

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

23 MAY 2006

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

In the Chair: Councillor Coyle

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

In Attendance: Committee Clerk and the Director of Support Services.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor McElhinney and the Chief Executive.

ROADS SERVICE:

The welcomed Mr J Beattie, Divisional Roads Manager and Mr Roy Johnston, Section Engineer, Roads Service to the meeting.

Mr Beattie said he was pleased to report that Roads Service had delivered a good programme of schemes in 2005/06 and that a similar programme was proposed for 2006/2007. He explained that Roads Service would continue to give high priority to the maintenance of the existing network, however, there was less funding available than in previous years, which would mean less resurfacing in 2006/07.

Mr Beattie presented the progress report on the current year's capital and maintenance programmes and answered various questions put to him by members and the comments were noted as follows:

1. NETWORK MAINTENANCE:

Resurfacing Completed: Members welcomed that 6.2 km of resurfacing had been completed in 2005/06 at the Broad Road – Caheery and A2 Aghanloo Road - Ballycarton & Ballycastle.

Proposed Resurfacing: Members noted that depending on finance, it was proposed that the A6 Foreglen, Road, B68 Ballyquin Road and B201 would be resurfaced during 2006/07.

2. STRATEGIC ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:

North Western Corridor - A6 Castledawson to Londonderry Route: Mr Beattie reported that Roads Service had commissioned civil engineering consultants to assist with detail planning improvements of the proposed A6 Castledawson to Londonderry duelling.

A37 Corridor – Gortcorbies: Councillor Stevenson said it was disappointing that the proposed Gortcorbies climbing lane had been deferred because of land

acquisition difficulties and reduced funding levels in the current 2006/07 fiscal year.

3. NETWORK DEVELOPMENT:

Completed Minor Works Schemes: Members welcomed completed minor works schemes at Ballyquin Road/Drumaduff Road, Dernaflaw, Seacoast Road, New Line Road, Glenshane/Birren Road, Greystone Road, Windyhill Road and Dowland Road. At the request of Councillor Douglas, Mr Beattie agreed to follow up on Roads Service agreement to provide kerbs to stop vehicles turning into a property at Ballyquin Road.

Proposed Traffic Schemes 2006/07: Mr Beattie outlined proposed traffic schemes for 2006/07, which included Edenmore Road, Main Street/Ballyclose Street Loop Road and Dowland Road and members' comments were noted as follows:

- Alderman Robinson suggested that Roads Service consult with local traders regarding the four proposals for the bus station loop road.
- Councillor Cubitt suggested a by-pass be provided from Edenmore Road to Ballyquin Road.
- Alderman Mullan suggested that Roads Service attach a high level of importance to the newly established forum on road safety following the recent accidents at Edenmore Road. He also suggested that Roads Service provide a pedestrian crossing at Dowland Road due to intensification of traffic, however Mr Beattie confirmed that the road in question did not meet the minimum criteria.
- Alderman Rankin said there was a need for a bus lay by at Edenmore Road.

Street Lighting Upgrades/New Provisions: Mr Beattie informed members of completed street lighting schemes at The Glens (phase 2 & 3), Coolestan Walk, Josephine Avenue, Shanreagh Park, Anderson Park, Beech Road, Edenmore Park, Glenside Brae and Glengiven Avenue. At the request of Alderman Robinson, Mr Beattie agreed to include Hospital Lane in proposed street lighting schemes for 2006/07.

Additional Issues: The following additional issues not covered within the Roads Service Report were raised by members:

- Councillor Stevenson indicated that additional parking was needed at Drumavally;
- Councillor Cubitt queried disruption in traffic at Dunloy Crossroads and asked why the Toome by-pass had been closed during the North West motorbike event. Mr Beattie explained that where possible, Roads Service tried to minimise disturbance in traffic sensitive routes;
- Councillor Carten indicated that rural roads were being neglected;
- Councillor Chivers suggested that double lines be provided alongside Gelvin School. She also queried if Terrydremond Road would be widened;
- Councillor Brolly suggested that additional parking was needed at the Glens estate due to vandalism and vehicles having to be parked a distance from the houses;

- Alderman Mullan presented 2 petitions to Mr Beattie and requested that he respond to these personally. He also made reference to the problem of fallen leaves on Scotchtown Road. Mr Beattie clarified that this was the remit of Council under the Dangerous Litter Order.
- Councillor Butcher suggested that Roads Service meet with the residents along Rossair Road to agree a way forward on provision of a link road. Mr Beattie agreed to follow up this suggestion and the query Councillor Butcher had regarding ongoing problems at Tircreven Road.
- Councillor Robinson pointed out that Rathmore Road junction was prone to road traffic accidents. Mr Beattie explained that Roads Service consulted with the PSNI on why accidents occurred but had no plans for improvements at this junction.
- Councillor Ó hOisín said that due to poor air quality and amount of vehicles passing through Dungiven, the by-pass was needed as a matter of urgency. Mr Beattie explained that although a feasibility study for duelling between Castledawson and Derry would be completed by the end of June 2006, in reality the by-pass at Dungiven would take up to two years before getting it started.
- Councillor Cubitt queried if Roads Service were responsible for landscaping roundabouts on the by-pass. Mr Beattie suggested that Council investigate the possibility of sponsorship for flowerbeds.

SUB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (SRTP):

The chair welcomed Mr Stephen Wood, Project Manager and Mr Jim Campbell, Roads Service Northern Division.

Mr Wood explained that the purpose of the SRTP was to identify separate packages of measures for the period 2002-2015 by mode of transport for walking, cycling, public transport, highways and traffic management. He said that the SRTP was given a very direct steer, in terms of how much was to be spent on what as set out within the Regional Transportation Strategy and this remained a powerful document in guiding Roads Service financial direction.

Mr Wood provided an overview of the SRTP and said this was a Northern Ireland wide policy, which included proposals for Limavady Town and for rural settlements and open countryside.

Mr Campbell outlined the proposed blueprint for walking, cycling and highway measures for the Limavady area. He also informed members of proposed parking strategies and public transport improvements for the town, as well as proposals to identify a range of improvement measures for the rural areas.

The chair thanked Mr Wood and Mr Campbell for the comprehensive presentation. It was agreed that the Corporate Policy Officer would draft a response to the SRTP before the consultation deadline of 23 June 2006.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING:

The minutes of meeting dated 25 April 2006 were approved and signed on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Brolly.

MATTERS ARISING:

Council Newsletter: The Director of Support Services reported that the first Council Newsletter would be delivered to each household in the Borough when the grey bins were being collected in the week commencing 30 May 2006.

Risk Management Update: Members noted that Senior Officers had attended a Risk Management Workshop.

Roe Valley Chamber of Trade Meetings: The Director of Support Services explained that the Chamber of Trade had extended an invitation to all elected members to attend their quarterly meetings. It was agreed that members would be notified of dates agreed for the meetings.

Domiciliary Care – Travel Expenses: The Director of Support Services informed members that the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety had yet to respond to letter from Council regarding funding to Foyle Trust to provide business rate travel for Domiciliary Care Workers.

MINUTES FROM EXTERNAL BODIES:

The following minutes were tabled and noted.

- Report of Western Group Environmental Health Committee – 21 March 2006
- Foyle Health & Social Services Trust – 28 April 2006

CONSULTATIONS:

The Director of Support Services tabled the following consultations documents and it was agreed that those members who wished to respond would contact the Corporate Policy Officer two weeks before the consultation deadline.

- a) Western Education & Library Board – Draft Corporate Plan for 2006 (response due 1 June 2006)
- b) The Draft Housing (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 and explanatory Memorandum (response due 21 July 2006)
- c) DVLA – Consultation on Fee Proposals (response due 21 July 2006)

COURSES/CONFERENCES: - none

SEAL LEGAL DOCUMENTS: - none

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Multi Culture Civic Centre: Councillor Cubitt said that the Audit Committee had been informed that the application for £750K to ILAX for the Multi Culture Civic Centre had been refused due to financial risk and sustainability. He suggested that Council re-appraise the project as this would put an added burden on the ratepayer. Alderman Robinson agreed and said the announcement by ILAX was disturbing news and that Council should think carefully before making

any further commitment to the project. The Director of Support Services reminded members that Council had already made a committed by applying for loan sanction approval and for planning permission. Councillor Coyle said he would prefer that this was dealt with through the Town Hall Steering Group. Comments noted.

FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- Rates Relief's for Business in Northern Ireland
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive - Housing Research Bulletin
- The Work of the House of Lords 2004/05
- Policy Review Magazine – April 2006
- A Sustainable Development Report from the Aggregates and Quarry Products Industry
- Quarry Products Association – Annual Report 2005
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – Strategic Plan 2006-2011

TABLED DOCUMENTS:

The following dairy appointments were tabled for information:

- Northern Ireland Housing Executive to present Annual Report at a Special Planning & Services meeting to be held 30 May 2006;
- AGM to be held 5 June 2006;
- Rivers Agency and Mary McIntyre to present to Council at June Planning & Services Committee and
- District Policing Partnership Manager to present the DPP Report at the June Monthly meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

27 June 2006

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 10.15 pm)