

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

20 JUNE 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, B Chivers, M Coyle, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

In Attendance: Committee Clerk, Director of Environmental Services and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor M Carten.

ELECTION OF CHAIR:

The Mayor took the chair and sought nominations for the position of chair for the Environmental Services Committee for the year 2006/07. He reminded members that the DUP had the next choice under the d'Hondt listing.

Councillor Cubitt voiced opposition to the use of the d'Hondt system and said at the 2006 AGM nationalists had told the unionist block to sort this out between themselves. He then proposed that the DUP replace the UUP as Mayor in 2007/08 and that only the unionists block could vote on the proposal. This was seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Councillor Brolly queried if the UUP were relinquishing their position and Councillor Coyle advised Councillor Cubitt to get his thinking straight.

The Chief Executive explained that nominations would only be made for vacant seats and that the position of Mayor in 2007/08 had already been accepted by another party.

The Mayor asked DUP members if they were willing to chair the Environmental Services Committee but this was declined. He then sought nominations from the next party on the d'Hondt list but Councillor Stevenson, (UUP) said his party had not come prepared to nominate and urged the DUP to accept the position of chair.

Councillor Coyle proposed that the Mayor remain in the chair but suggested that the confusing situation regarding vacant seats could not continue and that if the unionist block kept refusing to nominate, nationalists would be quite happy to accept these positions. Councillor Brolly seconded the proposal and it was agreed that nominations would be raised at the June Monthly meeting.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 16 May 2006 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

MATTERS ARISING:

Re-Location of Council Depot and Civic Amenity Site: The Director of Environmental Services updated members regarding acquiring land for re-location of Council Depot and Civic Amenity Site. Councillor Cubitt suggested that Council provide a skip to dispose of waste in Greysteel.

Councillor Douglas joined the meeting at 7.40 pm.

Compositing Week: The Director of Environmental Services explained that due to high demand, Council had run out of the free compost for the public during Compositing Week.

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

The Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged and issued between 10 May and 12 June 2006; Entertainment Licences issued under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985 and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report was approved subject to the following:

Bi-Lingual Street Nameplates: It was agreed under Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy that a bilingual street name be erected as follows:

Knock Cullen (CNOC AN CHUILINN)
Station Avenue (ASCAILL AN STÁISIÚIN)
Ashfield Road (Bóthar (Br) Pháirc nab bh Fuinseoga) and
Tullyverry Drive (Cabhsa Thulaigh an Bhearaigh).

It was agreed that the application to erect bilingual street nameplates at Foyle Avenue, Greysteel would be rejected.

The Director of Environmental Services agreed to provide updated costs on provision of bilingual nameplates and to investigate what it had cost other Councils to provide townland nameplates.

Dungiven Sports Centre: Retrospective approval was agreed for quotation of £3,100 from Imac for the painting of Dungiven Sports/Community Centre

Vending Area at Roe Valley Leisure Centre: Retrospective approval was agreed for the appointment of Commercial & Industrial Flooring to lay a non-slip vinyl floor at the vending area of Roe Valley Leisure Centre for the sum of £3,146.

Asbestos Management: It was agreed that the quotation submitted by White Young and Green for the control of asbestos within the council building would be accepted in the sum of £5,150.

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 Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Robinson subject to the following:

Food Complaint – Alleged Foreign Matter in Cola Drink: It was agreed that details of alleged foreign matter being found in a cola drink would be forwarded to Councils solicitor for an opinion on whether or not the company should be prosecuted. It was also agreed that if the solicitor advised that legal proceedings should be initiated against the company, that Council would support this decision.

The Eat Safe Award: The Director of Environmental Services outlined that the first three premises in Limavady Borough Council area had been awarded the Eat Safe Award and that representatives from LCDI canteen, Radisson SAS Roe Park Hotel and Yankees.Com Café had been presented with their award by the Mayor in the presence of representatives from the Foods Standards Agency Northern Ireland and Councils' Environment Health Department on Friday 9 June 2006.

Smoke Free Premises Certificate: The Director of Environmental Services informed members that legislation would be introduced in April 2007 to prohibit smoking in workplaces and enclosed public spaces. He said the Department wished to encourage businesses in the Borough to support smoking restrictions prior to the smoking prohibition legislation and that in order to do this the Environmental Health Department were awarding eligible premises a Smoke-Free Certificate. He explained that the Smoke Free Certificate would recognise employers who had a written smoking policy, had implemented a no smoking workplace, had adequate signage, did not sell tobacco products and had a procedure to deal with persons found smoking on the premises.

The Director of Environmental Services stated that the first premises to receive the award were the Classic Bakery and Coffee House; Chats Coffee House, Art of Damage, The Spinning Wheel and Yankee.Com Café. He said these premises had set a high standard and throughout the next few months Council would continue to recognise premises for their voluntary provision of a smoke free environment for staff and members of the public by awarding them with a Smoke-Free Certificate.

Dogs (NI) Order 1983: The Director of Environmental Services detailed statistics on the number of stray dogs impounded and unwanted dogs kennelled. Councillor Donaghy suggested that the number of dogs who were humanely destroyed each month should be highlighted in Councils newsletter.

Fixed Penalties Issued and Unpaid: The Director of Environmental Services informed members that the contents of bags deposited in a laneway adjacent to Tully Road, Limavady were examined and written materials containing a name and address were found. He said a notice had been forwarded to the person identified under Article 20 of the Litter (NI) Order 1994 for illegal dumping and that although the person admitted they were responsible for disposal of the waste, the fixed penalty served requiring paying by 30 May 2006 had not been paid.

It was agreed that the matter be referred to Council's solicitor with the view to instigating legal proceedings for contravention of the Litter (NI) Order 1994.

Benone Beach: The Director of Environmental Services explained that between 1 May and 30 September any person in charge of a dog (other than a registered blind or deaf person) who permitted that dog to enter or remain on the section of the beach between the concrete access ramp and the first wooden walkway would be guilty of an offence under Council Byelaws for Seashores, Esplanades and Promenades. He said the Beach Wardens were employed on the area of the beach designated as Blue Flag between 11 am and 7 pm during July and August and that seasonal agency staff who were primarily the principal contact and source of information for the public would be present to ensure beach visits were a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Members referred to complaints received regarding littering, dog foul and cars parked on the beach and queried if the PSNI policed the area. The Director of Environmental Services confirmed that the presence of the PSNI might be a deterrent for those who drove irresponsibly and that if the wardens observed any member of the public dropping litter or allowing their dog to foul, they would approach that person and request that they remove the litter to a receptacle provided. The Director of Environmental Services agreed to investigate costs for provision of additional dog foul bins.

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 Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Coyle subject to the following:

Bus Shelters: The Director of Environmental Services explained that at members' request, additional surveys had been carried out on bus shelter use at Legavallon-Gelvin Road Junction, Sheskin Road and at Fincairn. It was agreed that the request to remove the shelter at Sheskin Road would be refused and that the Director of Environmental Services would bring forward a draft policy on provision of bus shelters for members' consideration.

7.5 Tonne Road Sweeper: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Douglas, seconded by Alderman Robinson that the Technical Services Manager test the market to buy, lease or to continue with the current hire arrangement of a 7.5 Tonne Road Sweeper.

City Industrial Waste: The Director of Environmental Services explained that after discussion, City Industrial Waste had agreed to revert back to the original cost of £38.00 per tonne for treatment of civic amenity waste. He said the charge was similar to what City Industrial Waste had agreed with Derry City Council but a more formal contractual arrangement would be drawn up in the foreseeable future. Welcomed.

North West Waste Management Plan: The chair welcomed Eamon Molloy, Development Officer, North West Region Cross Border Group.

Mr Molloy provided an overview of objectives of the North West Waste Management Plan. He outlined Northern Ireland Policy and Legislative Content regarding waste disposal; recycling & recovery targets and BPEO (Best Practical Environmental Option) requirements for municipal waste up to 2020. He also outlined the various options in relation to disposal of commercial & industrial

waste; packaging wastes, hazardous wastes; construction/demolition & excavation wastes and agricultural wastes.

Mr Molloy answered members' queries in relation to meeting targets and why mass burn incineration had not been considered.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Alderman Rankin that the Final Draft of the North West Regional Waste Management Plan would be submitted to the Department by 30 June 2006 for Determination as to compliance and thereafter for adoption by Council.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Congratulations: It was agreed that a letter of congratulations would be forward to Aedan McCotter on winning the Causeway Coast Amateur Golf Tournament and to Catherine Peoples on winning the Country Derry Rose Competition.

Gaeltacht Scholarships: It was agreed that 50% scholarship should be awarded to four students from St Patrick's College and St Patrick's High School, Dungiven to enable them to attend the Gaeltacht Courses during the summer at a total cost of £605.

Green Lane Museum Lease: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brolly, seconded by Councillor Cubitt that Council's solicitors complete the legal process for a 25 year lease to the Environment and Heritage Service for premises at Green Lane Museum in Roe Valley Country Park.

Peace III Consultation: The Director of Environmental Services tabled response to the proposed Peace III Consultation and suggested that if any members wished to make changes to advise the Development Officer by 3 pm on Friday 23 June 2006. It was agreed that the document be submitted as a joint response from Limavady Borough Council and Limavady Area Partnership.

NEXT MEETING: - 15 August 2006.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 9.30 pm)

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting