Ballymoney Borough Council Consultation Meeting No 91 – 18th November 2013

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91.18	Age Sector Platform	Support the aims of Age Sector Platform

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Consultation Committee Meeting No 91 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 18th November 2013 at 6.30 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Alderman C Cousley, MBE

PRESENT: Aldermen

F Campbell H Connolly B Kennedy

Councillors

W Blair A Cavlan

J Finlay, Mayor R Halliday R McAfee T McKeown C McLaughlin

I Stevenson, Deputy Mayor

M Storey, MLA

E Robinson, MBE

APOLOGIES: Councillor

P McGuigan

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive

Head of Corporate & Development Services

Business Support Officer

DRD Roads Service (Item 1)

Mr Colin Hutchinson, Manager, Strategic Road Improvement

Team

Mr J McKinley, Section Engineer

DoE Planning Service (Item 4)

Karen Dickson – DOE Planning Service, Coleraine

Press

91.1 DRD ROADS SERVICE AUTUMN PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed Mr Hutchinson and Mr McKinley to the meeting to update members on their interim report for the year 2013/14 on roads service work in the Ballymoney Council area. A copy of the report was circulated to members.

Despite its allocated low budget, Roads Service has been successful in its in-year bidding to make available £3.4M to invest in the Ballymoney area. Despite this there remains a backlog of maintenance work on the roads network and the Department will continue to carry out in-year bidding to enable them to undertake as much of this work as possible.

Mr Hutchinson advised members that the Minister for Regional Development has issued a press release welcoming the provision of £65M for the A26 dualling scheme. The Minister will publish his decision on the way forward and it is anticipated that construction could start late next year, or earlier with the commencement of enabling works and archaeological investigations, removal of trees and vegetation etc.

Thanks were extended to the Department for the work carried out in Dunloy to remove the grass verge, footway resurfacing at Stuart Park and resurfacing on the Ballybogey Road.

Members raised the following issues:

- Trees overhanging the road at Balnamore Road/Taughey Road (Councillor Finlay)
- Provision of footpath at Macfin (Councillor Finlay)
- Parking sign blocking site line on Finvoy Road (Councillor Finlay)
- Footpath in Dervock (Councillor Robinson)
- Zig-zag signage at Landhead school (Alderman Campbell)
- Road markings at Ballymena Road roundabout (Councillor Storey)
- Speed limits at Dunloy Cross/A26 (Councillor Stevenson)
- Traffic check from Coolkeeran Road to Magherahoney and Fivey Road to Drones Road to enable consideration of gritting (Alderman Connolly)
- Number of traffic incidents in Balnamore

Mr Hutchinson advised that he would look into these issues and advise members directly. He advised that traffic branch is already looking into the road marking issues at Ballymena Road roundabout. At the request of Councillor Robinson, he advised that house numbering and road signage at Kilmoyle Road was a matter for Council to consider.

Councillor Stevenson reiterated his concern at the difficulty in exiting Knock Road and Kirk Road onto the A26 and the safety of the pedestrian crossing at Queen Street. He also requested clarification that the Department has considered the Masterplan in their planning schedule.

Mr McKinley provided members with details on the 'Giro d'Italia' cycle race which is taking place over a three day period from 9-11 May. The race will be passing through Ballymoney on 10th May taking in the A26 by-pass (from Ballymena) and the B62 (Ballybogey Road). Mr McKinley advised that this will be a huge event resulting in some road closures. Mr McKinley will update Council on the event

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which is supported by NITB and part funded by the European Regional Development Fund under the European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme for Northern Ireland.

The presentation concluded at 7.20 pm. Mr McKinley and Mr Hutchinson left the meeting at this time.

91.2 CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETING NO 90 – 21ST OCTOBER 2013

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly seconded by Councillor McKeown and AGREED:

that the minutes of Consultation Committee Meeting No 90 - 21st October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

91.3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS 91.4

4.1 **New Applications**

Items 1-8 were considered and the opinion of the Planning Service accepted except where stated otherwise.

The content of the objections were summarised to members and may be viewed on public access at:

http://epicpublic.planningni.gov.uk/PublicAccess/zd/tdc_home.aspx

ITEM NO 1	APPLICATION NO D/2011/0224/F - REFUSAL
APPLICANT	Mary Pollock, C/o Agent
AGENT	URPA, 58 Howard Street, Belfast BT1 6PJ
LOCATION	Land approx. 320m NW of 41 Bendooragh Road,
	Ballymoney
PROPOSAL	Erection of Vesta V29 31m hub height (46.7m to blade

tip) wind turbine and control room to supply farm with

excess to the grid.

The Planning Officer advised that this application has been withdrawn.

ITEM NO 4	APPLICATION NO D/2013/0088/O - APPROVAL
APPLICANT	Ann & Francesca Hasson, 307 Townhill Road,
	Rasharkin
AGENT	Taggart Design, 133a Coolreaghs Road, Cookstown
LOCATION	Lands between 313 & 317 Townhill Road, Rasharkin
PROPOSAL	Proposed new dwelling and garage
OBJECTIONS (1)	Visability splays encroaching on to the laneway
	resulting in removal of trees.

The Planning Officer advised that as there is a wide verge, trees will remain unaffected.

ITEM NO 5 APPLICATION NO – D/2013/0099/F - APPROVAL

APPLICANT Ballymoney Borough Council

AGENT R Robinson & Sons, 59 High Street, Ballymoney

LOCATION 43m SW of 206 Drones Road & 34m N of 58

Knockahollet Road, Dunloy

PROPOSAL New roadside bush shelter

OBJECTIONS (4) Residents being hemmed in due to cars parking on

public road in front of properties, privacy, visibility issues, vandalism, accident black spot and increased risk of accidents, need for shelter as existing shelter

50m from crossroad.

It was **AGREED** that an office meeting be held on behalf of the objectors

(Alderman Kennedy/Councillor Storey)

ITEM NO 6 APPLICATION NO – D/2013/0106/O – REFUSAL

APPLICANT Miss M Keery

AGENT Abode Design, 13 Queen Avenue, Ballymoney

LOCATION 205A Seacon Road, Ballymoney

PROPOSAL Proposed 2no detached dwellings for residential

purposes

OBJECTIONS (2) Density, character of the area, garden grabbing, effect

on trees.

It was **AGREED:** that an office meeting be held (Alderman Kennedy)

APPLICATION NO – D/2013/0120/O – APPROVAL
APPLICANT
Mr & Mrs L Walsh, 104 Galdanagh Road, Dunloy
AGENT
DM Kearney Design, 2a Coleraine Road, Maghera
LOCATION
Between 100 and 104 Galdanagh Road, Dunloy

PROPOSAL Proposed infill site

OBJECTIONS (2) Character, query in relation to sewerage capacity and

odour.

ITEM NO 8 APPLICATION NO D2013/0121/O – REFUSAL

APPLICANT Mr Martin Carey C/o Agent

AGENT Raymond Doherty, 28 Glenoch Park, Coleraine

LOCATION 200m NW of 67 Bellaghy Road, Dunloy **PROPOSAL** Site for dwelling and garage on farm

It was **AGREED**: that an office meeting be held (Councillor McLaughlin)

4.2 Deferred Applications

Items 1-4 were considered and the opinion of the Planning Services accepted except where stated otherwise.

D1 APPLICATION NO – D/2010/0358F – APPROVAL

Related to D3

D2 APPLICATION NO – D2011/0232/F – REFUSAL

At the request of Alderman Connolly, the Planning Officer agreed to hold the application until the next group meeting which will be held on Wednesday 27th November to enable the applicant to submit further information.

D3 APPLICATION NO – D/2012/0087/F – REFUSAL

Related to D1

D4 APPLICATION NO – D/2013/0092/F – REFUSAL

It was AGREED: that the application be held pending a meeting with

the MP.

4.3 Streamlined Planning Applications – Decisions Issued

A schedule of decisions issued from 1.10.13 – 31.10.13 was circulated for members' information.

4.4 Office Meeting

Friday 29th November 2013 at 10.00 am.

- * The Planning Officers left the meeting at 7.35 pm.
- * Councillor Storey and Alderman Kennedy left the meeting at 7.35 pm.

91.5 REVISED DRAFT PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT (PPS) 15 'PLANNING AND FLOOD RISK'

The Department has published for consultation Revised Draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 15 'Planning and Flood Risk'.

The PPS aims to prevent future development that may be at risk from flooding or that may increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. The consultation papers are available on the Planning NI website at www.planningni.gov.uk or on request, from the Office of the Chief Executive.

The consultation period will end on 10th January 2014.

91.6 DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT

The Department has received a request that a representative from the Department give a presentation to a council planning committee on current renewable energy

policy, the Strategic Planning Policy Statement, renewable energy policy to be contained in development plans and thresholds in relation to wind farms once planning powers are transferred to councils.

The Minister has indicated that he is keen that all STCs and planning committees are given a similar opportunity. The Department would intend to organize one or two events depending on the response rate.

Members are asked to indicate their interest in attending such a presentation.

Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Robinson indicated their interest in attending a presentation.

91.7 DRAFT NILGA RESPONSES DOENI CONSULTATION WASTE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Draft NILGA responses on Landfilling of Food Waste and Waste Prevention Programme are attached for members' consideration. The papers will be considered by the NILGA Executive Committee on 13th December.

Comments are requested by 5th December 2013.

91.8 NILGA RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR EVIDENCE ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL

The response recognizes the extreme importance of this Bill to local government and the necessity to have key elements of it substantially altered in order to develop, enhance and sustain councils and the communities they support.

The response has been prepared after detailed engagement with members and officers from local councils, statutory transition committees, SOLACE and NILGA. It was unanimously approved after a special joint NILGA Executive/STC Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting on 8th November 2013. A copy of the response was circulated.

91.9 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BOARD CONSULTATION ON INPATIENT BASED ADDICTION TREATMENT SERVICES

A consultation process on the proposed reconfiguration of inpatient services for adults requiring addiction treatment has been launched by the Health and Social Care Board. The purpose of the consultation is to consider how specialist inpatient beds, used for the treatment of those with alcohol and substance misuse, could be better organised to improve the services throughout Northern Ireland.

The consultation document is available at www.hscboard.hscni.net/consult. or on request from the Office of the Chief Executive.

The closing date for responses is Friday 10th January 2014 at 5.00pm.

91.10 HOUSING EXECUTIVE 2012 CONTINUOUS TENANT OMNIBUS SURVEY ANNUAL REPORT (CTOS)

The CTOS is a key element of the Housing Executive's research programme. The Survey informs and assesses compliance with a range of legislation and governments policies including those relating to equality, modernizing services, targeting social need and tackling anti-social behaviour. The CTOS also plays a vital role in delivering district based housing management performance related data in key service areas.

A copy of the report is available to view, on request, from the Office of the Chief Executive.

91.11 DRAFT SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDANCE FOR THE WATER AND SEWERAGE INDUSTRY 2015-2021

The Department for Regional Development has launched a public consultation on Draft Social & Environmental Guidance for the water and sewerage industry (2015-2021).

The Guidance sets out the key social and environmental policies that the Regional Development Minister expects the Utility Regulator for Northern Ireland to contribute in its regulation of water and sewerage services. These policies will help determine Northern Ireland Water's investments priorities for the 2015-2021 period.

The consultation document can be viewed at http://www.drdni.gov.uk/index/publications/publications-details.htm?docid=9310 or on request from the Office of the Chief Executive.

The closing date for comments is Friday 31st January 2014.

91.12 CONSULTATION ON GAS (INDIVIDUAL STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2014

The Utility Regulator has published a Consultation on Gas (Individual Standards of Performance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014. The Regulator is seeking comments on the drafting of the Gas Regulations. The consultation can be found at www.uregni.gov.uk/publications/consultation on gss

The closing date for responses is 20th December 2013 at 3.00pm.

91.13 CONSULTATION ON NOISE POLICY STATEMENT FOR NORTHERN IRELAND (NPSNI)

The Department of the Environment has issued a consultation on the draft Noise Policy Statement for Northern Ireland. The aim of the NPSNI is to provide clarity regarding current policies and practices to enable noise management decisions to be made in the wider context, at the most appropriate levels, in a timely and cost-effective manner.

The NPSNI sets out three objectives which are underpinned by the principles of sustainable development. By setting out these clear policy aims, the NPSNI provides the necessary clarity and direction to enable decisions to be made regarding what is an acceptable noise burden to place on society. The NPSNI should therefore be referred to in situations where there is no guidance or standards on the particular noise situation.

The consultation document can be viewed at http://www.doeni.gov.uk/index/protect_the_environment/local_environmental_issues/noise.htm or, on request, from the Office of the Chief Executive.

91.14 CONSULTATION ON DRAFT GUIDANCE ON SELECTION AND DESIGNATION OF MARINE CONSERVATION ZONES (MCZs) IN THE NORTHERN IRELAND INSHORE REGION

This consultation seeks views on the proposed approach to the selection and designation of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) in the Northern Ireland inshore region.

The consultation document can be viewed at www.doeni.gov.uk/index/information/foi/recent-releases/publications-details or on request from the Office of the Chief Executive.

The closing date for responses is 31st January 2014.

91.15 CONSULTATION ON FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSUMER REPRESENTATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

DETI is seeking views on how future consumer representation arrangements in Northern Ireland should be delivered.

The Executive, in its 2011-15 budget, committed to undertake a review of Arm's Length Bodies, to ensure Ministerial priorities and statutory commitments continue to be delivered in the most cost-effective manner. The review of the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland and this consultation on the future delivery of consumer representation in Northern Ireland, is a continuation of this process for ensuring value for money in the use of public funds and the delivery of services to the Northern Ireland public.

The consultation and consultation response documents, together with the Review of the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland are available to view or download from the DETI website (www.detini.gov.uk) where they can be found under heading 'consultations' or, on request, from the Office of the Chief Executive.

As part of the consultation on the Strategy the Department is proposing to hold a number of consultation events. Details of these will be posted on the DETI website.

The closing date for responses is Friday 17th January 2014.

91.16 FORTHCOMING PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure will shortly be advertising in the local press seeking applications from people interested in the following appointments – Member of the Management Committee of Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, and Member of the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and the Built Environment.

There will be up to 4 members appointed to the Management Committee of Armagh Observatory and Planetarium. Up to 8 Members will be appointed to the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and the Built Environment. The Department wishes to bring a strong skills mix particularly in the area of corporate governance and public accountability to its Ministerial appointments on all Boards of sponsored bodies. Applications are therefore welcome from those with a strong corporate governance experience gained in the community or voluntary sector, public sector or private sector.

The Department is committed to the principle of public appointments based on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process. The Department is also committed to equality of opportunity and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified people irrespective of religious belief, gender, disability, ethnic origin, political opinion, age, marital status, sexual orientation or whether or not they have dependants.

The formal advertisements were placed in the Belfast Telegraph, Irish News and News Letter on 7th and 8th November 2013.

91.17 LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM SEMINAR

Following the launch of the Community Planning Foundation Programme the Department of the Environment would like to invite you to attend the above half-day seminar on **Tuesday 3rd December at the Tullyglass House Hotel**, **Ballymena**, as detailed in the attached flyer.

Delegate spaces are limited to 20 per new council cluster. Confirmations of attendance are requested by Friday 22nd November 2013.

Councillor Robinson indicated a desire to attend.

91.18 AGE SECTOR PLATFORM

A report launched by Age Sector Platform has highlighted the price of energy and food as the top concerns of pensioners in Northern Ireland; whilst worries about accessing health and social care have risen significantly over the last year.

The report, which summarises the findings of the 2013 Northern Ireland Pensioners Parliament, found that four out of five pensioners are worried about the price of energy, whilst two out of three are worried about meeting the cost of food. Age Sector Platform claims more needs to be done by government and the private sector to ensure those in their later years are not endlessly struggling to make ends meet. Michael Monaghan, Chair of the NI Pensioners Parliament, said: "Proposals for tackling high energy prices have taken centre stage at Westminster recently, and rightly so. The cost of keeping warm in winter has been the top concern of pensioners since the Pensioners Parliament began three years ago; and it is vital that our NI Executive approaches this problem with as much enthusiasm as their counterparts in the UK Parliament." "The big energy companies in Great Britain have been probed about their pricing strategies; is it too much to ask our Executive to scrutinise the energy market here and start asking difficult questions? Without a doubt, pensioners across Northern Ireland are awaiting the answers."

Mr Monaghan continued: "The price of food has come out as the second biggest concern of pensioners here. Since last year, we have been calling on food retailers to consider the introduction of a pensioner discount day which could help older shoppers cope with the rising cost of living and enable them to maintain a balanced diet.

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

that Council support the aims of Age Sector Platform to introduce a pensioner discount day.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.