

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
12 MAY 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 G Mullan, J Rankin and G. Robinson (chair). Councillors P. Butcher, M Carten, B. Chivers, M Coyle, L. Cubitt, M Donaghy, J F McElhinney, C. Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E. Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Director of Development and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors A Brolly and B Douglas.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting held 9 April 2009 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

MATTERS ARISING:

- **Page 3 – Greysteel Play Area:** Members discussed the problems associated with finding a suitable volunteer to open and close Greysteel Play Area. Members also discussed the suggestion that Council contribute £25 per week to Greysteel Community Association to open and close the facility, however, concern was raised that this would set a precedent and that other Community Groups would be looking for a similar contribution.

After debate, Councillor McElhinney proposed, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín that Council give a donation of £1,200 per year to Greysteel Community Group to clean and open/close the play area. Councillor Coyle put forward an amendment that decision be deferred until the next Development Services meeting for a further report on options available regarding any payment for opening/closing of the play area. The amendment was seconded by Alderman Rankin and on being put to the meeting was declared carried, 8 for, 5 against. The substantive motion was put to the meeting and declared carried, 8 for, 5 against.

- **Page 1 – Roe Valley Arts and Heritage Committee:** A member congratulated the Roe Valley Arts and Heritage Committee on the Drama Festival which was held in the Largy Hall on 24 – 25 April 2009. He said it was an outstanding event in which all the schools in the Borough took part.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – MAY 2009:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for May 2009 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved subject to the following:

Grassroots Soccer Development Programme: The Director of Development highlighted that the current partnership arrangement with the Irish Football Association in relation to the Grassroots Soccer Development Programme was due for review and the IFA has asked Council to consider extending the programme until 31 March 2011. Agreed.

Active Families Programme: It was agreed that Council would contribute towards the Active Families Programme by providing use of a room at no cost and that a complementary family swim ticket would be provided to each of the participating families completing the programme for a period of 6 weeks.

2009 Milk Cup: It was agreed that a joint Goody Bag from Councils would be given to teams participating in the 2009 Milk Cup.

Good Relations: Council agreed as part of this year's Good Relation Workplan to begin the recruitment process for part-time Media Relations Officer, which would be fully funded by the Community Relations Unit and would run until March 2011.

Community Response Plan for the Limavady Area Following Suicide: It was agreed that the Western Health & Social Care Board would make a presentation to Council on the Community Response Plan for the Limavady Area following suicide.

Economic Development: The Director of Development requested that members approve request to seek funding for an Enterprise Officer for the Borough from the Competitiveness & Employment Programme, which would be matched funded from the existing Economic Development Budget.

Request for Funding for the Royal Air Forces Association: It was agreed that Council would contribute £250 towards an event to be held 28 June 2009 to unveil a memorial to those who served on the airfields of the Borough during WWII. A member requested that Council be updated on plans for Shackleton Barracks.

Proposals for Upgrading Pitches at Roemill Road: The Director of Development sought approval from Council to proceed with upgrade of pitches at Roemill Road following the submission of an economic appraisal and Loan Sanction approval from the Department. £100,000 had been set aside within the Capital budget to enable work to commence within the current financial year. Current estimated costs extended to £219,000.

Concern was raised over the level of funding and whether the upgrade would resolve problems with the drainage. Concern was also raised over security of the pitches, vandalism caused by scramblers/quads and to illegal drinking. It was confirmed that a Right of Way existed which meant that the area could not be totally fenced off. It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Robinson to proceed with the upgrade. Councillor Butcher requested valuation for the land.

Benone Beach: The following points were raised and noted in relation to Benone Beach:

- Staff cover at weekends
- Cars racing on the beach
- Horses on the beach
- Dog fouling
- Littering should be reported
- Need for a large 10 mph speed limit sign
- Strategic plan for Benone/Downhill in run up to RPA
- Introduction of charges for access to the beach.

Rural Development Programme: It was noted that £5 million worth of projects had been put forward from within the Borough for the programme. Frustration was expressed that the programme was not yet open in the North West region, however DARD had confirmed that there would be no risk to the Councils if they went ahead and opened. Issue to be raised at the next LAG/JC on 20 May 2009.

Community Wardens: The Director of Development clarified the role and responsibilities for Community Wardens.

National TIC Conference: It was agreed that the Tourism Development Officer would attend the National TIC Conference on 3 June 2009, costs to be covered by the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Update on Round Table Ferry Meeting: Members were advised that the Ferry meeting had been very positive and that Minister Conor Murphy had advised that confirmation had been received from the Department of Transport in London that Magilligan would no longer be considered as an International Port and that agreement had been reached between the British and Irish Governments.

Shackleton Barracks: A request was made for an update on Shackleton Barracks.

Tesco Development: Members welcomed that the Tesco Development on the Broad Road would be completed in June and that this would create up to 30 jobs.

Vale Centre – Pitch Maintenance: Councillors from the Bellarena Ward were advised that a meeting with representatives from the Vale Centre had been arranged for 6 pm on 19 May 2009 in Council offices.

Seagate: A member informed Council that an announcement was expected regarding job losses at the Seagate Plant in Derry City and that this would have a negative impact on the Borough by adding to the numbers unemployed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - 16 June 2009.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.25 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting