

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**12 MARCH 2013**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive, Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

**APOLOGIES:** - Alderman G Robinson, Councillor C McLaughlin and Councillor E Stevenson.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 12 February 2013 were approved on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Councillor McCaul.

**MATTERS ARISING:** - None.

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – MARCH 2013:**

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for March 2013 and enlarged thereon.

**Voluntary Generalist Advice Tender:** It was agreed that the joint tender submitted by LCDI and Glenshane Community Development on provision of advice services would be approved.

**Community Services Grants:** The Director of Development reported that submissions had been made from groups following a final call for continuation/extra funding reallocated from the Department for Social Development. It was agreed that the following applications would be granted the remaining funding:

- Glenshane Community Development - £2,000
- Foreglen Community Association - £2,000
- Benbradagh Community Association - £1,500.

**Request for Support – Technology Tournament:** The Director of Development explained that Limavady Rotary Club were holding a Technology Tournament to encourage secondary school children to choose careers in technology, science and engineering. It was agreed that Council would support the event being held on 22 March 2013 between 10am – 2 pm in St Mary's school via a general grant of

£500 from the existing Economic Development budget for this year. It was noted that the support was on the condition of acknowledgment of Council as a major sponsor, with funding to be claimed by 25 March 2013.

**Mary Peters Trust:** It was agreed that Council would made a contribution of £150 towards the Mary Peters Trust.

**Loan of Brighter Hoard:** The Director of Development outlined that the National Museum had confirmed that subject to a range of conditions, approval had been given for Limavady Borough Council to display the Brighter Hoard. She said in addition to enhanced security arrangements, two site visits would be required at a cost of €2,500 and insurance cover would also be required.

It was suggested that the Nicholl family should be involved and acknowledged during the 400 celebrations while the hoard would be on display. It was also suggested that consideration should be given to naming a road or facility after the person who had discovered the hoard.

**Policy – Villages, Hamlets and Rural Settlement Support for Christmas Celebrations:** The policy on Villages, Hamlets and Rural Settlement Support for Christmas Celebrations, with amended introduction was approved by Council.

**RVACC – Holiday Arrangements and Opening Hours for 2013/14:** The list of proposed bank/public holiday arrangements and opening hours set out within the report for Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre was approved.

Disappointment was expressed that the centre was closed early on Saturdays and during bank holidays. It was stressed that flexibility should be included in staff contracts outside the normal 9 – 5 hours, especially during the summer season when tourism should be promoted. The Chief Executive said the cost of opening the centre on the days mentioned could be brought back to Council for further discussion.

**Extension to Sound System:** Council approved the purchase of digital sound desk from Magic Village, Romford at a cost of £3093.33 plus VAT and for the speakers and stand to be purchased from Rea Sound at a cost of £1316.92 plus VAT.

**Limavady Twinning Committee:** Council approved a grant of £2000 to Limavady Twinning Committee for twinning activities planned for 2013.

**Old Dromore Lane:** The Director of Development stated that the wooden farm gate erected by Council at the southern end of Old Dromore Lane to prevent unauthorised vehicular access and illegal dumping had been removed and cut in two, possibly with a chainsaw. She said the landowner had queried if Council would be replacing the gate as it was suggested that vehicles might be using the lane.

The Director of Development recommended that staff assess the situation prior to any decision being taken on whether or not to replace the gate. Agreed. It was suggested that the incident should be reported to the PSNI.

**Proposed Amendments to Pricing Policy:** Council approved the proposed pricing policy for Leisure Services effective from 1 April 2013 subject to it being agreed that Council would no longer charge for spectatorship.

**Update on Community Garden/Allotments Project:** The Director of Development advised that a letter of offer had been received in relation to the above Interreg IVA project being rolled out across all Councils within the North West Region Cross Border Group. She said the £113,814 awarded would be spend on development of the community/garden/allotments project on ground at Oughtymoyle; equipment; recruitment and wages of a part time Community Gardner.

The Director of Development outlined the aims, objectives and outputs of the project. She said that a Project Manager would be appointed by Strabane District Council (Lead Council) to assist with the delivery of the projects across the partner councils and that a Steering Group had been appointed to oversee implementation of the project.

It was agreed that Council would proceed with the appointment of a part-time Gardner and roll out the allotments project.

**Culture, Arts & Tourism Grants:** Council approved the recommendations for revenue deficit funding of grant aid for events and festivals taking place in the Borough between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014. It was agreed that consideration would be given to including Fun Days under grants for Community Development.

**Visitor Numbers at Key Sites:** Reference was made to visitor numbers at Benone Strand and potential for money to raise income from vehicles coming onto the beach. Following discussion it was agreed that issues over charging and ice cream vendors would best be dealt with within the new Council.

**Reopening of the Derry/Londonderry Rail Line:** Members were advised that Translink was inviting the public to 'Try the Train' on Saturday 23 March 2013 and experience the journey between Coleraine and Londonderry before the line reopened to the public. It was noted that members had received an invitation to the official re-opening ceremony of the railway line and a special inaugural train journey on 22 March 2013.

The Chief Executive agreed to report back to members on potential halt being provided in Ballykelly.

**Town Centre Regeneration:** In response to a member, the Director of Development advised that discussions were taking place with property owners in Linenhall Street to see what could be done to improve the look of the street.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Magilligan Field Centre/Bio Diversity:** It was agreed that Liz Wallace would be invited to present to Council on bio diversity work at the Field Centre. The Chief Executive suggested that Council discuss the Biodiversity Action Plan at the same time. Agreed.

**Leak at Roe Valley Leisure Centre:** The Director of Development clarified that the leak referred to by a member at Roe Valley Leisure Centre would be repaired in early April 2013.

**Planning Conference 2013 – The Future Role of Planning:** It was agreed that Councillor T McCaul would attend the above conference being held in Belfast on 25-26 April 2013 at a cost of £120 for attendance on day 25 April 2013.

**NEXT MEETING** – 16 April 2013

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 7.50 PM**

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