

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

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

18 AUGUST 2009

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 8.35 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Administration Officer, Director of Environmental Services, Operations Manager, Waste Services Manager, Chief Executive and Mrs Sarah Villiers, Consarc.

APOLOGIES:

Alderman G Robinson, Councillors E Stevenson and A Robinson.

CONSARC – CIVIC CENTRE QUARTERLY REPORT:

The chair welcomed Mrs Sarah Villiers, Consarc to the meeting.

Ms Villiers presented the seconded quarterly report to Council since Heron Brothers commenced work on the Multi Purpose Civic Centre. She thanked those Councillors who were able to visit the site prior to the meeting and see at first hand the quality and speed of the progress. The presentation chronicled each stage of the building works and showed visually the progress both internally and externally. The contractor has received an above satisfactory rating at a recent inspection under the Considerate Contractors scheme and in an effort to show continued commitment to working in partnership with the local community Consarc and Limavady Borough Council are to liaise with the local schools to arrange future site visits at appropriate times.

By the next quarterly update, the internal finishing elements will be close to being commenced. Regular monthly meetings are being held both on site and with the Council to review client co-ordination issues. There have been 5 valuations made to date on the project.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt and seconded by Councillor Brolly that Council should investigate the acquisition of an appropriate and recognisable piece of art to site in front of the new Civic Centre.

Councillor Ó hOisín advised the meeting that he has written to the Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowan, about the possibility of having the Broighter Hoard returned to Limavady on a temporary basis for the opening of the new Civic Centre. The provision of a secure museum area to house the artefacts would be a deciding factor in having the Broighter Hoard returned.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt and seconded by Alderman Rankin that the naming of the Civic Centre would be an excellent opportunity to involve the wider community and that suggestions would be sought from schools, community groups, the website etc. at the beginning of September 2009. A screening exercise would be carried out by officers before being brought to Council at the end of September 2009.

The chair thanked members for their positive comments regarding the Civic Centre and thanked Mrs Villiers for presenting the quarterly update. Ms Villiers left the meeting at 09.10 p.m.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 16 June 2009 were approved on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

MATTERS ARISING: - None.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – AUGUST 2009:

Building Control Department:

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Building Control Report which detailed applications approved and issued in June and July 2009; Entertainment Licences Issued and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Rankin subject to the following:

Notice of Application for an Occasional Liquor Licence: *Councillor Butcher declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.* It was noted without comment that Council had received notification of application being made for grant of occasional liquor licence for a marquee at St Aidan's GAC Playing Fiends, Magilligan.

Energy Monitoring: Members were advised that ATC Systems had agreed to install a computerised energy monitoring system for gas & electricity in Council Offices and at Roe Valley Leisure Centre on a free trial bases for three months. Council approved the installation of this system depending on a successful trail for a cost of £1,235 per building.

Mechanical and Electrical Survey: Council approved the quotation submitted by Colgan & Shackleton for £3,995 to carry out mechanical and electrical surveys of Benone Tourist, Complex, Roe Valley Leisure Centre, Dungiven Sports Pavilion, Scroggy Road Changing Pavilion and Roemill Road Changing Pavilion.

Building conditional Survey: Council approved the quotation submitted by IMAC Construction Services to carry out building conditional surveys on all 26 Council buildings at a cost of £14,471. The survey would include internal and external elements of the buildings, condition, lifespan, required maintenance procedures and estimated repair costs .

Environmental Health Department:

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Environmental Health Report which detailed information relating to Food Safety, Health and Safety, Licensing & Regulatory and Pollution Control. The recommendations were accepted on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Chivers subject to the following:

Non-Compliance with Public Health Abatement Notice: The Director Environmental Services outlined that in May 2009 a complaint had been received from a tenant of a private property regarding dampness within in the bathroom of the property. He said that following inspection, a Public Health Abatement Notice had been served on the landlord which required that steps be taken to remedy the problem within one month. He added that two further visits to check for compliance with the notice revealed that some works remained outstanding and that the walls in the bathroom were still damp. It was agreed that the matter be referred to Council's solicitor with the view to legal proceedings being instigated against the landlord under Section 111 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act 1878 for failure to comply with the requirements of the notice within the specific time.

Big Lottery Safe and Well Programme: Members welcomed that Big Lottery funding had been secured for the Western Home Environmental Assessment Project and that this would be used to employ five Home Assessment Officers and a project co-ordinator for a five year period.

Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983: The Director Environmental Services detailed case of unlicensed dog, stray dog offences and fixed penalties issued for straying. It was agreed that a details of unlicensed dogs in Limavady would be referred to Council's solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated against the owners of the dogs. It was suggested that dog owners needed to be more responsible with regard to dog fouling and that the visibility of the Dog Warden needed to be increased.

Bye-Law Prohibiting the Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor In a Designated Place.: The Director of Environmental Services recommended that details of five incidents involving persons consuming alcohol in designated areas of the Borough by referred to Council's solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being taken against the individuals identified for contravention of the bye-law prohibiting the consumption of intoxicating liquor in a designated place. It was clarified to members that Council officers do not apprehend offenders for street drinking and that offences are detected by the PSNI who then refer the matter to Council for prosecution.

The Litter (NI) Order 1994: It was agreed that details of a littering offence and non payment of fixed penalty fine would be referred to Council's solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated against the person for contravention of the above Order.

Technical Services Department:

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Technical Services Report and enlarged thereon. The items for information were noted and the report and recommendations were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ó hOisín, seconded by Councillor Butcher subject to the following:

Bus Shelter – Highlands Road/Baranait Road: The Director Environmental Services explained that the bus shelter had been erected at the above location for at least ten years but it appeared that there had never been an agreement with the landowner regarding purchase or lease of the land occupied by the shelter. It was agreed that Mr Arthur, Councils Valuer be allowed to negotiate on Council's behalf and reach agreement on purchase or lease of the land.

Vale Centre – Pitch Maintenance: The Director Environmental Services reported that the maintenance agreement for the pitches at the Vale Centre between Council and Greysteel Community Enterprises had not been signed and returned by GEC. It was proposed by Councillor Ó hOisín and seconded by Councillor Cubitt that no further work would be carried out at the Vale Centre pitches until the signed maintenance agreement was returned to Council.

Tenders/Quotations: Retrospective approval was agreed for tender submitted by D A Forgie in the sum of £23,500 for 95-HP-AWD Tractor; tender submitted by Overton (UK) Ltd in the sum of £40,000 for Tractor Drawn Beach Cleaner and quotation submitted by SSI Schaefer (UK) Ltd in the sum of £13,647.50 for the supply and delivery of bins. The select list of contractors for construction of play areas in the Borough from June 2009 to June 2011 was also approved.

Townlands: The Director of Environmental Services provided details and costs and sought clarification on what action was to be taken with regard to the inclusion of townland names on road name signs. The estimated cost of purchasing and erecting the required number of signs was felt to be inappropriate in the current economic climate. It was proposed by Councillor Butcher and seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín that Council should investigate funding under Measure 3 of the Rural Development Programme to fund the inclusion of townland names on road name signs.

Queries/Suggestions Outside the Reports:

It was suggested that major retailers/businesses in the Borough be invited to sponsor for maintenance of the roundabouts.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Director Environmental Services agreed to pass on members congratulations to Technical Service staff on their work putting up litterbins in the Blackburn Path area.
- It was agreed that the Director Environmental Services would pass on the thanks of the organisers of the NI milk Cup for the work involved in preparing the pitches for the tournament.
- The Director Environmental Services agreed to pass on the members' congratulations to the staff who worked on the flowerbeds within the Borough.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 15 September 2009

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 10.30 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting