

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
9 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.00 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGY: - Councillor S McGlinchey

PRESENTATION BY LOCAL HISTORIAN – BRIAN MAILEY:

The Chair welcomed Mr Brian Mailey, a well-known local historian to the meeting.

Mr Mailey compared images of Market Street taken in 1950's to how it looked today and pointed out that the stone lion located on the roof of one of the building was the only thing that was still the same today. He said there were many other examples of things from the past that needed to be retained, particularly names of streets as they were formally known. For example most local people knew where Hospital Lane was, yet there was no sign to make the public aware of the former road name.

Mr Mailey referred to other former names of areas in Limavady such as the Double Ditch, an area off Irish Green Street, Back Burn Pad, known today by many as Blackburn Path; Pound Lane now known as Protestant Street and Creamery Roe known today as Roeville Terrace. He requested that Council consider erecting up to 6 signs so that the former names would not be forgotten.

In the discussion which followed, members agreed that there was a need to retain the former names as they told a story of the past and were part of the history of the town. The Chief Executive reminded members that if signs were to be erected, the DoE and Planning Service would need to be consulted. Noted.

The Chair thanked Mr Mailey for reminding members of the street names as they were formally known.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 12 August 2014 were approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor B Chivers.

MATTERS ARISING:

Health Suite Refurbishment: The Director of Development advised that the figure quoted in the previous minutes for refurbishment of the Health Suite was inaccurate and should read £14,375 rather than £14,000. Noted.

Summer Festivals: The Director of Development informed members that no official feedback had been received with regard to the Stendhal Festival event, however the weather had been fairly good during the festival weekend and it had been reported that attendance was higher than in previous years. She said in contrast the weather had been atrocious during the Countryside Festival weekend, with high wind and rain deterring people from attending and in some cases stalls had been blown away. She added that she would report back to Council after getting de-briefed by the festival organisers.

In response to a member with regard to the request from Stendhal for deficit funding, the Director of Development confirmed that the organisers would be asked to forward accounts for the festival before making any decision if there was a shortfall in funds.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT ~ SEPTEMBER 2014:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for the month of September 2014 and enlarged thereon. The report was approved on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Councillor E Scott subject to the following:

Request for Support from the Somme Association: Alderman M Coyle proposed, seconded by Councillor E Scott that Council would give a donation to the Somme Association. Director of Development to report back to Council on how much and from which budget the donation would be taken from.

Bovally Open Space: The Director of Development reported that a meeting had taken place with Braidwater and representatives from local residents in Bovally in relation to the proposed lease of temporary open space and the development, management & maintenance of the land proposed as permanent open space. She said that Braidwater had agreed to instruct their solicitors to work on a 2 year lease on the temporary open space which could be extended on a month to month basis and that further discussion would take place with Technical Services on essential work & fencing which would be required.

It was noted that Braidwater were working up the detail for development of 8 acre area land designated as open space on the long term and were keen to work with Council to ensure that the open space was available for the wider community, not just for the residents of the housing development.

It was agreed that Council would enter into a 2 year lease with Braidwater on an area designated as temporary open space, subject to details of the lease being reviewed by officers.

Edenmore Nursing Home: The Director of Development reminded members that Council had received a request in February 2014 to hold a Nathan Carter Concert in Roe Valley Leisure Centre. The event did not proceed due to the proximity of the date to a similar event being run by Council, plus the Event

Promoter did not come back with an alternative date and was also unhappy with the proposed charge for use of the facility.

The Director of Development stated that a request had recently been received from Edenmore Nursing Home to hold a Nathan Carter Concert in 2015, date to be confirmed. She said indicative cost for the event based on agreed rates within the Council's pricing policy for commercial events would be £1,802, however, by reducing the facility costs for set-up and recovery by 50%, would reduce the cost to £1,296.

Following discussion, it was agreed that clarity could be sought on whether the event was being run by the promoter, by the nursing home or by the staff as a charitable event.

Bereford (Ballyquin) Monument: The Director of Development reported that the Follies Trust had confirmed that it would cost £70,000 to restore the Ballyquin Monument. She said that the Trust had raised £64,000 through grants and fundraising activities and had also been successful in obtaining funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards an educational project associated with the restoration of the monument; including a publication which the Trust believed would be a tourism asset to the Council. She added that should Council decide to cover the shortfall in funding (£5,000) a permissive path agreement should be entered into between Council and that landowner to ensure that public access was agreed as the monument was located on privately owned land.

Councillor Scott proposed, seconded by Councillor McCorkell that Council would contribute £5,000 towards the funding gap, which would be taken from reserves subject to a formal arrangement between Council and the landowner being entered into.

Consultation – Review of Northern Ireland Tourist Board and Wider Tourism Structures: It was agreed that Officers would draft a response to the above consultation for submission to DETI by 30 September 2014.

The items for information were noted by members.

NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR T McCAUL:

Councillor T McCaul proposed that:

‘In view of further recent closures in Dungiven, and also given the continuing malaise in the property market, that Council begins a consultation process and masterplan development which mirrors that of Limavady town as this would help put the town on the future agenda for regeneration under the new Council.’

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor T McCaul pointed out that Dungiven had suffered over the past 7 years due to the downturn in the economy, which had led to businesses closing, emigration and decreased footfall in the town. He said that there was a need to implement a masterplan to try and make the town attractive again. The motion was seconded by Councillor A Brolly.

In the discussion which followed, it was suggested that the masterplan should be for the Borough as a whole rather than for one particular town. The Director of Development advised that work was being carried out across the cluster to

identify future regeneration projects, which could be funded from funds being transferred from DSD to the new Causeway Coast and Glens District Council and that Ballykelly would be included in masterplan proposals going forward over the next 3 – 4 years.

The motion was put to the meeting and declared carried, with 8 voting for, 0 against and 4 abstentions.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Windfarm Consultation – Windyhill Road: It was agreed that the presentation scheduled to take place at the September 2014 Planning & Services meeting by the Windyhill Road wind farm developer would be cancelled.

Sports and Leisure Strategy – CC&GSC: The Chief Executive agreed to forward to members via email a copy of the Terms of Reference for CC&GSC Sports and Leisure Strategy.

Health Suite Refurbishment: The Director of Development explained that following discussions with the Design team, tenders document would be issued on 22 September for return by 13 October 2014. A tender report would be completed by 21 October, with the contractor expected to be on site early November and the project complete by February 2015.

Alderman M Coyle proposed, seconded by Councillor T McCaul that the present disability changing facilities within the health suite would be updated to meet current DDA requirements at a cost of £12,000.

NEXT MEETING – 14 October 2014.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.00 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting