

LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23 MAY 2011

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

PRESENT:

Aldermen M Coyle, J Rankin and G Robinson, Councillors O Beattie A Brolly, M Carten, B Chivers, B Douglas, T McCaul, J McCorkell, S McGlinchey, C McLaughlin, G Mullan, D Nicholl, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Administration Officer, Director of Development, Director Environmental Services, Head of Human Resources, Head of Finance and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - None.

PARTY NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS 2011 – 2015:

The Chief Executive reminded members that Council had adopted the d'Hondt methodology as used within the Northern Ireland Assembly in 2009 for allocation of Council positions up to 2011. He said in accordance with this methodology, following the local government elections held on 5 May 2011, a list had been compiled for the 24 places to be filled at the AGM.

<i>Seat</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Seat</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Seat</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Seat</i>	<i>Party</i>
1.	SF	7.	DUP	13.	TUV	19.	SDLP
2.	DUP	8.	SF	14.	SDLP	20.	SF
3.	SF	9.	SDLP	15.	UUP	21.	UUP
4.	SDLP	10.	SF	16.	SF	22.	DUP
5.	SF	11.	DUP	17.	DUP	23.	SF
6.	UUP	12.	SF	18.	SF	24.	SDLP

Alderman Robinson clarified, that although the d'Hondt methodology was utilised by the Assembly, the First and Deputy First Minister were not elected by that system. Councillor Douglas requested that his opposition to the use of d'Hondt be noted.

Following discussion on the use of d'Hondt, it was agreed that the following parties would be assigned to the office of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and chairmanship of Council's standing committees for the 4 year term 2011 – 2015.

Position	Year 1 2011/12	Year 2 2012/13	Year 3 2013/14	Year 4 2014/15
Mayor	SF (1)	SF (3)	SDLP (4)	DUP (2)
Deputy Mayor	SDLP (24)	DUP (7)	DUP (11)	UUP (6)
Chair of Planning & Services	SF (5)	SF (10)	SF (8)	TUV (13)
Chair of Development Services	SDLP (9)	SF (12)	SF (18)	UUP (15)
Chair of Support Services	SF (16)	DUP (22)	DUP (17)	SDLP (19)
Chair of Environmental Services	SF (20)	SDLP (14)	SF (23)	UUP (21)

OUTGOING MAYORS REMARKS:

Councillor Carten took the opportunity to reflect on his 12 months in office and said it had been a great privilege to be elected as Mayor and to represent the people of the Borough over the past year. He indicated that it was a very emotional evening for him as he approached the end of his term as Mayor and indeed as a Councillor, having served on Limavady Borough Council for 14 years since being elected in May 1997. He congratulated his replacement, Councillor Orla Beattie on being elected to Council and all the other Councillors in the chamber on being elected or re-elected for a further term.

Councillor Carten stated that Limavady Borough Council was entering a new era with 6 new members and despite being a body of differing views, members should have one aim 'the betterment of all those living in the area' and that he hoped that elected members would seek a common ground and air their differences gracefully.

Councillor Carten indicated that he had hosted various Mayoral receptions and welcomed visitors from home, across the UK and Europe. He had attended numerous events throughout the Borough and had the honour of presenting certificates to many members of the community for their educational, sporting, voluntary and vocational achievements. He said that being Mayor had provided him with a tremendous opportunity to meet people from all walks of life and all sections of the community, whether at charitable functions, photo calls or at formal events and that no matter where he went, he was treated well.

Councillor Carten confirmed that one of the highlight of his year was the official opening in March of the new Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre - Ionad Ealaíon agus Cultúir Ghleann na Ró. He said the new centre was a fantastic location for all residents to visit and enjoy, not only as a venue for the arts, exhibitions and events but also as a much needed community resource providing a shared space which the whole community could take ownership of and use.

Councillor Carten stated that he did not have a particular charity for the year and instead had chosen to donate monies to various smaller, local charities and groups

across the Borough. He said that he knew only too well that times were hard at the moment for many people and unfortunately it is the charitable organisations, which rely heavily on people's generosity that suffered as a result. He added that funds raised went to causes that were close to his heart and that he could not have spend his last days in office in a nicer way than handing over cheques to these groups.

Councillor Carten extended his thanks to all those who have supported him during his year in office and to those who helped me carry out his role as Mayor. To the Chief Executive, Directors and staff, especially to Edwina, Denise and Eithne, he gave his wholehearted thanks for their hard work and much appreciated assistance. He extended my sincere appreciation to my Deputy Mayor, Councillor Boyd Douglas who has assisted him during the year and to my fellow party members, whose support and guidance has been invaluable.

He continued to extend my appreciation to the press for their constant and continuing interest in the work of Council and to their steadfast reporting of meetings which reinforced Council's commitment to openness and accountability. He said that his wife Maureen and family had been a pillar of support and that his task would have been a more difficult task without them at his side.

In ending his speech, he said it has been an honour and a privilege to serve as Mayor and that he could not have finished his time as a Councillor in a more fitting way than being Mayor. He said that he had many fond memories to take with him into his retirement and wished Limavady Borough Council all the very best in the years ahead.

The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Douglas said it had been a pleasure to work with Councillor Carten, yet despite their differences, duties had been carried out in a steadfast manner.

The outgoing Mayor was also praised for his work throughout the year by party leaders from the DUP, UUP, Sinn Féin and by fellow SDLP Councillors.

ELECTION OF MAYOR 2011/2012:

Councillor Carten sought nominations from SF for the office of Mayor for the year 2011/2012.

Councillor Brolly proposed, seconded by Councillor Chivers that Councillor Sean McGlinchey be elected as the Mayor for 2011/12. Agreed.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Councillor McGlinchey took the Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. He thanked those who had nominating him as Mayor and said he was humbled and pleased to be chosen as Mayor for the Borough of Limavady.

Councillor McGlinchey highlighted that he would represent all the people of the Borough and looked forward to working with all the political parties in a positive way to make the Borough a better place for everyone to live in.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2010/2011:

Under the D'Hondt system the post of Deputy Mayor was allocated to the SDLP. Alderman Coyle proposed, seconded by Councillor Mullan that Councillor Beattie be elected as Deputy Mayor for the year 2011/2012. Agreed.

ELECTION OF ALDERMAN:

Nominations were sought for three Aldermen to serve for the term of the present Council and the following nominations were tabled and agreed:

Alderman Robinson on the proposal of Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor McCorkell.

Alderman Rankin on the proposal of Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Alderman Coyle on the proposal of Councillor Mullan, seconded by Councillor Beattie.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

It was agreed that all 15 members be elected to the following standing committees:

- Support Services Committee:**
- Environmental Services Committee**
- Development Committee:**
- Planning and Services Committee:**

AUDIT COMMITTEE (4):

Alderman Coyle, Alderman Rankin, Councillor Nicholl and Councillor Douglas were elected to the Audit Committee for the year 2011/2012.

A five minute recess was held at 7.25 pm. Business resumed at 7.30 pm.

APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO:

Aghanloo Community Association (2): Councillor Beattie and Councillor Stevenson were elected to serve on this committee.

Ballykelly Community Association (2): Councillor Nicholl and Alderman Robinson were elected to serve on this committee.

Binevenagh AONB (1): Councillor Mullan was nominated to serve on this Forum.

Bio-Diversity Steering Committee (2): Councillor Mullan and Alderman Rankin were nominated to serve on this committee.

Causeway Coast Arts Committee (1): Councillor Mullan and the Events & Cultural Officer were elected to serve on this committee.

Causeway Coast Tourism Partnership (1): Councillor Mullan and the Director of Development was elected to serve on this committee.

Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (1): Councillor McLaughlin and the Director of Development were elected to serve on this committee.

Causeway Museum Service (2): Councillor Mullan and Alderman Rankin were elected to serve on this committee.

Confederation of European Councillors Executive Committee: (1 National Association of Councillors representative): Nominations to this committee were deferred.

Disability Working Group (3): Alderman Coyle, Alderman Rankin and Councillor McCaul were elected to serve on this committee.

Feeny Community Association (3): Councillor McCaul and Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on this committee.

Ferry Working Group (3): Councillor Stevenson, Alderman Coyle and Councillor McLaughlin were elected to serve on this committee.

Foreglen Community Association (2): Councillor McCaul and Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on the committee.

Forum for Local Government and the Arts (1): Councillor Mullan was elected to serve on this committee.

Gender Equality Steering Group (2): Councillor Beattie and Councillor Chivers were elected to serve on this committee.

Gortnaghey Community Association (1): Alderman Coyle was elected to serve on this committee.

Greysteel Community Association (2): Councillor Beattie and Councillor Nicholl were elected to serve on this committee.

Greysteel Community Enterprises (2): Councillor Beattie and Councillor Nicholl were elected to serve on this committee.

Home Accident Prevention Committee (Open to any interested members): No interest was shown at this time.

Irish Language Sub-Committee (4): 2SF, 1 SDLP, 1 UUC and 1 officer): Councillor Beattie, Councillor Broly, Councillor Nicholl and Alderman Coyle and Culture Arts & Tourism Manager were elected to serve on this committee.

Limavady Community Development Initiative & Advice Services Sub Group (2, plus 1 Officer): Councillor Mullan, Councillor McGlinchey and the Director of Development were elected to serve on this committee.

Limavady Community Safety Partnership (2 of which at least 1 should be a member of the DPP): Alderman Rankin and Alderman Coyle were nominated to the above partnership.

Limavady Road Safety Committee (Open to any interested members): No interest was shown to sit on this committee.

Limavady Sports Advisory Committee (4): Councillor Beattie, Alderman Rankin, Councillor McCorkell and Councillor McGlinchey were elected to serve on this committee.

Limavady Twinning Committee (Vigneux & Westport) (4) to include the Mayor ex officio: Councillor McGlinchey, Councillor McCorkell, Councillor Mullan and Councillor Nicholl were nominated to the joint twinning Committee.

Magilligan Community Association (3): Councillor Beattie, Councillor McLaughlin and Councillor Mullan were elected to serve on this committee.

Management Committee – Grammar School Pitch (2) plus Director of Development: Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Beattie were elected to serve on this committee.

National Association of Councillors (3 plus standby): Alderman Coyle, Councillor McCorkell and Councillor Chivers were elected to serve on this committee. No standby was elected.

Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (2): Alderman Rankin and Councillor Mullan were elected to serve on this committee.

Northern Corridor Railway Task Force (2): Councillor Nicholl and Alderman Rankin were elected to serve on this committee.

Northern Group Building Control Committee (2 plus standby): Alderman Rankin and Councillor Mullan were elected to serve on this committee. No standby was elected.

Northern Ireland Housing Council (1): Alderman Coyle was elected to serve on this committee for 4 year period 2011/15.

Northern Ireland Local Government Association (4): Councillor Chivers, Councillor Nicholl, Councillor Robinson and Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on this committee.

North West Region Cross Border Group (4): Alderman Rankin, Councillor McCaul, Councillor McLaughlin, and Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on this committee for 4 year period 2011/15.

North West Region Waste Management Joint Committee (2): Alderman Rankin and Councillor Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on this committee.

Peace III Programme (2): Alderman Rankin and Councillor Mullan were elected to serve on this committee.

Play and Leisure Partnership (2): Alderman Rankin and Councillor Nicholl were elected to serve on this committee.

Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Northern Ireland (1): Councillor Stevenson was elected to serve on this committee.

Roe Valley Arts & Heritage Committee (2): Councillor Mullan, Alderman Rankin, plus 1 officer were elected to serve on this committee.

Roe Valley Chamber of Trade: It was agreed that this committee would be open to all elected members.

Roe Valley Enterprises (2), plus 1 officer: Councillor Mullan and Councillor McCaul were nominated to this committee. It was agreed that Alderman Rankin would take the place of an officer on the committee.

Rural Development Programme (LAG) (4): Councillor Mullan, Councillor Nicholl and Councillor Chivers were elected to serve on this committee. The DUP to clarify if they wished to take up nomination to the committee. There were no standby elected.

Somme Advisory Committee (1): Councillor Stevenson was elected to serve on this committee.

Sperrins Tourism (2): Alderman Coyle and Councillor Beattie were elected to serve on this committee.

Sustainable Development Working Group (3): Alderman Coyle, Councillor Brolly, Alderman Rankin and 1 officer from each Directorate were nominated to serve on this committee.

Website Committee (2): Alderman Coyle was elected to serve on this committee. 1 place remains unallocated.

Western Group Environmental Health Committee (2 plus standby): Alderman Rankin and Councillor Mullan were elected to serve on this committee. No standby was nominated.

Western Area Childcare Partnership (1): Councillor Chivers was elected to serve on this Committee.

Western Education & Library Board (1): It was agreed that Councillor Brolly would continue to serve on this board up to the new Education & Skills Authority was established.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Chair District Policing Partnership: The Chief Executive tabled correspondence from the DPP Manager which requested that Council give consideration to the appointment of a Chair to the DPP up until the establishment of the new Policing and Community Safety Partnerships. He said the position was rotated between parties and for the year 2011/12, the position would be for the UUP.

Alderman Rankin proposed, seconded by Councillor Douglas that Councillor Stevenson Chair the DPP until the new partnerships be established.

Disbanded/No Longer Meet: Corporate Gift Sub Committee, Danny Boy Festival Sub Committee and Equality Steering Group.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None.

THE BUSINESS CONCLUDED AT 9.20 PM

Signed: _____
Mayor