

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

11 MARCH 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:

Alderman J Rankin. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, S McGlinchey (chair), G Mullan, D Nicholl, A Robinson, E Scott and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Chief Executive, Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES:

Alderman Coyle and Councillor R Donaghy,

PRESENTATION - STENDHAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS:

The Chair welcomed Mr Ross Parkhill and Mr Bobby Farren, Stendhal Festival organising committee to the meeting.

Mr Farren explained that Stendhal had been awarded 'Best Small Festival' for 2013 at the Irish Festival Awards. He said that the festival organisers wanted to build on this by taking the event from a local to international level. He added that there had been a 200% increase in attendance at the yearly event since its inception.

Mr Farren highlighted that the group had recently met with the Minister of Culture, Arts & Leisure and that she had given a commitment to providing support for creative & cultural activity in the North West. He said the Minister had clarified that a bid for funding was being prepared and subject to approval, DCAL would provide £20K to support the development of Stendhal in 2014. He requested that Council match fund this due to the benefits that the festival would provide to the local economy.

Mr Parkhill gave an overview of the festival's programme of events and to the group's three year business plan. It was noted that priority for the group at this stage was to secure funds for preparation and drainage of the site for this year's festival.

In the discussion which followed, it was highlighted that the festival provided an opportunity to showcase the talent of local artists and members welcomed that the festival was family friendly.

The Chair thanked the representatives from Stendhal Festival for attending the meeting. It was agreed that the request for match funding would be discussed at the end of the meeting IN COMMITTEE.

PRESENTATION – UNITY BRIDGE PROJECT:

The Chair welcomed Mrs Mary McCloskey, Principle of St Mary’s High School and Mr Shane Laverty, Principle of Limavady High School to the meeting.

Mr Laverty stated that the aim of the Unity Bridge Project was to reclaim and transform a space and to connect communities from different backgrounds, with the overall objective of joining 1,400 young people from both schools; connecting community groups and providing a safe space to Blackburn Park. He said that extensive consultation had taken place on the project, which had grown significantly to include a £8 million shared campuses facility - STEM Centre and Careers Hub.

Mrs McCloskey outlined that the Minister for Education had given his support to the project and that the Department for Social Development had agreed to provide £25K to rejuvenate the pathway to Blackburn Park. She said that final decision on the bid for funding for the Unity Bridge Project from the Big Lottery ‘Space & Place’ programme would be announced later in the year, however officials from Space & Place had indicated that it was important that Council provide a financial contribution of £10K towards the £400K visionary bridge project.

Members welcomed the regeneration of the pathway leading to Blackburn Park and to how this could deter antisocial behaviour.

The Chair thanked the Principals from the schools for attending the meeting. It was agreed that the request for a financial contribution to the project would be discussed at the end of the meeting IN COMMITTEE.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 11 February 2014 were approved on the proposal of Councillor T McCaul, seconded by Councillor B Chivers,

MATTERS ARISING: - None

MINUTES OF THE IRISH LANGUAGE COMMITTEE:

The minutes of the Irish Language Committee meeting held 4 February 2014 were tabled and noted.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT ~ MARCH 2014:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for March 2014 and enlarged thereon. The report was approved on the proposal of Councillor A Brolly, seconded by Councillor B Douglas subject to the following:

Roe Valley Leisure Centre – Office Space: It was agreed that the multi activity room at Roe Valley Leisure Centre would be reconfigured to incorporate office accommodation at a cost of £25,000, which was been included within the capital budgets for 2014/15.

Request from Roe Valley Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association: The Director of Development reported that the Roe Valley Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association had request that a contribution from Council of £600 to help

offset the cost of mounting a plaque adjacent to the War Memorial commemorating the Battle of the Atlantic on Sunday 25 May 2014. Agreed

Request from RNLI to Undertake Fund-Raising Activity at Benone Strand:

It was agreed that Council would permit RNLI to undertake fundraising and education activity at Benone ~Strand for the 2014 season.

The Dale Farm Milk Cup: It was agreed that Council would provide financial support of £15,000, together with use of Council facilities at Scroggy Road and Roemill Road for the 2014 Dale Farm Milk Cup tournament.

Rural Development Programme Projects - Marketing/Tours and Trails: As part of the Rural Development Programme Project Marketing/Tours and Trails, it was agreed that the following would be approved:

- a) Photograph Commission – appoint Paul Beattie Photography in the sum of £1,890.
- b) Tour Guide Training – appoint Collette McCafferty in the sum of £4,400.
- c) Production of Lamp Banners – appoint Zing Design and Print Systems to undertake the commission.

Health Suite – Roe Valley Leisure Centre Proposed Concession: In light of the reduced facilities available and the proposed refurbishment of the Health Suite at Roe Valley Leisure Centre, it was recommended that effective from July 2014 that:

1. A reduction in the membership fee for senior citizens by £2 a month for those paying by direct debits
2. Three months free membership for those senior citizens who have paid annual membership in advance.

Gaelic Games Development Officer: It was agreed that Council would extend the post of Gaelic Games Development Officer for a further 3 year period subject to costs shared on 50:50 basis with the County Derry GAA and agreed programme of activity.

Proposed Pricing Policy for Leisure Service April 2014 – March 2015: The Director of Development presented recommendations for the Pricing Policy for Leisure Services, which covered Roe Valley Leisure Centre, Dungiven Sports Pavilion, Scroggy Road and Council's other outdoor sports facilities. She said that due to the proposed development in Dungiven, few changes were proposed at this time to the Sports Pavilion in Dungiven. She added that a review of Scroggy Road was currently underway and that it was proposed that any amendment to the Pricing Policy for this facility would be dealt with along with any recommendations arising from the review. The prices for the Health Suite would be amended to reflect the agreed concessions. Agreed.

Proposed Countryside Festival – Shackleton Site, Ballykelly: It was agreed that the organizers of the above festival would present to Council at the Planning & Services meeting being held Tuesday 18 March 2014.

Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust: It was agreed that Council would make a financial contribution of £11,000 to Causeway Coast & Glen Heritage Trust for the period 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015.

Causeway Coast & Glens Tourism Partnership: The Director of Development presented details of the Business Plan and Operational Plan (2014/15) for Causeway Coast & Glens Tourism Partnership. It was agreed that Council would make a financial contribution of £25,000 towards the tourism partnership.

Proposed Holiday Closures March 2014 – 31 March 2015: Council approved the proposed facility closures covering the period up to 31 March 2015 for Council Offices, RVLC, Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre and Benone Tourist Complex.

Economic Development: It was agreed that Council would accept the bid from NOWLED to deliver the second Online Marketing project through EU funds under the Competitiveness programme in the sum of £25,595 + VAT.

Community Development: The Director of Development highlighted that a late application for £2,000 funding had been received from Ballykelly Community & Youth Association under the Community Services funding programme. She said that Glenshane Community Development Ltd had also approached Council for permission to purchase software (Advice Pro) for the provision of advice services at a cost of £1,122. It was recommended that Council agrees these funding requests within the current Community Services budget for the two groups. Agreed.

Drumcreatt Square Enhancement: It was agreed that Council would provide match funding of £700 from its existing budget for the enhancement of Drumcreatt Square with additional planting and containers.

Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre Retail Space: The Director of Development recommended that Council approves the proposed enhancement works to the storytelling area in the RVACC at a cost not exceeding £2,500 which had been allowed for in the fixtures, fittings and equipment capital budget. Agreed subject to excluding the purchase of a vending machine at this time.

Causeway Museum Service: It was agreed that Council would make a contribution of £22,808 towards Causeway Museum Service for 2014/15. Work of the Museum Service for 2014/15 would include project delivery, collections management advice, community management and delivery on the On the Brink 1914-1916 project.

Proposed Scale of Charges for RVACC: Council approved the proposed Scale of Charges for RVACC effective from 1 April 2014.

Appointment of Design Team – Development of Watersports Facilities at Benone: The Director of Development outlined that the Invitation to Tender stage of the procurement process for the appointment of a Design Team for the development of watersport facility at Benone had now been completed. It was agreed that subject to a 5 day standstill period for unsuccessful tenders and subject to all clarifications being addressed that the contract would be offered to the lowest tenderer in the sum of £26,200.

Items for Information:

Banagher Glen: The Director of Development confirmed that a meeting had taken place with NIEA on parking problems and access to Banagher Glen. She agreed to provide details to a member on antisocial behavior at the location.

Meeting to Discuss the Closure of KPL: The Director of Development reminded members that a meeting had taken place on the closure of KPL with the loss of two hundred jobs. It was noted that 1595 jobs had been lost in the area since 2004. She said that PWC who were dealing with the administration of the company made it clear that there would be no rescue package available on retention of jobs. It was agreed that a letter from the Mayor on behalf of Council would be forwarded to the Northern Ireland Executive.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Application for Occasional Licence: The application for Occasional Licence to sell liquor in O'Connors Glack GAC on 16 March 2014 was approved.

Items for April Meeting: The Director of Development agreed to report back to Council at the April 2014 Development Services Meeting on the following:

- Request for floodlights at Dromore Lane Training Pitch.
- Handrails at RVACC.
- Events/Festival Grants Programme.
- Signage to 3G Pitch at Scroggy Road.

ITEMS DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE:

Match Funding Request - Stendhal Festival of Arts: The Director of Development agreed to review festival funding before reporting back to Council in April 2014 on the request for match funding.

Unity Bridge Project – St Marys & Limavady High School: Councillor A Brolly proposed, seconded by Councillor B Chivers that Council would contribute £10,000 to the Unity Bridge Project. It was noted that this would be taken from reserves.

NEXT MEETING – 8 April 2014

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8.35 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting