

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**19 SEPTEMBER 2006**

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

**PRESENT:**

Aldermen G Mullan, G Robinson and J Rankin. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, L Cubitt, M Coyle, M Donaghy, B Douglas, J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson (chair).

**In Attendance:** Committee Clerk and Director of Environmental Services.

**APOLOGIES** – None.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR:**

It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Coyle that Councillor Stevenson would chair the Environmental Services Committee for the year 2006/07.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of meeting dated 15 August 2006 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Butcher.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Noise Nuisance from use of Quad Bikes, Clooney Road:** Members noted that the owner of a property at Clooney Road had been fined for recent breaches of a Noise Abatement Notice and that the Magistrate had warned that any future appearance in court regarding noise would not be looked upon kindly.

**Waste Management – Recycling:** The Director of Environmental Services agreed to include in the October 2006 Technical Services Report figures in relation to recycling.

**Weisners Lane:** The Director of Environmental Services reported that the rubble on the right hand side of Weisners Lane was not on Council property and that the Works Supervisor would investigate directional signs to the playing fields.

**Alexander Road Play-park:** The Director of Environmental Services explained that to provide a two metre high fence around the play-park would cost between £7,195 - £9,260. Councillor Cubitt suggested that street lighting might deter anti-social behaviour and said that Council should provide bins which could not be burned and a sign indicating 'NO BALL GAMES'. Councillor Douglas suggested that the wider community needed to name and shame individuals who vandalised the park.

**DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS –  
SEPTEMBER 2006:*****Building Control Department:***

The Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged and issued between 9 August 2006 and 11 September 2006; Entertainment, Occasional Licences issued and transferred under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985 and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report was approved on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Butcher subject to the following:

**Street Naming & Property Numbering Policy:** It was agreed under Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy that the developments in the vicinity of McCauslands Plantation be named “Plantation Road, Limavady” and Plantation View, Limavady” respectively.

The application received from Tullyverry Developments Ltd requesting that the development at Dunlade Road, Greysteel be named Dunlade Mews or Dunlade Meadows was discussed at length. It was recommended that the name Dunlade Mews be accepted as this was the preferred choice of the developer.

Councillor Ó hOisín suggested that the name Dunlade Mews was inappropriate for the development and proposed that Council do not accept the recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor Brolly and on being put to the meeting was declared lost, with 6 voting for, 6 against and 2 abstentions, with the chair using his casting vote in favour of the name ‘Dunlade Mews’.

**Oil Spillage Handling:** The Director of Environmental Services requested that Council approve the quote from Alpha for £3,580 for the supply of Oil Spill Kits for Benone Tourist Complex, Dungiven Sports Pavilion, Council Depot and the Foyle Ferry Terminal and for Alpha to train the appropriate staff on use of the kits. The Director of Environmental Services answered a number of queries in relation to the cost and said the kits which would be held on site would allow Council staff to clean up and control oil spillage before the oil caused damage to the surrounding environment. Agreed.

**D.D.A. Awareness Training:** Members deliberated over quotations received for provision of training on DDA Awareness within Council estate. The proposal to approve quotation of £200 from Zenith Learning was put to the meeting and declared carried with 11 voting for, 1 against and 3 abstentions.

**Rainwater System for Council Offices:** The budget quotation of £27,000 to install a rainwater system for Council offices was rejected due the high cost.

**Light Controls for Council Offices:** The budget quotation of £6,500 for installation of PIR sensors in Council offices was approved.

***Environmental Health Department:***

The Director of Environmental Services presented the Environmental Health 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:

**Home Safety Update:** The Director of Environmental Services reported that a review of work undertaken by the Home Safety Officer had been completed and that to date 500 referrals had been received and that these had resulted in over 400 home visits & safety checks being completed. He said that the Home Safety Officer would continue to work closely with voluntary, private, statutory and community sectors to highlight the importance of good home safety practice and remains instrumental in advocating the use of specific home safety equipment where found necessary. He added that referrals from Health Visitors, Social Workers and family support groups remained a key priority.

**Dog Attacks Limavady:** The Director of Environmental Services outlined that on 29 August 2006 a man was bitten by a Weimaraner type dog as he stood at an alley in Drumachose Park and that on 16 August 2006 a lady and her dog were attacked by another dog whilst walking at Blackburn Park. He said both cases had been investigated and recommended that these be referred to Council's solicitor with the view to instigating legal proceedings against the keeper of the dogs for contravention of the Dog (NI) Order 1983. Agreed.

**Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor at Roemill Road:** The Director of Environmental Services informed members that two incidents of consuming alcohol in a designated place had been received from the PSNI. It was agreed that the incidents be referred to Council's solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being taken against the persons identified.

**Failure to Comply with an Article 20 Notice:** The Director of Environmental Services advised members of an incident of littering at Roe Valley Recreation Centre car park and that a notice under Article 20 of the Litter Northern Ireland Order 1994 had been served on the person seeking information on the matter. As the person failed to comply with the notice it was agreed that the matter be referred to Council's solicitor for legal proceedings.

**Noise Statistics for Northern Ireland 2005 – 2006:** The Director of Environmental Services informed members that the commonly accepted definition of noise is “sound which is undesired by the recipient” – in other words, noise can be any sound which is intrusive, disturbing or annoying. He said district councils were empowered to deal with the vast majority of noise pollution and the DOE had provided an analysis of noise complaints received by all 26 district council from April 2005/March 2006 categorised from the following sources.

- industry (2%)
- transport (1%)
- domestic (85%)
- construction, demolition or road works (4%)
- commercial and leisure (6%)
- noise in the street (2%)

Members noted that complaints about noise in the street had increased by 46% on the previous year and that this was attributed to boisterous and anti-social behaviour in public places. It was also noted that significant increases in noise complaints over the last year had been experienced by Moyle and Limavady districts, with Limavady experiencing a 76% increase in complaints received.

**Noise Nuisance from an Industrial Premises:** The Director of Environmental Services reminded members that in May 2004 a complaint had been received regarding noise emanating from an industrial premise within the Borough. He said following investigation the operator of the premises was issued with a Noise

Abatement Notice which he failed to comply with and in March 2006 the case was referred to court where the operator pleaded guilty to breach of the notice and was fined £500 and ordered to pay £85 towards costs. He added that the operator was advised in April 2006 that the terms of the Noise Abatement Notice still applied to his process and that he was legally obliged to resolve the noise problems associated with the business.

Members noted that although the premise owner had taken steps to try to resolve the problem, recent monitoring indicated that a noise nuisance still exists at the complainant's home.

Councillor Brolly pointed out that the premise owner had worked hard to comply with the notice and proposed that the recommendation to refer the matter to Councils solicitor with a view to referring the matter back to court be deferred for 1 month. This was seconded by Councillor Chivers.

A recorded vote was request and on being put to the meeting was declared lost, with 6, namely Councillor Chivers, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Donaghy, Councillor Brolly, Councillor Ó hOisín, Councillor McElhinney voting for and Councillor Douglas, Alderman Rankin, Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Robinson, Alderman Robinson, Alderman Mullan, Councillor Stevenson voting against. Councillor Coyle and Councillor Carten abstained from the vote.

***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 Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Coyle subject to the following:

**Hire of Refuse Collection Vehicles:** The Director of Environmental Services explained that confirmation had been received from A Miller that he would continue to provide refuse collection vehicles at the current rate of £500 per vehicle per week until the summer 2009. Councillor Cubitt requested information on who was responsible for the tyres, the age of the lorries and tax & insurance in the contractual arrangement.

**Tender for Supply & Delivery of 7.5 Tonne Road Sweeper:** It was agreed that the tender for supply and delivery of 7.5 Tonne Road Sweeper submitted by McCreath Taylor for a two year contract hire, with complete maintenance plan at £400 per vehicle per week be approved.

**Old Play Area – Greysteel:** Following complaints to the Mayor regarding the condition of the old play area estimates were sought to fill, level and bitmac surface the area and quotation submitted by Northstone indicated this would cost in the region of £14,000.

Members were of the opinion that the quotation submitted was excessive. It was agreed that the Mayor and any other interested members would meet on site with staff from the Technical Service Department to discuss options for the area.

**Repair to Curragh Road Pitch:** The Director of Environmental Services informed members that damaged areas at the Curragh Road pitch had been re-turfed, the pitch had been slitted & sanded and would be out of play for at least

two weeks commencing 9 September 2006. Councillor Ó hOisín pointed that the work should have been done earlier as a cup game which was to be played in Curragh Road had to be held at another IFA approved pitch.

**Aghanloo Transfer Station:** Members noted that repairs to the precast wall units at the Transfer Station were nearing completion and that prices had been obtained from contractors for repair of the hanger door. Retrospective approval was agreed for repair to the hanger door by MK Engineering in the sum of £1,450 + VAT.

***Queries Outside the Reports:***

**Posters:** At the requests of Councillor Cubitt and Alderman Rankin, the Director of Environmental Services agreed to write to the Department requesting change to the legislation with regard to enforcement for those who erected posters illegally. Councillor Donaghy suggested that the Town Centre Manager and Chamber of trade take this issue on board.

**Largy Pitch:** At the request of Councillor Douglas, the Director of Environmental Services agreed to follow up on the request for re-turf of pitch at Largy.

**NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CUBITT:**

Councillor Cubitt proposed:

“That this Council made provision in the rates estimate for 2007/2008 for the erection of public toilets in Ballykelly.”

In proposing the motion Councillor Cubitt explained that he had been approached by Ballykelly Community Association for toilet provision and that the local shops within the village were fed up with people asking to use their facilities. He said Council had land available for this facility and suggested that Ballykelly lost out on Best Kept Village through lack of toilets. In seconding the proposal, Councillor Douglas said Council needed to be careful on location.

A general discussion took place regarding possible location for the facilities and after debate Councillor Coyle proposed an amendment to the motion that Council look at costings for toilets in Ballykelly before deciding to include these within the estimates. The amendment was put to the meeting and declared carried, with 9 voting for, 3 against and 2 abstentions. The substantive motion was put to the meeting and declared carried, with 9 voting for, 3 against and 2 abstentions.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Meeting with Planning Officers:** The Director of Environmental Services informed members that the meeting to discuss communication with Planning Officer was deferred until after the October office meetings.

**Draft Waste Management Plan – Strategic Environmental Assessment:** The Director of Environmental Services outlined that following on from adoption by Council in June 2006 of the Draft Waste Management Plan 2006/2020, Council was required to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the draft plan. He said consultants had prepared the SEA and that this was available for consultation on the North West Region Cross Border Group website from 19

September – 14 November 2006, alternatively copies of the SEA would be available from Council offices.

**Vice Chair of Causeway Museum Service:** It was agreed Councillor Cubitt would be nominated for Vice Chair of Causeway Museum Service.

**Civic Reception - Welsh Darts Team:** It was agreed that Council would host a civic reception for the Welsh darts team when they were in the province playing the Northern Ireland Team.

**Civic Reception – Senior Citizens from France:** It was agreed that Council would host a civic reception for a group of French Senior Citizens who were visiting the province in October 2006.

**Noise from Quads – Greysteel:** The Mayor raised concerns regarding quad noise emanating from a site in Greysteel. The Director of Environmental Services said this was being investigated.

**NEXT MEETING:** - 17 October 2006.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS**  
**(The meeting ended at 9.40 pm)**

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