

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk and Director of Development.

**APOLOGIES:** - None.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting held on 8 January 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Alderman Rankin.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Oakmore Developments:** Members were informed that Council was still awaiting legal opinion on the proposal to acquire part of the grass area and sheds currently blocking the redevelopment of the market yard by Oakmore Developments.

**Civic Receptions:** It was agreed that Civic Receptions would be combined. To facilitate the attendance of members, it was suggested that they be consulted prior to finalising dates and times.

**MINUTES OF DANNY BOY FESTIVAL SUB COMMITTEE:**

The minutes of the Danny Boy Festival Sub Committee dated 3 December 2007 and 14 January 2008 were tabled and noted.

A view was expressed that the content of the programme appeared to have moved away from the original theme of Danny Boy. Councillor Coyle commended the hard work undertaken by the Danny Boy Sub Committee in pulling the programme together and added that there was perhaps some more work to be done in defining the 'hook' on which to hang the Danny Boy Festival.

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – FEBRUARY 2008:**

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for February 2008 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

**Council Nominations to the Proposed Binevenagh AONB Management Forum:**

The Director of Development advised that Council had been asked to nominate 1 elected member and 1 officer to the proposed Management Forum for Binevenagh AONB. She explained that Councillor Ó hOisín had been nominated as the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust representative.

Following discussion during which members emphasised the importance of Binevenagh AONB, Alderman Mullan, Councillor Douglas and the Countryside Recreation Officer were nominated to the Management Forum. The Director of Development agreed to enquire if both elected members nominated could sit on the Forum.

**St Patrick's Day Celebrations in Westport:** Councillors M Coyle, C Ó hOisín, J F McElhinney and 1 officer were nominated to attend the Westport St Patrick's Day celebrations.

**Approval to Undertake Tourism Market Research:** The Director of Development outlined that Causeway Coast & Glens Tourism had been in discussion with Global Tourism (UK) Ltd (GTS) with a view to tourism market research being undertaken within the Causeway Coast & Glens area. She outlined the benefits of the research to the Borough and recommended that Council join with the other Councils within the Causeway Coast & Glens Regional Tourism Partnership at a cost of approximately £3,000.

The value of the research was debated, including the shortcomings of the market research currently undertaken by NITB. It was suggested that a letter be forwarded to DETI outlining Council's concern that valuable local market research information had to be commissioned independently rather than being provided by NITB.

**Roe Estuary – Sheep Mash Vesting Order:** Members were advised that EHS had confirmed that the vesting of the Sheep Mash at Roe Estuary would have some impact on the activities of Lough Foyle Wildfowlers Association and might ultimately result in a cessation of shooting within an area of the Roe Estuary in accordance with management of the ASSI designated area.

It was agreed that officers meet with local Wildfowlers and landowners to hear their concerns regarding the vesting order. It was also agreed that officers would meet with EHS to discuss provision of signage and ongoing issues of public access to Roe Estuary Nature Reserve.

**Rural Development Programme:** The Director of Development updated members regarding the Rural Development Programme and the role of the cluster group. She explained that it was recommended that the Local Action Group (LAG) would consist of 32 members, 16 elected members (4 from each Council on a cross party basis) and 16 social and economic partners (4 from each Council area) and for 2 elected members to be nominated from each Council to the Joint Committee who would have overall responsibility for delivering the programme.

Although reservations were expressed at the size of the 32 member LAG Committee, 5 members showed an interest in being nominated to this. Council also agreed that 2 members would be nominated to the Joint Committee at a later date.

**Peace 11I Update:** The Director of Development updated members on timetable for completion of work for the PEACE III programme and to the fact that the Special European Programmes Body had stipulated submission of action plans by 31 March 2008. She said it was recommended subject to agreement by the other five Council in the cluster that Limavady Borough Council agree to a partnership comprising 24 members and 2 Council representatives (on a cross community basis). Alderman Rankin and Councillor Coyle were nominated to the partnership.

**Shackleton Motorsports Festival 18 - 20 July 2008:** The Director of Development outlined that arrangements were underway via the Maiden City Motorclub to co-ordinate a Motorsport Festival in Shackleton, Ballykelly from 18 – 20 July 2008. She tabled a draft programme and explained that the organisers were keen to promote an event which would encourage families to come along and that profit raised from the festival would be donated to charity.

Although the event was welcomed in terms of tourism potential to the Borough, concern was raised to noise and the proposed start time of 11 am for events scheduled to take place on Sunday 20 July. The Director of Development clarified that this was a draft programme and undertook to raise members concerns with the organising committee.

**Review of Gold Card Scheme:** It was agreed that members would continue to support the Gold Card Holder Scheme whereby local elite athletes who represented their sport at a high level were given free use of council leisure & sporting facilities.

**Photography Competition:** It was suggested that Council hold an exhibition of the entrants to the photography competition.

**Backburn Path:** The Director of Development explained that officers were working with community groups and Groundwork Northern Ireland to develop an environmental project around the Backburn Linear Path and that funding was available through the Local Community Fund. She said a partnership agreement had been drawn up, with terms of reference in relation to the role of Groundwork NI and that this had been circulated to members for approval.

Members welcomed the partnership agreement and it was suggested that the views of those who used the play area be taken into consideration when the improvements were being made.

**Car Park:** Concern was again raised at the lack of parking facilities for local retailers. It was noted that the Director of Development had written to Roads Service regarding the problem but no response was received as yet.

#### **Conferences:**

It was agreed that the Countryside Recreation Officer would attend the Future Opportunities and Challenges for Outdoor Recreation in Ireland Conference to be held 12 & 13 March 2008 in Lough Erne Golf Resort, Enniskillen.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**PPS 14 – Stakeholders Event:** The Director of Development explained that 6 members and 2 officers had been nominated to attend the PPS 14 stakeholder’s event but only 4 were allowed. It was suggested that the first four Members nominated should attend the event to be held on 21 February 2008 in Flowerfield Arts Centre, Coleraine.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** - 18 March 2008.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS  
(The meeting ended at 8.40 pm)**

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