

**Ballymoney Borough Council  
Council Meeting No 923 – 5th July 2010**

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**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Council Meeting No 923 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 5th July 2010 at 7.00 pm.

**IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor B Kennedy, Mayor

**PRESENT:**

**Aldermen**  
F Campbell  
H Connolly  
C Cousley, MBE, Deputy Mayor  
J Simpson

**Councillors**  
A Cavlan  
J Finlay  
R Halliday  
M McCamphill  
P McGuigan  
T McKeown  
A Patterson  
E Robinson  
I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES:**

**Councillors**  
D McKay, MLA  
M Storey, MLA

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive  
Director of Borough Services  
Director of Central & Leisure Services  
Head of Corporate & Development Services  
Committee Clerk

**Press**

**923.1 ADJOURNMENT**

The Mayor outlined the arrangements for Committees to meet to elect officers for the incoming year and adjourned at 7.01 to enable the election of Chairs and Vice Chairs to Consultation, Development and Health & Environmental Services Committees (CC 52, DC 217 and HES 362 respectively). The meeting reconvened at 7.10 pm.

**923.2 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS**

The Mayor recorded, on Council's behalf, congratulations to local resident Nessie Blair who was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in recognition of her services to Healthcare and Respiratory Services in Northern Ireland. He said:

“Nessie worked, initially, in intensive care in Causeway Hospital and was instrumental in setting up smoking cessation services in Causeway Trust and pioneered the first intensive and continuous smoking cessation support group therapy in the Northern Health Board. She has shown herself to be a committed and dedicated health care professional and I am pleased that her services in healthcare have been so suitably recognised”.

The Mayor also mentioned well-known Ballymena broadcaster Jackie Fullerton who received the MBE for his services to broadcasting and community service in Northern Ireland, stating “Jackie is a patron of the charity Heartbeat and has given of his time to work with young people with disabilities. I offer him our congratulations”.

I also want to congratulate Housing Executive Chief Executive, Paddy McIntyre, with whom I worked during my time on the Housing Council. Paddy received the OBE for services to the housing sector.

Northern Ireland has had much success in the Arts and Sport and I want to record our congratulations to two popular honours’ recipients who have made Northern Ireland proud –

- Champion Jockey Tony McCoy who received the OBE for services to horseracing
- Michael Longley, widely recognised as one of the leading contemporary poets of his generation who received the CBE for services to literature”.

Councillor Finlay and Councillor Patterson associated themselves with the Mayor’s remarks relating to Mrs Blair. Councillor Finlay paid tribute to the work of the Housing Executive Chief Executive. Councillor Robinson thanked the Mayor for bringing the achievements to the attention of Council.

### **923.3 MINUTES - MEETING NO 921 – 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

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

***that the minutes of meeting No 921 on 7th June 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.***

### **923.4 MINUTES - MEETING NO 922 (AGM) – 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2010**

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

***that the minutes of meeting No 922 (AGM) on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.***

### **923.5 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 51 – 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2010**

Alderman Connolly presented the report including an addendum as set out at 5.1

### 5.1 Deferred PPS21 Applications

At the meeting of the Consultation Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> June the Planning Officer agreed to supply to Council the number of deferred PPS21 applications still to be determined.

At 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 the number was 56. The target date for clearing the backlog is 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010, but Planning Service hope to clear the Ballymoney backlog earlier.

### 5.2 Adoption of Minutes

***The minutes of meeting No 51 on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010, as circulated, were received including the addendum as set out at 5.1.***

## 923.6 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 215 – 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2010

Councillor Finlay presented the report including an addendum as set out at 5.1.

### 6.1 Northern Regional College Improvement Plan

As members know The Northern Regional College Business Improvement Plan 2010-2016 which the Chair presented and commented on at the meeting of committee on 21<sup>st</sup> May (215.7) proposes under phase 3 (2014-16) that Ballymoney campus and Coleraine campus will be replaced by one new build in the Coleraine area.

Consultations have taken place with the three secondary schools – Dalriada, Our Lady of Lourdes and Ballymoney High School, all of whom have close working relationships with the Ballymoney Campus, and with the Chamber of commerce.

Initial comments are presented for consideration:

- Council restates its previous opposition (2004) to the proposal to close the Ballymoney Campus Council and expresses serious concern at the impact that such a move will have on the town and the local economy in general.
- Council understands that under present proposal no site has yet been determined. It believes that Ballymoney has a lot of potential and sites in Ballymoney should be explored so that Ballymoney is not disadvantaged.
- All three secondary schools in the Borough, under the auspices of “Ballymoney Learning Community” utilise the provision available at NRC Ballymoney Campus. Their vision is for a long term partnership which they and Council wish to see maintained and developed to deliver post 16 courses and its removal from the town is not in the best interests of pupils.
- Noting from the report that redundancies are inevitable and while accepting that the Institute hope to manage the staff reduction through leavers and

redeployment, Council expresses concern at these further job losses in the borough, following on as it does on the substantial loss of jobs suffered in recent years with closure of many manufacturing plants in the town..

**It is recommended** that the comments be adopted and further developed in planned consultation with the Ballymoney Learning Community and the public service union NIPSA for further information on the range of measures they have identified which directly impact on staff and provision at the Ballymoney Campus, ie:

1. Removal of A level provision across all sites;
2. Restricted opening hours at all sites from September 2010 (loss of support staff hours)
3. Withdrawal of painting and decorating course (September 2010) and
4. Closure of Ballymoney campus 2014-2016.

## **6.2 Adoption of Minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 215 on 21st June 2010, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved including the addendum as set out at 5.1.***

## **923.7 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 374 – 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

Councillor Stevenson presented the report.

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

***that the minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 374 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010 and No 375 – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.***

### **Matters Arising:**

#### **7.1 Lower Bann Advisory Committee**

Alderman Simpson advised that following a meeting of Lower Bann Advisory Committee, the Chairman wrote to NILGA asking NILGA to convene a meeting of the Councils concerned. However, the NILGA Executive who received the request at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> August indicated that NILGA was unlikely to get involved as under its constitution, it could not get involved in matters falling within the responsibility of individual councils. In the circumstances, the Lower Bann Advisory Committee will cease to exist leaving an amount of £2,500 which had been budgeted for by Council as a contribution. Councillor Robinson indicated that there is a possibility that European funding is being sought to look after river banks and invasive plants.

## 7.2 NI Milk Cup 2010 (374.14)

As directed, the Director of Borough Services has ascertained that there are no players on the Co Antrim team panel from Ballymoney but that one of the coaches lives within the Borough. He clarified Council's contribution to the Milk Cup, agreed for a three year period ending in 2010, which was reduced at the rate setting process for 2010/11 from £15,000 to £10,000. No funding was provided for the Co Antrim team.

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Finlay

***that Council allocate the £2,500 contribution allocated to the Lower Bann Advisory Committee and £2,500 from Council's reserves to increase the contribution to the Milk Cup from £10,000 to £15,000 for the period 2010/11.***

Members discussed the motion. Councillor McCamphill, Councillor Cavlan, Councillor McGuigan and the Mayor expressed the view that the contribution to Lower Bann Advisory Committee should remain unallocated and that the agreements reached at the time of the rates setting process on the level of contribution to the NI Milk Cup be adhered to. Alderman Simpson expressed concern at the use of limited reserves and the precedent which might be set should decisions made at the rates setting process be revised.

The Mayor put the motion to the meeting which was as follows:

<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>
5	6

**The Mayor declared the motion lost.**

## 923.8 LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE NO 375 – 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010

Councillor Finlay presented the report.

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

***that Council move 'into Committee' to discuss the report.***

- **The press left the meeting at 7.40 pm.**
- **Councillor Stevenson and left the meeting at 7.40 pm.**

**Matters Arising:**

### 8.1 Blockage at Route Avenue (375.3)

At the request of Councillor Finlay, who had been unable to attend the meeting, the Director explained the background, the investigations undertaken, the legal

advice received and rationale of the recommendations made. The recommended approach was endorsed by the Chief Executive.

In Committee, the Director responded to questions and clarified Council's position under the statutory provisions.

## **8.2 Adoption of Minutes**

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

*that the minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 375 – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

Alderman Simpson asked to be recorded as voting against the recommendation set out in 373.3.

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

*that Council move 'out of Committee' to continue its business.*

- \* **The press returned to the meeting at 7.10 pm.**
- \* **Councillor Stevenson returned to the meeting at 7.10 pm.**

## **923.9 HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 361 – 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2010**

Councillor Robinson presented the report.

### **Matters Arising:**

#### **8.1 Safer Bonfire Incentive Scheme (361.20)**

Councillor McGuigan expressed concern at displays of sectarian behavior during the bonfire period, the cost of the incentive scheme and the clean-up operation after the event. Councillor Finlay, Chair of the Bonfire Sub Committee, stated that the intention of the Committee is to make bonfires held at any time of the year safer events and that some progress is being made. The Director of Borough Services advised that the incentive scheme is funded by Northern Ireland Office and not from Council's budget provision.

#### **9.2 Bilingual Signage (361.30)**

Councillor McGuigan voiced his concern at the delay in progressing bilingual signage in accordance with Council's policy. He condemned sectarianism of any kind and refuted the assertion by Councilor Finlay that signs erected in a language other than English (Irish) would further provoke tension in the Borough, pointing to the tension created by proliferation of flags and burning of flags in



bonfires. Councillor Finlay explained his reasoning for seeking the advice of the Equality commission due to ongoing intimidation in Rasharkin.

### **9.3 Northern Ireland Rethink Waste Fund 2010-2011 (361.14)**

The Director of Borough Services advised that applications to the Rethink Waste Fund were submitted to DoE on 28<sup>th</sup> June and that Council should know by the end of August whether any of the applications have been successful.

### **9.4 Adoption of Minutes**

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

*that the minutes of Health & Environmental Services Meeting No 361 on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

### **923.10 WASTE WATCH – SUMMER 2010 NEWSLETTER**

Councillor Robinson drew members' attention to the summer newsletter which included an article relating to the trail of recycling. She also highlighted the work of Cloughmills Community Action Team, supported by Council, in its approach to minimizing food waste and food miles which has raised awareness among the community of the need to become more self sufficient. Councillor Robinson visited the initiative recently and congratulated the group on its magnificent achievement.

### **923.11 CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 387 – 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2010**

Alderman Simpson presented the report.

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

*that the minutes of Corporate & Central Service Committee Meeting No 387 on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

### **923.12 AUDIT COMMITTEE NO 18 – 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

Alderman Campbell presented the report.

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

*that the minutes of Audit Committee No 18 on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010 as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

**923.13 AUDIT COMMITTEE NO 19 – 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2010**

The Mayor presented the report.

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

*that the minutes of Audit Committee Audit Committee No 19 – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010 as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

**923.14 RESOURCES TASK GROUP NO 31 – 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

Alderman Simpson presented the report.

**Matters Arising:****14.1 Possible Rate Increases 2011/12 (31.3)**

At the request of Alderman Simpson, The Head of Corporate & Development Services agreed to append to the Group's minutes, a copy of the possible rate increases, as circulated. Councillor Finlay reiterated the need for Council to consider any rate increases carefully, stressing the need to ensure that as low a rate as possible is struck. The Mayor concurred with Councillor Finlay.

**14.2 Adoption of Minutes**

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

*that the minutes of Resources Task Group No 31 on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010, as circulated, be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.*

\* Councillor McGuigan left the meeting during the discussion at 8.40 pm.

\* Members of the press, the Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central & Leisure Services left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

**923.15 SEAL DOCUMENTS**

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

*that the Seal of Council be affixed to Grave registration certificate numbers 1203, 1204, 1205 and 1206.*

**923.16 ROADS SERVICE****16.1 Removal of Disabled Parking Bay – No 56 Castle Street, Ballymoney**

There have been requests that the Disabled Parking Bay at no 56 Castle Street Ballymoney be removed as the user of the bay has since moved on and there are no further requirements for the bay by any residents on the street.

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

***that Council support the removal of the disabled parking bay at No 56 Castle Street, Ballymoney.***

#### **16.2 Proposed Waiting Restriction – St James’ Road, Ballymoney**

Roads Service has written to advise that following a meeting with the Dalriada School Principal, Travelwise, Road Policing & Traffic Management, concern was expressed with regards to parking on St James’ Road opposite Dalriada School. Cars which park on the side in question restrict the movement of traffic both entering and exiting St James’ Road, which has a knock on effect on Model Road, especially during the morning and afternoon school times.

It is Roads Service proposal to regulate the parking with the rest of the town and introduce a prohibition of parking, Monday to Friday 8.30am – 6pm.

A map showing the area involved is available from the Office of the Chief Executive.

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

***that Council support the proposed waiting restriction at St James’ Road, Ballymoney providing the needs of disabled people are taken into account.***

## **FOR INFORMATION**

### **923.17 ROADS SERVICE**

**The Private Street (Northern Ireland) Order 1989. Development at Knock Eden, Ballymoney – Stage 1,  
Developer: Kevin O’Hara T/a Tara Developments**

The streets at the above development have now been adopted by Roads Service.

### **923.18 STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL - CALL FOR REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR OIL, SOLID FUEL AND LPG**

“Strabane District Council recently wrote to all local authorities seeking the support in their call for a regulatory framework for oil, solid fuel and LPG.

At a meeting of the NILGA Executive Committee held on 14th May 2010, it was agreed that NILGA should write to OFMDFM to also confirm support for this matter.

Members of the NILGA Executive agreed that the problems associated with fuel poverty and in particular, high energy costs must be addressed as a matter of priority. OFMDFM have now forwarded NILGA the response to Strabane District Council outlining the current position against the issues raised. I enclose this correspondence for your council's information."

**923.19 REPORTS**

A list of reports was circulated for members' information.

**923.20 NILGA REPORTS/UPDATES**

A list of reports was circulated for members' information.

**The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.**