

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

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
10 JUNE 2014**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.55 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

In the Chair: Alderman A Robinson.

Aldermen J Rankin and M Coyle. 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 and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor S McGlinchey.

PRESENTATION – ROADS SERVICE (TRANSPORT NI) SPRING CONSULTATION:

The Chair welcomed Mr Colin Hutchinson, Strategic Road Improvement Team and Mr Austin Montgomery, Section Engineer Roads Service (Transport NI) to the meeting.

From the outset, members were advised that Roads Service would now be known as Transport NI.

Mr Hutchinson presented the Northern Division Annual Report for 2014/15 which dealt with works completed in Limavady Borough Council area during the year 2013/14 and set out initial proposals for schemes to be undertaken in the year 2014/15. He said that funding available for improvement schemes and road maintenance was greatly reduced in line with the four year budget agreed by the Executive. Despite this, Roads Service used its resources effectively and continued to deliver quality public services, including resurfacing of roads and pathways, surface dressing, drainage, major utility works, winter gritting service, minor works schemes, traffic schemes, traffic management, maintenance of structures, street lighting and major work schemes.

The following points were made by members:

- Traffic calming measures at St Mathews Primary School - welcomed.
- The vehicle restraint system at Legavallan Road/Gelvin Bridge was welcomed, however, the recent heavy rain had led to flooding on the bridge.
- Transport NI to liaise with Council with regard to grass cutting at Drumsurn Court.
- The restructuring of the A6 scheme to allow construction of a bypass at Dungiven ahead of the remainder of the scheme was welcomed.
- Transport NI to raise manhole covers who were noisy when driven over at Priory Lane and at Glenroe junction with NI Water.
- Request that the restrictive speed limit at Burnfoot be extended to beyond the new school.

- Request for a footpath to be provided from the railway station to the school at Bellarena and from the Point Road to Benone.
- Request that Transport NI look at a stretch of Downland Road which had not been resurfaced as could potentially cause damage to vehicles.
- Transport NI to look at parking issues in Owenbeg area when matches were being played.
- The speed restriction in the hamlet of Glack was welcomed.
- Following a number of accidents, it was confirmed that verge markers were being put in place at Drumrane Road, locally known as the Moss Road.
- Request for restricted speed signs at Oughtymoyle.
- Request that Transport NI review parking availability in each direction from Belfast to Derry/Londonderry.
- Request that a footpath be provided from Presbyterian Church at the Largy to Dogleap Road.

The Chair thanked the deputation from Transport NI for attending the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 6 May 2014 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor J McCorkell.

MATTERS ARISING:

Page ¾ - Job Losses in the Borough: The Chief Executive highlighted that from 2008-2013 Invest NI had supported projects which promoted 319 new jobs in the Limavady Borough area and that during the same period £1.6 million had been offered in financial support to small businesses. Noted.

Page 4 – Notice of Motion on Animal Welfare: Members were advised that the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development was in the process of setting up a review of the implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2011 and that the Minister for Justice fully supported the review as required, including sentencing, whereby Minister Ford was working with the Lord Chief Justice on issues of transparency and consistency in sentencing. .

Minutes of AGM:

The minutes of AGM held 2 June 2014 were approved on the proposal of Councillor E Scott, seconded by Alderman M Coyle.

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT:

The Chief Executive presented his report for June 2014. The items for information were noted and the report was adopted subject to the following:

Local Government Reform: The Chief Executive circulated minutes from the last STC meeting held on 24 April 2014. He advised that a number of guidelines/regulations had recently been issued to Councils which included:

- Expenditure Controls for Councils in Shadow Form
- Draft - Local Government (Transitional, Supplementary, Incidental Provisions and Modifications) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014

- Draft - Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors
- Local Government Circular LG 26/14 – Declaration of Acceptance of Office’

It was agreed that a workshop/induction session would be held on NI Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors which had been previously circulated to member.

North West Gateway Initiative: An executive summary of the NWRCBG’s submission to the North West Gateway Initiative consultation was circulated to members. A paper to Council from the NWRCBG members was also circulated with regard to proposed recommended changes to the NWRCBG arrangements as follows:

- *That is Limavady & Magherafelt members to recommend that their councils move to resign from the Board.*
- *Limavady & Magherafelt would until the new Council arrangement come into force, remain as Associate members. They would not however need to attend meetings in order to form a Quorum or make decisions affecting the Board.*
- *The NWRCBG would continue to act as Lead Partner and deliver all projects in partnership with Limavady and Magherafelt as contracted through the SEUPB IVA Letters of Offer process. Agreed.*

End of Council Functions: The Chief Executive sought the views of Council on plans to mark the end of Limavady Borough Council when it ceased to exist on 31 March 2015. For example events involving past & present elected members, staff and the general public. Following discussion around funding, it was agreed that any decision would be deferred until after a workshop was held when plans to mark the event could be discussed in-depth.

CULTURE ARTS & TOURISM GRANTS:

IN COMMITTEE on the proposal of Councillor E Scott, seconded by Councillor E Stevenson. The Chief Executive advised that a sub-committee of nominated Councillors met the previous week to consider the applications received for funding under both the Community Festivals Funding scheme, supported by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and Council’s large grant scheme. The details of the applications and recommendations for award were put to members for consideration and approval.

A lengthy discussion took place with regard to funding for events in the Borough, to the amount awarded to home-grown festivals and to the fact that Councillors had received a substantial number of emails with regard to funding towards Stendhal Festival. Council was unanimous in voicing support for the festival, however, it was stressed that the maximum grant available under the Community Festival grants programme for 2014/15 was £7,000.

The recommendations for revenue deficit funding of grant aid for events and festivals taking place in the Borough between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015 was approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor E Scott.

Councillor A Broly requested that it be put on record that she was unhappy with the recommendation on funding to Stendhal Festival. Noted. **OUT OF COMMITTEE** on the proposal of Councillor E Scott, seconded by Councillor B Chivers.

EXTERNAL MINUTES NOTED: - None.

CONSULTATIONS: -

Members reviewed the consultation list for June 2014 and the following was agreed:

Department for Regional Development – Proposals for a Level Crossing (McConaghy's Order (NI) 2014: *Note the consultation.*

Department for Regional Development – Proposed Private Crossings (Signs and Barriers) Regulations (NI) 2014: *Note the consultation.*

COURSES/CONFERENCES:

It was agreed that Councillor D Nicholl would attend the Agenda NI Planning Seminar 'The Transition to Local Government' on Tuesday 30 September 2014 in Europa Hotel, Belfast: Fee £150 + VAT.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- Room 151 Quarterly – Treasury Technical & Strategic Finance
- Utility Week – Suppliers back in the stocks
- Locality – Saving money by doing the right thing
- Virtual Rurality – A snapshot of telecommunications in rural Northern Ireland
- Patient & Client Council 'Care when I need it' A report on Urgent Care Services, March 2013
- Planning Utility Week – Investors overboard?
- Community Relations Council - Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Report
- Community Relations Council – Ten Key Points of Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Report

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS: - None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: -

Port-a-Loos – Twelfth July: It was agreed that Council would supply up to 30 port-a-loos for the 2014 Twelfth July celebrations being held in Limavady.

Mace: It was agreed that the Council Mace would be used during the Somme Anniversary Church Service being held Sunday 29 June 2014.

Applications for Occasional Licences – Owen's Bar: Council had no objection to the applications for Occasional Licences by the holder of liquor licence for Owen's Bar to sell liquor at 6 events during the summer months.

Application for Occasional Licence – Alexander Arms: Council had no objection to the application for Occasional Licence by the holder of liquor licence for Alexander Arms to sell alcohol at Ballymully Cottage Farm.

Application for Transfer of Liquor Licence: Council had no objection to the application for Transfer of Liquor Licence from Karlka Ltd to Indrish Ltd.

Triangle Housing Association: An invitation was circulated from Triangle Housing Association for elected members and the SMT to attend a lunchtime reception on Wednesday 11 June 2014 in Ballymoney. It was noted that this would provide an opportunity for Council to be updated on Triangle's present and future planned work in housing in the Causeway Coast and Glens cluster area.

NEXT MEETING: - 5 August 2014.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.30 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting