

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
21 AUGUST 2007

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.00 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 (chair), J F McElhinney, C Ó hOisín, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Building Control Manager, Environmental Health Manager, Technical Service Manager and Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - None

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 19 June 2007 were approved and signed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Carten subject to it being agreed that the last paragraph on page 5 would be deleted.

MATTERS ARISING:

Page 3 – Dernaflaw Play Area: It was suggested that the grass at Dernaflaw kickabout pitch be cut.

Page 4 – Greysteel Glen: The Technical Service Manager agreed to investigate costs for filling in Greysteel Glen.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – AUGUST 2007:

Building Control Department:

The Building Control Manager presented the Building Control report which detailed applications approved, acknowledged & issued, Entertainment Licences issued and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report, which was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Cubitt, subject to the following:

Dangerous Structures 6 – 8 Main Street, Limavady: The Building Control Manager reported that following the appearance of major cracks and on the advice of a Structural Engineer, a Dangerous Structure Notice had been issued to the owner of the above property under section 30 of Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907. He said both EHS and Planning Service had been informed of the notice and the owner had acted immediately to comply with the order by demolishing the building.

The Building Control Manager was congratulated on his quick response to the situation.

Application for Renewal of Entertainment Licence: The Building Control Manager outlined that the PSNI had raised a number of objections in relation to two applications for extension of Entertainment Licence to 2 am, 7 days a week. He recommended that the Entertainment Licence be granted for entertainment to take place during approved liquor licensing hours only.

Councillor Ó hOisín proposed, seconded by Councillor Donaghy that the decision be adjourned until Council had additional information regarding alleged incidents at the named premises.

The proposal was put to the meeting and declared lost, with 5 voting for and 9 against.

Street Naming & Property Numbering Policy: It was agreed that the housing development to the rear of 4 Protestant Street, Limavady would be named Annadale Court.

UEFA Mini Pitch at Dungiven Sports Centre: Members noted that the multi activity mini pitch at Dungiven Sports Centre had been completed but was not to an acceptable standard and that talks were ongoing with Playdale, the installation company to rectify the situation.

Councillor Brolly entered the chamber at 7.30 pm.

Environmental Health Department:

The Environmental Health Manager presented the Environmental Health Report and enlarged thereon. The report and recommendations within were adopted on the proposal of Alderman Rankin, seconded by Councillor Brolly subject to the following:

Health & Safety at Work (NI) Order 1978 – Prohibition Notices: The Environmental Health Manager informed members that following routine health and safety inspections a prohibition notice had been issued to the owner of motor vehicle business on 29 June 2007 prohibiting the use of a trolley jack due to risk of serious personal injury. She said on 27 July 2007 a prohibition notice had also been served on the owner of public bar in Dungiven prohibiting the use of a mezzanine floor and stairs due to lack of rails/guards which were likely to cause serious personal injury.

Members noted that in the first case, the owner of the motor vehicle business took the trolley jack out of service and purchased a new jack.

Employment of Tobacco Control Officer: Members were informed that the Smoke Free Environment Officer would finish working in Limavady on October 2007 and that the Chief Environmental Health Officers Group had organised for the employment of Tobacco Control Officers throughout Northern Ireland to assist Councils in enforcing the Smoking (NI) 2006 legislation, funded through the department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety. Noted.

New Bye-Laws Prohibiting the Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in a Designated Place: The Environmental Health Manager tabled amended bye-laws regarding the Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Designated Places for approval by Council. It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín that the bye-laws would be further amended to include Priory Road, Dungiven before being sealed by Council.

Fixed Penalties: The Environmental Health Manager informed members of fixed penalties issued and fines imposed by Limavady Magistrates Court in relation to stray dog and for keeping unlicensed dogs. She also detailed fixed penalties issues which remained unpaid for keeping unlicensed dogs and recommended that these be referred to Council's solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being taken against the keeper for contravention of the Dogs (NI) Order 1983. Agreed.

A query arose if it was necessary to name individuals in the report if they had paid fixed penalties. Members were reassured that no names would be included in the minutes.

Warm Homes Scheme: The Environmental Health Manager tabled Local Authority Report on Warm Homes by EAGA Partnership which detailed installation measures fitted, heating measures completed and total cost of measures for the 26 Councils of Northern Ireland. Due to the low take up within the Borough, it was suggested that the Warm Homes scheme be promoted through Council website and the newsletter.

Technical Services Department:

The Technical Service Manager 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:

General Requests for Service – April 07 – March 2008: The Technical Service Manager agreed to update members at the September 2007 Environmental Services meeting on reports of fallen animals and location of bonfires.

Drumaduff Civic Amenity Site: The Chief Executive gave an account of events leading to the suspension of operations at Drumaduff Civic Amenity Site and the principal reasons for this. The Technical Service Manager reported on discussion with EHS prior to the suspension.

It was agreed that a workshop would be held on Monday 3rd September 2007 at 7 pm to discuss the situation. It was also agreed that Donal Doyle, RPS would attend and address the way forward for Civic Amenity sites in the Borough. It was also agreed that Council would be informed at the workshop what additional land was needed for locating the proposed civic amenity site for Dungiven at Hass Road.

Capital Works Grant: The Technical Service Manager outlined that EHS had informed Council that the capital grant total of £418,117 would not be rolled forward and must be spent by April 2008. Members considered the various options on how the grant would be spent and it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Coyle, seconded by Councillor Brolly that brown bins would be purchased at an estimated cost of £145,000.

Quotation for Repair/Replacement of Railing at the War Memorial: The Technical Service Manager informed members that quotations had been sought for repair/replacement of railings at the war memorial and recommended that Council accept quotation for repair from St John's Foundry in the sum of £3,190.00 + VAT. Councillor Butcher proposed, seconded by Councillor Ó hOisín that the quotation be accepted subject to confirmation if Council owned the site.

Toilet Block at Ballykelly: Members queried if Council had actually agreed to locate a toilets beside Tommy's Chipshop in Ballykelly. It was agreed that the matter would be brought back to the next Environmental Services meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

R4 – Tyres: Members were advised that the NWWMG & SWAMP had arranged an extension of the existing contract for recycling of tyres with R4 until May 2009. Welcomed.

WEEE: Members were advised that further to item in the June 2007 Technical Service Report regarding the implementation of producers responsibility for WEEE from 1 July 2007, the three waste management groups had arranged and recommended provision of this service for Councils throughout Northern Ireland through a competitive exercise with E.R.P. and their local provider GEODIS. Agreed.

Civic Reception: It was agreed that a Civic Reception would be held for Limavady Cricket Club who had win the North West Senior Cup.

Members Mobile Phones: Members voiced disappointment regarding their phone contract with Orange and call costs. It was noted that although new phones had been ordered, other service providers should be explored to ensure members availed of Bluetooth.

Provision of Bins: The Technical Service Manager agreed to investigate if larger bins could be supplied to Church Halls.

Inquiry into the Northern Ireland Prison Service: The Mayor proposed, the Councillor Cubitt seconded that Council actively support the findings of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee regarding retention of prison facilities at Magilligan. The proposal was put to the meeting and declared carried, with 7 voting for, 7 against and 1 abstention, with the chair using his casting vote in favour of the proposal.

NEXT MEETING – 18 September 2007.

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

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting