

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

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**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Development Meeting No 241, held in the McKinley Room, Riada House, Ballymoney on Wednesday 3rd December 2012 at 6.00 pm.

IN THE CHAIR: Alderman B Kennedy

PRESENT: **Aldermen**
F Campbell

Councillors
W Blair
T McKeown
R Halliday
I Stevenson

APOLOGIES: **Alderman**
H Connolly
Councillors
J Finlay
E Robinson
M Storey, MLA

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Head of Corporate & Development Services

Ecar Consortium Representative
Mr G Kerr

241.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

241.2 ECAR PRESENTATION

The Chair explained that the purpose of the meeting is to meet with Mr Gregor Kerr for further discussion on the NI DRD/DOE/ecar Consortium project, as requested by members.

As advised at a previous presentation to members, the scheme to join the Consortium runs until March 2013 with a cost to each Consortium member of £10,000 providing a minimum of five fixed cable charging points at identified locations, representing an investment of £55,000.

Minister Attwood wrote recently advising all councils of the need to confirm their intention to join the consortium by Friday 30th November. The Minister's office agreed to wait until Council had reached a decision at its meeting on 3rd December.

Copy of the previous minute setting out Council's deliberations (CM967.2) was circulated for convenience of members.

The Chair welcomed Mr Kerr to the meeting and invited members to put their questions, commenting that committee should then decide whether or not it wished to recommend that Council participate in the scheme and commitment to contribute the minimum amount of £10,000.

Mr Kerr updated members on the progress of the project indicating that the majority of NI Councils had signed up, including, in this region, Coleraine, Limavady, Ballymena, Antrim and Larne. Moyle Council had declined. The funding for the roll out of the scheme in NI was only available until March 2013 from the Department of Transport in London. During the discussion Mr Kerr responded to a variety of issues raised advising –

- that the scheme involved installation of 140 charge points in NI and the minimum contribution of £10,000 was being sought from all participants, in return for five charge points per area, an investment in infrastructure of £55,000;
- 20% of new cars by 2020 will be electric;
- Some examination of locations had been undertaken and suggestions would be considered;
- Grants were available for installation of dedicated charge points at home/work.

Some members took the view that it was unfair that smaller councils such as Ballymoney were being asked to pay the same contribution as larger areas and cities.

The Chair then put the matter to the meeting.

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

that Council participate in the DRD/DOE Ecar project and commit to contributing £10,000 for five or more fixed cable charging points in Ballymoney in the year 2012/13.

241.3 DERELICTION INTERVENTION FUNDING

The Officer advised on a recent briefing seminar to provide information to Councils on the potential for further work to be carried out by councils to tackle the problems of dereliction in towns and cities, which the DoE Minister was examining. The funding, if made available, would have to be spent by 31 March 2013.

Members lent their support to the development of a bid for interventions in the Ballymoney town centre, based on the criteria set down by the department and agreed that the matter be put to Council at its meeting later in the evening to consider.

The meeting concluded at 7.00 pm.