

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

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
12 OCTOBER 2010**

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 A Brolly (Chair), P Butcher, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, G Mullan, J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Director of Development, Neighbourhood Renewal Officer and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - Alderman G Robinson, Councillors M Carten and A Robinson.

PRESENTATION BY LIMAVADY YOUTH COUNCIL:

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mr Ryan Lusby and Miss Kathleen Morgan, members of Limavady Youth Council.

Mr Lusby outlined that Limavady Youth Council aimed to highlight issues that young people faced and to be a platform to air their views and influence decision makers. He said that the groups' current action plan included safety in Blackburn Park, transport in the town and supporting those with mental health. He added that over the past year the Youth Council had taking part in a drugs and alcohol event, teenage pregnancy awareness, a residential at Woodhall and a visit to a Bulgarian orphanage.

Points made in the discussion which following included:

- The Youth Council were included on Councils consultation list and that the group had a formal relationship with Council.
- A member queried if Council could have a copy of minutes of the Youth Council and suggested that the group invite 1 or 2 elected members to their meetings.
- The Youth Council would be having discussions on the impact of proposals to increase University fees.
- Members welcomed that the Youth Council were working closely with schools and with the Youth Co-ordinator in Sperrins Road.

In view of the interest shown in Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró it was agreed that a meeting would be held with young people within the Borough to discuss their thoughts and potential use of the facility. The Neighbourhood Renewal Officer was thanked for her work with the Youth Council.

The Chair thanked Ryan and Kathleen for attending the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 14 September 2010 were approved on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Councillor Butcher.

MATTERS ARISING:

Update from the Rural Development Programme Manager: Members were informed that the meeting with the Rural Development Programme had been cancelled as only 2 members were available to attend.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – OCTOBER 2010:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for October 2010 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Councillor Chivers, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín subject to the following:

Benone Tourist Complex – Proposed Holiday Closures for Christmas and New Year: It was agreed that Benone Tourist Complex would be closed on 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 December 2010 and 1 January 2011.

Benone Beach Toilets Winter Closure: It was agreed that the toilets at the beach would be closed from November 2010 to February 2011. The toilets at the Complex building would be made available, with appropriate signage in place to inform visitors.

Villages Christmas Lights: The Director of Development reminded members that in previous years Community Associations in seven village areas organised their own Christmas lights switch on ceremonies on dates and times that suited each respective community needs. It was recommended that Council provide a grant of £300 per village to assist with entertainment, gifts programme during the switch on of the Christmas lights. Agreed.

It was highlighted that although Councillors were nominated onto community groups, some groups did not make any effort to advise Councillors of the dates of their meetings.

Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró: The Director of Development updated members on preparations for the opening of Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre. She sought retrospective approval from Council for the electrical work which was required in respect of the installation of the sound and lighting system at a cost of £17,649.76+VAT. She added that this work was separate from the main contract and included within the fixtures, fittings & equipment works. Agreed.

During discussion the following comments were made:

- Potential for Council to use the exhibition space in the new library in Dungiven should be explored.
- Council should be aiming to exhibit its own art collection and other artefacts in storage.

- Dungiven to host the Ulster Fleadh in 2011 and possibly in 2012. Potential use of the centre during the event.
- It was queried if the Girl Guides would be able to hold their centenary event in the centre.
- Council was advised that officers had met with the First Trust Bank and a number of issues had been discussed in relation to what could be done with the gable wall adjacent to the centre.
- Concern was raised that the public were free to enter the centre when no-one was at the reception desk.
- CCTV was in operation inside and outside the building.

The programme content for Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró was commended.

Restoration of Paintings: The Director of Development informed members that in 1993 Council despatched two paintings for restoration work. Following a query, it was thought that the painting had been restored and were in storage at Council's depot. On investigation it transpired that while the paintings were in the care of a conservator and carefully preserved, however, no restorative work had been undertaken.

The Director of Development explained that the larger painting of Samuel Maxwell Alexander (94 x 58) would have to be restored in situ and that this would be a costly exercise. She said the painting of William Wilson (53 x 43) had substantially more damage but this could be restored over a 2 to 3 period and at a substantially lower cost.

Councillor Douglas indicated that funding opportunities for restoration of the pictures should be explored and proposed that Council commission a conservator to examine the paintings in detail and provide more accurate information on restoration costs. This was seconded by Councillor Cubitt and agreed.

Scroggy Road Update: Council approved the recommendation in respect of the contractors to be included on the select list for construction of a fully designed 3G pitch at Scroggy Road. Councillor Cubitt requested that it be noted that he was against the expenditure at Scroggy Road.

Interreg IVA: The Director of Development recommended that the Interreg Sports Development Project be delivered within the Drumsurn area. Agreed.

Management Agreement – Limavady Grammar School Synthetic Pitch: Members were informed that there had been no cost to Council in respect of the synthetic pitch at the Grammar School other than the £15,000 contributed towards capital costs. Members were also informed of negotiations in respect of the duration of the management agreement with the Western Education & Library Board. The Director of Development advised Council that the report should be amended to read 20 years.

Dungiven Restoration: A member outlined that she had been contacted by a number of people who had ideas on how Dungiven Main Street could be restored. It was suggested a public meeting be held. It was pointed out that the owners of the properties would have to be in agreement before any restoration be undertaken.

Peace III Programme: It was agreed that representatives from the Peace III Programme would present the new Action Plan to Council at a Special Meeting. .

Northern Ireland Milk Cup: It was agreed that representatives from the Northern Ireland Milk Cup would present to Council at the December Development Services meeting.

Ferry Update: *IN COMMITTEE* on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín. The proposal was put to the meeting and declared carried, 8 for, 2 against.

The Director of Development updated members on meeting of the Ferry Service Working Group with the ferry operator and progress on Interreg IV application for funding towards the ferry service. She also outlined results of a short survey on users of the ferry with regard to sailing times, fare costs and purpose of their journey. Noted that the ferry operator had been asked to produce accounts for operation of the ferry service. *OUT OF COMMITTEE* on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Backburn Path: Concerns were expressed over the recent vandalism and burning of the playground safety surface. It was suggested that the park be locked at night.

Fireworks: Members were informed that pro-active work had recently been undertaken by various people, including the PSNI and local primary school at the sale of illegal fireworks.

Congratulations: It was agreed that letters of congratulations would be forwarded to winners of recent Good Food Awards and to Paul McCloskey on winning the European Light Welterweight boxing title. It was also agreed that Council would made available Dungiven Community Hall for a welcome home event for Eamon O’Kane on winning a gold medal for boxing at the Commonwealth Games.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 9 November 2010.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.20 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting