

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Finance & General Purposes Committee
No. 343 – 1st June 2006

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Committee Meeting No 343 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House on Monday 1st June at 6.30pm

In the Chair: Alderman H Connolly

Present: **Councillors**
A Cavlan I
J Finlay
B Kennedy
A Patterson
I Stevenson (Deputy Mayor)
M Storey (MLA)

Aldermen
C Cousley (Mayor)
F Campbell
J Simpson

In Attendance: Councillor M McCamphill
Councillor D McKay
Corporate Services Officer
Committee Clerk

343.1 Composition of Standing Committees

Councillor Finlay formally proposed the following recommendation which he had placed on the agenda.

“That the four main committees of Council be enlarged from eight members to 12 members, with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on all four committees”.

Following discussion, when the Chief Executive responded to questions, this was seconded by Councillor Stevenson.

The Chief Executive advised that adoption of this recommendation would have the effect of revising the provisions of standing orders with regard to composition of standing committees.

Councillor Kennedy expressed the view that since this would increase committee membership to 14 committees should be extended to include all 16 members of Council. He proposed, as an amendment, that committees comprise all members of Council. This was seconded by Councillor Cavlan.

The Chairman put the amendment to the meeting, 2 members voting in favour and 7 members voting against.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The Chairman put the motion to the meeting, 7 members voting in favour and 2 members voting against.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

*** Councillor McCamphill arrived, the time being 6.50 pm.**

343.2 Composition of Audit Committee

At the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 22nd May (FC342.7), it was recommended that an Audit Committee meeting quarterly, be formed.

The Chief Executive recommended that the remit of the Committee include the following:

- Internal Audit, including approval of the annual Audit Plan, consideration of Audit reports and other matters relating to the work of Internal Audit, eg risk management and risk assessment.
- Consideration of reports and other matters referred to Council by Local Government Audit.
- Other matters relating to economy, efficiency and effectiveness of council operations.

He further recommended that the committee should be representative of all the parties and groupings from which councillors on Ballymoney Borough Council are drawn. To achieve that outcome, it was recommended that the composition of the committee, based on the outcome of the 2005 local general elections, be as follows for the term of the current council:

DUP	-	4 places
SF	-	1 place
UUP	-	1 place
SDLP	-	1 place

Independent - 1 place
(Mayor and Deputy Mayor are ex-officio members)

The Chief Executive explained that the adoption of the recommendations would have the effect of revising the provisions of standing orders with regard to composition of standing committees and that standing orders be revised accordingly.

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

to recommend that Council approve the remit and composition of the Audit Committee, as set out above.

343.3 Standing Orders

It was **AGREED:**

to recommend that Council's Standing Orders be revised to take account of the change in composition of standing committees as set out at min 343.1 above and establishment and composition of an Audit Committee as set out at 343.2 above.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 6.55 pm.