

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 381 in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at 7.00pm.

**IN THE CHAIR:** Alderman F Campbell

**PRESENT:** **Aldermen**  
H Connolly  
C Cousley, MBE, Deputy Mayor

**Councillors**  
A Cavlan  
J Finlay  
R Halliday  
B Kennedy, Mayor  
M McCamphill  
C McLaughlin  
A Patterson  
E Robinson  
I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES:** **Councillors**  
P McGuigan  
M Storey, MLA

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Director of Central & Leisure Services [Items 1-10]  
Director of Borough Services [Item 11-17]  
Committee Clerk

**381.1 MINUTES MEETING LAC 380 – 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011**

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

*to recommend that the minutes of LAC 380 – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2011, as circulated, be approved.*

\* **Councillor Patterson joined the meeting at 7.02pm.**

**LEISURE SERVICES****381.2 RIADA PRE 1950 CAR CLUB – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Riada Pre 1950 Car Club has written to the Council advising that they are having their annual display of vintage cars at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011, and requesting financial support with the cost of hiring the Leisure Centre facilities.

Council has previously supported the club with the cost of hiring the Leisure Centre facilities. Committee is invited to consider the request.

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

***to recommend that Council contribute £550 to the Riada Pre 1950 Car Club to cover the cost of the hire of the Leisure Centre facilities for a two-day event to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011.***

### **381.3 MARY PETERS TRUST – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Dame Mary Peters, President of the Mary Peters Trust has written to the council seeking financial support in 2011/12 towards the Trusts Sporting Awards Programme.

In 2010 the Trust disbursed over £60,000 to 200 young people representing over 30 sports. Awards were made to two young athletes who live in the Borough.

Committee is invited to consider the request.

It was proposed by Councillor Cavlan, seconded by Councillor Kennedy;

to recommend that Council grant £200 to the Mary Peters Trust in 2011/12 towards the Trusts Sporting Awards programme.

Councillor Finlay suggested that as Council already contributes to the Sports Advisory Committee which financially assists sporting young people from the Borough, committee should NOTE the request.

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

to recommend that Council NOTE the request from Dame Mary Peters, President of the Mary Peters Trust, seeking financial support in 2011/12 towards the Trusts Sporting Awards Programme.

#### **\* Alderman Cousley joined the meeting at 7.16pm.**

In response to a question, the Director clarified that such a financial contribution would come out of the Leisure Contributions budget, in which this request had not been budgeted for in 2011/12.

Councillor Kennedy suggested that a letter should be written to the President of the Mary Peters Trust advising that Council also provide a budget for sporting people within the borough.

#### **\* Councillor Stevenson joined the meeting at 7.19pm.**

Councillor Cavlan withdrew her proposal on the basis that the financial request had not been budgeted for.

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

***to recommend that Council NOTE the request from Dame Mary Peters, President of the Mary Peters Trust, seeking financial support in 2011/12 towards the Trusts Sporting Awards Programme.***

### **381.4 OCEAN YOUTH TRUST IRELAND – REQUEST FOR BURSARY FOR TALL SHIPS 2011**

The Chief Executive of Ocean Youth Trust Ireland has written to the Mayor seeking funding or part funding for a bursary for one young person from the Borough to take part in Tall

Ships 2011 which are coming to Waterford in July 2011. The Ocean Youth Trust delivers skills development programmes through sailing based activities and has the full licence to allow them to participate in the 2011 Tall Ships Race,

The cost of the bursary is –  
Greenock – Waterford £800  
Waterford – Lerwick £1,100

Ocean Youth Trust will assist the Council with the selection of a candidate.

Committee is invited to consider the request.

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

***to recommend that Council NOTE the request from the Chief Executive of Ocean Youth Trust Ireland seeking funding for a bursary for one young person from the Borough to take part in Tall Ships 2011.***

### **381.5 GOOD RELATIONS GRANTS**

The following applications for grants were considered:

- i. Ballymoney Community Resource Centre for assistance towards “We hold up half the Sky” Conference. Amount requested £350.00;
- ii. Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots for assistance towards Cultural Talks from a Multi Cultural Perspective. Amount requested £350.00;
- iii. Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots for assistance towards an Ulster Scots Cultural event. Amount requested £350.00;
- iv. Eden Accordion Band for assistance towards a Community Development Project. Amount requested £350.00;
- v. Cloughmills & District Fife & Drum Club for assistance towards a Historical Tour. Amount requested £350.00;
- vi. Glebeside Community Association for assistance towards Cultural Celebrations. Amount requested £350.00;
- vii. Garryduff Flute Band for assistance towards a St. Patricks Celebration. Amount requested £350.00;
- viii. Stranocum & District Development Group for assistance towards Stranocum Youths Football Tour. Amount requested £350.00.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the above 8 groups are granted £350.00 each.

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

***to recommend that Council grant £350 each to (i) Ballymoney Community Resource Centre for assistance towards “ We hold up half the Sky” Conference, (ii) Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots for assistance towards Cultural Talks from a Multi Cultural Perspective, (iii) Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots for assistance towards an Ulster Scots Cultural event, (iv) Eden Accordion Band for assistance towards a Community Development Project, (v) Cloughmills & District Fife & Drum Club for assistance towards a Historical Tour, (vi) Glebeside Community Association for assistance towards Cultural Celebrations, (vii) Garryduff Flute Band for assistance towards a St. Patricks***

***Celebration, (viii) Stranocum & District Development Group for assistance towards Stranocum Youths Football Tour.***

**381.6 GOOD RELATIONS STRATEGY 2011 – 2014**

In collaboration with the other 3 Councils in the Causeway Cluster, Consultants were appointed to undertake an audit of the 4 Council areas and assist with the development of a new 3-year strategy. A very successful workshop was held on 8<sup>th</sup> February at which members participated in the development of the new strategy and action plan.

The Draft Strategy and Action Plan were circulated.

Committee is invited to consider the draft Strategy and Action Plan and the Director would welcome comments before the next committee meeting, to be tabled again at the March Committee meeting.

Councillor Finlay stated that he had questions to ask regarding information in the draft strategy and shall approach the Director himself to obtain further information. The Director reiterated that she would welcome comments from members on both the draft strategy and action plan.

It was agreed that the Strategy and Action Plan would be tabled again for the March Committee meeting.

**381.7 COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT SCHEME**

The Council at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 set a budget of £3,000 for a Community Support Grant Scheme for 2011/12.

Draft Guidance Notes and an Application Form for the Grant Scheme were circulated.

Committee is invited to consider the documents to be used under the 2011/12 Grant Scheme and make a recommendation to Council.

The Director drew members' attention to the Grant Criteria and Conditions of Grant. Members agreed the Grant Criteria and Conditions of Grant except for the amount of grant and the number of applications a group could make in the year.

The Director clarified that under the previous scheme applicants could receive up to £100 twice a year. Councillor Robinson suggested that £100 had become inadequate in the current climate of price rises. A discussion ensued on changes to the Conditions of Grant.

**Motion One**

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Alderman Connolly:

to recommend that Council grant up to £100 per application and that groups may apply only once per year.

**Motion Two**

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

to recommend that Council grant up to £200 per application and that groups may apply only once per year.

The Chair put Motion One to the committee, 2 voted for, 8 voted against, Chair declared the motion lost. Chair put Motion Two to the committee, 8 voted for, none against.

The Chair declared Motion 2 carried:

***to recommend that Council grant up to £200 per application and that groups may apply once per year.***

The Director also queried whether members were content with the condition that, "All events/projects must take place within Ballymoney area – with the exception of trips which must take place within Northern Ireland".

Chair suggested that the criteria be addressed at the next committee meeting.

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

to recommend that Council remove the part of the Conditions of Grant criteria stating, "with the exception of trips (which must take place within N. Ireland)".

The Chair invited committee to vote, 4 voted for, 6 voted against, Chair declared the motion lost.

The Director clarified therefore that the existing condition will still apply.

\* **Councillor Kennedy left the meeting at 8.15pm.**

#### **381.8 FIRE AT JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE**

The Director advised that as previously reported to Council the refurbishment of the Health Suite is being dealt with through the Councils Insurers. In order to expedite the process of the refurbishment so that the facility is operational as quickly as possible the insurers have recommended that the original select list of Contractors for the project be used. The insurers have nominated 2 companies to be included on the select list.

It is therefore recommended that the Councils procurement policy be set aside for this project.

Subject to Council approval contractors would be invited to tender on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011, with a contract being awarded on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and work commencing soon thereafter.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the following 6 companies form the select list and be invited to tender for the project:

- i. JS Dunlop, 48 Kirk Road, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim
- ii. JPM Contracts Limited, 79 Main Street, Dungiven, Co. Londonderry
- iii. Martin & Hamilton Limited, 46 Doury Road, Ballymena, Co. Antrim
- iv. TAL Limited, Tal House, Lissue road, Lisburn, Co. Antrim
- v. J A Gable & Co Limited, 38 Park Road, Strabane, Co. Tyrone
- vi. O'Neill & Brady, 39 Gortgonis Road, Coalisland, Co. Tyrone

In advance of the main refurbishment contract the Insurers have recommended an enabling contract of work.

The Director advised that three companies were invited to tender for the works. The tenders were evaluated by the Councils Consultants, R Robinson & Sons, who have recommended that the tender from JS Dunlop, 48 Kirk Road, Ballymoney in the amount of £17,390.00 be accepted, subject to the Insurance Company approval.

\* **Councillor Cavlan left the meeting at 8.28pm.**

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

***to recommend to Council:***

***(a) that Councils procurement policy be set aside for the refurbishment project;***

***(b) that the following 6 companies form the select list for works to be carried out at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre and be invited to tender for the refurbishment contract:***

***(i) JS Dunlop, 48 Kirk Road, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim,***

***(ii) JPM Contracts Limited, 79 Main Street, Dungiven, Co. Londonderry,***

***(iii) Martin & Hamilton Limited, 46 Doury Road, Ballymena, Co. Antrim,***

***(iv) TAL Limited, Tal House, Lissue Road, Lisburn, Co. Antrim,***

***(v) J A Gable & Co Limited, 38 Park Road, Strabane, Co. Tyrone,***

***(vi) O'Neill & Brady, 39 Gortgonis Road, Coalisland, Co. Tyrone.***

***(c) that Council accept the tender from JS Dunlop, 48 Kirk Road, Ballymoney in the amount of £17,390.00 for the enabling contract, subject to the Insurance Company approval.***

Alderman Connolly expressed his appreciation on behalf of a constituent and a user of the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, whom complimented staff thoroughly on how the fire evacuation was dealt with. The Director advised that the Fire Officer had commended staff on the evacuation and on directing the Fire Service to a rear entrance to gain access to the incident as directly as possible.

\* **Councillor Cavlan left the meeting at 8.28pm.**

### **381.9 CAPITAL PROJECTS 2011/12**

The Director advised that the Council at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 approved the undernoted projects for 2011/12 –

- i. Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Swimming Pool Filtration Upgrade
- ii. Synthetic Pitch Carpet Replacement
- iii. Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Car park Resurface

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the Council's Consultants are engaged to draw up schemes for the projects to commence the delivery of the projects.

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

***to recommend that Council's Consultants are engaged to draw up schemes for:***

***(i) Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Swimming Pool Filtration Upgrade,***

***(ii) Synthetic Pitch Carpet Replacement,***

***(iii) Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Car park Resurface and to commence the delivery of the projects.***



### 381.10 ARMOY ROAD RACE 2011

The Director reminded members that a request for financial assistance from Armoy Motorcycle Road Racing Club had been referred to the Rates Estimate meeting for a decision, no decision was made but the full Leisure Contributions budget was retained for 2011/12.

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

***to recommend that Council grant £1,000 to Armoy Motorcycle Road Racing Club towards its Race of Legends to be held on 29 and 30 July 2011.***

- \* **Councillor Stevenson left the meeting at 8.33pm.**
- \* **Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 8.34pm.**
- \* **Director of Borough Services arrived at the meeting at 8.35pm.**

## AMENITIES

### 381.11 MATTERS ARISING

#### 11.1 Glebeside MUGA (380.5)

The Director advised that he had written to Glebeside Community Association on 8<sup>th</sup> February asking that it confirm as soon as possible that it is content that the proposed facility replace the kickabout area situated at Alexandra Avenue and also that this site is the appropriate location in the Community Association's view for the facility it has lobbied Council to provide. He advised that in order to progress the project, assuming for the moment that the suggested site was satisfactory, it was necessary that members clarify both the size of the facility to be provided and whether or not same was to be floodlit. Following discussion, the Director suggested that he would liaise with the Council's two reps. on the community association to obtain the necessary clarification and this was accepted.

#### 11.2 Dervock 2012 Olympic Initiative (380.7)

Director advised that having made the necessary arrangements, the inaugural meeting of the Dervock 2012 Joint Working Group would be held at Riada House on 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 2.30pm.

He further advised concerning a request from Dervock and District Community Association regarding the provision of an Ulster History Circle commemorative Blue Plaque, which would cost £800, being erected in honour of Kennedy Kane McArthur and sought members initial views. From the ensuing discussion it was apparent that members were very supportive of such a proposal and were in agreement that the matter be further discussed at the inaugural meeting of the Dervock 2012 Joint Working Group.

### 381.12 TRANSLINK ULSTER IN BLOOM 2011

Council has been invited to submit entries in the Translink Ulster in Bloom competition in 2011.

As in previous years, **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Ballymoney is nominated in the town category and Stranocum in the village category of the Translink Ulster in Bloom competition 2011.

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

***to recommend to Council that Ballymoney is nominated in the town category and Stranocum in the village category of the Translink Ulster in Bloom competition 2011.***

### **381.13 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS**

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

Section I4 No. 12

All Polished Granite Headstone & Base.

Section I4 No. 8

Black 'OG' Design Headstone & Base

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

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

***to recommend that Council grant permission for the above memorials to be erected in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to usual requirements.***

### **381.14 CLASSIFICATION AND NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ANTRIM HILLS SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA IN THE REGISTER OF EUROPEAN SITES**

NIEA has written to give Council notice that Antrim Hills Special Protection Area (SPA) which was classified as such on 31 March 2006 was entered into the Register of European Sites on 29 September 2010.

The Register is maintained by NI Environment Agency as required by the provisions of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations (NI) 1995 (as amended). Council has been notified as having been identified by NIEA as being an owner or occupier of land included in the SPA.

In response to a request from Councillor Cavlan, the Director shall furnish a map of the way-marked hill walks and habitat at Altarichard Forest, Armoy.

### **381.15 MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

#### **15.1 Greengage Lane Tunnel**

Councillor Finlay advised that he had received a complaint in respect of the tunnel at Riverside Park being implicated in an incident of anti-social behaviour at Greengage Lane and queried the possibility of erecting gates to close off the tunnel under the railway line or alternately introducing better lighting of that area. The

Director advised, as he had mentioned at the previous meeting, that to gate the tunnel would cost in the region of £4,000 plus the on-going cost of caretaking [to open and close the gates each day, every day]. Councillor Cavlan suggested that the matter was really a policing issue. The Director advised that given the additional information provided by Councillor Finlay at the meeting he would liaise with his DPP Manager in order to quantify the extent of any anti-social behaviour which in the view of the PSNI the tunnel was a contributory factor.

### **15.2 Riverside Park – Path Lighting**

Councillor Finlay commented on the fact that pupils who take a short-cut through Riverside Park find that it is very poorly lit in the winter months. The Director reminded members that a proposed Riverside Park Path Lighting Scheme was discussed in November 2008 and as members might recall as part of the contract to upgrade the shared use cycle/footway at phase one of Riverside Park cost information had been obtained. The cost estimate then for the provision of lighting throughout the linear park was £163,420 plus fees. He further advised that Council had subsequently determined not to progress the matter and indeed had also made savings by removing the lighting option from the contract previously referred to.

\* **Councillor Patterson left the meeting at 9.00pm.**

### **15.3 Football Pitch at Finvoy**

Councillor Finlay queried the possibility of Council providing a football pitch at Finvoy. The Director advised that the provision of a full sized pitch at Finvoy would entail Council acquiring the necessary land as it had none in that area which would be suitable. He reminded members of the work that had been completed in recent years by Council as regards both the provision of new pitches and indeed the upgrade of others, together with necessary changing accommodation, throughout the Borough and the plans Council already had for two further pitches, including a floodlit 3G facility, at Riada Playing Fields which would complete the development of that site. He also pointed to the changes presently being advocated in respect of youth soccer by the Football Association; that body arguing that 5-aside and 7-aside pitches were preferred in order to best develop necessary sport skills.

### **15.4 Ballymoney Festive Lighting Scheme**

Notwithstanding that at the last Committee it had been recommended that party leaders come to the present meeting with suggestions, the Director advised that this position had now been overtaken by events in that on 9<sup>th</sup> February when Council had determined the budget for 2011-2012 it had thereby accepted that the present scheme be continued. Councillor Finlay expressed his disappointment at recent adverse publicity surrounding the present Ballymoney festive lighting scheme. The Director advised that he had written to the Chamber of Commerce and suggested that for 2011 the cost of electricity would be split in a different way than had previously been the case. He then informed the meeting that presently work was on-going to revise documentation, advertise for a contractor select list and have the work tendered and would keep Committee advised as to progress.

**381.16 SPORT NI – STADIUM SAFETY URGENT WORK FUNDING**

The Director advised that following a second tendering round, Council on 7<sup>th</sup> February received from Sport NI its permission to proceed with works at Riada Stadium to be funded via the Infrastructural Strand of the SSUW Scheme. He reminded members that whilst Sport NI had taken five months to issue its latest permission to proceed notice, it expected Council to deliver the total project in the seven weeks left in the present financial year and that as the two strands were interdependent this was an extremely tight timeline. He also made it clear that both the infrastructural and equipment strands must be complete by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 in order to draw down the funding circa. £60,000 promised by Sport NI.

The Chair commended the Director on having secured the Sport NI funding noting the considerable work involved and expressed his delight regarding the benefit this would be to the Council's excellent facilities at Riada Stadium.

**381.17 AMENITIES ELECTRICITY**

The Director advised that work was being progressed to tender amenities electricity in order to give price certainty from 1<sup>st</sup> April. As it was not possible to combine with the JDLC due to its present contractual commitments, prices were being invited on a 1 + 1 basis. He intimated that tenders would be returned on 25<sup>th</sup> February to enable a report to be placed before Council at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

**This being all the business the meeting closed at 9.19pm.**