



# COLERAINE BOROUGH COUNCIL

You are hereby requested to attend a Meeting of Coleraine Borough Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Cloonavin on **TUESDAY** 12 November 2013 at **6.30pm**.

R WILSON

Town Clerk and Chief Executive

Cloonavin  
66 Portstewart Road  
COLERAINE

## A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Chair's Business
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 Presentation: Alzheimer's Society
- 5 Committee Report (enclosed):
  - 5.1 Leisure and Development Committee – 15 October 2013
- 6 Correspondence
- 7 Documents for Sealing

To: Each Member of Council

07 November 2013

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Leisure and Development Committee</b>
<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>15 October 2013 at 6.30pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	Bann View Committee Room, Cloonavin
<b>Chair</b>	Councillor W McCandless
<b>Present</b>	Alderman J McClure Councillors Y Boyle, P Fielding and A McQuillan
<b>In Attendance</b>	Corporate Director of Leisure and Development, Head of Development Services, Head of Leisure Services, Regeneration Manager, Acting Economic Development Manager and Administrative Assistant

## 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Aldermen Hickey and Hillis and Councillor Barbour.

## 2 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

### 2.1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

## 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were stated.

## 4 REQUEST FOR PRESENTATION

### 4.1 Causeway Association of Urban Sports (CAUS)

Reported that a request to present had been received from Causeway Association of Urban Sports (CAUS).

**Recommended:** That the presentation from CAUS be presented at the November meeting of the Leisure and Development Committee.

## 5 ADVICE NI

The Chair welcomed Ms Sinead Campbell from Advice NI who was in attendance to present to Committee.

Ms Campbell advised that Advice NI was a membership organisation based in Belfast which had approximately seventy members across Northern Ireland who offered generalist and specialist advice on debt, benefits, consumer and housing.

Members noted that the Coleraine office was based in the West Bann Community Centre under the supervision of Ms Ann Marie O'Donnell and that opening hours were Monday – Thursday 9am – 1pm and Friday 2pm – 4.30pm.

The Chair thanked Ms Campbell for attending after which she withdrew from the Meeting.

## **6 LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT**

Consideration was given to the Leisure and Development Services Report (previously supplied).

### **6.1 Smart Grid**

The Acting Economic Development Manager advised members that Smart Grid was an initiative designed by the officer team to create a Business Energy Project. Specialised advice and support was required in order to identify a commercially viable Renewable Energy Pilot Project. The scope of the work required investigation and identification of viable sites, recruitment of up to forty potential local businesses that could become involved in the supply chain for establishing the Energy Hub and/or servicing of Energy Storage Solutions for the envisaged project, culminating in a specific localised grid that could be established in Coleraine.

An application for funding of the project to Invest NI and the European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme 2007-2013 had been successful with an offer of £74,616 secured (75%) which left match funding requirement of £24,872 to be split across three financial years. The project would run until December 2015 and provision had been made in the estimates for it to commence in the current financial year.

**Recommended:** That Council accepts the letter of offer for £74,616 for the Smart Grid Project and agrees match funding of £24,872 over three years.

### **6.2 North East Digital Champion Programme**

Councillor McQuillan joined the Meeting.

The Acting Economic Development Manager advised members that Economic Development staff from the North East Group of Councils (Antrim, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Carrickfergus, Coleraine, Larne, Moyle and Newtownabbey) had been working on the development of a number of business support programmes that would be made available across the eight Councils. Larne Borough Council had taken the lead on a programme that aimed to recruit a Digital Champion to assist local businesses, social enterprises, the public/voluntary sector and the wider community to better exploit the digital platform of very fast broadband that existed in the region, for the purposes of economic growth and improved citizen services. Seven Councils were participating in this programme and the total cost was £200,000 with £150,000 being sought from Invest NI and the EU's Sustainable Competitiveness Programme, leaving £50,000 match funding to be divided between the Councils. The programme would run for two years with Council's match funding of £7,142.86 being divided over two financial years.

By working in partnership with Digital 2020, Invest NI and Logon NI, this programme would recruit a regional Digital Champion to promote the benefits of the digital platform.

**Recommended:** That Council supports the programme and agrees match funding of £7,142.86 over two years.

### **6.3 DVA Proposed Job Losses**

The Head of Development Services advised members that in response to the prospect of severe job losses and loss of service at the DVA offices in Coleraine and across Northern Ireland, DVA staff and NIPSA, supported by business representatives, councillors and politicians, had initiated a campaign to lobby against the proposed changes. It was noted that a series of activities were being planned, including actions to raise local awareness of the real impact of the cuts. DVA staff members had

distributed fliers at local supermarkets and were planning days of action around the Causeway Coast region including attendance at the speciality market in Coleraine on Saturday 12 October 2013. Council had hosted meetings of the group to date and proposed to continue to offer support in a variety of ways including promotional activity, use of facilities and assistance with lobbying. The support would inevitably mean a cost to Council, which would be managed by officers, with an update on activity being provided to Committee.

Members thanked the officers involved in this matter for all the work carried out to date.

**Recommended:** That Council approves support for the DVA campaign to prevent job losses to the area.

#### **6.4 Lansdowne Area, Portrush – Masterplanning Project**

The Regeneration Manager presented a summary of the proposed masterplanning project for Lansdowne, Portrush, which would provide outline guidance as a blueprint for the appropriate future regeneration of the area.

The Lansdowne area of Portrush presently had no contextual regeneration and planning guidance which was a gap in the holistic vision for the resort, however, it was complementary to the broad Western Peninsula section covered by the Portrush Regeneration Strategy. The proposed project would assist in reducing risk and uncertainty and would give context to any future developments. The Portrush Regeneration Group supported the project in principle. The total estimated cost of the proposal was £5,000 and match funding assistance would be sought by officers.

**Recommended:** That Council approves the Lansdowne Masterplanning project at a cost of circa £5,000 subject to match funding.

#### **6.5 DARD Consultation on the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020**

The Head of Development Services referred to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) consultation on the Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020 which would close on 21 October 2013. Consideration was given to the draft response (previously supplied).

The Programme would be part funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and was aimed at improving competitiveness in the agriculture and forestry sector, safeguarding and enhancing the rural environment and fostering competitive and sustainable rural businesses and thriving rural communities.

**Recommended:** That Council approve the draft Rural Development consultation response.

#### **6.6 Northern Ireland ERDF Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme 2014-2020 Consultation**

The Head of Development Services referred to the above consultation, which would close on 21 October 2013. Members considered the NILGA response and the draft Council response (previously supplied).

The Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme would be part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and was aimed at supporting regional economic growth. Having taken into account the relatively small scale of the new Programme, the NI Executive priorities and the Commission requirement for greater concentration of resources across a smaller number of activities, the Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment (DETI) proposed to focus on the following three Thematic Objectives:

- Strengthening Research, Technological Development and Innovation;
- Enhancing the Competitiveness of SMEs; and
- Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy.

It was anticipated that the Programme would be delivered by DETI, Invest NI, the Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) and local Councils.

**Recommended:** That Council approve the draft consultation response.

## 8.0 FOR INFORMATION

### 8.1 Coleraine Sports Awards

It was noted that Coleraine Sports Council would be holding their annual Sports Awards Evening on Friday 01 November 2013 in the Lodge Hotel, Coleraine.

### 8.2 Halloween

It was noted that Council would once again host the Halloween events at the Rugby Avenue playing fields on Thursday 31 October 2013 from 2.00 pm – 10.00 pm.

### 8.3 Christmas Lights Switch-Ons

Members noted the dates for the Christmas Lights Switch Ons in the Borough as follows:

Location	Date	Time	Comments
<b>Coleraine Town Centre</b>	Friday 29 November	Time: 6.00pm-9.00pm Switch-On 7.00pm	Including a festive parade, live music and Santa's Grotto
<b>Portstewart The Crescent</b>	Saturday 1 December	Time: 3.30pm-5.30 pm Switch-On 4.30pm	To coincide with retailers request Entertainment and Santa's Grotto
<b>Garvagh Upper Main St &amp; GADDA</b>	Thursday 5 December	Time: 7.00pm- 8.30pm Switch-On 7.30pm	Change of date to coincide with Christmas Tree Festival in GADDA a CFF event. Entertainment and Santa's Grotto
<b>Portrush Station Square &amp; Amphitheatre</b>	Friday 6 December	Time: 6.45pm-8.30pm Switch-On 7.30pm	Entertainment and Santa's Grotto Working alongside Portrush Traders and Schools on FREE festive giveaways and entertainment
<b>Kilrea The Diamond</b>	Saturday 7 December	Time: 4.00pm-6.00pm Switch-On 5.00pm	Entertainment and Santa's Grotto Working alongside Schools on entertainment
<b>Portballintrae Village Hall &amp; Boat Club</b>	Saturday 7 December	Time: 4.00pm Switch-On 4.30pm	Working alongside the Portballintrae Resident's Association. More details to follow
<b>Castlerock O'Neill's</b>	Thursday 12 December	Time: 7.00pm-8.30pm Switch-On 7.30pm	Including a festive parade, live music and Santa's Grotto,

<b>Caravan Park</b>			working in conjunction with Castlerock Business Community, Scouts etc
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#### **8.4 Causeway Coast & Glens Community Development Framework**

Members noted that, following the decision in 2012 to work in partnership with Limavady, Ballymoney and Moyle Councils to develop a joint Community Development Framework in preparation for the new Causeway Coast & Glens Council, information workshops were being organised in order to feed into the Transition Committee.

The next phase would be the development of a joint strategy and action plan for the Causeway Coast & Glens Council, shaped by the strategic direction, outcomes and indicators identified within the Framework. Councils plan to initiate this process in early spring 2014 as part of the Community Support Plan for the consideration of the Shadow Council in autumn 2014.

An executive summary of the Framework and copy of key actions, in preparation for implementation, had been previously supplied for information.

#### **8.5 Policing & Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2012-13**

Members noted the 2012-13 Annual Report of Coleraine Policing & Community Safety Partnership which had been adopted at their Annual Meeting on 24 June 2013 (previously supplied).

#### **8.6 Welfare Reform Workshop for Councillors**

Reported that the 'Information Seminar on Welfare Reform' organised for Thursday 03 October 2013 in the Bann View Committee Room had been cancelled.

#### **8.7 ReVitalise Coleraine Update**

Reported that Council had received a fund of £250,000 from the Department for Social Development (DSD) in April 2013 for the Coleraine ReVitalise Programme for Waterside and Bridge Street areas of Coleraine Town Centre. Council was contributing to the programme with in-kind support of £22,180.85 for management of the programme and work to the gap sites, with an additional £6,000 for gap site materials.

An application process for the Coleraine programme had been opened in April 2013 and thirty-three applications had been received in relation to properties in the area. The Coleraine Revitalise Steering Group assessed the applications and to date twenty-six Letters of Offer had been issued totalling £213,847.80. The deadline for completion of the programme was 31 March 2013.

#### **9.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **9.2 Lights – Castlerock Bowling Green**

Councillor McQuillan referred to complaints received regarding the non provision of lights at Castlerock Bowling Green and requested an update.

The Head of Leisure Services advised that costings had been requested from the Environmental Services Department. The matter would be investigated and an update would be provided for the next Meeting.

### **9.3 Play Park – Kilrea**

Councillor McQuillan requested that funding from the Rural Development Programme be withdrawn due to the continued presence of a Nationalist flag near the children's play park in Kilrea.

The Head of Development Services emphasised that Council had entered into a contract with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Contractor, therefore, it would be detrimental to change this.

Further discussion took place and Councillor Boyle suggested that the matter be discussed at a future Community Cohesion Meeting.