

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

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
10 FEBRUARY 2015**

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

**PRESENT:**

**Presiding Chair:** Alderman A Robinson.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive, Director of Development, Director of Environmental Services, Head of Finance, Committee Clerk and Ms Julie McMath, DoE Planning Service.

**APOLOGIES:** - None.

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

Alderman J Rankin – member of Roe Valley Enterprises.

Councillor O Beattie – member of Greysteel Community Association and Greysteel Community Enterprises.

Councillor D Nicholl – member of Greysteel Community Association and Greysteel Community Enterprises.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held 20 January 2015 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor E Scott.

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MONTHLY MEETING:**

The minutes of special monthly meeting held 27 January 2015 were approved on the proposal of Councillor E Scott, seconded by Alderman J Rankin.

**PLANNING & SERVICES SUB-SECTION:**

Councillor B Douglas took the Chair for the Planning & Services sub-section of the meeting at 7:05 pm.

**Schedule of Planning Applications:**

Ms McMath answered queries on applications listed on the deferred applications schedule and the recommendations were accepted subject to the following:

**D1: B/2011/0289/O – proposed housing development, 10 Windyhill Road, Limavady and lands immediately to the rear (Mr Sean Canning) Approved.**

**D2: B/2014/0030/O – proposed site for dwelling and garage 60 m NE of 76 Ringsend Road, Limavady (Mr I McAllister C/o MKA Planning)** Members voiced their disappointment at the refusal decision on this application due to PPS21. It was agreed that the Chief Executive would highlight members concerns around the policy to the DoE Minister Mark Durkin.

**D3: B/2014/0180/F – extension to dwelling to increase the height to 2 ½ storey rear extension forming a balcony on the rear first floor and a 1 ½ half storey detached garage 63 Killane Road, Limavady (Mr & Mrs Devine)** Approved.

Ms McMath answered queries on the applications listed on the new applications schedule and the recommendations were accepted subject to the following:

**B/2012/0268/F – windfarm comprising ten turbines and associated infrastructure at Craiggore windfarms in the townlands of Moneyguiggy and Craiggore Forest Belraugh Road (RES UK & Ireland)** It was proposed that the approval decision on this application would be deferred for 1 month in order for Planning Service Headquarters to clarify if the guidelines around windfarm legislation was to be reviewed. The proposal was put to the meeting and declared lost, with 3 voting for and 11 against. Approval agreed.

The schedule outlining planning appeals and streamlined decision issued were noted by members.

Ms McMath left the meeting at 7.20 pm.

**Roads, Housing, Water Sewerage:** It was agreed that the following queries would be forwarded to Transport NI:

- Concern was expressed that the contractor currently carrying out work in Main Street Limavady was using plastic warning tape to keep pedestrians off the footpath. It was stressed that some pedestrians were ignoring the tape and that this could lead to falls/injuries.
- A member requested that Transport NI erect a barrier at the sharp bend near Gortnaghey old chapel as several cars had ended up in the adjacent field and that the bend was also dangerous for walkers.
- It was queried if Transport NI intended replacing the asphalt surface on a section of Drumrane Road (Moss Road) as this part of the road was extremely dangerous, especially in icy or wet conditions.
- The improvement scheme to the pavement in Linenhall Street was welcomed.

Councillor B Douglas stood down as Chair of the Planning & Services sub-section at 7.25 pm.

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES SUB-SECTION:**

Councillor Beattie took the Chair for the Support Services sub-section of the meeting at 7.25 pm.

**Head of Finance Monthly Report:** The Head of Finance presented his report for the month of February 2015 as follows:

- a) The payment of accounts for the month of December 2014 were noted.
- b) The Accounts for 9 Months ending 30 December 2014 were approved by Council.
- c) The prompt payment schedule was tabled and noted.
- d) Regen – Blue Bin Recycling Sales: The recommendation to write off potential income from the blue bin recycling sales was agreed.
- e) Economic Appraisals: Council approved for the following capital project to proceed to economic appraisal stage in order to get loans from DFPNI:
  - Refurbishment of Health Suite at RVLC in the sum of £248,000
  - Ballykelly toilet in the sum of £68,313.

The Head of Finance report was approved on the proposal of Councillor E Scott, seconded by Councillor S McGlinchey.

**Human Resource Report:** IN COMMITTEE on the proposal of Councillor J McCorkell, seconded by Councillor E Scott.

The Head of Finance presented the Human Resources Report for February 2015 which detailed standing items including total number of employees & temporary workers, absenteeism & cause of absence and long term sick details. The items for information were noted and the report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Alderman J Rankin subject to the following:

- *The Head of Finance declared an interest and left the chamber at 7:32 pm. Council approved the paper outlining remuneration to staff in respect of the local government reform workload at a total cost of £81,187.82. The Head of Finance returned to the Chamber at 7.35 pm.*
- The Head of Finance sought approval to no longer use casual workers to fill short-term vacancies and to use agency placements instead. Agreed

OUT OF COMMITTEE on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Councillor T McCaul.

Councillor O Beattie stood down as Chair of the Support Services sub-section of the meeting at 7.38 pm.

### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SUB-SECTION:**

Alderman J Rankin took the Chair for the Development Services sub-section of the meeting at 7.40 pm.

The Director of Development presented her report for the month of February 2015 as follows:

**Velocity Man Triathlon:** The request from Northern Velocity to hold the velocity man triathlon at Benone Beach on 7 June 2015 was approved.

**Mananan Mac Lir/Brighter Gold Sculpture:** The Director of Development explained that the sculpture of Mananan mac Lir commissioned as part of the

Myths and Legends Sculpture at Gortmore to depict the legend of the Broighter Gold was vandalised on 13/14 January 2015. She said that the Mananan Mac Lic figure was cut from within the base of the sculpture and that an investigation into the missing figure was on-going.

The Director of Development outlined that there had been substantial world-wide social media interest in the disappearance of the sculpture, with people requesting that it be replaced and others had expressed an interest in either making an donation to assist with the replacement or organising fund-raising activities to help meet any replacement cost. Members were advised that estimated costs to replace the sculpture, including the boat would be £15,000.

Following a prolonged discussion in which members were advised of the myth/folklore around Mananan mac Lir; the Broighter Gold connection and lack of insurance for public works of art. Members in turn commented on the artistic quality of the sculpture; how it had become a famous tourist attraction; the pagan aspect of the sculpture and the likelihood that the sculpture would be vandalised again.

A number of proposals were put forward and later withdrawn with regard to replacing the sculpture. Alderman M Coyle proposed, seconded by Councillor G Mullan that Council would agree in principle that the sculpture would be replaced 'like for like' and for Officers to investigate the possibility of public funding to help towards the replacement costs and for a report to be brought back to the March 2015 Monthly meeting. The proposal was put to the meeting and declared carried, 8 for and 1 against.

**St. Patrick's Day Celebrations in Westport:** It was agreed that Councillor G Mullan would attend the Westport St Patrick's Day Celebrations.

**Requests for Funding:** *Alderman J Rankin declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* It was agreed that Council would provide £3,500 assistance to Roe Valley Enterprises to offset initial costs to install a 30/100 fibre Ethernet leased line and firewall to speed up the internet connection in Aghanloo Industrial Estate.

It was agreed that the request for funding by Greysteel Community Association towards their Home Help Scheme would be discussed at the March Monthly meeting.

**Conferences:** Agreed that the Tourism Development Officer would attend the NITB Tourism Conference 2015 on 5 March in Stormont Hotel at a cost of £65.00.

**Legacy Grant Panel Meeting:** Members were advised that the Legacy Grant Panel meeting would be rescheduled from Wednesday 11 February 2015 as not all panel members were available to attend.

The Development report was approved on the proposal of Councillor O Beattie, seconded by Alderman M Coyle.

Alderman J Rankin stood down as Chair of the Development Services sub-section of the meeting at 8.40 pm.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SUB-SECTION:**

Councillor E Stevenson took the Chair for the Environmental Services sub section of the meeting at 8.45 pm.

**Director of Environmental Services Monthly Report:** The Director of Environmental Services presented his report for the month of February 2015 as follows:

*Building Control:*

**Bi-lingual Street Nameplate:** It was agreed that a bi-lingual street nameplate in English and Irish would be erected at Birren Road.

**Application for Occasional Licence:** Council had no objection to the application by the licence holder of Owen's Bar to sell liquor in the rear gardens on 20 & 21 February and 8 & 21 March 2015 between the hours of 8 pm and 1 am the following morning.

**Application for Occasional Licence:** Council had no objection to the application by the licence holder of Alexander Arms to sell liquor at Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre on 6 March 2015.

*Environmental Health:*

**Fixed Penalty Notices:** It was agreed that cases LR8/9-2015, LR604-2014 and LR593-2014 would be referred to Councils solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated against the dog owners for keeping dogs without a valid licence under Article 17(1) of the Dogs (NI) 1983 legislation.

**High Hedge Complaint Investigation:** Following investigation with regard to a high hedge complaint, it was agreed that the matter would be referred to Councils solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated against the land owner for failure to comply with the requirements of the Remedial Notice serviced under Section 10 (1) of the High Hedges Act 2011.

*Technical Services:*

**Quotations for 2015 Planting Season:** It was agreed that the tender submitted by Hanna's Nursery for supply and delivery of bedding plants in the sum of £17,227.50 + VAT would be accepted. It was also agreed that the tender submitted by Glenbank Nurseries for the supply and delivery of planted sitter & handing baskets in the sum of £3,425.00 + VAT would be accepted.

**Maintenance of Pitches at the Vale Centre:** *Councillors D Nicholl and O Beattie declared an interest.* The Director of Environment Services explained that at the time of development of playing pitches at the Vale Centre in 2000/01, Council had agreed to maintain the pitches thereafter which then consisted of two grass pitches, an all-weather and a number of smaller grass training areas. Following discussions between Council and Greysteel Community Enterprises (GCE) who own the pitches, a formal Maintenance Agreement was put in place in 2009.

The Director of Environmental Services informed members that in 2013 GCE had installed a 3G pitch at the Vale Centre which replaced one of the grass pitches and smaller training areas. He said that at that time the group had requested assistance towards future maintenance of the new facility, however no decision was taken until income and expenditure was provided on the operation of the 3G pitch. It was noted that following a number of meetings and discussions, Council was now in receipt of the information requested and in recent correspondence dated 1 February 2015, GCE had requested an annual financial contribution from Council towards maintenance costs for their 3G pitch.

Following discussion on options available to Council, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor A Brolly, seconded by Councillor G Mullan that Council would provide GCE £7,500 revenue funding per annum to be used for the provision of a maintenance programme for the 3G pitch, first payment to be made in March 2015, followed by further payment in March 2016. The agreement would be reviewed in February 2017.

The Environmental Services Report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor G Mullan, seconded by Alderman M Coyle.

*Queries Outside of the Report:*

**Update – Drumaduff Landfill Site:** In response to a member the Director of Environmental Services said that Officers were continuing to liaise with NIEA regarding the vesting of lands at Drumaduff landfill site and that two small claims lodged against Council for payment of land agents fees had been adjourned by the Judge to allow the claimants to consider their position.

Councillor E Stevenson stood down as Chair of the Environmental Services sub-section of the meeting at 9.30 pm.

**MONTHLY MEETING SUB-SECTION:**

The Mayor – Alderman A Robinson took the Chair at 9.30 pm for the remainder of the meeting.

**Loan Sanction Approvals:** Council approved the schedule of loans tabled.

**Consultations:** Members reviewed the consultation list for February 2015 and these were noted by Council.

**External Minutes:** The minutes of Western Health & Social Services Trust held on 4 December 2014 were noted.

**Loan Sanction Approvals:** It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor G Mullan that the following schedule of loans tabled would be approved:

- Refurbishment of Health Suite – Roe Valley Leisure Centre: £248,000
- Ballykelly Toilets - £68,313.

**Formal Correspondence:** The list of formal correspondence listed on the agenda was noted.

**Seal Legal Documents:** None.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Memento – Plaque:** Councillor B Douglas proposed, seconded by Councillor E Stevenson that Officers would research costings for a plaque inscribed with members name and term served in office as a memento for all past and present Councillors. Agreed.

**March Monthly Meeting:** It was agreed that the next and last meeting of Limavady Borough Council would be held on 10 March 2015.

**NEXT MEETING:** - 10 March 2015.

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9:40 PM**

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