

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

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
7 JUNE 2011**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.45 pm on the above date.

**PRESENT:**

**In the Chair:** Councillor S McGlinchey

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk and the Chief Executive.

**APOLOGIES:** - None.

**PRESENTATION BY THE PATIENT AND CLIENT COUNCIL:**

The Chair, Councillor McGlinchey welcomed Ms Louise Skelly, Head of Operations, Patient and Client Council to the meeting.

Before Ms Skelly started her presentation, Councillor McGlinchey requested that Councillor Douglas remove the Union Flag, which he had erected on his desk. It was pointed out to Councillor Douglas that Council had a No Flag Flying Policy. Councillor McGlinchey proposed, seconded by Councillor Brolly that Council take a vote on whether the flag should be removed. The proposal that the flag be removed from the chamber was put to the meeting and declared carried, with 9 voting for and 6 against.

Councillor Douglas refused to take down the Union Flag and defended this decision by stating that if a Commander of the IRA could sit in Council, then he had every right to fly the Union Flag.

There followed a series of comments which included that Councillor McGlinchey was running around Dungiven beating people up. Councillor Brolly stated that the remarks were insulting and that no one was beating anyone up in Dungiven.

Councillor McGlinchey indicated that legal advice was needed and called for a 5 minute recess to discuss how the meeting should proceed with his party colleagues.

Upon returning to the chamber at 7.55 pm, it was again reiterated to Councillor Douglas that he should adhere to Councils No Flag Flying policy or else the meeting would be adjourned.

Alderman Coyle indicated that the Monthly meeting of Council had got off on a wrong footing and that if the meeting had to be adjourned, it would mean that Council was no further forward on resolving the flag issue. He agreed that legal advice should be sought and voiced regret that the nonsense going on within the chamber meant that the work of Council was unable to be carried out.

Councillor McGlinchey proposed that the meeting be adjourned to 3 pm on Monday 13 June 2011, however, he was reminded that the time and date for reconvening the meeting should be made by Council as a whole. At this point Councillor McGlinchey stated that Council would be better run by Council Officers rather than by elected members. Councillor Brolly pointed out that she clearly apportioned blame for the sequence of events within the chamber to Councillor Douglas.

Alderman Robinson proposed, seconded by Councillor McCorkell that the meeting continue as normal. However, Councillor McGlinchey refused to continue with proceedings until the Union Flag was removed. He was then referred to as a hypocrite by Councillor Stevenson.

Alderman Coyle proposed an amendment to Councillor McGlinchey's proposal, that the meeting be reconvened to Monday 13 June at 7 pm.

In a final attempt to conduct business, Councillor Brolly proposed that if the flag was removed that the meeting would continue.

Alderman Robinson proposed an amendment that to overcome the difficulties, that the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Beattie chair the meeting. Councillor McGlinchey responded that he was unwilling to work in the current environment within the chamber.

Councillor Beattie seconded Alderman Coyle's proposal for the meeting to be reconvened to 7 pm on Monday 13 June 2011. Agreed. Councillor Douglas voiced his objection to the meeting being adjourned.

The Chair apologised to Ms Skelly for the disruption to her presentation and thanked her for attending the meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** - 13 June 2011.

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8:10 PM**

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