

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**16 OCTOBER 2007**

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

**PRESENT:**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk, Building Control Manager, Environmental Health Manager and the Chief Executive.

**APOLOGIES:** - Councillor Robinson.

**PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT - WESTERN GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE:**

The chair welcomed Mr Barny Heywood, Western Group Chief Environmental Health Officer to the meeting.

Mr Haywood presented his Annual Environmental Health Service report for the year 2006/07. He explained that the ban on smoking in workplaces & enclosed public spaces had aroused the greatest media/public interest during 2006/07 and seldom had the introduction of new health legislation have an impact on public habit or the potential to save lives.

Mr Haywood informed members of the Western Groups key objectives, core functions and of matters including in the report in relation to environmental protection, food control, health & safety, consumer protection and public health & housing. He drew member's attention to the problem of Air Quality Management in lower Main Street, Dungiven and it was suggested that pressure be put on the relevant ministers to ensure that work on the by-pass commence expediently.

Mr Haywood clarified that a considerable proportion of the Groups time was spend assisting and supporting the 5 Councils with assessments of planning applications and that although the Group gave opinion in relation to windfarms or mineral extraction applications, ultimately decision on approval lay with the Planning Service.

Members welcomed that the Department of Health for Northern Ireland were considering raising the age for sale of tobacco from 16 to 18 and that this could be implemented early in 2008. The chair thanked Mr Haywood for his informative presentation.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 18 September 2007 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt:

**MATTERS ARISING:** - None.

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – OCTOBER 2007:*****Building Control Department:***

The Building Control Manager presented the Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged & issued, applications for Entertainment Licences and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report, which was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

**Street Naming & Property Numbering Policy:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt that the Economic Development Centre at Main Street, Feeny would be named 'Feeny Village Centre'.

It was also agreed that the request from Brian Mullan, Tyberan, Ringsend for the apartments at 17 Scroggy Road to be named 'Tyberan Court' would be approved.

**UEFA Mini Pitch at Dungiven Sports Centre:** Concern was raised that children were climbing over the parameter fence surrounding the mini pitch at the Sports Centre and it was suggested that the contract between IFA and Playdale be finalised so that the pitch could be officially opened. The Building Control Manager agreed to investigate why the mini pitch was smaller than what had initially been advised.

***Environmental Health Department:***

The Environmental Health Manager presented the Environmental Health Report and enlarged thereon. The report and recommendations within were adopted on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cubitt subject to the following:

**Sunbed Safety:** The Environmental Health Manager informed members that the department had participated in a Northern Ireland wide survey on sunbeds aimed at gathering information to lobby for controls and identify priorities for future work, to ensure Health and Safety Executive guidance were adhered to and that there was a targeted consistent approach in relation to consumer protection and health promotion. She said a report on the findings would be issued in late autumn via the Northern Ireland Sunbed Working Group.

**Home Safety Update:** The Environmental Health Manager reported that in her role of ordering equipment for both Limavady and Strabane Councils, the Home Safety Officer had been able to acquire equipment at a reduced cost. She said this included emergency lanterns which would be beneficial to older people in fall prevention, fear of dark nights & bad weather and in the event of a power failure the light would automatically come on and provide light for 4 – 6 hours.

Members noted that the 2007 'Bee Safe' event for Limavady Borough Council would take place on 28 – 30 November at Roe Valley Leisure Centre.

***Technical Services Department:***

The Chief Executive presented the Technical Services Report and enlarged thereon. The report and recommendations within were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

**Drumaduff Landfill Site:** The Chief Executive outlined that Helm Corporation, Councils Internal Auditors had completed a report into vesting process for Drumaduff Landfill Site. It was agreed that decision regarding the future of Drumaduff Landfill Site would be deferred until the October 2007 Monthly meeting of Council.

**Meeting with EHS re Restoration Plan:** The Chief Executive informed members that at the request of EHS, a meeting had been held with representatives of their Land & Resource Management section and Donal Doyle from RPS regarding the Restoration Plan for Drumaduff Landfill site prepared by RPS in 2005. He said that EHS had highlighted a number of concerns regarding the Restoration Plan and explained that they would not finalise any recommendation for a Vesting Order until these were resolved. He also clarified that an update report on Drumaduff had been presented to the Audit Committee and that a plan of action had been drawn up for recommendation and approval at the October 2007 Monthly meeting of Council.

Members discussed the main issues identified, including review of land required for vesting, cost to review and update of restoration plan to meet current standards and options outside the vesting process to close the site. It was suggested that in the interim, £45,000 would be set aside within the rates estimates for 2007/08 to cover the Restoration Plan review. Agreed.

Alderman Rankin joined the meeting at 8.15 pm.

**Waste Recovery Contract:** It was agreed that the tender submitted by City Industrial Waste for a gate fee of £40 for mixed waste and £20 per tonne for segregated waste to run for period of 12 months initially, with the potential of extension by a further 12 months would be accepted.

**Fencing at Blackburn Park Play Area:** The Chief Executive reported that the fence at Blackburn Park play area was in need of urgent repair and as the lighting which had been installed had failed to reduce vandalism, it was recommended that a 1.8 m ibex fence be erected. A discussion took place regarding vandalism in play areas, the type of equipment provided and it was suggested that Council should consider community ownership when agreeing to provide parks in an attempt to reduce vandalism and anti social behaviour. It was also suggested that the park gates be locked at night.

It was agreed that the tender submitted by J T Doherty Fencing for disposal of existing fence & gates and supply & fit of new 1.8 ilex fencing and gates at a cost of £5,756 be accepted subject to Council being furnished with a report on costs for upkeep of the park, including locking the park gates at night, provision of lights and total costs to date for fixing equipment or replacing litter bins.

Alderman Mullan requested that it be noted that he disagreed with the decision.

**Tender for Supply and Delivery of 240L Wheeled Refuse Collection Containers:**

It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cubitt that the tender submitted by SSI Schaefer Ltd for supply and delivery of 240L wheeled refuse collection containers in the sum of £138,000.00 would be accepted.

**Tender for Bedding Plants and Planted Hanging Baskets:** The Chief Executive provided a summary of tenders for the above and it was agreed that the tender submitted from Hanna's Nursery in the sum of £12,907.25 for supply of bedding plants would be accepted. It was also agreed to accept the tender submitted by Greenbank Nursery for planted baskets in the sum of £3,255.00.

It was pointed out that given the amount of money spent on plants and their aftercare during the flowering season that Council should consider purchasing perennial plants and shrubs.

***Queries/Comments made outside the Reports:***

- Reference was made to disturbances in Limavady Town the previous weekend and it was suggested such incidents were giving the town a bad reputation. In response to members concerns, the Building Control Manager confirmed that officers did spot checks on overcrowding of premises around festival events and that premise owners were required to keep a log book on numbers in their establishment.
- Sadness was expressed that up to 70 animals had perished in a barn which caught fire at a farm along the Tirmocoy Road in Ballykelly.
- Concern was raised at level of health and safety at City Industrial Waste.

**MULTI PURPOSE CIVIC CENTRE:**

IN COMMITTEE on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

The Chief Executive reminded members that a special Council meeting had been held on 27 September 2007 to consider the civic centre tender report and that Council had decided to proceed with the Civic Centre and to accept the tender report subject to there being satisfactory agreement with Fold on gaining access along their roadway to the rear of the buildings. He said that Fold response to Councils proposals which were put to Fold on 30 August 2007 had now been received for consideration.

Members noted response by Fold Housing to a number of key points, including the statement that there was little point in proceeding further unless the issues detailed in point 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 13.2 were agreed to. Members discussed in details each of the points and how these should be responded to. It was agreed that an urgent and final letter would be forwarded directly to Fold Management Committee and to their solicitor stating Councils view to the issues raised and to request response to same by 26 October deadline.

OUT OF COMMITTEE on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

**TABLED FOR INFORMATION:**

- Direct telephone contact for Elected Representatives with Northern Ireland Water.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Lease of Lands – Drumsurn Community Association:** *Councillor Chivers declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* The legal document between Council and Drumsurn Community Association regarding lease of lands at Beech Road Drumsurn was signed and sealed.

**Local Democracy Week:** Alderman Robinson, Alderman Rankin, Councillor Coyle, Councillor Carten, Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Ó hOisín, Councillor Cubitt and Councillor Douglas agreed to attend the question and answer session with students from the 4 main secondary level schools in the Borough as part of Local Democracy Week.

**Chamber of Trade – Halloween Event:** It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Alderman Rankin that £300 would be contributed towards the Roe Valley Chamber of Trade Halloween event.

**Building Control Convention:** It was agreed that 1 officer would attend the Building Control Convention ‘Building a Sustainable Future’ on 22 – 23 November 2007 in Manor House Resort Hotel, Killadeaze, Co Fermanagh at a cost of £215.

**NEXT MEETING** – 20 November 2007.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS**  
**(The meeting ended at 9.45 pm)**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair of Meeting**