BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of Development Meeting No 228, held in the McKinley Room, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 10th October 2011 at 7.00 pm.

IN THE CHAIR:	Councillor J Finlay (Item 1 & 2) Alderman B Kennedy (Items 3 – 10)
PRESENT:	Aldermen F Campbell C Cousley, MBE
	Councillors J Atkinson W Blair R Halliday I Stevenson
APOLOGIES:	Alderman H Connolly
	Councillors E Robinson M Storey, MLA
IN ATTENDANCE:	Chief Executive Head of Corporate & Development Services Committee Clerk
	Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (Item 2) Helen Noble, Director

28.1 MINUTES – MEETING NO 227 – 12th September 2011

It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Atkinson and AGREED:

that the minutes of Meeting No 227 – 12th September 2011, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

* Alderman Cousley joined the meeting at 7.02 pm.

228.2 CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS HERITAGE TRUST - 'HEART OF THE GLENS' PROJECT

The Chair welcomed Helen Noble, Director of Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust to give a presentation to Committee on their Landscape Partnership Scheme 'Heart of the Glens' project, details of which was circulated. Mrs Noble responded to questions from members relating to how the scheme will be driven forward, community participation, the involvement of schools, colleges and universities, raising awareness of countryside management. The project covered the entire causeway coast and glens area, including all of Ballymoney Borough. It would protect culture and heritage that give the area its special character; provide better access to the landscape; increase the understanding of the landscape, its formation, processes and factors influencing its character; create a sustainable, thriving rural economy that enhances and supports the heart of the glens landscape. Commenting on conserving and enhancing elements she outlined upland conservation work eg heathland management against wildfires; peatland conversation projects; woodland management eg red squirrel protection, sudden oak death; river quality; litter & pollution control awareness; field boundaries, farm buildings and features and planning eg village renewal.

The funding of £1500 requested representing 1.12% of the overall costs of phase I, £134,200, would enable the development of phase Ii providing a legacy to the glens landscape and its people and attracting investment to the whole area.

The presentation concluded at 7.20 pm and Mrs Noble left the meeting at that time.

Following discussion of the issues raised, it was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Alderman Kennedy and **AGREED**:

to recommend that Council contribute £1500 to Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust for the development phase of the project "Heart of the Glens".

228.3 PAVEMENT CAFÉ CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The Department for Social Development has written regarding the Department's consultation on a proposal to introduce a statutory licensing scheme for pavement cafés. A summary of all the consultation responses has now been collated and published on the DSD website at the following address: http://www.dsdni.gov.uk

The consultation showed that there was a very positive response generally to the proposal to introduce a statutory licensing scheme for pavement cafés. However, one of the assumptions made in the consultation – that Roads Service should undertake the enforcement of the scheme – will no longer be pursued. The Minister has therefore decided to give both licensing and enforcement powers to district councils.

Officials will continue to undertake detailed work on design of the statutory licensing scheme, including the development of a full suite of enforcement and prosecution powers for district councils. In this context officials may find it helpful to discuss detailed aspects of the scheme with experienced licensing officers.

The Department has asked councils to consider nominating a representative for this purpose.

The Head of Corporate & Development Services advised members that the Director of Borough Services will be appointing a representative on behalf of Council.

* Councillor Finlay left the meeting at 7.25 pm. Alderman Kennedy assumed the Chair to continue the business of the meeting.

228.4 VILLAGE ACTION PLANS

The Head of Corporate & Development Services gave an overview of the village action plans, completed, with the assistance of funding under the EU rural development programme, for Ballybogey, Dervock, Dunloy, Rasharkin, Stranocum, illustrating the population, groups and facilities in the villages and the potential projects identified, with particular regard to projects impacting on various council services and facilities and those which would contribute to tourism infrastructure and development. presentation on the draft proposals for the village action plans. She responded to questions raised by members and advised as to potential projects to be submitted for assistance under the Rural Development Programme. Specific proposals would be submitted to Committee in due course.

- * Alderman Campbell joined the meeting at 7.40 pm.
- * Councillor Stevenson left the meeting at 7.50 pm.

228.5 DRAFT BUDGET 2012/13

The Head of Corporate & Development Services advised on current budget provision for the EU competitiveness and rural development programmes, including the village renewal project; town & tourism marketing and development programmes and Townscape Heritage Scheme. With regard to the competitiveness programme DETI were seeking a five year commitment towards a suite of projects being developed in the region, with the assistance of Invest NI who would in future be administering the programme, previously administered by DETI. A further report would be made and committee invited to indicate the level of support it was prepared to put towards the programme. With regard to tourism budget for tourism product development and marketing and participation in the "Heart of The Glens" project would be included in the draft budget to be prepared for the next committee meeting.

228.6 EVENTS

6.1 London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay

The 2012 Olympic Torch sub group comprising of Chair of Leisure and Chair of Development will report to committee on activities costs and resource implications following consideration of further information from the London 2012 Committee. It was **agreed** that the committee be extended to include the Vice-Chairs of the two committees.

6.2 HM The Queen's Jubilee

The Head of Corporate & Development Services updated members on draft proposals for County celebrations and local celebrations and **recommended** that as this

celebration is around the same time as the 2012 Olympic celebrations, the 2012 Olympic Torch sub-group also deal with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

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

to recommend that the Olympic Torch Run Sub Group also deal with the Diamond Jubilee arrangements.

6.3 Scottish Pipe Band Association – Co Antrim Championships 2012

The Head of Corporate & Development Services advised that Council has been successful it its bid to host the 2012 Co Antrim Pipe Band Championships in 2012. The venue chosen by the organising committee was Ballymoney Rugby Club. She outlined the various activities etc Council, with its event partners, would have to deliver, within the budget provision agreed by Council and arrangements would be made to meet with them and the North Antrim Agricultural Association whose annual show was on the same date, 1st June.

6.4 Cow Parade 2012 Northern Ireland

Asitis Consulting has secured the license to bring the World's largest and most successful Public Art Event to Northern Ireland, Cow Parade Northern Ireland 2012. The event aims to:

- Bring over 270 cows to Northern Ireland.
- Launch a parade in Belfast with distribution throughout the region and a finale in Derry prior to City of Culture events.
- Cows will be on display at public and private venues across the region in areas that enable them to be viewed freely by the public.
- Community driven projects in conjunction with private sector funding.

It was agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair meet with the organiser and a further report brought to committee.

228.7 INTERNATIONAL LINKS

The city of Vanves has confirmed the soccer visit for 3rd/4th December when they will officially open their new football field and stadium. The local Soccer School had committed to promote a fundraising event to contribute towards the cost to the Twinning Association of the exchange visit.

The High School in Vanves are also actively progressing the link established with local secondary schools.

Douglas Borough Council are to visit Ballymoney and confirmation of the date of the visit is awaited.

228.8 DRAFT NORTHERN AREA PLAN

The Chief Executive advised that Council were represented at the Examination in Public by its Consultant WYG. He gave an update on the topics discussed including the reclassification of Ballymoney and Dunaghy. Other issues included extension to five year housing plan, deletion of MIN1 and housing in the lignite area. The next stage of the process is site specific and this will be looked at over the next few months.

228.9 PROJECT UPDATE

The Head of Corporate & Development Services updated members on the progress of current projects, attached as Appendix A.

228.10 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR NI – CONSULTATION

A steering group comprising of representatives from voluntary and community organisations, statutory agencies and key Government Departments, have been working together to develop a **Strategic Framework for Community Development for NI**. This Framework is a co-ordinated attempt at starting to explore the purpose, value and contribution of community development practice in Northern Ireland.

Rural Community Network is leading on this initiative with support provided by Building Change Trust. A series of workshops was held in June 2011 across NI to engage with a broad audience of community development practitioners (paid and unpaid). The draft was also supported by a number of submissions from key sectoral organisations. RCN is now seeking your views on the draft Framework. This will be invaluable as they work towards producing the final Framework in the coming months.

A copy of both the draft Framework and an accompanying diagram that may be included in final design was tabled. Community development activity extends across directorates and responses is being co-ordinated by OCE. A copy of our "Ballymoney Community Development Activity Tree", reviewed and revised to take account of change in initiatives as agreed by CMT September 2011, was circulated.

These two documents can also be retrieved by following the link below.

http://www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org/news/news.aspx?ID=357&type=news

Comments have to be submitted to RCN by 4 pm Friday 28th October 2011.

228.11 RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Mr Tony McCusker has been appointed as the new Chair of the Rural Development Council with effect from 2nd September.

228.12 TIMING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The rescheduling of Committee meetings from 2nd Monday in the month to the 3rd Wednesday of each month will be tabled for consideration at the next meeting of Council.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

APPENDIX A PROJECT PLAN UPDATE

Project	Status	
Steps to Work	Revised annex to letter of offer signed.	
Exploring Enterprise	Delivered by Acorn The Business Centre. Successful programme. Report will be tabled at committee. An application has been received for continued financial support for the programme in the next year.	
INI Business Support	 Invest NI Tender Workshops information circulated 	
	• INI underspend due to firms postponing investment plans in current climate.	
ICT Essential Skills for Business	Delivered in conjunction with Acorn the Business Centre and NRC, day and evening courses well supported.	
Rural Development Programme	 Cluster food study developed. £500 per Council, from existing budget. Renewable Energy – meeting with local interest group being facilitated RDP supported projects tabled. Ballymoney Tourist Drives, survey results draft report completed. Feasibility study on Aires De Service NE draft report completed Village Regeneration – five plans delivered. Project being developed. Session organised with networks re social enterprise and community business development. 	
Tourism Marketing – International/Region al	 Causeway Cheese, Loughgiel features Australian TV food series "Taste of Ireland. NI on National Geographic – campaign to 7M viewers across Europe Causeway Coastal Route £1m winter marketing programme 	
Regional Tourism Partnership	Upgrading website, new brochure published with feature on myths and legends, Joint project on myths and legends being developed. NITB vision day.	
Local tourism marketing & development	 Marketing literature being reviewed for next year. Ulster Scots Heritage Tourism Programme – invitation from US Academy (MAGUS) to participate. Economiusee (Nr Europe Network) visit to area – local business participating. 	
Heritage Crime NI Environment Agency	Heritage crime summit held and follow up meeting.	
Events	 Pigeon Field Music & Film Festival review meeting held. Bid to NITB events supported for continued development. Fashion Event in partnership with 10 outlets. Christmas programme developed. 	
Environmental improvements	 Work progressing on clean up of streets/car parks etc in association with DRD, DSD and Borough Services Directorate. Property improvement initiatives being progressed Flyposting problem being addressed. 	
Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) – HLF	Consultation team and Part-time Project Officer appointed.	
Sustainable Town Pilot	Ideas being explored in advance of announcement on pilot scheme	