

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
9 DECEMBER 2008**

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Director of Development, Director of Environmental Services and the Chief Executive.

EXTRAORDINARY ITEM:

The chair welcomed Mr Clement Kennedy, Western Group Environmental Health Service and Mrs Marie Gormley, Environmental Health Officer to the meeting.

Councillor Brolly referred to the homecoming for Eoghan Quigg to be held 22 December 2008. She said this could turn into a major event as it was possible that he would win the X Factor as he had been receiving 45% of total votes week on week. She added that this could be an opportunity to showcase the Borough and that Council should underwrite the cost for the event. Councillor Douglas felt this was premature and queried why Council should pick up the costs.

Officers gave their professional advice on possible venues; health & safety; potential costs; child protection; security and sponsorship. Councillor Brolly proposed that Council would take the lead role in Eoghan's homecoming; take the advice from the officers on the event being held in Main Street, Dungiven, take on board costs; look at sponsorship and enlist volunteers from the local community to help with security. She also proposed that car parking be provided at Dungiven chapel and at Owenbeg car park and that Council would liaise with the PSNI on closure of Main Street. The proposal was seconded by Councillor McElhinney and declared carried.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor M Coyle.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 11 November 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Carten.

MATTERS ARISING:

Cost of Home Heating Oil: A letter from David Blevings, Northern Ireland Oil Federation was tabled in response to members concerns about high cost of home heating oil and to a recent article in the Belfast Telegraph which attempted to compare the price of crude oil to home heating: In the letter Mr Blevings pointed out

that homes in Northern Ireland were not heated by crude oil but by kerosene, which rose by 46% from February 2007 until November 2008. He also pointed out that a number of factors should be looked at in price comparison, including availability of refined product, exchange rate and supply and demand. Noted.

MINUTES OF DANNY BOY SUB COMMITTEE:

The minutes of Danny Boy Sub Committee meeting held 17 November 2008 were noted.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – DECEMBER 2008:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for December 2008 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Chivers, seconded by Councillor Butcher subject to the following:

Request from Glenshane Community Development for £4,000 – Deferred: The Director of Development informed members that a meeting had taken place with representatives of Glenshane Community Development and some of the sports clubs from the Dungiven area. She said a representative from Copius Consulting was also present who outlined work that would be undertaken on behalf of the area.

The Director of Development advised that those present at the meeting had expressed an desire to proceed with a piece of work which would identify the needs of the Dungiven and wider area and put them in a state of preparedness in the event of funding opportunities becoming available to improve the current level of sport and recreation facilities within their community. She informed members that the work would be of value to Council itself and recommended that a number of issues should be addressed within the report to satisfy Council's requirement and assist in taking forward an application for the development of a 3G pitch for Dungiven if funding became available. Clarification was also sought on the geographical area which Glenshane intended to cover to ensure there were no duplication of work undertaking between Council and themselves. It was recommended that Glenshane Community Development be awarded £4,000 towards the development for a plan for the Dungiven and surrounding area.

A number of objections were put forward to the recommendation and it was felt that Council should have one strategy for whole Borough rather than single strategy for one particular area. The Director of Development confirmed that the work undertaking by Glenshane would compliment and tie in with Councils overall sports strategy.

Councillor Butcher proposed that Council accept the Director of Development recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor Carten and declared carried, 8 for, namely, Councillor Carten, Alderman Mullan, Councillor Chivers, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Donaghy, Councillor Brolly, Councillor Ó hOisín and Councillor McElhinney, with 3 voting against, Councillor Douglas, Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Cubitt. Alderman Rankin, Alderman Robinson and Councillor Robinson abstained from the vote.

Gullies at Roe Valley Leisure Centre: A member highlighted that the gullies were not taking the water away in the showers of the men's changing room in Roe Valley Leisure Centre and as a result a person had slipped on soapy water. He requested that these be looked at during the Christmas pool maintenance schedule.

Rural Development Programme Update: Councillor Butcher outlined that a meeting of the steering group for the Rural Development Programme had taken place earlier in the day and that it had been agreed to bring to the attention of Council the following:

“As members are aware, Derry, Limavady, Omagh and Strabane Councils have each nominated 4 members to a Joint Committee for the purposes of overseeing the delivery of the Rural Development Programme in the north west cluster area. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has now issued a draft order 'The Local Government (Constituting a Joint Committee) Order (NI) 2008' in which it is envisaged that the Joint Committee 'shall be a body corporate' (p3 of draft order).”

As such it is recommended that Limavady Borough Council agrees to the Rural Development Joint Committee being established as a body corporate when the order is enacted. Agreed by Council.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- ◆ Staff were commended for all their hard work during the switch on of the Christmas lights. However, disappointment was expressed that the traders had not kept the shops open during the switch on. The Mayor indicated that a staging unit should have been used for the light switch on in Dungiven.
- ◆ The Mayor outlined that a letter of thanks had been received from Limavady Rugby and Cricket Club on Council hosting a Civic Reception for the group. She voiced disappointment that few Councillors had turned up for Civic Reception for the Community Groups. A member indicated that Aghanloo Community Group had not received an invitation to the function.
- ◆ It was agreed that a letter of support would be forwarded to Ms Mary Hayward for her book on folklore in the area to be published. Councillor Cubitt encouraged everyone to purchase a copy of Limavady writer Brian Rankin's book of poetry.
- ◆ It was agreed that a letter of congratulations would be forwarded to Paul McCloskey on winning the boxing light welterweight title.
- ◆ The Director of Development indicated that a recommendation regarding opening/closing of Greysteel play area would be brought to the January 2009 meeting.
- ◆ The Mayor extended an invitation for members to attend the staff Christmas function on 23 December 2008. Members were also reminded to attend the 'Time of Reflection' event for all those who had died in the world through conflict.
- ◆ It was agreed that Council car park would be open to the public at weekends in the lead up to Christmas.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - 13 January 2009.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9:00 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting