

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 383 held in the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre on Tuesday 12th April 2011 at 7.00pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Alderman F Campbell

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

Councillors
J Finlay
R Halliday
M McCamphill
E Robinson
I Stevenson

APOLOGIES: **Aldermen**
J Simpson

Councillors
A Cavlan
M Storey, MLA

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Central & Leisure Services [Items 1-8]
Deputy Director of Borough Services [Items 9-19]
Committee Clerk

383.1 MINUTES OF LAC 383 – 15TH MARCH 2011

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

to recommend that the minutes of LAC 383 – 15th March 2011, as circulated, be approved.

LEISURE SERVICES**383.2 HEALTH SUITE REFURBISHMENT**

The Director advised that the six companies that formed the select list for the Health Suite Refurbishment Project all returned their tenders by the closing date of 1st April 2011. The tenders were opened by the Chairman of Committee and Director of Central & Leisure Services and forwarded to the Council Consultants for evaluation and report.

The reports received from Earl Lewis Limited and Cogan & Shackleton were circulated at the meeting.

The Director advised that the tender report was also made available to the Councils Insurers and that the Insurers had confirmed that they are content with the Consultant's recommendation for the lowest tender to proceed with the repairs.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the lowest tender received, that from J S Dunlop, in the amount of £338,664.97 be accepted to carry out the repairs to the Health Suite.

The Director detailed to members the work undertaken to date and the timescale for the repair works and advised that she hoped the Health Suite would be open again by September.

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

to recommend that Council accept the lowest tender received, that from J S Dunlop in the amount of £338.664.97, to carry out the repairs to the Health Suite.

383.3 COMMUNITY FESTIVAL FUND 2011/12

The Department of Culture Arts & Leisure (DCAL) has written to the Council offering £4,000.00 of grant under the Community Festival Fund for 2011/12. The grant is to be matched by Council.

The Council, when setting the budgets for 2011/12 established a Community Festivals Fund budget of £8,000.00 - £4,000.00 from council and £4,000.00 from DCAL.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the offer of grant of £4,000.00 from DCAL is accepted.

A call for applications to the 2011/12 Community Festival Fund will be publicly advertised week commencing 11th April 2011, with a closing date for receipt of application of 6th May 2011.

The applications will be tabled for consideration at the May Committee meeting.

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

to recommend that the offer of grant of £4,000.00 from DCAL is accepted.

383.4 GOOD RELATIONS GRANTS

The following application for grant has been received –

- i. Fuse FM for assistance towards an Ulster Scots Community Radio Station.
Amount requested £350.00

IT IS RECOMMENDED that £350.00 is granted to Fuse FM.

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Halliday and
AGREED:

to recommend that Council grant £350.00 to Fuse FM for assistance towards an Ulster Scots Community Radio Station.

383.5 COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS

The following applications for grants have been received.

- I. Ballymoney Ornithological Association for assistance towards Annual Open Show of cage birds. Amount requested £200.00.
- II. Ballymoney Old Vehicle Club for assistance towards Family Day & Vintage Rally for assistance towards an Ulster Scots Community Radio Station. Amount requested £250.00.
- III. Ballymoney District of Inner Wheel for assistance towards Annual Rally. Amount Requested £200.00.
- IV. North Antrim Horticultural Association for assistance towards Annual Show. Amount requested £200.00.
- V. Dunloy Development Association for assistance towards a cultural trip to Derry. Amount requested £200.00.
- VI. Ballymoney Branch Royal British League Womans Section for assistance towards a trip to Newry. Amount requested £200.00.
- VII. North Antrim Cultural Society for assistance towards a History event. Amount requested £200.00.
- VIII. Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots Society for assistance towards a programme of Bag Pipe lessons. Amount requested £200.00.
- IX. Fuse FM Ballymoney for assistance towards training equipment for the community radio station. Amount requested £200.00.
- X. Ullans Speakers Association for assistance towards a programme of Fiddle lessons. Amount requested £200.00.
- XI. N.I Fife Fancy Canary Club for assistance towards the Clubs 20th Anniversary Show. Amount Requested £200.00.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the above 11 groups are granted £200.00 each.

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

to recommend that the above 11 groups, as outlined, are granted £200.00.

383.6 K.K. MCARTHUR – OLYMPIC GOLD 1912 – 2012

An application has been submitted to the “Your Heritage” scheme of the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant towards a K.K. McArthur – Olympic Gold 1912 – 2012 project.

The project will have two main aims –

- The loan of the K.K. McArthur collection from Potchefstroom Museum to Ballymoney Museum for a public exhibition June – September 2012 (inclusive).

- To encourage community involvement in sport in Ballymoney and Potchefstroom and highlight the importance of the London 2012 Olympic games.

The total cost of the project will be approximately £24,000.00 and will include:

- Secure transport of the artefacts to and from Potchefstroom Museum, South Africa, accompanied by a curator.
- Educational activities for local schools.
- Links between pupils in William Pinkerton Memorial School and in Potchefstroom.
- Publication of a booklet on McArthur's story and public lecture by Riel Hauman, South African sports historian.

A grant of 90% of eligible cost is available from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Council's 10% of the cost will be included in Museums Exhibition budget for 2012/13. A response from Heritage Lottery Fund is anticipated by September/October 2011.

Councillor Robinson stated that Dervock's application should be fully supported. Alderman Connolly concurred with Councillor Robinson's comments.

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

to recommend that Council support, in principle, the two main aims of the application submission to the "Your Heritage" scheme of the Heritage Lottery project, namely; (i) the loan of the K.K. McArthur collection from Potchefstroom Museum, South Africa, to Ballymoney Museum for a public exhibition June – September 2012 (inclusive) and (ii) to encourage community involvement in sport in Ballymoney and Potchefstroom and highlight the importance of the London 2012 Olympic games.

* **Councillor Finlay joined the meeting at 7.26pm.**

383.7 GAS CONTRACT 2011/12 – JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE

The Director advised that the gas contract for the Leisure Centre and Riada Stadium has been renewed with effect from 1st April 2011 for a 3 month period. The price per kilowatt hour has increased by 38%. The budget increase for 2011/12 was 5%.

Advice indicates that the significant increase is due to the disaster in Japan and the ongoing unrest in Libya.

The usage and price of all utilities will be closely monitored and a further report will be brought to committee in due course.

The Director answered a number of member queries in relation to the gas contract price increase.

* **Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 7.33pm during consideration of the above matter.**

- * **Councillor Finlay left the meeting at 7.33pm and returned to the meeting at 7.36pm during consideration of the above matter.**

383.8 ACTIVE COMMUNITIES PROJECT

The Director advised that the Council in February 2009 agreed to join with the other 3 Councils In the Causeway Cluster and submit an application to Sport Northern Ireland, for funding for Sports Coaches under the Active Communities Programme. Limavady Borough Council had agreed to act as Lead Council on the project.

While the Review of Public Administration did not proceed in 2011, Sport Northern Ireland has continued with their Active Communities Programme on the 11 Council Model basis.

Sport Northern Ireland has made an indicative offer to Limavady Borough Council, as Lead Council for the Causeway Cluster of financial assistance of £719,150.00 for a 4 year period 1st April 2011 to 30th September 2014. Funding will be confirmed on an annual basis. Funding for Year 1, 2011/12 of £214,057.00 has been confirmed. This is 100% funding for 6 Sports Coaches, 4 Multi Skills/Multi Sports Coaches and 2 Disabilities Coaches across the 4 Councils, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Limavady and Moyle.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council continue with the Causeway Cluster Councils to deliver the Active Communities Project and accept the 100% funding for 1 Full Time Multi Skills/ Multi Sports Coach and one Part-Time Disabilities Coach.

In response to a question from Alderman Campbell, the Director advised that the post would not act as a catalyst for a future permanent post as it does not meet that criteria.

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

to recommend that Council continue with the Causeway Cluster Councils to deliver the Active Communities Project and accept the 100% funding for 1 Full Time Multi Skills/ Multi Sports Coach and one Part-Time Disabilities Coach.

Councillor Stevenson highlighted that this was a very good example of how the cluster group can work together.

- * **Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 7.49pm.**
- * **Deputy Director of Borough Services arrived at the meeting at 7.51pm.**

AMENITIES

383.9 USE OF RIVERSIDE PARK, BALLYMONEY

A request has been received from Cancer Research UK – Ballymoney Local Committee seeking to again use Riverside Park, Ballymoney, as a venue for its annual charity fun run/walk on Friday, 27th May 2011 – with the event to commence at 7.30pm.

Given the event's history of being well planned and organized and its charitable purposes **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council gives its approval and support to the request.

The Chair of the Ballymoney Local Committee has advised that the fun run held in 2010 in aid of Cancer Research was successful with £2,459 being raised.

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

to recommend that council grant the use Riverside Park, Ballymoney, to the Ballymoney Local committee of Cancer Research UK as a venue for its annual charity fun run/walk on Friday, 27th May 2011 – with the event to commence at 7.30pm.

383.10 USE OF DUNAGHY PLAYING FIELDS

A request has been received on behalf of Dunaghy Star & Garter RBP340 for permission to use the hard surface and toilets at Dunaghy Playing Fields on 20th May 2011 for the unfurling of the preceptory's new banner.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the request for the use of Council land and toilets at Dunaghy Playing Fields be granted.

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

to recommend that Council grant Dunaghy Star & Garter RBP340 use the hard surface and toilets at Dunaghy Playing Fields on 20th May 2011 for the unfurling of the preceptory's new banner.

383.11 CLOUGHMILLS PLAY AREA

Further to Minute LAC380.3 (18th January 2011) members are advised that a meeting took place on 3rd March involving some of the members representing Bann Valley, representatives of CAT and the residents living in the immediate vicinity of the present play area, together with PSNI officers and the Director.

It was explained to the meeting that Council accepted that the present play area facilities were unsatisfactory and that whilst it has made provision for replacement what was necessary was agreement on the location. The meeting considered residents continuing concerns and discussed four possible play area locations but did not achieve a consensus.

Subsequently CAT has written to Council to advise that having further discussed the issue as to where a play area for Cloughmills ought to be located that organization would favour the present location and believe that "with a new park, lights, CCTV and secure fence we really cannot see any issue arising with anti-social behaviour".

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee further consider the issue with a view to making a recommendation to Council.

Following debate members agreed that the location and funding of the project be further considered at the next committee meeting.

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

to recommend that Council defer a decision on the location of a play area in Cloughmills to the next committee meeting in May, and that a decision on its location is made at this meeting.

383.12 DERVOCK 2012 JOINT WORKING GROUP

The second meeting of the Dervock 2012 Joint Working Group was held at Riada House on 23rd March and were circulated at the meeting.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee note same.

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

to recommend that the minutes of the Dervock 2012 Joint Working Group, held at Riada House on 23rd March, as circulated, be approved.

383.13 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS

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

Section E2 No.5

Dark Grey Granite Headstone & Base

Section I3 No.108

All Polished Black Granite 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 Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Halliday and **AGREED:**

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

383.14 BALNAMORE & STRANOCUM COMMUNITY CENTRE TENDERS

The tenders received in respect of the above projects from the undernoted Select List Contractors were opened by the Committee Chair (Alderman Campbell) and the Director of Borough Services at 12.00 noon on 5th April and passed to the Council's consultants for evaluation and report –

Turkington Construction, Portadown
David Patton & Sons (NI) Limited, Ballymena
T & A Kernaghan Limited, Mallusk
Martin & Hamilton Limited, Ballymena
J S Dunlop Limited, Ballymoney
McLaughlin & Harvey Limited, Mallusk

The Council's consultants (Earl Lewis and Cogan & Shackleton) have considered the undernoted tenders received for the above project(s) –

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Tender Figure</u>
Martin & Hamilton Ltd, Ballymena	£638,855.00
McLaughlin & Harvey Ltd, Mallusk	£663,089.00
J.S. Dunlop Ltd, Ballymoney	£671,478.73
David Patton & Sons Construction Ltd, Ballymena	£694,000.00
Turkington Construction Ltd, Portadown	£730,200.42
T & A Kernaghan Ltd, Mallusk	£749,700.00

The Council's consultants conclusions are that:-

1. The M&E (mechanical & electrical) installations tender elements are fair and reasonable reflecting a competitive tender; and
2. the tender submitted by Martin & Hamilton in the sum of £638,855 and the supporting priced Bill of Quantities is extremely competitive but can be used for valuations and adjustment of variations.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council accept the tender submitted by Martin & Hamilton Limited, Ballymena, in the sum of £638,855, for the provision of community centres at Balnamore and Stranocum and associated works, that loan sanction be obtained from DOE NI and that the project (s) be commenced.

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

to recommend that that Council accept the tender submitted by Martin & Hamilton Limited, Ballymena, in the sum of £638,855.00 for the provision of community centres at Balnamore and Stranocum and associated works, that loan sanction be obtained from DOE NI and that the project (s) be commenced.

383.15 RIVERSIDE PARK, BALLYMONEY

Committee is advised that the work to replace the retaining wall and path which collapsed at Riverside Park, Ballymoney, on 19th April 2009 was substantially complete at 31st March 2011 apart from the reinstatement of soft landscaping areas which have been temporarily fenced off. As a consequence the park path network is once again fully available to users.

383.16 RIADA STADIUM – SSUW PROJECTS

As members are aware Council secured funding from Sport NI under its Stadia Safety Urgent Works Programme in the sum of £58,972 in order to improve spectator safety management at the Council's Riada Stadium when the venue designated under the provisions of the Safety of Sports Grounds (NI) Order 2006 and subject to the Safety Certificate issued by Council is used for association football. The funded work has been completed within the very exacting time available, the claims submitted by the funder's deadline of 31st March and the facilities are available and fully functional.

383.17 NI WATER CHARGES UPLIFT

Correspondence has been received from NI Water (30th March 2011) advising that the 2011-2012 Scheme of Charges have been considered and formally approved by the Utility

Regulator. Generally speaking there is a 3% uplift in the charges for water services and a 4.7% increase in charges for sewerage services.

383.18 COUNTRYSIDE WALKS PROGRAMME 2011

The draft 2011 Countryside Walk Programme is as follows:-

1. Garry Bog	Thursday, 2 nd June
2. O'Harabrook/Balnamore Mill*	Wednesday, 8 th June
3. Movanagher Fish Farm/Vow*	Thursday, 16 th June
4. Culmore Farm*	Monday, 4 th July
5. Nordic Walk (JDLC/Riverside Park)*	Wednesday, 27 th July
6. Croaghan Half-Day Ramble	Saturday, 6 th August
7. Gruig Wind Farm (new)	Thursday, 11 th August
8. Lissanoure Castle Estate*	Thursday, 18 th August

(* = includes refreshments).

Members are asked to commend the proposed walks programme to constituents.

383.19 BIKE WEEK 18-26 JUNE – “TWO WEEKS TWO WHEELS”

Members are informed that Travelwise NI, a DRD initiative which seeks to promote sustainable modes of transport, is offering sponsorship match-funding support up to £1,400 for Bike Week events in June 2011. In Ballymoney it is hoped to expand on last year's popular 18 mile Lower Bann Cycle event, organised in conjunction with Coleraine Borough Council, to provide a small programme of cycle-based events in the Borough. Events under consideration which would meet both DRD and Connect2 targets include:

- A Lower Bann family cycle event;
- Cycle training sessions for returners to cycling;
- An event in at least one primary and one secondary school; and
- An event in conjunction with Ballymoney Cycle Club.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.08pm.