

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**19 AUGUST 2014**

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 8.10 pm on the above date.

**PRESENT:**

Aldermen M Coyle, A Robiinson and J Rankin. Councillors O Beattie, B Chivers, R Donaghy, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell,, G Mullan, E Scott and E Stevenson (Chair).

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director of Environmental Services and the Committee Clerk.

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor A Brolly, Councillor S McGlinchey, Councillor D Nicholl and the Chief Executive.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 24 June 2014 were approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Alderman J Rankin.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Page 2 – Air Quality in Dungiven:** The Director of Environmental Services reported that the Minister for Regional Development Danny Kennedy had agreed to meet with a delegation of Councillors to discuss air quality in Dungiven. He said that the meeting arranged for 2 pm on 28 August had now been rescheduled to 4 pm on the same date.

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – AUGUST 2014:**

***Building Control Department:***

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Building Control Report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged and issued between 1 June – 31 July 2014. The items for information were noted and the report was approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor J McCorkell subject to the following:

**Renewal of Entertainment Licence:** It was noted that Council was awaiting a response from the PSNI with regard to application for renewal of an entertainment licence for Cooleys Bar, Seacoast Road, Members would be updated on the application at the next Environmental Services meeting.

**Application for Grant of Entertainment Licence:** It was agreed that the application for grant of an entertainment licence for Ponderosa Bar and Restaurant would be approved subject to no adverse comments being received from PSNI, NIFRS or from public advertisements.

**Renewal of Bookmakers Licence:** Council had no objection to the application for renewal of two bookmaker's licences by Mr J D Higgins and Mrs K M Higgins.

**Renewal of Bookmaker's Office Licence:** Council had no objection to four applications for renewal of bookmaker's office licence submitted by the following:

- J D Higgins, Linenhall Street, Limavady
- J D Higgins, Catherine Street, Limavady
- J J Rainey, Main Street, Dungiven and
- Central Bookmakers, Main Street, Ballykelly.

**Grant of Amusement Permit:** It was agreed that the application for grant of an amusement permit for premises at 38/40 Main Street, Dungiven would be approved subject to no adverse comments being received from PSNI, NIFRS or from public advertisements.

**Application for Occasional Liquor Licence – Owen's Bar:** Council had no objection to four applications for grant of occasional licence from Owen's Bar to sell liquor in the rear garden of the premises on 23-24 and 30-31 August, 20-21 September and 10-11 October 2014 between hours of 6 pm – 1.30 am.

**Application for Occasional Liquor Licence – Rising Sun Bar:** Council had no objection to an application for an occasional licence by the Rising Sun Bar to sell liquor at Faughanvale GAA Club on 24 August 2014.

**Application for Occasional Liquor Licence – Sportsman's Inn:** Council had no objection to the application for an occasional licence by Sportsman's Inn to sell liquor in a Barn at Drumsurn Road, Limavady on 23 August 2014.

***Environmental Health Department:***

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Environmental Health Report which detailed information relating to Consumer Protection, Environmental Health, Health, Safety & Well Being, Licensing & Regulatory, Pollution Control and Work Activity. The items for information were noted and the report adopted on the proposal of Councillor B Douglas, seconded by Alderman J Rankin subject to the following:

**Affordable Warmth Scheme:** The Director of Environmental Services advised that the new Affordable Warmth Scheme was expected to run from September 2014 up to 31 March 2017 subject to Ministerial approval and agreement. He said that the proposed budget for 2014/15 was £126,000 and £153,000 for 2015/16, which would be allocated to Causeway Coast & Glens cluster councils. It was stressed that more local contractors should be able to take part in this scheme.

**Unlicensed Dogs:** The Director of Environmental Services explained that in May 2014 the Animal Welfare Officer had passed details of two unlicensed dogs in Limavady to the Department. He said that a letter was sent to the dog owner giving advice on responsible dog ownership and to request that the dogs be licensed by 3 June 2014. He added that there was no response to a final warning letter sent on 6 June or to a letter sent on 20 June advising of £50 fixed penalty which was to be paid by 4 July 2014.

It was agreed that legal proceedings would be taken against the dog owner for keeping two unlicensed dogs.

**Dog Attack on a Person and Another Dog:** The Director of Environmental Services reported that a complaint of a dog attack on a person and another dog had been received by the Department on 18 July 2014. He said upon investigation, it was confirmed that a dog had attacked another dog and that the lady who owned the dog being attacked had sustained injuries to her hands which required medical attention when she lifted her dog during the attack.

The Director of Environmental Services stated that advice had been given to the keeper of the dog who admitted the attack and apologised to the people concerned. The lady attacked and her partner indicated that they did not want legal proceeding pursued if the keeper signed over the dog to Limavady Borough Council, however, the keeper was adamant that he would not sign over the dog.

The Director of Environmental Services indicated that following consideration of the evidence, the offence and penalties; it was recommended that two Control Conditions be issued to the dog owner as following:

- a) the dog was to be kept muzzled in a public place and
- b) kept under control by means of a lead when in public.

It was agreed that in addition to the Control Conditions issued that the case would be referred to Council's solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated against the keeper of the dog for the attack on a person and on another animal.

**Review of Coloured Collar Identification Tags for Dogs:** The Director of Environmental Services informed members that response was due by 7 August 2014 to DARD consultation with regard to 3 options on tags for dogs and that it had been recommended that Council endorse option 3, in that the need for coloured identification tags be abolished from January 2015, with compulsory micro chipping to be the sole method of identification. It was further recommended that the current dog licence fee be reviewed to ensure that the service provided by Councils would be as far as possible on a full cost recovery basis. Agreed.

**Litter – Article 20 Notice:** It was recommended that a littering offence and non-compliance of an Article 20 Notice issued on 19 June 2014 would be forwarded to Council solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated under The Litter (NI) Order 1994.

***Items Raised Outside the Report:***

- Technical Services staff were praised on the litter pick up following the Twelfth of July celebrations in the town.
- The Chair raised a concern about horses being allowed onto the beach at Benone. This query would be passed to the Director of Development.

***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 was

approved on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor O Beattie.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS: -**

**Eco Schools:** The Director of Environmental Services agreed to clarify if Magilligan Field Centre had signed up to the Eco Schools Projects.

**Investigate Launching Boats within the Borough:** A member suggested that Council consider having a launch pad for boats within the Borough as it was inconvenient for boat users having to travel to Donegal to launch their boats.

**Request for Grass Cutting:** It was agreed that Council would provide advice on purchase of grass cutting equipment and cut the grass at Gortnaghey Community Centre for the remainder of the grass cutting season. It was stressed that this was a temporary arrangement until the group acquired their own equipment.

**Alexander Arms:** It was agreed in principle that Council would allow the owner of the Alexander Arms to create a new entrance from Drumceatt Square into the former First Trust Bank and also an entrance into his property from the rear car park of Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre. It was noted that the owner of the Alexander Arms would pay all costs associated with the work. The Director of Environmental Services agreed to bring back a sketch of the proposals.

**Dungiven Castle – Closure:** It was agreed that the Chief Executive would update members with regard to legal case on right of way at Dungiven Castle now that the Castle had closed. A member requested that a letter be forwarded to Invest NI with regard to investment in Dungiven in light of the Castle closure and Danske Bank downsizing.

**NEXT MEETING – 16 September 2014.**

**THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.20 PM**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of Meeting