

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Consultation Committee Meeting No 70 – 20th February 2012**

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Consultation Committee Meeting No 70 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 20th February 2012 at 6.30 pm

IN THE CHAIR: Councillor A Cavlan

PRESENT:

Aldermen
F Campbell
H Connolly
B Kennedy

Councillors
J Atkinson
W Blair
J Finlay
R Halliday
P McGuigan
C McLaughlin
E Robinson
M Storey, MLA

APOLOGIES: Councillor I Stevenson, Mayor

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Committee Clerk

Community Pharmacy NI (Item 1)
James McCaughan Community Pharmacist, Ballycastle.
Elizabeth Stevenson

70.1 COMMUNITY PHARMACY NI

Council welcomed representatives from Community Pharmacy NI following representations regarding proposed cuts in the community pharmacy service. Mr McCaughan gave the presentation (attached as Appendix 1) highlighting issues relating to:

- Benefits of the current system
- The added value of Pharmacy NI to the Health Service
- Benefits of the Community Pharmacy service
- Threats to Community Pharmacy
- Impact of proposed cuts
- The way forward to retain the service

Councillor McGuigan welcomed the representatives and thanked them for their worthwhile presentation. At his request, Mr McCaughan advised that the Pharmacy Service is funded on a per item basis and that the Pharmacist is paid depending on the cost of the drug in the drug tariff. In April, a new drug tariff was introduced resulting in a 30% reduction in funding at source.

Thanking Mr McCaughan for his presentation, Alderman Connolly referred to the need for the service to continue in rural areas and expressed the view that Council should take a lead in writing to the Minister to ensure that the service is maintained.

Alderman Kennedy concurred with both members saying it would be tragic if these cuts were to be continued. He supported Alderman Connolly in writing in strong terms to the Minister, perhaps jointly with other Councils. He thanked Mr McCaughan for a straightforward and informative presentation.

Alderman Campbell said that the Pharmacy service is essential in rural areas as some elderly citizens in the community face travel restrictions and may experience difficulty using an online prescription ordering facility.

Councillor McGuigan referred to the impact that a reduction in Pharmacy services would have on the health service and stated that the cuts are not a cost effective way of dealing with this issue. He supported Council writing independently or jointly to the Minister expressing the view that this is an Assembly issue and MLA's should also be lobbied to ensure a local service is provided in local communities.

Councillor Robinson thanked the pharmacist for the service provision in Ballymoney and at her request, Mr McCaughan advised that Community Pharmacy, a one stop shop for primary health care, is dispensing at a loss and is no longer subsidised by the sale of other products. Referring to the cuts he stated "Community Pharmacy cannot have one size that fits all and we cannot allow a service to be comprised that has worked well to serve the whole community."

The Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation which concluded at 7.00 pm. The representatives left the meeting at this time.

* **Councillor Storey and Councillor Finlay joined the meeting at 6.55 pm during the presentation and apologized for their late arrival.**

* **Councillor McGuigan and Councillor McLaughlin left the meeting at 7.00pm.**

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

1. That Council writes to MLA's and the Health Minister lobbying against cuts in service provision to Pharmacy NI.

2. Request that the Minister receive a delegation from Council in support of Pharmacy NI's opposition to the cuts

* **The Planning Officer joined the meeting at 7.00 pm.**

* **Councillor McGuigan and Councillor McLaughlin returned to the meeting at 7.05 pm.**

70.2 MINUTES – CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETING NO 69 – 16TH JANUARY 2012

It was proposed by, seconded by and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Consultation Committee Meeting No 69 – 20th January 2012, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

70.3 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3.1 New Applications

Items 1-18 were considered and the opinion of the Planning Services accepted except where stated otherwise.

Full details of applications can be viewed at:

http://apps.planningni.gov.uk/council_schedules/ballymoney.aspx

ITEM NO 2 – D/2010/0238/F - REFUSAL

Erection of 250Kw wind turbine with a tower height of 40m approx. 210m North West of 48 Loughill Road, Cloughmills for Mr R French.

It was **AGREED:** **That an office meeting be held (Councillor Finlay)**

ITEM NO 3 – D/2011/0086/F – APPROVAL

Proposed new wind turbine at land 350m NW of 55 Moyan Road, Stranocum for Mr D McClure.

Councillor Finlay welcomed the decision of the Department to approve the application.

ITEM NO 5 – D/2011/0177/F – REFUSAL

Erection of wind turbine with a tower height of 23.5m approx. 110m North of 7 Clintyfinnan Road, Armoy for S Christie Joinery Limited.

The application was withdrawn on 13th February.

ITEM NO 6 – D/2011/0197/F – REFUSAL

New dwelling adjacent to 117 Toberdoney Road, Dervock for Mrs E Johnson.

It was **AGREED:** **That an office meeting be held (Councillor Finlay)**

ITEM NO 7 – D/2011/0199/F – APPROVAL

Demolition of existing garage and proposed replacement garage to provide ancillary storage facilities at 29 Portrush Road, Ballymoney for Mr Andrew McMullan.

Objection Letters (2) Concern regarding height and mass, possible overshadowing, vegetation, out of keeping with character and visual appearance, built on boundary.

Amendment to reduce in length and height and moved 1m in from Boundary. Neighbours re-notified and amendments acknowledged but concern remains about boundary vegetation. Adequate amenity space at

the back and garage on North side of objector so not affecting light. Footprint can be accommodated with legal conditions attached. Boundary vegetation is a civil matter.

ITEM NO 8 – D/2011/0214/F – REFUSAL

Proposed 75Kw wind turbine with a 30m hub height under PPS18 170m South East of 14 Bendooragh Road, Ballymoney for Mr Richard Pollock.

It was **AGREED:** **That an office meeting be held (Councillor Finlay).**

ITEM NO 9 – D/2011/0239/F - APPROVAL

Retention of existing wall and shed at 43 Kirkview Close, Ballymoney for Mr J Millar.

Objection Letters (1) Concern that wall is too high and is not rendered and shed could be seen as it is over height of wall, devaluing of surrounding properties.

The Planning Officer advised that the wall is similar to those in the area and the shed is situated on a corner site with rear amenity space so not in front garden. Shed will not overshadow or overlook. Market value has not been quantified. Approval is subject to condition that wall is rendered within six months.

Councillor Finlay welcomed the approval.

ITEM NO 11 – D/2011/0248/F – APPROVAL

Proposed raised patio area to side of dwelling at 1 Ishlan Court, Ballymoney for Miss E Buller.

Objection Letters (2) Concerns relate to loss of privacy, increased noise, devaluing of property, eyesore caused by boundary fence. Privacy of dwellings on other side of road will be affected.

1.8m in height, value of properties not quantified, patio is within the garden and accessed by patio doors. Not anticipated that it will cause any detrimental impact.

ITEM NO 13 – D/2011/0274/O – REFUSAL

Proposed dwelling on a farm at lands adjacent to No 88 Ballyportry Road, Dunloy for Mr Don Logan.

It was **AGREED:** **That an office meeting be held (Councillor Finlay).**

ITEM NO 18 – D/2011/0283/O – REFUSAL

Proposed dwelling and garage on farm at 170m East of 3 Tamlaght Road, Rasharkin for Mr Christ McKillop.

It was **AGREED:** **That an office meeting be held (Councillor McGuigan).**

3.2 Deferred Applications

Items 1-7 were considered and the opinion of the Planning Services accepted except where stated otherwise.

D1 – D/2007/0410/F – APPROVAL

Scheme was for 15 houses, reduced to 11 and further reduced to 10 dwellings (8 semi-detached and 2 detached) with reduction in ridge heights. Neighbours re-notified and six letters of objection received. Concerns related to obstruction of view, loss of privacy, inadequate sewerage and increase in traffic.

The Planning Officer advised that the scheme is on the opposite side of the road, approx. 40m away from nearest objector. It is not anticipated that privacy will be compromised. Roads Service has no objections; Environmental Health, NI Water and Water Management Unit have been consulted and have recommended approval subject to their own conditions.

D2 – D/2010/0265/O – REFUSAL

Additional information submitted. Roads Service re-consulted and further clarification was sought from agent. Department still of opinion to refuse this application as no apparent justification submitted.

Councillor McGuigan, having spoken to the agent and applicant advised that additional information was submitted and the Department acknowledged this but no further discussion has taken place and therefore it is unclear to the Agent whether the Department has fully considered this. The Planning Officer advised that all information submitted had been fully considered.

Councillor Robinson highlighted the difficulties experienced by young people in obtaining permission for a farm.

Councillor McGuigan expressed disappointment that this application has been refused.

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

that council oppose the decision of the Department to refuse the application.

D3 – D/2010/0313/F – APPROVAL

The Planning Officer advised that amended plans have been received. The development does not harm rural character or appearance in the area, red line has been reduced and building is in curtilage of hard standing, height of building has been reduced and Roads Service has accepted visibility splays. Neighbours notified and no objections received. The Department is now able to approve the application.

D4 – D/2011/0044/O – REFUSAL

No further information has been submitted.

Alderman Connolly expressed disappointment in the decision of the Department to refuse the application.

Members disagreed with the decision to refuse the application.

It was **AGREED:** **that the application be held for one week to enable submission of further information or withdrawal of application.**

D5 – D/2011/0098/F – APPROVAL

Proposal has been reduced to 30m in height and application can now be approved.

D6 – D/2011/0184/F – REFUSAL

Application withdrawn on 6th February.

D7 – D/2011/0185/F - APPROVAL

Further information submitted demonstrating environmental benefits of replacement and application can now be approved.

Councillor McGuigan thanked the Department for their decision.

3.3 Decisions Issued

A schedule of decisions issued from 01/01/12 – 31/01/12 was circulated for information.

3.4 Date of Office Meeting

Office meetings will take place on Friday 2nd March at 10.00 am in the Lanyon Room, Riada House (meetings outstanding from last month will also be re-scheduled to 2nd March).

* **The Planning Officer left the meeting at 7.40 pm.**

70.4 THE COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS INQUIRY INTO UNADOPTED ROADS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

At its meeting on 25th January 2012, The Committee for Regional Development agreed to conduct an inquiry into Unadopted Roads in Northern Ireland. Terms of Reference for the Inquiry can be found at:

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Committees/Regional-Development>

The Committee wishes to take evidence from a wide range of organisations with an interest in this matter and would therefore like to invite your organisation to provide written evidence on the matter.

Comments must be received by the Committee Office on Friday 12 March 2012.

Members discussed the number of unadopted roads in the borough, minor roads, which need maintenance work to bring them up to standard and roads that have been damaged by contractors. The Chief Executive advised members that comments should be submitted via the website or collectively forwarded to his office to enable a response to be submitted.

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

that Council write to the Roads Service local office to:

- 1. Ascertain the yearly budget for the maintenance of roads.***
- 2. Clarify the use or return of any underspend.***

* **Councillor McGuigan left the meeting at 7.50 pm.**

70.5 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

The Boundary commission for NI has commenced a secondary consultation which closes on 27th February. A poster and map is exhibited on Council's public notice board at Riada House main entrance foyer. The review which concludes in 2013 means substantial changes to parliamentary constituencies in NI, reducing the total number from 18-16 and involves the redrawing of existing boundaries. (OCE memo 27/1/2912 refers).

70.6 NILGA CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Consultation responses from NILGA, as detailed below, were tabled:

- [a] Waste Management Consultations (copy circulated).
- [b] Draft Programme for Government – executive summary circulated (a copy of full response is available from the Office of the Chief Executive).

The Chief Executive advised members that it was a matter for them to consider and respond to the consultation document. At the request of Alderman Kennedy, Councillor Robinson provided further details of the Waste Management consultation.

70.7 CONSULTATION ON THE GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE

Justice Minister David Ford has launched a consultation paper on behalf of the Northern Ireland Executive, on the future governance of the Public Prosecution Service.

The Public Prosecution Service is a non-Ministerial department and is not part of the Department of Justice. However, confidence in the arrangements for prosecuting offenders is important to both public confidence in justice and the effective operation of the criminal justice system.

Views are welcomed on the options set out in the consultation paper – or indeed any other viewpoints on the future accountability arrangements for the Public Prosecution Service, including the role of the Attorney General.

Comments are requested by 5pm on Friday 4th May 2012.

An electronic version of the consultation document is available to view and download from the DOJ website (www.dojni.gov.uk). A hard copy is available from the Office of the Chief Executive.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Appendices attached:

Appendix 1 Pharmacy NI Presentation

APPENDIX 1

