

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

14 JUNE 2011

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 and G Robinson. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, Alderman Coyle (chair), B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, C McLaughlin, G Mullan, D Nicholl, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk and the Director of Development.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Brolly.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Councillor Beattie that Alderman Coyle would chair the Development Services committee for the year 2011/12.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 8 March 2011 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Chivers.

MATTERS ARISING:

Showers at Roe Valley Leisure Centre: The Director of Development updated members on showers being replaced at Roe Valley Leisure Centre and said that no additional complaints had been received from the public.

French Visit: A Councillor asked if details of the cost of a meal for the Twinning Committee during the French visit could be provided.

Ice Cream Vendors – Benone Beach: Members were advised that there did not appear to be any major issues to date with the ice cream vendors trading on the beach. It was suggested that Council would be looking at every opportunity to raise revenue. The Director of Development said that potential income would be weighed up over costs.

COISTE NA GAELIGE:

The minutes of Coiste na Gaeilge meeting held 5 April 2011 were tabled and noted.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT – JUNE 2011:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for June 2011 and enlarged thereon. The recommendations within the report were approved on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Tidy NI and Blue Flag Process: It was agreed that Council would contribute £2,000 from the beach management budget to Tidy NI for advice and support of its Blue Flag application and on community environmental initiatives for the next three years.

Stendhal Festival: It was agreed that Council would support the Stendhal Festival by providing a grant of 50% of actual eligible expenditure less actual income up to a maximum of £5,000. It was suggested that any grant given should be subject to all relevant approvals being in place. It was also stressed that there should be local consultation on site access and car parking.

Request from Limavady Sports Council for Grant Assistance: It was agreed that a grant of £8,000 would be allocated to Limavady Sports Council from the 2011/12 budget.

Greysteel Community Association: Due to budgetary constraints, Council was unable to support the request from Greysteel Community Association for financial support to cover the costs of opening and closing the play area.

Request for Support – Roe Park Golf Club Annual Charity Days: It was agreed that as in previous years, that Council would support the Roe Park Golf Club Annual Charity Days by providing prizes for a raffle.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons: It was agreed that Council would support the request to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4 June 2012 by purchasing a safety beacon at a cost of £299 which would be part of a chain of beacons being lit across the United Kingdom. Gortmore was suggested as a suitable location for the beacon.

Foyle Plantation Landscape Project: It was agreed that Council would made a contribution of £1,500 towards the shortfall in the Foyle Plantation Landscape Project which would be allowed for within the 2012/13 budgets.

Proposals for 3G Pitch – Prices and Booking: Council approved the proposed pricing policy for the 3G pitch at Scroggy Road, which included hourly charges for hire of the pitch with and without lights at peak and off peak times. Council also approved proposals for block booking and payments, refunds & cancellations and casual bookings.

In response to a member, the Director of Development agreed to raise an alleged cost of £80 for hire of the 3G pitch at the Grammar School at the next Management Committee meeting.

Community Development: It was agreed that under the Community Support Plan the following applications for funding would be approved:

- ◆ LCDI Advice Services - £40,000
- ◆ Glenshane Community Development Advice Services - £15,000
- ◆ Limavady Volunteer Bureau contribution towards services - £3,500.

Economic Development: Council approved the Economic Development Workplan for 2011/12, which was based on findings from consultation, area profile and work undertaken with other Councils in the region. The Chair suggested that Council should consider additional funding towards Economic Development for next year.

Request for Funding from Magilligan Community Playgroup: Council approved the request from Magilligan Community Playgroup for funding of £90 towards a cross border visit with Greencastle Playgroup to take place on 24 June 2011.

Development at Bovally: The Director of Development provided background details dating back to 2010 on proposals and subsequent appeal on application for housing and provision of a play area, playing field, pavilion and walking trail at Bovally. She said that the Commissioner had considered a range of information in allowing the appeal and had granted outline planning permission subject to a number of conditions, one of which was that the development should be carried out, with the exception of the playing field. It was agreed that officers would progress discussions with the developer and local residents to identify other proposals for the open space.

Swimathon - Bovally & Roe Valley Community Youth Groups: It was agreed that Council would waive the cost of pool hire for a sponsored swimathon organised by Bovally & Roe Valley Community Youth Groups to raise funds for a 3 year old who suffers from Krabbe Luekodystrophy, a serious degenerative disease affecting the nervous system, abilities and senses.

Northern Ireland Milk Cup: *Alderman Rankin declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* A discussion took place on whether Council should consider maintaining the same level of funding towards the Milk Cup as it had in 2010. Comments made included:

- Concern was raised that the Tourist Board had withdrawn funding towards the event.
- Limavady Borough Council benefited from the Milk Cup in terms of tourists to the area and hotel bookings.
- Any contribution to the event was money well spent
- The Department should be supporting events such as the Milk Cup and Foyle Cup.

Following discussion it was agreed that Council would contribute the same level of funding of £15,000 towards the Milk Cup for the year 2011 as allowed for in the current financial years budget. It was also agreed that Council would host a reception for the visiting football teams.

Request from Limavady United Football Club: Members were advised that Limavady United Football Club had requested support from Council towards ground preparations for the Northern Ireland Milk Cup. Members were reminded that if Council was of a mind to agree to the request that it could result in similar requests being made and that Council had already made a decision not to undertake work on any club grounds.

There followed an in-depth debate on Council resources; maintenance being carried out by Council workers; insurance cover and the possibility of the club asking for funding from the Milk Cup Committee.

Alderman Robinson proposed that Council contribute £800 towards the ground preparations. This was seconded by Councillor McCorkell and on being put to the meeting was declared carried, 6 for, 0 against and 8 abstentions.

Public Right of Way Investigations: The Director of Development indicated that Council had a number of ongoing Public Rights of Way (PROW) investigations in line with its responsibilities under the Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983.

It was recommended that Council officers would reopen the Killybready Lane PROW investigation. Agreed.

The Director of Development recommended that a gate be erected at the southern end of Old Dromore Lane to prevent unauthorised vehicular access with a sufficient gap to allow continued public pedestrian access. She also recommended that Old Dromore Lane should be formally asserted as a PROW under the provisions of the Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983.

A number of Councillors were of the view that all obstacles should be removed from the lane. One member felt strongly that the lane should be formally asserted as a PROW without any gate in place to restrict vehicular access. The Director of Development reminded Council that in taking any decision, it also had a responsibility to take the concerns of the land owner into account. Council should consider the potential implications on Council in the future if it failed to do so.

After debate, it was agreed that decision would be deferred until 21 June 2011 pending further information from the Director of Development. It was agreed that the Countryside Recreation Officer would make a presentation to council on RoW/PROW issues and on Council's policy.

Outdoor Recreation Group Study Trip 2011 Dartmoor: It was agreed that the Countryside Recreation Officer would attend the Outdoor Recreation Group Study Trip to be held in Dartmore on 5 – 8 September 2011.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Director of Development advised that the Director Environmental Services could update members on the provision of a playarea at Foreglen.
- A member requested that the Director of Development look in more details at the creation of a virtual street in Dungiven, similar to a project carried out in Dungannon.

- It was requested that the pricing policy for the golf course at Benone be reviewed.
- Reference was made to the pitch at Drumavalley and that Council should have it ploughed and reseeded. It was stressed that a facility was needed for young people in the area.
- The Mayor – Councillor McGlinchey suggested that if members had minor issues of concern, that they contact the relevant director directly rather than raising every issue at council meetings.

NEXT MEETING – 9 August 2011.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.05 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting