

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
8 MAY 2012**

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

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor Robinson.

NORTH EAST PEACE III PARTNERSHIP:

The Chair welcomed Mrs Diane Greer and Mrs Patricia O'Brian, North East Peace III Partnership to the meeting.

Mrs Greer outlined that the Workers' Educational Association had won the tender to facilitate the Leadership in a Shared Society Project, which aimed to explore and develop specific civic leadership skills in the areas of reconciliation, mediation, sectarianism and racism. She gave an overview of the course content and said that a minimum of 5 elected members from each council area was expected to participate in the programme, especially newly elected members or those who had not participated in the programme when it had been held previously.

Mrs Greer and Mrs O'Brian answered a number of queries from members and confirmed that the programme would be flexible and scheduled around elected members diaries. Several members who had previously taken part in the programme outlined the value in participating in the programme and encouraged other members to enrol before the 15 June 2012 deadline.

The Chair thanked Mrs Green and Mrs O'Brian for presenting details of the programme to Council.

MINUTES:

Page 4 – Provision of Advice Services: The Director of Development reminded members that a presentation on Advice Services had been organised for 4 pm on Thursday 10 May 2012 in Coleraine Town Hall.

Page 5 – Fencing at Scroggy Road: The Director of Development confirmed that a site meeting had been held and agreement had been reached with the residents on provision of fencing at Scroggy Road 3G Pitch.

MINUTES OF IRISH LANGUAGE SUB COMMITTEE – COSTA na GAEILGE:

The minutes of Irish Language Sub Committee meetings held 22 March and 3 April 2012 were tabled and noted.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT – MAY 2012:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for May 2012 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Councillor McCaul subject to the following:

Genealogy Website Quotation Submission: It was agreed that the quotation submitted by Big Fish in the sum of £8,150 to create and develop a genealogy website for Limavady Borough Council would be accepted. In response to a member, it was confirmed that genealogy was important to the area and that Council would continue to deal with all genealogy requests.

Rural Development Genealogy Project: The Director of Development reported that quotations had been sought for the planning, organisation and promotion of Genealogy Ancestral Reunions/Homecoming Events in the Autumn of 2012 as the final part of the Rural Development Funded project on Limavady genealogy research. She said the successful company providing the best understanding of the project requirement was the Ulster Historical Foundation and recommended that they be appointed to organise the genealogy ancestral homecoming events in the sum of £6,000, grand aided through the Rural Development Fund. Agreed.

A member highlighted that genealogy would also be researched from Libraries NI huge database.

Culture Arts & Tourism Grants: It was agreed that the request for funding under the Community Festivals Funding by Roe Valley Chamber of Trade to hold a Tri Town Festival would be refused as it did not meet the criteria for the Culture, Arts & Tourism Grant Programme and the 2012 Inspire Programme was closed.

Limavady and Green Lane Museum – Acquisition & Disposal Policy: The Director of Development outlined that Museum Staff in conjunction with Causeway Museum Service had been carrying out an audit of the collection of items held in storage in external stores. She said it had emerged that Council had in its possession two printing presses, one of which was intact with all the necessary printing components, however, there was presently no secure space in which to put it on permanent display and that other printing press was in a poorer condition. She recommended that in line with Council's Acquisition and Disposal policy, that a search be carried out for links to the original donor and that if this proves fruitless, proceed to offer the printing press components to other museums, which would be removed and transported at their own expense.

A member stated that one of the printing presses had been donated by an Englishman called Cecil Rutledge and that Council should consider the long term loan of the printing press to any other museum.

Irish Open Blokart Championships – Benone Strand 2012: Council approved the request to hold the Irish Open Blokart Championship at Benone on 1 & 2 September 2012 subject to appropriate risk assessment, discussion with Council staff and evidence of public liability cover.

Workshop to Consider the Council’s Grant Aid Programme: The Director of Development suggested that a working group comprising of 4 – 5 elected members be set up to work with Council Officers on the Grant Aid Programmes for 2013/14. It was suggested that all Councillors should attend the working group in the first instance, preferably in the evening. It was agreed that the Director of Development would investigate a suitable date and circulate this to members.

Proposed Changes to Birthday Party Packages at Roe Valley Leisure Centre: It was agreed that the Birthday Party Packages at Roe Valley Leisure Centre would be changed to include:

- the restructure of the birthday party and group packages to reflect and meet customer demand
- bring the provision of hot food in house and
- discontinue the option of customers bringing in their own pre-prepared food.

The Director of Development explained that a competitor analysis had been carried out to ensure that Roe Valley Leisure Centre could best price and place its product to customers and that it was recommended that the price per child for Kidz Ahoy, Bouncy Castle, Sports Package and Diva Disco would be £6.95 per child, with a minimum of 8 children to avail of any booking. Agreed.

Clubs/Groups Packages: The Director of Development outlined that it was also proposed to offer a party packages to pre & primary schools and other children’s groups, which would involve 2 hours of activities and 1 hour room hire for food. She said to be able to provide an in-house catering menu, six staff would have to be trained up to complete & obtain a basic Catering Hygiene qualification and items of catering equipment would be needed to be purchased. The proposal and financial outlay envisaged to be £740 was approved by Council.

Requests for Financial Assistance - Bovally Community Association and Benbradagh Community Support: The Director of Development informed members that Bovally Community Association had advised Council that following 12 months of discussion and consultation, the NIHE had now confirmed the availability of premises in Drumachose Park for use by the Association. She said that the NIHE had advised that group that it was unable to fund the total renovation costs of the facility, estimated at £12,000, therefore the group was now tasked with finding 50% of the costs (£6,000).

The Director of Development also informed members that Benbradagh Community Support were seeking financial assistance from Council as the group had recently been informed that funding towards the Group’s Community Support Officer was no longer available and that gap funding of £1,500 was requested.

Councillor Brolly proposed, seconded by Councillor Chivers that as both groups met the criteria for the Community Support Grant Aid Programme normally launched in September/October each year, that a grant of £1,500 would be made available to both groups.

Economic Development Workplan: The Director of Development gave an overview of the Economic Development Workplan for 2012 – 2014 and specifically the 1 year Programme for 2012 – 2013.

Reference was made to a recent Economic Development meeting between Councillors & MLA's and it was suggested that the group meet again before the summertime. Concern was also raised at the lack of measurement of success with entrepreneurial businesses and lack of support for business start ups. It was suggested that Council continue with the Lets Talk events and that Invest NI should be invited to make a presentation on Entrepreneurship and assistance available to businesses.

Several members voiced their approval to what was outlined within the plan. Following discussion the Economic Development Workplan for 2012 – 2014 and Economic Development Programme for 2012 – 2013 was approved

Shackleton Barracks: The Director of Development advised that Officers from OFMDFM had met with Council Officers in April 2012. An advertisement had been placed seeking parties interested in entering into a one year conacre agreement. The Department was also looking in detail at all the complex issues around drainage of the site and the wider area. A member highlighted that Dukes Lane in Ballykelly had a severe drainage problem and this originated back to Shackleton.

NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF DUP:

As Councillor Robinson was unable to attend the meeting, it was agreed that the notice of motion submitted by the DUP regarding the closure of Magilligan Prison would be postponed until a meeting in June 2012. The Chief Executive advised that the notice of motion would have to be resubmitted at least 7 clear days before being debated.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Brighter Gold: The Director of Development reported that the National Museum of Ireland had written to advise that they were considering the request from Limavady Borough Council for the loan of the Brighter Gold for display in Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre (RVACC). It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Councillor Chivers that Council would cover the costs of National Museum staff to undertake a preliminary assessment of RVACC.

Jubilee Event: In response to a member, the Director of Development agreed to confirm dates and events in Drumceatt Square.

Development Committee Chair: In his last meeting of the year, the Chair of the Development Committee thanked members for their co-operation and the Director of Development for work completed during the year.

NEXT MEETING – 19 June 2012

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8.40 PM

Signed: _____

Chair of Meeting