

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
19 FEBRUARY 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, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas (chair), J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Director of Environmental Services, Environmental Health Manager, Acting Technical Services Managers and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor Coyle and the Building Control Manager.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 15 January 2008 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Carten.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – FEBRUARY 2008:

Building Control Department:

The Chief Executive presented the Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged & issued, applications for Entertainment Licences, request for approved place for Civic Marriages/Partnerships and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report, which was approved subject to the following:

Application for Extended Entertainment Licensing Hours: The Chief Executive reported that an appeal in relation to extension of Entertainment Licences for the Corner Bar and The Pub had been heard on 28 January 2008 and that the judge had ruled that the licences be extended from 1 to 1.30 am Monday to Saturday, with the Sunday opening of 12 midnight remaining unchanged. He recommended that Council accept the judgement. The judgement was accepted subject to concerns raised by Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Carten and Councillor Douglas being noted.

Notice of Application for Provisional Grant of a Liquor Licence: The Chief Executive outlined that notification had been received for provisional grant of a Liquor Licence at premises situated at Main/Connell Street Limavady and at 804 Feeny Road, Dungiven.

Councillor Stevenson proposed, seconded by Councillor Cubitt that Council object to the applications as both felt there were enough liquor establishments in the Borough. The proposal was put to the meeting and declared lost with 5, Alderman Rankin, Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Robinson and Councillor Douglas voting in favour and 8 Councillor Carten, Alderman Mullan, Councillor Chivers, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Donaghy, Councillor Brolly, Councillor Ó hOisín and Councillor McElhinney voting against.

Roe Valley Leisure Centre CCTV System: The tender submitted from Radio Contact to install a CCTV system at Roe Valley Leisure Centre at a cost of £12,988 was approved.

Fire Risk Assessments: The tender submitted from Fire Care Limited to provide fire risk assessments for all Council buildings at a cost of £2,675 was approved.

Environmental Health Department:

The Environmental Health Manager presented the Environmental Health Report which detailed recommendations in relation to the Rent (Northern Ireland) Order 1978, Dogs (NI) Order 1983, the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985, Street Trading Act (NI) 2001 and Litter (NI) Order 1994. The recommendations were adopted on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Cubitt subject to the following:

Stray/Dangerous Dogs: Officers were commended for their work in apprehending stray/dangerous dogs under Article 22(1) and 31(2) of the Dogs (NI) Order 1983.

Addendum – Home Safety Funding: Members welcomed that the application made to Big Lottery Funding for the proposed Western Home Environmental Assessment project had successfully reached the second stage of the grant application process. It was agreed that a tender would be prepared by Omagh District Council to secure a consultant to assist with stage 2 of the application.

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 Councillor Carten, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Drumaduff Landfill Site – Restoration Plan: Members were updated regarding Drumaduff landfill site restoration plan. It was noted that RPS Consulting Engineers would identify lands over which they would require access for the purposes of site investigations and that Council would advise the landowners accordingly.

Memorandum of Understanding: Members were tabled letter forwarded by Eamon Molloy to the Chief Executives of SWAMP and the Strategic Investment Board in response to concerns raised by Councils within SWAMP to the Memorandum of Understanding for procurement of major waste infrastructure.

Refuse Collection Service – Commercial Charges April 2008 – March 2009: Council approved the increase in commercial charges for refuse collection service for April 2008 to March 2009.

Play Areas - General: The Director of Environmental Services updated members regarding ongoing work at Curragh Road play area and the provision of play areas at Greysteel and Foreglen. Members welcomed that work was due to commence on clearing and hard coring the site for the play area at Dernaflaw.

The Director of Environmental Services outlined that safety surfacing required upgrading in 7 older play areas throughout the Borough in the incoming year. He said to replace each play area with existing tiles would cost in the region of £17,680 each but to replace the tiles with wet pour, a more vandal resistant surface would cost in the region of £13,320 per play area. Although concern was raised at the costs, it was agreed that the play areas tiles would be replaced with the vandal resistant wet pour surface.

In the discussion that followed it was suggested that when play areas were provided in the future, Council should be creative and look at alternative types of play equipment and surfaces. Reference was made to Blackburn Park and how fencing and additional lighting had not curbed vandalism there. It was agreed that costings on what had been spent on the park would be compiled for member's information.

Vale Centre – Pitch Maintenance: The Director of Environmental Services explained that following dispute over the extent of maintenance works Limavady Borough Council had undertaken to carry out at pitches at the Vale Centre, a report compiled by STRI Consultancy & Research on behalf of Council had been forwarded to Council's solicitors for advice. He said that the report highlighted two main issues:

1. discrepancies between the drainage systems installed and that of drawings provided and
2. form of construction and current state of slit drainage system.

He explained that Council had clarified in letter dated 23 August 2001 that level of maintenance which Council would carry out would be the same as that provided for Council's other sports facilities and that on this basis, the solicitor had advised that Council should not be held responsible for any failure by the Vale Centre to carry out any additional maintenance work which might be required. The solicitor had also advised that officers might wish to meet with Vale Centre Officials without prejudice in order to discuss future maintenance and upkeep. Agreed.

Bus Shelter – Glack: It was agreed that a bus shelter would be provided on the proposed site in Glack.

Greysteel Glen – Disused Play Area: The Director of Environmental Services outlined that the cost to raise the area of the former play park at Greysteel Glen by 1.5 metres or 2.5 metres was £10,000 and £29,000 respectively. In the discussion which followed, members debated why the glen needed to be filled and the type of material to be used.

Councillor McElhinney proposed, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín that the glen be filled by 2.5 metres. A number of members were opposed to how much this would cost. Alderman Robinson proposed an amendment that the decision be deferred for 1 month so that members could go and view the site. The amendment was put to the meeting and declared carried with 8 voting for and 6 abstentions. The substantive motion was put to the meeting and declared carried. The Chief Executive agreed to

bring back possible dates for members to visit the site at the February 2008 Monthly meeting.

Tenders & Quotations: The following tenders/quotations were agreed.

- tender submitted by Cowan Bros in the sum of £34,750 for 1 telescopic handler;
- tender submitted by Co. Derry Landscaping Services in the sum of £31,193.57 for grass cutting contract;
- permission agreed on the back of Derry City Councils tender to purchase 2 ride on lawnmowers and
- tender submitted from Play & Leisure Services for supply and installation of steel framed swing and associated works at Drumsurn Playarea at a cost of £14,083.

Queries outside the Reports:

- It was queried if a bottle bank or a small bin could be supplied to Sistrakeel Primary School.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

The following issues were raised by members:

- Members condemned arson attacks which caused extensive damage to properties in Woodland Walk. It was agreed that the Chief Executive write to the PSNI to request that additional resources be allocated to foot patrols and for officers to be extra vigilant in light of these incidents.
- It was agreed that the Deputy Mayor – Councillor Chivers would attend the Westport St Patrick’s Day celebrations.
- It was agreed that the Wayleave between Council and Northern Ireland Electricity at Magilligan Point would be signed and sealed.

NEXT MEETING – 18 March 2008.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.00 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting