

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

**2 NOVEMBER 2010**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 8.00 pm on the above date.

**PRESENT:**

**In the Chair:** Councillor Carten

Aldermen M Coyle, J Rankin and G Robinson. Councillors P Butcher, A Brolly, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, G Mullan, C Ó hOisín, J F McElhinney and E Stevenson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk and the Chief Executive.

**APOLOGIES:** - Councillor A Robinson.

**MINUTES OF MEETING DATED 5 OCTOBER 2010:**

The minutes of meeting held 5 October 2010 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Page 1 – Economic Climate Update:** The Chief Executive informed members that a number of Councils had come together to challenge any reduction to the resources element of the general grant and that NILGA and SOLACE were working together on an agreed lobbying campaign to MLA's.

**Page 2 – Dungiven Castle Update:** *Councillor Butcher declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* In response to a member who indicated that Dungiven Castle should be re-opened as soon as possible, the Chief Executive stated that no direct communication had been received, other than confirmation that the business who subleased the Castle had gone into administration.

Reference was made to Glenshane Community Development and the role it played in restoration of the Castle and ensuring it was put to best use. It was acknowledged that there was little Council could do until the Administrators completed their work.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2010:**

**RPA Update:** The Chief Executive outlined that Minister Poots had announced the suspension of funding for the 11 Voluntary Transition Committees with effect from 30 October 2010. He said that the Minister decision was based on severe financial pressures facing the Department and lack of clarity on the way forward with regard to local government reform. He added that funding for Change

Managers would continue up to 31 March 2011 as they were involved in the ICE Programme which was working to establish methods to achieve efficiency savings across Council clusters.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Coyle that members would attend the Causeway Coast & Glens Transition Committee workshop and meeting on 25 November 2010 which had been arranged prior to the Minister's announcement and that attendance would be an approved duty.

#### **EXTERNAL MINUTES NOTED:**

- Western Group Environmental Health Committee - 8 June 2010
- Western Health & Social Care Trust – 5 August 2010

#### **CONSULTATIONS:**

Members reviewed the consultation list for November 2010 and the following responses were agreed.

- DoE – Draft Regulations for Signs and Warning Lights on School Buses: *Noted.*
- NI Law Commission – Bail in Criminal Proceedings: *Noted.*
- NI Commissioner for Children and Young People – Draft Corporate Plan 2011/14: *Noted.*
- DHSSPS – Next Steps for Healthy Start: *Noted*
- DHSSPS – Proposals for a New Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy and Action Plan: *Noted.*
- DoE – Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Act (NI) 2010: *Noted.*
- Department of Justice – Code of Practice for Victims of Crime: *Noted.*
- Northern Ireland Assembly – Legislation to Reform the Office of the NI Ombudsman: *It was agreed that the Corporate Policy Officer would respond on behalf of Council with the key points.*
- Justice Bill – Provision to create New Policing and Community Safety Partnerships: *It was agreed that the Chief Executive would compile a response to the proposals to create a New Policing and Community Safety Partnership after consultation with the DPP and CSP Managers.*

**COURSES/CONFERENCES:** - None.

**SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS:** - None.

#### **FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Northern Ireland Housing Council – Why the Private Sector should build to Lifetime Homes Standards
- Northern Ireland Housing Council – Report for period 1 April 2009 to 31 August 2010
- NILGOSC – Annual Report 2009/10
- Western Health and Social Care Trust – Annual Report 2009/10
- Groundwork Northern Ireland – Annual Review 2009/10

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Drugs in the Borough:** Reference was made to the death of a teenager, which was drug related. It was suggested that Council had a responsibility in protecting the community by being proactive in tackling drugs coming into the Borough. Members discussed the different ways in which agencies were raising awareness and educating both parents and children to the danger of drugs. A member suggested that an open air disco be held with agencies in attendance to get the message across to young people.

It was recognised that despite the good work of agencies and the PSNI, there were ruthless individuals who distributed drugs for financial gain, resulting in serious addiction or loss of life. It was suggested that schools should have a hard hitting programme to stop people experimenting with illegal substances; legislation should be put in place with regard to licensing of products and parents should be educated to recognise the signs that their children were meddling in drugs.

The discussion ended with it being agreed that an appropriate body would inform Council on what was being done on the ground with regard to drugs in the Borough and that round table discussion would take place with agencies.

**Local Democracy Week:** It was agreed that an event would be held in Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró on 7 December 2010 to mark local democracy week.

**Roe Valley Forum & Woman's Network:** It was agreed that Roe Valley Forum & Woman's Network would present to Council details of the Flexible Steps Initiative at a special meeting to be held 30 November 2010.

**Condolences:** The Mayor – Councillor Carten agreed to pass on condolences on behalf of Council to the family of the late Brian McLaughlin who had passed away earlier in the week.

**NEXT MEETING:** - 7 December 2010.

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.40 PM**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of Meeting