

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
1 APRIL 2014**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.35 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

In the Chair: Councillor G Mullan.

Alderman J Rankin. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, R Donaghy, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, S McGlinchey, D Nicholl, A Robinson, E Scott and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Environmental Services and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES: - Alderman M Coyle.

NORTH WEST REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP (NWRWMG):

IN COMMITTEE on the proposal of Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor A Brolly.

The Chair welcomed Mr Eamon Molloy and Mr Jonathan Gray, North West Region Waste Management Group to the meeting.

The Director of Environmental Services advised that the Joint Committee of the North West Region Waste Management Group had discussed a report on the current status of the NWRWMG Waste Infrastructure Project, with a view to making a recommendation to member councils on appropriate action to ensure that the Councils continue to provide effective, efficient and compliant waste management services.

Mr Molloy stated that the confidential report detailed the current status of the project and an assessment of issues surrounding the continuation or abandonment of the project, including legal analysis by leading Counsel. He said that the committee considered the degree of uncertainty surrounding the project and question marks over the potential for successful delivery and how this would place councils in a difficult position in meeting waste management obligations under the EU Waste Framework Directive. In addition continuing with the project would involve considerable additional cost to the public purse with no guarantee of a successful outcome.

Mr Molloy and Mr Gray answered a number of queries raised by members. Following discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Chivers, seconded by Councillor Brolly that Council would accept the recommendation from the Joint Committee that ‘in light of the current status of the procurement and the legal advice received from counsel, that councils exercise their rights under Chapter III of the Invitation to Participate in Dialogue to abandon the procurement.’ **OUT OF COMMITTEE** on the proposal of Councillor McGlinchey, seconded by Councillor E Stevenson.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 4 March 2014 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor McGlinchey, seconded by Councillor Scott.

MATTERS ARISING: - None

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT:

The Chief Executive presented his report for April 2014. The items for information were noted and the report was adopted subject to the following:

Local Government Reform: The Chief Executive outlined that the Statutory Transition Committee had met on 27 March 2014 and would continue to meet until the election on 22 May 2014 when the new Causeway Coast & Glens District Council would be formed. He said at the NILGA Full Members' meeting held on 28 March 2014, an update had been given on key local government reform issues; including that the Local Government Bill had passed the consideration stage and was currently going through the Assembly. He added that consultation on the Code of Conduct for Councillors would close on 30 April and that NILGA were holding an information evening on the key issues of the code in Cookstown on 8 April 2014.

Integrated Business Plan: The Integrated Business Plan for the year 2014/15 was approved by members.

Social Media and Multimedia Policy: The Chief Executive explained that social networking and multimedia resources were increasingly useful communication tools within local government, however certain behaviour was expected of those using the resources when representing Limavady Borough Council. He gave an overview of the guidelines on use of social media, which included personal identification, recommendations and referrals, confidential information, legal issues and use of social media for personal use. The Social Media and Multimedia Policy was adopted by Council.

Roads Service – Spring Consultation: It was agreed that as part of their spring consultation exercise that Roads Service would present to Council at the Monthly meeting to be held on 10 June 21014.

EXTERNAL MINUTES NOTED:

- Western Health & Social Care Trust – 6 February 2014

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

‘Council recently debated a Notice of Motion on the extension of the Fuel Rebate Scheme to Northern Ireland. It was agreed that a letter would be written to the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, the RT Hon Danny Alexander MP asking him to reconsider the decision not to include Ni in his submission to the European Commission. Members also asked that the matter be drawn to the attention of other councils in NI.’ *Noted.*

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY FERMANAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL:

‘Fermanagh District Council at a meeting on 13 March 2014 expressed concern at the announcement that the administration of vehicle registration and licensing services in Northern Ireland would transfer to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) to be centralised in Swansea.

The Council demands the decision be reversed as there has been no compelling case made that the closure of the Northern Ireland Headquarters at Coleraine will result in increased efficiency and effectiveness.

The service generates revenue to the Exchequer and as such there should be a pay back to the community, from whom the revenue is raised, in the form of local jobs.

The Council asks that the decision be further considered with a view to devolving vehicle registration and licensing services in Northern Ireland to the Northern Ireland Assembly.’ *Noted.*

CONSULTATIONS: -

Members reviewed the consultation list for April 2014 and the following was agreed:

- ✓ Department of the Environment – Draft Local Government (Transitional, Incidental and Supplementary Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (NI) 2014: *Individual parties to respond to the consultation.*

COURSES/CONFERENCES: - None.

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS: - None.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- NIPSA – Transforming Your Care: Privatising Your Health Service
- Housing Executive – Housing Research Bulletin
- Cabinet Office – Emergency Planning College: The EPC in 2014, Change, Capability and Service.
- Community Foundation for NI – Vital Signs NI Issue 1
- Community Foundation for NI – Council Grants Comparison
- Community Foundation for NI – RPA Reform Delivery
- The Workspace Group – A Day in Our Life Annual Report 2013
- Queens University Belfast – Vice Chancellor’s Report 2012/13
- Sport NI – A Strategic Review of Angling in N Ireland Executive Summary
- International Fund for Ireland – Helping Unionists and Nationalists to Learn, Work and Live Together as part of a shared future on the island of Ireland.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: -

Job Losses in the Borough: A member requested that the Chief Executive write to the Minister and Deputy First Minister to request a meeting with elected members to discuss recent job losses in the Borough. Agreed.

It was also agreed that the Chief Executive would write to Invest NI to request information on how many jobs had been created in the area and to get clarity on how much money had been spent on small businesses in the last 5 years.

NEXT MEETING: - 6 May 2014.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.05 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting