

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
18 DECEMBER 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, B Douglas (chair), J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Environmental Health Manager and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor Donaghy and Building Control Manager.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 20 November 2007 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Alderman Mullan.

MATTERS ARISING:

Council Depot CCTV System/Stolen Equipment at Benone: The Chief Executive clarified that Council equipment stolen at Benone had been recovered in a local forest.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – DECEMBER 2007:

Building Control Department:

The Chief Executive presented the Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged & issued, applications for Entertainment Licence, Occasional Entertainment Licence, Transfer of Entertainment Licence, Applications for Extended Entertainment Licensing Hours and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report which was adopted subject to the following:

Electrical Testing: Retrospective approval was agreed for quotation received from Irwin Group to carry out ultrasonic and infrared testing to the electrical switchboards at Roe Valley Leisure Centre, Council Offices and Dungiven Sports Centre in the sum of £3,078.

Street Naming & Property Numbering Policy: It was agreed that the housing development at Foreglen Road, Dungiven be named Cloughfin View.

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 Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Rankin subject to the following:

Proposed Reduction of Food Safety Grants: The Environmental Health Manager informed members that following a comprehensive spending review, the Food Standard Agency for Northern Ireland were proposing a 5% minimum reduction in budgets for the next 3 years in real terms across local and central government. She said this would result in the three elements of the Food Safety Grants paid to Local Government being reduced and that this would have a significant reduction as the cuts would be imposed in addition to any effects of inflation.

The Environmental Health Manager requested that members note the proposals of the Food Standards Agency and support the Environmental Health Service in its continuing discussions aimed at preventing or minimising the extent of cuts in grant allocation. Agreed.

Sale of Tobacco: Members noted that Minister Michael McGimpsey had launched a twelve week consultation exercise on whether the Department should use the power contained in the Smoking (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 to retain/amend regulations with regard to age of sale of tobacco products to either 16, 17 or 18 years.

Councillor Stevenson proposed, seconded by Alderman Rankin that Council gave its support to the response being forwarded by CEHOG and in particular to increase the age limit on sale of tobacco to 18 years of age.

Review of District Council Drinking in Public Bye-Laws: The Environmental Health Manager informed members that the Social Policy Unit of the Department of Social Development had provided details of proposed measures agreed by Ministers on review of Councils Drinking in Public Bye-Laws. She said there were four key changes to the current drinking in public provisions, including, offences under the new system, penalties, application of the measures to under 18s and enforcement role for District Councils. Council welcomed and supported the proposed measures to be included in the draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 legislation in relation to Drinking in Designated Public Places.

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 Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Drumaduff Landfill Site: The Chief Executive reported that Council that Senior Counsel opinion on matters relating to Drumaduff were still awaited and would be acted upon when received. It was suggested that officers keep a record of all contact with EHS. Agreed.

Dungiven Civic Amenity Site: Members discussed the problem of identifying a suitable location for Civic Amenity Site in Dungiven and it was queried how much it had cost Council to date in finding a site.

Brown Bins/Recycling: Members welcomed that Brown Bin would be delivered for distribution to households early in the New Year. It was suggested that schools be encourage to recycle by providing them with either a brown bin or a compost bin.

Grants Scheme Monies: The Chief Executive provided a breakdown of monies spent to date under the grant scheme. He tabled a tender summary form for supply and delivery of 1No Big Bite Skip Vehicle and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Chivers, seconded by Councillor Cubitt that the tender submitted from Manvic in the sum of £115,750 be accepted. It was agreed that any money remaining from the grant scheme would be used for additional compost bins.

Drumsumn Play Area: Members were informed that taking into account preparation work needed at the site, it would estimated that it would cost in the region of £15,000 to fit a new swing at the play area in Drumsumn. Following discussion, it was agreed that tenders would be brought back to Council for decision in January 2008. It was suggested that Council implement a new strategy for play areas and finalise proposals in relation to the old strategy for play provision.

Christmas Lighting: Reference was made to complaints received regarding Christmas Trees at Drumsumn and Dungiven. The Chief Executive explained that the tree in Dungiven had been relocated due to exceptional circumstances. Noted.

Appreciation was extended to staff who had erected trees throughout the Borough in adverse weather conditions and it was noted that Ballykelly Community Association conveyed heartfelt thanks to staff for help in erecting the tree at the Association.

Supply and Delivery of 1No Deep Tine Aerator: Members were tabled a tender summary form and evaluation report for supply and delivery of 1No Deep Tine Aerator. It was agreed that the tender submitted from Cyril Johnston in the sum of £19,985.00 be accepted.

Queries/Comments outside the Reports:

- *It was suggested that Glenshane Care Association be contacted regarding possible use of the nursery tunnels.*

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: - None.

NEXT MEETING – 15 January 2008.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.15 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting