

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

13 OCTOBER 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 M Coyle, J Rankin (chair) and G Robinson. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, G Mullan, C Ó hOisín, J F McElhinney, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Director of Development and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - None.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN – SUICIDE PREVENTION:

The Chair welcomed Mr Barry McGale, Suicide Liaison Officer, Western Health & Social Care Trust to the meeting.

Mr Gale outlined that the Suicide Prevention Strategy for Northern Ireland had been launched in March 2006 by the Health Minister and that this aimed to reduce suicide rates, particularly amongst young people at risk. He said that the WHSSB had established a Strategy Implementation Group to take forward actions emanating from the 'Northern Ireland Suicide Prevention Strategy – Protect Life' and that the group's main objectives were to drive forward the strategy; prioritise an action plan and establish a sub group to take the work forward; identify representation on the Suicide Strategy Implementation Board from voluntary and community sectors; improve partnership working; make recommendations & changes to the strategy as necessary.

Mr Gale stated that there was often confusion and lack of clarity on how to address the problem when a number of suicides occurred in a community and it was intended that the plan would provide a template for action when this happened. He said best practice suggested that a co-ordinated multi agency response was required to prevent further escalation in the midst of a number of suicides and that any plan would be subject to frequent review to reflect changing requirements.

In the discussion which followed, it was clarified that the plan would be made as simple as possible. Training on how to identify those at risk would be provided and could be accessed by a range of people including Councillors, staff and parents.

The Chair thanked Mr Gale for updating members on the Community Response Plan.

NORTHERN IRELAND WATER – WORKS IN STATION ROAD, MAIN STREET LIMAVADY:

The Chair welcomed Mr Nigel McKee, Northern Ireland Water and Mr Paul Preece & Mr Nigel Boullier, Consultants for Northern Ireland Water to the meeting.

Mr McKee presented details of the proposed sewerage improvement scheme which was due to commence in Limavady on 26 October 2009. He said the scheme would last 20 weeks, with the contractors working from 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday and from 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays. He added that the roads affected by the scheme would be Main Street; Station Road (bus station to dual carriageway); Station Road (bus station to Ballyclose/Main Street) and connection from Station Road to Ballyclose Street.

Mr Boullier explained that on Main Street 255m of sewer would be upgraded; the existing CSO and its associated sewer would be closed; the CSO would be re-constructed with a new modern high sided weir and the associated sewer to the existing Rivers Agency culvert would be closed and the sewer diverted using 47m of 750mm diameter pipe. He said that on Station Road an outfall pipe from the upgraded CSO to the River Roe would be constructed and a head wall would be completed.

In response to a number of queries, it was clarified that Phase II works on Roe Mill Road would be completed before the new scheme commenced; there would be an embargo on work over the Christmas period; a traffic management plan would be in place to minimise disruption and signs & letter drops would keep the public and businesses informed of work progress. It was also confirmed that pedestrians with a disability would not be inconvenienced and that the roadway would be reinstated to its original condition when the scheme was completed.

The Chair thanked the deputation for attending the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 8 September were approved on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following amendment:

- Page 2, Paragraph 1 should read:

In the discussion which followed, it was agreed that comments made would be forwarded to Conor Murphy, Minister for Regional Development. A member suggested that the money earmarked for the project should be redirected to improving rural roads. It was also suggested that a deputation meet with the Minister and that a working group be established to look at the points made.

MATTERS ARISING:

Page 3 – Roe Mill Road Sporting Facilities: The Director of Development explained that there were a number of steps Council could take to help prevent anti social behaviour at Roe Mill Road sporting facility.

She said these included replacing the gates with a style which would prevent scramblers gaining access to the facilities without blocking off the right of way; carry out ad hoc patrols; liaise with the PSNI on the problem of anti social behaviour; use of Council's mobile CCTV; erect additional signs and conduct a media campaign to promote zero tolerance on anti-social behaviour. The suggestions made were welcomed.

Page 3 - Magilligan/Greencastle Ferry Service: A member requested clarification on the legality of the decision to ring fence £100k for the ferry service. He was advised that money ring fenced would be included in the rates estimates for 2010/2011 and this would be brought back to Council for further discussion. The member was also advised that discussions were ongoing on finalisation of permit for operation of the ferry service. It was agreed that issues relating to the ferry would be brought back to the Monthly meeting.

It was suggested that the minutes should have reflected that the decision to ring fence £100k for the ferry service was not unanimous but by a majority vote. Noted.

MINUTES OF DANNY BOY COMMITTEE:

The Minutes of Danny Boy Committee meeting held 14 September 2009 were tabled and noted.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – OCTOBER 2009:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for October 2009 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt subject to the following:

Binevenagh AONB Management Plan: The Director of Development informed members that the final draft of the Binevenagh AONB Management Plan would be available for circulation within the next seven days. She said as this document was of particular interest and importance to the Limavady area, recommended that Helen Nobel, Director of Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust be invited to the November Development meeting. Agreed.

Tourism Marketing – Borough Guide: It was agreed that the tender submitted from Big Fish Design and Advertising for design and print of Borough Guides for marketing purposes in 2010 in the sum of £2,800 would be accepted.

Tourism - Capital Projects: Council approved for the following Tourism Capital Projects to be progressed to Economic Appraisal stage.

- Interpretation and signage for Gortmore Viewpoint and picnic area at a total cost of £32,000, grant aided by 50% from NITB - £16,000 match funded by Council which had been included in the estimates for 2010/2011.
- Interpretation and signage for Benone Beach and Complex totalling £20,000, grant aided by 50% from NITB - £10,000 match funded by Council which had been included in the estimates for 2010/11.

- Provision of trail furniture and infrastructure (stiles, access controls, gates, way markers) at a cost of £10,000 which had been included in the estimates for 2010/11.

Civic Centre: The Director of Development informed members that a range of suggestions had been put forward as possible names for the new Civic Centre. It was agreed that a sub committee would be established to discuss the suggestions. It was also agreed that a number of the proposed names should be further researched and that these could be used to name individual rooms within the building. Agreed.

It was reiterated that local businesses should be approached regarding funding towards a sculpture of Jane Ross or the Blind Fiddler which could be placed at the front of the building.

Disposal of Land at Curragh Road: The Director of Development reminded members that Council had agreed to the disposal of a narrow strip of land to residents whose property backed on to the pitches at Curragh Road but only if all the residents agreed to purchase the relevant piece of land. As there was a lack of commitment from all parties concerned, it was recommended that the matter be brought to conclusion by advising the residents that the offer to dispose of the land had now been withdrawn. Agreed subject to the strip of land being maintained by Council.

Business Case – 3 G Pitch: It was agreed that a special meeting would be held on Thursday 22 October at 7 pm to discuss the revised Business Case for 3G pitch.

Proposed Development of a Youth Resource Centre at Roe Valley Leisure Centre: It was agreed that the Director of Development would advise the Western Education and Library Board Youth Services that land identified at Roe Valley Leisure Centre for the development of a Youth Resource centre had been valued in the region of £20,000, with current market rent estimated to be £2,000 per annum.

Consultations: The following consultations and suggested responses were presented to Council for consideration:

- (a) **Department of Social Development - Review of Advice Services:** *Council was of the view that this shift towards an even balance of service. The response should be positive and supportive of the move away from hubs and satellites. Members who required a copy of the consultation document to contact the Development Services Manager. It was suggested that the views of Glenshane Community Development be sought.*
- (b) **DETI – Barnett Review:** *It was agreed that a detailed draft response would be presented to Council at the November 2009 Development meeting.*
- (c) **DETI – Social Economy Strategy:** *The draft response which outlined the role which Councils, including Limavady had played over the years in developing some aspects of the social economy was approved.*

Roe Valley Enterprises: It was agreed to allocate £6,700 towards an extension to the “Exploring Enterprise Programme”.

Pricing Structure Fitness Suite, Dungiven Sports Pavilion: It was agreed that the proposed pricing structure be approved.

Youth Resources Centre: The valuations provided by Land & Property Services of £20,000 and £2,000 were noted. Information to be passed on to WELB Youth Services.

REQUEST FOR 4 (INCLUSIVE) NOMINATIONS TO NEWLY FORMED JOINT TWINNING COMMITTEE:

The Director of Development sought nominations for the Mayor and 3 members to sit on the newly formed Joint Twinning Committee. The Mayor – Councillor Ó hOisín, Councillor Mullan, Councillor Chivers, Councillor Cubitt and Alderman Coyle (5) were nominated to the committee. It was agreed that the Committee would be asked if 5 members could sit on the Committee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Consumer Council: Members were informed that the Consumer Council was holding a focus group in Council offices on 29 October 2009 to discuss the problems residents had in paying household bills.

Northern Ireland Housing Council: A member stated that Brian Rowantree, Northern Ireland Housing Council had requested a meeting with Council. It was agreed that the Housing Council would be invited to a future meeting of Council.

Attendance at Courses/Conferences: A member requested that the self regulated moratorium on attendance at courses or conferences be reviewed as there was no evidence that the system was being abused by members. It was suggested that each member be allocated a sum of money for attendance at courses.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 10 November 2009

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.00 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting