

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Council Meeting No 986 – 7th October 2013**

Table of Contents

986.1 Notice of Motion by Councillor B Kennedy

“That the Freedom of the Borough be conferred on Mr Michael Dunlop in recognition of his National, International and Isle of Man TT motorcycle road racing victories

Motion carried

BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting No 986 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 7th October 2013 at 6.00 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Councillor J Finlay, Mayor

PRESENT:

Aldermen
F Campbell
H Connolly
C Cousley, MBE
B Kennedy

Councillors
J Atkinson
W Blair
R Halliday
R McAfee
T McKeown
M Storey, MLA

APOLOGIES:

Councillors
A Cavlan
I Stevenson, Deputy Mayor

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Business Support Officer

Press x 2

986.1 NOTICE OF MOTION

Alderman Kennedy proposed the following motion, in accordance with the notice given.

“That the Freedom of the Borough of Ballymoney be conferred on Mr Michael Dunlop in recognition of the great honour brought to the Borough through his exceptional skill, ability and determination, in achieving success as an international motorcycling road racer, and winning numerous Irish and Ulster Championships, including 7 Isle of Man TT wins, with 4 victories in one week in 2013.”

Speaking in support of the motion, Alderman Kennedy said “Since Michael commenced racing on the roads in 2005, he has had successes at every national road racing circuit throughout Northern Ireland and Ireland riding in all classes from 125cc to 1000cc superbike machines and winning numerous Irish and Ulster championships. His success at International level includes his first win at the NW200 in 2008 at the age of just 20 in the 250cc class, following the death of his father Robert during practice for that event; He has also achieved success at the Ulster Grand Prix winning a total of 6 races to date, numerous wins at the Kells International Road Races in the South of Ireland and most recently at Scarborough where he won the International Gold Cup race, only the second Ulsterman, and the first Dunlop to have achieved this.

Michael’s successes in the Isle of Man are outstanding in all classes and include 14 wins at the Billown circuit at the Southern 100 road races and at the TT course with a total of 7 TT wins, four of which were achieved in one week this year riding for the Honda TT Legends Racing Team.

At the age of just 24, Michael’s exceptional skill, ability and determination to succeed are evident in his scores of racing achievements and the dedication and success he brings to the sport in continuing the Dunlop tradition brings great honour to this borough.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Storey

A vote was taken with all 11 members present voting in favour.

The Mayor declared the motion unanimously carried.

“That the Freedom of the Borough of Ballymoney be conferred on Mr Michael Dunlop in recognition of the great honour brought to the Borough through his exceptional skill, ability and determination, in achieving success as an international motorcycling road racer, and winning numerous Irish and Ulster Championships, including 7 Isle of Man TT wins, with 4 victories in one week in 2013.”

Members in turn supported the motion remarking that the Dunlop name is synonymous with road racing locally and throughout Europe and that Michael has become a local hero and a great sportsman. Councillor McAfee suggested that members of the public should be given the opportunity to celebrate Michael’s achievement.

This being all the business the meeting closed at 6.30 pm.