

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**11 AUGUST 2009**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk, Director of Development and the Chief Executive.

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors A Brolly, M Donaghy and A Robinson.

**PRESENTATION BY ROE ANGLING ASSOCIATION:**

The Chair welcomed Mr Martin McGonigle, Chairman of Roe Angling Association to the meeting.

Mr McGonigle explained that the Association were concerned that nets on Lough Foyle impacted on the number of salmon entering the River Roe. He said that the salmon catch had decreased from 22,250 in 2005 to 4,106 in 2008 and if this trend continued, anglers might not renew their licences.

Mr McGonigle sought the help of Council in bringing additional recreational angling into the area. He reminded members that Council had been supportive of the Association in the past in provision of disability access facilities at Swans Bridge and enhancement of the overall river service for anglers. He requested that Council put pressure on the relevant Minister for removal of the nets on Lough Foyle and to preserve the lifespan of salmon catch in the River Roe for future generations.

In the discussion which followed, several members voiced support for the removal of the nets. The problem of trawlers depleting fish numbers from around the north coast was also highlighted.

Mr McGonigle thanked Council for listening to the concerns expressed and left the meeting at 7.20 pm.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Alderman Robinson that a letter of support for removal of the nets on Lough Foyle would be forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture & Rural Development. It was also agreed that a deputation to include the Mayor C Ó hOisín, Alderman Rankin,

Councillor Mullan, one other Councillor and an officer would meet with the Minister, with the Loughs Agency being suggested as a possible venue. Councillors E Stevenson and B Douglas requested that they be excluded from the proposals. Noted.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 9 June 2009 were approved on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Carten.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Pages 1 & 2 - Shackleton Barracks:** The Director of Development agreed to update members on the development of Shackleton Barracks at the September 2009 meeting.

**Page 3 – Magilligan to Greencastle Ferry Service:** In response to a query on the possibility of crafts being launched from the Ferry Terminal, the Director of Development advised that Council needed to consider how the facilities would be managed. Account would also have to be taken of the future requirements of the ferry service in relation to the Terminal Building. If not required alternative uses would be considered.

**MINUTES OF DANNY BOY SUB COMMITTEE:**

The minutes of Danny Boy Sub Committee meetings held 16 April, 18 May and 22 June 2009 were noted.

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – AUGUST 2009:**

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for August 2009 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Carten subject to the following:

**Causeway Coast Arts:** It was agreed that a financial contribution of £800 would be allocated to Causeway Coast Arts for the year 2009/10.

**Visit of London Irish Bowlers:** It was agreed that Council would contribute £200 towards the costs of a shared reception at Limavady Recreation Club for a party of 40 bowlers from London Irish Bowling Association, plus contribute civic gifts for presentation to the visiting dignitaries.

**Good Relations – Requests for Funding under the Grant Aid Programme:** The Director of Development informed members that applications had been received and assessed for funding under the Good Relations Grant Aid Programme. The following recommendations were approved by Council:

- North West Tongues Tones and Tapping - £1,000
- Hands that Talk - £1,000
- Ardinariff Historical and Cultural Society - £1,000
- Dromboughil Community Association - £1,100

- Kids Inn Out of School Club - £575
- Drumsurn Community Association & Bovalley Community Association - £1,957.50
- NWILA - £1,330
- Naíscoil Léim an Mhadaidh - £1,000
- Limavady Somme Society - £1,250
- Burnfoot Community Development & Senior Citizens Club - £1,470.

It was agreed that unsuccessful applications would be signposted to other potential sources of funding.

**Lands at Ardgarvan:** The Director of Development reported that Newtown Football Club had expressed an interest in taking over the lands which Council currently lease at Ardgarvan. She said in looking at the terms and conditions, it had transpired that Council had no formal agreement on lease of the land and that Council had continued to make a payment of £1,800 per annum beyond the initial agreement period of 5 years. She added that if Council was prepared to terminate its interest in the grounds at Ardgarvan, Newton Football Club had requested that Council makes the changing units available to them. She also said that if Newton Football Club took over the lease, they would be prepared to make a small amount of land available for use as a kickabout area by the local community.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson that discussion continue on the lease and that the exact amount of land available as a kickabout area be ascertained and brought back to Council.

**NIEA Application for Funding towards the Recruitment of Biodiversity Officers:** It was agreed that Council would support the appointment of two Biodiversity Officers to work across the geographical areas of Limavady, Coleraine and Ballymoney. It was noted that funding had been set aside in the current financial year to cover the costs associated with the posts.

**Development of a Youth Resource Centre by the Western Education and Library Board:** The Director of Development explained that to assist with appraisal of Roe Valley Leisure Centre as a potential site for a Youth Resource Centre, the Western Education & Library Board had requested that Council consider the terms under which Council might make the site available to them.

It was noted that the proposed location for the Youth Resource Centre would result in a slight reduction in the number of car park spaces available and that an assessment would have to be made as to whether they should be replaced elsewhere; a lease for 25 years would be preferable and any recommendations by Council to make the land available at less than market value would require a case to be presented to the DoE. It was suggested that in line with procedures required by the DoE, that valuation of the land both for purchase and lease be sought. Agreed.

**Capital Expenditure – Roe Valley Leisure Centre:** Capital expenditure totalling £63,000 to purchase a number of items and carry out minor works to the infrastructure of Roe Valley Leisure Centre was approved by Council.

**Proposed Touring Caravan Park, Benone Avenue (Deighan Caravans):** Members were tabled with correspondence from the Architect acting on behalf of Mr Thomas Deighan seeking permission from Council to form a new site access across boundary piece of land belonging to Council at Benone Avenue, Benone. It was agreed that the Director of Development would advise the Architect that Council was supportive to the access, however conditions relating to the access needed to be agreed at a later stage.

**Glenshane Community Development:** The Director of Development sought the views of Council on plans by Glenshane Community Development for the development of a range of outdoor recreation facilities adjacent to Dungiven Sports Pavilion. She said the group intended to submit a planning application in respect of the proposed development on land currently owned by Council.

Although caution was expressed at the proposals and it was queried who would be responsible for maintenance of the facilities, approval was given for a planning application to be submitted on the proposals.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Rural Development Update:** The Director of Development outlined that Limavady Borough Council had received 86 applications in the first round for funding from the Rural Development Programme at a value of £2.63 million approximately.

**Civic Centre Site Meeting:** Members were informed that a Civic Centre site meeting would take place at 6 pm on 18 August 2009. Eight members indicated that they would be in attendance.

**Fireworks – Halloween:** Expenditure of £2.5K was approved for the 31 October 2009 Halloween fireworks display.

**Roeville Terrace:** It was suggested that ownership of land needed to be established at Roeville Terrace and that officers investigate if an environmental enhancement scheme would be an option for the area.

**Civic Receptions:** The following Civic Receptions were approved:

- RNLA - rescue of two children at Downhill
- Niall O'Connor – success as a Irish Rugby player
- Wolfhounds – under 14's who win the league and the Ulster Cup.

**Roe Valley Historical Society:** It was agreed that technical support would be given to Roe Valley Historical Society for event being held in January 2010.

**Benone Leisure Facility:** The Director of Development explained that unfortunately the Splash Pool at Benone had to be temporarily closed for essential maintenance. It was suggested that additional staff were needed on the golf course when groups of 10 or more played together.

**Development of Third Generation Pitch – Scroggy Road:** The Director of Development outlined that the Business Case for the development of a 3G pitch at Scroggy Road was currently with Sport NI. It was based on up to 85% funding being available from Sports NI towards the construction of the pitch, installation of floodlighting and fencing. She said indicative levels of funding towards the costs were £980,000 for 3G Gaelic Pitch and £500,000 - £600,000 for 3G Soccer pitch, with Council being required to match fund each of the options by £363,000 and £327,100 respectively. Funding towards upgrading of the Changing pavilion and other identified works would not be grant aided.

Members discussed the five options within the business case to be taking forward to full economic appraisal and the costs outlined. A number of points were made on the need for a 3G Gaelic Pitch and the impact costs would have on the rates.

After considerable debate, Councillor Ó hOisín proposed, seconded by Councillor Mullan that Council proceed with the funding application to Sports NI and to approve option 5 – for the development of 140 x 95 m 3G synthetic pitch; refurbishment of pavilion to provide 6 team rooms, disabled changing, referees rooms, meeting room, administration office, public toilets, first aid, storage and provision of car parking CCTV and site works.

A recorded vote was requested and on being put to the meeting the proposal was declared carried, 7 for, namely Alderman M Coyle, Councillors G Mullan, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, C Ó hOisín and J F McElhinney. Aldermen J Rankin, G Robinson, Councillors B Douglas, E Stevenson and L Cubitt, 5 voted against the proposal.

**Magilligan – Greencastle Ferry Service: IN COMMITTEE.** The Director of Development updated members on correspondence/communication between Donegal County Council and Foyle Ferry Company on the future of the Magilligan to Greencastle Ferry Service. It was noted that a joint application between Limavady Borough Council and Donegal County Council for funding for the ferry service would be submitted to INTERREG IIIA programme. It was agreed that members would be kept up to date on any changes to the ferry service.  
**OUT OF COMMITTEE.**

**NEXT MEETING** – Tuesday 8 September 2009

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS**  
**(The meeting ended at 10.10 pm)**

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