

**Ballymoney Borough Council**  
**Council Meeting No 987 – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**Table of Contents**

<b>987.1</b>	Declarations of Interest	
<b>987.2</b>	Minutes of Council Meeting No 985 – 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.3</b>	Minutes of Council Meeting No 986 – 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	
3.1	The Roddens Residential Home (987.1)	<i>For information</i>
3.2	Adoption of Minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.4</b>	Minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 253 – 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	
4.1	Presentation on Final Draft Masterplan	
4.2	Revitalisation Project	<i>Grant Council powers to Committee</i>
4.3	Town Events (253.4)	
4.4	Adoption of Minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.5</b>	Minutes of Consultation Committee Meeting No 90 – 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2013	<i>Received</i>
<b>987.6</b>	Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 410 – 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	
6.1	Rasharkin Wellbeing RDP Project – Tender Report	
6.2	Adoption of Minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.7</b>	Minutes of Health & Environmental Services Committee Meeting No 395 – 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.8</b>	Minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee Meeting No 419 – 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	
8.1	Somme 98 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pilgrimage	<i>Reserve two places</i>
8.2	Staff Matters	<i>Adopted</i>
8.3	Rate Estimates Meetings	<i>Dates agreed for 2014</i>
8.4	Adoption of Minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.9</b>	Audit Committee Meeting No 29 – 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.10</b>	Audit Committee Meeting No 30 – 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.11</b>	Resources Task Group Meeting No 53 – 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>987.12</b>	Seal Documents	<i>Affix seal of Council</i>

<b>987.13</b>	Statutory Transition Committee	<i>For information</i>
<b>987.14</b>	Local Government Reform	<i>For information</i>
<b>987.15</b>	District Housing Plan	<i>For information</i>
<b>987.16</b>	Presentation Requests	
	16.1 Addiction NI	
	16.2 Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014	<i>Agreed</i>
<b>987.17</b>	Agriculture Call for Evidence (DEFRA)	<i>For information</i>
<b>987.18</b>	Review of Roads Service Winter Service	<i>For information</i>
<b>987.19</b>	Resolution – Lisburn City Council	<i>Support motion</i>
<b>987.20</b>	Reports	<i>For information</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Council Meeting No 987 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.00 pm.

**IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor J Finlay, Mayor

**PRESENT:**

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

**Councillors**  
J Atkinson  
W Blair  
A Cavlan  
R Halliday  
R McAfee  
P McGuigan  
T McKeown  
E Robinson, MBE  
I Stevenson, Deputy Mayor

**APOLOGIES:**

**Councillors**  
C McLaughlin  
M Storey, MLA

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive  
Director of Borough Services  
Director of Central & Leisure Services  
Head of Corporate & Development Services  
Business Support Officer

Press x 2

**987.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**987.2 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO 985 – 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

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

*that the minutes of Council Meeting No 985 – 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**987.3 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO 986 – 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013****Matters Arising****3.1 The Roddens Residential Home (987.1)**

NHSCT Trust has advised that Fionnuala McAndrew, Director of Social Care at the Health & Social Care Board has been asked by the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, to review the changes proposed by all Trusts regarding statutory residential homes.

In her recent letter to residents (copy circulated) she outlined the future process proposed to clarify the future role and function of statutory residential homes. This process will involve two stages of consultation during which interested parties can feed back on the process. The Trust is aware of the value placed by the Ballymoney community in The Roddens.

Currently, long-term placements within the Roddens are being held in order to accommodate current residents of Rathmoyle who may choose to move to The Roddens in order to allow the re-development of the Rathmoyle site to progress. The Trust continues to provide respite and intermediate care beds within the Roddens.

There will be occasions when people from the Ballymoney area may choose to move to a locality to be closer to relatives and when this assessed need is identified we will endeavour to meet it. Similarly there may be people from outside the Ballymoney area who may wish to move to that area to be closer to their family.

The Trust assures Council that anyone from the Ballymoney area who has been assessed as needing a residential placement will be provided with such a placement. At this moment in time there is no-one waiting for such a placement from the Ballymoney area. In addition, a new nursing home has been developed in Ballymoney and this will provide another alternative for residents of the Ballymoney area.

**3.2 Adoption of Minutes**

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

***that the minutes of Council Meeting No 986 – 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.***

\* **Councillor McKeown joined the meeting at 7.02 pm.**

**987.4 MINUTES OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NO 253 – 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

Alderman Kennedy presented the report including addenda as set out at 4.1 and 4.2

**4.1 Presentation on Final Draft Masterplan**

Following the Consultation exercise which closed in mid-September, the Masterplan stakeholder group has given consideration to the responses and the draft vision. The draft masterplan has now been refined as necessary, to reflect the opinions expressed during the consultation. A final draft masterplan will be available in the next week or so for Council's consideration. Arrangements have been made for DSD to make a presentation to members.

**4.2 Revitalisation Project**

Arising from the consideration of the key areas identified, the draft masterplan, initial discussion has taken place on the possibility of a short term/quick win regeneration initiative entitled 'Ballymoney Revitalisation Programme' which would upgrade the frontages of properties within a designated area of the town centre. Work has commenced on identifying an appropriate area for action with the potential for a scheme to start early next year. It is intended that the initiative, estimated at £200,000, driven forward by steering group with representatives of Council and local trading community, would be prepared to submit as soon as the Masterplan is formally launched. The funding is dependent on a satisfactory economic appraisal being completed by the DSD and match funding from Council and contributions from businesses is required. In the intervening period it is necessary also to undertake business surveys to determine the level of interest and likely uptake for such a project. If funding becomes available formal applications will be sought from eligible businesses.

It is **recommended** that Council grant powers to the Development Committee for its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November to:

- 1.1 settle the final masterplan document to launch the plan at an early date;
- 1.2 settle the revitalization programme area and consider match funding of 10%, £20,000.

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

***that Committee, at its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November, be granted Council powers to settle the final Masterplan document, the revitalization programme area and match funding.***

**Matters Arising:****4.3 Town Events (253.4)**

Councillor McAfee congratulated the Head of Corporate & Development Services on the excellent programme of festival events over the Halloween period which, she said, was very much enjoyed by the local community.

**4.4 Adoption of Minutes**

It was proposed by Alderman Kennedy, seconded by Councillor McAfee and **AGREED:**

*that the Minutes of Development Committee No 253 – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**987.5 MINUTES OF CONSULTATION COMMITTEE NO 90 – 21ST OCTOBER 2013**

Alderman Cousley presented the report.

*The minutes of Consultation Committee Meeting No 90 – 21st October 2013, as circulated, were received.*

**987.6 MINUTES OF LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO 410 – 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

Alderman Campbell presented the report, including addendum as set out at 6.1

**6.1 Rasharkin Wellbeing RDP Project – Tender Report**

Alderman Campbell advised that the report would be available for consideration at the next meeting of Committee.

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

*that Committee be granted Council Powers to deal with the tender report at the November meeting of Leisure & Amenities Committee.*

**6.2 Adoption of Minutes**

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

*that the Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 410 – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**987.7 MINUTES OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 395 – 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

The report was presented by Councillor Atkinson.

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

*that the Minutes of Health & Environmental Services Meeting No 395 – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**987.8 MINUTES OF CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE NO 419 – 28TH OCTOBER 2013**

Councillor Robinson presented the report including addendum as set out at 8.1

**8.1 Somme 98<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pilgrimage**

The 98<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme will be held 28<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July. It will follow the route taken by both the 36<sup>th</sup> (Ulster) and 16<sup>th</sup> (Irish) Divisions during their service in the First World War. Cost is £580 per person, plus £80 single room supplement. As early booking is essential to secure a place Council is invited to consider if it wishes to reserve places.

In response to a question by Councillor Robinson, the Chief Executive confirmed that members could apply under the conference budget process to attend the Somme event.

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

*that Council reserve two places on the pilgrimage, attendees to be agreed.*

**Matters Arising****8.2 Staff Matters (419.3)**

Councillor Finlay recorded his view that whilst in agreement with the decision made, he was unhappy with the length of time that the matter had taken to reach a settlement.

**8.3 Rates Estimates 2014/15 – Date for Meetings (419.13)**

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

*that meetings will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30 pm (workshop), 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 6.30 pm and 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00 pm when it anticipated that the rate for 2014/15 will be struck by Council. Should an additional meeting be required in January, the date for this will be decided at the workshop arranged for Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November.*

#### **8.4 Adoption of Minutes**

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

*that the Minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee No 419 – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

#### **987.9 MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING NO 29 – 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

Councillor Finlay presented the report.

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

*that the Minutes of Audit Committee No 29 – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

#### **987.10 MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING NO 30 – 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

Councillor Stevenson presented the report.

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

*that the Minutes of Audit Committee No 30 – 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

#### **987.11 MINUTES OF RESOURCES TASK GROUP NO 53 – 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

Councillor Robinson presented the report.

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

*that the Minutes of Resources Task Group No 53 – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

- \* The Director of Borough Services and the Director of Central & Leisure Services left the meeting at 7.35 pm.



## 987.12 SEAL DOCUMENTS

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

*that the Seal of the Council be affixed to Grave Registration certificate numbers 1348, 1349, 1350, 1351, and 1352*

## 987.13 STATUTORY TRANSITION COMMITTEE

The Chief Executive advised that a meeting is scheduled to take place shortly and minutes will be circulated when received.

## 987.14 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Copy of information on the recently published Local Government Bill was circulated including a slide presentation on issues raised in the Bill. The deadline for submission of comments is 12<sup>th</sup> November. The Chief Executive thanked Belfast City Council for their work in producing the information. He said this is the first major reform in 40 years and highlighted a number of issues and advised members on some of the matters covered in the Bill, a mixture of prescriptive and enabling powers and options for forms of governance, but pointing out that the detail of many will be in the regulations. He dealt in turn with the governance framework options and associated issues including Councillors qualifications and how vacancies would be dealt with, method of filling places on Committee and size of Committees, overview and scrutiny, qualified majority vote and call in, access to meetings and documents, ethical standards partnership panel. The Chief Executive also outlined new powers on community planning, general power of competence and transfer schemes. He also commented on introduction of an updated performance framework and on controls to be introduced with regard to power of direction to all central government departments, local inquiries and investigations and intervention and the role of the auditor.

Councillor Robinson reported on an Engagement event on the subject she had attended in Cookstown recently. She commented specifically on committee style of governance and collaborative working between local government and central government and advised that NILGA has prepared a draft response (circulated) which will go to the Executive of NILGA on Friday for approval.

In response to Alderman Kennedy, the Chief Executive advised on arrangements for the Environment Committee scrutiny of the Bill and that NILGA, Solace and Ballymoney Borough Council were submitting proposals to the Environment Committee.

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

***that Council endorse the advice given by the Chief Executive and NILGA's draft response to the Call for Evidence on the Local Government Bill.***

#### **987.15 DISTRICT HOUSING PLAN**

Representatives from the Housing Executive recently presented the District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy to the Council.

The District Housing Plans are reviewed annually and the Housing Executive is interested in hearing the views of the Council on the 2013 document and on housing matters in the Council's area prior to preparation of the 2014 District Housing Plans. This information will be considered in the formulation of the 2014 document.

Members were issued with a questionnaire to provide their response to the document on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013.

#### **987.16 PRESENTATION REQUESTS**

##### **16.1 Addiction NI**

The Northern Trust has received funding from the Big Lottery Fund under the Impact of Alcohol programme. Following extensive consultation it was agreed to use this funding to develop and deliver a range of services across four interlinked, outcome focused projects. These services are now being delivered by a partnership of voluntary sector organizations working with the Trust, other service providers and stakeholders in the Trust area.

Addiction NI has written to request an opportunity to present to Council on the work that it does in the Ballymoney area and the services that are available to the local community.

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

***that council receive a presentation from Addiction NI.***

##### **16.2 Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014**

As Glasgow prepares to host the XX Commonwealth Games during the summer of 2014, the Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council (NICGCC) is launching its quadrennial appeal. The appeal is designed to provide the funding necessary to ensure that our local athletes receive world class support and can therefore perform to the best of their ability. The Commonwealth Games provide an opportunity to showcase all that is positive about Northern Ireland. As in previous years the team will consist

of athletes, coaches and support staff from across the region, all representing their council area with pride.

The Northern Ireland Games Council would like to have the opportunity to present to Council in order to further discuss the work of the NICGC and how it could engage with the local community before and during Glasgow 2014.

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

***that Council receive a presentation from Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council (NICGCC).***

#### **987.17 AGRICULTURE CALL FOR EVIDENCE (DEFRA)**

The Agriculture Call for Evidence outlines the scope of EU competence for the Common Agricultural Policy, plant health, plant reproductive materials and trade of agricultural products. It also examines forestry. DEFRA is looking for evidence of where EU action helps and hinders the UK. A series of workshops will be held on all subject areas from November to January around the UK and in Brussels. A workshop will be held in Belfast on 20<sup>th</sup> November (pm) to discuss the Northern Irish perspective. Further details are available at [www.consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/boc-agriculture](http://www.consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/boc-agriculture) or from the Office of the Chief Executive.

#### **987.18 REVIEW OF ROADS SERVICE WINTER SERVICE**

The Minister for Regional Development has written to advise that last winter Northern Ireland experienced two significant snow events that led to significant disruption – 17-21 January and 21-22 March.

Following these events an independent review was carried out of the performance of Roads Service over the period, given the significance of the snow events and the disruption caused. The review was carried out by the National Winter Service Research Group (NWSRG) and considered the following key areas

- the organization, practices and procedures that have been put in place by Roads Service to deliver winter service;
- an assessment of the effectiveness and utility of these arrangements in comparison with other highway authorities in the UK;
- the readiness and agility of the organization in responding to unusual events (such as extreme winter weather or operational difficulties which have the potential to cause significant travel disruption); and
- how Roads Service engages with the public during difficult winter conditions.

One of the recommendations of the review suggested that Roads Service should continue to liaise with District Councils to ensure the provision of a consistent service with regard to the treatment of footways across the whole of Northern Ireland.

In his letter the Minister welcomes the fact that Council has a formal written agreement with Roads Service in relation to the treatment of designated footways and would encourage Council to continue to work with Roads Service officials to ensure that, collectively, an effective service in the event of severe, prolonged winter weather is provided.

Councillor Robinson reported on her attendance at an Emergency Planning event held at Moyle Council Offices recently. At the meeting Roads Service advised that they are happy with the arrangements with Council and would continue to provide grit on request.

#### **987.19 LISBURN CITY COUNCIL**

At a meeting of Lisburn City Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 the following Notice of Motion was passed:-

*“This Council resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills expressing opposition to the privatisation of the Royal Mail due to its potential impact on post offices in Lisburn, Northern Ireland and across the UK.*

*This Council requests that the Northern Ireland Assembly supports this campaign and make their parliamentary colleagues aware of this Council’s opposition to the privatization of Royal Mail and undertake to write to the other 25 councils and to each MLA requesting they register their opposition to Royal Mail privatization with the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.”*

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

***that Council, in principle, support the motion by Lisburn City Council in its opposition to the privatisation of the Royal Mail.***

#### **987.20 REPORTS**

A schedule of reports was circulated for members’ information.

**This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.**