

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

ANNUAL MEETING

14 JUNE 2004

Minutes of the annual meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady, at 7.30 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

Aldermen J Dolan and G Robinson, Councillors A Brolly, F Brolly, B Brown, M Coyle, L Cubitt, B Douglas, D Lowry, G Mullan, J Rankin and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk and the Town Clerk.

OUT-GOING MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Before taking nominations for the position of Mayor, Councillor Anne Brolly reflected on the last twelve months in which she said she was deeply honoured and proud to be the first woman Sinn Fein Mayor in the Borough and that she had adhered to her party politics of inclusiveness, equality and peace.

She highlighted that she had attended many appointments Borough wide and beyond and had hosted various Mayoral receptions and had welcomed visitors from home, across the UK and the twinning towns of Vigneux and Westport. She said she had attended numerous award ceremonies for sporting, educational and vocational achievements and was impressed by the dedication of all those she had meet.

She referred to the fact that that the Irish President, Mary McAllese had visited the Borough in April 2004 to commend the unsung heroes of the local community and that during the visit, the President had been so impressed with the Grammar School Band that she had invited them as guests to a garden party at the Áras an Uachtaráin.

She expressed her sadness that Courtauld's factory was to close closing with the imminent loss of 185 jobs, which would have a major adverse impact on those employed in the factory and the wider economy of the Borough. She added that the plant had been operational for some 40 years and that Council in conjunction

with Invest Northern Ireland and the Department of Education & Learning would strive to provide support for those who had lost their jobs.

She stated that the citizens of the Borough had much to be proud of with the Lough Foyle Car Ferry venture going from strength to strength. She added that the service provided social, cultural and economic links between the people of Donegal and Limavady and acted as a catalyst in opening the region to tourism with both communities benefiting from the investment in the project.

Councillor A Brolly paid tribute to previous Councillors who had worked tirelessly towards the recently opened Limavady by-pass. She added that it was important that Council now focused on ensuring that a by-pass be constructed in Dungiven and Ballykelly.

Councillor A Brolly said that in January Council had appointed a design team led by Consarc Design Group to design a new multi purpose Cultural Community Resource Centre and that the design proposals would incorporate commercial activity which would not only address and civic and tourist deficiencies in the town but also facilitate the physical and commercial rejuvenation of the town centre.

Councillor A Brolly commented that she was hopeful that Council would see the proposals for the Northern Area Plan later in the year and that Council had already had the opportunity to contribute to this plan and would continue to ensure the best possible environment for the people of the Borough.

In expressing thanks to those who supported her, Councillor A Brolly paid tribute to her Deputy Mayor Councillor Rankin, who had undertook numerous appointments on her behalf and often at very short notice. She also extended her appreciation to the press for their constant interest in Council work and steadfast reporting of meetings and said that they would be welcome for the first time at Council's Finance & General Purposes meeting in August 2004. She paid special thanks to Father McKenna for his moral and spiritual support throughout the year. She paid tribute to her family for their continuing support and to husband Councillor F Brolly for being a tower of strength with his help, guidance and encouragement. She also extended her heartfelt thanks to the Chief Executive, the Management Team and all staff who had supported her throughout the year.

Finally, she said that the highlight of her year had been the Mayor's Ball, where the overwhelming amount of £11,484 had been raised for her nominated charity 'Hands That Talk'. She added that it had been a very enjoyable year and an honour and a privilege to serve as Mayor. She expressed the hope that her term in office would encourage other woman to undertake civic duties.

ELECTION OF MAYOR 2004/2005:

Alderman Dolan proposed and Councillor Stevenson seconded that Councillor Rankin be elected to the position of Mayor.

There being no further nominations, the motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Councillor Rankin took the Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. He thanked Aldermen, Councillors and the Town Clerk and said it was an honour to be conferred as Mayor of the Borough. He said it was aware the task ahead would be busy and present him with challenges but that he hoped to be given strength of mind and body to face all these.

He said he had lived in the Borough for 38 years and had witnessed many changes including housing developments and that he was looking forward to work commencing on the Limavady Multi-Purpose Civic Centre, the redevelopment of the former market yard site, the construction of a by-pass at both Dungiven and Ballykelly, the completion of the extension to the College of Further Education and the opening of the new Technology Park at Scroggy Road. He also gave credit to the traders throughout the Borough for the general appearance of shop fronts and said they continued to attract visitors into the Borough.

He referred to his involvement in sport and youth work and said it was his intention to lobby for the construction of a synthetic all weather playing pitch in the Borough and looked to seeing the new sports strategy becoming a reality during his term of office.

He expressed sadness on the job losses in the Borough due to the closure of Courtauld's and Desmond's and said he would continue to support whatever means that was available to Council to encourage Invest Northern Ireland to bring employment to the Borough. He further added that as Mayor he would continue efforts to ensure that the rail link from Belfast to Londonderry remained open and that new rolling stock be provided.

In conclusion he said it was necessary that Council work together to ensure that the Borough moved forward in a positive manner and that the Corporate Plan was seen to be working and producing results. He added that he would fully support the Chief Executive and the Management Team in their efforts to provide and deliver efficient, effective and high quality services, which would enhance the quality of life in the Borough. He further added his thanks to Council staff who supported him as Deputy Mayor and said that as Mayor he intended to carry out his Mayoral duties in a honest and Christian like manner, with guidance from a

well know verse taken from the Book of Proverbs, "In all my ways acknowledge him and he shall direct my paths".

Councillor Rankin requested that both his daughter and his wife might share the office of Mayoress. Agreed.

Members congratulated the newly elected Mayor and said they would continue to work together and support him in every way possible.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2004/2005:

Councillor Lowry proposed and Councillor Mullan seconded that Councillor Coyle be elected Deputy Mayor.

There being no further nominations, the motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Councillor Coyle signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and pledged to carry out his duties in an honest and supportive manner.

He paid tribute to Councillor A Brolly for the work she had done for the people of the Borough during her term as Mayor.

MINUTES SILENCE:

Councillor Lowry offered his condolences to the family of the victim who had been murdered on Sunday morning. All present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Members agreed to retain the system of joint Chairmanship of Council and that the following committees should consist of all 15 members:

- Economic Development Committee**
- Finance and General Purposes Committee**
- Leisure Services Committee**
- Planning and Development Services Committee**

Audit Committee (5): Councillor Coyle on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Councillor Mullan; Alderman Dolan on the proposal of Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Alderman Dolan; Councillor Brown on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Councillor A Brolly; Councillor F Brolly on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Brown; Councillor Cubitt on the proposal of Councillor Douglas, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Aghanloo Community Association (2): Councillor Stevenson on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Alderman Robinson and Councillor Mullan on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Alderman Dolan.

Association of Direct Labour Organisations (NI Branch) (1): Alderman Robinson was elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Brown.

Ballykelly Community Association (2): Councillor Cubitt on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Alderman Dolan; Alderman Carten on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor A Brolly.

Causeway Coast Arts Committee (1): Councillor Mullan and the Community Relations Officer were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Councillor Coyle.

Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (1): Alderman Dolan and the Chief Recreation/Tourist Officer were elected to serve on the above Committee on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Coyle.

Causeway Museum Service (2): Councillors Mullan and Stevenson were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Lowry.

Community Change (1): Councillor Cubitt was elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Alderman Dolan.

Danny Boy Festival Sub Committee (4) : Councillor Mullan on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Lowry; Councillor Rankin on the proposal Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Coyle; Councillor Brown on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson; Councillor F Brolly on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Lowry; Councillor A Brolly on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Mullan.

Equality Steering Group: The following members were elected to serve on this group on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Councillor A Brolly:

Councillor Brown
 Councillor Coyle
 Councillor Cubitt
 Councillor Donaghy
 Councillor Douglas
 Councillor Rankin.

Foreglen Community Association (2): Councillors A Brolly and Coyle were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Brown.

Forum for Local Government and the Arts (2): Alderman Dolan, Councillor Mullan and the Community Relations Officer were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor A Brolly.

Greysteel Community Association (2): Councillor Cubitt on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Rankin; Councillor McGuigan on the proposal of Councillor A Brolly, seconded by Councillor F Brolly.

Greysteel Community Enterprises (2): Councillors Brown and Mullan were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Coyle.

Home Accident Prevention Committee (Open to any interested members):
The following members indicated their willingness to serve on the Committee:

Alderman Carten, Alderman Dolan, Alderman Robinson, Councillor Cubitt and Councillor Rankin.

Limavady Community Development Initiative & Advice Services Sub Group:
Alderman Dolan and Councillor Cubitt plus the Chief Recreation/Tourist Officer were elected to serve on the above Committees on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor A Brolly.

Limavady Direct: It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor A Brolly that Councillors Coyle and Cubitt be elected to serve on this Committee.

Limavady Road Safety Committee (Open to any interested members): The following expressed willingness to serve on this committee:

Councillor Mullan, Councillor Cubitt and Councillor A Brolly.

Limavady Sports Advisory Committee (4): Aldermen Carten and Robinson, Councillors McGuigan and Rankin were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Coyle.

Magilligan Community Association (2): Councillors McGuigan, Mullan and Stevenson were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Alderman Dolan. .

National Association of Councillors (3 plus standby): Alderman Robinson and Councillors F Brolly and Coyle plus Alderman Dolan (standby) were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Dolan.

Confederation of European Councillors Executive Committee (1): Councillor Coyle was elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Councillor F Brolly.

Northern Corridor Railway Task Force (2): Councillor Stevenson on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Lowry; Alderman Robinson on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Dolan.

Northern Building Control Group Committee (2 plus standby): Alderman Dolan and Councillor McGuigan plus Councillor Cubitt (standby) were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Councillor F Brolly, seconded by Councillor Lowry.

Northern Ireland Amenity Council (1): It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Alderman Dolan that Councillor Rankin be elected to serve on this Committee.

Northern Ireland Local Government Association (4): Councillor Cubitt on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Alderman Dolan; Alderman Dolan on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson; Councillor Donaghy on the proposal of Councillor F Brolly, seconded by Councillor Brown; Councillor Coyle on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Alderman Dolan.

North West Region Waste Management Strategy Sub Committee (2): Alderman Carten and Councillor Rankin were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor F Brolly.

Oral Health Planning Team (1 member plus one officer): It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Mullan that Councillor Rankin and Mrs J Glass be nominated to serve on this Committee.

Roe Valley Chamber of Trade & Commerce Liaison Committee:

The Mayor, ex officio and Town Councillors plus the Town Clerk and Chief Officers.

At the request of Councillor Coyle, it was agreed that the Liaison Committee include Benbradagh Councillors if and when the Chamber was extended to include traders from Dungiven.

Town Twinning Committee (4): The Mayor, ex officio; Councillor Stevenson on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Brown; Alderman Robinson on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Coyle; Councillor Coyle on the proposal of Councillor Lowry, seconded by Alderman Dolan; Councillor A Brolly on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Lowry and Chief Recreation/Tourist Officer.

Western Group Environmental Health Committee (2 plus standby): Alderman Carten and Councillor Rankin plus Councillor F Brolly (standby) were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Coyle.

Western Health and Social Services Board Early Years Committee (1): It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Alderman Dolan that Councillor Cubitt be elected to serve on this Committee.

Westport Twinning Committee (6): Alderman Dolan and Councillors A Brolly, F Brolly, M Coyle, G Mullan and JRankin plus the Chief Recreation/Tourist Officer and Town Clerk were elected to serve on this Committee on the proposal of Alderman Dolan, seconded by Councillor Coyle.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS

(The meeting ended at 8.30 pm)