

**Ballymoney Borough Council**  
**Leisure and Amenities Committee Meeting No: 320 – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

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1.        *Defer decision on the cost of the hire of Riada Stadium to the next Committee meeting, with the Director to produce and circulate to Members prior to the meeting the estimated cost of running the facility.*
  2.        *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%, with these rates being further reviewed next year before the setting of the 2007-2008 budget.*
  - 3        *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.*
  4.        *Charges for the tennis courts at Megaw Park remain as they were for 2005/2006.*
- 320.5**        **National Cycle Network Route 96** – The Lower Bann Cycleway - *Council commit in principle to provide £6,331 match funding to the provision of National Cycle Network 96, with the money to be allowed for in next years budget and paid out in 2007-2008 or thereafter.*
- 320.6**        **Ballymoney Cemetery Memorials** – *grant permission to applicants to erect memorials in Ballymoney Cemetery, subject to the usual requirements.*
- 320.7**        **Lower Bann Canoe Challenge** – *noted*
- 320.8**        **‘Roon the Toon’ Motorcycle Event** – *noted*
- 320.9**        **Killyrammer & District Association Request** – *Provide a temporary kickabout facility, with the Associations request being further considered at the next budgetary round.*
- 320.10**       **Ballymoney Sports Advisory Committee** – *Permit the Committee to have a host bar facility at its Annual Sports Awards in Ballymoney Town Hall..*

- 320.11**      **Errigal Motorcycle Club** - *Director to contact club seeking a meeting with its representatives in order to clarify its venue requirements.*
- 320.12**      **Community Relations Grants -**  
**11.1**      Lavin Flute Band – Ulster Scots Cultural Concert - £250  
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- 320.13**      **Homefirst Community Health & Social Services Trust** – *Service Agreement be accepted*
- 320.14**      **Killyrammer & District Community Centre** – *Offer of grant revoked*
- 320.15**      **National Lifeguard Competition – Birmingham – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2006** – *commend staff for finishing 9<sup>th</sup>.*
- 320.16**      **Causeway Trust Partnership to tackle Childhood Obesity** – *2<sup>nd</sup> Scheme to be held at end of August 2006.*

**Minutes of Meeting No 320 held in Riada House, 14 Charles Street, Ballymoney on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August 2006 at 10:30 am**

**IN THE CHAIR:** Alderman F. Campbell

**PRESENT** **Aldermen**  
H. Connolly  
C. Cousley

**Councillors**  
J. Finlay  
M. McCamphill  
T. McKeown  
A. Patterson  
E. Robinson  
I. Stevenson  
R. Wilson

**IN ATTENDANCE** Director of Borough Services  
[Items 1-18]  
Head of Leisure Services  
[Items 5-30]  
Clerical Assistant

**320.1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Alderman James Simpson, Councillor A. Cavlan and Councillor M. Storey.

**320.2 MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 319 – 18<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

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

*that the minutes of the committee's last meeting No. 319, on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2006, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF BOROUGH SERVICES**

**320.3 PLAYING PITCH CHARGES**

At the meeting the Director tabled a schedule of proposed charges for football pitches and the tennis courts at Megaw Park as follows.

**Ballymoney Borough Council  
Borough Services Directorate**

**CHARGES  
FOR HIRE OF AMENITIES  
(FOOTBALL PITCHES & MEGAW PARK TENNIS COURTS)**

2005/06                      2006/07

**HIRE OF RIADA STADIUM**

Without Floodlights	n/a	£50 per hour or part thereof
With Floodlights	n/a	£70 per hour or part thereof

**HIRE OF RIADA TRAINING PITCH**

Without Floodlights	n/a	£32 per hour or part thereof
With Floodlights	n/a	£41 per hour or part thereof

- ***Partial use and floodlights if required, will be charged on a pro-rata basis***
- ***Match use (Juniors) will be charged at Riada 1 rate + floodlights at £9 per hour if required***

**HIRE OF FOOTBALL PITCHES (GRASS) – PER MATCH (2½ hours hire period)**

2005/06                      2006/07

**Drumbolcan Park, Megaw Park, Riada 1**

Matches: Seniors inc. Changing Facilities & Showers	£20.00	£35.00
Matches: Juniors inc. Changing Facilities & Showers	£12.00	£21.00
Training: Seniors with Changing Facilities	£15.00	£26.25
Training: Juniors with Changing Facilities	£10.00	£15.75
Schools: Matches with Changing Facilities	£12.00	£21.00
Schools: Matches (no changing facilities)	£10.50	£18.50

**Balnamore, Dervock 1&2, Dunaghy, Dunloy**

Matches: Seniors inc. Changing Facilities & Showers	£20.00	£30
Matches: Juniors inc. Changing Facilities & Showers	£12.00	£18
Training: Seniors with Changing Facilities	£15.00	£22.50
Training: Juniors with Changing Facilities	£10.00	£13.50
Schools: Matches with Changing Facilities	£12.00	£18
Schools: Matches (no changing facilities)	£10.50	£16

**TENNIS COURTS (MEGAW PARK) – USE OF COURT FOR HIRE PERIOD OF 1 HOUR IN ANY SESSION EXCEPT FOR SCHOOL OR CLUB BOOKING**

	<u>2005/06</u>	<u>2006/07</u>
Adults	£1.00	£1.50
Youths (Under 18)	£0.50	£0.75
Hire of Rackets	£0.60	£1.00
Schools/Clubs (2 courts for 1 hour)	£4.00	£6.00
Season Ticket – Seniors	£10.00	£15.00
Season Ticket – Juniors	£6.00	£9.00

**ALL CHARGES INCLUSIVE OF VAT**

He then took Members through the above proposals.

He explained that he believed that for the hire of the Council's new facilities – Riada Stadium and Riada Training Pitch, that it would be best to charge on a per hour basis and that in coming to his recommendation he had taken account of estimated running costs, neighbouring equivalent facilities and the charge Council had agreed last month of £40 per hour [without floodlights] and £54 per hour [with floodlights] at peak times for its astroturf pitch.

Turning to the hire of football pitches, the Director outlined what Council had achieved to date. It was providing high quality playing surfaces at all locations and had modern purpose built changing facilities at Drumbolcan Park, Megaw Park and Riada Playing Fields. It was also committed to replacing the temporary portacabin-type changing facilities at Balnamore, Dervock, Dunaghy and Dunloy with modern purpose built structures. He advised that for these reasons he was suggesting two hire rates in the interim until modern purpose built changing facilities had been provided at every location. He stated that he believed Council was delivering to users a high quality product and the proposed schedule of charges sought to reflect that. He also indicated the comparative charges in neighbouring authorities.

The Director advised that the proposed increase in charge simply reflected the fact that charges for this facility, which was not in good condition, had not been increased for a number of years. He reminded Members that at the last budgetary round proposals had been before Council as regards a package of improvement measures at Megaw Park, but other projects had been given priority.

Members commented on the schedule of proposed charges and the Director responded to a number of questions during the ensuing discussion. He advised that for Riada Stadium and Riada Training Pitch instead of the original suggestion of per hour or part thereof, run over could be charged on a pro rata basis.

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

***to recommend that Council defer a decision on charges for the hire of Riada Stadium to the next Committee meeting and that the Director would produce and circulate to Members prior to the meeting the estimated cost of running the facility.***

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Robinson 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% and that this be further reviewed next year before the setting of the 2007-2008 budget.***

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

***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.***

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

***to recommend to Council that the charges for the tennis courts at Megaw Park remain as they were for 2005/2006.***

#### **320.4 NW MOUNTAIN RESCUE**

The Director informed members that the NW Mountain Rescue had been asked to supply further information to enable Council to consider the request made but this had not been received as yet. The item was therefore withdrawn as it did not comply with the Council's criteria.

#### **320.5 NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK ROUTE 96 – THE LOWER BANN CYCLEWAY**

Members may recall that Council agreed the Ballymoney Cycling Feasibility Study prepared in May 1999 by Oscar Faber Consultants. The proposed cycle network for the Borough included a Lower Bann Route, which would link into the existing National Cycle Network (NCN) being formalised at that time (paragraph 4.7, page 11 refers). In response to this proposal, Sustrans produced "The Lower Bann Cycleway" Report in July 2003, which detailed all sections of the route from Toome to Coleraine. Within Ballymoney the core route runs from McLaughlin's Corner, along the Vow Road to the Glenstall Road, past Drumaheglis Marina and Caravan Park and onto Coleraine. There are also proposals for a Ballymoney Town Loop, which will be part of the NCN Route 96 passing through Riverside Park and making use of those sections of cycleway currently put in place by Ballymoney Borough Council.

Sustrans recently submitted an application to the Lower Bann Partnership for grant aid to set up NCN 96. The application has been approved in principle

subject to confirmation of the receipt of match funding from project partners which include the four Council areas of Antrim, Ballymena, Ballymoney and Coleraine, Roads Service and DCAL. On 5 June 2006 Sustrans approached Council seeking match funding of £16,250. However, in terms of the timescales available, it has been necessary to reduce the project to the core route initially and follow up the Ballymoney Loop later as a separately funded project. Sustrans have now approached Council (31 July 2006) seeking match-funding of £6,331. This is primarily for interpretation and signage costs. In terms of the funding, the project has a completion date of June 2008 and without match funding, Sustrans have confirmed the project will fail. Presently DCAL, Coleraine and Ballymena are committed in principle.

Members are asked to consider making this contribution of £6,331, which represents 4.1% of the total project costs of £153,505. The project has been a longstanding one and represents the first section of a National Cycle Route to be established within the Borough. This will have the benefit of attracting the activity tourist to the Borough and establishment of the core route will allow for progression of a subsequent loop route into the heart of the town of Ballymoney.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Council commit in principle to provide £6,331 match funding to the provision of National Cycle Network 96.

In response to a question the Director advised that Council had not made any provision in its present budget [2006-2007] for this project and that therefore if the money was required this year, it would have to come from reserves.

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

***that Council commit in the principle to provide £6,331 match funding to the provision of National Cycle Network 96, with the money to be allowed for in next years budget and paid out in 2007-2008 or thereafter.***

### **320.6 BALLYMONEY CEMETERY MEMORIALS**

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

#### **Section 7 No. 144**

Mr. John Clyde 34 Park Street Mulong NSW 2866 Australia  
All Polished Black Granite Headstone

#### **Section I1 No. 89 & 90**

Mr. William McKeown, 1 Carnany Gardens, Ballymoney  
All Polished Black Granite Headstone

#### **Section I2 No. 126**

Mrs Wilma McDowell, 7 Gault Park, Ballymoney

All Polished Black Granite Headstone

**Section 8 No. 72**

Mr William Connor, 11 Ashlea Drive, Ballymoney  
All Polished Black Granite Headstone and Surrounds

**Section E2 No. 84**

Mrs Ann Hallam, 7 Donaghbrook Crescent, Ballymoney  
All Polished Black Granite Headstone

**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 Alderman Connolly, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

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

**320.7 LOWER BANN CANOE CHALLENGE**

Members are asked to note that on Saturday 23 September 2006, CANI (Canoe Association of Northern Ireland) will be hosting the first annual Lower Bann Canoe Challenge comprising the following four events, two of which will commence at Drumaheglis Marina:

- A Marathon Paddle from Toome to Coleraine
- A Mini Marathon and Relay Race from Drumaheglis Marina to Coleraine
- A Voyager (10 man canoe) Race from Drumaheglis Marina to Coleraine, and
- A family fun day at Coleraine

Inspired by the success of the annual Liffey Descent which hosts over a thousand paddlers from all over the world, it is hoped that the Lower Bann Canoe Challenge will become an annual event. This year participants are being encouraged to raise sponsorship for the Special Olympics Charity. Two members of staff will be made available on the morning to assist with parking and registration. Whilst it was not possible (for budgetary reasons) to assist financially this year, consideration may be given to supporting future challenge events.

**320.8 'ROON THE TOON' MOTORCYCLE EVENT**

The above event organised by the Japanese Motorcycle Club (Northern Counties Section) and supported by Council took place on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> August. The event was both very well attended and received. It is certainly an event Council would wish to be associated with in the future.



**320.9 KILLYRAMMER & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

The Director advised that he had received a letter from Killyrammer & District Community Association on 4<sup>th</sup> August advising that the youth in that area had appealed to the Association to have a football pitch provided for them. The Association believed that in order to bring the grassed area behind the community centre up to a reasonable standard it would need to be sprayed, ploughed, rolled and reseeded. The Director advised that what was being sought was beyond expenditure allowed for in this year's budget as it would be essential to better drain the area in the first instance in order to make any significant improvement to playability. He advised that in the interim the area could be tended to provide a kickabout facility and that the request be further considered at the next year's budgetary round.

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

***to recommend that Council a temporary kickabout facility be providedcut and that the Association's request be further considered at the next budgetary review.***

**320.10 BALLYMONEY SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Director advised that he had received a letter [11<sup>th</sup> August 2006] from Ballymoney Sports Advisory Committee. The Committee will be hosting the annual Ballymoney Sports Awards on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2006 [provisional date] in Ballymoney Town Hall and have sought permission to host a bar facility.

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

***to recommend that Council allow the Ballymoney Sports Advisory Committee to have a host bar facility at its Annual Sports Awards in Ballymoney Town Hall.***

**320.11 ERRIGAL MOTORCYCLE CLUB**

The Director advised that correspondence [dated 11<sup>th</sup> August] had been passed to him from Errigal Motorcycle Club. That club advised that at present we are hosting a six round Summer Supermoto Series and that it would be interested in having a round in the Ballymoney area and wondered if there was a suitable venue. The Director stated that as things stood he did not know of an appropriate venue in the Ballymoney area and it would be necessary to meet with club representatives in order to find out what its requirements were.

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

***to recommend to Council that the Director contact Errigal Motorcycle Club seeking a meeting with its representatives in order to clarify its venue requirements.***

## **REPORT BY HEAD OF LEISURE SERVICES**

### **320.12 COMMUNITY RELATIONS GRANTS**

The following Applications for grants were considered.

- 12.1 Lavin Flute band for assistance to hold an Ulster Scots Cultural Concert on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2006 at the Social Centre, Edward Street, Ballymoney. **Amount requested £250.00**

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

***to recommend that Council contribute £250 to Lavin Flute Band for assistance to hold an Ulster Scots Cultural Concert.***

- 12.2 Cloughmills Boys and Girls football club for assistance to hold a Cross Community Fun Day on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2006. **Amount requested £350.00**

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

***to recommend that Council contribute £200 to Cloughmills Boys and Girls football club to hold a Cross Community Fun Day.***

- 12.3 Druckendult Community Association for assistance to organise an outing for Senior Citizens. **Amount requested £200**

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

***To recommend that Council contribute £200 to Druckendult Community Assosication for an outing for senior citizens.***

### **320.13 HOMEFIRST COMMUNITY HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST**

The Homefirst Community Health & Social Services Trust has offered a Service Agreement with Ballymoney Borough Council (Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre) to provide five hours Administration support each week to the Physical Activity Project Officer based at the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre. The cost to Homefirst Trust is £180 per month from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2007. There is no additional cost to the Council.

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

***to recommend that the Service Agreement with Homefirst Community Health & Social Services Trust be accepted.***

### **320.14 KILLYRAMMER & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

A letter has been received from Good Relations & Reconciliations Division, Community Relations Unit, Castle Building, Belfast, advising that the letter of offer awarding funding made on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2005 has been revoked. The Department acknowledges the valuable cross community work which has been carried out by the Killyrammer & District Community Centre Management Committee and regrets that despite best efforts the Community Centre Project will not be in a position to progress with funding from the Department.

### **320.15 NATIONAL LIFE GUARD COMPETITION BIRMINGHAM 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2006**

Six members of staff from Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre attended the above event accompanied by Alderman Frank Campbell. The team finished 9<sup>th</sup> overall in what was a very competitive competition. The benefit of attending such an event is that it increases Lifeguard Standards as well as Espirt de corpse amongst the Leisure Centre staff. The staff wish to thank the Chairman and Leisure & Amenities Committee for supporting their attendance at this year's competition.

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

***to recommend that Council commend staff for finishing ninth in the competition.***

The Mayor suggested that he could hold a reception for the team in his parlour.

### **320.16 CAUSEWAY TRUST PARTNERSHIP TO TACKLE CHILDHOOD OBESITY**

A Pilot Scheme, run earlier this year, to help obese children in the North Coast Area to get fit and lose weight has been hailed a success. The Programme 'Family, Fun, Food and Fitness' was developed by the Causeway Trust in Ballymoney in Partnership with the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre. The Scheme was attended by 16 children and their parents for 2 hours per week for 12 weeks.

Further funding has been acquired from Northern Investing for Health Partnership to carry out a second programme starting 29<sup>th</sup> August for 12 weeks.

**This being all the business the meeting closed at 12:50 pm**