

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

17 JUNE 2014

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

PRESENT:

Aldermen J Rankin and M Coyle. Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, R Donaghy, B Douglas, G Mullan, T McCaul, S McGlinchey (chair), D Nicholl, A Robinson, E Scott and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Development and the Committee Clerk.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors S McGlinchey and J McCorkell.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor E Stevenson, seconded by Councillor E Scott that Alderman J Rankin would chair the Development Services Committee for the year 2014/15.

PRESENTATION BY LIMAVADY YOUTH COUNCIL:

The Chair welcomed representatives from Limavady Youth Council to the meeting.

Members were shown a video of activities that Limavady Youth Council had been involved in throughout the year. These included a charity tea dance which raised money for the Northern Ireland Children's Cancer Unit fund; a residential stay in Gortin, holding a mental health conference and a political awareness conference.

Mr Christopher Trainer, Chairperson of Limavady Youth Council answered a number of questions put to him by members and the following points were made:

- The relationship between Limavady Borough Council and the Youth Council was important.
- Members of the Youth Council would be future politicians and their contribution to society was important.
- Legislation was about to come into effect to recognise the work of the youth.
- 48% of young people did not know who to contact with regard to problems.
- Many young people were disenchanted, suicidal and there was a need to engage with youths to look at what was positive in life.
- It was suggested that the Youth Council obtain strategic links with CC&GDC.

The Chair thanked Mr Trainer and the deputation from Limavady Youth Council for attending the meeting.

PRESENTATION ON PATHWAY TO PEACE PROJECT:

The Chair welcomed the Reverend David Latimer, First Derry Presbyterian Church to the meeting.

Reverend Latimer explained that the son of Reverend Martin Luther King had lit Ireland's first peace flame (Peace Flame Monument) adjacent to the Guildhall in Derry in 2013 and at the event Mr ML King III was presented with Peace Pledges from pupils of schools & colleges across the city and border areas. He said that following the event, the Pathway to Peace initiative had been developed in co-operation with the Western Education & Library Board (WELB) whereby schools composed a twenty five word 'Peace Pledge' and a piece of artwork directly related to their pledge, which was then transferred from paper to ceramic tiles and these tiles were then laid as a path to the Peace Flame Monument. He added that the peace pledges had been compiled into a bespoke publication produced by the WELB and that this would serve as a resource to facilitate the seeds of peace in young hearts and minds as well as promoting a story of compassion amongst children.

Reverend Latimer requested that Council consider the possibility of identifying a space for a pathway in the Borough to stamp in stone local children's peace pledges. He said that in addition to the peace pledges, young people were asked to sign a Peace Scholl as part of a Guinness world record attempt to create the world's largest pledge for peace under the category 'Most Signatures on a Scroll'.

In the discussion which ensued, the following points were made:

- Collaboration between schools was extremely important.
- The work that the Reverend Latimer carried out was commended and his enthusiasm for the peace initiative infectious.
- There was religious disconnect amongst the young and less were turning to their faith in times of difficulty.
- There was a need for young people to know the truth about the troubles.
- The pain of the past should not be repeated and people should learn to forgive and live better together..
- It was suggested Drumceatt Square would be ideal setting for a peace pathway.

The Chair thanked Reverend Latimer for enlightening Council about the Pathway to Peace initiative and world record attempt.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 13 May 2014 were approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor B Chivers.

MATTERS ARISING: - None.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT REPORT ~ JUNE 2014:

The Director of Development presented the Development Report for June 2014 and enlarged thereon. The report was approved on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Councillor T McCaul subject to the following:

Pathway to Peace: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor B Chivers, seconded by Alderman M Coyle that Council would become involved in the first instance on the creation of a Pathway to Peace initiative with local schools and that proposals for suitable locations for a pathway could be brought back to Council for consideration.

Request from Hands that Talk: Council was informed that Hands that Talk Signing Choir had reached the final of the North West Talent Competition taking place in the Waterside Theatre on Saturday 28 June 2014 and that Council was asked to provide £127.00 towards an Interpreter. Agreed.

Proposed Teen Gym Membership for 13-16 Year Olds: It was agreed that a Teenage Gym Membership would be introduced for 13-16 year olds at a cost of £15.99 per month or an annual membership of £175.00.

Open Space at Bovally – Limavady: The Director of Development reminded members of previous meetings between Braidwater and Council regarding an area of open space at Bovally. She said that Braidwater had previously offered to work with Council in order to provide meaningful play space for local residents and whilst the temporary play space proposal is ongoing, Braidwater felt that it was important to move forward with a permanent open space discussion and with this in mind, put the following two points to Council.

1. Is Council interested in taking over ownership and maintenance of the area when it is completed? And
2. Is Council interested in working with Braidwater to design, fund/procure grant support and build a play space/open space area that is suitable for local residents needs and if so, what could the process and time frame be for doing so?

It was agreed that a meeting could take place between Limavady town Councillors, the developer and Bovally residents. Council to consider long-term position over recreational space if a temporary provision could be agreed. The Chief Executive agreed to forward the definition of ‘Open Space’ to members as far as housing developments were concerned.

Red Arrow Aerial Display: The Director of Development reported that Council recently approved the opportunity for Limavady Borough Council to join with Donegal Country Council in an exciting event with the Clipper Festival organisers. She said this was now confirmed as an Aerial display by the Red Arrows Formation Team which will be held on Sunday 29 June at approximately 2.45 pm across the mouth of the Lough Foyle estuary with the best vantage points being Benone Beach, Magilligan Point and Gortmore Viewpoint. She added discussions were presently taking place with emergency services to address safety measures and traffic management and that it was proposed to put in place a park & ride facility at the Point Road to help alleviate congestion at Magilligan Point.

Council approved the provision of a PA system for Magilligan/Benone area and hire of a minibus for the park and ride facility. It was noted that Donegal Council would be responsible for all safety and information costs associated with the Greencastle area and it was estimated that this additional cost would be in the region of £1,750.

Erosion at Magilligan Point: The Director of Development stated that erosion at Magilligan Point caused by tidal surge and sea conditions over the winter continued to have an impact on the site and that the wooden steps had to be removed as they were unstable due to movement of material on the beach. It was agreed that Council would work in partnership with landowner at Magilligan Point to reinstate pedestrian access and rock armour as necessary.

Forest Trails Feasibility Study – Rural Development Programme: The Director of Development advised that Council had received funding through the Rural Development Programme to commission a feasibility study investigating potential to develop forest activity trails and associated facilities in a number of forests, including Binevenagh and Ballykelly. She said that the Terms of Reference had been prepared and these would be issued within the next week with an invitation to quote. As there was no Development meeting in July, it was agreed that Council would appoint the highest scoring tender and that if there was a variation to this, a recommendation would be brought back to Council for consideration.

Application to Economic Development from Dry Arch Centre – Spending Time Together Application: The Director of Development explained that the Dry Arch Centre was working with a range of partner organisations to implement a pilot well-being project in the Neighbourhood Renewal and Sure Start areas of the Borough, that is the Glens, Coolessan, Ballkelly, Dungiven, Roeside and the Highlands wards. She said that the project would work with a core of fifteen local families identified by Dry Arch and St Vincent De Paul on themes, such as maximising income; keeping well in difficult times; dealing with underlying problems, building resilience by avoiding isolation and promoting social inclusion. She added that funding for the project was coming from a range of confirmed sources and that £3,000 was requested from Council's budget.

It was agreed that the request for £3,000 funding to support the pilot programme would be approved and that Council works with the Dry Arch Centre to ensure successful delivery, with special focus on the University of Ulster evaluation. It was also agreed that Council would work with the Centre in the post project period to seek external funding, which would look at a further extended programme.

Greysteel Community Enterprises – Debentures: It was agreed that Council would allow its solicitors to formally release Greysteel Community Enterprises from a second debenture which was due to run out in August 2014.

Good Relations Grants 2014: The Good Relations Grant submissions for 2014 were approved by Council. A member requested that feedback be given to unsuccessful applicants. Agreed.

Items for Information were noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Concern – Unaccompanied Dog at Roe Valley Country Park: A member raised concern about an incident involving a unaccompanied dog at Roe Valley Country Park who knocked down a small child along the river edge. She said this potentially could have resulted in the child being pushed into the river. It was

agreed that the Chief Executive would raise this concern with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.

Naiscoil Neachtain: It was agreed that Council would provide item(s) for the Naiscoil Neachtain raffle/tombola.

Countryside Festival: The Director of Development agreed to enquire if there were concessionary rates for local traders taking stands at the Countryside Festival.

12th July Celebrations: Councillor B Douglas proposed seconded by Councillor E Stevenson that Council would contribute £1,500 towards the 2014 12th July celebrations being held in Limavady.

A member was opposition to this being raised under Any Other Business and said the organisation committee could have submitted a grant application to Council for funding. The proposal was put to the meeting and declared lost, with 3 voting for and 8 against.

Application for Occasional Licence: The application for grant of an Occasional Licence by the licence holder of Arcade Bar to sell liquor at Gortnaghey Community Centre on 11, 12 and 13 July 2014 during the hours set out in Building Control report was approved by Council.

Public Consultation Events: Members were advised that a public consultation event on Causeway Coast & Glens Outdoor Recreation Plan was being held in Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre between 7 – 8 pm on Wednesday 2 July 2014.

Register of Interests: The Chief Executive explained that as part of Code of Conduct guidance, all members of the new and existing Councils were required to complete and sign a Register of Interest form. He requested that the form tabled should be returned to his office by 30 June 2014. He reminded members that a workshop could be held on the Code of Conduct over the next few weeks.

NEXT MEETING – 11 August 2014.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.15 PM

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting