

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Leisure and Amenities Committee
Meeting No: 321 – 19th September 2006**

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- 321.13** **Festive Lighting** – *accept lowest tender received, that from Dowds Electrical in sum of £47,412*
- 321.14** **NITB Tourist Development Scheme Grant Application** – *submit planning application*
- 321.15** **Opening of Tenders** – *Council grant authority to the Committee Chair or Vice-Chair along with the Director of Borough Services or his nominee to open tenders received following their specified deadline for evaluation and report to Council.*
- 321.16** **Ballymoney Cemetery Memorials** – *erect memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to usual requirements*
- 321.17** **Amenities Charges – Riada Stadium -**
1. Charges for Riada Stadium - £60 per match or £40 per hour for other events plus and plus £20 per hour for flood lighting.
2. Charges for the hire of the Riada Training pitch - £32 per hour pro rata without floodlights and £41 per hour pro rata with floodlights.
3. Charges at Drumbolcan Park, Megaw Park and Riada 1 be increased by 50% and the charges at Balnamore, Dervock 1 & 2, Dunaghy and Dunloy be increased by 25%.
- 321.18** **“Connect 2” Big Lottery Living Landmarks Project** – *Fairhill Crossing Link Project to Sustrans as ‘Connect 2’ Project and R. Robinson and Sons in conjunction with Borough Services Directorate staff be asked to work up an expression of interest.*

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Leisure & Amenities Committee**

Minutes of Meeting No 321 held in Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, 33 Garryduff Road, Ballymoney on Tuesday, 19th September 2006 at 7:30 pm

IN THE CHAIR: Alderman F. Campbell

PRESENT

Aldermen
H. Connolly
C. Cousley
J. Simpson

Councillors
A. Cavlan
J. Finlay
M. McCamphill
D. McKay
T. McKeown
A. Patterson
E. Robinson

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Central and Leisure Services
[Items 1-11]
Director of Borough Services
Chief Executive
Clerical Assistant
R. Hunter – R. Robinson & Sons – [Item 3]
N. Robinson – R. Robinson & Sons – [Item 4]

321.1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Roy Wilson and Councillor Mervyn Storey.

321.2 MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 320 – 15th August 2006

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

that the minutes of the committee's last meeting No. 320, on 15th August 2006, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

321.3 JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE – HEALTH SUITE REFURBISHMENT & EXTENSION AND PROVISION OF SOFT PLAY AREA

Applications were invited, via public advertisement, for inclusion on a select list of tenderer's for the Health Suite Refurbishment & Extension & Provision of Soft Play Area works. Eleven applications were received, which were evaluated by the Councils consultants, R Robinson & Sons. The six highest scoring applicants were recommended for inclusion on the

select list from which tenders could be invited. The Council approved that these six companies form the select list on 5th June 2006.

The six companies were subsequently invited to tender for the works. The closing date for receipt of tenders is Wednesday 20th September 2006.

A letter dated 8th September 2006 addressed to the Members of Council, relating to the Health Suite Refurbishment & Extension & Provision of Soft Play Area works has been received from Hugh Taggart & Sons Ltd – copy of letter circulated, together with copy of a letter dated 25th August 2006 to the Chief Executive from Hugh Taggart & Sons Ltd and the reply from the Director of Central & Leisure Services.

The Chief Executive gave a timeline for the sequence of events relating to the select list and tendering process and advised that the Council had approved the six companies on the select list at its meeting on 5th June 2006.

Mr Hunter from R. Robinson and Sons explained that they worked under the Code of Procedure for Single Stage Selective Tendering, which stipulates that six is the maximum amount of contractors recommended for inclusion on the select list. He explained the evaluation criteria and the scores allocated to the companies.

A discussion ensued during which the Chief Executive advised that he would respond to the letter after the Council decision.

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

to recommend that Council endorse its decision of 5th June 2006 regarding the select list and continue with tender process.

Councillor Simpson requested that his opposition to the decision be noted and that he had not been canvassed by any outside party in connection with the project.

321.4 REJUVENATION OF SYNTHETIC PITCH TENDERS

Tenders for the rejuvenation of the Council's synthetic pitch were invited via an advertisement placed in the Belfast Telegraph. On 7th September the Committee Chair, together with the Director, opened the three tenders received (as undernoted) which were then passed to the Council's consultants for evaluation and report –

C A Haffey & Son Limited
2a Carn Court Road, Portadown BT63 5YX

DOE Sports (North) Limited
Scoonie Road, Leven, KY8 4SE

Crawford Contracts Limited
Woodside Road, Ballymena BT42 2GJ.

The report prepared by the Council's consultants R Robinson & Sons on the tenders received for the rejuvenation of the Council's synthetic pitch had been circulated to members.

Mr Robinson attended the meeting for this item of business and presented his report to the Committee. He made the following recommendation - that the lowest tender, that of Crawford Contracts Ltd, in the sum of £35,865, be accepted and suggested that the testing of the carpet be omitted from the contract.

During the ensuing discussion Mr Robinson dealt with members' queries. The Chief Executive advised that two courses of action were open to Council. It could either renew the synthetic carpet in its entirety at a cost of £150,000 to £200,000 as a neighbouring Council had chosen to do or it could rejuvenate the existing carpet at the cost now known due to the tendering process undertaken.

The Mayor queried how the project would be paid. The Director of Central & Leisure Services undertook to advise at the Council's next meeting regarding the options available to finance the rejuvenation work.

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

to recommend that Council accept the recommendation of R. Robinson & Sons to accept the lowest tender of Crawford Contracts Ltd, in the sum of £35,865 omitting the testing of the carpet from the contract.

Councillor Simpson requested that his opposition to the decision be noted on the grounds that he did not believe all the paperwork was in order.

321.5 Leisure Projects Working Group

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

to approve the minutes of the Leisure Projects Working Group meeting held on the 5th September 2006 as attached as Appendix A, be confirmed as a correct record.

321.6 Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre – Soft Play Area

Tenders were invited via public advertisement for the Soft Play Area. Two tenders were received and were opened by the Chair of Committee and the Director on 8th September 2006.

The two companies were invited to present their proposals for the soft play area to the Leisure Projects Working Group on Thursday 14th September 2006.

The report on the presentations is included in the minutes of the Leisure Projects Working group meeting of 14th September attached as Appendix B.

The Director with the use of some visual displays explained the proposed Soft Play Area.

After discussion it was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that the tender for the Soft Play Area be awarded to House of Play in the amount of £72,423.

to further recommend that House of Play also provide a reception desk in the amount of £1,250.

321.7 Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre – Health Suite Refurbishment & Extension and Provision of Soft Play Area – Main Contract Works

The Director advised that the closing date for receipt of tenders for the main contract works for the Health Suite Refurbishment and Extension is Wednesday 20th September 2006, and suggested that either the Committee or Working group meet to consider the report on the tenders prior to the Council meeting.

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

that the Leisure Projects Working Group meet to consider the tender report on 28th September at 2:30 pm and make a recommendation to the Council on 2nd October 2006.

321.8 Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre – 25th Anniversary Celebrations

The Council agreed at its August meeting to mark the 25th Anniversary of the opening of the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre.

The Director advised that it is planned to stage a Superstar Event and Fireworks Display on 27th October 2006, from 7.00 to 9.15pm. Superstars will commence at 7.00pm and finish at approximately 8.30pm. The Fireworks Display will take place after Superstars at approximately 9.00pm.

The Superstars Event will bring together 5 of the top male sports stars from the borough and 5 of the top female stars, in a competitive all round competition to find the Boroughs Superstar.

It was agreed that the event would be open to the public with free admission.

321.9 Active Ageing Big Lottery Programme

The Northern Partnership for Physical Activity (NPPA) has been awarded a grant of £30,000 from the Big Lottery Fund Active Lifestyles programme

to deliver an 'Active Ageing' physical activity project within the council areas of Newtownabbey, Carrickfergus, Antrim, Ballymoney, Ballymena and Magherafelt. In addition NPPA will contribute £15,000 to make a total of £45,000. This money will be divided between each council to deliver the programme within their area. The Council will be required to employ a part-time Active Ageing Co-ordinator for 10 hours per week and deliver a one year programme of physical activity for older people.

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

to recommend that Council accept the grant and deliver a one year Active Ageing programme.

Councillor McKeown left the meeting at 8:45pm

321.10 Ballymoney Community Resource Centre – request for financial assistance

The Ballymoney Community Resource Centre has written to the Council requesting financial support towards their Disability Programme in 2006/07.

The programme has secured funding to cover salaries but have no funding for rent and general administration expenditure.

After a lengthy discussion Councillor Cavlan proposed that Council contribute £3,210 from an underspend in Community Support Grant Funding from the previous year. This was seconded by Councillor McKay.

Councillor McCamphill proposed an amendment to this proposal that £1,000 be given to Ballymoney Community Resource Centre in the interim period until after the meeting with the Head of the Community Relations Unit, to see if further funding would be available. This was seconded by Alderman Connolly.

The Chairman put the amendment to the meeting with 3 voting for this proposal and 4 against. This proposal failed

The Chairman then put the original proposal to the meeting with 2 voting for this proposal and four against. This proposal failed.

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

to recommend to Council to defer the matter for one month.

321.11 Community Relations Grants

The following applications for Community Relations support were considered:

- 11.1 Ballymoney Community Resource Centre for assistance with a Training Initiative for Community Leaders.

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

to recommend that Council contribute £200 to Ballymoney Community Resource Centre for assistance with a training initiative for Community Leaders.

- 11.2 Stranocum Ulster Scots Cultural & Heritage Society for assistance with a Festival & Story Telling Event.

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

to recommend that Council contribute £200 to Stranocum Ulster Scots Cultural & Heritage Society for assistance with a Festival & Story Telling Event.

321.12 Community Support Grants

The following applications for Community Support Grants were considered:

- 12.1 Cramsie Court Residents' Associations for assistance with an Outing and Afternoon Tea.
- 12.2 Loughgiel Art Club for assistance with programme costs.
- 12.3 St Joseph's Primary School for assistance with the cost of participating in Young Voices Concert.
- 12.4 Balnamore & District Community Association for assistance to start up "The Mill Kids Club".
- 12.5 Cloughmills Senior Citizens Bowling Club for assistance with a Christmas Social.
- 12.6 Killyrammer & District Community Association for assistance with a Youth Development Project.

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

to recommend that Council contribute £100 each to all the above applicants.

321.13 FESTIVE LIGHTING

Council established a budget of £30,000 this year to undertake necessary upgrade work to its festive lighting scheme. The following work is proposed -

- discontinue using three of the heavier `Santa' features at Linenhall Street, Main Street and Victoria Street, which were fixed to buildings not owned by Council;
- replacement of all existing festoon cabling (which is at the end of its serviceable life) with new 110v cabling (which is safer for a temporary installation); and
- augment (funds permitting) individual post mounted features at Victoria Street.

Were Council to provide a further budget in 2007-2008 is proposed to –

- provide new “Welcome to Ballymoney” features at five locations, namely Castle Street, Queen Street, Market Street, Charles Street and High Street; and
- upgrade features at Castlecroft, Church Street and High Street.

Members were asked to note that an ad has been placed in the Belfast Telegraph inviting tenders for “the supply and erection of festoon lighting, illuminating features, decorative features and coloured garlands, Christmas tree lights and erection of public address system. These tenders were returned on 15th September and opened and furnished to the Council's consultants, Cogan & Shackleton for evaluation and report to Committee.

The Director of Borough Services spoke to the consultant's report tabled at the meeting explaining that the tenders invited related to the Council's Festive Lighting Scheme for 2006 and 2007 with possible extension for a further one or two years and that the Council's consultants recommended acceptance of the lowest tender received, that from Dowds Electrical in the sum of £47,412.

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

to recommend that Council accept the lowest tender, Dowds Electrical, 2 – 4 Milltown Road, Ballymoney, BT53 6LE in the sum of £47,412.

321.14 NITB TOURIST DEVELOPMENT SCHEME GRANT APPLICATION

Information on the above scheme, a capital project grant scheme for the period 2006-2008 was furnished on 1st September, with advice that application had to be returned by 5pm, on 8th September 2006.

Members were asked to note that an application has been submitted for 50% of the projected cost of the proposed multi-purpose building at Drumaheglis Marina & Caravan Park as the only capital project on the Council's `books'

which fitted the Northern Ireland Tourist Board's Tourist Development Scheme criteria. The grant being sought from NITB is £252,500.

In order that Council might be in a position to progress this project were its grant application to be successful, **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council now submit an application to the Planning Service for planning permission in respect of the proposed multi-purpose building at Drumaheglis Marina & Caravan Park.

During the discussion the Director of Borough Services advised that the fee to Planning Service would be £50. It was proposed by Councillor McKay, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and **AGREED:**

to recommend that Council now submit an application to the Planning Service for planning permission in respect of the proposed multi-purpose building at Drumaheglis Marina & Caravan Park.

321.15 OPENING OF TENDERS

The following policy recommendation is made to Council in respect of matters falling within the remit of the Borough Services Directorate which are also dealt with by the Council's Leisure & Amenities Committee.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that when tenders are invited, Council grant authority to the Committee Chair or Vice Chair together with the Director of Borough Services or his nominee to open the tenders received following their specified deadline for evaluation and report to Council.

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

to recommend to Council that when tenders are invited, Council grant authority to the Committee Chair or Vice Chair together with the Director of Borough Services or his nominee to open the tenders received following their specified deadline for evaluation and report to Council.

The Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 10:45 pm
Alderman Connolly left the meeting at 10:45 pm

321.16 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS

Application has been received as undernoted for the erection of memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery.

Section I2 No. 90

Mrs. Wilma Brown, 10 Eastermeade Gardens, Ballymoney
Vizac Blue ½ OG Barrel Sides with Chamfers

Section 3 No. 110

Mrs. Marion Pattison, 51 Union Street, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone and Surround

Section E1 No. 167

Mrs Pearl Getty, 16 Queens Avenue, Ballymoney
All Polished Grey Granite Headstone and Base

Section 9 No. 16

Mr. Matthew Logan, 4 Parkview Close, Ballymoney
Black Polished Headstone and Granite Surround

Section 3 No. 111 & 112

Miss. Margaret McAfee, 10 Park Lane, Ballymoney
Black Granite Headstone and Surround

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 McKay, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and **AGREED:**

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

321.17 AMENITIES CHARGES – RIADA STADIUM AND FOOTBALL PITCHES

The above business was referred back to Committee by Council at its meeting held on 3rd September 2006.

The following information was circulated for the benefit of members –

1. Relevant Leisure & Amenities Committee Minute L&A320 (15th August 2006) item 320.3 Playing Pitch Charges.
2. Projected cost of operating Riada Stadium and associated Changing Accommodation, together with other playing pitch cost information.
3. Neighbouring Council charges.

Committee is asked to reconsider this issue and make recommendation to Council.

The Director responded to members' questions regarding the information which accompanied the Committee report. He indicated that it was now known that given the level of football being played at Riada Stadium clubs required the changing facilities for four hours, with an on pitch time of two hours. He advised that his proposed pricing of the facility was on the basis of pitch use. He also indicated that litter clear up required additional caretaking time spend of between one to two hours per match. The Chief Executive intimated that Council seemed presently to make a marked difference

between the subsidy it applied to indoor and outdoor recreation and that in deciding on the appropriate pricing of facilities there was a need to ensure equality of treatment.

Motion 1 In respect of use of Riada Stadium

It was proposed by Councillor Finlay and seconded by Councillor Patterson:

that a charge £60 per match and £40 per hour for other events plus £20 per hour for use of floodlights when required be made.

Motion 2

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill seconded by Councillor Cavlan:

that a charge of £50 per hour plus £20 per hour for floodlights should apply.

The Chair put motion 2 to the meeting. 4 Members voted for the motion and 5 against. The Chair declared the motion lost.

The Chair then put motion 1 to the meeting with 5 Members voting for the motion and 4 against. The Chair declared the motion carried.

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

to recommend to Council that Riada Stadium would not be let for training purposes.

Members then discussed the proposed charges for the Riada Training Pitch.

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

- (a) - to recommend to Council that the charges for the hire of the Riada Training Pitch be £32 per hour pro rata without floodlights and £41 per hour pro rata with floodlights; and
(b) - to recommend that match use for Juniors on the Riada Training Pitch be charged at Riada 1 rate + floodlights at £9 per hour if required.***

Councillor Finlay and Councillor Patterson left during this discussion at 11:40 pm

Members reconsidered the charges to be applied to the Council's other playing pitches. It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Councillor Cavlan and **AGREED:**

to recommend to Council that the charges at Drumbolcan Park, Megaw Park and Riada 1 be increased by 50% and the charges at

Balnamore, Dervock 1 & 2, Dunaghy and Dunloy be increased by 25%.

321.18 “CONNECT 2” BIG LOTTERY LIVING LANDMARKS PROJECT

Information was received on 7th September 2006 from Sustrans advising that its “Connect 2” Project has been short-listed for the Big Lottery Landmark Award, which is to be decided by public vote in the Autumn of 2007.

Sustrans has written to all UK local authorities with a view to drawing up a list of about 100 notable projects, which will by May 2007 be reduced to the final 50 “Connect 2” links with a further number in reserve.

Sustrans has invited Council, by the end of October 2006, to suggest no more than two link or connection projects, which would make a real difference to how people could walk or cycle around their local area.

Consideration has been given, at officer level, before the possible Sustrans funding was known about, to the possibility of enhancing the fairhill railway crossing to make a better connection between Ballymoney riverside and the commercial core of the Town. This project would feature as its centrepiece the former Ballymoney railway Station ornate cast iron footbridge and so return and secure for the people of Ballymoney part of their heritage.

It is recommended that the proposed Fairhill Crossing Link Project be put forward by Council to Sustrans as a “Connect 2” Project and that its Consultants, R. Robinson and Sons, in conjunction with Borough Services Directorate staff be asked to work up the ‘expression of interest’ which must be submitted by the end of October 2006.

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

to recommend to Council that the proposed Fairhill Crossing Link Project be put forward by Council to Sustrans as a “Connect 2” Project and that its Consultants, R. Robinson and Sons, in conjunction with Borough Services Directorate staff be asked to work up the ‘expression of interest’ which must be submitted by the end of October 2006.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 12.30am.