

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

15 AUGUST 2006

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

PRESENT:

Aldermen G Mullan, G Robinson and J Rankin. Councillors P Butcher, B Chivers, M Coyle, M Donaghy, B Douglas, J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

In Attendance: Committee Clerk and the Director of Environmental Services.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors A Brolly, M Carten and L Cubitt.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 20 June 2006 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

MATTERS ARISING:

Bi-Lingual Street Nameplates: Councillor Ó hOisín requested that all requests for bi-lingual street nameplates be checked for the correct spelling.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – AUGUST 2006:

Building Control Department:

The Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged and issued between 13 June and 8 August 2006; Entertainment Licences issued and transferred under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985; Petroleum Spirit Licence issued under Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (NI) 1929 and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report was approved on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Butcher subject to the following:

Bi-Lingual Street Nameplates: It was agreed under Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy that a bilingual street name be erected at Glenroe Park (Pháirc Ghleann na Rua).

Consultation on Road Name for Moneyrannel Road: The Director of Environmental Services informed members that a consultation exercise had been undertaken to seek the views of the occupiers of premises on Moneyrannel Road regarding the name of the road and that the following options were presented to the occupants:

1. retain the name as Moneyrannel Road
2. change the road name to Fort Road (an alternative road name suggested by Road Service at the time of their consultation with Council in 2002) or
3. suggest an alternative name.

Members noted that of the 11 occupants consulted, all indicated that they were satisfied with the name Moneyrannel Road, however, 2 occupants stated that they were only agreeing to maintain the name for convenience reasons. The road name will therefore remain as Moneyrannel Road.

Energy Management: At the request of Councillor Coyle, the Director of Environmental Services agreed to investigate if Dungiven Community Hall could be included in the Carbon Trust Energy Assessment of Council owned properties.

Environmental Health Department:

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Environmental Health Report and enlarged thereon. The report and recommendations within were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín subject to the following:

Eat Safe Award Scheme – Changes to the Scheme: The Director of Environmental Services reported that the criteria for the ‘Eat Safe Award Scheme’ had changed and that all catering establishments were now eligible to be awarded the recognisable ‘sign’ of excellence in standards of food hygiene.

Members welcomed that Mullagh House, the first residential home in the borough had met the criteria and would receive their award later in the month.

Harmonisation of Specified Risk Material Controls – Authorisation of Premises: The Director of Environmental Services informed members that the European Commission recently made a decision to lift the ban on the export of beef from the UK and that although this was good news for the industry, there were conditions attached. He said one of the conditions was that the controls on Specified Risk Material (SRM) in the UK be harmonised with those currently applicable in other EU Member States so that all states would trade on the same basis. He added that the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (NI) came into operation on 3 May 2006 to harmonise these controls and that this meant that the bovine vertebral column from animals aged over 24 months were now classified as SRM.

As butchers were now required to be authorised to remove most of what the butcher’s term the ‘chine bone’ and dispose of it as a category 1 SRM, it was agreed that Jacqueline Glass, Environmental Health Manager and Jill Newell, Environmental Health Officer be given delegated powers to authorise premises to make application to Council under the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (NI) 2006.

Height Aware Campaign: The Director of Environmental Services explained that a Height Aware Campaign had taken place in May and June 2006 and that this aimed to help people identify risks when they were working at heights. He said the Work at Height Regulations (NI) 2005, which came into effect in April

2005, applied to all work at a height where there was a risk of fall liable to cause personal injury and that these regulations placed duties on employers, the self employed and any person that controls the work of others, including facilities managers or building owners who may contract others to work at height.

Members noted that in order to raise awareness of the requirement, a sample of retail and wholesale premises in the Borough were selected and inspected by Officers from the Department and that during one of the inspection the owner of a premises was served with a Prohibition Notice under the Health and Safety at Work (NI) Order 1978 to prohibit the use of a mezzanine floor level.

The Safety of Sports Grounds (Northern Ireland) Order 2006: Members noted that the above legislation came into force in February 2006 and that this provided Council with new powers to secure safety at sports grounds. It was agreed that Council authorise the following Officers to enforce the provision of the Safety of Sports Ground (Northern Ireland) Order 2006:

Noel Crawford, Director of Environmental Services

Jacqueline Glass, Environmental Health Manager

Marie Gormley, Joanne O’Kane, Ciaran Doran and Jill Newell, District Environmental Health Officers

Nicky Matthews, Building Control Manager

Adrian Street, Fiona Murray and Liam McKinney, Building Control Officers.

Proposals to Reform Liquor Licensing in Northern Ireland: The Director of Environmental Services outlined that from December 2007 initial legislation proposed to introduce more effective enforcement measures giving police the power to immediately temporarily close premises to tackle problems of disorder and to introduce a new penalty points system for licensees and registered clubs who break the law. He explained that more fundamental changes to the second round of legislation reform would see the transfer of the licensing system from the courts to new district councils established under the Review of Public Administration and that Councils would be empowered to employ liquor licensing officers to supervise, monitor and report on the operation of the new licensing system and also decide whether there was a need for more licensed premises in the area.

Noise Nuisance from use of Quad Bikes, Clooney Road: The Director of Environmental Services reminded members that in October 2005 a recommendation was adopted to refer the above case to Council’s solicitor with the view to instigating legal proceedings against the owner of a property for breach of a Noise Abatement Notice relating to use of quads and scramblers on land at Clooney Road, Ballykelly. He said the facts of the case were considered and summons issued for a case to be heard on 13 September 2006, however, the Department were now aware of several breaches which occurred in recent months and the barrister acting on Council’s behalf had recommended that further action be taken against the defendant with regard to these recent breaches. Agreed.

Technical Services Department:

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Technical Services Report and enlarged thereon. The report and recommendations within were adopted on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Waste Management & Recycling: The Director of Environmental Services outlined initiatives implemented by Council to encourage recycling. Members welcomed the “say no to plastic bags” scheme whereby Jute bags would be sold to the public to encourage the re-use of the same bag. The introduction of recycling banks at Drumsurn & Benone were also welcomed and members suggested that it was important that the public be informed of the new facilities.

Arena Environmental Survey: Members welcomed that Limavady Borough Council had achieved a place in the second quartile of the 2006 ARENA Environmental Survey.

Hire of Refuse Collection Vehicles: The Director of Environmental Services informed members that although Council was currently hiring its refuse collection vehicles from Alan Miller, the Technical Service Manager was unable to obtain a copy of contract documents. He said the contractor was keen to continue with the present hire arrangement by mutual agreement at the current cost of £500 per vehicle per week, however, this would expect to increase should the service be re-tendered.

In the discussion that followed it was agreed that the Director of Environmental Services would negotiate with Alan Miller regarding continuing with the current hire arrangement, with a view to a formal contract being agreed.

Waste Management – City Industrial Waste: The Director of Environmental Services explained that City Industrial Waste had made an offer to Council to join its contract with Derry City Council in the provision of a Waste Recovery Service for Civic Amenity sites and household bulky waste and that prices quoted per tonne were £40.87 for mixed waste, £22.95 for segregated waste and £20.00 for road sweepings.

Members noted that the service had been put out to open competition by Derry City Council in 2006 and that the Local Government Auditor had been consulted and confirmed his agreement with the proposal for Council to join in the contract. Given the tender costs against the landfill gate fee of £41.00 + landfill tax and Council’s Procurement Policy, it was agreed that Council accept the offer proposed by City Industrial Waste.

In the discussion that followed, Alderman Mullan suggested that there was an element of confusion and a lack of awareness on what could be recycled and Councillor Ó hOisín requested a breakdown of recycled waste from the various sources, including percentage from the blue bins.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Condition of Scroggy Road Pitch: The Director of Environmental Services agreed to raise concerns expressed by Alderman Rankin regarding the condition of Scroggy Road pitch with the Director of Development.

Alexander Road Play Area: Alderman Robinson referred to vandalism at the Alexander Road play area and suggested that the Director of Environmental Services investigate costings for provision of a secure fencing. He also suggested that Council might have to consider closing the park in the evening in an attempt

to curtail the vandalism. The Director of Environmental Services explained that if Council wished to erect a six foot fence, it would be at a considerable cost.

Weisners Lane: Alderman Robinson requested that rubble on the right hand side of Weisners Lane be removed and that a permanent directional sign be erected at the lane entrance.

NEXT MEETING: - 19 September 2006.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.35 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting