

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

6 MARCH 2012

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.30 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

In the Chair: Councillor S McGlinchey.

Aldermen M Coyle, G Robinson and J Rankin. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, C McLaughlin, G Mullan, D Nicholl, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - None.

WESTERN GROUP EMERGENCY PLANNING:

The Chair welcomed Mrs Joan McCaffrey, Emergency Plan Co-ordinator, Western Group Environmental Health Service to the meeting.

Mrs McCaffrey outlined that the aim of the presentation was to raise awareness of current emergency planning and business continuity within Limavady Borough Council; how these was linked to wider emergency planning procedures and the role of elected members in emergency planning. She explained that an emergency was defined as ‘an event or situation which threatened serious damage to human welfare or terrorism that threatened the security of the UK’. She said that this included security alerts; fires in industrial sites; gorse fires; problems with ice or snow and flooding.

Mrs McCaffrey gave a comparison of emergency planning arrangements in Northern Ireland with Great Britain and to the current legislation and policy on emergency planning. She said that Councils should ensure that their emergency plans included arrangement of direct response in relation to its own functions; response to requests from other organisations to help in the provision of manpower, buildings or equipment; to co-ordinate a multi agency response to the emergency and to maintain services to the public at an appropriate level, despite disruption and possible redeployment of staff.

Mrs McCaffrey gave an overview of her extensive role as the Emergency Planning Co-ordinator for the Western Group. She referred to the role of elected members in an emergency situation and said this could include engagement with the local community, providing assistance, thinking about local business needs, communicating public warnings to and from Council.

In response to a number of questions, Mrs McCaffrey confirmed that in the event of a flooding emergency, hot spots were looked at and those who were vulnerable were identified through leads from the community and by cross reference to critical care lists to capture as many individuals as possible. She said that the Assembly had discussed having a dedicated 101 phone line for emergencies but this was still to be set up. She suggested that the emergency floodline number be included in the next Council Newsletter.

The Chair thanked Mrs McCaffrey for attending the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 7 February 2012 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Chivers.

MATTERS ARISING:

Page 1/2 - Notice of Motion regarding Planning Application for a Human Waste Sludge Cake Site: The Chief Executive informed members that he had written to Alex Attwood - Minister of the Environment to outline members concerns to the above application at Broad Road, Limavady. He said that the Minister had given an assurance that the concerns raised would be taken into account in consideration of the application.

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT:

The Chief Executive presented his report for March 2012 which was approved on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Councillor McCaul subject to the following:

RPA/ICE Programme: The Chief Executive reminded members that the Minister Attwood had asked that the 11 Voluntary Transmission Committees be restored by the end of March 2012. He also reminded members that the Minister had made it clear that local government should bear the responsibility for implementation costs of the reform programme. He said that in light of the above, a Voluntary Transition meeting had been scheduled for Thursday 8 March 2012 to consider issues such as funding of the reform programme, Chair of the Transmission Committee, lead Council and the Transition Manager post. He added that the next Regional Governance Group meeting had been scheduled for 14 March at 12.30 pm in Lisburn Island Centre.

Schedule for the Retention and Disposal of Records: The Chief Executive explained that the Public Records Office (PRONI) had advised all public bodies that there was a requirement to have 'Schedules for the Disposal and Retention Schedules of Records' in place in order to ensure compliance with the Public Records Act (NI) 1923; the Disposal of Documents Order 1925, the FOI Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998. He said that these Schedules had to be laid before the Assembly for approval and records could not be destroyed until the Schedules were approved by the Assembly.

Council approved the draft schedule for the Retention and Disposal of Records for submission to the Assembly by 30 March 2012.

Review of the Size of the Assembly and the Number of NI Departments: It was agreed that each political party would respond to the 'Call for Evidence' paper, which outlined proposals to take forward an immediate review of Parts III and IV of the NI Act 1998. It was noted that the Assembly and Executive Review Committee would conduct a review of the potential benefits of streamlining government institutions, focusing on the number of MLA's elected and on reducing the number of NI Departments and associated re-location of functions.

PCSP Information/Planning Event – 14 March 2012: It was agreed that Alderman Coyle, Councillor Chivers, Councillor McCaul, the Chief Executive and Director of Development would attend the PCSP Information/Planning Event being held on 14 March 2012 in Craigavon.

Corporate Plan 2012/15: Council approved the draft Themes and Outcome statements for the Corporate Plan 2012-15.

Boundary Adjustment, 34 Kevin Lynch Park, Dungiven: Following review of a map which pinpointed a small portion of land at the above location, members approved a request from the original developer of the site for a boundary adjustment to the rear of number 34 Kevin Lynch Park. The approval was subject to an application being made to the Land Registry to amend the boundary and for the developer to meet all associated fees.

Schedule of Meetings: It was agreed that the Audit Committee meeting would be rescheduled from the 14 to 13 March 2012 to accommodate attendance at the ICE Regional Governance Group meeting. It was also agreed that the following meetings would be rescheduled to accommodate public holidays in April and June 2012.

- Audit Meeting - from the 14 to 13 March 2012
- Development Committee – from 10 to 17 April
- Environmental Services/Planning & Services – from 17 to 30 April 2012
- AGM – from 4 to 7 June 2012
- Support Services/Monthly Meeting – from 5 June to 12 June 2012
- Development Committee – from 12 to 19 June 2012
- Environmental Services/Planning & Services – from 19 to 26 June 2012.

EXTERNAL MINUTES NOTED: - None.

CONSULTATIONS:

The following consultation documents were noted by Council:

- Planning NI – Consultation on Demolition and Development, submission by 6 April 2012.
- Department of Justice – Proposals to Align the Pyrotechnic Articles Directive and the Civil Explosives Directive to the New Legislative Framework.
- Department of Justice – Amendments to the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) Rules (NI) 2005.
- Department of Justice – Consultation on the Governance and Accountability of the Public Prosecution Service.

COURSES/CONFERENCES:

IBCI Conference: It was agreed that the Building Control Manager would attend the Irish Building Control Institute conference on 28/29 March 2012 in Radisson Blu, Westmeath. No fee.

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS:

Unit 2 Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró: The lease agreement between Limavady Borough Council and Neal James Photography for Unit 2 at Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró was signed and sealed.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- CGMA - Rebooting Business: Valuing the Human Dimension
- The Fermanagh Trust – Maximising Community Outcomes from Wind Energy Developments
- Habinteg Housing Association – Space to Move: Making efficient use of homes for wheelchair users, Summary Report

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor's Parlour/Community Room: Reference was made to a recent newspaper article regarding the Mayor's Parlour and his calling it the Community Room. It was suggested that the Mayor should have sought permission from Council before making changes to the room. The Chief Executive pointed out that the changes were temporary and easily reversed when the next Mayor came into office.

The Mayor highlighted that pieces of art donated by local Community Groups were now displayed in the room and that the changes made were to make the venue more welcoming.

St Patrick's Day Celebrations, Westport: It was agreed that the Culture, Arts and Tourism Manager would attend the St Patrick's Day Celebrations in Westport. Overturned

Consultation Workshop – Destination Management Plan: Members were reminded that a consultation workshop was being held on 7 March 2012 in the ECOS Centre, on the new Destination Management Plan for the 6 councils within the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust.

NEXT MEETING: - 3 April 2012.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.05 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting