Riverside Park (Jubilee), Rockend and Stranocum.

This leaves the sites at Ballyknock, Balnagarvey, Ben Vista, Carnany, Cloughmills, Drumaheglis, Fernbank, Glebeside, Greymount Park, Lislagan, Megaw Park, Scally Park and Seacon to be considered.

Given other on-going work presently, it is considered that for the moment Cloughmills and Megaw Park be excluded. The sites then remaining which service the greatest number of households would be Carnany and Glebeside.

As members would be aware there are actually two Council play areas at Carnany, one of which (the Memorial play area) is to the latest standards.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that –

- 1) the play area at Glebeside be upgraded in the next financial year;
- 2) Committee consider whether two play areas serving Carnany can continue to be justified
- 3) a survey of the housing development immediately adjacent to the remaining `smaller' play areas be undertaken in order to determine continued need.

Councillor Stevenson made reference to the condition of both the kickabout area and path in its vicinity at Carnany which the Director noted.

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

to recommend that:

- (1) ***the possible upgrade of the play area at Glebeside, together with the issue of the two play areas serving Carnany, be deferred and be dealt with when the 2008-2009 Rates Estimates were being considered***
- (2) ***a survey of the housing development immediately adjacent to the remaining `smaller' play areas be undertaken in the immediate future in order to determine continued need.***

* **Councillor McKeown left the meeting at 9.30 pm.**

336.6 USE OF DRUMBOLCAN PARK, RASHARKIN

Correspondence has been received from Rasharkin District LOL No. 5 advising that their 12th July 2008 Demonstration will be held in Rasharkin and request the use of Drumbolcan Park Playing Fields as the demonstration venue.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council accommodate the demonstration subject to the usual conditions.

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

to recommend that Council accommodate the demonstration subject to the usual conditions.

336.7 BUS SHELTER REQUESTS

A further request for a bus shelter was received recently. The latest request relates to the need to provide a bus shelter at the junction of the Drumlee and Finvoy Roads.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that, as with the other five requests received previously, that further work be done in order to identify an appropriate site, so enabling all requests to be considered on the same basis at the November Committee meeting.

The Director advised that since his report was written, an additional request had been received for the provision of bus shelters at Charles Street, Ballymoney. This brought the number of bus shelters requested this year in the Borough to seven. He advised that it was his intention to approach Clear Channel to ascertain whether that company would be prepared to provide bus shelters at Charles Street. In the meantime it was also necessary to establish need and to identify appropriate sites.

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

to recommend that further work be carried out in order to identify appropriate sites for two additional shelters so enabling all seven requests to be considered on the same basis at the November Committee meeting.

336.8 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS

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

Section E1 No. 96

Mrs Joyce Henry, 12 Hamilton Park, Ballymoney
All Polished Black Granite Headstone with Granite Base

Section H2 No. 100

Mr. William Quinn, 39 Newal Road, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone with Base

Section I3 No. 38

Mr. Victor Haslett, 153D Finvoy Road, Ballymoney
Granite Headstone and Base

Section 7 No. 65

Mrs. Audrey Carton, 52 Charlotte Street, Ballymoney
Granite Headstone and Base

Section I2 No.71

Mr. Peter Lamont, 10 Belford Park, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone and Base

Section I2 No. 72

Mr. William Lamont, 5 Garry Drive, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone and Base

Section 4 Nos. 133 &134

Miss May Pinkerton, 6 Williamson Park, Ballymoney
All Polished Granite Headstone and Surround (replacement)

Section 7 No. 122

Miss May Pinkerton, 6 Williamson Park, Ballymoney
All Polished Granite Headstone and Surround

Section H2 No.45

Mrs Betty Hanna, 1 Semicock Park, Ballymoney
All Polished Grey 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.

336.9 WAYLEAVE APPLICATION

The Northern Eastern Education & Library Board has written seeking Council permission for a wayleave urgently required by the NEELB to connect a storm sewer serving the Leaney Primary School into an existing Rivers Agency culvert. The route of the proposed connection crosses land in the ownership of the Council at the Intermediate/Raceview Road junction.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council grant the wayleave sought subject to the normal conditions.

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

to recommend that Council grant the wayleave sought subject to the normal conditions.

336.10 RIVERSIDE PARK TUNNEL LINK

Unfortunately further complaints have been received regarding anti-social behaviour at the above location. It is not considered that lighting the tunnel would resolve the problem and therefore Committee is urged to consider the restriction of access to certain specified times by the installation of appropriate gates at either end of the tunnel under the railway.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that appropriate gates are installed at the Riverside Park tunnel link to limit access to certain specified times.

A discussion ensued on the types and level of anti-social behaviour reported and the role of PSNI in monitoring and dealing with the matter. Councillor Stevenson indicated that the issues should be brought to the attention of the DPP. Members also discussed the issue of access to the park after dark.

It was **AGREED:**

that the cost of the proposed gates be ascertained and that the installation of gates at the Riverside Park tunnel link be deferred for one month in order that members can further consider the matter.

336.11 CONVERSION OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES TO NATURAL GAS

Consideration has been given to the economic and other benefits of converting Council properties to natural gas. In this regard the Directorate has been working with both Firmus Energy and its consultants – Cogan & Shackleton. This report only addresses those Council properties within the Amenities remit namely: Ballymoney Town Hall, Riada House, Riada Stadium and the Knock Road Depot.

There is a strong environmental argument for conversion to natural gas. This fuel is the cleanest fossil fuel (with up to 30% less carbon emissions) and therefore its use by Council would not only give a lead to others but would help to create a more environmentally friendly Northern Ireland.

It is considered that in the present volatile fuel market that it would be best to progress any proposed boiler plant conversion on a dual burner basis, that is install new burners which can handle both gas and oil.

Firmus Energy have intimated that at the three Council properties where gas is presently available, that is Riada House, Riada Stadium and the Town Hall, the grant available for conversion would cover the cost other than the difference in price between gas burners and the preferred dual burner option. The company has put this cost at £9,000. On present usage/price information it has been estimated that conversion of the aforementioned three Council properties could realise an annual saving of £4,059. The payback period is therefore 2.2 years.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council convert its property at Riada House, Riada Stadium and Town Hall to natural gas on a dual burner basis.

Councillor Finlay questioned the Director on the use of oil additive and the oil usage figures for the premises where the Director was recommending conversion to natural gas. The Head of Leisure Services stated that an 11% saving was currently being achieved at the JDLC. The Mayor commented that the proposal to convert using dual burners offered greater savings.

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

that the matter be deferred for one month.

336.12 KICKABOUT AREA AT DRUMBOLCAN PARK, RASHARKIN

Correspondence has been received from Rasharkin Community Association indicating that it would like to see a kickabout area for the youth of the village situated on Council land at Drumbolcan Park. It is believed that such a facility would address the problem of young people playing with bats and balls in the street.

The Community Association have identified land adjacent to the play park as the possible site and envisage the area (approximately 20m x 15m) having a hard surface and being surrounded by a high fence and being available free of charge.

The Association proposes to source funding for the project, but is looking to Council for its agreement in principle, a financial contribution towards capital costs and for Council to accept on going facility maintenance and upkeep costs.

Committee was asked to consider this request and make recommendation to Council concerning the matter.

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

that the matter be deferred to enable further information to be obtained on the level of contribution envisaged and to provide an opportunity for members to visit the site.

336.13 BUS SHELTER PROVISION

The Director confirmed that the bus shelters provided at Castle Street, Ballymoney and Bendooragh are now operational.

336.14 SUB COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes in respect of the following Amenities Sub Committees, which have met and will meet this month, were circulated and are attached as Appendix 1 and 2.

14.1 Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub Committee

Accepted.

Members agreed that the next Sub-Committee meeting be held at 2.30 pm on Tuesday, 4th December 2007 in Riada House.

Councillor Robinson requested that her abstension from supporting the proposed Cloughmills Recreational Facility again be noted.

* **Councillor McCamphill left the meeting at 10.35.**

14.2 Multi use Arena/Megaw Park Sub Committee

Accepted.

At the request of Councillor Robinson, the Director reminded members of the recommendation agreed in June 2007 (Minute Ref 332.15) and confirmed that different options are currently under consideration.

It was agreed that the next Sub-Committee meeting would take place on Thursday, 6th December at 2.30 pm in Riada House.

- **The Director of Borough Services left the meeting at 10.45 pm.**

336.15 MINUTES – MEETING NO 335 – 18TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The Head of Leisure Services referring to 336.2 – Minutes of Meeting No LAC 335 – 18th September 2007

15.1 Leisure Matters Arising

Museum Working Group (335.3)

At the request of Councillor Robinson, the Head of Leisure Services agreed to ascertain if nominations, as agreed, have yet been appointed to commence the Museum Working Group.

LEISURE

336.16 BALLYMONEY MUSEUM ACCREDITATION

The Council's application for Museum Accreditation was considered by an Accreditation Panel appointed by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) on 20th September 2007.

The Development Officer from the Scheme has written to Council advising that the Panel agree to award the status of "Full Accreditation". In her correspondence to Council, the Development Officer said "I would like to congratulate you on your achievement, as I know of all the hard work and effort you have put into your application. I can now confirm that a certificate will follow from MLA together with information on the proper use of the logo and a pack suggesting opportunities for promoting your achievement, providing that the agreed recommendations outlined are met."

The recommendations referred to are:

1. Replacement of temporary external sign with a permanent sign
2. Completion of Stage 3 documentation by 20/12/09
3. Completion of Accession Register, security copy of accession register, marking and/or labelling, location and movement and indexing by 20/12/09
4. Council timetable and completed security recommendations

Council commends the Museum Manager and his team for all their hard work and efforts in securing this prestigious award.

336.17 NORTH WEST 200, 2008 – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Council for the past 4 years has sponsored the 600cc Supersport Race at the North West 200. The Clerk of the Course has requested support for the 2008 North West 200 and has also asked Council to consider support for a further 2 year period to assist with future plans for the North West 200 event, and in particular its 80th anniversary in 2009.

All members agreed that the event, which attracts over 100,000 spectators, brings enormous benefit to the region (£6M). The increase in media coverage also helps promote the tourism potential of Ballymoney town and Borough.

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

to recommend a funding package over a three year period of £9,000 in 2008, £9,500 in 2009 and £10,000 in 2010 with the addition of £580.00 approximately plus Vat for trophies per year.

336.18 COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS

Budget for 2007/08	£3000.
Grants awarded at 1 st October 2007,	£3000

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

to recommend that Council advance an amount of £2,500 for 2007/08 period with immediate effect from reserve funds.

The following applications for grants were considered:

- (i) Ballybogey Community Association for assistance towards an Intergenerational Project.
- (ii) Balnamore & District Community Association for assistance towards a senior citizens Christmas Dinner.
- (iii) Dunloy Accordion Band for assistance towards a preparation musical evening prior to Lord Mayor of Londons Parade in London.
- (iv) Ballymoney Elim Parent & Toddler Group for assistance towards equipment and toys for toddlers.
- (v) Dunloy Development Association for assistance towards a Christmas lunch and party for over 55's.
- (vi) Ballymoney Health Walking Group for assistance towards programme of events.
- (vii) Dunloy Development Association for assistance towards Children's Disco and entertainment at switching on Christmas Lights.
- (viii) Cloughmills Senior Citizen's Bowling Club for assistance towards Christmas Lunch and Outing.
- (ix) Dunloy Accordion Band for assistance towards its participation in the Lord Mayor of Londons Parade.
- (x) Ballymoney Orange Heritage & Cultural Committee for assistance towards a music, poetry and story telling event.
- (xi) Ballymoney Branch Royal British Legion for assistance towards an Ulster Scots Experience event.
- (xii) An additional application from Druckendult Community Association for assistance towards their Christmas party was considered

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Stevenson declared an interest as a member of the Dunloy Accordion Band and left the meeting at 11.20 pm.

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

to recommend that grants of £100.00 be made to

- i. Ballybogey Community Association*
- ii. Balnamore & District Community*
- iii. Dunloy Accordion Band*
- iv. Ballymoney Elim Parent & Toddler Group*
- v. Dunloy Development*
- vi. Ballymoney Health Walking Group*
- vii. Dunloy Development Association*
- viii. Cloughmills Senior Citizens Bowling Club*
- ix. Dunloy Accordion Band*
- x. Ballymoney Orange Heritage & Cultural Committee*
- xi. Ballymoney Branch Royal British Legion*
- xii. Druckendult Community Association*

* **Councillor Stevenson returned to the meeting at 11.45 pm.**

* **Councillor Wilson left the meeting at 11.45 pm.**

336.19 BALLYMONEY SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SPORTS AWARDS

It was noted that The Ballymoney Sports Advisory Committee have written to the Council advising that they plan to host the annual Ballymoney Sports Awards, hosted by TV Personality Christine Bleakley, on Saturday 10th November 2007 in Ballymoney Town Hall, and seek permission to host a bar facility at the event.

It was noted that an application for bar facilities would be permitted, subject to consultation with PSNI and progress through the courts.

Gallery tickets can be purchased from the Town Hall at a cost of £5.00 per person.

336.20 REPLACEMENT OF STAGE CURTAINS IN MAIN HALL AT THE JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE

Quotations were invited for the replacement of the Stage Curtains in the Main Hall. Only 2 quotations were received as follows –

Beechgrove Interiors	
Loan Road	
Cullybackey	£5874.84 + VAT

Reay Thompson
Lorne Street
Belfast £6170.00 + VAT

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the quote from Beechgrove Interiors be accepted in the amount of £5874.84 + VAT to replace the stage curtains as specified.

As the quotation for the supply of curtains is competitive vis-à-vis allocated budget of £15,000, the Head of Leisure Services sought members' approval to source additional sports equipment for use at the centre. Members agreed that further information should be obtained and the Head of Leisure Services will report on various options at a future meeting of Committee.

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

to recommend acceptance of the lowest tender from Beechgrove Interiors for the supply of stage curtains at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre at a cost of £5874.84 plus vat.

336.21 DUNLOY ACCORDION BAND

Congratulations were extended to Dunloy Accordion Band in being selected to participate at the Lord Mayor of London's Parade on 10th November 2007. This is a great achievement for the Band and the honour brings great pride to the town of Ballymoney.

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

to recommend that the Mayor attends the Lord Mayor of London's Parade on 10th November 2007.

336.22 JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE SOCIAL CLUB

The Head of Leisure Services advised members of a letter received from Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Social Club. The Chairman, Mr Benny Knight, on behalf of the club, has written to Council requesting support for a Christmas concert for senior citizens and the wider community on Saturday 8th December. A request has been made for free use of the sports hall and stage and for a donation towards the cost of the event.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the request for the use of the hall and stage be granted and an amount of £100.00 be contributed to the event from Community Support Grant funding.

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

to recommend that Council permit Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Social Club, free use of the sports hall and stage and award £100.00 from its Community Support Grant for assistance towards a Christmas Concert.

336.23 SPORTS COUNCIL, LIMAVADY

Members are invited to attend an Inter-Towns Competition hosted by Limavady Council on Friday 26th October 2007 at Roe Valley, Limavady commencing at 6.30 pm. Eight young people from Ballymoney will take part in the competition, which concludes with supper and a firework display at 8.00 pm.

Any member wishing to attend would be most welcome and should contact the Head of Leisure Services.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 11.35 pm.

Appendices attached

Appendix 1 Minutes - Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub Committee
8th October 2007

Appendix 2 Minutes – Multi-Use Area/Megaw Park Amenities Sub Committee
12th October 2007

APPENDIX 1**Cloughmills Recreational Facility Sub-Committee****Meeting No. 2****Held on Monday, 8th October 2007 at 2.30pm in Riada House**

Present: Alderman Campbell (Chair)
Councillor Finlay
Councillor McCamphill
Councillor Patterson

In Attendance: Director of Borough Services
Michael Graham (Planning Consultant)
Brian McGuckian

As the request of the Chair M. Graham clarified his position, indicating that GM Design were no longer retained by the McGuckians and that he believed that he could advise both Council and landowners without conflict of interest as it was necessary for both parties to co-operate fully in order to deliver their respective requirements – land designated for housing development with associated land designated for community and recreational use being made available to Council for development.

Mr. Graham then dealt with the following issues – previous planning applications, recent decisions of the Planning Appeals Commission in respect of both McGuckian and Reid applications, the settlement limit as regards the present NE Area Plan and the proposed Northern Area Plan, the consequences of the Sweeney Judicial Review regarding the proposed Northern Area Plan and finally how in planning terms the project as a whole might be progressed and the likely timescale involved.

The Director of Borough Services tabled amended drawings which had been received on 5th October which incorporated additional storage as discussed at the previous Sub-Committee meeting. Members noted the comments made by Mr. Graham and Mr. McGuckian in respect of the proposed layout which had been constrained by a previous indication as to the land which might be available and welcomed the statement by Mr. McGuckian that the different layout discussed could be accommodated by the landowners.

IT WAS AGREED that a revised scheme layout etc. be prepared and approved in order to progress a joint planning application early in 2008. It was recognised that as part of that initial work it would be appropriate to draw up a legal agreement between the parties as to how the project would be delivered.

The Chair thanked both Mr. McGuckian and Mr. Graham immediately prior to their retirement from the meeting at this point.

The Director advised that he had, as tasked at the previous Sub-Committee meeting, met and shared the Council's proposals with Mr. Frew of the Cloughmills Action Team, who had indicated that the project was most welcome and would greatly assist

that group's work. Other community organisations were identified with a view that the Council's proposals also be shared with them.

The Director reported on advice obtained concerning the Council's property at Strand Park.

The Mayor requested the Director to obtain further information regarding the Old Mill site.

IT WAS AGREED that the next meeting of the sub-committee be held in early December with the date being determined at the next meeting of the Council's Leisure & Amenities Committee.

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

APPENDIX 2**Multi-use Arena/Megaw Park Amenities Sub-Committee****Meeting No. 2****Held on Friday 12th October 2007 at 2.30pm in Riada House**

Present: Alderman Campbell (Chair)
Alderman Connelly
Alderman Cousley
Alderman Simpson

In Attendance: Director of Borough Services

The Director of Borough Services advised that he had on 18th September 2007 attended a Glebeside Community Association Inter-Agency Meeting when the topic of the Sports Arena sought by the Association had been discussed. He indicated that the Community Association wished to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee regarding their proposals and an invitation had been extended to come to today's meeting for that purpose but this had not been feasible. **IT WAS AGREED** that the presentation by Glebeside Community Association be taken at the next Sub-Committee Meeting.

Alderman Campbell advised that it was his understanding that there was some agreement between the NI Housing Executive and Council regarding the green space fronting Belford Park and that the provision of a Football Pitch in that location might be an option to be explored. The Director indicated that he did not think that the land referred to had been transferred but he would have this checked out.

The Director gave some information as regards to Megaw Park indicating that there had been insufficient time to address all of the matters highlighted previously, particularly as regards to the history of the facility.

Alderman Simpson joined the meeting (time 3.30pm) at the Chair's behest, the Director gave a résumé of the Sub-Committee's business to date in order that Alderman Simpson was briefed on the issues within its remit.

IT WAS AGREED that the Sub-Committee would next meet in early December. The date to be set at the next Leisure & Amenities Committee on 16th October.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 3.40pm.