

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

**PLANNING & SERVICES COMMITTEE
6 NOVEMBER 2008**

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

PRESENT:

Aldermen G Mullan, J Rankin and G Robinson. Councillors P Butcher (chair), A Brolly, M Carten, B Chivers, M Coyle, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, C O hOisin, J F McElhinney, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Chief Executive and Mrs Andree McNee, Planning Service.

APOLOGIES: -Councillor B Douglas

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 2 October 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

MATTERS ARISING: - None.

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS: (Deferred applications – see appendix)

Mrs McNee answered queries on the applications listed on the deferred schedule and the recommendations were accepted subject to the following:

D6/Refusal: B/2007/0486/F – proposed housing development, erection of 14 apartments in a three-storey block, 6 apartments in a 2.5 storey block and 6 two-storey semi-detached townhouses, with associated car parking at Greenholm, 189 Irish Green Street, Limavady (Mr C Nutt) *Members were advised that this application had been withdrawn.*

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS: (New applications – see appendix)

Mrs McNee answered queries on applications listed on the schedule and the recommendations were accepted subject to the following:

B/2008/0229/F – retention of two sets of semi detached dwelling and four detached houses, 92, 92a, 94 & 94a Gortnaghey Road, Dungiven (Mr L McCartney) *Mrs McNee agreed to defer decision on the application for 1 month.*

B/2008/0243/F – erection of 2 detached one and a half story dwellings, 17 Pollysbrae Road, Limavady (Mr A Miller) *Mrs McNee agreed to hold this application for 1 month.*

Office Meetings: It was agreed that an office meeting would be held in December 2008 for the following application:

B/2008/0260/F – construction of a new 2 storey rear extension to existing retail shop to include additional retail space, storage space and ancillary facilities with alterations to the front elevation and internal alterations to existing retail shop at 68 Cooleasan Walk, Limavady (Mr M Culbertson).

Planning Appeals: Details of Planning Appeals as listed in the schedule were noted.

Planning Queries outside Schedule:

- ◆ **Area Plan:** In response to a query over the draft Area Plan 2016, it was agreed that Mrs McNee would forward Councils' concerns to Mr Andy Meenagh who would update the Chief Executive for distribution to members at the next meeting.

ROADS: - None.

WATER & SEWERAGE: - None.

HOUSING: - None.

TABLED FOR INFORMATION:

- ◆ Correspondence from Bell Architects Ltd regarding frustration by local Architects at issues emerging from Planning Service Northern Division and to request Council support for change in the current system.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- ◆ Members were advised that the Question and Answer session arranging with the 4 local schools during Local Democracy Week had to be postponed but would be rescheduled to fit into the schools timetable.
- ◆ It was agreed that Councillor Butcher and the Chief Executive would attend the NILGA Planning Service Away Day to be held on 18 December 2008 in Armagh City Hotel.
- ◆ It was agreed that congratulation would be forwarded to the Development Manager on the success of the Job Fair which took place in the Radisson earlier in the day. Members welcomed that the event would be repeated in Spring 2009.

PRESENTATION BY NORTHERN IRELAND WATER:

The chair welcomed Mr Paul Davison, Engineering Procurement and Mr Jason McArthur, Tactical Asset Management, Northern Ireland Water (NIW) to the meeting.

Mr Davidson advised that events and challenges for 2008/09 included the introduction of new non-domestic charges, a change of Chief Executive, implementation of new Codes of Practice, launch of Annual Report in September

2008 and continuing the high level of public interest in Water Reform. He said NIW delivered 614 million litres of good quality drinking water to 795,000 households everyday; transported 134 million cubic metres of wastewater safely to WWTW; was one of largest employers in Northern Ireland; supported commerce, industry & agriculture and was a major investor in the environment through its contribution to environmental protection and by supporting recreation, sport & tourism. He added that over the next 3 years a total of £788 million would be invested in water and waste infrastructure by to bring Northern Ireland closer to current mainland UK standards.

Mr Davidson explained that it was the Assembly who decided on how the service was paid for by introducing non-domestic charges and by setting domestic charges. He said although there was a lot of uncertainty by the general public on charges and charging policy, decision was still awaited from the NI Executive on water charges for domestic users.

Members were advised of improvements/efficiencies by NI Water through reducing expenditure in operations and capital works; improving the way goods & services were bought and by reducing the workforce by 26% by 2010. Members were also given an overview of capital works programme for the Borough, which included:

- ◆ upgrade of Limavady WWTW
- ◆ decommissioning of Brishey Springs, Dungiven
- ◆ removal of Stradreagh spring source and
- ◆ replacement of sewer at Main Street, Ballykelly.

Mr Davidson outlined that the severe weather of 16 August 2008 had resulted in flooding in certain areas of the province. He said NIW had answered 3,500 customer calls; 76 calls from elected representatives and 200 staff on the ground had completed 1,000 jobs by Sunday 17 August 2008. He added that in response to the flooding a Flood Strategy Steering Group and Flood Liaison Group had been established and that a single floodline linked to NIW Customer Relations Centre had been launched in early November. In conclusion the representatives summarised KPI's and compliance statistics with regard to wastewater and drinking water.

The representatives from NIW agreed to take on board members concerns in relation to environment protection, problems with the hotline service, leakages, communication with public on when projects were to commence and maximising the tourist potential for Banagher Dam. It was agreed that members concerns raised in relation to corrosion of brass fittings and flooding in South Parade would be forwarded to NIW.

The chair thanked Mr Davidson and McArthur for attending the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - 4 December 2008.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.15 pm)

Chair: _____