

**Ballymoney Borough Council  
Development Committee Meeting No 253 – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

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<b>253.1</b>	Declarations of Interest	<i>None</i>
<b>253.2</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 251 – 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>253.3</b>	Minutes – Meeting No 252 – 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2013	<i>Adopted</i>
<b>253.4</b>	Town Events	<i>Halloween festival launched</i>
<b>253.5</b>	Town Masterplan	<i>Consultation closed. Explore development of Linenhall street land</i>
<b>253.6</b>	Magilligan Prison Project	<i>Action plan being developed</i>
<b>253.7</b>	Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust – Landscape Partnership Scheme	<i>HLF Grant awarded</i>
<b>253.8</b>	Rural Development Programme 2014-2020	<i>NERDP Response</i>
<b>253.9</b>	Application for financial assistance – Loughguile Community Association	<i>Deferred</i>
<b>253.10</b>	Consultation on the Draft Northern Ireland Innovation Strategy 2013-2015	<i>Responses sought</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 253 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00 pm.

**IN THE CHAIR:** Alderman B Kennedy

**PRESENT:** Aldermen:  
C Cousley.

**Councillors:**  
J Atkinson; W Blair, J Finlay (Mayor), R Halliday,  
R McAfee, C McLaughlin, I Stevenson (Deputy Mayor)

**APOLOGIES:** Alderman:  
F Campbell, H Connolly

**Councillors:**  
A Cavlan; P McGuigan, E Robinson, MBE

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Head of Corporate & Development Services

**253.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**253.2 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING NO 251 – 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013**

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

*that the minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 250 – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013, as circulated, be agreed as a correct record.*

**253.3 DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING NO 252 – 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013**

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

*that the minutes of Development Committee Meeting No 252 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013, as circulated, be agreed as a correct record.*

**TOWN DEVELOPMENT****253.4 TOWN EVENTS**

The programme for the Halloween Festival has been launched and an outline programme for Christmas developed in consultation with Chamber of Commerce. The switch on event would take place on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

### **253.5 TOWN MASTERPLAN**

The analysis of the Masterplan Consultation has been received and will be considered by the project group, and a report will be brought to committee's next meeting, prior to finalisation of the plan for public launch.

An outline proposal for a town revitalisation project is being developed for submission to DSD and proposal will be brought to committee in due course.

Alderman Kennedy drew members attention to the offer for sale of the lands at Linenhall Street/Charles Street/High Street, which was available in lots. He suggested that council should consider the purchase, perhaps as a collaborative venture with Ballymoney Regeneration Company. Councillor McAfee supported the idea. After discussion it was **agreed** that further information be obtained and possible development options and potential uses explored, with a report to the next meeting.

### **253.6 MAGILLIGAN PRISON PROJECT**

Outline plans have been developed with a view to commencing this project in March 2014. Some budget provision will be required and a report on this will be brought to the next meeting.

## **TOURISM**

### **253.7 CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS HERITAGE TRUST (CCGHT) – LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME (LPS) - HLF**

HLF has awarded CCGHT a £1.4 million grant for the Heart of the Glens LPS through HLF's Landscape Partnership programme.

A collection of individual projects will run across the five year programme including activities to support land owners with habitat surveys; help to increase wildlife and develop a plan for the long-term management of the area. The local community will be able to showcase their unique landscape by taking part in a diverse range of events and activities such as heritage festivals, community photography schemes and archaeology days. People will be trained and supported to help deliver some of the activities through the development of a dedicated volunteer programme.

The project has support from a range of partners - the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, NI Tourist Board Moyle, Larne, Ballymena and Ballymoney Borough and District Councils will bring positive actions during the next 5 years to the Glens' unique landscapes, heritage and communities.

Members welcomed this project which would see benefits accrue to across the region.

## **RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **253.8 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2014 – 2020**

Following workshops the Senior Officers Group met to discuss the response to the consultation on this programme. Everyone is keen to see a well resourced and structured Rural Development programme and identified the new council structures as the key organisation in co-ordinating and delivering a successful outcome. The continuity of delivery is viewed as important, further strengthening the case as councils have been integral to the the LAG structures and can learn from the issues of LAG delivery processes.

The importance of ensuring that Rural Development is part of the Community Development process was also emphasised as was the need and the opportunity to have more synergy between the other EU programmes especially Interreg and Peace. It was considered that the new council structures are best placed to facilitate this.

It is recommended that each of the new LAGs would be co-terminus with the councils. This would mean 10/11 LAGs depending on whether Belfast could support its own LAG area. There could be a possibility of 1 LAG covering up to 2 council areas, but this would not be seen as appropriate in this area.

Any local action group should be tightly linked to the Council's Community plan and work seamlessly with other stakeholders to benefit the rural community. It should also have more autonomy and more flexibility than the current clusters. There is need for more devolved responsibility to a local level by DARD and an avoidance of the micro management that has been apparent in the present programme.

The NERDP has submitted a response which concentrates mainly on Priority 6.

### **253.9 APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – LOUGHGUILLE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

An application has been received from Loughguile Community Association for financial assistance towards computer, cookery and hospitality training for which funding through the Women's Network for European Social Funding has been secured. The application is being examined and a report will be brought to committee. There is currently no budget provision available to support the proposal.

### **253.10 CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT NORTHERN IRELAND INNOVATION STRATEGY 2013 – 2015**

Views on the draft Innovation Strategy for Northern Ireland. Information relating to this public consultation, including the draft Northern Ireland Innovation Strategy document and supporting evidence pack are available to view and for download from the DETI website at [www.detini.gov.uk/innovationstrategyyni](http://www.detini.gov.uk/innovationstrategyyni).

Copies of the draft NI Innovation Strategy document can also be made available on request from OCE.

The Northern Ireland Economic Strategy (2012) identified innovation as one of the key drivers necessary to rebalance the Northern Ireland economy. To address this need, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment on behalf of the Northern Ireland Executive Sub-Committee on the Economy has produced the draft Innovation Strategy.

The draft Innovation Strategy identifies the key actions necessary to transform Northern Ireland into one of the most innovative regions in the UK.

Responses to the consultation are requested **by 16 December 2013**.

**The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.**