

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MARCH 18TH, 2008

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, M. Coyle, B. Chivers, M. Donaghy, B. Douglas (in the Chair), J. F. McElhinney, C. Ó hOisín, A. Robinson and E. Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Admin Officer, Director of Environmental Services, Environmental Health Manager, Acting Technical Services Managers and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor L. Cubitt

Alderman Rankin cited the recent arson attacks as well as threats to members of PSNI who have had to evacuate their homes due to threats. He asked that members work with all agencies in an attempt to eradicate this senseless crime. Alderman Mullan proposed that round table talks be arranged as a matter of urgency with inter agencies in an attempt to abate the destruction. The proposal was withdrawn as Councillor Coyle stated as Chair of Limavady DPP a meeting was currently being arranged to meet with members of PSNI, Housing Executive in an attempt to resolve the recent attacks.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated February 19th, 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

MATTERS ARISING:

Application for Extended Entertainment Licensing Hours: Aldermen Rankin and Robinson requested it be recorded their dissent at the appeal in relation to extension of Entertainment Licences for the Corner Bar and The Pub resulting in extended drinking from 1am to 1:30am Monday to Saturday, unchanged on Sunday.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – MARCH 2008:

Building Control Department:

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Building Control report which detailed applications approved for February; Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907, Section 30 Dangerous Structures; the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985 Licensing of Places of Entertainment; Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (NI) 1929, Annual Report on Petroleum Spirit Storage Installations for 2008; Facilities Management and Energy Management Report which were approved.

Environmental Health Department:

The Environmental Health Manager presented the Environmental Health Report which detailed recommendations in relation to Consumer Protection; Food Safety; Health & Safety; Health Promotion; Dogs (NI) Order 1983; Bye-law prohibiting the consumption of intoxicating liquor in designated places; Street Trading Act (NI) 2001 and Litter (NI) Order 1994. The recommendations were adopted on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Correction in Section 3 of the report – Smoking (NI) Order 2006 Article 7 (5): The Environmental Health Manager advised that the smoking (General Provisions) Regulations should read the “Smoke-Free (Premises, Vehicles Operational and Penalty Notification Regulations (NI) 2007”.

Dogs (NI) Order 1983: The Environmental Health Manager referred to repeated identification offences as well as straying of dog resulting in impounding on three occasions and the non payment of fixed penalties. She requested this matter be referred to Council’s solicitor to commence legal proceedings being taken against the dog owner under Article 22 (1) of the above Order.

Failure to comply with Article 20 Notice: The Environmental Health Manager referred to two cases of illegal dumping which occurred at Ballyquin Road and the Orange Field, Roemill Road, Limavady with a recommendation to refer both matters to Council’s solicitor to proceed with prosecution under the Litter (NI) Order 1994.

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 Councillor Carten subject to the following:

Dernaflaw: Following a request by Councillor Brolly, the Director of Environmental Services advised that Mr. McNicholl had assured Council that he would commence preparatory work on the site, however, this had not been the case. It was requested that a letter be sent to Mr. McNicholl to expedite the clearance of this site to facilitate the erection of a play area, failure to do so would result in this matter being referred to Council’s solicitor.

Councillor Donaghy joined the meeting at 7:45.

Composting Tender: Clarification was sought by Councillor Ó hOisín why the cheapest tender was not accepted for the composting and why a local operator was not used if Council were endeavouring to be environmentally friendly. The Director of Environmental Services updated members on the process utilised to reach a suitable tender.

Brown Bins: Councillor Ó hOisín queried why householders were not afforded the opportunity to determine whether they wanted a brown bin. The Director of Environmental Services advised that it was imperative to get materials out of the grey bins and into the new brown bins to meet EU targets. He applauded the general public for their efforts and the high volume of matter currently being recycled.

He stated no date had been determined when collection of the brown bins would commence but it was anticipated it would be in April and members would be advised accordingly.

Disused Play Area - Greysteel: Councillor McElhinney reported that he and other elected members recently visited the aforementioned site and discussion ensued regarding whether the area should be filled and grassed over to detract unsocial behaviour and the congregation of youths to the area. Councillor McElhinney proposed the disused play area be filled in by 2.5 metres costing £29k seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín.

Councillor Robinson proposed that the area be filled in by 1.5 metres reducing the cost to £10k. When put to the meeting Councillor Robinson's proposal was declared lost, 4, Aldermen Mullan, Robinson, Councillors Douglas and Robinson voting for, 6, Councillors Chivers, Butcher, Donaghy, Brolly, Ó hOisín, McElhinney voting against.

The substantive motion was put forward to fill the disused play area by 2.5 metres at a cost of £29k. On being put to the meeting was declared carried, 6, Councillors Chivers, Butcher, Donaghy, Brolly, Ó hOisín, McElhinney voting for, 5, Alderman Robinson, Councillors Robinson, Rankin, Douglas and Stevenson voting against, 3, Alderman Mullan, Councillors Coyle and Carten abstaining.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

CCTV: Councillor Ó hOisín requested an update on the proposal to install CCTV following the incident at the Council Offices on January 22nd, 2008. The Chief Executive advised that officers were currently seeking quotes and hoped to advise members at the next meeting.

Town Hall: The Director of Environmental Services advised that structural engineers had recently carried out a routine inspection of the supporting structure to the Town Hall. It had been recommended that the temporary structure which had now been in place for three years required remedial repairs including replacing the netting and additional ballast and supporting ties at a cost of £8,500 to £10,000.

Discussion ensued regarding the Town Hall and that the works proposed would not be necessary if the façade was demolished. The Director of Environmental Services advised that planning permission had been obtained incorporating the façade and if changes were made it may have to go back to Planning Service for further approval resulting in additional expense. It was proposed by Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Butcher that a decision be deferred for a month and clarification sought from Roads Service to determine if access to the building could be obtained from Main Street.

NEXT MEETING – April 15th, 2008.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8:20 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting