

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

19 DECEMBER 2006

Minutes of monthly meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady, which commenced at 8.15 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

In the Chair: Councillor McElhinney

Other Members: Aldermen G Mullan, J Rankin and G Robinson. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, M Coyle, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, C Ó hOisín and A Robinson

IN ATTENDANCE: - Committee Clerk, Director of Environmental Services, Director of Support Services and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor E Stevenson

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING:

The minutes of meeting dated 28 November 2006 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Butcher.

MATTERS ARISING:

Privatisation of Water Service: The Chief Executive explained that the Department of Regional Development has confirmed that privatisation of the water & sewerage services in Northern Ireland had been ruled out for the foreseeable future. He said that that the Water and Sewerage Services (NI) Order 2006 contained provisions requiring the approval of a resolution by the Northern Ireland Assembly to any loss of Government control of Northern Ireland Water Limited.

MINUTES OF ROE VALLEY CHAMBER OF TRADE:

The minutes of Roe Valley Chamber of Trade meeting held 4 September 2006 were tabled and noted subject to the following:

Councillor Butcher challenged that there was a 40% drop in footfall as a result of the bypass and queried where the Chamber of Trade had acquired this figure. It was agreed that the query would be raised at the next Chamber of Trade meeting.

EXTERNAL MINUTES NOTED:

- Western Health & Social Services Board – 28 September 2006
- Altnagelvin Hospitals Health & Social Services Trust – 7 September & 6 October 2006
- Foyle Health & Social Services Trust – 24 November 2006
- Western Group Environmental Health Committee - 27 October 2006

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY NEWRY & MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL:

It was agreed that the following resolution submitted by Newry & Mourne District Council would be noted:

“That Newry and Mourne District Council reaffirm its support for the Campaign to legalise the Undocumented Irish in the USA which is spearheaded by the ILIR (The Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform) and that they write to incoming Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi asking her to encourage Democrats to work with President George Bush to resurrect his proposed overhaul of the USA immigration laws. A letter of encouragement should be sent to all USA Senators and Newry and Mourne District Council should ask all Councils throughout the island of Ireland to also send letters to these elected representatives, highlighting their desire to see the Undocumented Irish issue resolved.”

CONSULTATIONS:

It was agreed that the Corporate Policy Officer would draft a response on members behalf to the following consultation documents for submission by the agreed deadline:

- DHSSPS – Regional Cancer Framework – a Cancer Control Programme for Northern Ireland (response due 9 February 2007)
- DARD – Draft Order in Council: The Foyle and Carlingford Fisheries (NI) Order 2007 (response due 15 January 2007)
- Office of the First & Deputy First Minister – A Play Policy for Northern Ireland (response due 31 January 2007)
- Water Reform Unit – Draft Instrument of Appointment of Northern Ireland Water Limited (response due 9 February 2007).

It was agreed that the new Commissioner for Children, Ms Patricia Lewsley would be invited to attend a meeting of Council.

COURSES & CONFERENCES:

NILGA Annual Conference & Exhibition: It was agreed that Councillor Cubitt and Councillor Chivers would attend the NILGA Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held 15 & 16 February 2007 in Armagh City Hotel at a cost of £170+VAT per delegate.

EVALUATION OF TENDERS RECEIVED FOR THE PROVISION OF SEASONAL WORKERS 2007:

It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Butcher that Council would accept the tender submitted from Grafton Recruitment for provision of seasonal workers in 2007.

Councillor Cubitt and Councillor Butcher left the meeting at 8.40 pm and took no part in the at 8.40 pm.

DISCUSSION ON CONFIDENTIAL HR REPORT – CIRCULATED AT SUPPORT SERVICES MEETING 5 DECEMBER 2006:

Councillor Cubitt left the chamber and took no part in the discussion.

IN COMMITTEE: Following legal advice, the Chief Executive advised caution on discussing the confidential HR Report conducted on behalf of Council by Alistair Joynes. It was noted that although the report would not be discussed, Council needed to be mindful of incurring further costs. **OUT OF COMMITTEE.**

Councillor Cubitt returned to the chamber at 8.45 pm.

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS: - None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Northern Tourism Conference: It was agreed that Councillor Carten would attend the Northern Tourism Conference to be held 2 & 3 February 2007 in Dunadry Hotel & Country Club at cost of £170.

Queries Regarding Content of Minutes: Following concerns raised by members, the Chief Executive proposed that the chairs of Councils standing committees meet to agree an appropriate style for Council minutes. He reminded members that it had been agreed that from March 2006 that the format of minutes move from being a traditional style to a factual style whereby the main points of discussions were recorded and any decision or action arising. He suggested that Council look at advice or guidance on how to conduct local authority meetings with the view to acquiring a consensus by members on an appropriate minute style Agreed.

FORMAL CORRESPONDANCE:

- The Consumer Council for Northern Ireland – Complaints Report 2005-06 and Annual Report 2005-06
- Northern Ireland Local Government Officers Superannuation Committee – Annual Report & Accounts 2005/06
- Royal Society for Ulster Architects – Yearbook and Directory 2006
- Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency – Registrar General Northern Ireland Annual Report 2005
- Northern Ireland Electricity Energy Efficiency Programme – Annual Report 2005/06

NEXT MEETING:

23 January 2007

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS

(The meeting ended at 9.05 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting