

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

13 MAY 2014

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.00 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

Aldermen J Rankin and M Coyle. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, R Donaghy, B Douglas, J McCorkell, G Mullan, S McGlinchey (chair), D Nicholl, A Robinson, E Scott and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor T McCaul

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 8 April 2014 were approved on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Councillor E Scott.

MATTERS ARISING: - None.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT ~ MAY 2014:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for May 2014 and enlarged thereon. The report was approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor O Beattie subject to the following:

Correspondence from the Somme Association: The Director of Development reported that the Somme Association were currently developing plans to commemorate the main events of the First World War and that Council had been asked for support in raising the necessary funds to commemorate the courage and sacrifice of those men who fought and the woman who supported them. She said that Council was asked to consider sponsoring a fundraising event; making a donation towards the appeal or alternatively, extending an invitation to the Somme Association to make a presentation to Council.

It was agreed that the Somme Association would be asked to make a presentation to Council.

RDP Projects – Tours and Trails: Members were informed that as part of the ongoing Tours and Trails scheme (75% funding by RDP) quotations were being invited for the production of an illustrated media rich interactive i-book as part of the strategy to highlight and promote myths depicted in the Limavady Myths and Legends Sculpture Trail. She said that the closing date for quotations was 20 May 2014, budgeted at £20,000 for the project, with £5,000 maximum match funding from Council. It was recommended that subject to nothing untoward

arising during the assessment process that the tender would be awarded to the company with the highest score, however, if the view was not to go with the lowest tender, a further decision would be brought back to Council.

Benone Beach: The Director of Development informed Council of a number of measures which were presently being undertaken by Council Officers on matters around beach management. Members had been provided with a map and explanatory notes on existing zoning and possible solutions to the extension of car free zones. It was noted that the creation of additional car free areas further to the right of the access ramp would take families further away from the Blue Flag area and the area covered by the lifeguards. It was also pointed out that the beach was used on a regular basis for other beach related activities and events and any proposals for change would require consultation. There was further discussion around liaison with the PSNI, possible use of a radar device to encourage adherence to the 10 mile speed limit on the beach and discussion with Coleraine Borough Council.

The Director of Development proceeded to give an overview of the Causeway Coast and Glens Beach Management Strategy which had already been endorsed by the other participating Councils on issues relevant to beach management. Members welcomed the proposed changes and it was agreed that the proposed Beach Management Strategy would help address some of the concerns around the beach and ensure that there was a strategic approach towards beach management across the Causeway Coast and Glens District Council area.

RDP – Village Renewal: Council was asked to approve £8,874.68 to Glenshane Community Development Ltd and £12,666 to Feeny Community Association as match funding towards their respective Village Renewal Projects under the Rural Development Programme. Agreed subject to it being confirmed if the latter application had been submitted under the name of Feeny Community Association.

Creative Sector Development – Approval for Mentoring List: The Director of Development reminded members that Council had secured funding from Invest NI (INI) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in 2013 to deliver the Think Big, Think Creative project which would run until 30 June 2015. Following assessment of quotations received from professionals in a variety of fields of expertise a list of mentors was put forward for approval to allow the project to progress. Agreed.

Update on Proposed Countryside Festival – Shackleton: The Director of Development highlighted that following the presentation by Countryside Festivals Ltd progress had been on-going to run the Countryside Festival at Shackleton during the summer of 2014. She said that taking on board member's comments on potential clash with the Dale Farm Milk Cup which could affect the level of accommodation available, the dates had now been changed to 16 & 17 August and that both OFMDFM and Council had received copies of the Event Plan. She added that on request the organisers had provided Council with projected income & expenditure over a three year period. They also set out anticipated attendance figures to the festival in 2014 and the economic & tourism benefits to the Borough.

The Director of Development stated that to enable the festival to become established, Council had agreed in principle to allocate up to a maximum of £15,000 from the legacy fund which would go towards the costs associated with

running the festival. She said that Council was requested to confirm level of commitment towards the event and to agree on which elements of the festival that the funds would go towards.

The following points were made:

- Council should direct funds towards the tourism element through sponsorship.
- Council needed to be careful on amount given to the festival and the need to be fair given the amount allocated to other festivals.
- Council should have input into the type of imagery & branding used to promote the event.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councilor E Stevenson, seconded by Councilor E Scott that Council commit £15,000 towards the establishment of the festival, subject to implementing the comments made into the tourism aspect of the event.

Community Audits – Greysteel and Magilligan: *Councillors O Beattie and D Nicholl declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* The Director of Development highlighted that it had long been identified that the community centres at Greysteel and Magilligan were no longer fit for purpose and that as part of the work needed to move forward on the long term future of these centres, two audits had been completed in conjunction with the community groups by Advantage Solutions. She referred to the conclusions and recommendations in both Audits and it was noted that there were many similarities. The recommendations included the need for a slightly larger footprints in both areas. It was noted that this could be more easily addressed at Magilligan as there was a larger area available on which to build. The Director of Development also drew to the attention of Council the reference to recreational facilities at Beneone and the need to consider in more depth the opportunities for greater use by the local community. The possibility of greater use of Magilligan Field Centre was also raised by members.

The Director of Development reminded members that the existing community centre in Greysteel was presently surrounded by the playground equipment, there was little, if any, scope for a larger building and the difficulties associated with the confined space.

In response to queries raised by Councillors, the Director of Development emphasized that the audits were undertaken in consultation with the local communities to identify need and that further work and research would be required. The costs provided within the audits were indicative. Following the tendering process, more accurate figures would be available and would include the dismantling and removal of existing buildings and other costs associated with site clearance. It was confirmed that both projects had been included within the 2014/15 capital programme. Council was mindful that capital projects in excess of £250,000 required approval from the Statutory Transition Committee and, in the future, the Shadow Council.

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that professional support would be procured to progress the next stage in respect of Magilligan Community Centre – to include drawing up of plans and more accurate costings which would be then be brought back to Council for approval.

It was agreed that further work needed to be undertaken in relation to Greysteel. This would include consideration of other options, alternative sites and the practicalities associated with redeveloping the existing site.

Economic Development Funding – Roe Valley Community Education Forum (RVCEF): *Alderman J Rankin and Councillor O Beattie declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* The Director of Development reminded members that following the presentation made by RVCEF on their request for funding towards their European Social Fund application More Flexible Steps programme, clarification was sought from Council on the amount of funding available from 2014/15 Economic Development budget. She said that if Council awarded £20,000 towards RVCEF, other requests for support toward economic development projects were unlikely to be considered in 2014/15. She added that since approval of the overall budget, an approach had been made from the Dry Arch Centre for support towards the ‘Spending Time Together’ programme, a family based programme themed around employment, education and poverty issues, working across the whole Borough.

The following points were made:

- concern was expressed that other groups could be affected if £20,000 was awarded to the Forum
- it was suggested that the Forum get some funding but not to the extent of £20,000
- it was pointed out that the Forum had reserves of £15,000

Councillor McCorkell proposed that Council award £20,000 to RVCEF. This was seconded by Councillor Mullan.

Councillor Donaghy put forward an amendment by proposing that Council award the Forum £10,000. This was seconded by Councillor Brolly.

Councillor Douglas put forward a further amendment by proposing that Council award the Forum £15,000. Councillor McCorkell seconded this proposal, and withdrew his original motion. Councillor Donaghy also withdrew his proposal.

Councillor Douglas’s proposal was put to the meeting and declared carried.

Items for Information were noted.

Courses/Conferences:

It was agreed that the Countryside Services Officer would attend an Outdoor Recreation Group Study Trip to North York National Park on 3 – 5 June 2014. NIEA would meet 50% of the cost of the trip, which was estimated to be in the cost of £175.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Titans Kickboxing: A member suggested that Council support the Titans Kickboxing team by donating £1,000 towards the cost of a trip by the team. The Director of Development advised that the request had been forwarded to Limavady Sports Council. Noted that the club would have to be affiliated with Limavady Sports Council to avail of funding.

Notice of Application for a Provisional License & Final Licence authorising the sale of Intoxicating Liquor by retail in a Restaurant: Council had no comment or objection to the notice of application for a provisional grant of a liquor licence & notice for a final grant of liquor licence for premises at 17a Market Street, Limavady.

Notice of Application for an Order for Additional Permitted House: Council had no comment or objection to the notice of application for an order for additional permitted hours for a liquor licence The Well Bar, Ballykelly which was scheduled for hearing in Limavady Court on 21 May 2014.

Last Meeting as Chair: As this was his last meeting as Chair of the Development Committee for the year 2013/14, Councillor S McGlinchey thanked Elected Members and Officers of Council for their input into the smooth running of meetings.

NEXT MEETING – 17 June 2014

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8.35 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting