

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
9 AUGUST 2011**

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 6.15 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Director of Development and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors A Brolly and D Nicholl.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 14 June 2011 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Chivers, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

MATTERS ARISING:

French Visit: The Director of Development explained that the cost for the additional meals during the French visit was £50.70.

Public Right of Way Investigation – Dromore Lane: It was agreed that Councillor Robinson, Alderman Robinson, Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Beattie, Councillor McLaughlin and Countryside Recreation Officer would meet with the landowner of Dromore Lane. It would then be decided if a roundtable meeting was required.

Drumavalley Pitch: A member clarified that the grass was only cut in the centre of the pitch at Drumavalley and that the edge had become overgrown and was being used as a dumping ground. It was suggested that the pitch needed to be ploughed out and re-sown. The Director of Development agreed to discuss costs for the work with Technical Service staff.

Update on Foreglen Play Area: It was agreed that the Director of Environmental Services would update members on the position regarding the development of a play area at Foreglen.

Management Agreement – Limavady Synthetic Pitch: Members were advised that the Chief Executive and Director of Development were reviewing the revised Management Agreement for the pitch at the Grammar School.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – AUGUST 2011:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for August 2011 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Application to DETI and Invest Northern Ireland: The Director of Development reminded members that an application had been made earlier in the year to both the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment and Invest Northern Ireland, based on the needs arising from a consultation undertaken in 2010. She said to date DETI and Invest NI had both given approval for the project to move to economic appraisal stage and if successful; the programme would be ready to roll out in the autumn. It was noted that the value of the programme was around £247k, with contributions from Limavady at £44,600 and £17,000 from Coleraine Borough Council over two years.

Open Application for Local Business/Employment Partners: It was recommended that subject to a successful application to DETI and Invest NI as set out above, that surplus finding of approximately £30k be made available to projects with an economic theme and that applications are sought.

A discussion took place on Economic Development and it was agreed that a brainstorming session would be held whereby issues such as re-appointment of an Economic Development Officer, lobbying Central Government and identification of areas to assist the business community would be discussed. It was emphasised that it must be a Borough wide discussion and that representatives from the Roe Valley Chamber of Trade be included.

It was agreed that any savings in the current economic budget which would arise from a successful application to DETI and Invest NI would be held back until after the brainstorming session and that Council would therefore not proceed with the proposed open application process.

The Chief Executive suggested that the brainstorming session could feed into the new corporate planning process.

Roe Valley Business Awards: Members discussed the request for sponsorship towards the costs of running the 2011 Roe Valley Business Awards being held on 19 November 2011. It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McCorkell, seconded by Alderman Robinson that a letter would be forwarded to the organiser thanking them for their interest, however in the absence of a business plan and due to the fact that this had not allowed for this in the current years budget, that Council would be unable to provide support this year.

Benone Beach Management: The Director of Development informed members that Council had received notification from the PSNI that they had apprehended and cautioned two individuals on quad bikes for breach of Council's byelaws for Seashores, Esplanades and Promenades. As this was a first offence for which apologies had been given, it was recommended that a warning letter be issued to each of the offenders, with prosecution being applicable for any reoccurrence. Agreed.

It was also agreed that the recommendation be extended to cover 3 other offences which had recently been reported to Council.

Limavady Twinning Committee: It was agreed that Council would provide a grant of £3,000 to assist with the Twinning programme for 2011/12 as allowed for in the 2011/12 budgets, subject to the Twinning Committee providing evidence of additional income through fund raising.

Causeway Coast Arts: Council retrospectively approved a financial contribution of £800 towards Causeway Coast Arts for 2011/12.

Sky Watch Civil Air Patrol: The Director of Development informed members that correspondence had been received from Sky Water Civil Air Patrol about a proposal to provide airborne beach and sand dune patrols for the north coast area next year. She said that in addition to beach patrol service, Sky Watch was used by NIFRS for flood surveying and wild fire spotting.

Council gave approval to include Benone in the trial exercise at the end of August 2011. It was also agreed that representatives from Sky watch would be invited to give a presentation on the proposals and the review of the trial exercise, prior to taking a decision to become involved with the project in 2012.

Halloween Fireworks: Following assessment to 5 quotations, it was agreed that Council would continue to source its fireworks displays from JB Pyro who had provided quality fireworks displays at Roemill Road for over 15 years in the sum of £2,000 per display for Halloween events in 2011, 12 and 13, subject to satisfactory review of the 2011 event, with Nemesis Fireworks being held as reserve.

3G Pitch – Scroggy Road: It was agreed that the official opening of the new 3G pitch at Scroggy Road would be scheduled for Wednesday 26 October 2011. Further details on the opening would be brought to Council in September 2011.

Letter of Support: Changes – Lottery Application: It was agreed that Council would provide a letter of support to Active Roe Valley to assist in stage 2 of the lottery application process.

Alzheimer Society – Request for Free use of Facility: Council agreed to provide the use of an outdoor facility free of charge for the Alzheimer Society ‘It’s a Knockout’ event being held on 11 September 2011.

Olympic and Paralympics Games: Council agree to provide facilities free of charge for a special schools sports project to celebrate the Olympic Games and that the Sports Development Team would provide support in the co-ordination of activity.

London 2012 Northern Ireland Volunteers Bursary Scheme: It was agreed that Council would take part in the London 2012 NI volunteers Bursary Scheme by setting aside a contribution within the 2012/13 budgets.

Community Wardens: Members welcomed that the Community Wardens area of deployment had been extended to Ballykelly.

CONSULTATIONS:

- a) **Response to the Rating of Commercial Properties:** Members wanted further time to consider the proposed response which was circulated within the report. It was agreed that a copy of the consultation document would be circulated to members on request and that time would be set aside during the brainstorming session for members to consider their response. It was also queried if NILGA had issued a response to the consultation.
- b) **PPS 2 Natural Heritage:** Council was advised that a response had been forwarded which largely reflected the NILGA response but to include a few additional comments which had also been forwarded to NILGA. Copy available to members on request. Noted.

CONFERENCES:

- ◆ It was suggested that an officer attend the 16th Annual Northern Ireland Economic Conference to be held 4 October 2011 in Culloden Hotel, Belfast at a cost of £165+VAT.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Director of Development agreed to follow up the request for costs to restore two paintings currently in storage.
- The Director of Development agreed to check the locations where Council currently had defibrillators. Given the recent case of a referee collapsing, it was suggested that they be made available at all facilities where sport/physical activity takes place.
- Council approved the request from the Development Manager to attend a five day visit to Iceland as part of the Retail in Rural Regions Project at no cost to Council.

REVIEW OF THE CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS TOURISM PARTNERSHIP:

IN COMMITTEE on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Chivers.

Members discussed and appraised the key finding and proposals of the review of the Causeway Coast & Glens Tourism Partnership. Following a lengthy debate the following was agreed:

1. The key findings of the report as presented were approved on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Mullan.
2. The remaining 50% funding of £12,500 previously agreed was approved for the period 1 October 2011 – 31 March 2012 on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

OUT OF COMMITTEE on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Mullan.

NEXT MEETING – 13 September 2011.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.05 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting