

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

PLANNING & SERVICES COMMITTEE

19 AUGUST 2014

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

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Environmental Services, Committee Clerk and Mr Shane Mathers, DoE Planning Service.

APOLOGIES:

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 26 June 2014 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman M Coyle, seconded by Councillor E Scott.

MATTERS ARISING:

Page 2 – Consultation on Windfarm Application, Windyhill Road (C/2013/0248/F): Members were advised that Planning Head Quarters had agreed to meet with Council on 16 September 2014 to discuss the above application, however Council had been informed in letter dated 22 July 2014 that the application had been passed to Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) for decision and as this was no longer the jurisdiction of Planning HQ, they had cancelled attendance at the September meeting.

Following discussion it was suggested that if individual members or political parties wished to make comment on the application that they should contact the PAC.

SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

(Deferred applications – see appendix)

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

D2: B/2013/0236/F – erection of replacement 2 storey dwelling, 60A Drumrane Road, Limaavady (Mr D McIntyre) Agreed that issue of refusal decision would be held for 10 days.

D4: B/2013/0274/O – proposed site for a one and half storey rural style dwelling approximately 40m south east of 16 Calhome Road, Dungiven (Mr D McClean) Application withdrawn.

D5: B/2014/0009/O – site for 4no semi-detached bungalows adjacent to 1 Grannagh Park, Artikelly (Mr R Witherow) Council refused to accept the refusal decision.

(New applications – see appendix)

Mr Mathers answered queries on applications listed on the new applications schedule and the recommendations were accepted subject to it being agreed that office meetings would be held for the following applications on 29 August 2014:

B/2013/0148/F – erection of farm building on lands adjacent to 209 Baranailt Road, Limavady (Mr E McLaughlin);

B/2014/0023/O – traditional small rural bungalow, 130m south of 37 Peter's Road, Ballyness, Dungiven (Mrs Irwin);

B/2014/0030/O – proposed site for dwelling and garage, 60m NE 76 Ringsend Road, Limavady (Mr I McAllister);

B/2014/0046/O – site for two infill dwellings under policy CTY8 of PPS 21 on lands between 17 & 21 Windyhill Road, Limavady (Mr O McDevitt);

B/2014/0072/F – erection of single storey farm dwelling, 133m NE of 15 Gortarney Road, Limavady (C/o OJQ Architecture);

B/2014/0105/F – retention of 1.8m and 1.2m high fence to side and part of front of dwelling, 51 James Valley, Limavady (Mr and Mrs Lottrie).

NORTHER IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE – ANNUAL HOUSING PLAN:

The Chair welcomed Frank O'Connor, North Regional Manager; Trevor McCartney, Director of Corporate Services; Mark Alexander, Area Manager Causeway Office; Ailbhe Hickey, Specialist Officer New Build and Brendan Doherty, Housing Manager from Northern Ireland Housing Executive to the meeting.

Mr McCartney explained that the District Housing Plan gave a comprehensive account of performance by the Housing Executive (HE) over the past year. He said not only did the plan mirror the HE's Corporate Business Plan, in addition it outlined the key housing market features of each area and current pressures on the housing sector. He added that 2014 marked a turning point for the HE by way of internal restructuring and through hard work carried out to rectify legacy issues which had emerged over recent years.

Mr McCartney referred to the objectives of the HE and how those impacted at a local level as follows:

- The Housing Need Assessment identified a need for 55 additional social units in the Borough
- The HE's projected investment within Limavady District in 2014/15 was £2.8 million. This excluded investment in new builds and the Warm Homes Scheme.
- 175 boiler replacements were completed within Limavady in the past year.
- £294k had been spent delivering the Supporting People programme.
- 270 homeless applications had been received and 127 applicants were assessed as having FDA status (on waiting list for over six months).
- The HE had awarded a joint community grant of £4k to Roe Valley Residents Association and Bovally Community Association to assist in providing training to community leadership and community engagement.

The following points were made:

- ✓ The HE was quick to respond to maintenance requests.
- ✓ Young males were finding it difficult to obtain accommodation.
- ✓ There were no plans to downsize the local HE office, in fact the HE were investigating relocating to different premises in the town.
- ✓ A number of renovation project had to be deferred by a few months pending getting contractors on site.
- ✓ Cavity wall and loft installation would be checked in Bonnanaboigh estate, Burnfoot.
- ✓ If the HE became aware of tenants not living in properties, appropriate action and checks would be carried out.
- ✓ The list of approved boiler replacement agents should be extended to local tradesmen.

The Chair thanked the deputation from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for attending the meeting.

ROADS:

WATER & SEWERAGE: - None.

HOUSING: - None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cutbacks – Transport NI: A member highlighted that cutbacks by Transport NI would mean gullies were cleared less frequently and that grass along roadsides would only be cut once a year. Noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - 16 September 2014

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 8.10 PM.

Chair: _____