

**Ballymoney Borough Council
Leisure & Amenities Committee**

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BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting No 405, held in the McKinley Room, Ballymoney on Tuesday 16th April 2013 at 7.04pm.

IN THE CHAIR

R Halliday [Item 1-4]
Alderman F Campbell [Item 4 -14]

PRESENT**Councillors**

J Atkinson
W Blair
J Finlay
R McAfee
C McLaughlin
E Robinson
I Stevenson

APOLOGIES:**Aldermen**

H Connolly
B Kennedy

Councillors

A Cavlan
P McGuigan
M Storey

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Central and Leisure Services [Item 1-7]
Head of Amenities [Item 8-14]
Committee Clerk

405.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

405.2 MINUTES OF MEETING NO 404 – 19TH MARCH 2013

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

that the Minutes of Meeting No 404 – 19th March 2013, as circulated, be approved.

LEISURE SERVICES**405.3 GOOD RELATIONS GRANTS**

The following applications for grants were considered:

- (i) Ballinagarvey Flute Band for assistance towards a Culture Sharing Event.

- (ii) North Antrim Cultural & Music Society for assistance towards a Community Integration Event.
- (iii) Apprentice Boys of Derry Campsie Club Rasharkin for assistance towards Community Workshops.
- (iv) Castle Youth Club for assistance towards their Summer Festival.

The above 4 applications meet the criteria of the Small Grant Scheme.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the above 4 groups are awarded £350.00 each.

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

to recommend that Council grant the following 4 groups £350.00 each (i) Ballinagarvey Flute Band for assistance towards a Culture Sharing Event, (ii) North Antrim Cultural & Music Society for assistance towards a Community Integration Event, (iii) Apprentice Boys of Derry Campsie Club Rasharkin for assistance towards Community Workshops, (iv) Castle Youth Club for assistance towards their Summer Festival.

405.4 COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS

The following applications for grants were considered:

- (i) Ballymaconnelly Renewal Group for assistance towards an Open Day;
- (ii) Ballinagarvey Flute Band for assistance towards a Social Evening/Treasure Hunt;
- (iii) Dunloy Community Playgroup for assistance towards the Purchase of Equipment;
- (iv) Cloughmills Community Centre Arts Group for assistance towards Art Classes;
- (v) Bendooragh Apprentice Boys Cultural Society for assistance towards Cultural Workshops;
- (vi) Killyrammer and District Community Association for assistance towards a Senior Citizens Christmas Outing;
- (vii) Lisnagaver Flute Band for assistance towards a Diamond Jubilee Celebration;
- (viii) Apprentice Boys of Derry Campsie Club Rasharkin for assistance towards Cross Community Workshops;
- (ix) Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots for assistance towards Music Workshops;
- (x) North Antrim Music Arts and Cultural Society for assistance towards a Cultural Trip to Somme Heritage Site;
- (xi) Balnamore Community Association for assistance towards a Youth Trip;
- (xii) St Brigids GAC for assistance towards the Purchase of Sports Equipment;
- (xiii) Ballymoney Royal Black District Chapter No.5 for assistance towards a Historical Talk;
- (xiv) The Royal British Legion Women's Section for assistance towards their Annual Trip;
- (xv) Garryduff Flute Band for assistance towards a 60th Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II Event;

- (xvi) Ballymaconnelly LOL 360 for assistance towards a Historical & Cultural Event;
- (xvii) North Antrim Horticultural Association for assistance towards their Annual Show;
- (xviii) Finvoy Rural Educational & Cultural Society for assistance towards a Cross Community Talk;
- (xix) Cloughmills Boys & Girls Football Club for assistance towards a Football Tournament;
- (xx) Fuse FM for assistance towards the Purchase of Equipment.
- (xxi) NI Gloster Fancy Canary Club for assistance towards their 55th Annual Show;
- (xxii) Dunaghy Flute Band for assistance towards a Cultural Awareness Trip.

The above 22 applications meet the criteria of the Community Support Grant Scheme.

Total Budget for year is £5,000.00, with £1,600 already paid out in grants.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the above 22 groups are awarded £200.00 each.

Councillor Finlay advised that he had received complaints that groups applying for grants find the budget has been expended before they are able to submit their application. Councillor Robinson expressed sympathy for those groups who are hit hardest, being unaware of the 'system'.

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

to recommend that the budget be increased to £8,000.

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

to recommend that Council grant the undernoted 22 groups £200 each:

- (i) ***Ballymaconnelly Renewal Group for assistance towards an Open Day,***
- (ii) ***Ballinagarvey Flute Band for assistance towards a Social Evening/Treasure Hunt,***
- (iii) ***Dunloy Community Playgroup for assistance towards the Purchase of Equipment,***
- (iv) ***Cloughmills Community Centre Arts Group for assistance towards Art Classes,***
- (v) ***Bendooragh Apprentice Boys Cultural Society for assistance towards Cultural Workshops,***
- (vi) ***Killyrammer and District Community Association for assistance towards a Senior Citizens Christmas Outing,***
- (vii) ***Lisnagaver Flute Band for assistance towards a Diamond Jubilee Celebration,***
- (viii) ***Apprentice Boys of Derry Campsie Club Rasharkin for assistance towards Cross Community Workshops,***
- (ix) ***Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots for assistance towards Music Workshops,***
- (x) ***North Antrim Music Arts and Cultural Society for assistance towards a Cultural Trip to Somme Heritage Site;***

- (xi) **Balnamore Community Association for assistance towards a Youth Trip;**
- (xii) **St Brigids GAC for assistance towards the Purchase of Sports Equipment;**
- (xiii) **Ballymoney Royal Black District Chapter No.5 for assistance towards a Historical Talk;**
- (xiv) **The Royal British Legion Women's Section for assistance towards their Annual Trip;**
- (xv) **Garryduff Flute Band for assistance towards a 60th Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II Event;**
- (xvi) **Ballymacconnelly LOL 360 for assistance towards a Historical & Cultural Event;**
- (xvii) **North Antrim Horticultural Association for assistance towards their Annual Show;**
- (xviii) **Finvoy Rural Educational & Cultural Society for assistance towards a Cross Community Talk;**
- (xix) **Cloughmills Boys & Girls Football Club for assistance towards a Football Tournament;**
- (xx) **Fuse FM for assistance towards the Purchase of Equipment.**
- (xxi) **NI Gloster Fancy Canary Club for assistance towards their 55th Annual Show;**
- (xxii) **Dunaghy Flute Band for assistance towards a Cultural Awareness Trip.**

The Director advised that when the budget is expended, it would be advertised that the Grant Scheme for 2013/14 is closed.

- * **Alderman Campbell arrived at the meeting during consideration of the above item, Councillor Halliday vacated the Chair, Alderman Campbell assumed Chair.**

405.5 COMMUNITY FESTIVAL FUNDING 2013/14

The Community Festival Fund budget for 2013/14 is £8,000, 50% of which is grant aided by the Department of Culture Arts & Leisure.

Following a publicly advertised call for applications 14 have been received.

The applications were checked and a schedule detailing all the applications was issued at the meeting including the name of the community group, name of the festival, duration, estimated cost level of grant requested and level of grant recommended. The Director advised that the application from Livingstone Golf Society did not meet the criteria for funding.

The Director also advised that administration costs amounted to £550 leaving a total of £7,450 to be awarded in grants. She advised that the same conditions would apply to the grant scheme as last year.

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

to recommend that Council grant:

- (i) **Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots Society £850;**
- (ii) **Glebeside Community Association £700;**
- (iii) **Dervock & District Community Association £700;**
- (iv) **Loughgiel Community Association £700;**
- (v) **Glebe Rangers Football Club £700;**

- (vi) Ballymacconnelly Renewal Group £550;*
- (vii) Dunloy Accordion Band Society £550;*
- (viii) Dunaghy Flute Band £550;*
- (ix) Rasharkin Community Association £550;*
- (x) Killyrammer & District Community Association £400;*
- (xi) Apprentice Boys of Derry Campsie Club Rasharkin £400;*
- (xii) Rasharkin Cultural Committee £400;*
- (xiii) Ballymoney Royal Black District Chapter No 5 £400.*

405.6 COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMME 2013/14 – DSD FUNDING

The Department of Social Development (DSD) has offered the undernoted grant aid for the financial year 2013/14

Community Support General	£25,020.59
Advice Services Grant	£12,244.00

The Memorandum of Understanding which includes acceptance of the Grant Offer will be signed by the Chief Executive and returned to DSD within the required timescale.

In relation to Advice Services, Councillor Finlay drew members' attention to a back log of 10,000 ESA appeals.

The Director advised that she would circulate information from the Citizen's Advice Bureau Annual Report to members, on the numbers and types of queries dealt with.

Councillor Stevenson appreciates the work that CAB does; stating that it is good Council does support the funding going to them.

405.7 NORTH WEST 200, 2013

The 2013 North West 200 event take place from Monday 13th May to Saturday 18th May. The Ballymoney Borough Council sponsored Supersport Race is the first race of the Evening Racing on Thursday 16th May.

An invitation has been sent to the Mayor, Councillors and staff to visit the NW200 on Friday 17th May at 10.30am to receive a 90 minute tour of race control, the BBC compound, media centre and to meet a number of the teams in the Paddock. The tour will finish with tea and coffee in the hospitality marquee.

IT WAS AGREED Council accept the invitation, members should indicate their willingness to attend by the Council meeting on Tuesday 7th May when it will also be determined if transport is to be provided.

- * **Director of Central and Leisure Services left the meeting at 8pm.**
- * **Head of Amenities arrived at the meeting at 8.05pm.**

AMENITIES

MATTERS ARISING

405.8 Playing Pitches Charges (404.6)

Councillor McAfee sought an update.

Head of Amenities has investigated the matter and a schedule was circulated detailing pitch income and spend on pitch maintenance. Councillor McAfee drew on information she had compiled from 2011 expenditure of clubs and society's, she would like Council to consider a discount scheme for such organisations making considerable use of its pitches and halls as an incentive to continue their use.

Head of Amenities pointed out that new rates for the forthcoming season will be brought forward for recommendation at the June meeting so a decision on charges would need to be finalised prior to this meeting.

Councillor Finlay declared that the facilities Council provided which were second to none and he requested time to converse with clubs on the matter whilst having sympathy for the position they are in.

In response to Councillor McAfee and a letter received from Ballymoney United Youth Academy, Head of Amenities explained that although some football pitches are closed for maintenance work each summer, there are pitches available for training/playing. If clubs give an indication of their requirements, pitches can be booked as normal.

Once the maintenance schedule has been confirmed, a copy will be sent to Councillor McAfee for information.

405.9 RASHARKIN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Further to the Council's decision to remove the caretaking facility at Rasharkin Community Centre, interim arrangements have been put in place until the 7th May at the request of the Management Committee. These arrangements will be paid for by the Management Committee. An intercom system has been installed at the Council's expense to facilitate the Playgroup. From 7th May onwards, the Management Committee will implement interim arrangements until the formal signing of a lease.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council note the interim arrangements.

405.10 USE OF RIVERSIDE PARK, BALLYMONEY

As in previous years the undernoted requests have been received to make use of the Council's Ballymoney Riverside Park -

- 1) Cancer Research UK – Ballymoney Local Committee
Fun Run/Walk on Friday 3rd May 2013 from 7.30pm
This is the 7th such Fun Run to be held, last year a total of £1462 was raised to support the charity.
- 2) Ballymoney Gospel Hall
Open Air Gospel Services (7.00 to 7.30pm) – Friday 7th June 2013 at the 'pond' car park and Monday 10th June 2013 at the Bravallen Road car park.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council approves both requests regarding the use of its Riverside Park, Ballymoney.

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

to recommend that Council grant the use of Riverside Park to (i) Cancer Research UK on Friday 3rd May from 7.30pm for a Fun Run/Walk and (ii) Ballymoney Gospel Hall on Friday 7th June for an Open Air Gospel Service from 7.00pm.

Having received adverse complaints regarding the condition of Riverside Park, Councillor Finlay enquired of any proposed future scheme. Head of Amenities explained the 3-stage application process through which Heritage Lottery money has been applied for, if successful the HLF Scheme will be completed within a 2-year timescale. It is anticipated Council shall receive an update on their initial application stage within the next 10 days.

* **Councillor McLaughlin left the meeting at 8.30pm during consideration of the above matter.**

405.11 BUS SHELTER & PLAY AREA AT FINVOY

Further to the suggestion made by Director of Borough Services (LAC 403.18 19th February 2013) two condition reports are tabled for consideration by Committee: (i) Report on Existing Reinforced Concrete Panel Bus Shelters and (ii) 10 Play Areas identified as being of limited/poor play value.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Committee consider these two reports and make recommendation to Council.

11.1 Condition Report on Existing Reinforced Concrete Panel Bus Shelters

Head of Amenities circulated a report detailing the location of 51 bus shelters, their condition, a recommended action and its estimated cost. The report was compiled using information from statutory agencies. Members discussed the findings of the report; Councillor Stevenson expressed caution at reaching conclusions on information supplied from statutory agencies alone.

Councillor Stevenson queried the 2011/12 Capital Projects budget for Bus Shelters, 3 bus shelters had been allowed for however only 1 was completed. He referred to his request for a bus shelter on Kilraughts Road. Head of Amenities recalled the difficulties encountered when seeking a site for a bus shelter on the Kilraughts Road.

Councillor Robinson requested Head of Amenities to examine the Capital Budget for Bus Shelters 2011/12 and 2012/13.

11.2 Play Areas

A report detailing 10 play areas identified as being of limited/poor play value, excluding Cloughmills, Megaw Park and Glebeside was circulated. Members queried the findings of the report. Head of Amenities outlined the requirements involved in any revamp to bring the play area up to current standards. Councillor Stevenson considered the 2007 statistics may not be a current reflection.

Councillor Atkinson offered to survey Finvoy Play Area. Head of Amenities will organise that 10 Play Area locations receive an up to date survey of children in the vicinity making use of the Play Area.

* **Councillor Stevenson left the meeting at 9.07am and returned at 9.10pm.**

Councillor Stevenson referred to Version 4, Rates Estimate Book 2013/14 indicating that £50,000 had been budgeted, for a Drumaheglis Play Area Upgrade.

* **Councillor Atkinson left the meeting at 9.15am.**

405.12 DRUMAHEGLIS MARINA & CARAVAN PARK

Council are asked to note that Drumaheglis Marina and Caravan Park has retained its AA 5 pennant rating for the 2013 season.

405.13 CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Head of Amenities supplied members with an update on Capital Projects:

- Cloughmills Bio Park - Contractor on site and due to be finished mid-June.
- Drumaheglis Marina & Caravan Park – Contractor on site and due to be finished mid-June.
- Ballybogey MUGA – contractor on site and due to be finished mid-June.
- Dervock Recreation Grounds – contractor on site and due to be finished mid-February 2014.
- Glebeside – consultant instructed to prepare tender documents.
- Dervock Riverside Park – awaiting letter of offer.
- Drumbolcan Park – awaiting letter of offer.
- Drumbolcan Park Groundworks NI Project – started anticipated finish late June.

Councillor Stevenson would like progress on Megaw Park to be progressed in the current financial year, he also asked about the Christmas Lighting Scheme. Head of Amenities confirmed that he will be meeting with Cogan and Shackleton to look at available options.

Councillor Finlay felt the Tennis Courts at Megaw Park were well used and it was unfortunate that they needed to be closed for safety reasons. At the request of Alderman Campbell, Head of Amenities shall retable plans of the proposed scheme at Megaw Park.

405.14 COUNTRYSIDE WALKS PROGRAMME 2013

Members are informed that the 2013 Countryside Walks Programme has now been drafted and includes eight walking events, four of which have a biodiversity theme. Where possible events are free or minimum cost and refreshments are included at five of the events.

Countryside Walks:

Ballymoney Goes Nordic (new for 2013)	Two 4- week Nordic Walking taster sessions: Wednesdays 10am-12pm
Course 1: May 8, 15, 22 & 29	Course 2: June 5, 12, 19 & 26 Cost: £2 per person per session Certificates Refreshments Limit: 12 per course
Craigs Wood/Broad Stone Walk:	Wednesday 26 June 7-9.30pm Cost: FREE
The Croaghan Way Ramble:	Thursday 1 August 6.15-9pm Cost: FREE
Lissanoure Castle Estate Walk:	Thursday 8 August 7-9pm Cost: £3 per person Refreshments Limit: 80 people
<u>Biodiversity Walks:</u>	
Hedgrows Grow Nest, Culmore House & Farm:	Wednesday 29 May 7-9pm Cost: FREE Refreshments
Dragonfly Hunt, Garry Bog:	Saturday 8 June 2-4pm Cost: FREE Limit: 25 people
Big Butterfly Count, Riverside Park:	Saturday 20 July 2-4pm Cost: FREE Refreshments
Woodland Fungal Foray, (new for 2013) O'harabrook Estate:	Thursday 29 August 7-9pm Cost: FREE Refreshments Limit: 25 people

This being all the business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.