

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

20 MARCH 2007

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

PRESENT:

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, A Robinson and E Stevenson (chair).

IN ATTENDANCE:

Personal Assistant, Building Control Manager and Technical Services Manager.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor J F McElhinney and Director of Environmental Services.

SMOKING (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2007:

The chair introduced Mr Ciaran Doran, Environmental Health Officer who attended the meeting to outline the requirements of the above Order which comes into effect on 30 April 2007 and would be enforced throughout the Borough by Council's Environmental Health Department.

On being questioned by members, Mr Doran advised that the purpose of the legislation was not to discriminate against smokers, but to protect employees/members of the public from second hand smoke and added that details of the Smokers Helpline had been supplied for the benefit of those staff trying to give up smoking. Members also noted that in the case of community association buildings, while Council was responsible for the erection of 'No Smoking' signs, it was up to the respective community groups to ensure that the building remained smoke free. Mr Doran added that an awareness campaign with business premises had commenced after the legislation had been made in mid February and that any penalties levied would be retained by Council. Members thanked Mr Doran for his presentation after which he left the meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 20 February 2007 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Alderman Rankin.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – MARCH 2007:

Building Control Department:

The Building Control Manager presented the Building Control report which detailed information on building control applications approved/acknowledged/

issued, dangerous structures, entertainment licences issued, street naming and property numbering and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt subject to the following:

Use of Prison Labour: The use of prisoners from Magilligan Prison to carry out painting works on various Council buildings was discussed and members were assured that the prisoners to be used were approaching the end of their term and did not present a danger to members of the public. This was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Cubitt, subject to officers ensuring that they were adequately supervised by prison officials. A suggestion was also made by Councillor Ó hOisín that prison labour could also be used for litter picking and maintenance works at Dungiven Castle.

Environmental Health Department:

The Building Control Manager presented the Environmental Health Report and enlarged thereon. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Brolly subject to the following:

Betting and Gaming Law: Members noted that Council was in receipt of a consultation document regarding proposals to relax some of the controls on gaming. A number of members expressed their objection to the proposed changes with respect to gaming on a Sunday and requested that this be incorporated into Council's response to DSD by the deadline of 26 March 2007.

Bye-laws prohibiting the consumption of intoxicating liquor in designated places: In agreeing the resolution to adopt the draft bye-laws in Greysteel and Feeny and to authorise the Chief Executive to carry out the necessary procedures and apply to the DSD for confirmation of these bye-laws, Councillor Ó hOisín suggested that, following a number of new housing developments in Dungiven, further areas be considered for designation.

Renewal of Street Trading Licences: Agreed that Street Trading licences in respect of Mr Paul Deighan for the sale of flowers, plants and potatoes and Mr Brendan McDonald in respect of the sale of hot food be renewed. Criteria for the granting of street trading licenses to be supplied to Councillor Cubitt.

Technical Services Department:

The Technical Services Manager presented the Technical Services Report and enlarged thereon. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Carten subject to the following:

Tender for Tree Surgery Work at Dungiven Castle: The Technical Services Manager reported that a survey commissioned by the Planning Service had recommended tree surgery work to a number of trees at Dungiven Castle, 17 of which were protected by a Tree Preservation Order. He added that work would be carried out to trees which were on Council property. Concern was expressed that tenders were being sought on the basis of a survey which was not carried out on Council's behalf therefore it was agreed that the result of the survey be supplied to members before any tender was accepted.

Council Offices Smoking Shelter: Several members expressed concern that a planning application had been submitted and a shelter ordered without prior approval by Council. The Technical Services Manager stated that the estimated cost of the shelter was under £1,000 and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Councillor Coyle to proceed as planned. The proposal on being put to the meeting was declared carried, 8 voting for, 2 against and 4 abstentions.

Loop System – Council Offices & Roe Valley Leisure Centre: Councillor Coyle expressed concern at the proposed management and use of the portable loops in other Council buildings such as Dungiven Sports Pavilion.

Expiry of Tenure at Council’s Nursery Facility, 9 Connell Street, Limavady: A suggestion was made by Councillor Ó hOisín that the expiry of the above lease with DFP in October 2007 could provide a timely opportunity for Council to review its bedding schedule.

Enagh Cemetery: Alderman Robinson reported that he had received complaints about overgrown trees in the cemetery boundary with Thorndale and requested that they be trimmed.

Scroggy Road Playing Fields: Alderman Robinson requested that the fence between the playing fields and Drumachose Mews be repaired.

Trees at Drenagh: Councillor Cubitt referred to the fact that trees at the Drenagh estate had fallen during the storms at the weekend causing delays on the Broad Road and requested that a letter be sent to Roads Service to take necessary action.

COURSES/CONFERENCE:

All Ireland Environmental Health Conference: It was agreed on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Carten, that one officer would attend the above conferences on 24/25 May 2007 in the Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, Co Down at a fee of £455.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Review of Operations at Benone Beach: Councillor Cubitt advised that he had been contacted by the press regarding discussions at the Development Services Committee meeting on 13 March 2007 regarding operations at Benone Beach which, despite being held In Committee, had been leaked to the press and stated that such behaviour had set a precedent of disregard of ‘In Committee’ discussions to other members.

Causeway Coast & Glens Tourism Masterplan Forum: It was agreed that attendance by members at the NITB event on 28 March 2007 in the Clarion Hotel, Carrickfergus be considered an approved duty.

NEXT MEETING: - 17 April 2007.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.45 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting