

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**Table of Contents**

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 339 held in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, Ballymoney on Tuesday 15th January 2008 at 6.30 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: F Campbell

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

Councillors
A Cavlan
J Finlay
M McCamphill
T McKeown
A Patterson
E Robinson
I Stevenson

APOLOGIES D McKay

IN ATTENDANCE Head of Leisure Services (Items 1-11)
Chief Executive (Items 1-15)
Director of Borough Services (Item 12-15)
Chief PA
Committee Clerk
Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (Item 2)

LEISURE**339.1 MINUTES MEETING NO 338 – 18TH DECEMBER 2007**

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

to recommend that the minutes of Meeting No 338 – 18th December 2007 be confirmed as a correct record.

339.2 CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS HERITAGE TRUST - PRESENTATION

The Trust Director Helen Noble made a presentation to members.

This arises, as was advised last month, from a letter to the Director requesting additional core funding for 2008/09 or approx 3% on top of last years funding of £5,945.

***Councillor McCamphill joined the meeting during this item the time being 6.40 pm.**

***Councillor McKeown joined the meeting during this item the time being 6.50 pm.**

***Councillor Stevenson joined the meeting during this item the time being 7.15 pm.**

The Chair invited questions from members, which were addressed and thanks were given for the presentation.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that after hearing from the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust, the committee consider the funding request and make a recommendation to council.

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

to recommend that Council support the request for an additional 3% to current funding, presently £5,945.

339.3 POLICY FOR COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR SPORTS PROVISION

At the request of the Leisure & Amenities committee the above matter had been deferred for one month to allow members the opportunity for further consideration.

Two applications for support for sports provision are pending
(1) – St Mary's GAC Rasharkin – Development Plan (338.13)
(2) – Riding for the Disabled Association – Development of New Arena at Castleroe Road, Coleraine. (338.24)

The Chief Executive has advised members that this highlights the need for members to give consideration to whether or not to develop a policy to consider request for capital or revenue funding from organisations.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that committee further considers, if it wishes, a policy developed for Ballymoney and make a recommendation to council.

It was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor Stevenson:

to recommend that Council do not develop a policy to consider requests for capital or revenue funding from organisations.

Councillor Cavlan and Councillor McCamphill objected to the proposal and expressed disappointment that Council propose not to have a policy.

The Chair put the motion to the meeting.

7 members voted in favour and 2 members voted against.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

339.4 REQUEST FOR START-UP FUNDING FROM ARMOY MOTORCYCLE ROAD RACING CLUB (AMRRC)

A letter has been received from Bill Kennedy, chairman of AMRRC, requesting financial support of £4,000 from Council to help with the establishment costs of this new sports venture. Approximately two thirds of the proposed road racing circuit is in the Ballymoney area, the remainder is in the Moyle District area. Moyle Council has also been asked to contribute £4000.

The club hopes to receive support from, and involve, the local community, Councils, Government Agencies and other race organisers. The club started in September 2007 with the main aim of establishing a Road Race in the area. It has around 100 members, with 200 members predicted by 08/09. The club enjoys the support of the organisers of the NW200, as they believe another road race will enhance the NW200 and put Northern Ireland even more firmly on the map as a premier destination for road racing fans. The club aims to run the first race on the new road circuit in 2009.

Full details of the request and the club's plans were circulated for members' attention.

The funding of £8,000 is to cover company set up, business planning, training, website development, ICT equipment and some running costs including organisation of fundraising events.

Council has powers in this regard from The Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, as amended. The relevant section is 10(1)(c) which states that:

Each district council shall secure the provision for its area of adequate facilities for recreational, social, physical and cultural activities and for that purpose may, either alone or together with another district council or any other person ... assist, by financial contribution or otherwise, any person to establish, maintain and manage any such facilities or to organise any such activities;...

The committee has previously considered requests from St Mary's GAC, Rasharkin and Riding for the Disabled for capital funding to support their development plans and deferred both to this meeting.

Committee is invited to consider this request from AMRRC and make a **recommendation** to Council.

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

to invite the Armoyn Motorcycle Road Racing Club to make a presentation to the committee to allow members to further consider the application.

339.5 LEGENDS OF ROAD RACING EXHIBITION

As part of the Legends of Road Racing exhibition, which will run 3rd -31st May, it has been suggested that the Council considers opening Sunday the 18th May 2008 11.00am -5.00pm to accommodate potential visitors who will be attracted into Ballymoney town due to the free breakfast on offer in the Methodist church hall at 10.30am.

It is felt that by opening additional hours (11am –5pm) instead of 1pm –5pm on the above date the economic benefit and increased footfall will be achieved for the Museum and TIC.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the TIC & Museum open on Sunday 18th May 2008, 11.00am – 5.00pm.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly seconded by Councillor Cavlan:

to recommend that the TIC and Museum open on Sunday 18th May 2008, 11.00 am – 5.00 pm.

Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Finlay expressed their objection to the proposal.

The Chair put the motion to the meeting.

4 members voted in favour and 5 members voted against.

The Chair declared the motion lost.

339.6 JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE FITNESS SUITE – PARTNERSHIP

At Committee meeting on 18 September 2007 the Director of Central and Leisure Services advised members of the current partnership arrangement and reported on various options for members to consider. Committee agreed that the options be considered by Leisure Projects Working Group at a meeting on Tuesday 25th September 2007 at 2.30pm and a recommendation brought to Council.

The Working Group's recommendation "*that the existing partnership with Pulse Fitness be extended for a further three years, with the option to extend for up to 2 more years, subject to clarification regarding procurement policy*" was adopted by Council at its meeting on 1st October 2007 (Ref. CM467)

The Chief Executive advised committee that legal advice had been received from the Solicitor employed by Derry City Council. Having analysed the value of the works, supplies and services aspects of the proposed contact and based on that advice, it is clear that the contact for the three year term recommended by the committee can be regarded as a 'Leisure Services Contract' under the Public Contract Regulations 2006 and therefore can be excluded from the EU public procurement regime.

The council's procurement policy requires that "where the estimated value of goods or services is ... in excess of £10,000 public tenders must be invoked." However, the legal advice is that there may be circumstances that would justify stepping outside the Council's procurement regime and in such cases the "a robust, rational, detailed report setting out carefully analysed justification for such a proposal should be presented to the Council and a clear unambiguous resolution obtained from the Council authorising the proposed action."

The Chief Executive referred to the report received by the committee in September 2007 setting out three options: (A) a modified agreement with Pulse, the existing service supplier; (B) re-tendering; or (C) returning to in-house provision. The committee was asked to consider, in the light of the legal advice received, if it recommends that the Council's procurement policy be set aside in this instance and that the new terms on offer from Pulse be accepted.

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

to recommend that Option A, a modified agreement with Pulse, the existing provider, be adopted.

339.7 ULSTERBUS DAY TOURS FOR SUMMER PROGRAMME

The Tourism Officer has invited the day tour to stop off in Ballymoney during their Summer programme. Five dates have been confirmed during July to September 2008.

This will have economic benefit for the TIC and businesses within the town.

339.8 ACTIVE COMMUNITIES FINAL REPORT OCTOBER 2004 TO SEPTEMBER 2007

The Northern Partnership for Physical Activity has produced their final report for Active Communities supported by the Big Lottery fund. Members will be aware that Ballymoney is one of 10 local councils who sit on the committee and has benefited considerably over the years by various programmes and initiatives delivered within our Borough. They are follows.

- Walking for health initiative
- Tackling childhood obesity
- Inclusive Physical Activity
- Physical Activity Promotions

Over the three years the committee has seen improvement in the level of physical activity within the Northern Health & Social Care Trust and the above programmes have impacted on 17,877 people from all sectors of the community regardless of gender, race, age or religion.

339.9 DUNLOY ACCORDION BAND – LONDON TRIP

Council has received a letter of thanks from the committee and members for Dunloy Accordion Band for financial support to attend this year's Lord Mayor's Show held in London.

The letter reports that the trip was a great success for the band as they were complimented on their playing ability, marching and deportment. Further support was shown by the crowd who showed encouragement along the route which attracts over 500,000 spectators and is watched by millions on TV.

339.10 BALLYMONEY MOTOR CYCLE SHOW – JDLC – 7th & 8th March 2008

The Head of Leisure Services read to the committee a letter received from David Loudon requesting sponsorship by way of facility hire. It was proposed by Alderman Cousley, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

to recommend that the cost of facility hire be funded by Council.

339.11 COMMUNITY SUPPORT PLAN

Community Support Plan has been approved by DSD and a letter confirming the offer of funding is expected within a few days. It was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

that the Community Support Plan funding be discussed at the next meeting.

*Head of Leisure Services retired from the meeting the time being 8.15 pm.

*Director of Borough Services joined the meeting the time being 8.15 pm.

AMENITIES**339.12 ANTRIM COAST & GLENS AONB – DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

In early December two draft documents were received by Council –

1. Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Management Plan 2008-2013 STRATEGY and
2. Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Management Plan 2008-2013 ACTION PLAN

The draft documents, to which a response has been invited by 4th February 2008, have been considered. As there is also a 'development' dimension it has been concluded that the business be dealt with via the Councils Consultation Committee.

339.13 LOUGH NEAGH & LOWER BANN MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Correspondence has been received from the Environment & Heritage Service which intimates –

1. that Magherafelt District Council no longer wishes to act as the employing authority for the secretarial function of the LNLB management structure beyond 31st March 2008;
2. the role principally involves the employment of the Liason Officer and any support staff and the drawing of funds from the two departments and the other eight local authorities; and
3. Council would be reimbursed for the services sought (5% of the total cost of the management structure)

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

to recommend that Council do not act as an employing authority for Lough Neagh & Lower Bann Management Structure.

339.14 PLAY AREA SURVEY

Two further play area surveys have been completed in order to augment the work reported on previously at LAC 338 (18.12.07). The survey findings in respect of proposed play area at 1. Derrykeighan and 2. Druckendult are as follows ;-

Derrykeighan

46 households surveyed of which 10 have children – 19 children (5 under 3yrs, 14 aged 3 to 12 plus 23 grandchildren). There are also 2 registered childminders looking after 7 children.

Druckendult

41 households surveyed of which 8 have children – 16 children (6 under 3years, 10 aged 3 to 12 plus 5 grandchildren). There is a registered childminder looking after 10 children.

The Director also intimated that a number of those surveyed at Druckendult had indicated that were Council to provide a play area facility it ought to be on the New Park side of the road. He advised that this would rule out Council further pursuing land under the control of NI Water and that there had been difficulty in identifying land near the majority of the houses.

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

that the Play Area Survey findings be deferred to be considered further in this years Rates' Estimates process.

339.15 AMENITIES BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT RATES ESTIMATES

1. Contribution to Lower Bann Partnership Limited (£5,000).
2. Contribution to Lough Neagh & Lower Bann Management Structure (£5,000).
3. Possible Local Environmental Improvement Grant Scheme aimed at Borough Community Associations.
4. Play Area Upgrade?
5. Carnany & Killyrammer Kickabout Areas Upgrades?
6. Amenities vehicles/plant

All of the underlined information has not as yet been conveyed to Members –

- a) 4.75t 3 way tipper – replacement for MDZ 6028 (1992).
- b) 'Small' 45hp hydrostatic tractor with loader.
- c) Replacement van for XDZ 5210 (1997).
- d) Sand Cart.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

