

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

PLANNING & SERVICES COMMITTEE

19 FEBRUARY 2013

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

PRESENT:

Aldermen M Coyle, J Rankin, Councillors O Beattie, A Brolly, B Chivers, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, S McGlinchey, C McLaughlin, G Mullan, D Nicholl (Chair), A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Environmental Services, Committee Clerk and Mr Kenny Donaghey, DoE Planning Service.

APOLOGIES: - Alderman G Robinson and the Chief Executive.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 22 January 2013 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman Coyle, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin.

MATTERS ARISING: - None

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS: (Deferred applications – see appendix):

The recommendation to the application listed on the deferred application schedule was accepted by members.

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS: (New applications – see appendix)

Mr Donaghy answered queries on applications listed on the new applications schedule and the recommendations were accepted subject to the following:

B/2010/0311/F – erection of a wind turbine (250kw max) with tower height of 31m approximately 370m south of 70 Curragh Road, Dungiven (Mr McLaughlin) Office meeting agreed.

The list of appeals lodged with the PAC and appeal decision notified were noted by members.

CAPACITY BUILDING & TRAINING IN RESPECT OF THE TRANSFER OF PLANNING FUNCTIONS:

The Director of Environmental Services referred to a letter from the DoE which outlined that a project team had been put in place by the Department to progress Planning Reform and the transfer of planning powers to Local Government by 2015. He said that Helena O'Toole was leading the Capacity Building & Training strand team which was responsible for ensuring that a bespoke training

programme in relation to the transfer of planning functions was rolled out to all Councillors, Officers and planning staff.

The Director of Environmental Services explained that whilst the Department acknowledged that a number of organisations were holding awareness conferences and seminars around the transfer of functions, a more focussed scoping/mapping exercise was needed to shape the production and delivery of a detailed training and capacity building action plan between now and 2015. He said that in order to complete the scoping exercise, members and officers were invited to contribute to pulling together baseline information. That is, the names of organisations that made approaches with offers of assistance which might be tapped into and broad information on the areas which members and officers would like to see covered by a future training and capacity building action plan.

In the discussion which followed it was stressed that it was important that members be properly trained and for the various organisations who delivered the training to follow a similar formula to ease confusion. It was agreed that the topic would be discussed again at the March Monthly meeting of Council.

ROADS: - None.

WATER & SEWERAGE: - None.

HOUSING:

It was agreed that NIPSA would address the Council on proposals to abolish the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Civic Reception: Councillor McLaughlin proposed, seconded by Alderman Coyle that a Civic Reception would be held for Nelson McGonagle to acknowledge his work for charity.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - 19 March 2013.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 7.15 PM.

Chair: _____