

**Ballymoney Borough Council  
Council Meeting No 975 – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

**Table of Contents**

<b>975.1</b>	Declarations of Interest	<i>Alderman B Kennedy</i>
<b>975.2</b>	Rate Estimate 2013/14	<i>Discussed</i>
<b>975.3</b>	Armoy Motorcycle Road Race Club	<i>Award £2,500 for 2013/14</i>
<b>975.4</b>	Capital Expenditure 2013/14, 14/15 & 15/16	<i>Approved</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Council Meeting No 975 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 7.00 pm.

**IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor E Robinson, Mayor

**PRESENT:**

**Aldermen**  
F Campbell  
H Connolly  
C Cousley, MBE, Deputy Mayor  
B Kennedy

**Councillors**  
J Atkinson  
W Blair  
J Finlay  
R Halliday  
R McAfee  
T McKeown  
C McLaughlin  
I Stevenson

**APOLOGIES:**

**Councillors**  
A Cavlan

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive  
Director of Central and Leisure Services  
Deputy Director of Borough Services  
Head of Corporate & Development Services

**975.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Alderman Kennedy declared an interest as member of AMRRC. (item 3)

**975.2 RATE ESTIMATE 2013-14**

Introducing the Version 4 [5/2/2013] of Rate Estimate Book 2013/14, including draft capital programme and 8<sup>th</sup> month variance report for 12/13 (tabled at RTG on 28/1/2013), the Chief Executive said Council had asked officers to review V3 of the rate estimate and consider how a 0% could be delivered. This is delivered in V4

and included a £37,000 balance applied. The balance applied last year of £59,000 was not used. The effect of a 0% district rate would give domestic ratepayers an increase of 1.4% as regional rate is to rise by 2.7%. For a house valued at £100,000 that would be a rise of £10.20 per year or 85p per month. If there was to be the same increase as regional rate, the same householder would pay £19.72 per year or £1.66 per month.

Commenting on other rate increase in the cluster, the Chief Executive advised that Moyle District Council had agreed a rise of 1.82% while Coleraine was to consider an increase of 1.9%.

He advised that the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) would be dealt with later in the meeting and Prudential Indicators would be calculated when council decided on the Capital Programme. Responses to questions submitted by Councillor Stevenson had been circulated to all members.

The Director of Central & Leisure Services referred to V4, 5/2/13 of the rate estimate 2013/14, circulated, incorporating the following:

- Analysis of budget changes resulting in 0% rates increase.
- Budgets per service 2013/14
- Capital expenditure 2012/13
- Proposed capital expenditure 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Proposed environmental service changes
- Variance report (8 months) April-November 2012

#### Service Budgets 2013/14

The Director of Central & Leisure Services went through the analysis of increases/decreases in proposed budgets, reductions in 22 budget heads – cultural events, Leisure Centre Restaurant, sports grounds events, community services at Rasharkin and Killyrammer, Environmental Health salaries and group costs, increase in dog licence income, waste disposal costs (various), building control post group costs and fee increase, economic development projects and additional IFRS finance resource. A balance of £37,000 had been applied and five budgets increased – Corporate Health & Safety, Dog Control wages & fees, refuse containers Building Control salaries (student Building Control Officer and clerical support).

The net amount to be raised was 6,277,412 giving a non-domestic rate of 27.4675 and domestic property rate of 0.3525, a 0.00% increase.

Officers responded to members questions regarding additional support for town promotion, waste hardcore, target of 60% which Minister was minded to introduce for recycling , THI funding, community infrastructure projects, decrease in trade waste income, increase in recycling, NILAS compliance targets and potential fine.

**975.3 ARMOY MOTORCYCLE ROAD RACE****DECLARATION  
OF INTEREST**

**Alderman Kennedy, having declared an interest earlier, left the meeting.**

Members noted the contribution already agreed for the NW200 and discussed the level of contribution to AMRRC.

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

*that Council contributes £2,500 to AMRRC in 2013/14.*

- \* **Councillor Halliday left the meeting at 7.55 pm.**
- \* **Alderman Kennedy returned to the meeting.**

**975.4 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE 2013/14, 14/15 & 15/16**

Council considered the Capital Programme 2012/13 projects which will be delivered in 2013/14 and 2014/15. The Director of Central & Leisure Services advised that the cost of borrowing to finance the projects (detailed below) total cost £1,626,000 (loan charges £107,416) was included on the 2013/14 rates.

- Dervock community facilities – phase 1 and 2
- Riverside Park improvements
- Bus shelter provision
- Community infrastructure projects
- Scenic route/trails
- Village regeneration project

In response to a request by Alderman Kennedy for greater priority to be accorded to Riverside Park, the Director of Borough Services advised that council had accepted the position WRT Riverside Park improvements and officers were charged to look for grant. It was planned that the scheme be funded in two phases – 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The affordability of the three year Capital Programme 2013/14 at £7M, attached as Appendix A, was discussed.

Arising from comments on the Community Centre proposals submitted for support from the Social Investment Fund but not yet determined, the Director of Borough Services suggested that if the funding bid were unsuccessful, he would bring

before Leisure & Amenities Committee Capital Schemes to bring buildings up to standard. This was agreed.

- \* **Councillor McLaughlin left the meeting at 8.30 pm.**

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

- (a) that Council commit to the capital projects 2013/14, including amendment to Riverside Park from 2014/15 to 2013/14, and that the projects be advanced through relevant Committees and permission sought to go to tender and that**  
**(b) Capital Programme 2013/14 – 2015/16 be approved.**

Councillor Stevenson indicated that he had further amendments, supported by the DUP group, which he wished to put forward (affecting about 10 budget lines) but not impacting on the proposed 0% rate increase.

The Director of Central & Leisure Services said she needed time to calculate MRP and bring to Council and also calculate the Prudential Indicators and would need agreement on any further changes. Councillor Stevenson indicated that he was not in a position to present the proposed changes at this time.

The Director of Central & Leisure Services advised that the Minister intended to give power to STC to have veto on how reserves could be used at some time in the future. This could happen towards the end of next financial year or the following year.

### **Proposed Environment Services Charges**

The proposed operational enhancements as regards both street cleansing and waste collection services in Environmental Services, placed before Council via the Health & Environmental Services Committee (386 on 27/11/2012) are again put before Council for decision, as they have Capital and Revenue implications.

<b>Proposed Changes</b>		<b>Additional cost per annum</b>			
1.	<b>Street Cleansing Enhancement</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	To sweep all borough residential developments @ the same frequency as sweep pre-2001 residential developments	£14,368	£57,021	£71,389	
2.	<b>Waste Recycling Enhancement</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Potential Savings year 1.</b>	<b>Total</b>
a.	Slimming the "black" bin	£25,964	£28,750	£-40,529	£17,185
b.	Provide "kitchen" waste service	£60,934	£236,376	£-169,107	£128,203

It was agreed that the meeting arranged for 11/2/13 consider the rates further and a further meeting be arranged for 7.00 pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February to set the rate, to allow time in the interim period for the Director of Central & Leisure Services to revise calculations, if necessary.

**The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.**

Appendix A – Capital Programme 2013/14 – 2015/16

APPENDIX A



Capital Expenditure  
2012-13-2015-16.pdf